Requirements for Admission

Those with at least two (2) years of college education may be admitted to the Program. No prior philosophy or theology courses are required. The following application documents should be submitted to the LST Dean at least one month before the announced enrollment dates.

- Duly accomplished LST Application Form
- One ID picture ("2 x 2")
- One photocopy of original Transcript of Records from previous school and its English translation if the Transcript is in a foreign language
- One page single-spaced Personal Essay introducing oneself and indicating one’s motivation in applying to the Certificate Program
- Letter of Recommendation from the Religious Superior, Bishop or Official of the applicant’s institution
- Proof of proficiency in the English language through the LST English Proficiency Test (PhP 100.00)
- Application fee (PhP 100.00)

Applicants will receive a letter or e-mail from the Dean informing them about the results of their application.

For complete information regarding admission procedures, deadlines, and required documents, see:
http://www.lst.edu/admission/procedures

LST Student Handbook (2007):
http://www.lst.edu/academics/downloads

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P.O. Box 240, UP Post Office
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Certificate Program in Basic Pastoral Ministry

The Certificate Program in Basic Pastoral Ministry aims to help pastoral ministers of the Church, especially religious sisters, religious brothers, and lay persons, to acquire the necessary practical knowledge and skills for effective work in their field of service in the Church. The program is also open to anyone who would like to enrich his or her knowledge and practice of the Roman Catholic faith. It introduces participants, within the span of one (1) school year, to a range of themes and issues of the various areas of Roman Catholic theology and ministry – Systematic and Sacramental Theology, Church History, Biblical Theology, Moral Theology, Spirituality, and Pastoral Care and Leadership.

Curriculum

The non-degree Certificate Program in Basic Pastoral Ministry requires eight (8) courses in the various branches of Roman Catholic theology and ministry. These are 3-unit credit courses wherein students fulfill the course requirements and receive marks at the end of the semester. Being basic theology courses, they are considered propaedeutic, i.e., preparatory for higher degree studies in theology or pastoral ministry. They are not considered as graduate theology courses and therefore cannot be credited as graduate units in the Bachelor in Sacred Theology (S.T.B.) and Master of Arts (M.A.) programs. Those intending to take courses at LST for the purpose of obtaining a degree should enroll in one of the degree programs offered at LST.

Four (4) of the required eight (8) courses of the Program are offered in the First Semester, while the other four courses are offered in the Second Semester. Each course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive overview of a particular branch of theology that will enable them to participate in discussions about related topics, to become acquainted with sources for a deeper understanding of the themes, and to relate and apply these to their ministry and way of life.

First Semester
- Introduction to the Mystery of Faith
- Introduction to the Old Testament
- Overview of Moral Theology
- Basics of Christian Spirituality

Second Semester
- Church and Sacraments
- Introduction to the New Testament
- Turning Points in Church History
- Elements of Pastoral Care and Leadership

In view of fulfilling the requirements and of receiving the Certificate, students may, with the approval of the Dean, substitute any of the above propaedeutic courses with other MA or STB-level courses offered at LST provided they belong to the same branch of theology. In fact, students in the Certificate Program in Basic Pastoral Ministry may take additional units beyond the eight courses prescribed in the curriculum. They may choose, still as non-degree students, from among the courses offered to STB and MA students, which may eventually be utilized as credits in case they decide later to apply to, and enroll in, LST’s MA or STB degree programs.