Learning Aims for the Masters of Arts in Pastoral Care

As a result of successfully completing the Masters of Arts program students would be able to:

1. Exhibit a pastoral presence marked by excellent listening and responding skills, comfort with silence, non-judgmental acceptance of recipients, ability to display empathy and compassion as well as to be present to another’s grief and anger.
2. Practice effective crisis intervention skills, including assessment, intervention, and referral.
3. Evaluate ministry situations using classical and contemporary methods of theological reflection that lead to an understanding of the “heart of the matter.”
4. Create and execute a plan for professional identity through life-long learning comprised of continuing education, participation in professional organizations, critical self-examination, and appropriate self-care.
5. Exhibit sensitivity to an awareness of multicultural issues, inter-faith issues, social justice issues, ethical issues, and the importance of securing appropriate boundaries.