

THE CATALOG OF THE PASTORAL SCHOOL



OF THE DIOCESE OF CHICAGO AND MID-
AMERICA

INTRODUCTION

The Pastoral School of the Diocese of Chicago and Mid-America of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia provides a sixty three (63) credit program of study leading to a Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Pth.D) and the same program in Spanish, a fifty one (51) credit program leading to a Diploma in Orthodox Studies (OS.D), a twenty seven (27) credit Deaconate Preparation Certificate, and a one-year eighteen (18) credit Catechist Certificate.

Those who successfully complete the Deaconate Preparation Certificate may pursue the second and third years of study which culminate in the sixty three (63) credit Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Pth.D). The Deaconate Preparation program is essentially the first year of the Diploma in Pastoral Theology Program.

Those who successfully complete the one-year Catechist program may pursue the second and third years of study which culminate in the fifty-one (51) total credit program (18 credit from the Catechist one-year program plus 33 credits from the second and third year program) leading to a diploma in Orthodox Studies (OS.D).

The program in Pastoral Theology is required of candidates for ordination in the Diocese of Chicago and Mid-America who have not graduated from an Orthodox theological seminary. The programs is open to:

- Any Orthodox Christian interested in studying Orthodox Theology, but unable to attend an Orthodox Seminary.
- Orthodox clergy or laypeople interested in increasing their knowledge of the Faith.

GOALS

- To provide students with an academically sound Orthodox theological education through the media of online distance education.
- To prepare clergy for service to the Church through emphasis on practical application of knowledge to ministry, and to contemporary problems and issues facing the Church.
- To prepare knowledgeable pastors to serve local parishes and missions of the Diocese of Chicago and Mid-America of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia.
- To accept students from all Dioceses of ROCOR as well as all canonical Orthodox jurisdictions who subscribe to the goals of the School.
- To train and certify catechists to prepare catechumens and sponsors for baptism, as well as those who wish to be wed in the Church in accordance with the decision of the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church held in Moscow in February 2013.

The program does not seek to replace studies at a residential theological school, but rather to prepare those who cannot attend such schools, but who are none-the-less called to serve the local Church. Such individuals will partially make up for their lack of seminary on-campus experience by active participation in the liturgical life of their parish, attendance at a summer residence program, and through participation in virtual campus activities, as well as inter-seminary student conferences and activities.

STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

The program is a distance education based diploma program. Courses are provided through web-based classrooms and students are directed by qualified faculty and mentored by their local clergy who provide support, guidance, and direction for the student.

Completion of written examinations, assigned papers, e-classroom attendance and participation are required for each course. A senior thesis as well as a practicum are required during the last year of study on a topic/project chosen in consultation with the student's mentor, and approved by the Dean. This pertains to the Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Pth.D) and the Diploma in Orthodox Studies (OS.D) programs only.

All Pastoral Theology and Diaconate Preparation candidates, unless a waiver is obtained from the Dean of the School, must attend a summer residence program offered by the Synodal School of Liturgical Music at Dormition Convent in Nanuet, New York. Students must successfully complete the courses in Church Slavonic and in Liturgics offered through that Program, or the equivalent courses offered in the Pastoral School proper for those who have received the waiver mentioned above.

At the completion of the program, candidates for graduation must pass an oral examination administered by a panel consisting of the Pastoral School's President, Vice-President, Dean, and at least one additional member appointed by the President. This pertains to the Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Pth.D) and the Diploma in Orthodox Studies (OS.D) programs only.

Graduates will receive the Diploma or Certificate offered by the Pastoral School of the Diocese of Chicago and Mid-America, registered with the State of Illinois Department of Education.

DURATION AND SCHEDULE

The program duration is three years and consists of six (6) semesters of study and a Summer Residence experience for Pastoral Theology and Diaconate Preparation students.

The Summer Residency Program is ideally completed in the summer before the student expects to graduate and may be taken on line for those who are unable to attend Dormition Convent in Nanuet, New York, with the approval of the Dean.

