



Academic Catalog

2015-2017

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Central Baptist Theological Seminary is accredited by:

The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

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The Higher Learning Commission's North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



For over a hundred years Central Baptist Theological Seminary has been offering a hospitable place for study for those called to serve Christ and the church. We believe that God has sustained us for the very purpose of equipping women and men for the ministries of preaching, teaching, leading, caring, and serving. We are a Baptist school by affiliation and tradition, yet we welcome those of other denominations in the Body of Christ. We are both ecumenical and evangelical, believing that in seeking to know and love God truly, we are preparing leaders to form the church as a community of grace.

We delight in the variegated tapestry God is weaving at Central: multicultural, diverse, and free. We seek to "receive all as Christ" and by the Spirit to kindle the spiritual gifts each brings to our common calling. We believe that community shapes identity and calling; thus, we seek to allow our shared life in worship (*leitourgia*), service (*diakonia*), and participation (*koinonia*) to form us after the likeness of the Triune God. We seek to be trinitarian in our shared life at Central. We believe that true identity emerges within the context of mutual respect and self-giving, which is essentially the life of God.

Hospitality, which is God's welcoming nature, marks our life at Central. God's triune hospitality is expressed through human community. The Christian doctrine of the Trinity's distinctive affirmation we make among the monotheistic faiths recognizes a divine communion of persons who cooperate undividedly in all their creative, redemptive, and sanctifying work towards the world. The self-giving of the inner life of God, its *perichoresis*, spills over into all creation. The goal is to bring redeemed creatures into the glorious communing life that they themselves share from all eternity. We are invited to join this dance.

We pray that if you are seeking a way to undertake an intentional process of formation for vocational ministry or to deepen your life of faith that you will consider becoming a part of this community. We are seeking God together and welcome your participation.

Faithfully,
Dr. Molly T. Marshall

MISSION

"Central prepares women and men for seeking God, shaping church and serving humanity."

Central is committed to serving the whole community of faith, which includes persons preparing for vocational ministry as well as those who desire to deepen their understanding of service to Christ in a variety of lay ministries in church and society. As a seminary, we seek to honor diversity of giftedness and callings.

While Central prepares women and men for ministry, we realize that Christian ministry is always linked to congregational life. The seminary prepares the men and women recommended to us by churches, and Central offers back to Christ's church ministers who have been formed by the intentional practices of theological education, study, worship, prayer, hospitality and faithful companionship. This education is practice-oriented, contextual, and reflexive.

The church is an essential partner with the seminary in the work of formation for ministry. Not only do we rely on the church to be the instrument of God in calling out seminarians, but the seminary depends upon congregations to offer ministry contexts in which learners practice their vocation and continue to be formed spiritually. Thus the work and mission of the seminary is inexorably linked to that of the church. Pressing needs for theological education demand that we strengthen our partnership with the church.

As we look to enhance and deepen this vital partnership with the church, Central is researching new and unique ways to make theological education more accessible. Rather than requiring learners to come to the campus in Shawnee, Kansas, for their ministry preparation, Central is now offering classes toward degree and certificate programs at selected sites and online that can draw a cohort of learners.

Central Baptist Theological Seminary is indeed a Teaching Church Seminary. It is a model built on the mission of the apostles: theological education that is more itinerant, with a mobile curriculum. Churches are significant partners in this contextual teaching.

AFFILIATION

Central is a professional graduate school of theology affiliated with the American Baptist Churches U.S.A. and in full support of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The seminary's Institutional Support Program (ISP) allows a close and supportive relationship with the American Baptist Churches of the Central Region, as well as neighboring ABC regions.

Churches affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship also serve as vital partners in ministry with Central Seminary, providing scholarship support and ministerial placements for some Central students and graduates. In addition, Central Seminary receives support from churches of many other denominations across the United States.

Central Baptist Theological Seminary provides overseas learning programs. Students can spend a semester at Spurgeon's College in London or travel to Southeast Asia for mission experiences or study intensives.

HISTORY

Begun as the dream of Reverend E. B. Meredith, missionary secretary for the then Kansas State Convention, Central Seminary has educated faithful leaders for ministry in the church and the world.

Founded in 1901, Central Baptist Theological Seminary recognized and responded to the need for a distinctively Baptist school to train leaders for Christian work throughout the world and especially in the Midwestern part of the United States. This fervent conviction of the unique and necessary role the seminary should play in the education of church leadership among Baptists has continued for over 100 years.

Central Baptist Theological Seminary stands within the Free Church tradition embracing devotion to the redemptive gospel, the evangelistic mission of the Church, and the spirit of intellectual inquiry which encourages open-mindedness to the best insights of biblical and theological studies. The Central community strives to be ecumenical and evangelical. To these commitments, Central Seminary adds vital concern for the continual application of Christian perspectives to the societal and systemic crises confronting our often chaotic and ever-changing world.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Spiritual formation is the continuing work of God's Spirit in the life of a believer in the context of Christian community. As Christ is formed within, each Christian is equipped and empowered to fulfill God's call to ministry (*diakonia*), to worship (*leitourgia*) and to participate in community (*koinonia*) which builds up the whole Body of Christ. Spiritual formation is also the task of each Christian and involves a continuing discipleship expressed in those disciplines that encourage personal growth and wholeness, leading to maturity in Christ. Theological education encourages personal transformation.

Because of its importance to the ministry, spiritual formation is the central goal of the seminary community. Added

to the daily disciplines of individual study and prayer, worship, table fellowship, and mission experiences are built into the curriculum and extracurricular activities through which persons are formed for ministry.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Students, faculty, and administrators work together on task groups that devise and carry out seminary procedures. Student representatives attend board meetings and some faculty meetings. Campus activities provide opportunities to share experiences and concerns, offer support, and enhance the community life.

Chapels and other times of worship and prayer are scheduled regularly during the academic year. These gatherings provide the seminary community a forum for expressing itself in a variety of worship styles that reflect the rich ecumenical diversity of the student body, faculty, and staff.

Various events, including picnics and holiday parties, sponsored by the Community Life Task Group enhance community fellowship for the Central Seminary community.

STATE OF WASHINGTON COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

“The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board has determined that Central Baptist Theological Seminary qualifies for religious exempt status from the Degree-Granting Institutions Act for the following program: Master of Divinity (M.Div.). The HECB makes no evaluation of the administration, faculty, business practices, financial condition or quality of the offerings by this institution. Any person desiring information about the requirements of the act or the applicability of those requirements to the institution may contact the HECB at P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA 98504-3430.”

ADMISSION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Preparation for Seminary Study

The best preparation for a Master’s level theological education is a baccalaureate degree that includes a liberal arts background. Incoming students will find a variety of courses in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences to be helpful for seminary preparation, including courses that are reading and writing intensive and cover non--Western and Western culture.

As an integral part of their undergraduate education, students must have proficiency in reading, the use of written and spoken English, and critical thinking. If the seminary discovers that a student lacks sufficient preparation, skills, or understanding in any area, it reserves the right to require additional work before or after admission.

Students should be mentally and emotionally healthy. If assessment of mental or emotional health is deemed necessary by the seminary, applicants may be required to undergo further assessment as directed by the seminary.

Requirements for Admission – Master’s and Diploma Level

Prospective students seeking the M.Div. or an M.A. degree need to have earned a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an institution of higher education that is recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation as an accredited institution of postsecondary education. Normally, a grade point average of 2.3 (C+) or higher on a 4.0 scale is required.

A limited number of students meeting specific criteria may be admitted to the M.Div. and the M.A. in Missional Church Studies degree programs without an earned baccalaureate degree or its equivalent. Admission to the

Diploma in Theological Studies does not require an earned baccalaureate degree, but applicants should be 30 years or older.

Each applicant for the Master of Divinity (M.Div.), the Master of Arts (Theological Studies) [MA(TS)], and the Master of Arts in Missional Church Studies (M.A.M.C.S.) degree programs, and the Diploma in Theological Studies program must submit to the Office of Enrollment Services the following items:

1. Application for Admission (*print or online*)
2. Official academic transcripts
 - a. Master's level – all undergraduate and graduate work (*even if a degree was not earned*)
 - b. Diploma level – verification of High School diploma and all undergraduate work (*even if a degree was not earned*)
3. Three character references - at least one from a pastor, denominational official, or pastoral mentor [*MA(TS) applicants will submit three letters of recommendation*]
4. The Church/Denominational Endorsement Form [*not required for MA(TS) application*]
5. Four page spiritual autobiography
6. Ministry License or Certificate of Ordination (*if applicable*)
7. Application Fee - \$50 (*non-refundable*)

Applicants to the M.A.M.C.S. program should have an accredited Master of Divinity degree or apply for the dual degree. (M.Div and M.A.M.C.S.)

Persons wishing to apply for *create*, a special program of the Master of Divinity degree, must complete a separate application process with different deadlines. Contact the Recruitment office to inquire about the *create* application process and visit the seminary website to learn more about *create*.

To expedite review of applications, the following deadlines are provided for submission of application materials.

First Friday in August for Fall Semester enrollment
First Friday in December for January enrollment
First Friday in January for Spring Semester enrollment
First Friday in May for Summer enrollment

Requirements for Admission – Doctoral Level

Prospective D.Min. students must meet the following criteria to make application:

- 1) Possess the Master of Divinity degree from an ATS accredited institution with a minimum grade point average of 3.00 on a four point scale during graduate study (some exceptions possible with regard to provisional admission).
- 2) A minimum of three years of significant ministry experience at the time of acceptance beyond the date when the Master of Divinity degree (or another theological master's degree) was earned.

A completed D.Min. application consists of:

- 1) Application form (*to be completed online*)
- 2) Four letters of recommendation attesting to the individual's fitness for the program
- 3) Official transcripts (*undergraduate and graduate*)
- 4) A personal statement reflecting the applicant's background, theological perspective, values, and goals for growth in the D.Min. program
- 5) Application Fee - \$50 (*non-refundable*)
- 6) A formal interview with the CBTS D.Min. Committee

Myanmar students applying for the D.Min. program must have either an M.Div. degree from Myanmar Institute of Theology (MIT) or an M.Div. from a theological school accredited by ATESEA or Serampore Senate.

Applicants to the Myanmar program must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Application form
- 2) Demonstrate English proficiency to the satisfaction of the MIT Faculty and the D.Min. Committee
- 3) Letters of reference from their church and from their association or conference in which they work
- 4) Letter containing a statement of financial support
- 5) Official transcripts (*undergraduate and graduate*)
- 6) A personal statement reflecting the applicant's background, theological perspective, values, and goals for growth in the D.Min. program

The MIT D.Min. Admission Committee serves as a subcommittee of Central Baptist Theological Seminary's D.Min. Committee. This committee shall be composed of the Principal, the Vice Principal, the Academic Dean, the MIT D.Min. Coordinator, The Director of the D.Min. Program, Chairperson of the D.Min. Committee, and other faculty as needed.

D.Min. applicants may be admitted under provisional status. *Provisional Admission* may be granted to applicants who meet all criteria for full admission but have not scored satisfactorily on his/her GRE standardized test or who for some other reason does not fully meet the admission requirements.

Matriculation

Students must fulfill all requirements for registration and arrange for payment of fees and other financial obligations before matriculation. Students must acknowledge their acceptance of admission by signing the acceptance of admission form and any other required forms before registration is possible. Admitted students who fail to matriculate within two years of admission must re-apply.

Probationary Admission

The Admission Committee may admit students on probationary status. The Dean may remove probationary status after the student achieves goals outlined by the Admission Committee. Students on probation are not eligible for seminary scholarships or federal loans.

Normally, an undergraduate cumulative grade point below 2.3 (4.0 scale) or 1.8 (3.0 scale) requires admission on academic probation for 21 hours. During those 21 hours, the student must achieve at least a 2.0 grade point in all graduate level courses. If the student demonstrates marked competency at the graduate level by accruing a grade point average of 3.3 or better, the Dean may remove the probation after 9 academic hours.

A limited number of students from undergraduate institutions not accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education may be granted admission on academic probation for 21 academic hours. If the student demonstrates marked competency at the graduate level accruing a grade point average of 3.3 or better, the Dean may remove probation after 9 academic hours.

International Students

An international applicant seeking to admission to a degree program must meet all the requirements for admission, including, but not limited to:

- 1) [International Student Application for Admission](#)

- 2) Affidavit of Financial Support showing how a student will pay for his/her education – Attach letter(s) of support from all persons and organizations that pledge support.
- 3) Official transcripts from all educational institutions attended after high school (undergraduate and graduate work)
- 4) Three letters of recommendation (one from a denominational leader or church official)
- 5) Typed four-page spiritual autobiography
- 6) Test of English as a Foreign Language (for students studying in English whose first language is not English) - If an International student's language skills are not adequate, she/he may be required to complete successfully an English as a Second Language (ESL) course or similar training.
- 7) Photocopies of license to preach or certificate of ordination (if applicable)
- 8) Photocopies of Passport, Visa, and I-94 form
- 9) Photocopy of most current I-20 form

If admitted to the seminary, International students arriving on an F-1 visa are expected to be familiar with all regulations related to their visa status. I-20 forms will be issued only after all admission requirements have been met, admission has been granted, and all required documentation has been submitted

F-1 students are allowed to work no more than 20 hours per week on campus. It is expected that support to pay for school and living expenses must come from personal funds or sponsors. **Please note: the seminary does not have full tuition scholarships or campus housing for international students.**

Housing, transportation, and medical insurance will need to be arranged prior to coming to the United States. Central will only issue an I-20 form when an international student has been admitted, met all financial conditions, and made all arrangements.

An international student who is unable to meet his/her financial obligations to the seminary may be denied matriculation. During his/her first and second semester, an international student's course load may be limited to the full-time threshold, at the discretion of the Dean.

Special Students

A special student at Central Baptist Theological Seminary is one who has completed a baccalaureate degree, is non-degree seeking, and wishes to take courses for graduate level academic credit. A completed application for special student status includes:

- 1) Special student application form
- 2) Official transcripts of undergraduate and graduate work
- 3) Personal statement outlining the reason(s) for requesting special student status
- 4) Other information as requested by the Admission Committee

Special students may apply up to 21 credit hours toward a degree program at Central. Admission as a special student does not guarantee admission to an academic degree program at Central. Students must re-apply to enter a degree program. Those admitted on special student status are not eligible for seminary scholarships or federal loans.

Transfer Students

Students transferring from other theological schools accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) must meet regular admission requirements.

Graduate courses completed with a grade of C or higher will be considered for transfer credit. To transfer courses,

the prospective student must provide an extensive course description or syllabus to the registrar's office. A nonrefundable fee of \$25 will be assessed to a prospective student to evaluate the transcript. If the prospective student applies to Central, the \$25 fee will be credited toward their application fee. Approved transfer credits will be placed on a student's transcript after 9 credit hours of satisfactory work have been completed at Central Seminary.

A transfer credit evaluation does not guarantee admission. Students from other ATS-accredited theological schools applying for the Master of Divinity degree or one of the Master of Arts degrees must meet regular admission requirements.

Students transferring into the M.Div. degree program must complete at least 25 credit hours as a resident student at Central Seminary. Only courses offered at a degree granting site of Central count toward a student's residency requirement. Students transferring into the M.A. degree program must complete a minimum of 24 credit hours as a resident student at Central Seminary. Exceptions to this policy must have approval from the faculty.

Veterans

Central Baptist Theological Seminary is approved by the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs and cooperates fully with the Veterans Administration. Veterans must apply to the Veterans Administration for approval of benefits under this program. To receive benefits, veterans or eligible spouses/dependents must submit their proof of eligibility to the Registrar's office. With proof of eligibility and registration, the Registrar's office submits enrollment certifications to the Veterans Administration.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic Year

Central's academic year corresponds to its fiscal year, beginning August 1 and concluding July 31. Courses are offered in varied formats according to degree programs. Questions about program calendars and course scheduling should be directed to the Registrar's office.

