School of Theology

• Faculty • Introduction
• Masters’ Programs • Doctoral Programs

“The School of Theology seeks to provide biblical and theological training foundational for church-related ministries as well as roles which require advanced theological training.”

Administration
Dean:
Gregory A. Wills, Ph.D.
Senior Associate Dean:
Donald S. Whitney, D.Min.
Associate Dean, Scripture and Interpretation:
Thomas R. Schreiner, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Worldview and Culture:
James Parker, III, D.Theol.
Associate Dean, Ministry and Proclamation:
Hershael W. York, Ph.D.

Faculty
Scripture and Interpretation Division
Department of Old Testament

Terry J. Betts
Associate Professor of Old Testament Interpretation (2001)
B.S.Ed., Wright State University; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Additional Studies: Jerusalem University College

Dr. Betts is a fifth generation Southern Baptist minister who has pastored fourteen years in Ohio and Indiana. Dr. Betts is a frequent preacher and Bible conference speaker and member of the Evangelical Theological Society. He has also participated in an archaeological dig at Hazor. He has written Ezekiel the Priest: A Custodian of Tora. He contributed a chapter to The Challenge of the Great Commission, has written for Holman Bible Dictionary, The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology, and The Tie, and has contributed to a number of articles for Biblical Illustrator. His most recent work is Amos: An Ordinary Man with an Extraordinary Message.

Russell T. Fuller
Professor of Old Testament Interpretation (1998)
B.S., M.A., Bob Jones University; M.Phil., Ph.D., Hebrew Union College; Doctoral Studies, The Dropsie College

With an interest in Old Testament and Ancient Near Eastern languages, literature and history, Dr. Fuller’s addition to the Southern Seminary faculty enriches the Old Testament Department. Before his appointment in 1998, he was Assistant Professor of Bible and Bible Languages at Mid-Continental College and interim pastor in Ohio and Kentucky. He is co-author of An Invitation to Biblical Hebrew.

Dean
Gregory A. Wills
Dean of the School of Theology; Professor of Church History (1997); Director of the Center for the Study of the Southern Baptist Convention
B.S., Duke University; M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; Th.M., Duke University; Ph.D., Emory University

Dr. Wills was appointed to the faculty of Southern Seminary in 1997 after serving since 1994 as Archives and Special Collections Librarian with the seminary’s Boyce Centennial Library. Dr. Wills’ dissertation, Democratic Religion: Freedom, Authority, and Church Discipline in the Baptist South, 1785-1900, was published by Oxford University Press. Besides contributions to theological journals, Dr. Wills has also written Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1859-2009.
Duane A. Garrett  
B.A., Rice University; M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Ph.D., Baylor University  

Dr. Garrett brings to Southern Seminary many years of teaching, writing, research and pastoral experience. He has served on the faculty of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Bethel Seminary, Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary, Mid-America Baptist Seminary and Korea Baptist Seminary. His books include Song of Songs in the Word Biblical Commentary; A Modern Grammar for Classical Hebrew; Angels and the New Spirituality; Authority and Interpretation; and Hosea; and Joel in the New American Commentary. He also serves as the general editor for The Archaeology Study Bible from Zondervan Press.

Peter J. Gentry  
Professor of Old Testament Interpretation (1999)  
B.A., University of Toronto; M.A., Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Jerusalem University College  

Dr. Gentry comes to Southern with an expansive knowledge of biblical languages. He served on the faculty of Toronto Baptist Seminary and Bible College for 15 years and taught at the University of Toronto, Heritage Theological Seminary, and Tyndale Theological Seminary. Dr. Gentry is the author of many articles and book reviews, and has given presentations to groups, such as the International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament and the Society of Biblical Literature, of which he is also a member. He is currently editing Ecclesiastes and Proverbs for the Göttingen Septuagint Series and is giving leadership to the Hexapla Institute. He coauthored Kingdom through Covenant: A Biblical-Theological Understanding of the Covenants with Stephen Wellum.

George H. Martin  
Professor of Biblical Studies (1996)  
B.S., Florida State University; M.Div., Th.D., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Additional Studies: Asbury Theological Seminary  

Dr. Martin served and taught in the Pacific Rim from 1988 to 1994. He was professor and academic dean at the Jakarta Baptist Theological Seminary and he has also served as a professor at the Asia Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary. He was Associate Professor of Religion at North Greenville College before joining the faculty at Southern. Dr. Martin is a member of the Evangelical Missiological Society, Evangelical Theological Society, and American Society of Missiology.

Department of New Testament  
William F. Cook, III  
Professor of New Testament Interpretation (2000)  
B.A., University of Central Florida; M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  

Prior to coming to Southern, Dr. Cook was Associate Professor of New Testament and Chair of the Theology Division at Florida Baptist Theological College where he taught for nine years. He is the author of several articles and numerous book reviews. Dr. Cook has served as a pastor and interim pastor in Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida, and is currently the pastor of Ninth and O Baptist Church. He is a member of the Evangelical Theological Society.
Jonathan T. Pennington  
Associate Professor of New Testament Interpretation (2005); Director of Research Doctoral Studies  
B.A., Northern Illinois University; M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Ph.D., University of St. Andrews, Scotland

Dr. Pennington comes to us from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland where he completed a Ph.D. in New Testament Studies. His areas of teaching and research interest focus on the Gospels, hermeneutics, and the history of interpretation. Along with numerous articles, Dr. Pennington has written works on both Greek and Hebrew vocabulary, in addition to the books, *Heaven and Earth In the Gospel of Matthew* and *Reading the Gospel Wisely: A Narrative and Theological Introduction*.

Robert L. Plummer  
Professor of New Testament Interpretation (2002)  
B.A., Duke University; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Additional Studies: Jerusalem University College

Dr. Plummer is a biblical scholar with a missionary heart. He is a member of the Evangelical Theological Society and the Institute for Biblical Research and has authored or edited *Paul’s Understanding of the Church’s Mission; 40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible; Journeys of Faith; Missions According to Paul; The Story of Scripture* and *Understanding the Bible* as well as numerous scholarly articles and essays.

Thomas R. Schreiner  
James Buchanan Harrison Professor of New Testament Interpretation (1997); Associate Dean, Scripture and Interpretation  
B.S., Western Oregon University; M.Div., Th.M., Western Seminary; Ph.D., Fuller Theological Seminary


Mark A. Seifrid  
Mildred and Ernest Hogan Professor of New Testament Interpretation (1992)  
B.S., University of Illinois; M.A., M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Ph.D., Princeton Theological Seminary; Additional Studies: Universität Tübingen

Before joining the Southern faculty, Dr. Seifrid served as Visiting Lecturer at Wheaton College and at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He is a member of the Society of New Testament Studies and the Society of Biblical Literature. He previously served as a campus minister with the Navigators at the University of Michigan and the University of Illinois. Along with numerous articles, he is the author of *Justification by Faith and Christ Our Righteousness* and a contributor to Perspectives on *Our Struggle with Sin: Three Views of Romans 7*.

Brian J. Vickers  
Associate Professor of New Testament Interpretation (2004); Associate Editor, *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology*  
B.A., West Virginia University; M.A., Wheaton College; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Vickers currently serves as the Assistant Editor of *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology*. Dr. Vickers is actively involved in leading short-term mission trips and teaching overseas. He is also a member of The Evangelical Theological Society. He has written *Jesus’ Blood and Righteousness: Paul’s Theology of Imputation*, and has published articles in *Trinity Journal, The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology, Eusebia, Gospel Witness*, and *The New Holman Bible Dictionary*.
Dr. Williams is an accomplished author and esteemed speaker on topics such as the Pauline Epistles, the function of the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha in early Christianity, sacrifice and atonement, and race/ethnicity in the Pauline letters. He is a member of the American Academy of Religion, the Evangelical Theological Society, the Institute for Biblical Research, and the Society of Biblical Literature. In addition to numerous essays and articles, Dr. Williams is the author of *Maccabean Martyr Traditions in Paul’s Theology of Atonement: Did Martyr Theology Shape Paul’s Conception of Jesus’s Death?; One New Man: The Cross and Racial Reconciliation in Pauline Theology; and For Whom Did Christ Die? The Extent of the Atonement in Paul’s Theology.*

Before coming to Southern, Dr. Hamilton served as Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary’s Houston campus and was the preaching pastor at Baptist Church of the Redeemer. He currently serves as the preaching pastor at Kenwood Baptist Church. He has written *God’s Glory in Salvation through Judgment: A Biblical Theology and God’s Indwelling Presence: The Ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Old and New Testaments.* He has contributed chapters to many other books, and has authored many scholarly articles.

Dr. Haykin has authored *The Spirit of God: The Exegesis of 1 and 2 Corinthians in the Pneumatomachian Controversy of the Fourth Century; One Heart and One Soul: John Sutcliff of Olney, His Friends, and His Times; Kiffin, Knollys and Keach: Rediscovering Our English Baptist Heritage; ‘At the Pure Fountain of Thy Word’: Andrew Fuller as an Apologist; Jonathan Edwards: The Holy Spirit in Revival; The God who draws near: An Introduction to Biblical Spirituality and Rediscovering the Church Fathers: Who They Were and How They Shaped the Church.*

Dr. Nettles has taught in theological education since 1976 and has published regularly in his field since 1977. He came to Southern Seminary from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, where he was Professor of Church History and Chair of the Department of Church History. He previously taught at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. Along with numerous journal articles and scholarly papers, Dr. Nettles is the author and editor of sixteen books. Among his books are *By His Grace and For His Glory: Baptists and the Bible,* co-authored with L. Russ Bush; *Why I Am a Baptist,* co-edited with Russell D. Moore; *James Petigru Boyce: A Southern Baptist Statesman;* and *Living by Revealed Truth: The Life and Pastoral Theology of Charles Haddon Spurgeon.*
Dr. Allison came to Southern from Western Seminary, where he taught theology and church history for nine years. He has eighteen years of ministry experience as a staff member of Campus Crusade. He has served as a missionary to Italy and Switzerland, and as a pastor in Switzerland. He has served for over a decade as the book review editor for the Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society, and now as the secretary of the Evangelical Theological Society. He has authored Historical Theology: An Introduction to Christian Theology; Getting Deep: Understand What You Believe About God and Why; Jesusology: Understand What You Believe About Jesus and Why; Sojourners and Strangers; and various chapters in edited books and scholarly articles.

Dr. Bethancourt has served Southern Seminary since 2006, holding positions as Director of Academic Advising for the School of Theology and Director of Research Doctoral Studies and Academic Advising and Instructor of Christian Theology at Boyce College. Prior to his current role, he was Executive Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Academic Administration. Since 2013, Dr. Bethancourt has served Southern Baptists as Director of Strategic Incentives for the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission.

