

VST Vision, Mission & Values and MA PPL Outcomes

VST VISION

The Vancouver School of Theology is called to educate and form thoughtful, engaged and generous Christian leaders.

VST MISSION

An education at VST invites:

- Faithful discernment of the demands of Christian service.
- Rigorous engagement with Christian tradition and contemporary learning.
- Hospitable and respectful collaboration with Indigenous spiritualities and other cultures and faith traditions for the good of all creation.

VST VALUES

As a community of faith, we commit to:

- Theological education (theological, biblical, pastoral, ethical, historical, Indigenous and inter-religious studies) and formation for the flourishing of God's people.
- Inspiring lives of discerning Christian discipleship within and outside this community.
- Respect for the dignity of every person.
- Learning and scholarship undertaken with diligence and openness.
- Encouraging prophetic speech and just action for the love and welfare of creation.

A graduate of the MA PPL program at VST will know, articulate and integrate aspects of religious heritage, cultural context, and public and pastoral leadership:

1. Demonstrate Masters level knowledge of biblical, theological, and historical traditions and contexts, including the student's own denomination or faith tradition
2. Analyze the relationship between religious faiths and contemporary culture, and demonstrate how engagement with both impacts one's contribution to public and pastoral leadership
3. Analyze and interpret various cultural, congregational, and organizational contexts where ministry is practiced
4. Demonstrate positive growth in self-knowledge, emotional maturity, and spiritual vitality necessary for leadership in community
5. Articulate and practice an ethical and theological framework for decision-making and action
6. Articulate the student's own purpose or call within their community of faith and wider society, making use of and possibly going beyond current models of ministry
7. Demonstrate integration of the knowledge, reflection and skills described above in theological reflection on the practice of ministry and leadership, in relation to major challenges facing contemporary religious communities and society
8. For those in the Spiritual Care concentration, demonstrate skills as a practitioner in spiritual care, working with a care team in a clinical institutional setting