

The Certificate in Intercultural Ministry



The Mexican American Catholic College, collaboration with the Asociación de Hermanas Latinas Misioneras en America (AHLMA) is currently forming religious sisters to serve in leadership roles in their ministries. The Certificate in Intercultural Ministry is designed to prepare participants to serve competently and effectively in contemporary ecclesial ministries and leadership, especially in Catholic parish ministries, religious education, spirituality and spiritual development, youth ministry and catechetical leadership.

30-credit plan includes courses in:

- Scripture
- Theology
- Ministry
- Pastoral proposal development, implementation and reporting
- Pastoral application of theory and research
- Leading and financing pastoral projects

Effective pastoral work in the US requires familiarity with a variety of cultures and their languages. The Certificate in Intercultural Ministry therefore offers classes in both Spanish and English, and students are required to take at least one intercultural competencies course before graduation. All courses are designed to attend to questions of ministry in intercultural contexts.



Theological formation goes hand in hand with spiritual, human, leadership, and pastoral praxis. Undergraduate level coursework is required for the core curriculum. The Director of the Intercultural Ministry Program evaluates any prior undergraduate or graduate coursework.

Sisters are expected to minister alongside priests, lay leaders, and deacons, as well as in other settings. Therefore, their intellectual formation must be effective and help them be competent. All courses are offered in English and Spanish and are available online through weekly synchronous meetings.



Thanks to generous support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and MACC's scholarships, tuition cost for the Certificate is free to the participating sister. In addition, a \$1,000 stipend is given to each sister to support her studies during the two-year program. Sisters are responsible for books and/or other non-tuition required materials.

For more information, please contact AnnaMarie Gomez, Project Administrative Assistant at agomez@maccsa.org or 210-731-3132

The certificate program is open by invitation-only to sisters who are members of AHLMA. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Ann Guerrero at hermanas.latinas.america@gmail.com or 210-731-3133.

The Certificate in Intercultural Ministry Fact Sheet



What is Certificate in Intercultural Ministry?

The Mexican American Catholic College (MACC), in collaboration with the Asociación de Hermanas Latinas Misioneras en America (AHLMA) has developed the Certificate in Intercultural Ministry program for Latina/Latin American religious sisters. The Certificate in Intercultural Ministry is a two-year certificate designed to prepare participants to serve competently and effectively in contemporary ecclesial ministries and leadership, especially in Catholic parish ministries, religious education, spirituality and spiritual development, youth ministry and catechetical leadership. All courses are designed to attend to questions of ministry in intercultural contexts. All courses are offered in English and Spanish and are available online through weekly synchronous meetings.

Who is the Certificate in Intercultural Ministry for?

The certificate is particularly focused on giving Latina sisters the knowledge and skills to minister in the United States. The certificate program will enable 10 religious Latina/Latin American sisters serving in the United States to earn the certificate. The certificate program is open to religious sisters residing within the United States or preparing for ministry in the United States in the very near future. The certificate program is open to sisters who are members of AHLMA. For more information about AHLMA membership, please contact Elizabeth Ann Guerrero at hermanas.latinas.america@gmail.com or 210-731-3133.

Why was Certificate in Intercultural Ministry developed?

Intellectual formation is foundational for ministry, and it is intrinsically related to spiritual formation. Sisters are expected to minister alongside priests, lay leaders, and deacons, as well as in other settings. Therefore, their intellectual formation must be effective and aligned with the local Arch/diocesan Pastoral Vision or Congregational Vision for an effective pastoral service in the Church.

How is Certificate in Intercultural Ministry offered?

Financial Elements.

Thanks to generous support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and MACC's scholarships, tuition cost for the Certificate in Intercultural Ministry Formation program is free to the participating sister. In addition, a \$1,000 stipend is given to each sister to support her studies during the two-year program. Students take up to 15 credits, or 5 classes, per year including one during the summer. Sisters are responsible for books and/or other non-tuition required materials needed for the program.

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What study areas are included in the Certificate in Intercultural Ministry?

The 30-credit plan includes courses in:

- Scripture
- Theology
- Ministry
- Project proposal development, implementation, and reporting
- Pastoral application of theory and research
- Leading and financing pastoral projects

Students are normally required to take at least one intercultural competencies course before graduation. All courses are offered in English and Spanish and are available online through weekly synchronous meetings.

Application for Admission, Registration for classes and Deadlines.

Application for Admission process: The certificate program will admit 2 religious Latina/Latin American sisters who are currently serving in the United States. Thus, Sisters must apply for admission into the program. Applications for admission will be open until November 29, 2024. Applicants will be notified of admission by December 16, 2024.

Application for Admission can be found at the following link:

<https://maccsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/APPROVED-ADM-APPLICATION-AUG2019.pdf>

Once admitted to the program, the participants will be given instructions on Registration for classes.

Spring semester classes: January 13, 2025

Documents needed to provide for consideration.

- High school diploma and/or transcripts, certificates, or transcripts from academic institutions.
- Letter of permission from Superior General / Congregational Leader of your religious congregation.
- Letter of recommendation from your ministry supervisor.
- Your admission essay.

How can I find out more about Certificate in Intercultural Ministry?

For more information about the certificate program and application process, please contact AnnaMarie Gomez, Project Administrative Assistant, at agomez@maccsa.org or 210-731-3132. Mexican American Catholic College, 3115 West Ashby Place, San Antonio, Texas 78228-5104.

More information can be found at the following link <https://maccsa.org/sisters/>