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:
Russell D. Moore, 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.
Associate Dean, Theology and Tradition:
Gregory A. Wills, Ph.D.

Dean
Russell D. Moore
Dean of the School of Theology; Senior Vice President for Academic Administration; Professor of Christian Theology and Ethics (2001)
B.S., University of Southern Mississippi; M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Moore has served in this role since January 2004. He speaks and writes frequently on issues ranging from the kingdom of God to global orphan care. Prior to entering ministry, he was an aide to U.S. Congressman Gene Taylor. 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.

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-Continent College and interim pastor in Ohio and Kentucky. He is co-author of An Invitation to Biblical Hebrew.
Dr. Duane A. 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.

Dr. George H. 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.

Dr. Peter J. 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.

Dr. William F. Cook, III 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  
Associate 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 *Paul's Understanding of the Church's Mission; 40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible; Journeys of Faith; Missions According to Paul,* 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  

Dr. Schreiner joined the Southern faculty in 1997 after serving 11 years on the faculty at Bethel Theological Seminary. He also taught New Testament at Azusa Pacific University. Dr. Schreiner, a Pauline scholar, is the author or editor of several books including, *Theology of the New Testament; Romans,* the Baker Exegetical Commentary Series on the New Testament; *Interpreting the Pauline Epistles: The Law and Its Fulfillment: A Pauline Theology of Law; The Race Set Before Us: A Biblical Theology of Perseverance and Assurance; Still Sovereign,* co-edited with Bruce A. Ware; and *Magnifying God in Christ: A Summary of New Testament Theology.*

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.*

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.*
Department of Biblical Theology

James M. Hamilton
Professor of Biblical Theology (2008)
B. A., University of Arkansas; Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

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.

Theology and Tradition Division

Department of Church History and Historical Theology

Michael A. G. Haykin
Professor of Church History and Biblical Spirituality (2008); Director, The Andrew Fuller Center for Baptist Studies
B.A., University of Toronto; M.Rel., Wycliffe College and Univ. of Toronto; Th.D., Wycliffe College and Univ. of Toronto

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.

Thomas J. Nettles
Professor of Historical Theology (1997)
B.A., Mississippi College; M.Div., Ph.D., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

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; and James Petigru Boyce: A Southern Baptist Statesman.

David L. Puckett
Professor of Church History (2002)
B.A., Mississippi College; Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D., University of Chicago

Prior to coming to Southern Seminary, Dr. Puckett served as Professor of Church History and Director of Th.M. and Ph.D. Studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and as Founding Headmaster of Trinity Academy of Raleigh, North Carolina. He previously taught Historical Theology at Dallas Theological Seminary and Church History and Theology at Criswell College. He has academic interests in the areas of the history of biblical interpretation, the Protestant Reformation, and Christianity and social reform in England in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Dr. Puckett is the author of John Calvin’s Exegesis of the Old Testament.
Gregory A. Wills
Professor of Church History (1997); Associate Dean, Theology and Tradition; Vice President for Research and Assessment; Director, Center for the Study of the Southern Baptist Convention; Book Review Editor, The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology
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’ publications include Democratic Religion: Freedom, Authority, and Church Discipline in the Baptist South, 1785-1900 and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1859-2009.

Shawn D. Wright
Associate Professor of Church History (2001)
B.A., Duke University; M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

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.

Gregg R. Allison
Professor of Christian Theology (2003)
B.S., Northern Illinois University; M.Div., Ph.D., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

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, and various chapters in edited books and scholarly articles.

Phillip R. Bethancourt
Assistant Professor of Christian Theology (2011); Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Life
B.A., M.S., Texas A&M University; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

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 served as Executive Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Academic Administration. In his current position, Dr. Bethancourt focuses on recruiting, student retention and strategic initiatives that enhance student enrollment.
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.

Dr. Moore has served in this role since January 2004. He speaks and writes frequently on issues ranging from the kingdom of God to global orphan care. Prior to entering ministry, he was an aide to U.S. Congressman Gene Taylor. 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.