New Student Orientation

Central Baptist Theological Seminary offers learning and workshop opportunities for new students to orient them to academic policies and procedures. In certain programs, an orientation course is a required part of the curriculum. New students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the processes of being a student and ask staff for help as questions arise. Topics new students should explore are academic policies, plagiarism, library resources, theological writing and research.

Upon admission, students will have access to an online Student Orientation course containing much of the information related to student life and processes. Further inquiries concerning orientation at Central Seminary may be addressed to the Dean's office.

Student Assessment

Assessment is a critical tool in the continual development of Central's educational offerings. Central uses a system of assessment called LiveText (www.livertext.com) to collect and analyze assessment data and, in specific programs, for maintaining an electronic student portfolio. Students will be required in certain classes to submit assignments into the LiveText database for use in assessment. Professors will inform students when a document should be submitted in LiveText. Access to LiveText accounts will be provided at the time a new student matriculates. The

data is only for the use of Central's faculty and administration in evaluating the effectiveness of the seminary's degree programs.

To help form Christian leaders who are spiritually healthy and humanly sensitive, Central Baptist Theological Seminary requires vocational assessment for all M.Div. students. Assessment normally includes evaluative instruments coordinated through Formation for Christian Ministry (CS501) or Foundations for Seminary Studies (F-FM501). Additional fees may apply. (See Tuition and Fees)

An assessment report of a student may be requested by the Dean, who may provide the assessment report to the student's faculty advisor and any other faculty member with a legitimate educational interest.

The seminary does employ a Counselor and Student Assessment Coordinator who is available to students. Students should contact the Counselor directly and set up a meeting. The Counselor's services are free for the first few sessions.

Central Baptist Theological Seminary may require a student to complete additional assessment(s) or follow-up to clarify and initiate educational and spiritual development. Students are responsible for costs associated with assessments.

Faculty Advisors

All degree and diploma students will be assigned a faculty advisor. Students are encouraged to interact regularly with their faculty advisors to plan their academic program, complete the Senior Chapel requirement (M.Div. and diploma), and reflect on academic and vocational development. Students under Special Status will be advised by the Registrar's Office.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Students who maintain a 2.0 or higher GPA and keep their enrollment current are defined as making satisfactory academic progress. Students who receive federal loans must also maintain a minimum pace of program completion. Consult the Business office for Financial Aid policies concerning federal student loans.

Receiving Grades

Students receive their grades through POPULI (<http://cbts.populiweb.com>), Central's web-based academic records system. In POPULI, students can print grade reports, unofficial transcripts, and review their academic progress.

When professors provide course grades to the Registrar's office, the grades are recorded in POPULI and immediately available to the students.

Course Registration

Registration is the act of submitting via paper form or online form the list of courses a student intends to take in a given term. The seminary business office bills tuition and fees according to the completed registration form.

The official date of registration is defined as the date the Registrar receives the registration form or the date registration is completed through the online student information system. The official date of any change to the initial registration is defined as the date the Registrar receives the change in registration form or the date the change of registration is completed through the online student information system.

It is the student's responsibility to verify that the Registrar has received the student's registration and any changes to their registration. Students may contact the Registrar or view the online student information system to verify registration.

Students must register for classes before each semester through the Office of the Registrar. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with their academic advisor as part of their registration process to discuss a plan for program completion.

New students may register after all application requirements have been met and admission has been approved by the Admission Committee.

The registration process includes the completion of financial arrangements with the Business Office.

Students with an outstanding tuition bill from previous semesters will not be allowed to register.

Course Changes

All class changes must be processed through the Registrar's Office. Course changes require the proper forms be completed and signed by the student, Registrar, and if necessary the professor. The Business Office, academic advisor, and course professor will be notified of any course changes.

Adding Courses

After completing registration, a student may add classes to their registration under the following guidelines.

One Week Intensives	at least 30 days prior to first class meeting
Weekend Intensives	at least 14 days prior to first class meeting
Weekly Classes (15 week term)	prior to second class meeting
Weekly Classes (12 week term)	prior to the first class meeting
Online Classes	prior to official start date of class

Financial Considerations – Students adding a class will not be subject to any extra fees. The tuition cost will be the same per credit hour rate as any other course in their program.

Specific forms for officially adding courses must be completed and submitted to the Registrar's office.

Dropping Courses

Dropped classes do not affect GPA and do not appear on a student's academic record. After completing registration, a student may drop classes from their registration under the following guidelines.

One Week Intensives	prior to first class meeting
Weekend Intensives	prior to first class meeting
Weekly Classes (15 week term)	prior to second class meeting
Weekly Classes (12 week term)	prior to second class meeting
Online Classes	prior to start of second week of classes

Financial Considerations – Students dropping a class are subject to a \$50 fee per dropped class. Students are refunded any tuition paid for dropped classes, minus the drop fee. If the drop deadlines have passed, the must adhere to guidelines for class withdrawal. Regular semester fees are non-refundable.

A student cannot assume that a class is dropped simply by not attending. Specific forms for officially dropping courses must be completed and submitted to the Registrar's office.

Withdraw from a Course

Students may withdraw from registered classes anytime beyond the drop period until the last day of the class. Withdrawals do not affect GPA but do appear on a student's academic record. Withdrawals will be processed using the following guidelines.

<i>Format</i>	<i>Record</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
One Week Intensives	W WP or WF	After first class meeting until 50 percent of class 50 percent of class until last class meeting
Weekend Intensives	W WP or WF	After first class meeting until 50 percent of class 50 percent of class until last class meeting
Weekly Classes (15 week term)	W WP or WF	After second class meeting until 50 percent of class 50 percent of class until last class meeting
Weekly Classes (12 week term)	W WP or WF	After second class meeting until 50 percent of class 50 percent of class until last class meeting
Online Classes	W WP or WF	After second week of class until 50 percent of class 50 percent of class until last class meeting

When the 50 percent mark has been reached for a class, the professor will decide if a WP (Withdraw Passing) or WF (Withdraw Failing) is merited.

The Registrar will calculate the amount of contact hours accumulated prior to the official withdrawal date. The business office will pro-rate tuition owed to the school based on the contact hour calculation tabulated by the Registrar's office.

Any class withdrawal occurring after 50 percent will not be eligible for any refunds or adjustments.

Withdraw from School

A student cannot assume that they have withdrawn from school simply by not attending. Specific forms for official withdraw from school must be completed and submitted to the Registrar's office. Students who stop attending courses and do not complete an official withdraw will receive a grade on their transcript, which may be a failing grade due to attendance calculations or missing assignments.

Students are strongly encouraged to talk with course professors and their academic advisor prior to a withdrawal.

Withdrawal from all classes at Central Seminary is processed through the Registrar and Dean's office. The Registrar's office may enact an administrative withdraw in extreme cases, such as death or incapacitation.

The student's course professor and academic advisor will be notified of the withdrawal. Policies regarding grades for dropped courses as part of the student's withdraw from school will still apply.

Changing Credit Status for Courses

Changing from non-credit to credit status or from credit to non-credit must be done through the Registrar's office before the second class meeting. In order to change from non-credit to credit status for a course, students already must be admitted to a degree program at the time of the change.

Registering for Classes at Other Schools

Courses taken at other schools while still enrolled at Central will go through the transfer credit evaluation process, if the student would like the course to transfer into their academic program. Students are encouraged to have such classes evaluated prior to taking the class.

Students will need to contact the other school to learn about admission and registration requirements.

Class Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to attend all classes. Class attendance/participation is an integral part of academic success at Central and a part of course grading.

A student may not miss more than 20% of a course's total contact hours and expect to pass. When a student misses a class, they should contact the professor prior to the class meeting. However, a student who is absent frequently cannot expect to earn the highest grades.

Normally, classes will not meet during special services, such as convocation. Any other dismissal will be at the discretion of the professor. Attendance at lectureships is often incorporated into class requirements.

Participation in Internet-Based Courses

Participation in course synchronous class meetings, discussion boards, group projects, and other required online group activities is necessary in order to pass any internet-based course.

Central Seminary has attendance requirements for all classes, including those offered through the internet. In a face-to-face class, a student who misses more than 20% of a course's contact hours fails the class. The same principle is true for internet-based courses. Our online classroom environment, MOODLE (<http://moodle.cbts.edu>), automatically monitors when you participate, how much you participate, and whether or not you have participated at all in an activity. Deciding not to participate in such exercises is not an option.

While it is possible occasionally to miss a group participation activity and still pass the course, failing to participate in more than 20% will result in automatic failure. This means that you must participate, and you must do so on a regular basis.

Directed and Independent Studies

Directed and independent studies are privileges extended by the seminary to Master of Divinity students with special interests or under extenuating circumstances. Directed Studies are for courses listed in the academic catalog, and Independent Studies are for courses not listed in the catalog. Students who maintain a "B" average may request as many as 9 semester hours of directed study and/or independent study. Additional fees apply (see Tuition & Fees section).

Students will need to complete the Directed Study/Independent Study Request Form (can be obtained from the Registrar) and submit the form to the Dean's office. If the request is approved, the student will follow the syllabus for the course as directed by the assigned faculty member.

The Directed study option should be requested only after all other possible avenues for attending the course have been exhausted. Even then, there is no guarantee that the request will be granted. Doing so is at the discretion of the faculty and is dependent on their willingness and availability to take on this significant and additional teaching

responsibility. Directed studies are noted on the registration form and transcript with a “D” after the course number.

Independent studies provide opportunity for highly motivated students interested in pursuing a specific area of learning. The direction of the study is to be developed by the student in consultation with a faculty member who agrees to take on this responsibility. The number of credit hours (one to three) will be assigned to the independent study by the professor. Independent studies are noted on the registration form and transcript with the letters indicating the discipline, followed by the number 599. Like directed studies, independent studies are granted at the discretion of the Dean’s Office.

Interrupted Status

Students who matriculate but then interrupt their studies for five or more consecutive years must reapply to the seminary. Students whose programs are interrupted by an absence of two years or more will incur the obligation of meeting the requirements printed in the current catalog at the time they reenter, including changes in degree requirements.

Uninterrupted Status

Students whose program of study continues more than five years are required to meet the degree requirements printed in the current catalog on the fifth anniversary of their entrance to the seminary, which includes any changes in degree requirements.

Classification of Students

The following data chart will be used to determine the status of a student:

(credits are calculated on a per-term basis)

<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>FULL-TIME</u>	<u>HALF-TIME</u>	<u>LESS THAN HALF-TIME</u>
Doctoral*	4 or more credits	2-3 credits	1 credit
Master’s (15 week term)	9 or more credits	5-8 credits	1-4 credits
Master’s (12 week term)	6 or more credits	3-5 credits	1-2 credits
Diploma	12 or more credits	6-11 credits	1-5 credits

**Doctoral students registered in the project dissertation phase are considered full-time students.*

Completion of Degree Work

D.Min. students M.Div. students are encouraged to complete their degree requirements in four years. Diploma students are encouraged to complete their program in three years. All work for degrees at Central Baptist Theological Seminary is to be completed within eight years. Any extension beyond this time requires faculty approval.

Earning a Second Degree

Students who wish to complete a Master of Arts and a Master of Divinity degree must complete a total of 99 credit hours. IMPORTANT: Master of Arts degrees can only be earned at the seminary campus in Shawnee, KS and/or through internet-based courses.

System of Grading

Central Seminary operates on a 4.0 grade point scale:

(A)	4.0 grade points	(C)	2.0 grade points
(A-)	3.7 grade points	(C-)	1.7 grade points
(B+)	3.3 grade points	(D+)	1.3 grade points
(B)	3.0 grade points	(D)	1.0 grade points
(B-)	2.7 grade points	(D-)	0.7 grade points
(C+)	2.3 grade points	(F)	0.0 grade points

A student's grade point average (GPA) is calculated as follows: Total Grade points divided by Total Credits Earned (not including courses graded Pass/Fail)

Other items concerning grading at Central are as follows:

- Classes that are graded "P" (Pass) or "F" (Fail) do not count toward a student's GPA. (Students should consult their individual curriculum to learn which classes are Pass/Fail.)
- Cross-registration courses will receive a letter grade and count toward a student's grade point average. Cross-registration classes with a grade lower than a "C" will not count toward degree completion.
- Grades for transfer credits are not recorded on Central's transcripts and are not figured in the grade point average. Only Central courses and cross-registration courses are calculated into the cumulative GPA.
- All course work should be completed during the term in which the student is to receive credit. Under extenuating circumstances, a student may apply for an "Incomplete." Incomplete forms are available from the Registrar. The student and professor will enter into and sign the incomplete agreement by the last day of the semester. This contract between the student and professor then allows for an extension of time, not to exceed six weeks, during which the student must complete the regular requirements for the course. When the work has been completed within the six week extension, the Registrar will record the grade. If work is not completed within the six weeks, the professor will determine the grade at that time.
- When a student's transcript is sent from Central Seminary during a semester in which the student is involved in course work, an "IP" (in progress) notation will be recorded next to all courses in which work is not yet completed.
- A student may retake a course to make a better grade. The improved grade will replace the lower grade in GPA calculation. The lower grade will remain on the transcript, but it will not figure into the GPA. Normal tuition and fees apply.

Incompletes

Students needing extra time to complete assignments after the end of the term must request an incomplete from the course instructor. Incompletes are not guaranteed, and each instructor has the right to deny the incomplete request.

An incomplete (whether shown as "IP" or "I" on the transcript) may be assigned only when a student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work for at least 75% of the course and has furnished proof satisfactory to the instructor that the work cannot be completed because of illness or other circumstances beyond the student's control.

The professor will monitor student progress and report to the Registrar's office either a grade or change of status for that student at the appropriate times which are described below.

To obtain credit for any course, a student must successfully complete the work, and the instructor must submit a grade. This must be accomplished within specified timeframes. If this is not done the Registrar's office is authorized

to assign the grade of “F” to the student. With a written request from the professor, a grade can be changed after an “F” has been assigned.

Under normal circumstances, an initial Incomplete will be recorded as “IP” (In Progress). This status may be retained for a maximum of two (2) months into the term following the one in which the course ended. The professor must submit a grade to the registrar’s office by the end of the second month of the term following the date when the Incomplete was given or the following conditions will apply:

- An Incomplete cannot be assigned as a “permanent” outcome for a course. All Incompletes eventually must receive a grade. If no grade has been submitted by the end of the second month of the next term, the registrar’s office will automatically convert the “IP” to “F” (failure).
- Should the professor determine that more time is justified for completing the work, the professor should communicate this to the Registrar’s office, in which case an “I” (Incomplete) will be recorded in place of the “IP”.
- An “I” status may be retained for a maximum of six (6) months. At the end of this timeframe, if no grade has been submitted, the registrar’s office will automatically convert the “I” to “F” (failure) on the student’s transcript.

In no case may an Incomplete (whether “IP” or “I”) be converted into a passing grade after a lapse of twelve 12 months or more from the date the original grade was due to be submitted to the registrar’s office.

Students receiving federal loans should consult the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress policy to determine the impact of Incompletes on receiving their loans.

Incomplete forms can be requested through the Registrar’s office.

Study Programs outside the United States

Normally, a student must have satisfactorily completed, with an average grade of B+ or better, half of the M.Div. degree to be eligible for overseas study programs. Living and studying outside the United States will allow Central Seminary students an opportunity to broaden their cultural and educational backgrounds. Persons interested in a study abroad program must begin the application process at least six months prior to departure.

Typically, the study program is to be done in one semester. Students will pay Central’s tuition and fee rates. Central students will work with their faculty advisor and the Dean. Exchange students coming to Central will work with a faculty advisor. Other particulars concerning study abroad programs are available from the Office of Enrollment Services.

Technology Requirement

Central Baptist Theological Seminary recognizes the importance of information technology and its impact on teaching/learning and seeks to provide access to technology critical to a successful education. Central’s technology (virtual and physical) resources are provided for academic purposes and may not be used for commercial endeavors or illegal activities.

