STUDENT PROFILES

First Cohort

Fall 2018
With a foundation in research methods and data analysis, finance, project management, communications, and applied ethics in the Jesuit tradition, the Master of Science in Applied Leadership Studies is a 10-course program designed to prepare individuals to be principled leaders in their ministry roles. Additionally, through this program, students gain skills in the application of innovative strategy and decision-making in complex social, political, and communal environments. The program is built around a robust set of domains including corporate communication and marketing, executive leadership and organizational development, human resources management, and project management.

Through a bridge grant from Catholic Extension and the Hilton Family Foundation, The James A. Woods College of Advancing Studies (WCAS) at Boston College is offering the MSAL degree to 12 Latin American Sisters who are in the United States for a five-year placement in various economically disadvantaged areas of dioceses. It is the hope of Catholic Extension and Hilton that the MSAL will prepare the Sisters for leadership roles within their current diocesan placement, and for future leadership work upon their return to their home country. Many of these Sisters will return home to become Mother Superiors or take on senior leadership roles, with a significant increase in managerial duties bestowed upon them. The courses will be a combination of online and hybrid offerings and a blend of English and Spanish content. As part of the academic experience, the Religious Sisters travel to Rome to participate in a Human and Organizational Behavior course.

In this document you can see the profiles of the first cohort of students, who will become the leaders of the Church in the XXI century.

David Goodman
Interim Dean & Director of Applied Research
Woods College of Advancing Studies at Boston College
STUDENT PROFILES
Sr. Mati is a religious sister of the Congregation of Disciples of Jesus the Good Shepherd. She has studied at the Jiquipilas Agricultural School in Chiapas, Mexico, and has a degree in Religious Sciences from the Evangelii Nuntiandi Inter-American Center for Higher Studies in Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico.

She currently serves in Saint Anthony Parish, Diocese of Charleston, Bluffton, South Carolina.

She has experience in formation of youth and adults, leadership of communities, as well as in the organization of spiritual exercises and youth days in the State of Chiapas in Mexico, in the Parishes of Saint Anthony of Padua, Our Lady of the Assumption, and Saint Christopher Martyr.

She is knowledgeable about technology and computer programs; she also enjoys cooking and crafts, especially embroidery. She likes music and basketball.

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“I consider myself a person who is responsible and grateful, because I consider that life is a great gift from God the Father, that we must discover day by day and live it in openness towards the sisters and brothers who accompany us throughout it. I do not feel alone, I have my blood relatives, my religious family and my human family to reach sanctity together.”

Since 1991, Sr. Maria del Rosario has belonged to the Missionary Catechists of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Congregation.

She graduated with a Philosophy degree from the Universidad Popular Autonoma del Estado de Puebla - UPAEP.

Since August 2014, she has served at Cristo Rey Parish, Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa. Before that, she served in Taxco, Tehuacan and Apizaco in Mexico.

Others would characterize her as open, collaborative, helpful, responsible, cheerful, creative, smart, positive and reflective. She excels in writing summaries and typing quickly on the computer.

She likes to read biographies, history texts, spirituality guides, and about the lives of the saints. She also likes stuffed toys. In her free time, she enjoys, painting and drawing, writing about faith and catechesis, listening to soft or instrumental music, and sharing knowledge about our Catholic faith.

Email: amezcuam@bc.edu
“I am a consecrated woman by the grace of God. I enjoy teaching very much and above all helping my students to grow in the love of God and the needy. This experience of mission has been an immense gift that God in his infinite love has wanted to give me, because I am with those who need someone to accompany them, to listen to them, to be with them.”

“I am a good leader and trustworthy. I thank God that I have a great ability to adapt to different food, people, places and climates.”

Sr. Rosa is a religious sister of the Congregation of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate of Guadalupe. She has a degree in Primary Education from the 5 de Mayo Institute in Queretaro, Mexico.

Since August 2014, she has worked at Saint Joseph Parish, Diocese of Bismarck, in Williston, North Dakota, coordinating the Hispanic ministry.

In Mexico, she was a primary school teacher, assistant accountant, catechist, and led educational ministry.

She adapts well to any kind of people in evangelization. She also enjoys working with children: “I can keep them occupied and happy for many hours.”

Sr. Rosa knows how to cook, sew and paint. She enjoys driving and likes to study how things work and make new inventions.

Email: arreolar@bc.edu
“My vocation is to serve the Lord and His Kingdom through the evangelization of families, carrying out works of religious-social action.”

Sr. Yelitza is a religious sister of the Congregation of the Dominican Sisters of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, whose congregational motto is: “To bring Christ to the families and the families to Christ.”

Sister Yelitza earned an undergraduate and her first master’s degree in Hispanic Studies at the University of Puerto Rico.

She has experience in pastoral work, faith formation, prison ministry, liturgy, and visits to families and the sick.