Dr. Wright came to Southern Seminary after serving Southern Baptist churches in New England. He has been active in church planting and pastoring and currently serves as one of the pastors at Clifton Baptist Church. In addition to teaching at Southern, he is active in teaching on the mission field. He is also a member of the Evangelical Theological Society. In addition to contributions in journals, Dr. Wright co-edited Believer’s Baptism: Sign of the New Covenant In Christ (2007) with Tom Schreiner; and contributed a chapter to The Lord’s Supper: Remembering and Proclaiming Christ Until He Comes.
Chad O. Brand  
Professor of Christian Theology (2001)  
B.A., Rockmont College; M.Div., Ph.D., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Graduate Studies: University of Texas at Arlington, Texas Christian University  

Dr. Brand is gifted as a scholar, apologist, pastor, and student of contemporary culture and religion. He also serves as Associate Dean of Biblical and Theological Studies at Boyce College. Before coming to Louisville, he taught at North Greenville College. He has taught over 25 different types of classes and seminars and has delivered over 30 papers to groups, such as the Evangelical Theological Society. Dr. Brand is the author of many articles and reviews, and co-edited Perspectives on Church Government: Five Views of Church Polity and Perspectives on Spirit Baptism: Five Views.

Bruce A. Ware  
Professor of Christian Theology (1998)  
A.S., Judson Baptist College; Cert., Capernwray Bible School, Carnforth, England; B.A., Whitworth College; M.Div., Th.M., Western Conservative Baptist Seminary; M.A., University of Washington; Ph.D., Fuller Theological Seminary  

Dr. Ware came to Southern from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School where he served as Chairman of the Department of Biblical and Systematic Theology. Prior to this, he taught at Western Conservative Baptist Seminary and at Bethel Theological Seminary. Dr. Ware has written numerous journal articles, book chapters, and book reviews and, along with Thomas Schreiner, has co-edited Still Sovereign. He has authored God’s Lesser Glory: The Diminished God of Open Theism; God’s Greater Glory: The Exalted God of Scripture and the Christian Faith; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: Relationships, Roles, and Relevance; Big Truths for Young Hearts: Teaching and Learning the Greatness of God; and others.

R. Albert Mohler, Jr.  
Joseph Emerson Brown Professor of Christian Theology (1993); President of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  
B.A., Samford University; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  

Dr. Mohler became the ninth president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in August 1993. Before assuming the office of president, Dr. Mohler served as editor of the Christian Index, the state paper for Georgia Baptists. He also served as Assistant to the President at Southern Seminary. A leader among Baptists and American evangelicals, Dr. Mohler is widely respected as a theologian, speaker, and author. Time.com called him the “reigning intellectual of the evangelical movement in the U.S.” In addition to his presidential duties, Dr. Mohler hosts two programs: The Briefing and Thinking in Public. He also writes a popular blog and a regular commentary on moral, cultural and theological issues. All of these can be accessed through Dr. Mohler’s website, www.AlbertMohler.com. In addition to contributing to a number of collected volumes, he is the author of several books, including Culture Shift: Engaging Current Issues with Timeless Truth; Desire & Deceit: The Real Cost of the New Sexual Tolerance; Atheism Remix: A Christian Confronts the New Atheists; He Is Not Silent: Preaching in a Postmodern World; The Disappearance of God: Dangerous Beliefs in the New Spiritual Openness; Words From the Fire: Hearing the Voice of God in the Ten Commandments; and Conviction to Lead: The 25 Principles for Leadership That Matters.

Stephen J. Wellum  
Professor of Christian Theology (1999); Editor, The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology  
B.S., Roberts Wesleyan College; M.Div., Ph.D., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School  

Dr. Wellum has served as faculty of Associated Canadian Theological Schools and Northwest Baptist Theological College and Seminary, senior pastor and interim pastor in South Dakota and Kentucky, and as a conference speaker in the U.S., Canada, and the UK. He is also a member of the Evangelical Theological Society and the Evangelical Philosophical Society. Dr. Wellum has written numerous journal articles and book reviews including the Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society and Southern Baptist Journal of Theology. He has also written articles and book chapters in The Believer’s Baptism and Holman Bible Dictionary, and Reclaiming the Center, Beyond the Bounds, and The Compromised Church. He co-authored Kingdom Through Covenant: A Biblical-Theological Understanding of the Covenants with Peter Gentry.
Worldview and Culture Division

Department of Christian Philosophy

Theodore J. Cabal
Professor of Christian Philosophy and
Applied Apologetics (1998)
B.A., M.A., Dallas Baptist University;
M.Div., Ph.D., Southwestern Baptist
Theological Seminary

Once an ardent atheist, Dr. Cabal was converted while
reading the New Testament Gospels. He has planted and
pastored several churches, and served on the faculties
of Dallas Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist
Theological Seminary before coming to Southern. His
interest in helping others to know the truth in Christ
has motivated his numerous college campus talks and
debates with philosophy professors. In addition to journal
articles on issues such as postmodernism and the age of
the earth controversy, Dr. Cabal is the general editor of
The Apologetics Study Bible.

Mark T. Coppenger
Professor of Christian Apologetics
(2004); Vice President for Extension
Education; Director of the Nashville
Extension Center
B.A., Ouachita Baptist University; M.A.,
Ph.D., Vanderbilt University; M.Div.,
Southwestern Baptist Theological
Seminary

Before attending seminary, Dr. Coppenger taught at
Wheaton and Vanderbilt, where he directed a project for
the National Endowment for the Humanities. He has also
served as a pastor in Arkansas; executive director of the
State Convention of Baptists in Indiana; chairman of the
SBC Resolutions Committee; president of Midwestern
Seminary; and short-term missionary to seven countries.
He is also a retired infantry officer. Dr. Coppenger is
managing editor of the online Kairos Journal and has
authored, edited, or contributed to numerous books.
His articles and reviews have appeared in Teaching
Philosophy, Touchstone, Criswell Review, Reformation and
Revival, World, USA Today, and others.

James Parker, III
Professor of Worldview and Culture
(1999); Associate Dean, Worldview
and Culture
B.A., Baylor University; M.A., Trinity
Evangelical Divinity School; M.Div.,
Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary;
D.Theol., Basel University, Basel,
Switzerland; Post-Doctoral Studies:
Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Parker joined the faculty at Southern after founding
and directing The Trinity Institute for nine years. In
addition to The Trinity Institute, he has taught at various
seminaries and colleges, and has been involved with
Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Dr. Parker is the former
director of Foundations, an international theological journal,
and has authored or contributed to numerous publications.

Department of Christian Ethics

Kenneth Magnuson
Professor of Christian Ethics (1999)
B.A., Bethel College; M.Div., Bethel
Theological Seminary; Ph.D., University
of Cambridge

Dr. Kenneth Magnuson joined the faculty of Southern
Seminary in 1999. Dr. Magnuson teaches on a wide
range of topics in Christian Ethics and Theology, and
has presented conference papers and published articles
on topics such as sexual morality, marriage, infertility,
contraception, capital punishment, war and pacifism, and
others. In addition to teaching, Dr. Magnuson has served
in ministry and administrative opportunities, including
disaster relief, mission trips, college student ministry, and
chaplaincy. He currently serves as a Deacon in his church,
as an ethics consultant at a local hospital, on the editorial
board for Themelios, and on the board of the American
Friends of Tyndale House. He was a contributor to the
Handbook of Christian Higher Education.
Ministry and Proclamation Division

Department of Christian Preaching

David E. Prince
Assistant Professor of Christian Preaching (2012)

B.A., Huntingdon College; M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Prince brings to Southern Seminary many years of teaching, writing, and pastoral experience, having previously served Southern Seminary adjunctively since 2006, teaching courses on preaching and pastoral ministry. In addition to his role on the faculty, he is also the pastor of Ashland Avenue Baptist Church in Lexington, Kentucky.

Kevin L. Smith
Assistant Professor of Christian Preaching (2006)

B.S., Hampton University; M.Div., Church of God Theological Seminary;
Ph.D. (candidate), The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Before being appointed to the faculty, Professor Smith served Southern as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellow from 2002-2006. He has been a church planter in Tennessee and a pastor in Tennessee and Kentucky, currently serving Highview Baptist Church as Teaching Pastor. He is a conference preacher and has taken short-term missions trips to the Caribbean and Africa. He has served in a variety of capacities with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Robert A. Vogel
Carl E. Bates Professor of Christian Preaching (2003); Associate Vice President for Institutional Assessment; Director, Advanced Master of Divinity Program

B.A., Western Bible Institute; M.Div., Th.M., Western Conservative Baptist Seminary; M.A., Portland State University; Ph.D., University of Oregon

Prior to joining the faculty at Southern, Dr. Vogel served as Professor of Homiletics at Western Seminary, a position he had held since 1978. While at Western Seminary, he served as Director of the Doctor of Ministry program from 1984-2000 and as Associate Academic Dean for eight years. He was also the chairman of the Division of Pastoral and Church Ministries at Western Seminary. In addition to his many years of teaching, Dr. Vogel also has more than twenty years of active church ministry, during which time he held positions as minister of youth and music, pastor, pulpit supply and interim pastor. Dr. Vogel is also a member of the Evangelical Theological Society.

Hershael W. York
Victor and Louise Lester Professor of Christian Preaching (1997); Associate Dean, Ministry and Proclamation

B.A., M.A., University of Kentucky; M.Div., Ph.D., Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary

Before joining the faculty of Southern Seminary, Dr. York led the congregation of Ashland Avenue Baptist Church in Lexington. Since coming to Southern, Dr. York has authored two books on speaking and preaching, has been featured in Preaching Today as one of the best preachers in North America, has spoken at the International Congress on Preaching, and has served as the President of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He is currently the pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church in Frankfort and frequently ministers in Brazil and Romania. He has also served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Marion, Arkansas, and served as Chancellor of Lexington Baptist College.
Department of Practical Ministry

Donald S. Whitney
Associate Professor of Biblical Spirituality (2005); Senior Associate Dean of the School of Theology
B.A., Arkansas State University; M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Min., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Ph.D., University of the Free State (South Africa)

Dr. Whitney came to Southern from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he was Associate Professor of Spiritual Formation for ten years. He also served in pastoral ministry for twenty-four years. He has authored *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*; *Spiritual Disciplines Within the Church: How Can I Be Sure I'm a Christian?*; *Ten Questions to Diagnose Your Spiritual Health; Simplify Your Spiritual Life*; and *Family Worship*. Dr. Whitney is a popular conference speaker, especially on personal and congregational spirituality.

