



PERSONAL STATEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

The Seminary requires a Personal Statement of all Master's program applicants. If you are accepted, your Personal Statement may be used as a benchmark for advising and assessment purposes, and may become part of your file in the Office of Student Formation.

In 4 to 8 double-spaced, typed pages, please exhibit your best writing and thinking skills by developing the following 8 guidelines into a thoughtful, self-reflective, analytical essay.

1. What persons, events and other factors have significantly influenced your Christian journey thus far?
2. Describe the significant motives, convictions, persons and/or experiences that have led you to pursue a theological education.
3. Describe your ministry experience up to this point in your life. What forms do you expect your ministry to take in the future (such as pastor, teacher, counselor, minister of Christian education)? What do you hope to accomplish in this ministry?
4. Evaluate the abilities you possess for theological studies, including past academic coursework, and how they will be used in your intended ministry.
5. How do you see yourself in relation to others? Besides your family, with whom do you spend time?
6. What would your trusted friends say are the greatest strengths and most challenging weaknesses in your personality?
7. When you are not in church, at work or in school, how do you spend your free time? How often do you get to enjoy these activities?
8. If you are accepted at Palmer, what areas of needed growth do you hope will be developed by your experience with us? Also, what areas of strength do you believe Palmer Seminary can help develop? Palmer Theological Seminary

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8/28/12