

Appendix E: Chart for Educational Formation Planning

<i>Adapted from Ministry Issues Draft 3.1 The Marks</i>	<i>Options for Educational Content or Experiences to Promote The Marks (EFP Possibilities)</i>	<i>Conference Church & Ministry Committee's Recommended Educational Content or Experiences to Promote The Marks (Actual EFP)</i>	<i>Date Completed</i>
SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION FOR MINISTRY			
1. A lived faith showing a love of God, trust in Jesus, and openness to the Holy Spirit.			
2. Devotion to the word of God as revealed through scripture and Christian traditions.			
3. Commitment to life-long spiritual growth and practice, individually and in community.			
4. A sense of being called by God and the community to authorized ministry in the church.			
5. Openness to continuing discernment of one's call in community.			
UCC IDENTITY FOR MINISTRY			
1. Acknowledgement of Jesus Christ as sole Head of the church.			
2. A passion for the oneness of the body of Christ as expressed in the work of ecumenism, justice, and the full embrace of all persons in God's radical hospitality.			
3. Active membership in a local church of the UCC.			

4. An understanding of the concept of covenant and how it informs the nature, purpose, and polity of the United Church of Christ.	Courses in UCC theology and polity		
5. A willingness to live in the covenants of mutual accountability that characterize authorized ministry in the UCC.			
6. Ongoing demonstration of commitment to the United Church of Christ.	See Resources on UCC Identity		
7. Stewardship of resources, including financial support of the church in all its settings.			
8. Participation in the various settings of the United Church of Christ, including the conference and local church.	See Resource on UCC Identity		
The Ability:			
9. to articulate diverse histories that comprise the United Church of Christ, to situate them in the broader evolution of faith traditions, and to relate them to the theology, polity and practices of the Member's local church and conference.	Courses in UCC history, church history		

<p>10. to explain and work within the current polity of the UCC and its denominational structure, and to describe the covenantal relationships among the General Synod, national setting, conferences and local congregations of the UCC.</p>	<p>Courses in UCC polity</p>		
<p>11. to share key elements of the UCC's statement of faith, constitution with its preamble and by-laws regarding the governance, mission and theologies of the UCC and their implications for the life of the church.</p>	<p>Courses in UCC theology and polity</p>		
<p>12. to articulate the UCC's commitment to being a united and uniting, multiracial and multicultural, open and affirming, accessible to all, and just peace church.</p>	<p>Courses in UCC polity; courses in social justice issues related to the UCC's commitments</p>		
<p>13. to envision how the UCC in its various settings may respond to religious, social, economic, and political trends, changing demographics, and other emerging factors.</p>	<p>See Resource on UCC Identity</p>		
<p>14. to use and promote the informational and educational resources available through UCC publications and websites.</p>	<p>Courses in UCC polity</p>		

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL FORMATION FOR MINISTRY			
1. A healthy sense of self as shaped by God, community and personal experience.			
2. A sense of theological identity and authority, while being responsive to the opinions and values of others, including those whom the MID will serve.	Courses in constructive theology; courses in theological method		
3. A healthy awareness of strengths, weaknesses and limits, and assumption of responsibility for one's body, mind and spirit.	Units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE); supervised practice of ministry		
4. Knowledge and observance of personal and professional boundaries in interpersonal, congregational, and community settings.	A basic course in pastoral care; courses in pastoral ethics, courses in ministry; courses in ministerial practice/leadership		
5. A commitment to continuing education, professional development and life-long learning.			
6. Demonstrated moral maturity, including integrity in personal and public life and responsibility to self, family, church and community.	Courses in Christian ethics help one think about this, but do not necessarily produce the practice		
The Ability:			
7. to affirm the identities of others, including others very unlike the one's own self.	A basic course in pastoral care		

8. to engage in self-reflection and to seek and use feedback from others appropriately.	Courses in pastoral care, CPE		
9. to engage productively in public discourse, expecting to grow and be transformed through the exchange of viewpoints.	Courses in speech, writing and critical thinking could help		
10. to take initiative in leadership, and to frame and test a vision in community.	Courses in pastoral leadership could help; contextual or field education with appropriate supervision and reflection		
11. to listen empathically, communicate appropriately, and keep appropriate confidences.	A basic course in pastoral care		
12. to function as part of a team, to give and receive supervision, and to mutually equip and motivate the community of faith.	Courses in leadership and/or administration; supervised practice of ministry		
13. to be resourceful and adaptable, and know where to locate additional resources and seek consultation when needed.	Courses in leadership and/or administration; supervised practice of ministry		
14. to accept and promote diversity, to inspire others to do so, and to minister in a multi-cultural, multi-racial, open and affirming, just peace, accessible-to-all, united and uniting church.	Courses in UCC history, theology and polity will educate on these specific commitments; courses on ethical issues related to the named commitments; courses in nurturing and leading multicultural, multiracial congregations may impart more specific skills.		