The Catechist program is completed in one academic year, i.e., two (2) semesters of study for the one-year certificate (this program cannot be spread over multiple academic years, as the program is structured to be completed with one cadre of students and mentors in one academic year).

Applications should be submitted by September 1 for the fall semester, February 1 for the winter semester, and June 1 for the summer semester. The fall semester begins in September and is completed in January. The spring semester begins in February with final examinations in early June.

All academic programs must be completed within seven (7) academic years.

ADMISSIONS

All applicants to the Pastoral School must have completed at least sixty (60) units of credit at an accredited college, junior/community college, or university and must have maintained a 2.0 grade point average. Prior college credit must include standard general education requirements.

- Submit a completed Application Form
- Submit a photocopy of baptismal certificate. (Pastoral Theology and Diaconate Preparation programs only)
- Have Official transcripts from the last institution of higher education attended sent to the Dean of the School.
- Submit an essay including: the applicant's biography, his/her reason for applying to the program, and a sincere desire to serve the Orthodox Church either as a member of the clergy or the laity
- Have a letter from the applicant's proposed mentor indicating his willingness to serve in this capacity.
- Have a letter of recommendation from the applicant's pastor or confessor, sent directly to the Dean (Pastoral Theology and Diaconate Preparation programs). This individual may also serve as the student's mentor.
- Submit the Application Fee.

Applications should be submitted no later than:

- September 1st for the fall semester
- February 1st for the winter semester
- June 1st for the summer semester

of the year that the student intends to begin studies.

Pastoral Theology Student Spouses: Wives of enrolled students may enroll in the Pastoral School's Orthodox Studies Program and may take the same courses as their husbands for a reduced tuition cost of \$100.00 per course. The application fee is also waived for spouses. It should be noted that wives must meet normal admission requirements for the Pastoral School.

TUITION AND FEES

The following is a schedule of fees and tuition for the Pastoral School:

Application fee.....	\$100.00*
Per Credit Tuition.....	\$100.00
Technology Fee.....	\$50.00
Graduation Fee.....	\$150.00
Waiver Fee.....	\$25.00 per credit
Catechist Program.....	\$500.00/semester

Students withdrawing from the School must notify their instructors before the withdraw deadline

of their decision to drop out of the program. Tuition refund will be granted on the basis of the following schedule. Application fees will not be refunded.

First week of class.....	75%
Second week of class.....	60%
Third week of class.....	40%
Fourth week of class.....	20%

Classes dropped after the withdraw deadline are subject to academic penalty as determined by the course instructor.

A student with the approval of the Dean may be granted a leave of absence from the School for a period not to exceed two academic years. A reinstatement fee of \$50.00 will be charged.

Tuition is due and payable at the time of registration for each course; however students may elect to pay one-half of their tuition upon registration and the other half before the end of final examination week. All tuition must be paid before grades will be issued and no student may graduate with outstanding debt owed to the School. Graduation fees must be paid before the student takes his/her comprehensive examination. Neither tuition nor fees include the cost of the Summer Residence Program which is handled separately through the Synodal School of Liturgical Music: <https://synodalschool.com>

ADMINISTRATION

Board of Trustees: & Administrative Officers:

The Very Most Reverend Archbishop Peter, President
The Very Reverend Father André Papkov, Vice-President
The Very Reverend Father Gregory Joyce, Dean

CURRICULUM

(See Appendix for Course Descriptions)

Courses of study, and their normal sequence:

FIRST YEAR COURSES: PASTORAL THEOLOGY, ORTHODOX STUDIES, DEACONATE PREPARATION

Fall Semester

History and Principles of the Orthodox Church (3 units)
Byzantine History (3 units)*
Survey of Scripture I – Old Testament (3 units)

*Required: Pastoral Theology and Orthodox Studies, Recommended: Deaconate Preparation

