

Association of Theological Schools (ATS) reporting requirements

Statement of Educational Effectiveness

The ATS Educational Standard.6.4.4 requires us to make an annual public statement of our educational effectiveness.

Placement after graduation

The 2019 graduating class included 17 students. An important part of a school's effectiveness is following students after their graduation to see if receiving a degree made a difference in whether they were achieving their placement goals, especially since MDiv and MASC degrees are intended to help prepare students meet their vocational goals. ATS requires us to report these figures annually directly to our ATS accrediting body. The ATS categories are as follows:

Vocational placement: 11/17

This includes chaplaincy residency programs, paid internships, community ministry, etc.

Non-vocational placement: 2/17

This includes employment not directly related to the students' degrees

Further study: 2/17

Generally this includes doctoral programs, and in 2019 included a graduate who went on to rabbinical school.

Unknown: 2/17

We were not in contact with two students, and because we did not tabulate this statement of effectiveness until November 2019, we do not know where their paths took them after graduations in May.

Unitarian Universalist Ministerial Fellowship Committee

We are a Unitarian Universalist seminary, and UU students preparing for UU ministry want to know how successful our graduates are in passing the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) ordination interview. The MFC reports results to us (we are not given students' names). The report is by calendar year. We have 2018's numbers. Of 8 SKSM graduates who saw the MFC in 2018, seven of them passed immediately. The eighth student was told that they needed to fill in an academic gap and reappear before the Committee. They completed the requirement, went back to the MFC in 2019, and is now serving a congregation as the called minister.

In the 2019 class, there were:

- 6 Unitarian Universalists
- 13 MDiv students; 4 MASC students
- (all identified as men or women): 10 men and 7 women
- (with some missing data): 15 white and 2 people of color

In the 2019 class:

- 7 students had completed their degrees in 2 – 3 years
- 7 students had completed their degrees in 4 – 5 years
- 3 students had completed their degrees in 6 or more years

Annual Satisfaction Survey of Graduating Students

Every year we ask our graduating class to reflect on their satisfaction with the SKSM experience. We reached 12 of the 13 MDiv graduates. This is their response to our questions.

Q1. My experience at SKSM enhanced my understanding of theological and ethical issues inherent in life and work, and the practice of ministry.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q2. My experience at SKSM enhanced my ability to speak and write publicly on critical issues of our time in a contextually sensitive manner.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q3. My experience at SKSM enhanced my understanding of the role of ritual and the arts in the practice of ministry.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q4. My experience at SKSM enhanced my ability to conduct rites of passage, create liturgy, and lead ritual.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q5. My experience at SKSM enhanced my ability to interpret sacred texts from several religious traditions in their historical and cultural context.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q6. My experience at SKSM enhanced my ability to apply sacred texts to contemporary experience through preaching and public speaking

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 92%

Q7. My experience at SKSM enhanced my knowledge of my own religious tradition within the cultural context of religious tolerance, interfaith dialogue, and multi-religious engagement.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q8. My experience at SKSM enhanced my capacity to work collaboratively in interfaith and ecumenical settings and activities.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q9. My experience at SKSM enhanced my understanding of group dynamics, administration of organizations and the democratic process of shared leadership.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q10. My experience at SKSM enhanced my ability to articulate my own thea/ology and assist others in articulating their own thea/ologies.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q11. My experience at SKSM helped me to develop personally sustaining spiritual practices.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 92%

Q12. My experience at SKSM helped me to develop my ability to guide individuals and congregations in their own spiritual growth, and to provide pastoral counseling across the life span.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 100%

Q13. My experience at SKSM helped me to develop my ability to facilitate teaching and learning, alert to cultural contexts, learning styles, and age differences.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 83%

Q14. My experience at SKSM enhanced my ability to design and teach an adult education and/or graduate level class session on an anti-oppression topic or with an anti-oppressive component.

“Strongly agree” plus “Agree” = 92%