Pope Francis has called those who lead to always to do so with mercy and humility. The School of Theology and Ministry, rooted in the Catholic tradition, has a unique history of providing theological and ministerial education to women and men of diverse faiths and cultures at the undergraduate, masters’, and doctoral levels. Committed to practical theology, religious studies, and pastoral ministry, the School of Theology and Ministry continues to prepare men and women for leadership in global outreach, education, and ministry.

Through the years, the School of Theology and Ministry has taught, guided and encouraged individuals who wish to minister in varied areas such as Catholic education, hospital and military chaplaincy, prison ministry, religious education, spiritual formation, and worship. By providing practical “hands on” experience through pastoral field education, such as working with migrant farmworkers, assisting in hospital ministry, working within the inner city to promote the dignity of human life by addressing the root causes of violence, students are well formed in the practice of ministry.

Our mission requires the highest quality of theological and ministry formation programs, with ongoing investments in faculty, student recruitment, field education, scholarly research as well library, media, and other educational resources. Catholic identity and moral leadership are at the core of educating our students who come from the Americas, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and many other regions.
Moving forward the School looks to expand courses at the undergraduate level advancing students to careers in teaching, outreach, and opportunities for graduate studies. Plans include growing the graduate level programs of the M.A. in Pastoral Ministries, the Masters of Divinity, and the Ph.D. in Practical Theology always keeping in mind both theological reflection and practical experience.

BRIDGING

CHRISTIANITY & CULTURE

ECUMENISM & INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

PASTORAL MINISTRIES & LOCAL COMMUNITIES

THEOLOGY & SOCIETY
Consistent with the call of Pope Francis to reach out to those in need, and being at the crossroads of the hemisphere, the School of Theology and Ministry serves as an invaluable link for the ongoing training and education of those who will become the teachers and preachers of the Gospel Message for future generations in developing countries. The Pope Francis Scholarship would guarantee two annual awards for qualified clergy and religious from developing countries toward the PhD in Practical Theology. By assisting religious leaders from around the world to pursue graduate studies in theology at St. Thomas University, we are embracing not only those who study but also those communities who will benefit from their learning and scholarship.
The School of Theology and Ministry wishes to build educational and ecclesial solidarity within not only our local community, but also with one of our closest neighbors, the Church in Cuba. Due to the rise in population of exiles, the need for an understanding of Hispanic culture and ministry in the USA, especially in South Florida, continues to grow. By recognizing the historical contributions of the Cuban people in the building of dynamic faith communities through apostolic movements, popular religiosity, youth ministry, religious literacy, as well as the pressing questions of social justice and peace, the School of Theology and Ministry can be a bridge between faith communities here and abroad. Pastoral Ministry expressed through Cuban culture, piety, liturgy, and the arts intersect in many ways through various cultural expressions in society that need solid theological reflection and expertise. Fr. Felix Varela scholarships will provide funding for qualified professors to assist the Church in Cuba to prepare in the education and formation of Church leaders involved in pastoral ministry so as to help sustain and bring about a more Christian society for the future. Also, in order to articulate, model, and teach Christian values, scholarships will also assist in sponsoring summer sessions for students to come from Cuba and learn about new models of servant leadership which can bring about a Christian perspective to ways of thinking and acting. This continuing dialogue will expand initiatives on a wide range of theological, scriptural, ethical, and pastoral topics between local church communities by continuing the original mission of the founders of the Universidad Católica de Santa Tomás de Villanueva in Havana, Cuba.
Supporting our Catholic identity and continuing in the University’s mission of global outreach, the Center will sponsor and promote local, regional, and international peace-building dialogue and scholarship across interreligious boundaries for the purpose of deepening knowledge and understanding of the world’s religions. In doing so, the Center will also contribute to discovering strategies for living peacefully in a religiously diverse world.
THE GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In keeping with our mission, the School of Theology and Ministry realizes the need for passing on the values of an intellectual, spiritual, and moral life to younger generations. The Graduate Fellows Program in Theology and Religious Studies aims to recruit 10 of the best and brightest graduate students for careers in religious education, ministerial leadership and practice, including the profession of teaching religion in Catholic High Schools.