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 Relevancy; Big Truths for Young Hearts: Teaching and Learning the Greatness of God; and others.
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.

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 joins 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 editor of Foundations, an international theological journal, as well as the author of several publications.

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.
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.

Dr. Moore has served in this role since January 2004. He speaks and writes frequently on issues ranging from the kingdom of God to global orphan care. Prior to entering ministry, he was an aide to U.S. Congressman Gene Taylor. 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.
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; Th.D. (candidate), 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 six books, including Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life, and is a popular conference speaker, especially on personal and congregational spirituality.

Department of Biblical Counseling and Family Studies  
Chuck Hannaford  
Clinical Professor of Biblical Counseling (2006)  
B.S., M.S., East Texas State University; Ph.D. University of North Texas  
Dr. Hannaford is a licensed Clinical Psychologist and a consultant to LifeWay Christian Resources and churches throughout the country. He co-founded Germantown Psychological Associates, P. C. He has been counseling individuals, couples, and families for 26 years. He has served as clinical director of Adolescent and Adult Treatment Programs; Director of Professional Relations for the Rapha Christ Centered Treatment Program in Memphis; consultant to Bellevue Baptist Church; and Executive Director for Christian Wellness Concepts. Dr. Hannaford has published numerous articles in professional journals, co-authored HealthWay, and has been a guest on nationally syndicated Christian radio.
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: Four Views* and *God Under Fire: Modern Scholarship Reinvents God*. He also wrote *Foundations for Soul Care: A Christian Psychology Proposal*.

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*, co-edited *The Difficult Counseling Cases*, and contributed to other books.

Jeremy P. Pierre  
Assistant Professor of Biblical Counseling (2011)  
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.
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

Senior Professors
James W. Cox
John B. Polhill
Robert H. Stein
Marvin E. Tate

Retired Professors
Gerald L. Borchert
William P. Cubine
Richard Cunningham
Joel F. Drinkard, Jr.
E. Glenn Hinson
Walter C. Jackson, III
J. Estill Jones
Duke K. McCall
David L. Mueller
G. Wade Rowatt, Jr.
Paul D. Simmons
Thomas G. Smothers
Glen H. Stassen
Edward E. Thornton
E. Frank Tupper
John D. W. Watts

Distinguished Professors
Richard Land
Chuck Lawless
Eugene Merrill

Visiting Professors
David Dockery
Paul Helm
Andreas Köstenberger
Kenneth A. Mathews
David Powlison
Robert Smith
Greg Thornbury
Ray Van Neste
Jarvis Williams

Adjunct Professors
Robert Burrelli
Kevin Ezell
Charles Halton
James Merritt
• 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 (AM) is an opportunity for the student to learn while engaged in the practice of ministry. The student is required to combine a period of actual experience as a minister with the following additional requirements:
• A goal-oriented ministry process
• Reflections on personal ministry
• A weekly field supervisory session with an approved minister-supervisor
• Thoughtful theological reflection on the process of ministry with a supervised group of peers
• Careful attention to biblical, theological, and practical resources

Specifics of Applied Ministry
Course Selection
Applied Ministry is required for all students in master’s level programs. Students may select courses from the options given in the degree requirements section of their particular program. Applied Ministry courses, or equivalent courses, taken in excess of the stipulated Applied Ministry requirements must be counted as free elective credits.

Enrollment Requirements
• Watch the AM Orientation Video
• An approved title and ministry placement which requires a weekly face to face ministry commitment in an approved church or agency.
• An approved field supervisor or a supervisory committee
Approval forms for all placements and supervisors are found in the Applied Ministry Handbook.

Securing Ministry Placements
Assistance in securing ministry placements with remuneration is available in the Center for Student Success. Assistance in obtaining volunteer positions in ministry can be secured from the Applied Ministry 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.

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.