Spring Semester

The Russian Church (3 units)

- Recommended Prerequisite: Byzantine History

The Mysteries of the Church (3 units)

- Prerequisite: History and Principles of the Orthodox Church

Survey of Scripture II – New Testament (3 units)

- Prerequisite: Survey of Scripture I

Summer Semester

SEE BELOW

SECOND YEAR COURSES: PASTORAL THEOLOGY AND ORTHODOX STUDIES

Fall Semester

Orthodox Apologetics (3 units)

- Prerequisite: Survey of Scripture I & II

Dogmatic Theology (3 units)

- Prerequisite: Mysteries of the Church

Survey of Canon Law (3 units)

- Prerequisite: Survey of Scripture I & II

Spring Semester

Survey of the Fathers (3 units)

- Prerequisite: Survey of Scripture I & II

The Orthodox Church in the 20th & 21st Century (3 units)

- Prerequisite: The Russian Church & Byzantine History

The Church and the Pastor – Pastoral Theology (3 units)

-OR-

The Church and the Layworker – Orthodox Studies (3 units)

- Prerequisites: Orthodox Apologetics, Dogmatic Theology, Survey of Canon Law

Summer Semester

Graduating Seniors:

- Comprehensive Examination & Thesis Defense

OTHERS: SEE BELOW

THIRD YEAR COURSES: PASTORAL THEOLOGY AND ORTHODOX STUDIES

Fall Semester

Thesis (3 units)

Practicum (3 units)

Spring Semester

Thesis (3 units)

Practicum (3 units)

Comprehensive Examination & Thesis Defense (0 units)

Summer Semester Courses

Required for Graduation

- Liturgics (9 units)*
- Church Slavonic (3 units)*
- Parish Operations and Management (3 units)**

Recommended Courses

- Thesis Writing Workshop (3 units)
- New Testament Latin (3 units)
- New Testament Greek (3 units)
- Homiletics (3 units)
- Advanced Byzantine Canon Law (3 units)
- Pivotal Points in the History of Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia
- Planting and Establishing Orthodox Missions
- Survey of Mental Illness for the Pastor
- Seminar in Byzantine Law

It is recommended that the summer courses be taken in the following order, although none of the summer courses have prerequisites so one could take them in any order over the course of multiple summers:

- Summer Semester Year 1: Liturgics, Church Slavonic
- Summer Semester Year 2: Parish Operations and Management, Thesis Writing Workshop
- Summer Semester following graduation: Latin, Greek, or other recommended course

*These courses can be taken at the Summer Residency Program at Dormition Convent in Nanuet, New York or the via Pastoral School's e-campus with permission of the Dean. These courses are not required for those in the Orthodox Studies Program, but are required for those in the Deaconate Preparation Program.

**This course is not required for those in the Deaconate Preparation Program.

FIRST YEAR COURSES – CATECHIST PROGRAM

The one-year Catechist Program consists of a cadre of students and mentor/instructors that utilize the e-Classroom for their course to cover topics important for catechists to master in order to successfully prepare candidates for baptism, baptism sponsors, and those who will be wed in the Church. Topics include, but are not limited to: the Holy Scriptures, Theology of the Orthodox Church, Orthodox Cosmology and Anthropology, Orthodox Soteriology and Ecclesiology, History of the Church, the Liturgical Life of the Church, Comparative Theology, Orthodox Family Life, the Mystery of Baptism, the Mystery of Marriage, as well as other pertinent topics.

GRADING

<u>Significance</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Grade Point</u>
Superior	97-100	A+ (Honors)	4.0
Excellent	90-96	A	4.0
Very Good	87-89	A-	3.7
Good	80-86	B	3.0
Above Average	77-79	B-	2.7
Passing	70-76	C	2.0
Below Average	67-69	C-	1.7
Poor	60-66	D	1.0
Failing	Below 60	F	0.0
Pass	Assigned Passing	Assigned Passing	Not included in GPA
Fail	Assigned Fail	Assigned Fail	Not included in GPA
Waived	Waived	Waived	Not included in GPA
Incomplete	Incomplete	Incomplete	Not included in GPA

In order to graduate from the Program a student must pass all required course work. Students may drop a course for extenuating circumstances approved by the instructor and the Dean. Courses may be dropped without penalty by the end of the fourth (4th) week of the semester.

