

Transfer Credits 2014-2015

A student who has completed graduate coursework in a program conducted by a *school accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the United States and Canada* and meets all of the requirement as outlined below, and wishes to transfer credits should consult with the Registrar, Mr. David H. Wall. There are two categories of transfer students:

- Students who plan to transfer 12-26 credits from study at another ATS accredited seminary. These students need to contact the Registrar now and set up an appointment to discuss transfer credit.
- Students who plan to transfer less than one semester's coursework (1-11 credits). These students should wait until the Fall Orientation program to meet with the Registrar.

Transfer Credit

Princeton Theological Seminary may receive transfer credit toward the M.Div., M.A., M.A.(T.S.) degrees, and toward the Dual (M.Div./M.A.) program in accordance with the following procedures and limitations:

(1) Transfer credit is accepted only for graduate courses actually taught in seminaries and divinity schools accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, regardless how that credit may have been handled by other accredited institutions. This principle also applies to work pursued at extension or satellite centers. The courses underlying the transfer credit must be similar in content and design to the Seminary's own course offerings.

(2) With the approval of the Registrar, in consultation with Education Formation faculty, transfer credit toward the M.A. degree also may be received from a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association. If the candidate subsequently seeks to change to the M.Div. program, however, transfer credit from a college or university will be disallowed.

(3) In general, credit is not accepted for work begun more than seven years before the student enters the Seminary or for courses passed below the grade of B. Courses taken on a pass/fail or credit/no credit basis ordinarily will not be received in transfer. No recognition will be given to life-experience equivalencies or continuing education units.

(5) A maximum of 26 credit hours can be accepted in transfer. A student who presents 26 credit hours of transfer credit toward the M.Div. must then take the remaining 52 units at Princeton Seminary in order to qualify for the degree. This ordinarily is done in four semesters of full-time study, apart from summer sessions or an internship.

(6) No portion of the final year of study for the M.Div., M.A., M.A.(T.S.) or Dual (M.Div./MA) program (26 credits) will be received as transfer credit from another institution.

Allocation of Transfer Credit

Accepted transfer credit is allocated according to the following policies:

(1) Courses are accepted in lieu of distribution requirements, without examination, where those courses appear from the official descriptions to be similar to those offered by the Seminary and where they are comparably weighted. A one-hour course will not be accepted to replace a four-hour course; an introduction to Catholic theology will not replace an introduction to Reformed theology; an introduction to homiletics that does not involve the preparation and delivery of sermons cannot replace a course that does.

(2) If replacement transfer credit is denied by the Registrar, the student may approach a member of the faculty designated by the department concerned, with syllabi and other evidence of comparability. The decision rendered by the departmental designee shall be final and may not be appealed.

(3) Transfer credit toward the M.Div. degree will not be given against all of the requirements of a given department. Ordinarily, six credits in each of the four departments must be completed at the Seminary in order to qualify for a Princeton Seminary degree.

Transfer Credit Contract

The transfer of credit toward a Seminary degree is completed by signing a contract available from the Registrar. If a transcript showing all work to be transferred is available before the student arrives on campus, the contract may be completed before online registration. Otherwise, the credit transfer contract will be completed during the later summer or fall orientation period, but no later than the end of the first semester. Questions concerning transfer credit should be raised at the time of application, but may not be raised after the completion of the first semester of study at the Seminary.

Housing and Financial Aid for Transfer Students

Students received in transfer from other institutions are eligible for consideration for housing and financial aid, to an extent commensurate with the anticipated length of their candidacy. Relevant policies and guidelines may be found in the Seminary's *Handbook*, section 8.2 Policy on Housing and Financial Aid for Transfer. The *Handbook* is available online.

Preclusions for Transfer Credit

Princeton Theological Seminary receives no transfer credit toward the Th.M. or Ph.D. degrees.