Remedial/Pre-requisite Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20400</td>
<td>Elementary Hebrew</td>
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<td>22400</td>
<td>Elementary Greek</td>
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Scripture and Interpretation (21 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20200</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament I</td>
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<tr>
<td>20440</td>
<td>Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis</td>
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<td>22100</td>
<td>Biblical Hermeneutics</td>
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<tr>
<td>22200</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament I</td>
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<tr>
<td>22220</td>
<td>Introduction to the New Testament II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>22440</td>
<td>Greek Syntax and Exegesis</td>
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Theology and Tradition (15 hours)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Introduction to Church History I</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25120</td>
<td>Introduction to Church History II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>27060</td>
<td>Systematic Theology I</td>
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<tr>
<td>27070</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>27080</td>
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Worldview and Culture (6 hours)

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

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<td>30000</td>
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<tr>
<td>30020</td>
<td>Preaching Practicum²</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>32100</td>
<td>Personal 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>
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</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 or</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>44955</td>
<td>Applied Ministry: Women</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Theology M.Div. Core Hours 64

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.

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

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

### 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.

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

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

---

1Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.
Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical and Theological Studies

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>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>27820</td>
<td>Theology of the New Testament</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hebrew Exegesis elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Greek Exegesis elective</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greek Exegesis elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>OT Elective in Language Exegesis, Backgrounds, Textual Criticism</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NT Elective in Language Exegesis, Backgrounds, Textual Criticism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26100</td>
<td>History of the Baptists</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</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

Restricted Electives (9 hours)
Restricted electives from Theology and Tradition, and Worldview and Culture Divisions, with 3 hours minimum required from each division 9

Biblical and Theological Studies 36

Theology M.Div. Core Hours 52

Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical and Theological Studies Requirements 88
- Elementary Hebrew (if required) +3
- Elementary Greek (if required) +3
- Written Communication (if required) +2

^M.Div. Core courses 20200, 20220, 22200, and 22220 are not required.
Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Counseling

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
- 34320 Typical Problems in Biblical Counseling 3
- 34325 The Care of Souls in the Congregation 3
- 35100 Marriage and Family Counseling 3
- 35530 Reformational Counseling Training I or Counseling Observations and Practicum 3
- 35540 Reformational Counseling Training II or Counseling Internships 3
- 40301 Pastoral Ministry 3

Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Counseling Requirements 88

- Elementary Hebrew (if required) +3
- Elementary Greek (if required) +3
- Written Communication (if required) +2

**Notes:**
- Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women's Ministry course 48XXX.

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Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Spirituality

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
- 40160 Great Christian Lives 3
- 40151 Prayer and discipleship in the Christian Life 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
- 27370 The Doctrine of the Trinity 3

Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Spirituality Studies Requirements 88

- Elementary Hebrew (if required) +3
- Elementary Greek (if required) +3
- Written Communication (if required) +3
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.

28700 Christian Apologetics in Contemporary Ministry 3
40301 Pastoral Ministry1 3

Worldview/Apologetics Distinctives (21 hours)
(Composed of 18 hours of Restricted Electives in Worldview and Culture and 3 hours of Free Elective)

Restricted Electives in Worldview and Culture
(Choose 9 hours of any Worldview and Culture Electives)

History and Philosophy of Religion (Choose 6 hours)
28510 History of Philosophy I: Classical and Medieval 3
28520 History of Philosophy II: Modern and Postmodern 3
28550 Christian Philosophical-Worldview Analysis 3
28577 Studies in Philosophy 3
28600 Faith, Reason, and Authority 3
28660 God and the Philosophers 3
28677 Studies in Apologetics 3
28720 The Problem of Evil 3
28970 Critical Thinking and the Art of Argumentation 3

Ethics (Choose 3 hours)
29300 Biblical Ethics 3
29477 Studies in Ethics 3
29550 Christian Discipleship in Secular Society 3
29560 The Black Church and Social Justice 3
29580 Christian Ethics and the Environment 3
29600 Christian Ethics and Biomedical Issues 3
29720 Christian Ethical Perspectives on War and Peace 3
29850 Christian Ethics and the Family 3
29860 Christian Ethics and Human Sexuality 3

Free Elective 3

Worldview and Apologetics Studies 27

Theology M.Div. Core Hours2 61

Total Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Worldview and Apologetics Requirements 88

