

**BEGIN YOUR**  
**JOURNEY**

**WITH US**



# HIGHER LEARNING. REAL EXPERIENCE. VITAL MINISTRY.™

# ACADEMICS

## *Begin Your Journey With Us*

God is leading you on a journey. The journey is ever changing. It may be straight one moment and winding the next. One thing never changes. You are never alone. We can be part of your journey, too.

*Remember, I am with you always.* – Matthew 28:20

### **ACADEMICS & FACULTY**

**P**erkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University has a distinguished faculty with more than 35 full-time professors, renowned in their scholarly fields and diverse in denominational affiliation, gender, race, ethnicity, and culture.

Within this unique mix of unique perspectives and interests is a shared commitment to train leaders for a life in ministry. Perkins professors won't teach you *what* to think, they will teach you *how*



to think theologically. Our goal is to model a community engaged in faith's search for understanding and preparation for ordained and lay ministries.

### **FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

Approximately 75% of our students receive financial assistance in the form of fellowships, scholarships, or grants. Additional awards are available for students from several annual conferences in the South Central Jurisdiction UMC as well as for children and spouses of United Methodist clergy. Recognizing the significant financial investment in a theological education, Perkins is committed to work with you to make your theological degree affordable.

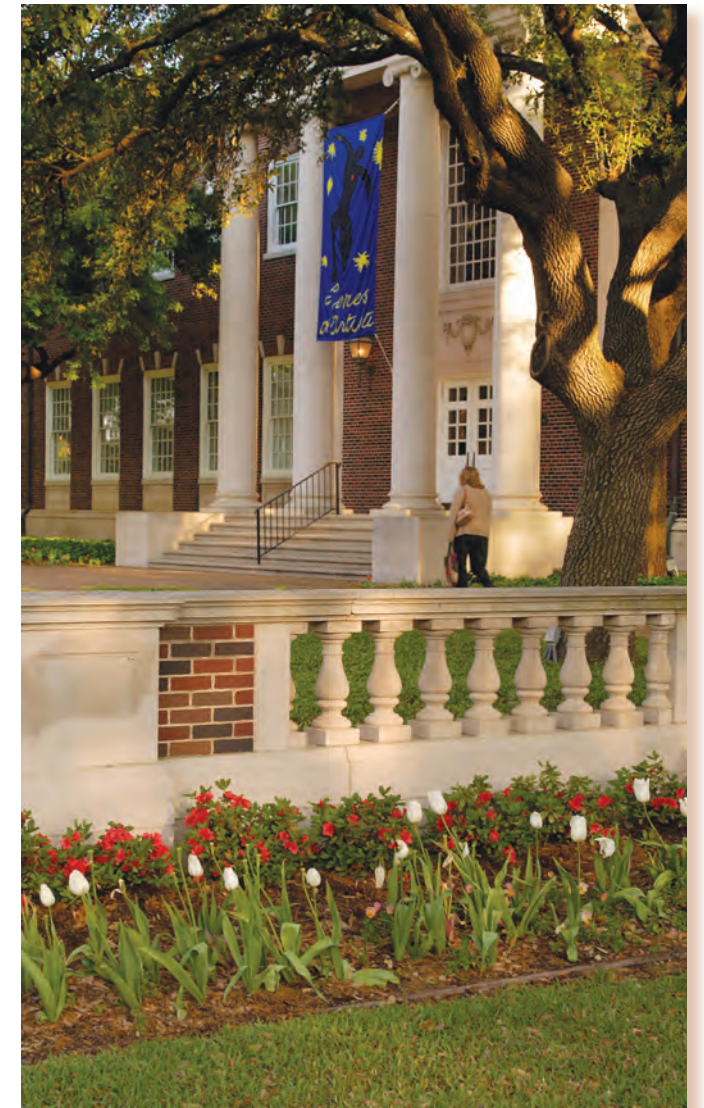
### **BRIDWELL LIBRARY**

The Bridwell Library at Perkins School of Theology, among the finest theological libraries in the nation, is one of the many academic resources available to Perkins students.

Bridwell Library houses more than 360,000 volumes in religion, theology, and related fields in print and digital formats. Library facilities include computer labs and wireless service, comfortable reading rooms, and special-needs computer stations.

In addition to the general collection, the special collections holdings contain more than 50,000 rare books and manuscripts. Particular strengths of the special collections include theology, church history, textually and historically significant editions of the Bible, Methodistica, Wesleyana and early printing.

Bridwell Library, along with our renowned faculty, is at the core of Perkins' reputation for academic excellence as a leader in theological education.



*Bridwell Library*

# RESOURCES

Apply online at [www.smu.edu/apply2perkins](http://www.smu.edu/apply2perkins)



## PERKINS INTERNSHIPS

The Perkins Intern Program is nationally recognized as an exemplary program in preparing persons for effective Christian ministry. Perkins interns integrate the knowledge and theological reflection disciplines learned in the classroom with the practical demands of providing resourceful, faithful leadership within a congregation or church agency.