Department of Biblical Counseling and Family Studies

Jeremy P. Pierre
Assistant Professor of Biblical Counseling (2011); Dean of Students
B.A., Cedarville University; M.A., Cleveland State University; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Prior to joining the faculty of Southern Seminary, Dr. Pierre was Instructor of Literature and Culture at Boyce College. He was the Director of its Writing Center since 2002. Dr. Pierre focuses on the practical aspects of biblical interpretation and theology in caring for people with the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. He also serves as Pastor of Member Care at Clifton Baptist Church.

Stuart W. Scott
Associate Professor of Biblical Counseling (2005);
B.A., Columbia International University; M.Div., Grace Theological Seminary; D.Min., Covenant Theological Seminary

Dr. Scott comes to Southern with over thirty years of experience in counseling and pastoral ministry, including eight years as associate pastor at Grace Community Church with Pastor John MacArthur. Prior to joining the faculty at Southern, Dr. Scott served on the faculty of The Master’s College and Seminary. He is a Fellow and member of the board of the National Association of Nouthetic Counselors. He is the author of *The Exemplary Husband, From Pride to Humility: A Biblical Perspective; Anger, Fear, and Anxiety; and Communication and Conflict Resolution*. He co-authored *The Faithful Parent: A Biblical Guide to Raising a Family; and Counseling the Hard Cases: True Stories Illustrating the Sufficiency of God's Resources in Scripture*. He has also co-edited *The Difficult Counseling Cases*, and contributed to other books.

Eric L. Johnson
Lawrence and Charlotte Hoover Professor of Pastoral Care (2000)
B.Th., Toronto Baptist Seminary; M.A.C.S., Calvin College; M.A., Ph.D., Michigan State University

Before coming to Southern, Dr. Johnson taught courses at Northwestern College in Minnesota for nine years. He has contributed numerous articles in the field of Christian psychology. He is an associate editor of the *Journal of Psychology and Theology*, and in 1998 he was editor for a special issue of the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, entitled “Psychology within the Christian Tradition.” He authored articles for the *Baker Encyclopedia of Psychology and Counseling* and has co-edited and contributed to *Christianity and Psychology: Five Views and God Under Fire: Modern Scholarship Reinvents God*. He also wrote *Foundations for Soul Care: A Christian Psychology Proposal*. 
Distinguished Professors

**Richard Land**
Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics
A.B., Princeton University; Th.M., New Orleans Baptist Seminary; D.Phil., University of Oxford (England)

He is the author of *Tempted and Tried: Temptation and the Triumph of Christ, Adopted for Life: The Priority of Adoption for Christian Families and Churches,* and *The Kingdom of Christ: The New Evangelical Perspective.* He is also a senior editor for *Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity.*

**Senior Professors**
James W. Cox
John B. Polhill
Robert H. Stein

**Retired Professors**
Gerald L. Borchert
William P. Cubine
Richard Cunningham
Joel F. Drinkard, Jr.
E. Glenn Hinson
Walter C. Jackson, III
J. Estill Jones
G. Wade Rowatt, Jr.
Paul D. Simmons
Glen H. Stassen
Edward E. Thornton
E. Frank Tupper

**Visiting Professors**
Daniel I. Block
Douglas K. Blount
Joel Briedenbaugh
David S. Dockery
Wayne Grudem
Paul Helm
Andreas Köstenberger
Jason Lee
Kenneth A. Mathews
David Powlison
Robert Smith
Gregory A. Thornbury
Ray Van Neste
Robert Yarbrough

Dr. Land is president of Southern Evangelical Seminary, a non-denominational seminary in Charlotte, N.C. Prior to becoming president of SES, Land served for 25 years as the president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, the Southern Baptist Convention’s official entity assigned to address social, moral and ethical concerns.

**Eugene Merrill**
Distinguished professor of Old Testament Interpretation
B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Bob Jones University; M.A. New York University; M.Phil, Ph.D., Columbia University

Dr. Merrill has been heavily involved in international Christian ministry in Europe, Asia and the Near East. As a scholar, Merrill regularly contributes to leading journals, periodicals, dictionaries, encyclopedias and commentaries.

**Russell D. Moore**
Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics
B.S., University of Southern Mississippi; M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Introduction

Purpose
The primary purpose of the School of Theology is to offer graduate theological education to train students to be pastors, teachers, biblical counselors, and for other areas of service to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The School of Theology seeks to provide the biblical and theological training that is foundational for effective ministry. Central to these educational functions is the development of persons of Christian character, commitment, and integrity.

Because Christian ministers encounter a wide spectrum of issues and challenges, the School of Theology offers an education that is both comprehensive and highly specialized. To meet the demand for comprehensiveness, students complete a core curriculum that will enable them to think theologically and will equip them with appropriate knowledge and skills. To meet the demand for specialization, students have the opportunity to select an area of concentrated vocational preparation.

The School of Theology seeks both to serve and to lead the denomination of which it is a part. While closely related to the academic and Christian communities of the world, its chief concern is the Christian ministry of Southern Baptist churches.

Overview of Academic Programs
Academic programs in the School of Theology consist of three types. First, the basic professional programs designed to equip qualified students for the practice of ministry are the Diploma in Theology, the Master of Arts in Theological Studies, the Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling, the Master of Divinity degree, and the Advanced Master of Divinity degree. Second, the professional doctoral degree is the Doctor of Ministry. Third, the research doctoral programs designed to qualify advanced students for research and teaching, as well as for other specialized leadership positions, are the Master of Theology degree and the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

School of Theology Goals
The programs in the School of Theology are offered to equip qualified students for the practice of effective Christian ministry. The goal of this faculty is for every graduate:

• To be a called disciple and minister of Jesus Christ, serving His Kingdom
• To possess a deep and growing love for God and a desire to bring glory to His name
• To possess an abiding love for people and the work of Christian ministry in the context of the church
• To bear witness to the complete truthfulness of Holy Scripture
• To maintain the historic principles of the Christian faith and of the Baptist heritage
• To be ethically informed and to embody the moral imperatives of the Kingdom of God
• To integrate theological understandings with human need in the contemporary world
• To demonstrate Christian commitment, maturity, integrity and spirituality

• To possess knowledge of the Bible and of historic and contemporary Christian thought and practice
• To receive specialized training and skill development in specific areas of ministry

Policies for Master’s Level Programs

Academic Advising
Academic advising is offered for new students during orientation. Academic advising is also available during the year. Students may contact the Office of Student Success.

Shepherding Groups
Shepherding groups are designed to provide students with small group mentorship from faculty and fellowship with other students.

Faculty members in the School of Theology serve as faculty shepherds to provide spiritual support and pastoral oversight for all students in the degree programs of the School of Theology. Shepherding groups provide opportunity for prayer, development of relationships, encouragement, and fellowship.

Applied Ministry
Applied Ministry is a field education class which provides an opportunity for the student to learn while engaged in the practice of ministry. In Applied Ministry the student serves on the field and obtains practical ministry experience under the supervision of a qualified minister at an eligible site. Field education is a requirement for all students in master’s level programs.

Enrollment Requirements
Prior to taking Applied Ministry, students will need to make plans for how they will fulfill the requirements of the course. Full details are provided in the Applied Ministry Handbook on the seminary’s website. Questions may be directed to the Applied Ministry Office in the Center for Student Success. The office can be contacted by phone at 800-626-5525, extension 4680, or via email at am@sbts.edu.

Securing Ministry Placements
Students needing assistance finding a Partnering Site for Applied Ministry should contact the Applied Ministry Office. Assistance in pursuing vocational ministry opportunities is available in the Ministry Connections Office.

Master’s Level Program Descriptions and Requirements
The School of Theology offers the following master’s level degrees:

• Master of Divinity degree with various emphases
• Advanced Master of Divinity
• Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling
• Master of Arts in Theological Studies
  (for laypersons only)
• Diploma in Theology, which is a program for persons without a baccalaureate degree and requires course
work that is similar to that of the Master of Divinity degree.

The programs of study vary in terms of description and requirements. Program descriptions and requirements are outlined on the following pages.

Note: Master of Divinity degrees are also offered in the other master's-level schools of the seminary. These other Master of Divinity degrees have different goals and requirements. For further information, consult the School of Church Ministries, and/or the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism sections of this catalog.
**School of Theology Master of Divinity Core**

This core is required for the Christian Ministry, Pastoral Studies, Biblical and Theological Studies, Biblical Counseling, Worldview and Apologetics, and Biblical Spirituality concentrations.

The Master of Divinity is the foundational graduate degree program for ministry preparation. The program of study is designed to give the student comprehensive knowledge in biblical and theological studies and to help the student develop the specific skills needed for effective ministry. The need of today's student for specialized preparation in specific forms of ministry is met through curricular options. The School of Theology also offers the following concentrations: Christian Ministry, Pastoral Studies, Biblical and Theological Studies, Biblical Counseling, and Worldview and Apologetics.

### Remedial/Pre-requisite Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20400</td>
<td>Elementary Hebrew</td>
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<tr>
<td>22400</td>
<td>Elementary Greek</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31980</td>
<td>Written Communication (if required)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42490</td>
<td>Cooperative Program</td>
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### Scripture and Interpretation (21 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>20220</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20440</td>
<td>Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>22100</td>
<td>Biblical Hermeneutics</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>22200</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22220</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22440</td>
<td>Greek Syntax and Exegesis</td>
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### Theology and Tradition (15 hours)

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<tr>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>25100</td>
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<td>25120</td>
<td>Introduction to Church History II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27060</td>
<td>Systematic Theology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27070</td>
<td>Systematic Theology II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>27080</td>
<td>Systematic Theology III</td>
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### Worldview and Culture (6 hours)

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<tr>
<td>28500</td>
<td>Introduction to Christian Philosophy</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>29250</td>
<td>Survey of Christian Ethics</td>
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### Ministry and Proclamation (22 hours)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30000</td>
<td>Christian Preaching¹</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>30020</td>
<td>Preaching Practicum²</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32100</td>
<td>Theology Evangelism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32960</td>
<td>Introduction to Missiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34300</td>
<td>Introduction to Biblical Counseling³</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35040</td>
<td>Introduction to Family Ministry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40150</td>
<td>Personal Spiritual Disciplines</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44910</td>
<td>Applied Ministry: Theology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Theology M.Div. Core Hours

64

1. Christian Preaching (30000) is reserved for men. Women will substitute The Ministry of Teaching (45400).
2. Preaching Practicum (30020) is reserved for men. Women will substitute courses 45450, 46515, or 48100.
3. 34300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling is not required in the M.Div. with a Concentration in Worldview and Apologetics program.

See Written Communication Requirement in Academic Section.