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FOR MINISTRY			
General Knowledge and Skills			
The Ability:			
1. to understand and appreciate a variety of perspectives on life.			
2. to understand the profound differences that physical, psychological, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, class, cultural, racial, and ethnic factors make in the ways that human beings experience the world.	Psychology courses, cultural studies courses		
3. to comprehend the impact of historical change upon the thoughts, feelings, and actions of individuals and societies.	Survey courses in history		
4. to perceive how a person's perspectives and interests shape communication, and to appreciate the virtues and limitations of those perspectives and interests.	Literature courses, communications courses, writing courses, courses in critical thinking		
5. to grasp and evaluate the justifications that people give for their opinions.	Writing courses; courses in critical thinking, philosophy courses		
6. to apply basic concepts of psychology to the understanding of oneself, others, and human interactions.	Basic psychology courses		
7. to appreciate the importance of symbols and images in human culture(s).	Art appreciation courses, cultural studies courses, literature courses		

8. to understand the various meanings and purposes of the arts.	Arts appreciation courses, art history courses		
9. to analyze social, political, and economic dynamics, using the tools of the social and natural sciences.	Sociology courses, political science courses, economics courses		
10. to use respectfully and relationally a basic knowledge of specific human cultures.	Cultural studies courses, anthropology courses		
11. to communicate clearly and cogently with appropriate media and technologies.	Communications courses, writing courses, speech courses		
Knowledge and Skills Specific to Authorized Ministry			
1. A thorough knowledge of, and personal engagement with, the Bible.	Courses in Old Testament literature, history and theology; courses in New Testament literature, history and theology		
2. Skill with methods of Biblical interpretation, including the historic interpretive traditions of the church and contemporary methods, particularly those from historically under-represented communities.	Courses in Old Testament interpretation; courses in New Testament interpretation; courses in Biblical interpretation		
3. A deepening familiarity with the global history of the Christian churches through the ages and across cultures, including the newest Christian populations, and an understanding of the evolution of Christian communities in the USA.	Courses in church history; courses in American church history or religious histories; courses in global Christianity		

4. A deepening familiarity with contemporary theological ways of thinking and with the rich and varied theological heritages, creeds, liturgies, and spiritual practices of the Christian churches.	Courses in historical theology or history of Christian thought; courses in contemporary global theologies; courses in Christian ethics; courses in worship; courses in spiritual practices		
5. An understanding of other religions and their foundational documents.	Courses in world religions; courses in specific non-Christian religions		
The Ability:			
6. to articulate a theological understanding of authorized ministry, and to relate it to the practice of ministry.	UCC history, theology, and polity; course of study about the pastoral office		
7. to analyze, evaluate, and integrate the biblical, historical, theological, and pastoral disciplines and practices in ways that contribute to fruitful and faithful Christian ministry.	Constructive theology courses, pastoral theology courses, integrative courses of various types		
8. to understand the nature, use, and misuse of power and authority, and to exercise them appropriately and effectively in authorized ministry.	Supervised practice of ministry with appropriate reflection; courses in theology, philosophy, social sciences		
9. to engage in community leadership that is collaborative and transformative.	Courses in leadership of religious communities		
10. to engage in respectful ecumenical and interfaith dialogue.	Courses in ecumenics, courses in comparative religions, courses from an interfaith perspective		

<p>11. to celebrate the unique features of local faith communities while encouraging them to be receptive to perspectives from the broader church and world.</p>	<p>Courses in congregational dynamics; courses in contextual analysis; courses in the global diversity of faith traditions</p>		
<p>12. to appreciate, practice, and pass on traditions of faith while interpreting them in light of the context of a diverse and changing world.</p>	<p>Courses in historical theology</p>		
<p>13. to adapt the practice of ministry to the unique social, cultural, environmental, and ecclesiastical aspects of particular settings.</p>	<p>Courses in the leadership of religious communities, courses in contextual analysis</p>		
<p>14. to discern God's mission in the world and, in response, to lead ministries of compassion, nurture, justice, and proclamation that support fullness of life for all people.</p>	<p>Courses in mission, courses in leadership of religious communities, courses in contextual analysis</p>		
<p>15. to preach the good news, lead worship and participate in the sacraments in a manner faithful to the broader Christian heritage and appropriate to the characteristics of a specific culture and setting.</p>	<p>Courses in preaching, courses in worship</p>		
<p>16. to provide effective and appropriate pastoral care and Christian education, and to equip and motivate others to share in these ministries.</p>	<p>Courses in pastoral care, courses in Christian education</p>		

<p>17. to organize and implement programs, administer the operations of a complex organization, and initiate change when appropriate.</p>	<p>Courses in administration and leadership of religious communities</p>		
<p>18. to read the contexts of a community's ministry and creatively lead that community through change or conflict.</p>	<p>Courses in conflict transformation, courses in contextual analysis</p>		
<p>19. to lead and encourage ministries of evangelism, service, stewardship, and social transformation.</p>	<p>Courses in evangelism, courses in stewardship, courses in social justice advocacy and mobilization, Christian ethics</p>		
<p>20. to understand and participate in the financial administration of a church and other religious organizations.</p>	<p>Courses in organizational finance</p>		