• Elementary Hebrew (if required) +3
• Elementary Greek (if required) +3
• Written Communication (if required) +2

1Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.
2M.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 coursework must have covered the full scope of the discipline, i.e., coursework 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**
- Written Communication (if required) (2)
- Cooperative Program (2)

**Scripture and Interpretation (18 hours)**
- Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis (3)
- Greek Syntax and Exegesis (3)
- Theology of the Old Testament (3)
- Theology of the New Testament (3)
- Hebrew Exegesis elective (3)
- Greek Exegesis elective (3)

**Theology and Tradition (15 hours)**
- Advanced Church History (3)
- History of the Baptists (3)
- 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)**
- Personal Evangelism (3)
- Introduction to Missiology (3)
- Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)
- Introduction to Family Ministry (3)
- Personal Spiritual Disciplines (2)
- Pastoral Ministry (3)
- Supervised Research Experience (2)
- Applied Ministry: Theology or Women (2)
- Preaching elective (3)

**Research and Elective Studies (13-14 hours)**
- Advanced M. Div. Thesis Writing (2 or free elective (3)
- 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

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1Pastoral Ministry (40301) is reserved for men. Women will substitute any Women’s Ministry course 48XXX.
2The two-hour Supervised Research Experience is to be satisfied through supervised research at SBTS or another institution, whether at home or abroad.
3If 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.
4A 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.

General Studies 39
CM 101 Introduction to Computers 3
EN 101 English Composition I 3
EN 102 English Composition II 3
HS 105 Ancient Near Eastern History 3
HU 421 Great Books Seminar I 3
HU 422 Great Books Seminar II 3
MA --- Math Elective 3
PH 103 Introduction to Philosophy 3
PH 108 Worldview Analysis 3
PH 311 Introduction to Ethics 3
PH 321 Religion in the Public Square 3
PS 101 Introduction to Psychology 3
PS 221 Marriage and the Family 3

Ministry Studies 21
CN 101 Introduction to Biblical Counseling 3
Male Students
PR 205 Preaching I 3
PR 206 Preaching II 3
Female Students
SP 105 Introduction to Public Speaking 3
SP 106 Advanced Public Speaking 3
32960 Introduction to Missiology 3*
32100 Personal Evangelism 3*
35040 Leadership and Family Ministry 3*
40301 Pastoral Ministry (men) 3*
Women. Substitute WS 211, 331, 340, 417; CE 238, 348, 363; or, a SBTS course from 48200-48900

Biblical and Theological Studies 54
BL 342 History of the Bible 3
LN 231 Greek I 3
LN 232 Greek II 3
LN 321 Hebrew I 3
LN 322 Hebrew II 3
20200 Introduction to the Old Testament I 3*
20220 Introduction to the Old Testament II 3*
22100 Biblical Hermeneutics 3*
22200 Introduction to the New Testament I 3*
22220 Introduction to the New Testament II 3*
25100 Introduction to Church History I 3*
25120 Introduction to Church History II 3*
26100 History of the Baptists 3*
27060 Systematic Theology I 3*
27070 Systematic Theology II 3*
27080 Systematic Theology III 3*
20440 Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis 3*
22440 Greek Syntax and Exegesis 3*

General Electives 6

Total Degree Hours 120

ADDITIONAL MASTERS LEVEL COURSES
(to complete M.Div. requirements)
40150 Personal Spiritual Disciplines 2
44910 Applied Ministry: Theology (men) OR 2
44955 Applied Ministry: Women 2
------- Free Electives 24

Prerequisite:
CP 100 Cooperative Program 2

*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

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<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>Written Communication (if required)</td>
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Biblical/Theological Studies (30 hours)

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<td>Introduction to the Old Testament I</td>
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<td>20220</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22100</td>
<td>Biblical Hermeneutics</td>
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</tr>
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<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>
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<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>32100</td>
<td>Personal Evangelism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35040</td>
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Biblical Counseling (21 hours)