To participate in the seminary’s academic life, each student is expected to have and maintain basic word processing skills and access to a high speed internet connection. A student’s computer should meet the following general hardware and software requirements:

- Network:
 - High Speed Internet – minimum 10MB downstream

- Computer or Laptop
 - Operating System: Windows 7 or newer, Mac OS X 10.8 or newer
 - RAM: 4 GB
- Accessories:
 - Conferencing headset with microphone
 - External Webcam (if computer does not have internal webcam)
- Software:
 - Browser: Mozilla Firefox version 40 or newer (recommended)
 - Zoom: free web conferencing program
 - Office productivity suite: Microsoft Office or OpenOffice
 - PDF Reader: Adobe PDF Reader

Student Email Accounts

Degree and diploma students are assigned a Central Baptist Theological Seminary email address and are expected to use this email address when submitting assignments and communicating with faculty and staff.

Email addresses and passwords are provided to students after matriculation. For questions concerning email accounts, contact the Registrar's office.

Probation

Academic - Students whose grade point average falls below 2.0 (Master's and Diploma) or 3.0 (Doctoral) will be placed on academic probation. They will have the equivalent of one term at full-time status to lift their GPA to that level. If they fail to do so, they may be denied matriculation or dismissed from the seminary. If dismissed from the seminary, the students will be notified by letter indicating if they are able to seek re-admission at a future date.

Moral - Conduct inappropriate for a seminarian may result in the faculty taking probationary action. Whenever this becomes necessary, the reason(s) will be fully explained to the student. At the end of one semester, the faculty will review the probation and may choose to remove the probation, extend the probation (no more than two consecutive semesters), or dismiss the student from the seminary.

Financial - Students may be placed on probation for failing to meet financial obligations to the seminary. Students on probation are not eligible for any financial aid or scholarships until their probationary status is removed by the Dean.

Dismissal

In extreme cases of academic or moral concern, the Faculty Senate may vote to dismiss a student from the seminary. In such cases, the student will be notified prior to the vote and be given a chance to address the issue(s) that have led to the vote. Students will be notified via letter of the faculty decision and if they are able to seek re-admission at a future date.

Re-Admission

Students that are able to seek re-admission must wait the period indicated in their dismissal letter. Readmission will require a new application to an academic program along with a letter indicating their academic or moral progress since the dismissal and any other documentation required by the faculty. Re-admission will be a vote of the Faculty Senate.

Student Records

Central Baptist Theological Seminary maintains various records concerning students in order to document their academic progress. In order to preserve students' rights to privacy, as well as to conform to federal law, the seminary has established certain policies and procedures to govern the handling of student records.

Educational records of students are maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Public Law 93-380, as amended (also known as FERPA or the Buckley Amendment).

Student records are confidential. A student has the right of access to their educational records. Only those faculty, administrators, and employees of Central Baptist Theological Seminary having legitimate educational interest in the student's records or personnel from accrediting organizations and government authorized studies are permitted access. With the exception of the above mentioned persons, confidential educational records will not be released without the written consent of the student involved.

A student may inspect their educational record and may challenge the accuracy of the record or the need for its retention. Students may waive their right to review in the case of letters of recommendation. The character reference waiver policy offers students an opportunity to waive their right of inspection, but does not require any student to do so. Character references of admitted students may be destroyed.

Student academic records are maintained by the Registrar's office. Files of students who withdraw before completion of their program as well as records of graduates are retained for five years after the date of last transcript activity. Files are then destroyed. Only the transcript will be kept.

The following information is considered to be directory information (information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed by Central): student's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, spouse's name, previous schools attended, photograph, degree plan, dates of attendance, part-time or full-time status.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Academic programs include the Master of Divinity degree, Master of Arts degrees, the Diploma in Theological Studies, the Doctor of Ministry degree, and the Certificate in Ministry Studies.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate, M.Div. and M.A. students must:

- 1) Complete all curriculum requirements for the degree program as outlined in this catalog under degree requirements
- 2) Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (C) or higher
- 3) Complete required residency hours
 1. M.Div. program – minimum of 25 credit hours
 2. M.A.M.C.S. – minimum 12 credit hours
 3. M.A.(T.S.) – no minimum residency requirement
- 4) M.Div. students lead the seminary community or current ministry context in worship at least once during their final year (usually in coordination with PR503)
- 5) Pay all financial obligations, including graduation fees and library fines
- 6) Complete any other requirements or assessments designated by the Administration, Faculty, or Board

To graduate, diploma students must:

- 1) Complete all curriculum requirements for the diploma program as outlined in this catalog under degree requirements
- 2) Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (C) or higher
- 3) Lead the seminary community or current ministry context in worship at least once during their final year (usually in coordination with PR403)
- 4) Pay all financial obligations, including graduation fees and library fines
- 5) Complete any other requirements or assessments designated by the Administration, Faculty, or Board

To graduate, D.Min. students must:

- 1) Complete all curriculum requirements for the D.Min. program as outlined in this catalog under degree requirements (including successful completion of the dissertation project) – Students should consult the D.Min. Handbook for further details
- 2) Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (B) or higher
- 3) Pay all financial obligations, including graduation fees and library fines
- 4) Complete any other requirements or assessment designated by the Administration, Faculty, or Board

To receive a Certificate in Ministry Studies, students must:

- 1) Complete all curriculum requirements for the Certificate program, including attendance in required classes or seminars and submission of any homework assignments
- 2) Pay all financial obligations, including library fines

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Purpose

The purpose of the Doctor of Ministry degree (D.Min.) is to provide advanced, practical theological education for experienced ministers, chaplains and other faith leaders who hold the Master of Divinity degree. The D.Min. program of Central Baptist Theological Seminary emphasizes the integration of theological reflection and practice, coaching, servant leadership, and scholarship to deepen spiritual and missional formation in both the practice of ministry and in the minister.

Learning Outcomes

1. Utilize social-scientific research methods to analyze appropriately ministry situations and develop practices conducive of congregational health.
2. Use best-practice methodologies employed by the classical theological disciplines to critique ideas, beliefs, and practices in terms of their implications for congregational health.
3. Demonstrate high proficiency in the art of ministry praxis and leadership that contributes either to healthy faith communities that are missional in nature or to pastoral care that holistically develops healthy individuals and families.
4. Demonstrate commitment to continuing growth in personal, spiritual, and professional maturity.
5. Have acquired essential skills for mentoring new generations of leaders and equipping them for healthy practices of ministry.

Location

The D.Min. program is only available through the main campus in Shawnee, KS.

Duration

The D.Min. program requires two years of coursework and one year for the project dissertation. Students may request an extension to complete the project dissertation. Consult the D.Min. Handbook for further details.

Curriculum

The D.Min. degree requires the successful completion of 30 credit hours. Courses and credits may be adjusted per cohort.

Congregational Health Track

DM601 Orientation to the D.Min. Program
DM602 Leadership: Theology and Practice
DM603 Systems Thinking I
DM609 Incarnational Theology
DM610 Research Method and Project Design
DM611 Project Dissertation
MC601 Systems Thinking II: Missional Faith Communities
MC602 Mentoring, Coaching and Learning Comm. for Missional Ministries
MC605 Creating Mission-Minded Faith Communities
MC607 Transformational Ministry and Adaptive Change
MC608 Community Analysis and Engagement
MC609 Entrepreneurial Ministry
PC603 Community Clinical Pastoral Education
PC608 Self Care and Stress Management

Myanmar Track (for Myanmar students only)

DM601 Orientation to the D.Min. Program
DM1031 How to Lead and Teach: Leadership for Myanmar Churches
DM1014 How to Lead and Teach: Christian Education in Myanmar Today
DM603 Systems Thinking I
DM610 Project Dissertation Seminar
DM611 Project Dissertation
DM1011 Bible and Ministry in Contemporary Setting
DM1012 Theological Reflections on Major Doctrines
DM1013 New Ways of Being Church
DM1021 Role of Minister in Multi-Cultural Context
DM1022 Ministerial Ethics
DM1024 Mission in the Twenty-First Century
DM1032 Church in a Pluralistic Religious Context
DM1033 Ecumenism for the Twenty-First Century
DM1034 Pastoral Care and Counseling in the Global Context
DM1041 Transforming Society and Conflict in Ministry
DM1044 Research Seminar

MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE

Goal

The Master of Divinity is a vocational ministry training degree that unites classical studies oriented toward theological and spiritual formation with development of applied ministry skills.

Learning Outcomes

Three major learning outcomes are associated with the goal of theological and spiritual formation:

- 1) become theologically articulate,
- 2) gain the basics of biblical knowledge needed for ministry, and
- 3) demonstrate practices indicative of spiritual health.

Two major learning outcomes are associated with applied ministry skills:

- 1) develop qualities conducive to being humanly sensitive and
- 2) attain essential professional competencies for ministry.

Location

The Master of Divinity degree can be earned fully through the Wisconsin Centre in Milwaukee, the Tennessee Center in Nashville, and the campus in Shawnee, KS. Two-thirds of the credits for the M.Div. may be earned the web-based instruction.

Duration

The M.Div. is a four year program as a full-time student. To finish in four years, students generally complete 18-20 credits per academic year.

Master of Divinity Degree Suggested Order of Study

The Master of Divinity degree requires the successful completion of 75 credit hours. Students can complete the M.Div. degree in four years with full-time study. To assist students, the faculty has prepared a suggested order of study that begins with Biblical Studies, Spiritual Formation, Christian Heritage, and Theology followed by Proclamation, Pastoral Theology, Ethics, and Ministry Praxis. Students should consult with their Faculty Advisor to develop a plan of study.

Curriculum (All classes are 3 credit hours)

HB501 Hebrew Bible I
HB502 Hebrew Bible II
NT501 New Testament I
NT502 New Testament II
CH501 Christian Heritage I
CH502 Christian Heritage II
TH501 Constructive Theology I
TH502 Constructive Theology II
ET501 Christian Ethics
ET502 Ministry Ethics
CS501 Formation for Christian Ministry

CS502 Spiritual Formation and Adult Human Development
 PR501 Homiletics
 PR502 The Practice of Preaching
 PR503 The Worshiping Church
 PR504 Biblical Exegesis and Hermeneutics
 PT501 Caring Ministries of the Church
 PT502 Counseling Ministries of the Church
 MP501 Basics of Contemporary Christian Witness
 MP502 Church's Worship and Rituals
 MP503 Ministry Dynamics¹
 ELECTIVES² (Students must complete 12 credit hours from elective courses.)

¹Students may complete Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) as a substitute for MP503 Ministry Dynamics. Up to six credits hours may be granted for one unit of CPE. Three credit hours substitute for MP503, and three credit hours granted as elective credit.

²Baptist students are strongly encouraged to take CH503 Baptist Denominational Studies, which meets the expectations for ordination in the American Baptist Churches USA and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Revised Curriculum (beginning Fall 2015)

The revised curriculum is structured around five pillars.

Formation Pillar

F-FM501 Foundations for Seminary Studies
 F-TH511 Theological Foundations I
 F-TH512 Theological Foundations II
 F-ET521 Ethics
 F-CC531 Caring Ministries

Interpretation Pillar

I-IN501 Biblical Interpretation
 I-HB511 Hebrew Bible I
 I-HB512 Hebrew Bible II
 I-NT521 New Testament I
 I-NT522 New Testament II

Contextualization Pillar

C-CH501 Christian Heritage I
 C-CH502 Christian Heritage II

C-RP511 Ministry in a Pluralistic World

C-MS511 Missional Imagination
 C-LD521 Foundations of Leadership and Innovation
 C-LD522 Practice of Leadership and Innovation

Performance Pillar

P-CR501 Creativity in Public Ministries
 P-CM501 Media for Ministry Development
 P-CM502 Interpersonal Skills
 P-CM511 Homiletics
 P-WP521 The Art of Worship Leadership

Contextual Learning Pillar

X-CL501 Contextual Learning: Formation
 X-CL511 Contextual Learning: Cross-Cultural
 X-CL521 Contextual Learning: Public Practice
 X-CP531 Capstone

MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES) DEGREE

Goal

The Master of Arts in Theological Studies is designed to provide theological education for students in two academic concentrations:

- 1) A Research track for students who desire foundation for further studies in the theological disciplines at the doctoral level. Students may choose to specialize in Biblical Studies, Christian Heritage, or Theology.

- 2) A General track for students who wish to explore the theological disciplines to become more effective in the local church or for personal enrichment.

Location

The MA(TS) program can be earned fully through online coursework or through the main campus in Shawnee, KS.

Duration

The MA(TS) is a three year program as a full-time student. To finish in three years, students should complete a minimum of 16 credits per academic year.

Learning Outcomes

It is expected that all students completing the MATS will demonstrate:

- 1) Critical reasoning skills
- 2) Appropriate use of research methods and resources
- 3) Effective writing for the task at hand

Curriculum *(All classes are 3 credit hours unless otherwise indicated.)*

The M.A. degree requires the successful completion of 48 semester hours.

RESEARCH TRACK - for students who desire foundation for further studies in the theological disciplines at the doctoral level. Students may choose to specialize in Biblical Studies, Christian Heritage, or Theology. Research track students will also need to demonstrate proficiency in Hebrew or Greek.

HB501 Hebrew Bible I
HB502 Hebrew Bible II
NT501 New Testament I
NT502 New Testament II
CH501 Christian Heritage I
CH502 Christian Heritage II
TH501 Constructive Theology I
TH502 Constructive Theology II
ET501 Christian Ethics
MA503 Research Skills I (1 credits)
MA504 Research Skills II (2 credits)
MA507 Thesis (6 credits – normally spans two terms)*ELECTIVES (Students must complete 12 credit hours of elective courses. 9 elective credits will be in an area of specialization.)

GENERAL TRACK - for students who wish to explore the theological disciplines to become more effective in the local church or for personal enrichment.

HB501 Hebrew Bible I
HB502 Hebrew Bible II
NT501 New Testament I
NT502 New Testament II
CH501 Christian Heritage I

CH502 Christian Heritage II
TH501 Constructive Theology I
TH502 Constructive Theology II
ET501 Christian Ethics
MA501 Living World Religions or MA502 Sociology of Religion
MA503 Research Skills I (1 credits)
MA504 Research Skills II (2 credits)
MA506 Capstone Project (3 credits)
ELECTIVES (Students must complete 12 credit hours of elective courses.)

MASTER OF ARTS IN MISSIONAL CHURCH STUDIES DEGREE

Purpose

The Master of Arts in Missional Church Studies degree is a component of the larger Urban Theological Development Institute which incorporates forums, conferences, and publications for the benefit of ministry and socio-economic development in urban contexts. The degree is developed for post M.Div. students but may be taken conjunctively with the M.Div. degree.

Goal

The Master of Arts in Missional Church Studies is intended to enhance the student's preparation for ministries that are missional in nature in urban contexts.

Learning Outcomes

- 1) Develop faith based organizations that are capable of nurturing urban church renewal, urban church planting, and urban church community development education.
- 2) Transform urban communities through faith based community development initiatives.
- 3) Promote interdenominational and interfaith coalitions through educational initiatives and partnerships.
- 4) Develop cross-cultural ministries that are sensitive to the views, needs, and goals of diverse cultural groups in urban contexts.

Duration

The M.A.M.C.S. can be completed in two years with the completion of at least 12 credits per academic year.

Curriculum (All classes are 3 credit hours unless otherwise indicated.)

The M.A.M.C.S. degree requires the successful completion of 24 semester hours.

MC501 Introduction to Urban Church Studies
MC502 Communications and Relation Building
MC503 Personal and Corporate Evangelistic Witness of the Church
MC504 Cross-Cultural Ministries
MC505 Transformational Leadership
MC506 Contextual Analysis
MC507 Summative Evaluation Project
Electives (Students must complete one three hour elective course in Missional Church studies)

DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Purpose

The Diploma in Theological Studies offers a basic diploma program (not an accredited degree) in theological studies for mature persons who have not completed a formal undergraduate degree. Normally, Central Baptist Theological Seminary requires a recommendation from an appropriate denominational official as part of the admission process.

Objectives

- 1) To increase the student's knowledge of the Christian faith, including its biblical sources, theological articulation, and historical expression
- 2) To enhance the student's ability to communicate ideas and feelings to others

Requirements

The Diploma in Theological Studies requires the successful completion of 48 semester hours. Students can complete the Diploma in Theological Studies in three years with full-time study (9 hours per semester).

