

## *VST Vision, Mission & Values and MATS 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 MATS program at VST will be equipped and prepared to exercise a vocation of theological scholarship:**

1. Demonstrate a masters level knowledge of theological disciplines,
  - a. Describe central topics in theology and engage in theological reflection on selected issues and topics
  - b. Apply appropriate hermeneutical methods to accomplish an introductory level interpretation of a biblical text in its ancient context and contemporary contexts
  - c. Analyze historical data and demonstrate historiographical understanding using appropriate skills such as use of primary and secondary source materials
  - d. Demonstrate introductory level awareness of the content, methods, issues, and contexts of Inter-religious studies and Indigenous studies
2. In the student's discipline of concentration, identify the basic working concepts in the critical and constructive study of the discipline, offer discussion of the basic content of the discipline, and deploy research skills sufficient to present the basic content of that discipline
3. For an Integrative Studies concentration, demonstrate intermediate level familiarity with the content, methods, issues and contexts of two or more theological disciplines, and ability to make comparative and integrative judgments between or among the fields chosen
4. Demonstrate proficiency in clear and effective communication in both oral and written forms, the construction of a logical argument, the making of informed judgments on complex issues, and the use of appropriate conventions of style for scholarly writing