Highly capable candidates, who might normally not be able to pursue the study of theology and ministry due to limited incomes or the challenges of family and work commitments, would be able to move forward in their theological and ministerial education in order to complete graduate level degrees that can bring the Gospel values of respect for human dignity, ethical practices, and a deep desire to evangelize through educational and faith based programs within our communities. With a solid theological education, these committed students will be prepared to move into teaching positions, pursue graduate studies, and a readiness to put theology and ministry into practice at churches and organizations both here and abroad.
POPE FRANCIS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

In honor of the first “Pope from the Americas” – Jorge Mario Bergoglio, we are renaming the School as The Pope Francis School of Theology and Ministry. Innovations include a newly remodeled facility with upgraded offices, classrooms, seminar & state of the art conference space, student reading & lounge area, faculty meeting room, prayer and meditation space, as well as a studio apartment to house guest speakers and lecturers. This well designed space would bring together students, theologians, and world renowned experts serving as a model resource in supporting the academic as well as the Catholic identity of St. Thomas University.
ABOUT THE DEAN

Monsignor Terence E. Hogan is the Interim Dean of the School of Theology and Ministry. He was ordained a priest for the Miami Archdiocese in 1980. After serving in St. Ignatius Loyola in Palm Beach Gardens and teaching at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami, he was sent to Rome, where he obtained his Doctorate in Sacred Liturgy at the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy, Rome in 1996. Monsignor Hogan served as Rector of the Cathedral of St. Mary in Miami, Pastor of St. Augustine Catholic Church and Student Center, Coral Gables and since 2001 as Director of the Archdiocese of Miami Office of Worship and Spiritual Life. He has taught at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami, Barry University, and more recently was the Director of Liturgy and Music at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Boynton Beach.

Adding to his various archdiocesan roles, Msgr. Hogan has also served the Archdiocese of Miami as a member and President of the Presbyteral Council. In 2005 he was appointed by the President of the Vatican City State as the North American Chaplain of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums, organizing cultural, artistic, and religious events in the United States, Canada, the United Nations, Rome and the Vatican to bring about dialogue about eternal truths through the arts and culture.

ABOUT THE CHAIR

Paul Garcia, CPA / CFF / CVA, is the Chair of the School of Theology and Ministry and the President of the Board of Advisors to the School. He has practiced as a sole practitioner under the name of Paul A. Garcia, P.A., since June 1985. The firm provides financial, tax, consulting, and forensic/litigation support services to individuals, partnerships, corporations, trusts, and estates.

A Bachelor of Business Administration graduate from Florida International University, 1982, Mr. Garcia has completed numerous certification programs, including the Supreme Court of Florida Certified Family Mediator and has continuously presented and lectured in state, court, and municipal councils and organizations. He has over 30 years’ experience in U.S. taxation of individuals and small businesses as well as taxation of non-resident aliens and foreign corporations. He is frequently consulted as a forensic expert witness in divorce and other civil litigation matters; valuations of closely held businesses; US personal, corporate, trust, and estate tax matters; and forensic accounting issues.

His long list of professional affiliations, leadership roles, and service in Florida boards and committees include: Kidside, Inc; Collaborative Family Law Institute; BMI Financial Group; and St. Thomas University Board of Advisors to the President and Board of Trustees (2010 to present).
To make your gift to the School of Theology, contact theology@stu.edu
JOIN US IN MANIFESTING OUR BLUEPRINT FOR LEADERSHIP

The School of Theology and Ministry is positioned to lead in theological, ministerial, global outreach, peace building and immersion programs. We invite you to become part of this journey where faith and tradition meet experience, dialogue, and transforming action.