

Seminary Requirements for Ordination

GBHEM (University Senate) Requirements:

Find University Senate approved seminaries on the GBHEM.org website:

<https://www.gbhem.org/education/seminary/approved-seminaries>

Students can complete up to two-thirds of their seminary classes online, as long as those classes are offered by one of the United Methodist theological schools or Asbury Theological Seminary.

The Senate reconfirmed its June 2010 decision that transcripts must identify which courses were taken online, including those that offer some instruction on campus. The approved UM schools of theology are:

Boston University School of Theology; Candler School of Theology, Claremont School of Theology; Drew University Theological School; Duke Divinity School; Gammon Theological Seminary; Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary; Iliff School of Theology; Methodist Theological School in Ohio; Perkins School of Theology, Dallas and Houston-Galveston; Saint Paul School of Theology, Greater Kansas City and Oklahoma; United Theological Seminary, Ohio; and Wesley Theological Seminary.

The Book of Discipline info:

From The Book of Discipline (paragraph 324.4a): The first step (being commissioned as a provisional elder) requires, "completing one half of the 27 semester hours of basic graduate theological studies in the Christian faith... These basic graduate theological studies must include courses in:

- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Theology
- Church History
- Mission of the Church in the World
- Evangelism
- Worship/Liturgy
- United Methodist Doctrine, Polity and History.

BOD (paragraph 335.3b): Ordination as an elder requires, "graduation with a Master of Divinity degree from a school of theology..."

Info from Board of Ordained Ministry:

BOM will accept an MDIV degree from Luther as long as all courses are taken in residence. UM courses in History, Doctrine and Polity are required and these courses have been offered at Luther or United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities and taught by a UM professor or adjunct professor so have qualified per the BOD requirement.

If a candidate cannot get these UM courses easily in the Twin Cities, they can be taken online from Garrett, Iliff, or one of the other UM approved seminaries listed above.

UM online courses taken at UM seminaries may be accepted by Luther as credit toward an MDIV, but the candidate would need to confirm that.