CREDITS

Transfer of Credits
The Academic Dean and Registrar will evaluate the student’s previous seminary work and determine which requirements are met and the number of credits to be transferred. On the basis of this evaluation, the student will work out a plan for his/her academic program at Wartburg in consultation with his/her advisor indicating when and how the student will meet the requirements and the number of hours of electives that will be needed. The Registrar will verify that the program meets the requirements for graduation.

Credit for Conferences
One hour of credit per year may be granted for attending a conference; however, the conference needs to be approved ahead of time by a faculty member and incorporated into an independent study. A faculty member needs to be responsible for the final evaluation. Students should use the Independent Study Contract form to designate advanced reading in preparation for the conference, as well as a written report or reflection after the conference.

JANUARY INTERIM TERM
On the 4-1-4 system, January has been designated as the interim period, or the "1" of the 4-1-4. Interim is required, but with approval by the Academic Dean a summer experience may be substituted for the January experience.

During the month of January all students conduct independent studies or projects, or participate in Seminary courses on or off campus. First-year students may enroll in the Pastoral Practicum, a program in which they observe and assist a pastor in his/her congregation. Students may apply for an alternative practicum setting (e.g. hospital or nursing home chaplaincy, an urban experience) or do a special project on campus.

Students may participate in one of many off-campus offerings such as the Israel-Palestine Trip, Milwaukee, or the domestic violence course, etc. Some of the projects meet the cross-cultural requirement. Information on possible Interim-term projects is distributed early in fall semester. All interim work must be completed by the last day of interim unless extended by the student’s faculty advisor or course supervisor. Students are expected to complete 3 hours of credit during the Interim term.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Grading System
Students in the M.Div. and M.A. degree programs may choose to be graded either by credit/no credit (Cr/NCr) or by letter grade in each course. Exceptions are for work done in January interim, Clinical Pastoral Education, and some courses at the instructor’s discretion. In such instances students receive Cr/NCr. For first-year students, the faculty reserves the right to require letter grades in cases where it appears advisable. Students who anticipate doing additional graduate work should take letter grades and other students may request letter grades.