



# UNIVERSITY of DUBUQUE

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## THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PREPARING FAITHFUL LEADERS

## The Synod of the Rocky Mountains Christian Leadership Cohort

This Christian Leadership cohort will nurture the gifts of Christian leaders to build up the ministry of congregations in the Synod of the Rocky Mountains. Elders, deacons, Sunday school teachers – any disciple seeking to grow in faith and service will discover rich opportunities and fellowship in this offering. Participants may join the cohort for any or all of eight offerings over two years, 2024-2025.

### Participants benefits:

- Sound theological education
- Synod + seminary co-taught
- Flexibility of online learning
- Camaraderie with members in your presbytery, synod

Courses are 8 weeks long – two each spring and fall, offered one at a time. Courses are prepared by UDTs with Synod input, and include a Synod instructor facilitating the class with UDTs instructor contributions. Fellowship and enrichment opportunities encouraged beyond the classes.

### Requirements:

The work required in each course is approximately equivalent to a one credit college course.

- 300 pages of reading total
- About a half day each week

### Prerequisites:

- Applicants should have a high school degree or GED.
- Completion of the introductory online learning course will prepare the group to learn together

**Apply Today**  
(January 2024 start)

563.589.3261

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udts.dbq.edu



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### PREPARING FAITHFUL LEADERS

*Online learning opened the door to fulfill a call and a dream that I could not have met otherwise. I pursued education without uprooting my family.*

Alissa Brown, CRE Pastor  
(Cut Bank, Montana)

### Program Overview

Through a grant by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., the Synod of the Rocky Mountains and the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary are pleased to co-create a learning circle especially for those in the Synod of the Rocky Mountains. Congregations in the Synod have unique contexts and opportunities for worship and outreach. In this co-branded and co-taught program, participants will build collegial relationships with those in their region as they grow in faith and service. In their instructors they will receive both current theological formation, and leadership understanding of the needs and promises of congregations like their own. Since 2000, approximately 2100 students from more than 150 presbyteries across the United States have participated in UDTS' lay education programs. The Synod of the Rocky Mountains cohort will be the first offering in a fresh and co-branded program for the church of today. Many have taken UDTS online courses as their training to become Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs)/Commissioned Pastors (CPs) in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A), though participation in any number of courses is welcome.

The online courses are offered in an asynchronous format meaning that participants can access their courses at any time, day or night and interact with others and instructors there. Occasional real time zoom and fellowship opportunities will enhance relationships and growth.

#### Courses

- Intro. to Old Testament
- Intro. to New Testament
- Christian Caregiving
- Presbyterian Polity
- Reformed Theology
- Intro. to Preaching
- Christian Education
- Reformed Worship & Sacraments

#### Online Learning Skills

Participants will learn basic online navigation and netiquette, and will be enrolled in the Online Learning Course (OLC) to prepare for any of the eight courses.

#### Fees

**Tuition:** Minimal cost, arranged with Presbytery.  
Speak to Presbytery leadership for information.

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