¹Christian Preaching (30000) is reserved for men. Women will substitute The Ministry of Teaching (45400).
²Preaching Practicum (30020) is reserved for men. Women will substitute courses 45450, 46515, or 48100.
³34300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling is not required in the M.Div. with a Concentration in Worldview and Apologetics program.
Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Christian Ministry

The Christian Ministry concentration is designed for those called to ministry in the local church or Christian organizations. This option allows for maximum flexibility with elective choices, while ensuring that basic courses of biblical, theological, and ministry studies are included. Students who would benefit from a broader-based set of curricular options will appreciate the opportunity for greater selection of free electives and of courses in several areas that will best meet their needs.

**Exception to the M.Div. Core:** 28500 Introduction to Christian Philosophy, 34300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling, and 35040 Introduction to Family Ministry are not required.

**Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Christian Ministry Requirements**
- **Christian Ministry Studies**
  - 33
- **Theology M.Div. Core**
  - 55
- **Total**
  - 88

**Vocational Objectives**
- Pastorate
- Preaching
- North American missions
- International missions
- Biblical and theological studies
- Campus/college ministry
- Evangelism
- Doctoral studies
- Teaching in University or Seminary

1Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.

Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Pastoral Studies

The Pastoral Studies concentration is primarily designed to prepare men who are called to serve in the office of pastor in local congregations. A balance of biblical, theological, and ministry courses makes this a broad program of pastoral training, allowing for exposure to a range of knowledge and skills needed for effective ministry in the local church.

**Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Pastoral Studies Requirements**
- **Pastoral Studies**
  - 24
- **Theology M.Div. Core**
  - 64
- **Total**
  - 88

**Vocational Objectives**
- Pastorate
- Preaching
- North American missions
- International missions
- Biblical and theological studies
- Campus/college ministry
- Evangelism

1Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.
The Biblical and Theological Studies concentration is designed to focus on the study of scripture and theology. Through this concentration, students engage in intensive biblical language study and explore theology, philosophy, and history in depth. Students with this concentration will likely take Hebrew and Greek simultaneously in varying degrees of intensity. Since students in this concentration do not have room for the Old and New Testament Introduction classes within the required program of studies, they are strongly advised to attend the introductory lectures (i.e. of 20200, 20220, 22200, and 22220) to increase their general knowledge of the Scriptures. Permission of the instructor is required.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27800</td>
<td>Theology of the Old Testament</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27820</td>
<td>Theology of the New Testament</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebrew Exegesis elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebrew Exegesis elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Exegesis elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Exegesis elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OT Elective in Language Exegesis, Backgrounds, Textual Criticism</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT Elective in Language Exegesis, Backgrounds, Textual Criticism</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26100</td>
<td>History of the Baptists</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Restricted Electives (9 hours)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restricted electives from Theology and Tradition, and Worldview and Culture Divisions, with 3 hours minimum required from each division</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Biblical and Theological Studies</strong></td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Theology M.Div. Core Hours</strong></td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical and Theological Studies Requirements</strong></td>
<td>88</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Hebrew (if required)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Greek (if required)</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Communication (if required)</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{1}\)M.Div. Core courses 20200, 20220, 22200, and 22220 are not required.

**Vocational Objectives**
- Pastorate
- Preaching
- North American Missions
- International Missions
- Biblical and theological studies
- Campus/college ministry
- Evangelism
- Doctoral studies
- Teaching in University or Seminary

**Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical and Theological Studies Requirements**
- Elementary Hebrew (if required) 3
- Elementary Greek (if required) 3
- Written Communication (if required) 2
The Biblical Counseling concentration offers rigorous and specialized training to prepare men and women for the ministry of biblical counseling. This concentration is designed for pastors and other church leaders who seek to do a significant amount of counseling from the framework of a biblical counseling model. The degree will be rich with biblical and theological studies, along with practical pastoral training. The degree offers a firm foundation of theoretical and practical preparation for counseling itself, with a strategic array of classes in the most pressing issues of biblical church-based counseling.

### Vocational Objectives
- Biblical counseling
- Marriage and family ministry
- Pastorate
- Preaching
- North American missions
- International missions
- Campus/Collegiate ministry

### Biblical Counseling Studies
- 34305 Biblical and Theological Foundations for Counseling 3
- 34310 Essential Qualities of the Biblical Counselor or Christian Theories of the Person 3
- 34325 Typical Problems in Biblical Counseling 3
- 35100 Marriage and Family Counseling 3
- 35530 Reformational Counseling Training I or Counseling Internships 3
- 35585 Counseling Observations and Practicum 3
- 35590 Counseling Internships II or Counseling Internships 3
- 40301 Pastoral Ministry¹ 3

¹Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women's Ministry course 48XXX.

### Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Counseling
- Biblical Counseling Studies 24
- Theology M.Div. Core 64
- Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Counseling Requirements 88

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The biblical spirituality emphasis is designed for those called to minister in the local church or for students who wish to pursue advanced theological studies. This emphasis provides courses in biblical, historical, practical, and theological spirituality.

### Vocational Objectives
- Pastorate
- Preaching
- North American Missions
- International Missions
- Discipleship
- Biblical and Theological Studies
- Doctoral Studies
- Teaching in University or Seminary

### Biblical Spirituality Studies
- 40150 The Doctrine of the Trinity 3
- 40151 Personal Spiritual Disciplines II: Prayer and Disciple-making 3
- 25230 Early Christian Spirituality 3
- 40170 The Psalms & Christian Spirituality 3
- 40175 Medieval and Reformation Spirituality 3
- 40155 Congregational Spiritual Disciplines 3
- 40165 Evangelical and Baptist Spirituality 3

### Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Spirituality Studies
- Biblical Spirituality Studies Requirements 18
- Theology M.Div. Core 64
- Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Spirituality Studies Requirements 88
# Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Worldview and Apologetics

The Worldview and Apologetics concentration is designed to give concentrated focus on worldview and apologetics studies in order to prepare ministers to engage culture with a compelling Christian understanding of the world. Through this concentration, students gain an understanding of how to interpret culture and to apply a Christian worldview to issues such as those related to science, philosophy, visual arts, film, critical thinking, law and government, and ethics.

**Exception to the M.Div. Core:** 34300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling is not required.

### Worldview/Apologetics Distinctives (21 hours)

(Composed of 18 hours of Restricted Electives in Worldview and Culture and 3 hours of Free Elective)

**Resricted Electives in Worldview and Culture**

(Choose 9 hours of any Worldview and Culture Electives)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28510</td>
<td>History of Philosophy I: Classical and Medieval</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28520</td>
<td>History of Philosophy II: Modern and Postmodern</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28550</td>
<td>Christian Philosophical-Worldview Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28577</td>
<td>Studies in Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28600</td>
<td>Faith, Reason, and Authority</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28660</td>
<td>God and the Philosophers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28677</td>
<td>Studies in Apologetics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28720</td>
<td>The Problem of Evil</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>28970</td>
<td>Critical Thinking and the Art of Argumentation</td>
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Ethics (Choose 3 hours)

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29300</td>
<td>Biblical Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>29477</td>
<td>Studies in Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29550</td>
<td>Christian Discipleship in Secular Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29560</td>
<td>The Black Church and Social Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29580</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and the Environment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29600</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and Biomedical Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29720</td>
<td>Christian Ethical Perspectives on War and Peace</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29850</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and the Family</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29860</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and Human Sexuality</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Vocational Objectives

- Pastorate
- Preaching
- North American Missions
- International Missions
- Biblical and theological studies
- Campus/college ministry
- Evangelism
- Doctoral studies
- Teaching in University or Seminary

### Ethics (Choose 3 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29300</td>
<td>Biblical Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29477</td>
<td>Studies in Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29550</td>
<td>Christian Discipleship in Secular Society</td>
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<td>The Black Church and Social Justice</td>
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<td>29580</td>
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<td>29600</td>
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<tr>
<td>29720</td>
<td>Christian Ethical Perspectives on War and Peace</td>
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<tr>
<td>29850</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and the Family</td>
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<td>29860</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and Human Sexuality</td>
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### Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Worldview and Apologetics Requirements

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<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29300</td>
<td>Biblical Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29477</td>
<td>Studies in Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29550</td>
<td>Christian Discipleship in Secular Society</td>
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<td>29560</td>
<td>The Black Church and Social Justice</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>29580</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and the Environment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29600</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and Biomedical Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29720</td>
<td>Christian Ethical Perspectives on War and Peace</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29850</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and the Family</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29860</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and Human Sexuality</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34300</td>
<td>Introduction to Biblical Counseling</td>
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### Theology M.Div. Core Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40301</td>
<td>Pastoral Ministry†</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

†Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.

‡M.Div. Core course 34300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling is not required.
Advanced Master of Divinity

The Advanced Master of Divinity is an accelerated professional degree program for students who have a baccalaureate or Master of Arts degree in religion or biblical studies and who have at least a 3.3 college grade point average. Applicants must also have completed at least 6 hours at the introductory level in Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, Church History, and Systematic Theology (or 3 hours at the introductory level plus 3 hours at an advanced level in each of these subjects). In each of the above subjects, students must not only have the minimum of 6 hours, but their course work must have covered the full scope of the discipline, i.e., course work that covers the whole Old Testament from Genesis to Malachi, the whole of the New Testament, Church History from the 1st to the 21st century and Introduction to Theology that covers Bibliology through Eschatology. Only courses credited with a “B” or higher will be accepted for these requirements, and applicants who have not completed these hours will not be admitted to the Advanced M.Div. program. Applicants must also submit an acceptable 12-20 page undergraduate research paper evidencing their research and writing ability in some area of biblical or theological studies. Students should also have completed 3 hours each in ethics, philosophy, hermeneutics, preaching, elementary Hebrew, and elementary Greek, but if not, they may complete them as prerequisites while enrolled in the Adv. M.Div. program. Only courses with a “B” or higher will be accepted for these requirements.

The program is designed to allow a student to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of biblical and theological studies and to gain specific ministry skills as is expected at the Master of Divinity level. In addition, the Advanced Master of Divinity program is designed to develop critical thinking and research skills, and in one of its two concentrations, it offers the opportunity for more in-depth study through the writing of a 40-60 page thesis. In the non-thesis concentration the student will take an additional elective course in the place of writing a thesis. The curriculum for the Advanced Master of Divinity combines the cohesiveness of a core of required courses with the flexibility of elective choices.