Should a student receive a failing grade for a course he will be dismissed from the Program. A student may appeal to re-take a failed course. The appeal may be granted by the Dean for one time only.

A grade of incomplete will remain on the student's record for one full year following the date when it was assigned. If not made up during the following year it will automatically become an "F".

All students must successfully defend their senior thesis and pass a comprehensive oral examination before they can graduate from the School

TRANSCRIPTS

The registrar will issue one unofficial transcript to each graduating student upon request. Official transcripts are issued upon request of the student and sent directly to other academic institutions, potential employers, or diocesan bishops. The fee for official transcripts is \$25.00 each. Transcripts will not be issued unless a student has met all financial obligations to the School.

ACCREDITATION/APPROVAL

The Pastoral School of Chicago and Mid-America has declined to seek academic accreditation by any accreditation agency as such accreditation does not meet the goals of the School. Academic quality is maintained through oversight by the Diocesan Bishop, the Dean, and its governing board.

BOOKS AND RESOURCE MATERIALS

Required texts and readings will be assigned for each course. Most textbooks can be accessed on-line, through the Pastoral School's e-library. In addition, texts can be purchased through our e-campus bookstore. The Program will provide other required reading material.

ORDINATION AND WAIVERS

Upon completion of the Pastoral School's course of study in Pastoral Theology, ordination is at the sole discretion of the student's Bishop. Any requirements or conditions set forth herein may be waived by the Bishop at his discretion, and ordination of a candidate may occur at anytime during the course of study as the Bishop may deem necessary.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The Pastoral School publishes an academic calendar annually. The calendar is posted within the eCampus website for use by enrolled students and faculty.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Andreev, Aleksandr

Pth.D., Pastoral School of Chicago and Mid-America

Th.D, St. Petersburg Theological Academy

Ph.D., St. Petersburg State University

- Liturgics

Bozhko, Hieromonk Mitrophan

Ph.D., Kiev Theological Academy

- Homiletics

Cassens, David

M.A., Southern Illinois University

M.L.I.S., University of Illinois

ABD (Ph.D.), University of Illinois

- Russian Church History

DeLeon, Michael

PTh.D., Pastoral School of Chicago and Mid-America

Ph.D., Antiochian House of Studies

- Spanish Language Program: Survey of Scripture I & II

Ganson, Nicholas

PTh.D., Pastoral School of Chicago and Mid-America

B.A., College of the Holy Cross

MA., Boston College

Ph.D., University of North Carolina

- The Orthodox Church in the 20th & 21st Century

Hantel, Nicholas

J.D., DePaul University

- Parish Operations and Management

Hill, John

Ph.D., University of Michigan

- Thesis Writing Workshop

Jackson, Archpriest Peter

D.Min., Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

- Spanish Language Program: History and Principles of the Orthodox Church, History of the Russian Church, Byzantine History,
- Associate Dean, Spanish Language Program

Joyce, Archpriest Gregory

D.Min., Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

- Dogmatic Theology
- The Church and the Pastor
- Practicum
- Thesis
- Liturgical Practicum
- Dean of the Pastoral School

Kichakov, Protodeacon Alexander

M.Ed., Temple University

- Liturgical Practicum

Kondrashova, Natalia Y.

