

**SEMINARY WIVES INSTITUTE
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - FALL 2017**

Term I

Thursdays only, August 24-September 28, 2017 (7:00-8:45 PM)

SW102 Wednesday AM class will meet (10:00-11:45 AM)

REQUIRED COURSES:

SW 101A DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING I*
(Discipleship II must be taken during Term II)

*This course is also offered on Weds mornings
as **SW102** with Mrs. Jane Cutrer
(August 24-September 27 from 10:00-11:45 AM)

Instructors: Various Faculty and Staff wives; Mrs. Caffy Whitney coordinates PM sections

Text: *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*, by Donald Whitney (NavPress)
ISBN 1576830276

Description: This course encourages the development of a believer's obedient relationship with Jesus Christ. Personal devotion, prayer, Scripture memorization, and evangelism are emphasized. Using a small group setting, this course as well as the following consecutive one, Discipleship II, fosters friendship, camaraderie and accountability as students spend 12 weeks learning and growing together toward Christlikeness.

SW101B ESSENTIALS I (Essentials II must be taken during Term II)

Instructors: Various Faculty and Staff wives; coordinated by Mrs. Mary Mohler

Text: *The Pastor's Wife: Strengthened by His Grace for a Life of Love*
by Gloria Furman (Crossway 2015)
Optional additional text: Lose the Halo, Keep the Wings by Virginia Wilson
(complimentary copy provided in class)

Description: The first half of our core courses in our practical curriculum, Essentials I deals with your calling as a Christian; your calling as a wife; your influence on children; time management; listening skills; and practical budgeting matters. Essentials II must be taken during the subsequent term so students make a 12 week commitment when registering for this course. Topics may or may not be taught in the order listed due to scheduling but all will be covered in either Essentials I or II. You will love this course as you learn from a team of faculty wives who have a passion for their particular topic.

SW101C BAPTISTS THEN AND NOW

Instructors: **Dr. Greg Wills and Mrs. Mary Mohler**

Text: *None to be purchased*

Description: **BAPTISTS THEN** is a short course in Baptist history that encompasses the first three weeks of this six week course. Topics include: the origins of Baptists and Southern Baptists; key personalities and events as the convention grew; and controversies such as anti-missionary schism, the Landmark Movement and the rise of liberalism.

BAPTISTS NOW seeks to explore the programs and structure of our denomination. We will trace the Cooperative Program and show how it is known as the most effective and efficient denominational mission system in the world. The roles of our Southern Baptist seminaries and agencies will be laid out. We will also look closely at our missionary sending agencies through the eyes of those who have been commissioned as missionaries. All of these elements will be studied from the perspective of a ministry wife who wishes to be better informed about our denomination.

ELECTIVE COURSES:

**SW101D A CLOSER LOOK AT OT: AMOS
(approved by IMB for spouses' college credit)**

Instructor: Dr. T.J. Betts

Text: *Amos: An Ordinary Man with an Extraordinary Message*
by T.J. Betts (Christian Focus) ISBN 1845507274

Description: Amos had no claim to fame. He was not even a son of a prophet. Neither had he had any formal training to be a prophet. Yet God called him out from a career of shepherding flocks to shepherding God's people. God called Amos to speak at the time of national disunity; military superiority; economic prosperity and religious activity. Amos brings home the idea of a famine. However it is not food the people lack like we might expect but there is a famine of the Word of God. Through this study we will be reminded of the importance of the Word of God in our lives. The aim will be to make the messages of this book come alive for the students by paying particular attention to what they teach us about God and how He uses human agents to accomplish His purposes. Special emphasis will also be placed on developing a theology of ministry so the students will have a sounder biblical understanding of God's claim upon them and their husbands.

SW101E CONTROVERSIAL QUESTIONS

Instructors: Dr. R. Albert Mohler and Dr. Denny Burk

Required Text: *Culture Shift* by R. Albert Mohler, Jr. (Multnomah, 2011) ISBN 1601423818

Optional Texts: *Transforming Homosexuality: What the Bible Says about Sexual Orientation*
by Denny Burk and Heath Lambert, (P&R Publishing, 2015)
ISBN 1596381396

We Cannot Be Silent by R. Albert Mohler, Jr. (Thomas Nelson, 2015)
ISBN 0718032489

Description: This course will look at areas of controversy commonly facing Christians. Issues will include topics like Doctrine of Scripture; Creation and Evolution; Sexuality and Gender; Family and Children; Medicine and Bioethics and Sanctity of Life. Students will have the privilege of thinking through these important issues with two thinkers who are on the cutting edge of discussing these issues in the public square. Assignments will include short quizzes, reading reports and a short paper on an issue of the student's choice.

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Term II

Thursdays only, October 12-November 16, 2017 (7:00-8:45 PM)

SW202 Wednesday AM class will meet October 11-November 15 (10:00-11:45 AM)

REQUIRED COURSES:

SW201A DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING II*
(Discipleship I must be taken during Term I)

*This course is also offered on Weds mornings
as **SW202** with Mrs. Jane Cutrer
(October 11--November 15 from 10:00-11:45 AM)

Instructors: Various faculty and staff wives; Mrs. Caffy Whitney coordinates PM
Sections.

Text: *no new text—same as Term I*

Description: This course is the second half of the Discipleship Training course, which encourages the development of a believer's obedient relationship with Jesus Christ. Personal devotion, prayer, scripture memorization, and evangelism are emphasized.

SW201B ESSENTIALS II
(Essentials I must be taken during Term I)

Instructors: Various faculty and staff wives; coordinated by Mrs. Mary Mohler

Text: *no new text—same as Term I*

Description: This course is the second half of the Essentials core course. This course may only be taken subsequent to the completion of Essentials I during Term I this fall. You will gain insights in these two courses that will shape your walk as a ministry wife for years to come.

ELECTIVE COURSES:

SW201C BIBLICAL PARENTING

Instructor: Mrs. Danna Stinson

Text: *Instructing a Child's Heart* by Tedd and Margy Tripp (Shepherd Press)
ISBN 0981540007

PLEASE NOTE—

due to space limitations, we are asking MOMS ONLY to take this class!

Description: From diapers to diplomas, no matter what stage you are in, this course will give your parenting a focus and a plan. There are many ways God will call ministers' wives to serve. For many women, one of the most important ministries will be bringing up their children "in the fear and admonition of the Lord." This course is structured to offer direction and encouragement from God's Word and practical advice for this precious journey.

SW201D INTRO TO BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

Instructors: Drs. Rob Plummer and Brian Vickers

Text: *40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible* by Robert Plummer
(Kregel) ISBN 082543498X

Description: The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the goal of interpretation. In so doing we shall look at the part that the Holy Spirit plays in interpretation, how to arrive at the meaning of biblical text as well as their present day implications, and to learn how to interpret the various literary genres (poetry, prophecy, parable, etc.) found in the Bible. These professors will teach this important class on a certificate level, as is the case with all SWI classes. They will provide a plethora of resources related to the book, including powerpoint presentations, lesson plans, discussion guide, etc. The goal is that students will be prepared to teach a group of women in their church a class on biblical interpretation.

SW201E PUBLIC SPEAKING FOR THE MINISTER'S WIFE

Instructor: Mrs. Katherine Magnuson

Text: *Speak Up With Confidence* by Carol Kent (Navpress) ISBN 0785283404

Description: In this course, you will learn the basic speaking skills that will be valuable throughout your years in ministry. You will have opportunity for practical application as you prepare and deliver a self-introduction, speaker-introduction, personal testimony, devotional and topical presentation. You will benefit greatly from this course whether you are fearful and inexperienced or confident speaking in public.