Vocational Objectives
- Pastorate
- Preaching
- Biblical and theological studies
- Doctoral studies
- Teaching in University or Seminary

Remedial/Pre-requisite Courses
31980 Written Communication (if required) (2)
42490 Cooperative Program (2)

Scripture and Interpretation (18 hours)
20440 Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis 3
22440 Greek Syntax and Exegesis 3
27800 Theology of the Old Testament 3
27820 Theology of the New Testament 3
Hebrew Exegesis elective 3
Greek Exegesis elective 3

Theology and Tradition (15 hours)
25140 Advanced Church History 3
26100 History of the Baptists 3
27050 Advanced Introduction to Christian Theology 3
Theology and Tradition electives 6

Worldview and Culture (9 hours)
Philosophy elective 3
Ethics elective 3
Worldview and Culture elective 3

Ministry and Proclamation (24 hours)
32100 Theology and Practice Evangelism 3
32960 Introduction to Missiology 3
34300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling 3
35040 Introduction to Family Ministry 3
40150 Personal Spiritual Disciplines 2
40301 Pastoral Ministry\(^2\) 3
44560 Supervised Research Experience\(^2\) 2
44910 Applied Ministry: Theology 2
Preaching elective\(^3\) 3

Research and Elective Studies (13-14 hours)
40375 Advanced M. Div. Thesis Writing 2
or free elective\(^4\) 3
81020 Graduate Research Seminar 2
Free electives 9

Total Advanced Master of Divinity Requirements

| Thesis Concentration | 79 |
| Non-thesis Concentration | 80 |

- Written Communication (if required) +2

\(\text{\textsuperscript{1}}\)Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.
\(\text{\textsuperscript{2}}\)The two-hour Supervised Research Experience is to be satisfied through supervised research at SBTS or another institution, whether at home or abroad.
\(\text{\textsuperscript{3}}\)If a student takes Christian Preaching (30000) because of an entrance deficiency, then that student must take Preaching Practicum (30020) to fulfill the preaching elective requirement. Christian Preaching (30000) is reserved for men. Women will substitute The Ministry of Teaching (45400). Preaching Practicum (30020) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.

\(\text{\textsuperscript{4}}\)A two-track Adv. M.Div. option is offered: 1) Track One is a thesis track. The student will take Advanced M.Div. Thesis Writing (40375), and write a 40-60 page thesis. 2) Track Two is a non-thesis track. The student will take a three-hour elective in place of the two-hour Thesis Writing Course.
# Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies: Seminary Track

This program is designed for high school graduates who have already recognized their call to seminary for advanced study. Students who enter the Seminary Track can potentially earn both an undergraduate degree from Boyce College and the Master of Divinity from Southern Seminary in as little as five years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Studies</th>
<th>39</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CM 101 Introduction to Computers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 101 English Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 102 English Composition II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS 105 Ancient Near Eastern History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HU 421 Great Books Seminar I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HU 422 Great Books Seminar II</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA --- Math Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 103 Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH 108 Worldview Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH 311 Introduction to Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH 321 Religion in the Public Square</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS 101 Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS 221 Marriage and the Family</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR 205 Preaching I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR 206 Preaching II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP 105 Introduction to Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP 106 Advanced Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32960 Introduction to Missiology</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32100 Theology and Practice of Evangelism</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35040 Leadership and Family Ministry</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40301 Pastoral Ministry (men)</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women. Substitute WS 211, 331, 340, 417; CE 238, 348, 363; or, a SBTS course from 48200-48900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry Studies</th>
<th>21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CN 101 Introduction to Biblical Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Students</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR 205 Preaching I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR 206 Preaching II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP 105 Introduction to Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP 106 Advanced Public Speaking</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delhi and Theological Studies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BL 342 History of the Bible</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LN 231 Greek I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LN 232 Greek II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LN 321 Hebrew I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LN 322 Hebrew II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20200 Introduction to the Old Testament I</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20220 Introduction to the Old Testament II</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22100 Biblical Hermeneutics</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22200 Introduction to the New Testament I</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22220 Introduction to the New Testament II</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25100 Introduction to Church History I</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25120 Introduction to Church History II</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26100 History of the Baptists</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27060 Systematic Theology I</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27070 Systematic Theology II</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27080 Systematic Theology III</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20440 Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22440 Greek Syntax and Exegesis</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| General Electives                           | 6  |

| Total Degree Hours                          | 120 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDITIONAL MASTERS LEVEL COURSES (to complete M.Div. requirements)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40150 Personal Spiritual Disciplines</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44910 Applied Ministry: Theology (men)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------ Free Electives</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prerequisite:
- CP 100 Cooperative Program

*Indicates courses earned in-class for masters credit and by subsequent credit-by-examination testing for undergraduate credit.

Note: Admission to the concurrent Master of Divinity from Southern Seminary is not guaranteed by entrance into Boyce College, and is based on an academic and character evaluation and the end of the first year of undergraduate study.

See the Boyce College web site for more information: http://www.boycecollege.com/academics/degree-programs/seminary-track/
Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling

The Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling is designed to prepare students for a ministry of biblical counseling to individuals, couples, and families in a congregational, denominational agency, counseling center, or missions setting. The degree is designed for non-pastoral staff members and other church leaders who seek to do a significant amount of counseling from the framework of a biblical counseling model. The degree blends academic and classroom preparation with practical training in a ministry setting. Students desiring to pursue D.Min. or Ph.D. studies should seek entry into the M.Div. with a Concentration in Biblical Counseling degree.

Vocational Objectives

• Biblical Counseling
• Marriage and Family Ministry

Learning Outcomes

• Students will be able to demonstrate a growing, Christlike character and a sense of God’s calling to ministry.
• Students will be able to understand the Christian worldview and have a global vision for fulfilling the Great Commission.
• Students will be able to demonstrate significant knowledge of the Bible, interpret Scripture’s original meaning, and apply Scripture to contemporary situations.
• Students will be able to integrate systematic and historical theology into a larger biblical framework.
• Students will be able to demonstrate skill in the practice of biblical counseling.

Remedial/Pre-requisite Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31980</td>
<td>Written Communication (if required)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42490</td>
<td>Cooperative Program</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Biblical/Theological Studies (30 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20200</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20220</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22100</td>
<td>Biblical Hermeneutics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22200</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22220</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27060</td>
<td>Systematic Theology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27070</td>
<td>Systematic Theology II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27080</td>
<td>Systematic Theology III</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32100</td>
<td>Theology and Practice of Evangelism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35040</td>
<td>Introduction to Family Ministry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Biblical Counseling (21 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34300</td>
<td>Introduction to Biblical Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34305</td>
<td>Biblical and Theological Foundations for Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34310</td>
<td>Essential Qualities of the Biblical Counselor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34330</td>
<td>Typical Problems in Biblical Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35100</td>
<td>Marriage and Family Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35530</td>
<td>Reformational Counseling Training I or</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35585</td>
<td>Counseling Observations and Practicum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35540</td>
<td>Reformational Counseling Training II or</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35590</td>
<td>Counseling Internships</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling Requirements 51

• Written Communication (if required) +2

See Written Communication Requirement in Academic Section.
# Master of Arts in Theological Studies

The Master of Arts in Theological Studies is designed to offer ministry training for those persons who are not preparing for a professional ministry vocation. The purpose of this degree is to provide biblical, theological, historical, and practical training for laypersons who desire to be better equipped to do ministry in the local church.

## Vocational Objectives
- For laypersons only

## Learning Outcomes
- Students will be able to understand the Christian worldview and have a global vision for fulfilling the Great Commission.
- Students will be able to demonstrate significant knowledge of the Bible, interpret Scripture’s original meaning, and apply Scripture to contemporary situations.
- Students will be able to integrate systematic and historical theology into a larger biblical framework.

### Remedial/Pre-requisite Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31980</td>
<td>Written Communication (if required)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42490</td>
<td>Cooperative Program</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

### Scripture and Interpretation (15 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20200</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20220</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22100</td>
<td>Biblical Hermeneutics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22200</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22220</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Theology and Tradition (15 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25100</td>
<td>Introduction to Church History I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25120</td>
<td>Introduction to Church History II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27060</td>
<td>Systematic Theology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27070</td>
<td>Systematic Theology II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27080</td>
<td>Systematic Theology III</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Worldview and Culture (9 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28500</td>
<td>Introduction to Christian Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29250</td>
<td>Survey of Christian Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Worldview and Culture elective</td>
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</table>

### Ministry and Proclamation (6 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32100</td>
<td>Theology and Practice of Evangelism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32960</td>
<td>Introduction to Missiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Free elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Master of Arts in Theological Studies Requirements

- 48 credits
- Written Communication (if required) 2 credits

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*See Written Communication Requirement in Academic Section.*
Diploma Program

Diploma in Theology
A Diploma in Theology program is offered for students who cannot enroll in a master’s degree program because they do not have a baccalaureate degree. Candidates must be at least 30 years of age to be admitted to the Diploma in Theology program.

Up to twelve semester hours of transfer credit can be applied to the Diploma in Theology program. Those credit hours must have been taken through Seminary Extension (a ministry education system of the six theological seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention) or Boyce College. See Transfer of Credit Policy in Academic Section. To graduate with a Diploma in Theology, the student must complete the requirements for any one of the Master of Divinity curricular concentrations with the exception of the language requirement of Hebrew and Greek, and must earn a minimum of 85 credit hours. Diploma students may request admittance to a master’s program in accordance with the Transfer of Degree Program policy (See section in Academic Information).

Diploma in Theological Studies
A Diploma in Theological Studies program is offered for students who cannot enroll in a master’s degree program because they do not have a baccalaureate degree. Candidates must be at least 30 years of age to be admitted to the Diploma in Theological Studies program. To graduate with a Diploma in Theological Studies, the student must complete the requirements for the Master of Arts in Theological Studies. Diploma students may request admittance to a master’s program in accordance with the Transfer of Degree Program policy (See section in Academic Information).

Learning Outcomes
• Students will be able to demonstrate a growing, Christlike character and a sense of God’s calling to ministry.
• Students will be able to understand the Christian worldview and have a global vision for fulfilling the Great Commission.
• Students will be able to demonstrate significant knowledge of the Bible, interpret Scripture’s original meaning, and apply Scripture to contemporary situations.
• Students will be able to integrate systematic and historical theology into a larger biblical framework.
• Students will be able to display a biblical vision for ministry and lead with humble authority.
• Students will be able to preach/teach Scripture clearly and passionately so as to engage the mind and move the heart.

Learning Outcomes
• Students will be able to understand the Christian worldview and have a global vision for fulfilling the Great Commission.
• Students will be able to demonstrate significant knowledge of the Bible, interpret Scripture’s original meaning, and apply Scripture to contemporary situations.
• Students will be able to integrate systematic and historical theology into a larger biblical framework.
Policies for Doctor of Ministry Programs

Overview of Doctor of Ministry Programs
The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) degree is an advanced professional doctorate degree in ministry. The purpose of this program of study is to equip persons who are committed to a Christian vocation for a high level of excellence in the practice of ministry.

The distinctive features of the Doctor of Ministry degree program include:
• Participation in academic seminars
• Practical application of classroom learning to the student’s ministry setting
• A written research project that is related to the student’s ministry setting
• An oral defense of the written project

In the School of Theology, the degree is offered in four distinct areas:
• Expository Preaching
• Biblical Counseling
• Biblical Spirituality
• Applied Theology

Registration
Students accepted into the Doctor of Ministry program must register for their first seminar no later than one year after acceptance to the program.