Ph.D., University of Wisconsin

- Church Slavonic

Longan, Deacon Peter

M.Th., Moscow Theological Academy

- Latin
- Lead, International Programs

Nelson, Elena

B.A., University of Rochester

M.A., University of Toronto

M.A., University of California Berkeley

Ph.D., University of California Berkeley

- Advanced Church Slavonic

Novikov, Vasily

Th.D., St. Tikhon Orthodox Humanitarian University

Ph.D., Novosibirsk State University

- The Mysteries of the Church

Paffhausen, Metropolitan Jonah

M.Div., St. Vladimir Theological Seminary

M.Th., St. Vladimir Theological Seminary

- Catechist Program
- Planting and Establishing Orthodox Missions

Psarev, Deacon Andrei

B.Th., Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary

M.Th., St. Vladimir Theological Seminary

Ph.D., Queen's University

- History and Principles of the Orthodox Church
- Byzantine History
- Pivotal Points in the History of Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia

Pyrozhenko, Deacon Vladimir

Ph.D., Syracuse University

- Parish Operations and Management

Scharer, Priest Daniel

PTh.D., Pastoral School of Chicago and Mid-America

M.S. University of Zurich

- Survey of Mental Illness for the Pastor

Snihirov, Archpriest Rostyslav

Th.D. Kyiv Theological Academy

Ph.D., St. Petersburg State University

- Apologetics

Temidis, Priest George

PTh.D., Pastoral School of Chicago and Mid-America

M.B.A., James Madison University

- Parish Operations and Management

Ulitchev, Ivan

Th.D., St. Tikhon's Orthodox University

- Dogmatic Theology

Vereshack, Igumen Raphael

M.Div., St. Tikhon Theological Seminary

- Survey of the Fathers

Viscouso, Archpriest Patrick

Ph.D., Catholic University of America

- Survey of Canon Law
- Advanced Byzantine Canon Law
- Seminar in Byzantine Law

Whiteford, Archpriest John

B.A., Southern Nazarene University

- Survey of Scripture I
- Survey of Scripture II
- Assistant Dean, Operations

STAFF

Appling, Deacon Joseph

- IT Lead – Populi e-Campus

Chaffee, Mark

- Public Site Web Master

Korenevskiy, Antony

- Lead, Social Media

APPENDIX

DIPLOMA COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

History and Principles of the Orthodox Church

- Judaic Sources
- The Church in the time of the Apostles
- The Churches of: Jerusalem, Alexandria, Antioch, Rome
- The age of Constantine and the rise of Byzantium
- Monasticism
- The early Heresies and the Seven Ecumenical Councils
- The Development of the Western Church
- Cyril and Methodius and the conversion of the Slavs
- The Great Schism
- The Turkish Yoke
- The Church Today
 - Ecumenism
 - The Calendar Question
 - Modern Issues in the Church

The Russian Church

- Conversion of Russia
- Development
- Monasticism
 - Possessors
 - Non-Possessors
- The Czars and the Rise and Fall of Spiritual Life
- Autocephaly
- The Early Patriarch's
- Western Influence and the Reforms of Peter
- The Russian Revolution and the Church
 - Sergianism
 - The New Martyrs
- The Church of Russia today

Survey of Scripture I – The Old Testament

- Books of the Old Testament
- Psalms
- Proverbs
- Apocryphal Books
- Greek vs. Jewish texts

Survey of Scripture II – The New Testament

- The Canonical Basis of the New Testament
- The Gospels
- Epistles
- Book of Revelation
- Translation Issues and Language

The Orthodox Church in the 20th & 21st Centuries

- The contemporary development of the various Orthodox jurisdictions, and the relationship between them.
- The role of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and world Orthodoxy
- The Pan-Orthodox Conference in Athens in 1923/24
- Orthodoxy in America
- The Church in Russian after the fall of communism and the reconciliation with ROCOR
- Contemporary issues in Orthodoxy

The Mysteries of the Church

- Scriptural basis of the Mysteries
- Evolution and Meaning of the Mysteries
- Evolution and Meaning of the Mysteries

