



St. Andrew's College United Church of Canada (UCC) Admissions Stream

Courses available at St. Andrew's College for ministers from recognized global Christian denominations¹ who are seeking or discerning admission to the Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada

Ministers from other denominations interested in transferring credentials to The United Church of Canada (UCC) should direct their inquiries about this process to the Office of Vocations for the UCC who will provide support for the minister's discernment and ensure that they understand the requirements of the Admissions process. The Admissions process, including contact information for inquiries, is outlined at The United Church of Canada website via this link: <https://united-church.ca/leadership/entering-ministry/processes-entering-ordered-ministry/admission-process>

The UCC Admissions Stream provides courses and learning opportunities directed toward ministers involved in the admissions process or discerning their application to the process.

The UCC Admissions Stream at St. Andrew's College includes specific courses to fulfill some or all educational components and opportunities to cover the subject material required by the UCC Admissions Board in their new (Sept 2019) guidelines: https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/handbook_admission_order-of-ministry.pdf

Interested applicants register with St. Andrew's College as "occasional students" and may take up to four courses. Such courses may be transferrable to certificates or degree programs at St. Andrew's College.

Currently recommended courses for UCC Admissions Stream students:

- SAC 101 UCC in Context (Knowing the Church) (3 credit hours)
- SAC 201 UCC in Praxis (Being in the World) (3 credit hours)
- SAC 301 UCC Today (Doing Church into the Future) (3 credit hours)
- PA 392 United Church Liturgy and Worship (directed reading course -1.5 credit hours)
- PA 395 United Church Christian Education/Faith Formation (directed reading course - 1.5 credit hours)

Students in this stream are also encouraged to consult all current course offerings at the College for other courses to support their learning and interests.

All students in this stream are encouraged to consult with the Admission Board to confirm whether occasional courses taken at St. Andrew's fulfil the competency learning outcomes as described in the Admissions handbook. St. Andrew's College will provide reports to the UCC Admissions Board upon request by the student.

Upon completion and upon request by the student, students will receive a transcript of courses taken.

All policies and regulations of the College will apply.

¹ As defined by the Admission Board of the United Church of Canada. For questions about eligibility, please contact the Office of Vocations, as identified in this document.

Courses for Admission Students in the UCC process

United Church History

SAC101 UCC in Context (Knowing the Church) – 3 credits

This is a foundational course in United Church of Canada (UCC) history, theology, polity, and ethos. It is the first of three required courses for UCC MDiv students. Other STU students are eligible to take the course as an elective. This course examines the impetus behind the formation of the UCC, traces the history of the denomination over the last 100 years, and explores UCC identity through its statements of faith. The course also examines the impact of UCC polity on the wider Canadian context, particularly with respect to Indigenous communities, the Canadian Social Gospel Movement, the Ecumenical Movements of the 70s, 80s, and 90s, and the Canadian Ecumenical Jubilee Initiative. The class will consist of lectures, guest presentations and in-situ learning in an Indigenous context. Assignments will include reflection papers, presentations, book reports, and integrative learning.

United Church Theology

SAC201 UCC in Praxis (Being in the World) – 3 credits

This is the second course in United Church of Canada (UCC) history, theology, polity, and ethos. It is the second of three required courses for UCC MDiv students. Other STU students are eligible to take the course as an elective. The theology of the United Church (*The Theology of the United Church of Canada*, Don Schweitzer et al, editors) will undergird reflections in this course and the third course. This second course is rooted in praxis and aims to integrate principles with practice. Continuing from initial examinations of the impact of the UCC in the broader social context, this course deepens reflections on practical ministry, especially worship as an expression of UCC identity; UCC ethics; the importance of social location; relationship building across difference; and reconfiguring mission. Particular focus will be brought to bear on the church's relations with Indigenous communities, the Indigenous church, the inclusion of all persons regardless of sexual orientation (with reference to the UCC decision in 1988 for consideration in ordained ministry), and becoming an intercultural church, among other topics. The class will consist of lectures, guest presentations and in-situ learning. Assignments will include reflection papers, presentations, book reports, and integrative learning.

***Note: A student may take SAC101 or SAC201 in any order however both courses are a pre-requisite for SA301.**

UCC Today (Doing Church into the Future)

SAC301 UCC Today (Doing Church into the Future) – 3 credits

This is the third and final course in United Church of Canada (UCC) history, theology, polity, and ethos. It is a required course for UCC MDiv students. Other STU students are eligible to take the course as an elective. This third course focuses on transformation. Students will examine ongoing collaborative thrusts from the UCC including: the work of Kairos; global church movements (including the WCC and the WSCF); interpreting the Bible, and ecumenical movements and shared ministries. Themes explored will include: becoming an anti-racist church; decolonizing the church; the climate crisis; the UCC in a plural world; and the UCC in a digital world. As with the other two courses, students will be asked to reflect on how the UCC's commitments are reflected in church practices; how do we embody our principles in our preaching, worship, and social action? Also, the class will be asked to engage future

thinking and imagine what the UCC will be in the future and what it has to contribute to Canada and to the world. The class will consist of lectures, guest presentations and in-situ learning. Assignments will include reflection papers, presentations, book reports, and integrative learning.

PA 392 United Church Liturgy and Worship (directed reading course 1.5 credit hours)

The goal of this course is to gain an appreciation of the liturgical history and polity of The United Church of Canada in the context of the present denomination of the candidate for admission. It invites students 1) to complete a reading of and reflection on texts written by United Church scholars for developing faithful worship practices within our congregations, and 2) to develop an attentive awareness of one's own leadership style and how it integrates with/challenges the worship culture(s) of The United Church of Canada.

PA 395 United Church Christian Education/Faith Formation (directed reading course 1.5 credit hours)

The goal of this course is to equip students to be educated leaders, who are seeking to be admitted and transferred in the United Church of Canada. It invites students to 1) engage in the interplay between religious education and worship, 2) explore the postcolonial approaches and 3) articulate the issues that are central and critical to faith formation of the intercultural congregational ministries.