The Diploma program assumes applicant experience in the area of pastoral practice and takes note of their accomplishments.

Curriculum *(All classes are 3 credit hours unless otherwise indicated.)*

Ministry Leadership Track

- CS401 Formation for Christian Ministry
- HB401 Hebrew Bible I
- HB402 Hebrew Bible II
- NT401 New Testament I
- NT402 New Testament II
- CH401 Christian Heritage I
- CH402 Christian Heritage II
- TH401 Constructive Theology I
- TH402 Constructive Theology II
- ET401 Christian Ethics or ET402 Ministry Ethics
- PR401 Homiletics
- PR403 The Worshiping Church
- PT401 Caring Ministries of the Church
- MP401 Basics of Contemporary Christian Witness
- MP402 Church's Worship and Rituals
- MP403 Ministry Dynamics¹

¹Diploma students may substitute one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) for MP403.

Bible and Culture Track

- BC401 How to Read the Bible
- BC402 Contextual Studies: Introduction to American Culture
- BC403 Contextual Studies: Introduction to American History
- BC404 Bible Teaching Challenges: Differing Worldviews
- BC405 Intergenerational Communication I
- BC406 Intergenerational Communication II
- BC407 Contextual Studies: American Church and Culture

BC408 Contextual Studies: World Views
BC409 Intergenerational Ministry I
BC410 Intergenerational Ministry II
BC411 The Bible in Digital Media I
CH405 A Brief Survey of Christian Heritage
HB404 A Brief Survey of the Hebrew Bible
MC403 Introduction to Missional Church Studies
NT404 A Brief Survey of the New Testament
Electives (at least 3 credits)

These courses are the normal expectation for a person completing the Diploma in Theological Studies. If a student, in consultation with her or his advisor, would like to adjust the normal requirements, they may petition the faculty for an adjustment. Such a request may be related to more education or experience in some field and/or a desire for greater knowledge and expertise in a particular discipline.

LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Library

The library at Central Baptist Theological Seminary is a theological library serving the needs of CBTS students, faculty, and staff. Central Baptist Theological Seminary understands this field of service to include:

- 1) The immediate academic community: students, faculty, and staff
- 2) Alumni/ae of Central Baptist Theological Seminary
- 3) Students from seminaries and other educational institutions in the Kansas City Metropolitan area with which Central maintains academic cooperation
- 4) Members of the Kansas City Library Consortium
- 5) Clergy, Lay Leaders, persons in helping professions, and visiting scholars

The library is a member of the Kansas City Library Consortium, an area network of academic and public libraries that shares resources and maintains a common online catalog.

Library Holdings

The library contains over 80,000 print resources and features strong collections in Bible, theology, and Baptist history and practice. The library subscribes to over 120 current magazines and scholarly journals relevant to theological education and pastoral practice. The library maintains subscription access to research databases that offer over 500,000 full-text articles, essays, and reviews. All students can access these databases through the internet using their webmail login information.

Items in the library are organized according to the Dewey Decimal Classification system commonly used in school and public libraries.

The library is also part of a consortium of libraries in the Kansas City metropolitan area including the Kansas City (MO) Public Library providing access to over 2.5 million resources.

Library Services for Course Sites

The library develops lending relationships with local libraries possessing holds related specifically to theological research. Students should inquire with their site director regarding the library relationships relevant to their

location.

Library History

The Pratt-Journeycake Library is named for 19th century Baptist Missionary John G. Pratt and Delaware Tribe Chief Charles Journeycake. Chief Journeycake's daughter, Nannie, married the son of John G. Pratt. After her husband's death, Nannie married again and during her second marriage she raised money for a library at the Seminary to be named in honor of her father and her first father-in-law.

When the Seminary moved to 741 North 31st Street in Kansas City, Kansas, the library was originally housed in the Administration Building's Herrick Hall. In 1959, a separate library building was built. The ground floor of that library facility was renovated in 2001 through a generous gift from Edna Shepherd, allowing space for the Kansas Qumran Bibliographic Project, classrooms and a computer lab.

In 2006, the library moved with the seminary to Shawnee, KS. As part of a capital campaign, funds were raised to give the new library a new home in the campus' multi-purpose room. The new library space was completed in 2011.

Please check the Seminary's website for more information on the library and for access to the online catalog.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**Diploma courses are 400 level (ex. CH401), Master's level are 500 level (ex. CH501) and doctoral courses are 600 level (ex. DM601).*

**Course descriptions for Diploma classes are the same as those on the Master's level.*

Master's & Diploma Level

Bible and Culture

BC401 How to Read the Bible

In this course students will learn essential methods for reading the Bible together with basic vocabulary in order to enhance his or her ability to read the Bible with understanding. Mastering these two basics of Bible reading equips the student with fundamental skills for Christian education in local church contexts.

BC402 Contextual Studies: Introduction to American Culture

This course introduces students to principles of ministry contextualization using the American context as the subject. Students will study various aspects of American culture (such as famous people and places, important historical events, variations of American identity due to ethnic differences, and traditions) as a means for discovering the importance of understanding the historical, cultural, social, and ideological contexts of a people among whom one will live and minister.

BC403 Contextual Studies: Introduction to American History

This course will explore the role of history in forming the values, identity, and character of a people. Students will understand that history is an essential component for being able to do ministry in a new cultural context. Topics will include Colonial History, Independence, Critical Period and Federalist Era; Jefferson/War of 1812/Nationalism; Age of Jackson; Slavery and Sectionalism; Civil War & Reconstruction; Business & Labor; Populists & Imperialists; Progressives and WWI; 1920-30's; WWII and Origins of Cold War; 1960-70s; Reagan to Bush; 1980s to Present. Effort will be made to familiarize the student with the varied perspectives from which each period is viewed according to one's ethnicity and the privileges or restrictions placed upon individuals and groups as a result. The student learns to contextualize not only according to nationality, but also by groups within a nation's population.

BC404 Bible Teaching Challenges: Differing Worldviews

In this course students will gain understanding of the disconnect that occurs when the teacher and the student hold different world views and different definitions of basic biblical vocabulary. The students will learn not only to give careful attention to definitions, but also the importance of staying attuned to the varied world views that might be present among students in a Christian education class. Exploration of the philology of the Bible will be a significant method for gaining this understanding and learning how to compensate for it communicating.

BC405 Intergenerational Communication I

In this course students will explore the challenges of ministering and communicating intergenerationally, especially when the minister's generation was acculturated differently from that of the students. One method employed in the course will be the study of proper names and various difficult-to-pronounce words found in English Bible translations as a means for gaining insight into generational differences in how the Bible is valued, read, and interpreted.

BC406 Intergenerational Communication II

This course continues the study of intergenerational communication, focusing on some of the major components that shape a person's world view. Students will read selected works in the areas of philosophy, history, religion, and sociology as a means for encountering, comprehending, and interacting with varied ways of viewing and interpreting the world in which we live.

BC407 Contextual Studies: American Church and Culture

This course will explore the relationship between the Christian church and its culture. Differing church traditions engage culture in different ways by affirming, denying, or partially affirming and denying culture. Students will examine the roles particular faith traditions exercise in society based on their interpretation of and engagement with the culture or cultures in which it is located. The American church and the cultures of North America will be the contexts for this study.

BC408 Contextual Studies: World Views

This course examines some of the basic questions associated with how people have and do interpret reality. It also explores the value systems persons and societies tend to adopt based on their answers to those questions. Particular focus will be given to understanding modern and postmodern thought and how the differing world views of each informs Christian ministry.

BC409 Intergenerational Ministry I

This course will develop the student's skills for intergenerational ministry by focusing on how to think and communicate in written form in the terms characteristic of a different generation, especially when the two also have been acculturated differently. Instructional methodology will include student compositions that attempt to express the views of another generation in logical, coherent, and cohesive writings. Students will have opportunities to read and write response essays with each other or (depending upon the make-up of the class) will read and respond to literary pieces representative of the views of a generation different from one's own.

BC410 Intergenerational Ministry II

This course gives careful attention to the place speaking skills hold in intergenerational communication and ministry. The primary educational methodology for developing these communication and presentation skills will be via in-class instructional presentations and in-class facilitation of discussion groups that is evaluated and critiqued by the professor and class members.

BC411 Contextual Studies: The Bible in Digital Media

This course trains students in the utilization of electronic media as a means for enhancing Bible study and Christian education teaching. It is designed to familiarize the student with digital media as a means for understanding Bible

narratives and teachings, for facilitating discussion on biblical themes, and for enhancement of listening and conversational skills.

BC412 Contextual Studies: Current Issues

This course concentrates on improving reading and listening skills to comprehend the diverse aspects of current events for purposes of cross cultural communication and ministry and for intergenerational communication and ministry. The class will use as texts newspapers, magazines, and TV or radio news dealing with current issues on economy, politics, culture, and international relations.

BC413 Christianity and Literature

This course is designed to introduce students to Christian literature and literary texts, especially those addressing issues significant for Christian reflection today. Students will read and discuss the legacy of Western Christianity's literary tradition and its power to influence culture.

Biblical Languages

GK501/GK502 Elementary Greek I and II

This is a study of *Koine* Greek grammar with some guided reading in the Greek New Testament. (Must be taken in sequence.)

HW501/HW502 Elementary Hebrew I and II

This course is an introduction to the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of the Hebrew language for purposes of translation and exegetical study, including guided reading in the Hebrew Bible. (Must be taken in sequence.)

Christian Heritage

CH501 Christian Heritage I (*Diploma course number: CH401*)

CH501 is the first part of a two semester course. The bipartite series is designed to be a rapid and brief study of the history of Christianity from New Testament times to the present age. This segment of the course offers a survey of Christian history from the first through the fifteenth centuries, emphasizing major events and personalities, pivotal schools of historical interpretation, significant Christian literature and doctrinal developments, and key stages in the evolution of ecclesiastical structures. Lectures, readings, class discussions, written papers, internet resources, and audio visuals are used to present the most significant persons, events, problems, and theological developments. Through these means, efforts are made to determine why things happened as they did and their effect on the subsequent development of the church.

CH502 Christian Heritage II (*Diploma course number: CH402*)

CH502 is the second part of a two-semester course. The bipartite series is designed to be a rapid and brief study of the global history of Christianity from New Testament times to the present age. This segment of the course offers a survey of international Christian history from around the fifteenth century to the present, although some topics predating this period will be treated. The course emphasizes major events and personalities, Christian understandings of faith and spirituality, pivotal schools of historical interpretation, significant Christian literature and doctrinal developments, and key stages in the evolution of ecclesiastical structures. Lectures, readings, class discussions, written papers, internet resources, and audio visuals are used to present the most significant persons, events, problems, and theological developments. Through these means effort is made to determine why things happened as they did and their impact upon the subsequent development of the church.

CH503 Baptist Denominational Studies

Christian Heritage 503 is a three credit, one semester course intended to offer a brief and general survey of Baptist history, thought, and polity as they have developed from Baptists' sixteenth century backgrounds to the contemporary period. In this study effort is also made to familiarize the learner with the global family of Baptists

and their evolving identities. Special attention is given to major ideological and political challenges, significant institutional developments, important documents and deliberative bodies, milestones in the evolution of Baptist thought and practice, and key events and personalities. Lectures, readings, class discussions, Internet resources, and audio visuals are used to present the most significant persons, events, problems, and theological developments. Through these means an effort will be made to determine why things happened as they did, their effect on the subsequent development of the Baptist family of churches, and their significance for the future of Baptist thought and practice.

CH504 Denominational Studies

As a general study of Christian denominational and church organizational development from the sixteenth century to the present, this course gives opportunity for each student to focus on his or her own ecclesiastical or denominational tradition. Approved history and polity courses offered by a student's denomination might be substituted for this course.

CH405 A Brief Survey of Christian Heritage

This course guides the student through a survey of Christian history, thought, and practice, extending from the first century to the present. Due to the short timeframe and the massiveness of the subject, the course will focus is on the growth and development of Christianity during its early centuries in the Mediterranean World and its expansion into Europe and the East. Emphasis will be placed on major events, movements, and theological trends.

Christian Spirituality

CS501 Formation for Christian Ministry (*Diploma course number: CS401*)

This is a beginning seminary course in which spiritual, personal, and professional formation for ministry are introduced. Interdisciplinary in nature, it includes peer group experience and assessment instruments.

CS502 Spiritual Formation and Adult Human Development

In this course, attention will be given to the multifaceted areas of each stage of adult life. Faith, spiritual growth and formation, sexuality, vocation, life tasks, and relational issues will be explored. Consideration will be given to church development so that it can be ready to offer adequate ministry to persons in each stage of adult life development.

CS503 Introduction to Spiritual Formation

Spiritual formation occurs through study and practice. This course involves the study of historical understandings of spirituality, their theological contributions, and the practice of disciplines conducive to mature Christian discipleship.

CS504 Benedictine Spirituality

This course is a study of the contours of the Benedictine tradition of spirituality. The purpose of the course is to acquaint learners with the distinctive contributions of this form of monastic spirituality and test its applicability to non-cloistered life. As an immersion course, it follows an action/reflection model. Participants will spend one week in the rhythms of daily prayer, *lectio divina*, study, silence, and community building. The course is to be held on the grounds of Conception Abbey.

Contextualization (Revised M.Div. only)

C-CH501 Christian Heritage I (*Diploma: C-CH401*)

Christian Heritage I is the first part of a two-semester course designed to equip the student with skills for recognizing, analyzing, interpreting, and adapting to the changing contexts in which ministry should be rendered. This segment of the course surveys the first 1,200 years of Christian history, exploring horizons of Christian thought, conviction, practice, institutional life, and leadership to determine how contextual factors challenged and influenced Christian decision-making and the effects these had on the subsequent development of Christianity as we know it.

C-CH502 Christian Heritage II (*Diploma: C-CH402*)

Christian Heritage II is the second part of a two-term course designed to equip the student with skills for recognizing, analyzing, interpreting, and adapting to the changing contexts in which ministry might be rendered. This segment of the course surveys Christian history since about 1200 C.E., exploring the expanding horizons of Christian thought, conviction, practice, institutional life, and leadership to determine how contextual factors challenged and influenced Christian decision-making and the effects these had on the subsequent development of Christianity as we know it.

C-RP511 Ministry in a Pluralistic World

This course prepares the student to exercise Christian ministry in contexts and among populations that include many lived religions, including persons claiming no religion.

C-MS511 Missional Imagination

This course prepares learners to think, imagine, innovate, and lead in ways that foster ministry startups and nurture established ministries that are missional in nature.

C-LD521 Foundations for Ministry Leadership and Innovation

This course facilitates learners in exploring the fundamentals of thought, problem-solving, creativity, and self-development typically associated with business entrepreneurs and other organizational leaders. Special emphasis is given to discovering appropriate applications of these concepts and skills to ministry development and renewal.

C-LD522 Practice of Ministry Leadership and Innovation

In this course learners will exercise modes, patterns, and practices of thinking, problem-solving, creativity, and personal development typically associated with business entrepreneurs and other organizational leaders. Special emphasis is given to applying these concepts and skills for a ministry startup, for maintaining the vitality of a healthy faith community, and/or for renewing vitality in an unhealthy or failing faith organization.

Contextualized Learning (Revised M.Div. only)

X-CL501 Contextual Learning: Formation (*Diploma: X-CL401*)

Contextual Learning: Formation is the first of three praxis courses. The expectation is that students will be serving/leading in a ministry context. The formation praxis challenges learners to apply pastoral care/compassion skills to a context and to analyze one's experience within that context.

X-CL511 Contextual Learning: Cross-Cultural

Contextual Learning: Cross-Cultural is the second of three praxis courses. The expectation is that students will be serving/leading in a ministry context. The cross-cultural praxis exposes the Christian leader to a cultural context varied from the one to which she/he is accustomed; this includes ethnographic knowledge, sensitivity to diversity, and appropriate cultural engagement.

X-CL521 Contextual Learning: Public Practice

Contextual Learning: Public Practice is the last of three praxis courses. The expectation is that students will be serving/leading in a ministry context. The public practice praxis prepares the Christian leader to apply communicative skills to a wide variety of contexts within the world of nonprofit administration, ministry, social justice, and advocacy.

