



M.A. / Echo Prerequisite STEP Course Information

Prospective applicants to Echo must fulfill a six-credit theology prerequisite before beginning the program in June, should they be admitted. The Satellite Theological Education Program (STEP) through the Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame offers one option for fulfilling this requirement.

Through STEP, prospective Echo applicants who lack an academic theological background may choose among a spectrum of online theology courses that meet for 5-7 week modules, beginning at various times of the year. Each STEP course is the equivalent of 1 theology credit, based on contact time and workload. If a prospective applicant takes initiative early in the discernment and application process, he/she could take a total of six (6) STEP courses during the application and admissions process, which would translate into the required six (6) credits of theology required for Echo/the M.A. theology degree. Successful completion of STEP courses does not assure admission into Echo or the M.A. theology degree program.

Requirements for taking STEP course(s) as a pre-req for the Theology M.A.:

1. **Register for the course(s) through STEP** (<http://step.nd.edu/>) early to assure open spots.
2. **Notify Katie Diltz** (kmuller@nd.edu), Echo Assistant Director, of the STEP courses you are taking. As the beginning of the course approaches, Katie will connect you with the M.A. contact who will offer feedback on your assignments and assess your work for credit.
3. **Fulfill the weekly work** (reading, online participation, and end of week response: 150-200 words) as required by STEP.
4. In addition to submitting your weekly response to the STEP facilitator, also **email your weekly response to the M.A. contact** (*Echo will provide you with this contact information*).
5. **By 2 weeks following the end of the STEP course:** Answer the additional "assessment" question (3-5 page response) based on the course topic. (*The assessment question will be sent to you from the M.A. contact after you have begun the corresponding course.*)

Note: If you should, for some reason, decide to not finish the STEP course, choose not to complete the final assessment question, or need more time for the assignment, please let Aimee *and* the M.A. contact know as soon as possible.

Recommended STEP courses:

1. [History of Christianity, Part 1: First Five Centuries](#)
2. [History of Christianity, Part 2: Early Middle Ages](#)
3. [History of Christianity, Part 3: Late & Middle Ages](#)
4. [Intro to the New Testament](#)
5. [Old Testament 2: The Prophets](#)
6. [Mary in the Catholic Tradition](#)
7. [The Christian Conscience and Ethical Dilemmas](#)
8. [Liturgy: A Guide for the Perplexed](#)
9. [Jesus Christ: Yesterday and Today](#)
10. [In God's Image: The Mystery of Creation](#)
11. [Doctrine of Salvation in Jesus Christ](#)
12. [Mary as Mother: Symbol of Life and Hope](#)