She has served Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Diocese of Tyler, Jacksonville, Texas since November 2014. Before this, she served in Hartford, Connecticut and Santiago de los Caballeros in the Dominican Republic.

She is fluent in Spanish and English. She believes in teamwork, is organized and excels in writing reports.

She enjoys literature, especially the works of Gabriel García Márquez, Jorge Luis Borges, Horacio Quiroga, Lucy Maud Montgomery and Edgar Allan Poe. She also reads religious texts, such as the Bible and saint biographies.

She likes studying, crafting with recycled material, and classical and religious music.

Email: ayalay@bc.edu
Sr. Mayela performed her perpetual vows in 2003 for service in the Congregation of Catholic Sisters Teachers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Primary Education from the Escuela Normal Particular Autorizada Nueva Galicia, in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico and also studies family sciences from the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Since December 2014, Sr. Mayela has worked at St. Andrew, St. Augustine and St. John Parishes, Diocese of Little Rock in Danville, Dardanelle and Russellville, in Arkansas.

She participated in the preparation and execution of the Fifth Hispanic Pastoral Meeting. She was an intercessor before the Ecclesiastical Tribunal. She has visited families and the sick and led them through the discernment of aspirants to the permanent diaconate.

Sr. Mayela is intuitive and attentive, loves to teach, organize, lead, guide and accompany others. She plays the guitar, sings, cooks and paints.

She likes to travel, and admire landscapes and architecture. She also likes to play sports, read, watch movies and have a cup of coffee in good company.

Email: baezbrio@bc.edu
Sr. Maryud is a religious sister of the Congregation of Missionary Servants of the Divine Spirit. She has a B.A. in Psychology from Atlantic International University, and studies Missiology at the Pontifical Urban University in Rome.

She has served at San Felipe de Jesus Parish, Diocese of Kalamazoo, Fenville, Michigan since September 2014.

Before coming to the United States, she served in the Parishes of Santa Martha in Quinamayo, Colombia, Santa Marianita de Jesús in Guayaquil, Ecuador and Sagrado Corazon de Jesus in Bitaco, Colombia, working with couples, coordinating parish catechesis, organizing youth ministry and teaching educational ministry. She has made home visits, coordinated family and charity ministry, led vocational ministry with the Conference of Religious for the Archdiocese of Cali, and visited the sick in hospitals and nursing homes. She supported the coordination of the faith formation program, has been a catechist, and worked in vocational and youth ministry.

Sr. Maryud is a leader, a confident public speaker, and a highly skilled writer. She knows how to cook, how to make cards and likes to read. She is creative, responsible, organized, prayerful and spontaneous.

She likes to walk on the beach, listen to music, watch movies and talk with friends.

Email: cortesre@bc.edu
SUSCIPE
(Prayer of a Soldier of Christ)

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will. All that I have and possess.

You have given to me. To You, O lord, I return it. All is Yours, dispose of it wholly according to Your will.

Give me Your love and Your grace, for this is sufficient for me.

Amen.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola
Sr. Tere is a religious sister of the Congregation of Catholic Sisters Teachers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and she has a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from the University of Guadalajara in Mexico.

She works at St. John the Baptist Parish, Diocese of Little Rock, Russellville, Arkansas.

In her congregation, she has been part of the general government and apostolate teams in charge of vocations ministry. She participated in the group of vocational youth, visited schools, and engaged in national and local meetings of vocational ministry and the Diocesan team.

She served in Venezuela and Peru. She worked for 5 years at Caritas in Aguascalientes, Mexico and was part of the Diocesan Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis (SEDEC). She has been coordinator of family catechesis, pre-sacramentals, the women’s group and parish vicar. In her career, she has also been in the roles of counselor, teacher, superior, and vocation promoter of the religious community.

Sr. Tere is practical, optimistic and loyal as well as creative, dynamic and amenable. She plays guitar, crafts, embroiders, and writes in her free time. She enjoys music, volleyball, theater, reading, watching movies, gardening, painting, and origami. She is a good listener and provides support for personal growth.

Email: deloeram@bc.edu
Sr. Magda is a religious sister of the Congregation of Catholic Sisters Teachers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Primary Education from Colegio Guadalupe Victoria in Aguascalientes, Mexico and has also studied Pastoral Liturgy at the Liturgical Institute of Aguascalientes and Morelia in Mexico, and Catechesis at La Salle University of Guadalajara in Mexico.

Since December 2014, She has served in the Parishes of St. Augustine and St. Andrew in the Diocese of Little Rock, Dardanelle, Arkansas.

She has worked in school administration at Batiz de Aviña Schools in Guadalajara, Mexico and at Independencia School in Calvillo, Aguascalientes, Mexico. She served at the Ciudad de los Niños orphanage in Aguascalientes, Mexico and was responsible for the youngest children.

Sr. Magda leads the pastoral work in the communities of Tecoanapa Cruz Quemada Parish in Guerrero, Mexico.