X-CP531 MDiv Capstone (*Diploma: X-CP431*)

The Capstone is meant to serve as the culmination of a student's theological education. Its intent is to help bridge the gap between education and a student's future prospects. The student works with the Director of Contextual Education in crafting an experience to assist the student in completing the M.Div. with an eye towards future aspirations, goals, prospects, etc. The student will prepare a Capstone Project Summary that will include extensive analysis of their project using the five pillars of the M.Div.; 1. Interpretation (biblical analysis); 2. Formation

(pastoral/theological analysis); 3. Contextualization (missional/social justice analysis); 4. Performance (professional/communicative analysis); 5. Contextual Learning (experiential analysis).

Prior Contextual Learning units offer the opportunity for learners to gain experience in a ministry-related context which could further equip persons for maximum efficacy in a current pastoral assignment or prepare others for future ministerial leadership opportunities in a wide variety of venues. The course is designed to accommodate the different vocational statuses of leaders in training. Students will acquire practical knowledge and experiences in an aspect of administration that they, in consultation with their Site Supervisor and co-Instructors, believe will aid them in future leadership assignment(s). This program component seeks to assist the student in identifying and securing a supportive environment to demonstrate critical ministry leadership skills.

This course will emphasize the importance of spiritual formation, pastoral care/compassion, leadership skills, and theological reflection as essential tools for ministry success in a variety of settings. Each student will be involved in a ministry placement that provides a context in which the student may develop those skills and utilize those tools.

NOTE: Diploma students will complete the Capstone for 1 credit during their third year.

CREATE

CR501 Spirituality and Creativity

This course will introduce the learner to the theology and practices of healthy spirituality which expresses itself in creativity. Conducted at Conception Abbey, we will form a cohort through shared worship, table fellowship, and lectures/dialogue that will be foundational for successful participation in CREATE.

CR504 Interpersonal Skills

This course is about the interpersonal skills needed to carry out the broad sweep of ministry, from pastoral care to vision-casting. It is focused on the self-development of the student, not simply the development of techniques for relating to others.

CR507 Basics of Church Business and Organization

The Basics of Church Business/Organization is a 2 hour course designed to familiarize the student with a basic understanding of the necessary components of church/ministry administration/finance. It is also designed to equip the student to oversee and insure those basic components are present and functioning effectively to provide a strong administrative base for ministry to succeed.

CR510 Biblical Studies I

This course is a basic introduction to the literature, cultural/historical backgrounds, and basic narrative structure of the Hebrew Bible. Focus will be on understanding biblical Israel's story from its beginnings to its return from exile through close readings of representative biblical texts. Attention will be given to matters of method and interpretation.

CR513 Leadership/Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurial Leadership is a 3-hour course designed to explore modes of thought, patterns of creativity, approaches to problem-solving, and techniques for self-development typically associated with business entrepreneurs; and discover possible applications of these modes and patterns to church and ministry development and/or renewal.

CR516 Writing for Effect

This course will give the seminary student an overview of different forms and styles of written communication to be applied to ministry settings and will include practical writing exercises. The course will entail reading, writing, critiques, lecture, panel presentation, case studies and discussion opportunities.

CR519 Biblical Studies II

This course is a continuation of CR510 that focuses on the prophetic role in ancient Israelite society. The prophetic literature, as well as corresponding historical texts, is the basis for the content of the course. Opportunities for continuing development of the skills necessary for exegesis of biblical texts will be provided.

CR522 Internship I

The Create Internship offers the opportunity for learners to gain experience in church- or ministry-related leadership, which could further equip persons for maximum efficacy in a current pastoral assignment, or prepare others for future ministerial leadership opportunities. The course is designed to accommodate the different vocational statuses of leaders in training. Interns will acquire practical knowledge and experiences in an aspect of administration that they, in consultation with their Site Supervisor, believe will aid them in future leadership assignment(s). This program component seeks to assist the Intern in identifying and securing a supportive environment to demonstrate critical leadership skills and enhance areas of deficiencies. Although the Internships might vary in the order of completion depending upon a student's opportunities, one of them will be a Ministry Enhancement Internship, another will be a New Ministry Internship, and another will be a Multi-cultural/Diversity Internship.

CR525 Sacred Journey I

The Sacred Journey explores the faith pilgrimages of Christian individuals and churches through their challenges, movements, discoveries, and accomplishments over the course of 2,000 years of Christian history. Sacred Journey 2 surveys the story of Christianity from the early high Middle Ages to the present, focusing attention on major events and personalities, pivotal schools of historical interpretation, significant Christian literature and doctrinal developments, and key stages in the evolution of ecclesiastical structures. The course will examine the interactions of Christian people and institutions with selected elements from their cultural contexts in an effort to determine why things happened as they did and their effects of those developments on the subsequent evolution of the Christian faith.

CR528 Basics of Finance/Resourcing

Business Essentials for Church Leaders is a three-hour course designed to assist those without prior background in finance and accounting to increase their understanding of basic business finance and become better equipped to generate informed financial decisions. The course presents accounting as the language of business and the way to articulate the church's capital, budgetary, and ultimately missional goals to advance progress in these dimensions using the language of finance and business.

CR531 Biblical Studies III

This course provides students with an introduction to the world of the New Testament with specific attention given to the Synoptic Gospels. It also lays a foundation with tools, methods and resources for a student to interpret the Synoptic Gospels for spiritual formation, teaching, and proclamation.

CR534 Sacred Journey II

The Sacred Journey explores the faith pilgrimages of Christian individuals and churches through their challenges, movements, discoveries, and accomplishments over the course of 2,000 years of Christian history. Sacred Journey 2 surveys the story of Christianity from the early high Middle Ages to the present, focusing attention on major events and personalities, pivotal schools of historical interpretation, significant Christian literature and doctrinal developments, and key stages in the evolution of ecclesiastical structures. The course will examine the interactions of Christian people and institutions with selected elements from their cultural contexts in an effort to determine why things happened as they did and their effects of those developments on the subsequent evolution of the Christian faith.

CR537 Oral Communication I

Oral Communication, in the context of your present seminary studies, is a course designed to critically reflect upon the verbal proclamation of theology. Particular attention is given to the peculiar mix of charisma and rhetoric that is seemingly essential to producing and voicing an effective Christian witness. Four cluster areas of exploration will order our study of this specific theological matter. These areas include: (1) sketching the interpretive evolution of the Christian witness from the inception of the early Church to present; (2) contemplating Christian witness as spiritual discipline; (3) critically reflecting upon the praxis of developing and delivering theology for proclamation; and (4) considering the issues and challenges involved in the contemporary verbalization of Christian witness. The goal of such a study is to better understand the critical role of proclamation theology to that of contemporary Christian witness.

CR540 Biblical Studies IV

This course provides students with a survey of the Johannine writings (Gospel of John, 1, 2, 3 John and Revelation) and the Pauline writings. It also lays the foundation by way of tools, methods and resources for a student's ongoing interpretation of these writings for spiritual formation, teaching and proclamation.

CR543 Internship II

The Create Internship offers the opportunity for learners to gain experience in church- or ministry-related leadership, which could further equip persons for maximum efficacy in a current pastoral assignment, or prepare others for future ministerial leadership opportunities. The course is designed to accommodate the different vocational statuses of leaders in training. Interns will acquire practical knowledge and experiences in an aspect of administration that they, in consultation with their Site Supervisor, believe will aid them in future leadership assignment(s). This program component seeks to assist the Intern in identifying and securing a supportive environment to demonstrate critical leadership skills and enhance areas of deficiencies. Although the Internships might vary in the order of completion depending upon a student's opportunities, one of them will be a Ministry Enhancement Internship, another will be a New Ministry Internship, and another will be a Multi-cultural/Diversity Internship.

CR546 Promoting the Mission

Promoting the Mission is designed to prepare learners for the kinds of demands that are integral to establishing and facilitating faith communities committed to being missional. Among the skills this course seeks to enhance are: creating a missional vision and vision path, building and motivating ministry teams, implementing positive systemic change, developing effective coaching skills, improving decision-making, identifying and developing new ministries and ministry trends, guiding strategic planning, and utilizing risk-taking.

CR549 Core Beliefs I

Core Beliefs I introduces the learner to the discipline of theological reflection, its sources and methodology, and to the doctrines of Revelation and the Triune God. The course is intended to equip the student to be theologically articulate about the faith by which he or she lives in light of the breadth of Christian tradition. Emphasis is given to the significance of theological formation and practice in the world and church.

CR552 Congregational/Community Care

This course will introduce students to the fundamental concepts of care giving in ministry contexts of the church and other communities. It intends to prepare learners for pastoral care and for nurturing faith communities in the many ministries of care. Focus is given to some of the most frequently encountered situations where care is needed.

CR555 Biblical Interpretation

This course focuses upon the art and science of biblical interpretation. It explores the various methods and presuppositions utilized for understanding and communicating the Bible, with special focus on the Post-Modern context. It helps students develop the specific skills needed for interpreting the Bible in a rapidly changing and technologically complex world.

CR558 Oral Communication II

This course builds upon the skills developed in Oral Communication I. It moves beyond a basic knowledge to theoretical and practical aspects of verbal proclamation of theology to reflect upon the praxis of contemporary communication by concentrating upon specific areas of communication design and development. The goal of such study is to better understand the critical role of proclamation theology in relation to that of contemporary Christian witness.

CR561 Core Beliefs II

Core Beliefs II focuses on the doctrines of Creation, Humanity and the Human Condition, Christ, Spirit, Church/Salvation, and Consummation. The course is intended to equip the student to be theologically articulate about the faith by which he or she lives in light of the breadth of Christian tradition. Emphasis is given to the significance of theological formation and practice in the world and church.

CR564 Ethics

This course is an intense philosophical, theological, and biblical examination of the moral life for Christians engaged in ministry. Attention is given both to theoretical and applied ethics with personal, professional, and social dimensions. Learners will engage in substantial reading and writing, with emphases on case construction, logical argumentation, and ethical analysis. Practical application of theoretical constructs will occur in case discussion and especially in a requisite project to be determined in consultation with the course facilitator. Learners will delineate and debate relevant morals for ministry, referencing and writing particular codes of ethics.

CR567 Internship III

The Create Internship offers the opportunity for learners to gain experience in church- or ministry-related leadership, which could further equip persons for maximum efficacy in a current pastoral assignment, or prepare others for future ministerial leadership opportunities. The course is designed to accommodate the different vocational statuses of leaders in training. Interns will acquire practical knowledge and experiences in an aspect of administration that they, in consultation with their Site Supervisor, believe will aid them in future leadership assignment(s). This program component seeks to assist the Intern in identifying and securing a supportive environment to demonstrate critical leadership skills and enhance areas of deficiencies. Although the Internships might vary in the order of completion depending upon a student's opportunities, one of them will be a Ministry Enhancement Internship, another will be a New Ministry Internship, and another will be a Multi-cultural/Diversity Internship.

CR570 Capstone

A capstone integration/praxis project is required at the end of the MDiv, CREATE program. This learning experience is designed to enhance the learner's skills and ability to apply professionally knowledge and processes developed during his/her course of study and to assist the student either in transitioning into a new ministry or expanding and enhancing a ministry in which the student is already employed. The project will be planned by the student under the supervision of the MDiv, CREATE program director, approved by the program director in consultation with the Dean and a qualified CREATE program faculty member, and carried out with supervision from a mentor or coach approved by the program director and Dean.

Ethics

ET501 Christian Ethics (*Diploma course number: ET401*)

This course is an introduction to the philosophical, biblical, and theological bases for Christian personal and social ethics. This introduction gives attention to both theoretical and applied ethics. The purpose of this course is to enable Christian ministers to engage better the sorts of moral-ethical activities in which all are engaged daily. This course introduces various styles of ethical reflection, analysis, and action, aiming also to enable more discerning and prophetic ministries in our increasingly complex world. (One TH is recommended.)

ET502 Ministry Ethics (*Diploma course number: ET402*)

This course is designed for enhancing knowledge of ethics for the purpose of intentional reflection and dialogue concerning ethical issues commonly faced in ministry. Learners are encouraged to apply rigorously ethical theories to practical situations. Pertinent topics to be addressed include: professional boundary issues, responsible sexuality, plagiarism and preaching, pastoral care in bioethical dilemma situations, financial accountability, and ministerial self-care. Learners will study particular codes of ministerial ethics and consider various sources of moral authority. All are given opportunity to experience personal and professional moral development in the process of academic studies. (ET501 is recommended.)

ET503 Peace Building and Conflict Transformation

Based on a model of peace-building developed in South Africa, this course teaches key concepts, methods, and skills of conflict transformation while providing an overview of the mediation process. The intent is to equip individuals to deal constructively with conflict in their own lives, institutions (including, but not limited to, churches), and communities. Opportunity is given to formulate a theology of conflict, conflict transformation and reconciliation.

ET504 Environmental Ethics

This course is an examination of the relationship of human activities to the web of life on this planet. Biblical and theological perspectives, worship resources, and individual/corporate opportunities for informed action are introduced.

ET404 Christian Ethics

This course we will examine the foundations of Christian ethics, including the role of the Bible, of culture, of scientific insight, of personal experience and understanding, of the Church and Christian traditions, and of faith in the formation of personal and corporate ethical understanding and practice.

Formation (Revised M.Div. only)

F-FM501 Foundations for Seminary Studies (*Diploma: F-FM401*)

Foundations for Seminary Studies is a first-term course designed to orient the student to Master of Divinity studies by introducing him/her to the curriculum, program structure, goals, outcomes, methods, outcome assessments, and resources. This course includes team (learning community) orientation and assessment instruments.

F-TH511 Theological Foundations I (*Diploma: F-TH411*)

This course guides the learner in attaining basic competencies for constructing a deliberative theology adequate to sustain a lifetime of theological discovery, growth, and vocational development. Emphasis is given to comprehending the significance of theological formation and practice in the world and church and to exploration of the doctrines of Revelation and the Triune God.

F-TH512 Theological Foundations II (*Diploma: F-TH412*)

This course guides the learner in expanding and refining competencies for constructing a deliberative theology adequate to sustain a lifetime of theological discovery, growth, and vocational development. Emphasis is given to learner growth in nurturing theological formation and practice in the world and church and to exploring the doctrines of Creation, Humanity, Christ, Spirit, Church/Salvation, and Consummation.

F-ET521 Christian Ethics (*Diploma: F-ET421*)

Christian Ethics guides the learner in reflecting upon and reaching decisions regarding the moral life of Christians engaged in ministry, placing particular focus upon philosophical, theological, and biblical perspectives. Attention is given both to theoretical and applied ethics in the personal, professional, and social dimensions. Learners will delineate and debate relevant moral issues as part of the process of moral formation for ministry.

F-CC531 Caring Ministries (*Diploma: F-CC431*)

This course prepares learners to provide care and to nurture faith communities in their ministries of care. This is accomplished by introducing students to the fundamental concepts of care giving within the context of ministry and other communities and engaging some of the most often encountered situations where care is needed.

Hebrew Bible

HB404 A Brief Survey of the Hebrew Bible

This course presents an overview of the Hebrew Bible (Christian Old Testament) organized around biblical Israel's history. The student will learn the chronology of major Old Testament events and the main themes and characters in the Old Testament.

HB501 Hebrew Bible I (*Diploma course number: HB401*)

HB501 is a course designed to serve as an orientation to a critical study of the Hebrew Bible (HB). This orientation revolves around two cluster issues: (1) the content of the HB and (2) the interpretation of the HB. The study of content includes such matters as canon formation, textual history and transmission, socio-literary composition, and rhetorical structure of the HB. Whereas the matter of interpretation focuses on the interpretive history, analysis of methodological approaches employed by past and present interpreters, and an exploration of problems (i.e. race, class, sex, gender, age, sexual orientation, etc) and hermeneutical methods involved in contemporary readings of the Hebrew Bible (HB). These foci are intended to provide an introduction to the HB for the purposes of religious education and Christian theology in particular.

