

# Northern Seminary Admissions Essay Requirements

## Masters/Non-degree Programs

- ❑ A typewritten autobiographical statement (400 words). Your statement must be typewritten and include, though need not be limited to, the following:
  - a. Christian experience, including Christian conversion and spiritual pilgrimage.
  - b. Your understanding of your Christian responsibility and the vocational role to which you have been called.
  - c. Christian work/ministry you have already done which parallels or validates your decision to apply to seminary.
  - d. Why you have decided to apply to seminary; why Northern Seminary.
  
- ❑ A typewritten academic essay (800 words)\* of one of the following theological reflection questions:
  - a. Define a theological term (i.e., atonement, brokenness, salvation, grace, forgiveness, sin, etc.). While drawing upon credible resources to define this term, also reflect your personal understanding.
  - b. Identify and describe a biblical character that connects and/or emulates your journey into ministry. How does he/she connect? In what ways are your stories similar? How does God speak through this character and through you? How might this story prepare you for theological education at Northern Seminary?

Academic Essays are evaluated according to the following rubric. The purpose of the Admission Academic Essay is not to evaluate whether the thesis and/or opinion of the writer is “right” or “wrong.” The goal of the exercise is to determine academic and theological competence.

	5	4	3	2	1	Additional Comments
Correct English, including spelling, grammar, syntax, and paragraph construction						
Clarity of expression						
Logical Organization						
Appropriate introduction and conclusion						
Conclusions naturally derived from evidence						
Correct format* and length						
A depth and openness of understanding						
<b>TOTAL</b>						

\*This theological reflection essay must include at least one citation or reference from an academic source. Biblical references may be used in addition to the academic citation. Citations from website are not acceptable for this essay. Provide full citation information for any sources you reference, including the Bible, following one of the standard formats, e.g., MLA, Chicago, Turabian.