- Ministration of the Mysteries
 - Baptism
 - Chrismation
 - Eucharist
 - Anointing of the Sick
 - Marriage
 - Ordination — Readers, Subdeacons, Deacons, Priests, Bishops
- The Divine Liturgy
 - New Testament accounts
 - The Development of the Anaphora
 - Early Development
 - Present Structure
 - Chrysostom
 - Basil
 - Presanctified
 - James
- Confession
 - Historical Development
 - Connection to the Eucharist
 - Pastoral vs. Juridical Approaches
- Other Liturgical Practices
- Administration of Baptism/Chrismation, Anointing, Marriage, Burials, Blessings, Molebens, Pannyhida's and funerals

Survey of the Fathers

- The Apostolic Fathers
- Basil, Gregory and Chrysostom
- Maximos, Palamas, and the Later Fathers

Orthodox Apologetics

Presentation of Orthodoxy to the heterodox. A detailed discussion of the basics of Roman Catholicism and Protestantism and how they differ from Orthodoxy. Defending the Orthodox faith as the one true church founded by Jesus Christ. Catechizing and bringing those of other confessions to the Orthodox Church. Each student is required to engage in a apologetical dialogue with a non-Orthodox, and to present a paper concerning the dialogue.

Dogmatic Theology

What the Orthodox Church believes and why we believe it. Topics include the nature of God, the Trinity, and the Persons of the Trinity. The dual nature of Christ, creation, Divine Providence, and the existence of good and evil are examined, as well as theology and doctrines of the Church.

Survey of Canon Law

Both the dogmatic and normative canons resulting from the Ecumenical as well as the local councils of the Orthodox Church. A study of the interpretation and application of the canons.

The Church and the Pastor

- The Nature of the Church
- The Pastor and his relationship with his Bishop
- The Parish, its organization and Standard Bylaws
- Introduction to Homiletics
- Spiritual and Social relationships with parishioners
- Relationship with wife and family
- Relationships with other Orthodox Churches/Non Orthodox Churches

Liturgics

An overview of the history, structure, and meaning of the liturgical cycle in the usage of the Russian Orthodox Church based upon the Jerusalem Typicon. Students learn the nature of the four cycles in the liturgical year, and the contents and use of the books used in Orthodox worship. This is followed by detailed analysis of how to perform the major services, with particular attention to the role of the choir director and psalmist. During the first year Vespers and Matins are covered -- their components, history; in subsequent years the Divine Liturgy, the occasional services (trebi) and the services associated with the Lenten and Paschal seasons are covered.

Church Slavonic

Basics of reading Church Slavonic. The goal of this course is to allow the novice Church Slavonic reader to be able to read Church Slavonic in a minimal liturgical setting. The successful student will be able to sight read simple Church Slavonic texts and utilize appropriate resources to read and practice more complex Church Slavonic texts.

Intermediate/Advanced Church Slavonic

This practical course of Church Slavonic teaches students to better understand Church Slavonic texts and use them in the liturgical context. Topics include: reading and chanting texts in Church Slavonic; the history of Church Slavonic; the alphabet; spelling rules; calligraphy; accent marks; punctuation; core vocabulary; sacral abbreviations; numerals; and the vocative case. Any number of higher level grammar topics can be added to the course if requested.

Comprehensive Homiletics Seminar

The concept of the sermon, the personality of the preacher, preaching in the context of Orthodox worship, the content of the sermon, the form of the sermon, preparing the sermon, delivering the sermon, the sermon after delivering it, additional practical aspects of preaching.

Byzantine History

Introduction to the History of the Byzantine Empire. Deacon Andrei Psarev (Ph.D. Candidate in Byzantine History). In order to understand the history of the Christian Church, we need to be informed as to the historical context. Course requirements include textbook readings, short essays, and classroom discussion. Please have ready before the course starts *A History of Byzantium* (2nd edition), by Timothy E. Gregory. This is a required course manual.