After initial registration, a student is expected to register every term for seminars and every semester for Applied Ministry Experience or Ministry Research Project writing.

Unforeseen circumstances do at times require that students temporarily halt their studies. Any interruptions in study, however, are strongly discouraged.

Students who must take time off from the program of study must request permission for “Interrupted Status” from the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies at least one month prior to the first day of classes in the semester. Students are allowed a maximum of two semesters of Interrupted Status.

Length of Time Allowed
Students in the program are expected to pursue their degree concurrently with full-time vocational involvement in ministry. Students should expect to complete the program within three years. If a student takes longer than three years to complete the program, a continuation fee will be charged each semester beyond the initial six semesters (3 years). Under no circumstances shall a student extend the time of completion beyond six years (note that interrupted status will count against the six year maximum).

Minimum Grade Point
For each component of the program, a student must receive a minimum grade of “B–” (2.7 on a 4.0 scale). If a student receives a grade that is lower than a “B–” on any individual component, that component must be repeated. Furthermore, that student is placed on probation. If a student receives two successive grades that are lower than a “B–” the student will be terminated from the program.

Attendance
Because the foundational seminars are accelerated, attendance is required at every session for the entire duration of these seminars. Absence from any portion of any foundational seminar will necessitate retaking that seminar. Class participation will affect the student’s final grade.

Assignments
The accelerated plan for the foundational seminars mandates that all assignments be completed on time, including reading and book critiques that are to be done before the seminar and the papers that are to be done after the seminar. Faculty will work with students to maintain a submission schedule for all assignments.

Learning Outcomes
• Students will be able to demonstrate an advanced understanding and integration of ministry into various theological disciplines.
• Students will be able to demonstrate applied knowledge & skills pertinent to his/her vocational ministry.
• Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to use standard research tools and methods in the chosen field of study.
• Students will be able to research, plan, and implement a project relevant to his/her vocational ministry and to communicate the plan and its results effectively.
• Students will be able to contribute to the understanding and practice of ministry through the completion of a written project report suitable for inclusion in the seminary library.

Doctor of Ministry Program Descriptions and Requirements

Doctor of Ministry–Expository Preaching
The Doctor of Ministry degree with a concentration in Expository Preaching is designed to equip pastors and other church leaders in the skills of sermon preparation and public exposition of Scripture. This program of study will meet the needs of those persons who want to engage in the classical disciplines of biblical interpretation, theological reflection, and sermon preparation. It is a non-resident degree program that is intended for ministry professionals who desire further education but who simultaneously wish to remain on the field of service where God has placed them.

Curriculum Plan
The program of study consists of four areas:
• Foundational seminars .............................................16 hours
• Applied ministry experience ....................................8 hours
• Project methodology ..................................................2 hours
• Ministry research project ..........................................6 hours

Total D.Min. credit hours ........................................32 hours

Foundational Seminars
Four on-campus foundational seminars, for a total of 16
credit hours, are required:

- 80311 Theological, Historical, and Practical Issues in Expository Preaching .................................................. 4
- 80312 Expository Preaching and the Old Testament .......................................................... 4
- 80313 Expository Preaching and the New Testament .......................................................... 4
- 80314 Methods and Models of Expository Preaching ......................................................... 4

These seminars are not taken concurrently and may be taken in one of two ways. A student can enroll in the seminars when they are offered on the Louisville campus. Each seminar meets for four days during a winter or summer term. A student also can enroll in the seminars when they are offered at selected extension sites.

Prior to the time the seminar meets, students are required to complete a significant amount of work (such as reading a minimum of 2500 pages plus completing written assignments).

**Applied Ministry Experience**

Because this degree is a professional degree, it is expected that students will incorporate classroom material into their ministry setting. Through Applied Ministry Experience, students can develop higher competence and can increase skills in the performance of ministry. Students are to complete the following courses, each of which corresponds to a specific foundational seminar:

- 80321 Applied Ministry Experience I ........................................ 2
- 80322 Applied Ministry Experience II .................................... 2
- 80323 Applied Ministry Experience III .................................. 2
- 80324 Applied Ministry Experience IV ............................... 2

Each course requires one or more projects or assignments related directly to course material covered in the foundational seminar that accompanies it. The projects accomplish two purposes:

- to reinforce, expand, and provide a practical experience relative to the seminar content
- to assist the student in preparing for the research project that will culminate the student's degree program

**Project Methodology**

Students are required to complete one project methodology course for a total of 2 credit hours:

- 80600 Project Methodology .................................................. 1
  Course 80600 is attached to the second foundational seminar.
- 80610 Intro to Doctoral Research and Writing .................. 1

**Ministry Research Project**

The ministry research project (course 80700) is the culmination of the program of study. Through a written report of 100-125 (+/-10%) pages, the student has the opportunity to apply professional knowledge and documented research into the context of ministry. The entire project is supervised by a committee comprised of the faculty supervisor and the professor who taught course 80600. Prior to beginning the ministry research project, the student must secure approval of a proposal. To secure approval, the student must submit a project prospectus to the two-person committee mentioned above. Once this committee approves the prospectus, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend the prospectus to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for final approval. Once the prospectus is approved, the student engages in simultaneous research and practice to conduct the project. The results of the project are compiled in written form per specific guidelines. After the project paper has been written, the student must successfully defend the project in an oral exam before a committee of two persons. This committee includes the faculty supervisor, the professor of the project methodology course, or a second professor selected by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

**Research Thesis**

The research thesis (course 80720) is an option for Professional Doctoral students with exceptional research and writing skills. This option differs from the ministry project in that it is a 125-150 page work driven by literary research towards the development and validation of a thesis statement applied to the broader church rather than a practical project geared towards a local ministry setting. Permission must be granted to present a research thesis in place of a ministry research project by submitting the following items: a Research Thesis Request Form; a 10-15 page exemplary research paper; and a 1 page abstract that includes the title, thesis statement, and general direction of the work. The Office of Professional Doctoral Studies and the potential supervisor will review these documents and determine whether the thesis request will be approved or denied. If approved, the student will write a thesis proposal in course 80600 and submit it to the Professional Doctoral Office and the supervisor for approval. Once these parties have accepted the proposal, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend it to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for approval. The student then engages in research and writing to complete the thesis. Upon its completion, the student will defend the thesis before a committee of the faculty supervisor and a second professor approved by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

**Communities of Learning**

Students are part of a community of learning that helps to foster collegiality and facilitate an open and effective learning atmosphere.

**Faculty Supervision**

Students receive program advising from the Office of Professional Doctoral Studies throughout the entire program of study. Upon completion of Project Methodology (80600), the student is assigned to a faculty supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for guiding the student's progress through the Ministry Research Project.

**Doctor of Ministry–Biblical Counseling**

The Doctor of Ministry degree with a concentration in Biblical Counseling is designed to equip ministry professionals for leadership in ministering and counseling from a biblical foundation. Specifically, the degree is
Ministry Research Project

The ministry research project (course 80700) is the culmination of the program of study. Through a written report of 100-125 (+/-10%) pages, the student has the opportunity to apply professional knowledge and documented research into the context of ministry. The entire project is supervised by a committee comprised of the faculty supervisor and the professor who taught course 80600. Prior to beginning the ministry research project, the student must secure approval of a proposal. To secure approval, the student must submit a project prospectus to the two-person committee mentioned above. Once this committee approves the prospectus, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend the prospectus to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for final approval. Once the prospectus is approved, the student engages in simultaneous research and practice to conduct the project. The results of the project are compiled in written form per specific guidelines. After the project paper has been written, the student must successfully defend the project in an oral exam before a committee of two persons. This committee includes the faculty supervisor, and the professor of the project methodology course, or a second professor selected by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

Research Thesis

The research thesis (course 80720) is an option for Professional Doctoral students with exceptional research and writing skills. This option differs from the ministry project in that it is a 125-150 page work driven by literary research towards the development and validation of a thesis statement applied to the broader church rather than a practical project geared towards a local ministry setting. Permission must be granted to present a research thesis in place of a ministry research project by submitting the following items: a Research Thesis Request Form; a 10-15 page exemplary research paper; and a 1 page abstract that includes the title, thesis statement, and general direction of the work. The Office of Professional Doctoral Studies and the potential supervisor will review these documents and determine whether the thesis request will be approved or denied. If approved, the student will write a thesis proposal in course 80600 and submit it to the Professional Doctoral Office and the supervisor for approval. Once these parties have accepted the proposal, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend it to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for approval. The student then engages in research and writing to complete the thesis. Upon its completion, the student will defend the thesis before a committee of the faculty supervisor and a second professor approved by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

Communities of Learning

Students are part of a community of learning that helps to foster collegiality and facilitate an open and effective learning atmosphere.

Faculty Supervision

Students are required to complete one project methodology course for a total of 2 credit hours:
- Course 80600 is attached to the third foundational seminar.
- Course 80610 is attached to the third foundational seminar.

Curriculum Plan

The program of study consists of four areas:
- Foundational seminars: 16 hours
- Applied ministry experience: 8 hours
- Project methodology: 2 hours
- Ministry research project: 6 hours

Total D.Min. credit hours: 32

Foundational Seminars

Four on-campus foundational seminars, for a total of 16 credit hours, are required:
- 80551 Introduction to Biblical Counseling
- 80552 Methodology of Biblical Counseling
- 80553 Problems and Procedures of Biblical Counseling
- 80554 Marriage and Family Counseling

These seminars are not taken concurrently and may be taken in one of two ways. A student can enroll in the seminars when they are offered on the Louisville campus. Each seminar meets for four days during a winter or summer term. A student also can enroll in the seminars when they are offered at selected extension sites.

Prior to the time the seminar meets, students are required to complete a significant amount of work (such as reading a minimum of 2500 pages plus completing written assignments).