HB502 Hebrew Bible II (*Diploma course number: HB402*)

HB502 builds on the content and skills learned in HB501, providing further opportunities for developing proficiency in Hebrew Bible exegesis. The initial focus of the course will concentrate on past and present interpretations of the Hebrew Bible. Beginning with early Judaism and chronicling the interpretive history of the Hebrew Bible through Postmodernism, a variety of methodological approaches will be surveyed and reviewed in an effort to understand the assumptions, practices and questions undergirding each interpretation. The remaining foci of the course will examine the problems (i.e. race, class, sex, gender, age, sexual orientation, etc) and hermeneutical methods involved in contemporary readings of the Hebrew Bible (HB). These foci are intended to inform exegesis of the Hebrew Bible for the purposes of religious education and Christian theology in particular. (Prerequisite: HB501)

HB505 The Rise and Fall of the United Israelite Monarchy

This course will study the biblical portrait presented within the Deuteronomistic history concerning the evolution of the Israelite monarchy from Saul to the division of the monarchy after the death of Solomon. Attention will be paid to the socio-historical and archeological aspects of Israel during the tenth and ninth centuries BCE. The growing theories (including the "minimalist" and folklore views) on the purposes of material concerning the united monarchy will also be explored. The biblical literature of the books of Samuel and Kings will be probed to help provide the framework for the course.

HB506 Women in the Bible

The course will lead students through an examination of the various women in the Hebrew scriptures and New Testament. In studying the women in the biblical accounts, it is important to note the theoretical models of biblical hermeneutics and their implications for the feminist cultural paradigm, to view their role in the tension of feminist historical reconstruction. Since historical knowledge is inferential, we have to construct some frame of reference within which to discuss the available historical evidence, to study the text not only for what it says but also for what it implies, for the meaning in the silences and gaps.

Interpretation

I-IN501 Biblical Interpretation (*Diploma: I-IN401*)

This course focuses upon the art and science of biblical interpretation. It explores the various methods and presuppositions utilized for understanding and communicating the Bible, with special focus on the postmodern context. Students will gain the skills needed for interpreting the Bible in a rapidly changing and technologically complex world -- competencies required in the Hebrew Bible and New Testament courses.

I-HB511 Hebrew Bible I (*Diploma: I-HB411*)

Hebrew Bible I offers the student both a general introduction to the literature, cultural/historical backgrounds, and basic narrative structure of the Hebrew Bible and experience in applying to these texts the interpretation skills previously gained through the Biblical Interpretation course. The historical literature of the Hebrew Bible is the basis for the content of this course.

I-HB512 Hebrew Bible II (*Diploma: I-IN412*)

Hebrew Bible II continues the introduction begun in Hebrew Bible I, with a primary focus on the prophetic role and literature of ancient Israelite society. The student will gain additional interpretation experience through applying to these texts hermeneutical skills previously gained through the Biblical Interpretation course and Hebrew Bible I. The prophetic literature, as well as corresponding historical texts is the basis for the content of this course.

I-NT521 New Testament I (*Diploma: I-NT421*)

This course provides students with an introduction to the world of the New Testament with specific attention given to the Synoptic Gospels. It also augments the tools, methods, and resources gained through the Biblical Interpretation course to enhance the student's skills in interpreting the Synoptic Gospels for spiritual formation, teaching, and proclamation.

I-NT522 New Testament II (*Diploma: I-NT422*)

This course provides students with a survey of the Johannine writings (Gospel of John, 1, 2, 3 John, and Revelation) and the Pauline writings. It also augments the tools, methods, and resources gained through the Biblical Interpretation course to enhance the student's skills in interpreting these writings for spiritual formation, teaching, and proclamation.

Master of Arts

MA501 Living World Religions

This course is an introduction to living religions of the world. It provides students with exposure to and knowledge of the vast range of human religious expression with the goal of appreciating peoples of other religious traditions and developing relationships in which genuine sharing can occur. While this course is required of MA (Theological Studies) degree students, all other students are welcome.

MA502 Sociology of Religion

This course provides a general introduction to sociological thinking about religion with attention to major theorists, social sources of religious change, sociological dynamics of religious movements, and issues of commitment to religious organizations. While this course is required of MA (Theological Studies) degree students, all other students are welcome.

MA503 Research Skills I

"Research Skills I" introduces the information literacy skills necessary for students to succeed in graduate theological education as well as in subsequent professional contexts. The course also covers an introduction to the research and writing processes. Topics include thesis formulation, locating relevant information resources, resource evaluation, strategies for reading, citing sources, and plagiarism. Participants will be asked to develop a research proposal and a supporting annotated bibliography in conjunction with a research assignment for a course being taken concurrently. The course is offered every year during the fall term. Individuals enrolled in the MA program must register for this course during the first year of enrollment. (1 credit hour)

MA504 Research Skills II

“Research Skills II” expands on the material presented in “Research Skills I” and also introduces students to scholarly communication. Topics include the distinction between theology and religious studies, the various types of theological communication, and the different rhetorics of theological communication. Participants will be asked to engage multiple scholarly formats including book reviews, essays, research articles, and presentations. The course is offered every year during the spring term. Individuals enrolled in the MA program must register for this course prior to their final year in the program. (2 credit hours)

MA506 Capstone Project

The Capstone Project (3 credits) is taken in the student's last semester. It is a project determined between the student, the Director of Master Arts (Theological Studies), and a faculty supervisor. The student should consult with the Director of Master of Arts (Theological Studies) no later than the semester before the last semester in order to begin planning for the project.

MA507 Thesis

The Research Track Thesis (6 credits) is completed in the student's last semester. The thesis is an intensive research and writing project in the student's specified area of interest completed under the direction of a faculty supervisor. The student should consult with the Director of Master of Arts (Theological Studies) no later than a year before the last semester in order to begin planning for the project.

Ministry Praxis

MP501 Introduction to the Missional Church (*Diploma course number: MP401*)

This course is a brief overview of the most significant aspects of soteriological and ecclesiological understanding as they impact missional ministries. It also includes a survey of missional paradigms, the challenges of contextualization, the specific challenges confronting the postmodern church, and important elements of an “emerging church” paradigm. This course is also called “Basics to Contemporary Christian Witness” or “Christian Witness.”

MP502/503 Ministry Praxis

The purposes of Ministry Praxis courses are to enhance professional competencies in the practices of ministry and to wed theory and practice via contextualization in actual ministry situations. Participants will be engaged as Ministers-in-Training with a Pastoral Mentor at a preapproved practicum site. Individual Learning Covenants will be negotiated and ministerial/pastoral self-identity developed. In addition to the 8-10 hours per week practicum, (120 hrs/sem.), MITs will meet for approximately 45 classroom hours in integrative sessions and with peer groups. Peer groups meet primarily for case presentation and theological reflection on their ministry experiences. (MP502 and MP503 should be taken during the final third of the M.Div. program.)

MP502 The Church's Worship and Rituals (*Diploma course number: MP402*)

This practicum course is integrative especially of pastoral care, homiletics, and worship with biblical and theological studies. Emphasis falls on the ritual practices of ministry and competencies needed for leading the Church in worship. Case study method will be a primary teaching-learning approach. (Prerequisites: PR501, PR503, and completion of 24 core hours)

MP503 Ministry Dynamics (*Diploma course number: MP403*)

This practicum course is integrative of other disciplines of study and practice, with a particular focus on developing competencies in ministry leadership. Family systems theory will be presented as one means for understanding and leading congregations more effectively. Case study method will be a primary teaching-learning approach. Enrollment in and successful completion of an approved program of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) may serve as a core course substitute for 1503MP.

MP504 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

Clinical Pastoral Education provides students an opportunity to practice pastoral ministry in an institutional, clinical, or congregational setting. Students minister under supervision to particular groups of people. Verbatim accounts of critical incidents in ministry are presented for theological reflection and peer review. Critical reflection both on pastoral self-identity and on interpersonal relational skills is a major focus of supervision.

One unit (six semester hours) of CPE requires at least 400 hours of direct involvement in a supervised ministry setting. Academic credit for CPE may be granted upon verification of successful completion of an approved CPE program. Photocopies of the CPE supervisor's evaluation certifying satisfactory completion must be forwarded to the seminary Registrar and the Office of the Academic Dean.

A maximum of 12 credit hours (2 CPE units) may be taken for academic credit toward the M.Div. degree, and a maximum of 6 credit hours may be taken for credit in the M.A. degree. Admission to an approved CPE program requires: (a) completion of a CPE application; (b) an interview with the CPE supervisor; (c) acceptance into the program; and (d) payment of CPE program fees (which, if required by the CPE program, are unrelated to requisite seminary tuition).

MP505 Effective Church Administration

This course is designed to teach students how to successfully manage the day-to-day operation of the 21st century church and prepare students for organizational, staffing, and ministry related change that results from the growth of their ministries. Students will be challenged to merge the academic and practical applications of business, professionalism, and spirituality as the administrative foundations of the ministry of administration. Academic emphasis will be placed on students' ability to assess information that is both current and relative to present day church administration.

MP506 Leadership Summit

Leadership is a key issue for the 21st century church. Those going into Christian ministry must recognize their leadership gifts, begin to develop skills in these areas, and discover how to apply those skills in their own ministry or anticipated ministry context. A basic understanding of leadership in the church and faith communities will be considered. Students will be required to participate in The Global Leadership Summit, an annual conference of the Willow Creek Association, which attracts leaders from the church, the marketplace, government, and academia. The class will assist students in processing their learning from the Leadership Summit through discussion, reading, and application to a ministry situation.

MP507 Internship in Christian Witness

This internship is designed to bring word and deed into analysis and action in non-traditional forms of ministry. The process is geared towards enhancing the ability of students to lead those non-traditional ministries as faith-based organizations that bridge the secular and the sacred commonality of the universal church. This will be done by placing students in the low-income housing community learning centers and exposing them to working in all the programmatic aspects of both the in-reach mission and outreach mission of the faith-based organizations.

MP508 Immersion Experience

The immersion experience is for students who engage the global setting through travel and/or internship. The course will require reading, reflection, and research that is relevant to the student's specific experience. (example: Greece/Turkey study tour)

MP509 The Ministry of Coaching

Through a supportive coaching relationship, every healthy person can discover, articulate, and pursue a plan to grow spiritually, personally, relationally, and professionally. Coaching relationships can be used by the minister in the

contexts of pastoral care and Christian formation. This online course will introduce students to the practice of personal development coaching as a ministry skill.

MP510 Congregational Vitality

Understanding Church Revitalization is a three credit course designed to provide the student with both the requisite theological foundations and the perspectives of relevant social sciences that are essential for engaging in the ministry of revitalizing a declining church. The successful student will be able to comprehend the need for revitalization, identify the symptoms of church decline, and explain trends in both historic and contemporary church revitalization, articulate basic biblical principles (i.e. ecclesiological insights) that can undergird congregational revitalization, and demonstrate the ministry mind-set necessary for leading a declining church toward congregational health and revitalization.

MP511 The Bible in Popular Culture

This class is an exploration of biblical themes, images, and metaphors in contemporary film, music and cultural arts through which religion and culture intersect. It develops tools appropriate for analyzing popular culture, as it moves from the local to the national to the global. Students will also examine the impact of popular culture on the Bible and the way popular culture appropriates the Bible for its own purposes and will be challenged to think about the theological impact of the appropriation of biblical themes in popular culture. Finally a good portion of the collaborative work of the class will be focused on identifying, categorizing and learning how to use biblical/popular culture resources in local ministry settings. Students will have the opportunity to develop their collaborative and presentational skills by working together on projects in small groups, the results of which will be presented in class.

MP512 Welcoming People with Disabilities in Faith Communities

Over the past 50 years, a shift in our beliefs as a society about disability and people with disabilities have resulted in a significant change from exclusion towards acceptance as people and inclusion on the mainstream of community life, including life in our faith communities. Worshipping congregations and their leadership are now, also, beginning to realize that the need, indeed the obligation, for spiritual support and participation of individuals with disabilities and their families within their faith tradition. Leaders in the various faith communities and their congregations are beginning to realize their responsibility to become fully inclusive. To this end, congregational leaders need guidance, information and models to lead their congregations in becoming more welcoming and inclusive of people with disabilities and their families.

Missiology

MS402 Biblical Foundation for Mission

In this course students will explore the biblical theological foundations for Christian mission engagement and form fundamental principles of mission as preparation for future cross-cultural ministry projects.

MS403 Mission and Spirituality

This course will help students understand the biblical-theological basis and the practical-experiential dimensions of Christian spirituality. The student will be challenged to give attention to the quality of his or her own spiritual life, valuing this as fundamental for effective Christian living, ministry, and mission.

MS404 Mission Basics

This class prepares students for both short-term and long-term mission service by teaching the basics of cross-cultural living and communication, culture shock, and the essentials of mission work.

MS405 Readings in Mission

This is a practical course that will introduce the student to important issues in missionary activity. The articles will come from various authors with practical missionary field experience. Disciplines such as anthropology, theology, ecclesiology, communication, and missiology will be utilized in order to obtain practical insights from each article.

Missional Church

MC501 Introduction to Urban Church Studies

This course will begin the Master of Arts in Missional Church Studies program. It introduces the student to the concept of being the church in an urban context and the complexity of urban issues pertinent to the ministry of urban churches.

MC502 Communications and Relation Building

This study is designed to provide learners with the theoretical framework and practical applications for discovering and developing (1) their individual skills as communicators and (2) public and marketing strategies within the context of the local church to reach the community in which it serves. The first part of the course will facilitate development of the learner's overall ability to communicate effectively interpersonally, intra-personally, verbally, and nonverbally within both the church and community settings. The second part explores the roles of media technology, church computer usage, and organizational communication in establishing, strengthening, promoting, and sustaining Christian ministries.

MC503 Personal and Corporate Evangelistic Witness of the Church

The course offers an overview of the theology, motivation, and practices for a church's corporate and personal witness of evangelistic, prophetic, and transformative outreach to its own community and to the broader world. This course gives special attention to the role of leadership in mobilizing the local faith community for missional engagement through personal and corporate Christian discipleship.

MC403 Introduction to Missional Church Studies

This course offers a basic introduction to the complex dynamics of the Christian church in relation to today's culture. The study introduces the concept of Missional paradigms, major challenges of contemporary contextualization, and important elements of an emerging church paradigm.

MC504 Cross Cultural Ministries

As a focused study of the cross-cultural mission and ministry of the global church, this study includes a brief overview of biblical and theological foundations, a survey of the history of Christian cross-cultural ministries, and an overview of philosophies and strategies for cross-cultural ministry, the challenges of contextualization, consideration of the difficulties confronting cross-cultural spiritual, theological, and ministerial formation, and the specific challenges faced by the postmodern church.

MC505 Transformational Leadership

This course is designed to prepare learners for the kinds of demands that are integral to establishing and facilitating churches committed to being missional. Among the skills this course seeks to enhance are creating a missional vision and vision path, building and motivating teams, implementing positive systemic change, developing effective coaching skills, improving decision-making, identifying and developing new ministries and ministry trends, guiding strategic planning, and utilizing risk-taking.

MC506 Contextual Analysis and Resourcing

This course helps equip learners with the skills to identify and utilize instruments necessary for quantitative and qualitative field research as it pertains to demographics and community analysis. Conjointly, learners will explore missional principles and methodologies as well as tools for related social, political, and economic analysis for the purpose of understanding current church conditions, future trends, and the most effective methods for addressing these challenges and opportunities.

MC507 Summative Evaluation Project

An integration/praxis project at the end of the M.A. in Missional Church Studies program that is designed to enhance the learner's skills and ability to professionally apply knowledge and processes developed during his/her

course of study. The project will be planned by the student under the supervision of an M.A. in Missional Church faculty advisor, approved by MAMCS faculty, and carried out with supervision from a mentor or coach approved by MAMCS faculty.

MC508 Missional Image Check

Understanding how the church is perceived in its context (community) is vital to its effective participation in God's mission in the world. Students will learn missional church concepts, the basics of Grounded Theory research methodology, and how to integrate the two (missional theology & social science methodology) to better understand their church's image from the community's perspective in which it lives.

