

In all there are six canonically required areas of study for those who aspire to ordination as priests:

- ❖ The Holy Scriptures
- ❖ Christian Theology
- ❖ History of the Church
- ❖ Worship
- ❖ Ethics/Moral Theology
- ❖ The Practice of Ministry

The presumption is that at the end of the course of study, individuals will sit for the Church's General Ordination Examination (GOE) as administered by The Episcopal Church. The schema below outlines the general load requirements that an individual will undertake in working through the appropriate course of study in the Steven School for Ministry (SSFM).

The load is distributed so that if a student elects to take a "full load" (2 courses per term), he or she would be able to complete the entire course of study in four calendar years. Of course, as each student moves through the ordination process as outlined by their respective diocesan authorities (Bishop, Commission on Ministry, *Board of Examining Chaplains*), the individual may need to lighten the load, take a leave of absence from active study, or respond to other circumstances that may not be of a canonical nature. In such cases, it is understood that the time needed to complete the course of study may be lengthen. The suggestion has been made that a maximum of six years be imposed for completion under normal circumstances. Exception would be at the discretion of the ecclesiastical authorities involved.

The current plan is to maintain formation cohorts that are identified at the beginning of every year. Once ascribed to a cohort, the individual will remain identified with the cohort until the completion of the course of study. If an individual's course of study is extended and no members of the cohort remain, that student may opt to join an existing cohort until the completion of their studies.

Number of Courses Required

(Minimum of 20 Courses for Certificate)

- **The Holy Scriptures (6 courses)**
Required: Introduction to Old Testament, Introduction to New Testament, 2 Scripture Electives suggested: Pauline and Johannine
- **History of the Christian Church (2 courses)**
Required: Church History I, Church History II
- **Christian Theology (3 courses)**
Required: Theology I, Theology II, 1 Theology Elective (Patristics if available)
- **Christian Ethics and Moral Theology (2 courses)**
Required: Ethics I, one Ethics Elective (Anglican Ethics)
- **Christian Worship (3 courses)**



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□ **The Practice of Ministry (6 courses)**

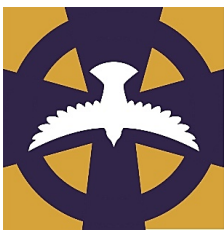
Required: Anglican Approaches to Ministry, Anglican Practical Theology, The Message of Mission, Teaching Ministry (Christian Education and Formation), Homiletics, Deacons in Action (field placement for 6-8 months)

Recommended Course/Sequence of Study: Priest Track

□ Semester Sessions

Learning Sessions: in person (at the beginning and at the end of the academic year, post Covid) and one integrative webinar gathering during each term and one content focused webinar during each term.

Each vocational Course: 10 weeks online work



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Learning Sessions: Total of 20 for the four years,

Topics covered:

- Anglican Spirituality I, II
- Discernment
- Introduction to Theology and Theological Reflection
- Issues in Pastoral Care I, II
- Spiritual Direction

Canonical Areas of Study for Ordination

☐ The canons (III.6.5.f and III.8.5.g) require that preparation for ordination in all orders shall include training regarding:

- Prevention of sexual misconduct.
- Civil requirements for reporting and pastoral opportunities for responding to evidence of abuse.
- The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, particularly Title IV thereof.
- The Church's teaching on racism