Applied Ministry Experience

Because this degree is a professional degree, it is expected that students will incorporate classroom material into their ministry setting. Through Applied Ministry Experience, students can develop higher competence and can increase skills in the performance of ministry. Students are to complete the following courses, each of which corresponds to a specific foundational seminar:
- 80591 Applied Ministry Experience I
- 80592 Applied Ministry Experience II
- 80593 Applied Ministry Experience III
- 80594 Applied Ministry Experience IV

Each course requires one or more projects or assignments related directly to course material covered in the foundational seminar that accompanies it. The projects accomplish two purposes:
- To reinforce, expand, and provide a practical experience relative to the seminar content
- To assist the student in preparing for the research project that will culminate the student’s degree program

Project Methodology

Students are required to complete one project methodology course for a total of 2 credit hours:
- 80600 Project Methodology
- 80610 Intro to Doctoral Research and Writing

Students are required to complete one project that will culminate the student's degree program. The project accomplish two purposes:
- To assist the student in preparing for the research project
- To assess the student's knowledge relative to the seminar content

To secure approval, the student must submit a project prospectus to the two-person committee mentioned above. Once this committee approves the prospectus, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend the prospectus to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for final approval. Once the prospectus is approved, the student engages in simultaneous research and practice to conduct the project. The results of the project are compiled in written form per specific guidelines. After the project paper has been written, the student must successfully defend the project in an oral exam before a committee of two persons. This committee includes the faculty supervisor, and the professor of the project methodology course, or a second professor selected by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

Research Thesis

The research thesis (course 80720) is an option for Professional Doctoral students with exceptional research and writing skills. This option differs from the ministry project in that it is a 125-150 page work driven by literary research towards the development and validation of a thesis statement applied to the broader church rather than a practical project geared towards a local ministry setting. Permission must be granted to present a research thesis in place of a ministry research project by submitting the following items: a Research Thesis Request Form; a 10-15 page exemplary research paper; and a 1 page abstract that includes the title, thesis statement, and general direction of the work. The Office of Professional Doctoral Studies and the potential supervisor will review these documents and determine whether the thesis request will be approved or denied. If approved, the student will write a thesis proposal in course 80600 and submit it to the Professional Doctoral Office and the supervisor for approval. Once these parties have accepted the proposal, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend it to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for approval. The student then engages in research and writing to complete the thesis. Upon its completion, the student will defend the thesis before a committee of the faculty supervisor and a second professor approved by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

Communities of Learning

Students are part of a community of learning that helps to foster collegiality and facilitate an open and effective learning atmosphere.

Faculty Supervision

Students are required to complete one project methodology course for a total of 2 credit hours:
- 80600 Project Methodology
- 80610 Intro to Doctoral Research and Writing

Students are required to complete one project that will culminate the student's degree program. The project accomplish two purposes:
- To assist the student in preparing for the research project
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Students receive program advising from the Office of Professional Doctoral Studies throughout the entire program of study. Upon completion of Project Methodology (80600), the student is assigned to a faculty supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for guiding the student’s progress through the Ministry Research Project.

**Doctor of Ministry—Biblical Spirituality**

The Doctor of Ministry degree with a concentration in Biblical Spirituality is designed to equip pastors and other church leaders in the theology and practice of biblical spirituality. The program of study emphasizes biblical spirituality in both its personal and interpersonal expressions, and examines this from both an historical and contemporary perspective. The degree is a non-resident program for Christian leaders interested in doctoral-level education without becoming full-time students on campus, and who expect to apply their education primarily in field ministry rather than an academic environment.

**Curriculum Plan**

The program of study consists of four areas:

- Foundational seminars: 16 hours
- Applied ministry experience: 8 hours
- Project methodology: 2 hours
- Ministry research project: 6 hours

Total D.Min. credit hours: 32

**Foundational Seminars**

Four on-campus foundational seminars, for a total of 16 credit hours, are required:

- 80911 Introduction to Biblical Spirituality ........................................ 4
- 80912 Christian Classics ................................................................. 4
- 80913 Biblical Spirituality in the Local Church ................................. 4
- 80914 Spiritual Awakening and Revival .......................................... 4

These seminars are not taken concurrently and may be taken in one of two ways. A student can enroll in the seminars when they are offered on the Louisville campus. Each seminar meets for four days during a winter or summer term. Also, a student can enroll in the seminars offered at selected extension sites.

Prior to the time the seminar meets, students are required to complete a significant amount of work (such as reading a minimum of 2500 pages, plus completing written assignments).

**Applied Ministry Experience**

Because this is a professional degree, students will incorporate classroom material into their ministry setting. Through Applied Ministry Experience, students can develop higher competence and can increase skills in the performance of ministry. Students complete the following courses, each of which corresponds to a specific foundational seminar:

- 80921 Applied Ministry Experience I .............................................. 2
- 80922 Applied Ministry Experience II ............................................. 2
- 80923 Applied Ministry Experience III ........................................... 2
- 80924 Applied Ministry Experience IV .......................................... 2

Each course requires one or more projects or assignments related directly to course material covered in the foundational seminar that accompanies it. The projects accomplish two purposes:

- to reinforce, expand, and provide a practical experience relative to the seminar content
- to assist the student in preparing for the research project that will culminate the student’s degree program

**Project Methodology**

Students are required to complete one project methodology course for a total of 2 credit hours:

- 80600 Project Methodology ......................................................... 1

Course 80600 is attached to the third foundational seminar.

- 80610 Intro to Doctoral Research and Writing ............................. 1

**Ministry Research Project**

The ministry research project (Course 80700) is the culmination of the program of study. Through a written report of 100-125 (+/-10%) pages, the student has the opportunity to apply professional knowledge and documented research into the context of ministry. The research project is supervised by the faculty supervisor and the professor who taught 80600, with their prior approval of the project prospectus. Once this committee approves the prospectus, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend it to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for final approval. Then the student engages in simultaneous research and practice to conduct the project, with the results compiled in written form per specific guidelines. The student must successfully defend the project in an oral exam before a committee of the faculty supervisor, the professor of the project methodology course or a second professor selected by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

**Research Thesis**

The research thesis (course 80720) is an option for Professional Doctoral students with exceptional research and writing skills. This option differs from the ministry project in that it is a 125-150 page work driven by literary research towards the development and validation of a thesis statement applied to the broader church rather than a practical project geared towards a local ministry setting. Permission must be granted to present a research thesis in place of a ministry research project by submitting the following items: a Research Thesis Request Form; a 10-15 page exemplary research paper; and a 1 page abstract that includes the title, thesis statement, and general direction of the work. The Office of Professional Doctoral Studies and the potential supervisor will review these documents and determine whether the thesis request will be approved or denied. If approved, the student will write a thesis proposal in course 80600 and submit it to the Professional Doctoral Office and the supervisor for approval. Once these parties have accepted the proposal, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend it to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for approval. The student then engages in research and writing to complete the thesis. Upon its completion, the student will defend the thesis before a committee of the faculty supervisor and a second
professor approved by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

Communities of Learning
Students are part of a community of learning that helps to foster collegiality and facilitate an open and effective learning atmosphere.

Faculty Supervision
Students receive program advising from the Office of Professional Doctoral Studies throughout the entire program of study. Upon completion of Project Methodology (80600), the student is assigned to a faculty supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for guiding the student’s progress through the Ministry Research Project.

Doctor of Ministry–Applied Theology
The Doctor of Ministry degree with a concentration in Applied Theology is designed to equip pastors and other church leaders in the practice of theology within the context of local church ministry. This program of study will meet the needs of those persons who want to engage in the classical disciplines of theology. It is a non-resident degree program that is intended for ministry professionals who desire further education but who simultaneously wish to remain on the field of service where God has placed them.

Curriculum Plan
The program of study consists of four areas:
• Foundational seminars: 16 hours
• Applied ministry experience: 8 hours
• Project methodology: 2 hours
• Ministry research project: 6 hours
Total D.Min. credit hours: 32

Foundational Seminars
Four on-campus foundational seminars, for a total of 16 credit hours, are required:
• 80471 Biblical and Systematic Theology in the Local Church..........................4
• 80472 Ecclesiology and the Local Church ........................................4
• 80473 Historical Theology in the Local Church..............................4
• 80474 Practical Theology in the Local Church.........................4

These seminars are not taken concurrently and may be taken in one of two ways. A student can enroll in the seminars when they are offered on the Louisville campus. Each seminar meets for four days during a winter or summer term. A student also can enroll in the seminars when they are offered at selected extension sites.

Prior to the time the seminar meets, students are required to complete a significant amount of work (such as reading a minimum of 2500 pages plus completing written assignments).

Applied Ministry Experience
Because this degree is a professional degree, it is expected that students will incorporate classroom material into their ministry setting. Through Applied Ministry Experience, students can develop higher competence and can increase skills in the performance of ministry. Students are to complete the following courses, each of which corresponds to a specific foundational seminar:
• 80481 Applied Ministry Experience I.........................2
• 80482 Applied Ministry Experience II.......................2
• 80483 Applied Ministry Experience III.....................2
• 80484 Applied Ministry Experience IV.....................2

Each course requires one or more projects or assignments related directly to course material covered in the foundational seminar that accompanies it. The projects accomplish two purposes:
• to reinforce, expand, and provide a practical experience relative to the seminar content
• to assist the student in preparing for the research project that will culminate the student’s degree program

Project Methodology
Students are required to complete one project methodology course for a total of 2 credit hours:
• 80600 Project Methodology.................................................1

Course 80600 is attached to the third foundational seminar.
• 80610 Intro to Doctoral Research and Writing .....................1

Ministry Research Project
The ministry research project (course 80700) is the culmination of the program of study. Through a written report of 100-125 (+/-10%) pages, the student has the opportunity to apply professional knowledge and documented research into the context of ministry. The entire project is supervised by a committee comprised of the faculty supervisor and the professor who taught course 80600. Prior to beginning the ministry research project, the student must secure approval of a proposal. To secure approval, the student must submit a project prospectus to the two-person committee mentioned above. Once this committee approves the prospectus, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend the prospectus to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for final approval. Once the prospectus is approved, the student engages in simultaneous research and practice to conduct the project. The results of the project are compiled in written form per specific guidelines. After the project paper has been written, the student must successfully defend the project in an oral exam before a committee of two persons. This committee includes the faculty supervisor, and the professor of the project methodology course or a second professor selected by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

Research Thesis
The research thesis (course 80720) is an option for Professional Doctoral students with exceptional research and writing skills. This option differs from the ministry project in that it is a 125-150 page work driven by literary research towards the development and validation of a thesis statement applied to the broader church rather than a practical project geared towards a local ministry setting. Permission must be granted to present a research thesis in place of a ministry research project by submitting the following items: a Research Thesis Request Form; a 10-15 page exemplary research paper; and a 1 page abstract that includes the title, thesis statement, and general direction of the work. The
Office of Professional Doctoral Studies and the potential supervisor will review these documents and determine whether the thesis request will be approved or denied. If approved, the student will write a thesis proposal in course 80600 and submit it to the Professional Doctoral Office and the supervisor for approval. Once these parties have accepted the proposal, the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies will recommend it to the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies for recommendation to the faculty for approval. The student then engages in research and writing to complete the thesis. Upon its completion, the student will defend the thesis before a committee of the faculty supervisor and a second professor approved by the Director of Professional Doctoral Studies.

Communities of Learning
Students are part of a community of learning that helps to foster collegiality and facilitate an open and effective learning atmosphere.