MC509 Missional Church Dynamics

MC509 is a three credit elective introducing church leaders (lay and clergy) to the paradigm of the 21st Century church known as the missional church. The seminar is designed to provide a conceptual framework for the application of the missional model to a faith-community's life of mission and outward focused ministry. Missional Church Dynamics will employ insights from the fields of missional church engagement and church effectiveness to guide students in developing their understanding of the church in relation both to the triune God and to all creation. Theological resources from ecclesiology, soteriology, and missiology are utilized to help students formulate a working theology of the missional church within their congregation and ministry context. Practical resources from the field of missional church practice will help participants engage their faith communities in various facets of contextualized mission.

MC510 Foundations of a Missional Approach to Collegiate and Young Adult Ministry

This course will consider the history of the church's ministry on college campus and the future of ministry to this specific population both on campus and beyond from a missional perspective by readings relevant to the topic, lectures by people experienced in the topic of collegiate ministry, class discussions, interviews and reflections.

New Testament

NT501 New Testament I (*Diploma course number: NT401*)

The first course in New Testament studies is designed to introduce students to the background study of the New Testament and to methodologies for the interpretation of the biblical text. This course will also illustrate these background studies and methods of interpretation with a focus on the Synoptic Gospels.

NT502 New Testament II (*Diploma course number: NT402*)

This course surveys the Johannine and Pauline writings in the New Testament. It explores the social, cultural, literary and theological aspects of these writings along with major scholarly issues associated with particular New Testament books. This course also focuses on placing the Johannine and Pauline writings within the context of the church and world. (Recommended: NT501)

NT503 Johannine Literature

This elective focuses on the Gospel of John and the Johannine Epistles. Attention is given to the community that produced the Gospel and Epistles. This course also explores issues related to Johannine Christology, ecclesiology, and discipleship. The study provides detailed literary and exegetical analysis of the Gospel of John. (Prerequisites: NT501 and NT502)

NT504 Luke-Acts

The course emphasizes the unique perspective of the author of the Gospel of Luke in shaping the Jesus tradition and in preparing readers for the ministries that would follow in the Acts of the Apostles. This study focuses upon the structural similarities between the two volumes and also the distinctive theological themes within each volume. (Prerequisite: NT501)

NT404 A Brief Survey of the New Testament

This course will introduce students to the backgrounds, development, and basic content of the New Testament. The student will learn the major events associated with the New Testament's background and the main themes and characters found in the New Testament.

NT505 The Corinthian Correspondence

This course is a study of the setting and specific issues in the house churches that elicited the letters to the Corinthians. This study will examine how Paul dealt with conflicts at Corinth and how he applied his theology of the cross/resurrection. It will also consider the implications and application of 1 and 2 Corinthians in contemporary worship and theology. (Prerequisites: NT501 and NT502)

NT506 Revelation

This course is a study on Revelation (the Apocalypse) in the context of first-century apocalyptic thought. Revelation is explored by way of literary analysis, historical setting, and cultural analysis. The course also examines the various ways in which Revelation has been appropriated for interpretation. (Prerequisites: NT501 and NT502)

NT507 Worship and the Early Church

The course "Worship and the Early Church" is designed to explore the different dimensions of worship that the early Christian community shaped and which in turn shaped it. This analysis will focus on both the major and minor rituals of worship and the theological issues that undergirded worship. This course will also set the worship of the early church in its first-century cultural and social perspectives.

Pastoral Theology

PT501 Caring Ministries of the Church (*Diploma course number: PT401*)

This course is an introduction to the fundamental concepts of pastoral care. Its focus is on preparing learners for the ministry of pastoral care and for nurturing the faith community in its many ministries of care. It will cover some of the most frequently encountered situations where care is needed.

PT502 Counseling Ministries of the Church

This course will focus on learning the basic skills and theory needed to do pastoral counseling within the congregational setting. It will cover counseling approaches most appropriate to this context and will focus on those types of counseling needs commonly encountered by parish pastors (Prerequisites: PT501)

PT503 Self-Care and Stress Management

This course will focus on the principles and strategies of holistic self-care that empower clergy and other caregivers for healthy, vigorous, long-term service.

The course applies converging themes from holistic health studies, stress management and burnout management research, meditation methods, and biblical theology. Attention will be given to the growing literature on embracing these insights in the practice of ministry. Students will learn techniques of reducing and adapting to stress through relaxation, physical exercise, meditation, and the development of other spiritual disciplines.

A disciplined regimen of regular physical exercise is part of the course. Students will make arrangements at a wellness center conveniently located for a particular student.

PT504 Crisis Intervention and Care for the Grieving

This course explores theology, theory, thought, and practice as regards two significant topics: Crisis and crisis intervention methodology as they apply to minister and congregation; and, grief, including grief counseling and adequate ministry with those suffering all kinds of loss, with the dying, and with the grieving.

Performance

P-CR501 Creativity in Public Ministries (*Diploma: P-CR401*)

This course equips learners with the basic knowledge, skills, and evaluative tools needed for improving public performance dimensions of ministry. These tools are essential to the learner for perfecting the art of ministry performance, which will be further developed in subsequent MDiv courses and ultimately exercised in vocation.

P-CM501 Media for Ministry Development (*Diploma: P-CM401*)

The appropriate use of communication media always has been a critical skill in sharing the Christian message. Christians have utilized a myriad of communication methodologies through the centuries. This course will examine the role of media in ministry development and the role of the minister in deploying effective media strategies for missional engagement.

P-CM502 Interpersonal Skills (*Diploma: P-CM402*)

This course equips and develops in learners the interpersonal skills needed to carry out the broad sweep of ministry. Focus is given to the self-development of the learner in addition to development of techniques for relating to others.

P-CM511 Homiletics (*Diploma: P-CM411*)

This course prepares the learner to conceive, research, plan, and publically present sermons that are persuasive, theologically and hermeneutically sound, and that nurture holistically (e.g., spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically) the life of hearers.

P-WP521 The Art of Worship Leadership

The Art of Worship Leadership will challenge learners to craft and deliver public experiences of worship that are contextually appropriate and reflect theological insight. Learners will demonstrate knowledge of worship practices, skills for working in teams to accomplish goals, and lead a worship experience. Professional critique is an expected part of course activities.

Proclamation

PR501 Homiletics (*Diploma course number: PR401*)

Introduction to Homiletics is a course designed to serve as an orientation for the Student-Preacher to a general, but yet, critical understanding of the complicated task of preaching. This orientation focuses on four major areas of study that are intimately related to the conceptualization and performance of preaching. These areas include: (1) an examination of the interpretive history of preaching; (2) an investigation of preaching as a theological discipline; (3) an analysis of the major approaches to sermon preparation and delivery; and (4) an exploration of the issues and problems in contemporary studies of preaching. The goal of such a study is to better understand the practice of preaching. (Prerequisites: HB501, NT501, PR504)

PR502 The Practice of Preaching

The Practice of Preaching (PR502) is designed to build upon the skills student-preachers developed in Introduction to Homiletics (PR501). Moving beyond a cursory knowledge of the theoretical and practical aspects of sermon development, student-preachers will continue to critically reflect upon the praxis of contemporary preaching by concentrating on specific areas of sermon design and development. These areas include: (1) a study of the practical implications of the discipline of rhetoric for the doing of homiletics; (2) hermeneutical approaches involved in the practice of preaching; (3) homiletical strategies for preaching and (3) contemporary issues and problems in the study of preaching. The goal of such a study is to better understand the practice of preaching. (Prerequisite: PR501)

PR503 The Worshiping Church (*Diploma course number: PR403*)

As a theoretical and practical examination of Christian worship, the course considers the history, theology, and practice of various worshiping traditions, especially within the free church tradition. Interfaith and cross cultural

perspectives on worship are explored. The course is designed so that students might be better equipped to plan and lead worship. (Prerequisites: HB501, NT501, PR504, TH501, and CH501 or CH502 – Should be taken during final third of M.Div. program.)

PR504 Biblical Exegesis and Hermeneutics

This course focuses on the art and science of biblical interpretation. It explores the various methods and presuppositions utilized for understanding and communicating the Bible. It also helps students develop the specific skills needed for interpreting the Bible. The professors of New Testament and Hebrew Bible often team teach this course. (Prerequisites: One HB and one NT course)

Theology

TH501 Constructive Theology I (*Diploma course number: TH401*)

The first course in Constructive Theology introduces the learner to the discipline of theological reflection, its sources and methodology, and to the doctrines of Revelation and the Triune God. The purpose of the course is for the learner to become theologically articulate about the faith by which he or she lives in light of the breadth of Christian tradition. The course will stress the significance of theological formation and practice in the world and the church, for theology is ever concerned with life and ministry. (Prerequisites: 1 HB or NT and 1 CH)

TH502 Constructive Theology II (*Diploma course number: TH402*)

The second course in Constructive Theology focuses on the doctrines of Creation, Humanity/Sin, Christ, Spirit, Church/Salvation, and Consummation. The purpose of the course is for the learner to become theologically articulate about the faith by which he or she lives in light of the breadth of Christian tradition. The course will stress the significance of theological formation and practice in the world and the church, for theology is ever concerned with life and ministry. (Prerequisites: 1 HB or NT, 1 CH and TH501)

TH503 The Nature and Mission of the Church

Understanding the nature and mission of the church with its emerging challenges is essential for effective ministry. This course examines both classic insights and new directions in ecclesiology, including their implications for leadership in churches today. Students will also be invited to consider, from diverse perspectives, the traditional four marks of the church -- one, holy, catholic, and apostolic -- as well as the relevance of these marks for modern-day ministry. The primary questions for the course will focus on identification and grammar: What is the church: noun or verb? local or universal? human or divine? What is the church for? What is the "nature" of the church? What is the "mission" of the church? These questions will guide the ongoing reflection necessary to provide ministerial leadership in congregations participating in God's mission in the world.

DOCTORAL LEVEL

Doctor of Ministry

DM601 Orientation to the D.Min. Program

The purpose of this seminar is to introduce the beginning D.Min. student to the Doctor of Ministry program of study. An effort will be made to acquaint the student with facilities on campus which support his or her study while at Central Baptist Seminary. Also, the student will be made familiar with the requirements for the D.Min. degree as outlined in the Handbook. The student will be expected to write a paper regarding his/her concept of where he or she is in fulfilling God's call in ministry, and to express insight into his or her personality and leadership practices. Finally, the student will be instructed as to the requirements of the project and the project report (dissertation).

DM603 Systems Thinking I

The systems theory of Murray Bowen and other psychologists has been adapted for ministry in ways deemed useful for congregational analysis and for pastoral care and counseling. This course will provide a foundation for thinking

systemically, while Systems Thinking II will build on that foundation so as to enable theory to become practice in missional action with congregations and/or the care of congregants and their families.

DM609 Incarnational Theology

This seminar prepares learners for developing the theological section of their project dissertation (DM611). Students explore topics such as life mapping, personality, leadership style, spiritual giftedness, and discipleship to guide them in extensive self-reflection and evaluation of their pastoral identity in regard to their ministry and experience for the purpose of enhancing leadership effectiveness. Participants develop skills for theological reflection in relation to the practice of ministry and for integrating previous theological training with ongoing learning and experience.

DM610 Research Methods and Project Design

In this seminar students will present to the class members a draft copy of their prospectus for the project dissertation. The intent of this seminar is to provide participants with assistance in the implementation of their project dissertation design, as well as assistance in engaging in the writing of the prospectus.

DM611 Project Dissertation

The student will prepare an acceptable project dissertation describing the process she or he went through in deciding what project of ministry was most desirable for the place of ministry served, the primary sources used for researching the project, the theological reflection involved in the project, a description of the carrying out of the project and a critical analysis of the total project. This project dissertation will be written in acceptable style according to Turabian, 7th edition.

Missional Church

MC601 Systems Thinking II: Organizations

The primary purpose of this course is to familiarize church leaders with whole-system approaches to congregational mission and ministry and to provide a conceptual framework for application. Learners will examine the dynamics of internal and external systems in several key areas including faith-community formation, organizational mental models and systemic transformation, pastoral and lay leadership roles, and church and community systems collaboration to effect positive change.

MC602 Mentoring and Cohort Groups in Missional Church Ministries

This seminar integrates an understanding of a theology of ministry praxis and spiritual formation with an understanding of research and best practice of discipleship training and vocational development. Learners will acquire conceptual frameworks for equipping missional church leaders (laity and vocational) through modeling, mentoring, teaching, and developing learning communities for competency, accountability and support. Topics will include coaching practices, social networking, and equipping learners to practice their ministerial vocations through guided missional engagement.

MC604 Directed Study in Missional Church

This seminar is structured as a travel course that allows the student to spend concentrated time with a congregation that is seeking to be a missional church. Participants will identify and develop a supportive and informative network of missional leaders and resources. Normally students will spend a week on-site with the congregation in addition to completing relevant readings and written assignments.

MC605 Creating Mission-Minded Congregations

This seminar employs insights from the fields of missional church engagement, transformation, and church effectiveness to guide students in the developing of their understanding of the church in relation both to the triune God and to all creation. Theological resources from ecclesiology, soteriology, and missiology are utilized to help students formulate a working theology of the missional church within their congregation and ministry context.

MC606 Congregational Development of New Faith Communities

This seminar seeks to help prepare students for launching new missional faith communities and innovating new missional initiatives that are organically related to the existing congregation. Topics include theological foundations for multiplying mission by multiplying missional faith communities, designing effective strategies to carry out this type of ministry, and examination of successful contemporary approaches. Learners will research the dynamics of mission team formation and design in order to initiate a mission team within the context of their ministry.

MC607 Paradigms of Transformational Ministries

It is a basic assumption of this seminar that in the rapidly changing contexts of the twenty-first century, no institution, the church included, is exempt from the need for intentional transformation. This seminar seeks to help students to develop a theological framework for leading a congregation through a missional process of vitalization that mutually impacts the church and its host-community. Students will investigate models of transformation based on incremental change and emerging models of transformation in response to rapid and discontinuous contextual change. Major topics to be covered include the effect of both incremental and discontinuous change on organizational revitalization, strategic planning, and organizational development. Students will use their own ministry contexts to develop skills in recognizing an organization's readiness for change, its adaptability to rapid change, analyzing a congregation's context, formulating an organization's values, purpose, and vision, setting missional priorities, and developing an infrastructure that is responsive to issues of rapid contextual change and conflict.

MC608 Community Analysis and Engagement

This seminar guides students in developing skills as leader/sociology researchers in the context of congregational and community ministry for the purpose of missional transformation. The seminar then aims to help the student lead his/her faith-community into a better understanding of the congregation's make-up, the activity of the Triune God at work in their host-community as well as in the broader world. Participants will receive tools designed to help congregations measure/assess and respond to the contextual changes in progress for missional ministry purposes. Topics will include the missional dynamics of church and cultural diversity, religious and philosophical pluralism, social class and economic status, and generational perspectives. Learners will conduct a comparative demographic analysis of their congregation and community and propose a strategy for a missional response.

MC609 Entrepreneurial Ministry

This seminar guides students in developing an understanding of the nature of enterprise and entrepreneurship as key elements of contemporary economic systems and explores the roles of innovation, technology, and their own efficient management to initiate and sustain faith communities capable of resourcing their mission amid these forces. The seminar provides concepts and tools needed by students to improve the missional effectiveness of their venture or organization. Students also learn about and apply principles and strategies to achieve higher levels of innovation. Major topics to be covered include working beyond the limitations of budget and personnel, the subject-object relationship of mission and service, asset mapping, partnership and collaboration, finding resources in the field, increasing support and engagement in the mission of the church, as well as the dynamics of "tent-making" mission support.

MC610 Conflict Transformation and Peace Building

Based on a model of peace-building developed in South Africa, this seminar introduces key concepts, methods, and skills of conflict transformation while providing an overview of the mediation process. The intent is to equip individuals to deal constructively with conflict in their own lives and relationships, institutions, churches, and communities. Attention also will be given to methods in which these perspectives-skills can be taught to persons within one's community. There will be opportunity for both personal and group reflection-exploration of conflicts the participants are experiencing.