Parish Operations and Management

This course provides an introduction to the basics of parish management and operations. It is intended for clergy, parish leaders and parishioners involved in the administrative functions of their parishes. Course topics emphasize the following management topics: parish organization, by-laws and governance, collaboration, personnel and volunteer management, and financial management / controls / reporting. Course activities will guide students to understanding key parish governance documents, as well as help improve students' managerial skills by asking them to reflect upon management issues in their parishes and by linking the theory of management with actual parish practices. Throughout the course, students will build a reference library of resources, which will prove valuable when working in the parish setting.

Thesis Writing Workshop

Guidance for thesis writing at every stage through direct mentoring and peer review to meet Pastoral School requirements with emphasis on effective argumentation.

Thesis

A scholarly research paper on some aspect of Orthodoxy agreed on in advance by the student, the dean, and the student's mentor. The Thesis must be completed and received in the program office by the end of the semester the student intends to graduate. The thesis must be completed in a scholarly fashion and in a format that adheres to common academic standards and style.

Practicum

A project of two semesters duration usually carried on at the student's parish. The project must make a significant contribution to the parish life and be approved by his pastor and the dean of the school.

New Testament Latin

Learning to read and pronounce Latin. Introduction to Latin grammar: alphabet, syllables, stress; the 5 declensions; the 4 (5) conjugations; participles; syntax. Although not all the grammar will be covered, it is expected that student will be able to read and understand very basic narratives, with the help of a dictionary, grammar book and a translation. This course should be an appropriate introduction for a following more in depth independent study, should the student be so inclined.

New Testament Greek

Students will learn key grammatical concepts of classical Greek, with a focus on reading texts and written translation from Greek into English. The course will provide diligent and motivated students with a solid foundation for further formal or self-directed study of Biblical and Patristic Greek texts.

Advance Byzantine Canon Law

This course will introduce the textual sources, methodologies, tools, and essential concepts of Byzantine canonical scholarship. The aim of the class is to provide the foundation for future study in the field. A selection of writings from major scholars will be provided.

Pivotal Points in the History of Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia

Upon completion of this course, the student should have a clear understanding of the first hierarchs of the ROCOR and ROCOR's main church councils. There will be a close examination of the historical periods and reactions to political and theological questions from throughout the history of ROCOR.

Planting and Establishing Orthodox Missions

The goal of this course is to examine the many aspects of planting and establishing an Orthodox mission parish. It involves both the roles of the people on site, the clergy serving the mission, as well as a model for the diocesan oversight and support that needs to be developed.

Survey of Mental Illness for the Pastor

The goal of this course is to familiarize the future/present Pastor with common Psychological disorders, while at the same time investigating the connection between spiritual and mental pathology. Primarily using case studies, the course focuses on the following: Anxiety and Mood Disorders, Psychotic and Neurocognitive Disorders, Personality Disorders, Suicidal Ideation, and others. Additionally, the course will cover how to best deal with these issues, including partnering with local mental health practitioners as appropriate.

Seminar in Byzantine Law

The course will survey current research regarding textual sources, methodologies, tools, and essential concepts of Byzantine canonical scholarship. The aim of this class is to provide the foundation for future advanced study in the field. Readings will be assigned for each week of the semester. Succinct and concise written summaries of the readings (1-2 pages) will be produced on a weekly basis. There will be two research exercises. Each will involve a critical consideration of canonical evidence used in two articles. For each article, a concise 3-5-page review will be prepared. Students will prepare a concise 5–10–page Byzantine canon law study on a topic based on a provided translated primary source text and will give an accompanying PowerPoint presentation. This study will be presented and discussed during an online seminar scheduled for the end of the semester.

Liturgical Practicum

The goal of this course is to train students in the traditional liturgical practices of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia. This is accomplished through lecture, hand's on training, and participation in daily Divine Services. The practicum is held annually at the Diocesan Cathedral of the Protection of the Mother of God in Des Plaines, IL.