Faculty Supervision
Students receive program advising from the Office of Professional Doctoral Studies throughout the entire program of study. Upon completion of Project Methodology (80600), the student is assigned to a faculty supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for guiding the student’s progress through the Ministry Research Project. The supervisor is responsible for guiding the student’s progress through the Ministry Research Project. The supervisor is responsible for guiding the student’s progress through the Ministry Research Project.

Policies for Research Doctoral Studies

Overview of Research Doctoral Programs
Research doctoral programs in the School of Theology are designed to give students of superior ability an opportunity to prepare themselves thoroughly for effective leadership in Christian thought and life, especially for pastors and teachers of Christian truth. The Master of Theology (Th.M.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) programs are designed to prepare students for advanced Christian scholarship and the application of scholarship to ministry.

Areas of Study
Scripture and Interpretation
Old Testament
New Testament
Biblical Studies (studies in both Testaments with emphasis on the biblical languages)

Theology and Tradition
Church History and Historical Theology
Systematic Theology

Worldview and Culture
Christian Philosophy
Christian Ethics
Christian Apologetics and Worldview Studies
Christianity and the Arts

Ministry and Proclamation
Christian Preaching
Biblical Counseling
Pastoral Theology
Biblical Spirituality

Research Doctoral Program Descriptions and Requirements

Master of Theology Program
The Th.M. program offers the student an opportunity to gain greater mastery in an area of study than is normally possible at the M.Div. level. It may be pursued in any of the School of Theology’s four major divisions: Scripture and Interpretation; Theology and Tradition; Worldview and Culture; Ministry and Proclamation. The student will have a major focus within the area of study, such as New Testament within the Scripture and Interpretation Division or Christian Preaching within the Ministry and Proclamation Division. The program acquaints students with the resources and research methods of a major area of study and offers focused time for further reflection in preparation for ministry. The program may be completed in one year of full-time study.

Curriculum
Normally no academic work done prior to matriculation will be credited toward the Th.M degree. The exception to this policy is course 81020: Graduate Research Seminar. Th.M coursework consists of advanced masters electives and doctoral seminars. In at least two courses papers must be produced that demonstrate research ability. For the masters electives the student will contract with the professor for an additional hour of credit beyond that which is normally given for the course. At least one doctoral seminar must be taken. A maximum of two doctoral seminars may be taken. For the doctoral seminar, the student will complete exactly the same assignments as Ph.D. students. Up to 10 hours of doctoral seminar credit may be transferred into the Ph.D. program if a student is later admitted.

In cases where the student has already demonstrated an ability to do academic research and writing at an advanced level, he or she may be invited to write a thesis. This invitation is made by the faculty supervisor and area faculty in consultation with the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies. The thesis is written under the direction of the faculty supervisor and will be read by and defended orally before a thesis committee.

Learning Outcomes
- The student will be able to plan research in an area of specialization and, where appropriate, will relate the work to the larger context of theological study.
- The student will be able to conduct research using standard scholarly tools and methods.
- The student will be able to communicate the results of his/her research effectively.
- The student will be able to demonstrate an advanced understanding of an area of specialization.
Grading Policy
The minimum passing grade in any course taken for Th.M. credit is a “B-” (2.7 on a 4.0 scale). A student who earns a grade lower than a “B-” will lose credit for that course and will be placed on probation. The student may also be subject to an enrollment review.

Thesis
The first stage in the thesis writing process is the submission of a thesis proposal, which is called a prospectus. Following approval of the prospectus by the student’s supervisor, the thesis committee, and the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies the student completes a defense draft of the thesis. When the faculty supervisor determines that the draft is defensible it will be submitted to the Office of Doctoral Studies from which it will be distributed to the thesis committee. At the oral defense the committee will assign a grade to the written work and to the oral defense. A passing grade requires the unanimous approval of the committee. The thesis committee will also inform the student of any additional revision required for the final submission.

Program Requirements

Non-Thesis Track
• 81020 Graduate Research Seminar ........................................... 2
• Advanced masters level elective .................................................... 4
• Advanced masters level elective .................................................... 4
• Advanced masters level elective .................................................... 4
• Advanced masters level elective or doctoral seminar .... 4
• Advanced masters level elective or doctoral seminar .... 4
• Doctoral Seminar ................................................................. 4
Total program credit hours ............................................. 26

Thesis Track
• 81020 Graduate Research Seminar ........................................... 2
• Advanced masters level elective or doctoral seminar .... 4
• Advanced masters level elective .................................................... 4
• 81050 Thesis Research ............................................................. 4
• Doctoral seminar ........................................................................ 4
• Advanced masters level elective or doctoral seminar .... 4
• 81060 Thesis Writing ................................................................. 4
Total program credit hours ............................................. 26

Doctor of Philosophy Program
The Ph.D. program equips students for advanced scholarship, effective teaching, and service. The program is intended to qualify graduates for college or seminary teaching. It may also be useful in the pastorate and in other church-related ministries that benefit from advanced Christian scholarship. The program requirements for the Ph.D. in the School of Theology vary somewhat from field to field. The student consults with his or her faculty supervisor to design a plan of study that will result in breadth and depth of scholarship in the major field of study and conversance with one or more minor fields. Students typically need four years of full-time study to meet all program requirements, however, there are many factors that may affect program length.

Program Requirements
• Two research languages ................................................................. 0
• Eight area seminars ................................................................. 32
• 81020 Graduate Research Seminar ........................................... 2
• 81200 Teaching Principles and Methods ..................................... 4
• 81300 Higher Education ............................................................. 2
• Five colloquia (one per semester) ................................................ 10
• Comprehensive exams .............................................................. 0
• Dissertation ............................................................................. 8
• Dissertation defense ................................................................. 8
Total Ph.D. credit hours ................................................... 66

Area Seminars
Ph.D. study is pursued in large part through area seminars in the student’s major and minor fields of study. A minimum of eight area seminars is required. Seminars should be chosen in consultation with the faculty supervisor.

General Seminars
Three seminars that are not specific to the student’s areas of study are required. Students are expected to take the Graduate Research Seminar (81020) prior to the beginning of their coursework. The Higher Education Seminar (81300) may be taken at any point in the student’s program. Teaching Principles and Methods (81200) may be taken any time after the student completes two years of study. For each of these seminars most of the preparation is done before the first day of class.

Colloquia
The colloquium serves as a forum for exploration of literature, issues, and developments in the student’s major field of study. Students are required to take a minimum of five colloquia. Area faculty or the faculty supervisor may request that a student participate in the colloquium beyond the five colloquium program requirement.

Independent Study
An internal independent study is undertaken with a SBTS professor who will oversee the student in guided reading and writing on a specific topic. Approval must be granted by the student’s supervisor and the research doctoral studies office. Students are only allowed, but not required, to take one of these during their program. To request an independent study, Ph.D. students must submit the Independent Study Contract.

An external independent study can be undertaken either by a student enrolling in a Ph.D.-level course at another institution or by a student enrolling with a professor at another institution who will oversee the student in guided reading and writing on a specific topic. In both instances approval must be granted by the student’s supervisor and by the Research Doctoral Studies office.

The External study must contribute to the student’s major field of specialization, or be clearly relevant to the student’s program of study. The student is responsible for all fees and ensuring that an official transcript of the course work taken and given to the Office of Academic Records. Upon completion of the course, the student is to submit a descriptive and evaluative report of the external study to the Faculty Supervisor.
Division

Internal

External

Old Testament Studies: 82877, 82977
New Testament Studies: 83877, 83977
Church History: 84467, 84477
Theology: 84877, 84977
Philosophy: 85467, 85477
Ethics: 85967, 85977
Missiology: 86177, 83877, 86477
Biblical Counseling: 87877, 87977
World Religions: 88177, 88777
Preaching: 86967, 86977
Biblical Spirituality: 88967, 88977
Evangelism & Church Growth: 88577, 88677
Church Ministries: 91577, 91677

Language Requirements
A reading knowledge of two modern and/or classical languages is normally required. Additional languages may be required if the committee of instruction determines that it is necessary for the student’s program of study. Common language options are German, Latin, French, and Spanish. The decision as to which languages are to be learned should be guided by the student’s particular research needs. In all cases the supervisor must approve the languages chosen. Students majoring in biblical fields may be required to take additional study in Hebrew, Greek, or cognate languages.

A student may satisfy a language requirement by earning a passing grade in a non-credit language course offered by the seminary by passing a language proficiency examination, or completing an equivalent language course at another institution. The Office of Doctoral Studies administers these examinations several times a year. The language requirements must be demonstrated prior to the taking of the comprehensive examinations.

Exceptions to the language requirement require approval by the student’s faculty supervisor and the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies. Exceptions are sometimes made in the following cases. (1) Students whose study will benefit from empirical research, statistics, or a computer language may be permitted to substitute demonstrated proficiency in one of these for a language requirement. (2) International students may be permitted to use their native language to satisfy a language requirement when that language is a primary language for student’s research.

Learning Outcomes
- Students will be able to demonstrate a thorough acquaintance with literature in area of specialization and the ability to engage critically and productively in this area.
- Students will be able to demonstrate conversance with the literature in the general field of study and fields closely related to the area of specialization.
- Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to use standard research tools and methods in the chosen field of study.
- Students will be able to plan and conduct research in the area of specialization and to communicate its results effectively.
- Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the role of the professor inside and outside the classroom in institutions of Christian higher education.

Grading Policy
The minimum passing grade in any course taken for Ph.D. credit is a “B” (3.0 on a 4.0 scale). A student who earns a grade lower than a “B” will lose credit for that course and will be placed on probation. The student may also be subject to an enrollment review.

Comprehensive Examinations
Comprehensive examinations corresponding to the student’s areas of study are administered at the conclusion of the student’s coursework. Most students take three comprehensive examinations; biblical studies majors take four. The student should consult his or her supervisor for guidance in preparing for these exams. Additional preparation beyond what has been required for seminars and colloquia will normally be expected. Students majoring in Old Testament or New Testament are required to pass a biblical language comprehensive exam. Failure on any part of a comprehensive exam will result in a review of the student’s status by the committee of instruction and the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies.

Dissertation
Each student must demonstrate the ability to conduct and report on original research. The first stage in this process is the submission of a dissertation proposal, which is called a prospectus. Following approval of the prospectus by the student’s supervisor, the dissertation committee, the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies, and the faculty, the student completes a defense draft of the dissertation. When the faculty supervisor determines that the draft is defensible, it will be submitted to the Office of Doctoral Studies from
which it will be distributed to the dissertation committee and to an external reader who is a recognized scholar in the student's field of study. At the oral defense the committee will consider the evaluation of the external reader and will assign a grade to the written work and to the oral defense. A passing grade requires the unanimous approval of the committee. The dissertation committee will also inform the student of any additional revision required for the final submission.