

## Statement on Educational Effectiveness: Quality Theological and Ministerial Education



Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry is dedicated to offering quality theological education and ongoing formation for those preparing to enter the field of church-sponsored ministry or social entrepreneurship directed at working for social justice from a faith-based perspective. The School of Theology and Ministry has several institutional structures overseeing quality assurance and academic integrity. These include standing committees on curriculum and development and formation, as well as an elaborate advisory structure with denominational leaders.

The curriculum and formation committees generate academic policies and procedures, and build assessment tools and processes. In addition, each degree and certificate program identifies learning outcomes, which measure academic and pastoral competencies. The school also employs course evaluations, student surveys and interviews, and program candidacy reviews to provide additional information and measures of the quality of student learning.

Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry is committed to assisting students with their financial and vocational needs. Various forms of financial assistance are available – government loans, scholarship money, paid internships and student worker stipends. The school also has a very committed development program which is continually seeking to build scholarship resources for students.

Approximately 60% of students receive financial aid, much of which comes from special scholarship programs and general scholarship funds, with some partner denominations and ecumenical organizations offering their own scholarship resources.

Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry considers part of the measurement of the school's educational effectiveness the ability of students to gain employment in respective career fields. Today, on average, 89% of our graduates find employment within 1 year of graduation. Founded in 1997, the school now has 2,065 alumni, serving Churches, faith-based organizations, non-profit organizations, businesses and governmental organizations across the United States and in 10-15 countries worldwide.

School of Theology and Ministry alumni are working in congregational and denominational leadership at the local, regional and national levels; ministries serving the poor and homeless; hospital chaplaincy and administration; international non-governmental organizations trying to lift up the poor of developing nations; private and public schools, colleges and universities; gang ministry, hospices, social service organizations, and a wide assortment of other professions.

Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry is deeply committed to preparing women and men for ministry in the church and world, and particularly in providing an education that meets the rapidly changing needs of a fast-paced world. To live out this reality, faculty take seriously the need to continuously monitor and evaluate, update and enhance our programs when and where necessary. The school is committed to offering only programs that meet demanding standards necessary to achieve academic and pastoral excellence.

For questions and inquiries about the School of Theology and Ministry's educational mission, assessment and effectiveness efforts, please contact the Academic Associate Dean's Office at 206.296.5330.