Working with one of our full-time Intern faculty members, you will be placed in a paid internship designed to maximize learning opportunities within a hands-on ministerial experience. While interns perform the various tasks of ministry and systematically reflect upon their experiences, a mentor pastor provides both professional and



*Professor Harold Recinos in El Salvador*

theological supervision; a lay teaching committee offers regular feedback; and the Internship Seminar led by the Intern faculty and a mental health professional creates opportunities for sharing ministry stories and receiving support and guidance. The internship, a course requirement for the Master of Divinity and Master of Church Ministries degrees, is nine months long, taking place over consecutive fall and spring terms of one academic year.

## GLOBAL THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

The Perkins Global Theological Education program will prepare you to lead others to engage in cross-cultural ministries both inside and outside the United States. Short-term immersion courses provide firsthand experience in learning from and with other cultures, as well as building the intercultural relationships critical to contemporary Christian mission.

The GTE program provides a unique opportunity to reflect on the theology and spirituality of cross-cultural ministry toward the goals of both personal growth and a more faithful partnership in our global community.



## COMMUNITY LIFE

At Perkins you will have the opportunity to build relationships that extend far beyond graduation. A diverse and caring community of faith, Perkins School of Theology is a place where we study, learn, grow, worship, and experience God together.

Opportunities abound for conversation and fellowship with students, faculty, and staff. Community life is enhanced by weekly worship, community lunch, informal discussion sessions, a variety of student groups, and small class sizes meeting in rooms designed to maximize the effective use of educational technologies.

## PERKINS QUICK FACTS - WHO WE ARE:

- Student body of nearly 400 students
- About 70% United Methodist plus approximately 20 other Christian denominations
- About 30% ethnic minority students
- Approximately 50% male and 50% female
- Located in Dallas, Texas with an extension program in Houston-Galveston
- Full-time faculty of 35, including 40% female and 28% persons of color, providing internationally recognized scholarship, teaching, and church leadership
- Alumni network across the globe from Australia to Zimbabwe
- A leader in Hispanic/Latino(a) ministries, with our Mexican American Program and the Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions



## DEGREE PROGRAMS

- The **Master of Divinity (M.Div.)** degree is designed primarily for students who plan to be ordained clergy and serve in word, sacrament, service, and order. Our M.Div. program may also equip you for other specialized ministries.
- The **Master of Church Ministries (C.M.M.)** degree offers a Christian Education track and an Urban Ministries track for fostering your ability to work meaningfully and creatively in a specialized area of church ministry and for possible ordination as deacon.
- The **Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)** degree is designed to provide a basic understanding of the theological disciplines as a foundation for further graduate study, personal enrichment, and for your enhancement in lay leadership roles.
- The **Master of Sacred Music (M.S.M.)** degree, which prepares students for professional music leadership in the church and for possible ordination as deacon, is jointly sponsored with the Division of Music of Meadows School of the Arts.



## WORSHIP & SPIRITUALITY

Perkins Chapel serves as the centerpiece and primary setting for worship at Perkins School of Theology and Southern Methodist University. The chapel plays a vital role in spiritual formation and leadership education, offering a sacred space for instruction in preaching and for practicing and experiencing a broad range of worship expressions.

The program in Spiritual Formation is also an integral part of theological education at Perkins. It will prepare you for ministry which incorporates personal formation, experience with the variety of spiritual disciplines, and the ability to facilitate the growth of others. You will acquire a growing capacity for integrating the spiritual, theological, and social dimensions of life.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The primary mission of Perkins School of Theology, as a community devoted to theological study and teaching in the service of the church of Jesus Christ, is to prepare women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry.*

*Perkins School of Theology affirms its relationships to the community of learning that is Southern Methodist University, to the universal church (inclusive, ecumenical and global), to The United Methodist Church specifically and to its particular geographical and cultural setting in the southwestern United States.*

*These relationships are sources of strength and avenues of service for the school as it pursues its twin tasks of theological reflection and theological education to the glory of God.*

At Perkins School of Theology you will gain a balance of academic preparedness and hands-on learning to equip you for ministry and leadership in the church of the 21st century.



# SPIRITUAL LIFE



## **SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY AND DALLAS, TEXAS**

Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University is one of five official University-related schools of theology of The United Methodist Church. Founded in 1911, SMU is a private university of 11,000 students, offering strong undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs in the humanities and sciences; business; the performing, visual, and communication arts; engineering; education and human development; law; and theology.

SMU is also home to the George W. Bush Presidential Center, which will consist of a library, museum, and independent public policy institute.

### ***City Life***

Located in the heart of Dallas, Texas, Perkins School of Theology at SMU is convenient to the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) lines providing access to points of interest throughout the city. Popular Dallas destinations include



Deep Ellum and Uptown West Village for entertainment, shopping, and restaurants. The American Airlines Center at Victory Park showcases great sports and entertainment events. Many convenient hotels, restaurants, and shopping centers are within walking distance from campus. Dallas is home to a wide range of faith communities, as well as cultural amenities connected with the arts, sports, outdoor, and fitness activities.

**Discover the essence of higher learning, vital ministry and real experience. Discover Perkins. Begin your journey here – [smu.edu/perkins](http://smu.edu/perkins) and apply online.**



***Higher learning.  
Real experience.  
Vital ministry.<sup>SM</sup>***



**SMU | PERKINS**  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

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Southern Methodist University  
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**Apply online at [www.smu.edu/apply2perkins](http://www.smu.edu/apply2perkins)**