

## What can I do with a major in **PRE-SEMINARY STUDIES** from Valparaiso University?

### Description of major:

Pre-Seminary Studies is an interdisciplinary major that may be taken only as a complementary academic major, typically along with a first academic major in one of the humanistic disciplines. The major is intended to assure that a student preparing for graduate studies at a seminary or divinity school will meet the standards of the ideal pre-seminary curriculum. However, if a person should decide not to enter seminary immediately or not at all, other options are listed below.

### Relevant skills for a PRE-SEMINARY STUDIES major:

- ◆ Carry out and integrate one's occupational responsibilities with one's religious faith
- ◆ Interact with people of varying age and backgrounds
- ◆ Have excellent interpersonal communication
- ◆ Know one's area of personal ministry
- ◆ Know the practices, procedures, guidelines and doctrine of one's faith
- ◆ Make appropriate decisions & solve problems
- ◆ Influence others
- ◆ Read, write & orally communicate
- ◆ Show sensitivity to and compassion for others
- ◆ Understand human spiritual & social needs and others!

### Sample job titles for Graduates in PRE-SEMINARY STUDIES (some may require an advanced degree)

- Associate Pastor
- Campus Minister
- Campus Religious Coordinator
- Chaplain
- Church Camp Director
- College/University Faculty
- Community Organization Worker
- Counselor
- Denominational Executive
- Director of Religious Education
- Evangelist
- Hospice Director
- Lay Minister
- Librarian
- Minister of Music
- Missionary
- Pastor
- Peace Corp Worker
- Priest
- Religious Bookstore Worker
- Religious Educational Administrator
- Religious Education Teacher
- Religious Researcher
- Religious Writer
- Salvation Army Worker
- Seminary Administrator
- Social Worker
- Theological Professor
- Volunteer Services Director
- Writer
- Youth Minister
- YMCA/YWCA Worker and others!

### Potential hiring institutions for PRE-SEMINARY STUDIES majors:

- ◆ Camps
- ◆ Churches
- ◆ Colleges/Universities
- ◆ Corporations/Industry
- ◆ Elementary/secondary schools
- ◆ Government Agencies
- ◆ Hospitals
- ◆ Libraries
- ◆ Military services
- ◆ Non-profit agencies
- ◆ Religious broadcasters
- ◆ Religious organizations
- ◆ Religious publishers
- ◆ Seminary/Divinity Schools
- ◆ Social Service Agencies
- ◆ YWCA/YMCA
- ◆ and others!

## Area of further education for PRE-SEMINARY STUDIES majors:

- Business Administration
- Conflict Resolution & Mediation/Peace Studies
- Education
- Educational Administration
- Ethics
- Foundations & Philosophy
- of Education
- Humanities
- Information Studies
- International Affairs
- Liberal Studies
- Library Science
- Missions & Missiology
- Pastoral Ministry & Counseling
- Philosophy
- Religion
- Religious Education
- Theology

## Sources of additional information for PRE-SEMINARY STUDIES majors:

- VU Department of Theology: <http://www.valpo.edu/theology/programs.html>
- VU Majors & Areas of Study: [http://www.valpo.edu/academics/majors/pre\\_seminary.html](http://www.valpo.edu/academics/majors/pre_seminary.html)
- Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- Association of Christian Schools International: Resources and information about Christian schools. <http://www.acsi.org/>
- Christian Career Center: the online career center developed specifically to meet the needs of Christians. <http://www.gospelcom.net/ccc/>
- Christian Jobs Mall: is designed for businesses, churches and ministries to post their Christian jobs. <http://www.christianet.com/christianjobs/index.htm>
- Christian Jobs Online: helps to take your quest for employment further and find a position that will enrich you spiritually as well as emotionally and mentally. <http://www.christianjobs.com/>
- Christian Placements: Job bank for Christians. <http://www.christianplacements.com/>
- ChurchStaffing.com: Church ministry positions including music, youth, and administration. <http://www.churchstaffing.com>
- Evangelical Lutheran Church America: ELCA website <http://www.elca.org/>
- Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod: LCMS website <http://www.lcms.org/>
- Ministry Search: - Christian ministry job positions. <http://www.ministrysearch.com/>
- Petersons.com Grad Channel: Find a graduate school <http://iiswinprd01.petersons.com/GradChannel/>

## VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:

- *Alternatives To The Peace Corps : A Directory Of Third World And US Volunteer Opportunities*
- *Education For Action : Undergraduate And Graduate Programs That Focus On Social Change*
- *GRE Exam 2003*
- *Great Jobs For Liberal Arts Majors*
- *Opportunities In Gerontology And Aging Services Careers*
- *Opportunities In Religious Service Careers*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law & Social Work*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences*
- *Resumes For Social Service Careers*
- *The Book of U.S. Government Jobs: Where They Are, What's Available, and How to Get One*
- *and others!*

**For more information about majoring in PRE-SEMINARY STUDIES, contact:**

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**For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at [Career.Center@valpo.edu](mailto:Career.Center@valpo.edu)**

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