<table>
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<th>Course Title</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>34305</td>
<td>Biblical and Theological Foundations for Counseling</td>
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<td>34310</td>
<td>Essential Qualities of the Biblical Counselor</td>
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<td>34330</td>
<td>Typical Problems in Biblical Counseling</td>
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<td>35100</td>
<td>Marriage and Family Counseling</td>
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<td>35530</td>
<td>Reformational Counseling Training I or</td>
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<tr>
<td>35585</td>
<td>Counseling Observations and Practicum</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>35540</td>
<td>Reformational Counseling Training II or</td>
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</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>Units</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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## Scripture and Interpretation (15 hours)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20200</td>
<td>Introduction to the Old Testament I</td>
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</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>
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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>
</tbody>
</table>

## Theology and Tradition (15 hours)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</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>
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<td>Systematic Theology II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>27080</td>
<td>Systematic Theology III</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

## Worldview and Culture (9 hours)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<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>
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</table>

## Ministry and Proclamation (6 hours)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32100</td>
<td>Personal Evangelism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32960</td>
<td>Introduction to Missiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Worldview and Culture elective
- 3 units

## Total Master of Arts in Theological Studies Requirements
- 48 units
- Written Communication (if required) +2 units

*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 interdisciplinary 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 for several reasons. First, students who interrupt their studies must recognize that faculty supervision may be affected by prolonged interruptions. As a result, the student may not be readmitted to the program unless alternative and acceptable departmental supervision can be arranged.

Second, programs with a group experience are disrupted and progress toward graduation is delayed.

Students who must take time off from the program of study must request permission for “Continuing Enrollment 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 Continuing Enrollment.

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:
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.

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 designed for congregational ministers and others who serve in counseling roles. The Doctor of Ministry is a non-resident degree program that is intended for ministry professionals who desire further training but whose professional responsibilities do not allow them to suspend full-time employment to relocate in order to pursue an education.

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:
• 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 five days (Monday through Friday all day and in the evenings) 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). After attending the seminar, students are to write a reflection paper.

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.................................................. 2

Course 80600 is attached to the third foundational seminar.

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

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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.

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 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 five days (Monday through Friday all day and in the evenings) 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). After attending the seminar, students are to write a reflection paper.

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
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
- 80472 Ecclesiology and the Local Church
- 80473 Historical Theology in the Local Church
- 80474 Practical Theology in the Local Church

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 five days (Monday through Friday all day and in the evenings) 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). After attending the seminar, students are to write a reflection paper.

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
- 80482 Applied Ministry Experience II
- 80483 Applied Ministry Experience III
- 80484 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

Ministry Research Project (Course 80700)

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.

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.

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
- 80482 Applied Ministry Experience II
- 80483 Applied Ministry Experience III
- 80484 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

Course 80600 is attached to the third foundational seminar.

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.

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.

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. The Th.M. can be completed in a modular format.

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 three doctoral seminars may be taken. For the doctoral seminar, the student will complete exactly the same assignments as Ph.D. students. Up to 12 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 the 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 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

Committee of Instruction
At the time of matriculation the student meets with his or her faculty supervisor to develop a plan of study and secure a committee of instruction. The committee of instruction is composed of the student’s faculty supervisor and two other professors with whom the student expects to take seminars. This committee will normally prepare the student’s comprehensive examinations and may serve as the dissertation committee.

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 colloquia program requirement.

**External Study**
Up to two seminars may be taken at an approved doctoral granting institution other than Southern Seminary with the approval of the faculty supervisor and the Associate Vice President for Doctoral Studies. Students engaged in external study register at Southern Seminary under Ph.D. Student: Affiliate Registration (course 81990) and pay the fees and tuition required by the host institution. If the student is simultaneously taking courses for credit at Southern Seminary he or she will also pay Southern Seminary’s registration fees and tuition. The student is responsible for insuring that an official transcript of course work taken at other institutions is sent to the Office of Academic Records.

**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. Knowledge of one language should normally be acquired before matriculation. If a student has not yet gained proficiency in a language, he or she will be expected to take a reduced seminar load during the first semester of study and to enroll in a language course offered by the seminary. Competence in a second language must be demonstrated prior to the beginning of the third semester.

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 committee of instruction 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 independent 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.