Before working at Tecoanapa Cruz Quemada Parish, she was a teacher and led pastoral work for 6 years in primary and secondary schools in Aguascalientes, Mexico.

She knows how to play guitar and flute and enjoys folk dance. She also sings and paints. In athletics, she likes to play basketball, volleyball and soccer. She draws, reads, composes songs and stories. She enjoys contemplating nature, crafts, acting and walking.

Email: esparzma@bc.edu
“I belong to the congregation Disciples of Jesus the Good Shepherd., I am a religious sister of perpetual vows. My experience is in pastoral work, from my congregational charism of Loving, Serving and Evangelizing.”

Sr. Maricela earned degree in Religious Sciences from the Inter-American Center for Higher Studies Evangelii Nuntiandi - CIESEN of Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico.

Since December 2014, she has served in Saint Peter's Catholic Church, Diocese of Charleston, Beaufort, South Carolina.

In her congregation, she was part of the administrative area of CIESEN University and in charge of the academic area of the community. Then, she served in the Parish of St. Peter the Apostle in San Pedro Pochutla, Oaxaca, Mexico, leading the 5 chapels in the parish. Next, in the Parish of Our Lady of the Assumption in Pantepec Chiapas, Mexico, she was in charge of the ministry of Liturgy, minister of communion, nocturnal adoration, Legion of Mary and fraternities. She served in the Santiago Apostle Parish in Pijijiapan, Chiapas, Mexico.

Sister Maricela likes listening to music, painting and playing soccer and basketball. She is good in the use of technologies. She also hopes to learn to play the flute.

Email: gomezhem@bc.edu
Sr. Marite has been a religious sister of the Congregation of Catechist Sisters of Crucified Jesus since August 1985. Her Perpetual vows took place on August 15, 1994.

In her career, she has been a Graphic Designer at the University Autonoma of Guadalajara and a Social Communicator of the Salesian Pontifical University in Rome, Italy. She earned diplomas in Communication for the Pastoral at the UPAEP and in Theology at the Salesian Theological Institute. She has also completed studies in graphic design at the Brandhome Institute and has been trained in the export of products in JALTRADE.

She currently serves at the Madonna del Sasso Parish, Diocese of Monterey, Salinas, California and as a lecturer at Santa Clara University.

In her congregation, she has played a role in the department of design of didactic materials as well as the general government responsible for initial formation. Sr. Marite is also the general coordinator of vocational promotion.

Sr. Marite is fluent in Spanish and Italian and is learning English.

She plays the guitar and the organ, composes music, records music for the pastoral and teaches others how to play the guitar. She also conducts choirs.

In her life, she has gained extensive knowledge and experience in editorial processes, media, social networks and how to utilize them in pastoral work.

In her free time, she enjoys crafting, swimming, writing theatre and musicals, painting, photography, drawing, watching historical films, and reading.

Email: gutiermn@bc.edu
“I have spent 16 years in religious life in the congregation of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate of Guadalupe.”

Sr. Brenda earned her Bachelor’s degree in Primary Education from Labastida College in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. She also completed studies on Catechism of the Church and Educator in the Faith at the School of Faith in Mexico City.

Since September 2014, Sr. Brenda has worked at St. Joseph Parish, Diocese of Bismarck in Williston, North Dakota.

She taught religious formation classes for aspirants in her congregation. She also works as a full-time vocation minister in her province, where she has provided vocational leadership to young people and support for vocation ministry in schools and communities. She has assisted the organization and execution of vocational retreats and Holy Week events for young people.

Sr. Brenda excels in computer related tasks and enjoys cooking. She is also musically talented, often playing the guitar, and leads the parish choir. She also expresses her creativity through making flyers and producing thematic videos. In her studies, she hopes to promote harmony in human relationships. She is good at sports, but not in arts.

Email: hernanfq@bc.edu
"I built the St. Jerome H.A.N.D.S. Community Center for immigrants in The Bronx, where I learned to recognize Jesus Christ in the pain and suffering of the poor and most needy. I understood that it is not enough to pray, but that it is necessary to go further; that it is not enough to speak of God if people are hungry and thirsty for justice. I am in solidarity with the poor of Christ, I learned to love them, to be with them, to walk and to live with them."

Sr. Lucy earned her B.A. from Boricua College, New York; she studied Philosophy and Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy, and graduated from the Universidad Popular Autonoma del Estado Puebla (UPAEP) in Mexico.

She has served at St. Francis de Sales Church, Diocese of Crookston, Moorhead, Minnesota since May, 2010.

Previously, Sr. Lucy has worked in the Bronx since 2000. She got hands-on experience at the Ecclesiastical Tribunal of Durango in Mexico and at San Miguel de Bocono Parish in Trujillo, Venezuela.

Her hobbies include organizing, being creative, cooking and crafting.

She enjoys walking, spending time by the river bank to contemplate nature and classical music. She also likes to watch television and play soccer in her free time.

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