MC611 Worship and Preaching in Missional Congregations

This seminar focuses on the theology and practice of communal worship, which celebrates the transcendent and immanent nature of God. Learners will investigate the influence of the mission of God on the form and practice of worship. On a graduate level, special attention will be given to contextualized shaping of worship gatherings, historically rooted spiritual practices and disciplines, and homiletics which exegetes scripture, the contextual setting, and the human condition in light of the faith community's missional engagement.

Myanmar Studies

DM1011 Bible and Ministry in Contemporary Setting

In this course the student will develop the skills needed to interpret and apply biblical teachings in contemporary ministry settings. The student will build upon masters level hermeneutical foundations to advance interpretative and application skills capable of empowering ministry applications in new and complex situations and that are conducive of the healthy development of individuals and congregations.

DM1012 Theological Reflections on Major Doctrines

This course will review the historical development of major Christian doctrines such as the doctrines of God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, salvation, and sin, with a focus on contextual theological reflection. The student will investigate the contextual nature of Christian doctrine as it has developed out of historical situations always with the intent of solving standing issues. The student also will discover the tentative nature of theological doctrine, functioning not as a finished product but continuing to need reinterpretation and theological reflection throughout the course of history as contexts change. Finally, the student will learn to apply the insights of this reflection in contemporary ministry situations where new knowledge and human experiences generate new issues that demand fresh theological reflection.

DM1013 New Ways of Being Church

This course will explore methods of ministry, practice, and organization that will help people to experience church as a loving community of women and men. Students will discover and reflect upon the impact of changes in the church's structure, forms of ministry and worship, and gender roles since the first century C.E. They also will analyze the dynamics of shifting power structures in the church, including ecclesiastical hierarchy and patriarchy, and consider how traditional structures have served to marginalize women, youth, children, people with disabilities, and the poor. Students will explore ways in which the structures and practices of worship, spirituality, and Bible study contribute to the modern church's sense of loss of mission resulting in lack of vitality and loss of authority in society. [Incorporates DM1042]

DM1014 How to Lead and Teach: Christian Education in Myanmar Today

This course is designed to formulate a guideline for a comprehensive and contextualized Christian education for Myanmar churches that will contribute to the formation of healthier congregations. The student will examine the meaning and practice of Christian education among Myanmar's churches by reconsidering the definition and goals of what is meant by Christian education, evaluating the approaches utilized, and exploring the challenges to Christian education presented by the Myanmar context. On the basis of these insights the student also will consider issues surrounding Christian education and leadership formation in Myanmar. Finally, the student will evaluate the practices of Christian education and leader formation in her or his own ministry context in light of their implications for congregational health.

DM1021 Role of Minister in Multi-Cultural Context

This course will train students for the ministries of worship, preaching, pastoral care, and spiritual formation in Myanmar's multi-cultural context. The student will explore ways in which global issues are impacting Myanmar society, together with the ministry demands that emerge as a result. The student also will evaluate the multiple roles ministers assume in these settings and learn how to develop healthy ministries capable of meeting the challenges of this increasingly complex society.

DM1022 Ministerial Ethics

In this course the student will explore the ethical dimensions of attitude, behavior, and accountability in relation to the exercise of leadership within a variety of ministry contexts. Topical applications of theological ethics to ministry practices and situations will guide students in discovering how congregational health is related integrally to these qualities in a ministerial leader.

DM1024 Mission in the Twenty-First Century

This course will evaluate new mission methods and strategies to determine their usefulness for the Myanmar context. The student will read recent books, magazines, and other literature to encounter and assess new missiological methods and strategies. The student then will develop skills for determining the value of an emerging method of mission and evangelism for a variety of Myanmar ministry situations. Finally, the student will explore the missiological methods employed in her or his own ministry context and consider which new methods and strategies might have value for enhancing that ministry.

DM1031 How to Lead and Teach: Leadership & Administration for Myanmar Churches

This course will explore relevant leadership and administrative styles for the churches of Myanmar in the twenty-first century. Students first will investigate the concept of leadership, and then will study a variety of leadership styles modeled by selected outstanding world leaders, both secular and religious. Finally students will observe and critique the leadership and administrative practices employed in a variety of Myanmar organizations.

DM1032 Church in a Pluralistic Religious Context

This course will explore the problems and challenges of religious pluralism that are encountered by the churches and Christian mission programs in Asia. Special focus is given to Myanmar.

DM1033 Ecumenism for the Twenty-First Century

The course is designed to impart the student with a wider perspective on Ecumenism. The student will learn the pilgrimage of ecumenism through its many conceptual and structural changes and transitions during the twentieth century and analyze the causes of these transitions. The student also will examine the contribution of both ecclesiastical and secular ecumenism to the churches, humanity, and the whole universe, at large. Finally, the student will consider ecumenical values and practices that hold potential for enhancing ministry in his or her own context.

DM1034 Pastoral Care and Counseling in the Global Context

In this course the student will develop the basic resources necessary for the ministry of pastoral care and the development of pastoral counseling skills. Students will know the meaning, principles, and techniques in counseling and will develop skills for their practical applications in the ministry of the church and its related community. Students will consider the complex interactions of biblical principles, human psychology, and other social science disciplines on the counseling tasks of the minister. Applications of these principles and skills will be focused upon the need of persons for help in the situations of death, dying, aging, depression, divorce, and job stress.

DM1041 Transforming Society and Conflict in Ministry

This course both will introduce the student to the elements of relationship between social systems and power dynamics in corrupting a society and to discerning the sources of difficulty in his or her own behavior and how to improve them. The student will explore the issues of social justice and spirituality in social transformation that goes beyond the political processes of change. The student also will learn the processes that enable a society to restructure itself and that help communities to believe that they can find their way to change. Also, as part of the course the student will prepare and present case study materials and engage in interdisciplinary reflection and analysis that focuses on characteristics of his or her own "theory in practice" and how to improve it. The student will demonstrate the ability to receive and act on critiques of his or her own behavior within the classroom setting while learning to have some sense of theological viewpoints implicit in varied theories of action.

DM1044 Research Seminar

The course will equip students with the basic knowledge of social research and related methods used. The student will discover the essential role of quality research in building a better world.

Pastoral Care

PC601 Systems Thinking II: Pastoral Care

This seminar is designed to enhance the learner's ability to identify and explore the components and process(es) of interactions within a system that work together to make an organization healthy or unhealthy. Utilizing Murray Bowen's theory of the family system, religious organizations and structures will be analyzed with an approach toward (1) problem solving, (2) enhancing organizational communication, and (3) effecting healthy individual and organizational life and development.

PC602 Mentoring as Pastoral Education

This seminar provides learners with both instructor-led group didactic and individual mentorship experiences. Opportunities for theological engagement and reflection are designed to assist learners in their process of discerning potential vocations of pastoral care or ministerial leadership (i.e. APC, AAPC, ACPE, denominational ministers' council, etc.)

PC603 Directed Study: Clinical Pastoral Education (One Unit of CPE, Internship, or Course)

Clinical Pastoral Education provides DMin students an opportunity to practice pastoral care under supervision, typically in a healthcare institution. Verbatim accounts of "critical incidents" in ministry are presented for theological reflection and peer review. Critical reflection both on pastoral self-identity and on interpersonal relational skills is a major focus of supervision. One unit of CPE requires at least 400 hours of direct involvement in a supervised ministry setting. Academic credit for CPE may be granted upon verification of successful completion of an approved program. Admission requires: (a) completion of a CPE application, and payment of an application fee; (b) an interview with the CPE supervisor; (c) acceptance into the program; and (d) payment of CPE program fees (which, if required by the program, may be deducted from seminary tuition).

PC604 Spiritual Guidance and Faith Development

This seminar is based on the following premises: (1) that there is an urgent and widespread spiritual hunger, and at times a skepticism, that a Christian church is the place to go for such spiritual guidance and growth, (2) that also there are many people struggling with addictions, mental health issues, relationship problems, and life stage struggles, (3) that people may come to a clergy with a wide spectrum of needs from mostly spiritual to mostly human-psychological, and (4) that while there are two distinct disciplines—spiritual direction and pastoral counseling—at times the pastoral caregiver needs to be one and at time the other—and at times to alternate between the two with the same care receiver. This seminar will explore a basic understanding of both disciplines, of how they see their distinctions, and how/when the insights and methods may be fruitfully combined.

PC605 Theology and Ethics of Pastoral Care

This seminar assumes a graduate level understanding of theoretical and applied ethics. A seminar format will be used for case based and topical applications of theological ethics to ministry practices and situations. Learners will prepare their own case presentations for ethics analysis and action, and will invest a minimum of 20 hours conceptualizing, developing, and possibly implementing an ethics project involving congregants in justice-making action in the community.

PC606 Crisis Intervention and Pastoral Care in Grief and Loss

This seminar will combine social science and pastoral theology perspectives on situational crisis (with a brief look at developmental crisis as well) and loss-grief. An examination will be made of the phenomena and dynamics of crisis, loss, and grief. Next there will be exploration—including skill practice and role play—of fitting pastoral and church community responses to these experiences. There will be consideration of complicated-pathological grief. Attention

will be devoted to congregational and community grief as well. Opportunity for reflection on crisis-grief ministry situations of class members will be afforded.

PC607 Pastoral Care across Cultural, Ethnic, and Religious Differences

This seminar is designed to facilitate the development of increased competency in providing pastoral care within a multicultural context. Attention will be given to students becoming more aware of their own cultural beliefs, values, and biases and their effect on ministry with someone who is culturally or religiously different. There will be opportunity for students to gain greater understanding of people who are of different religious or cultural backgrounds. Hopefully, students will acquire an increased awareness of their own prejudices and stereotypes. Specific skills and sensitivities needed to provide pastoral care across cultural, ethnic, and religious difference will be developed.

PC608 Self Care and Stress Management for Ministers

This seminar will focus on principles and strategies of holistic self-care that empower clergy and other caregivers for healthy, vigorous, sustainable, long-term service. The process will be to apply converging themes from holistic health studies, stress management and burnout management research, meditation methods, and biblical theology. Participants will learn techniques of reducing and adapting to stress through relaxation, physical exercise, meditation, the development of spiritual practices/disciplines, particularly fitting their calling. Special attention will be given to the benefits of regular physical exercise and of the spiritual practice of humor.

PC609 Pastoral Care in Conflict Transformation and Peace-Building

Based on a model of peace-building developed in South Africa, this seminar introduces key concepts, methods, and skills of conflict transformation while providing an overview of the mediation process. The intent is to equip individuals to deal constructively with conflict in their own lives and relationships, institutions, churches, and communities. Attention also will be given to methods in which these perspectives-skills can be taught to persons within one's community. There will be opportunity for both personal and group reflection-exploration of conflicts the participants are experiencing.

FOUNDATIONS (Certificate program)

Christian Heritage: A Brief Overview

Christian Heritage: A Brief Overview, offers a very basic introduction to the history of Christianity from its origins to the present. This course will provide the learner with an essential map to guide him or her on the first voyage through the study of Christianity's history.

Church Administration

Church Administration guides the student in reflecting upon some of the basics leadership skills needed for leading a church. Topics include the dynamics of interpersonal relationships, administrative approaches, budget preparation, planning, problem solving, leading meetings, and educational programming.

Ministry Contextualization

Ministry Contextualization (Ministry in the Local Congregation) employs an interactive approach in which several presenters will address a variety of topics important to good ministry. Topics will include ministerial leadership, the pastor and worship, managing conflict, and other timely matters of importance to congregational health. The intent is to provide relevant information and reflection on issues related to ministry leadership that are transferable from one ministry context to another.

Ministry Ethics

Ministry Ethics guides the student in confronting some of the major ethical issues commonly faced in ministry. Among the topics touched upon are professional boundaries, responsible sexuality, plagiarism and preaching, pastoral care in bioethical situations, financial accountability, and ministerial self care.

Missional Church

Missional Church offers a basic introduction to the complex dynamics of the church in relation to today's culture. The study introduces the concept of missional paradigms (models for understanding the church's mission or purpose), challenges of contemporary contextualization (understanding the church's purpose in relation to the world in which it is situated), and important elements of an "emerging church" paradigm (new ways for understating the church in relation to the needs of today's society).

New Testament: A Brief Overview

New Testament: A Brief Overview, will introduce students to the background and development of the New Testament. Major New Testament books are introduced in the context of the developing theological traditions of early Christianity.

Old Testament: A Brief Overview

Old Testament: A Brief Overview, presents an overview of the Old Testament, focused around biblical Israel's story. Major books of the Old Testament are introduced from the context of the theological development within ancient Israel's faith tradition.

Pastoral Arts

Pastoral Arts offers a very basic introduction to a wide variety of ministry arts that are essential for an effective pastor. Topics will include such activities as hospital visitation, weddings, funerals, home visitation, congregational nurture, pastoral counseling, and spiritual formation of new believers.

Proclamation

Proclamation introduces the student to some of the basics of the art of preaching. Focus is given to the purpose of preaching, how the Bible is responsibly used in preaching, and basic points of good preaching delivery and style.

My Faith Heritage

This course will introduce the student to the basic doctrinal distinctives, history, and practices of her or his denominational tradition. The study will vary according to the denominational affiliation of the student.

EXTENDED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Lifelong Learning

A limited number of Lifelong Learners may be admitted to classes. Each Lifelong Learner must submit an application form to the Office of the Registrar.

Lifelong Learners are expected to attend all class sessions, read all assigned materials, and participate in class discussion. They will not be expected to complete papers or tests. When four classes as a Lifelong Learning student have been completed, a Certificate in Theological Studies will be awarded to the student.

If a Lifelong Learner decides, after the completion of the class, to retake the class for credit toward a degree, the student will need to apply for admission into a degree program. Once admitted and enrolled in the same class, the payment as a Lifelong Learning student will be credited toward tuition.

If the instructor approves, the spouse of a degree student may take a course as a Lifelong Learner at no cost on a space-available basis. The spouse must complete a registration form through the Registrar's Office.

Central Seminary graduates may enroll in Lifelong Learning courses through the Registrar. They will be charged the regular fee for Lifelong Learning courses.

Current volunteers and seminary employees may take one course per semester as Lifelong Learners at no charge. They must complete a registration form through the Registrar's Office and be approved for entrance into the class, but no tuition or fees will be assessed.

January and Summer Courses

Central Seminary often offers intensive courses during January, June, and July. Course formats will vary between one week, weekend, blended learning, and online courses. Participants may take these courses for academic credit or Lifelong Learning.

Weekend Intensives

At Central, classes that meet on Fridays and Saturdays multiple times within a semester are called weekend intensives. Class times and the number of weekends vary depending on the scheduling of the class.

Students will be expected to complete initial reading and writing assignments prior to the first class session. Upon registration, course syllabi will be distributed at the discretion of the professor to enrolled students, providing enough time to finish initial assignments. Additionally, completion of assignments will be required between weekends and after the final class session.

Students must have basic computer skills as well as email and internet access.

Online Classes

The seminary does offer online classes. Online classes are mediated entirely through the internet. Currently, it is not possible to earn a degree strictly through online classes.

Central Baptist Theological Seminary utilizes MOODLE (<http://moodle.cbts.edu>) for its web-based learning environment. Through Moodle, instructors make course resources available and foster class interaction. Students must have basic computer skills along with email and internet access.

The amount of online interaction will vary with the standards professors set for their class, but students should expect to spend at least as much time in the online classroom environment as they would in a traditional classroom setting. Online classes may also incorporate DVD's, conference calls, and synchronous (live) sessions into the curriculum.

Continuing Education Opportunities

Central Seminary often sponsors major learning events during the academic year. These events are significant opportunities to learn from noted scholars of a particular academic discipline or focus on topics critical to ministry leadership. Churches, clergy, and the general public are invited to participate.

Registration costs will vary. Some courses may require attendance at these educational opportunities.

Textbook Services

There is no campus bookstore at Central. Students are encouraged to acquire their textbooks in whatever way they wish. Students often use online retailers such as Amazon.com or Cokesbury.com. Students may also want to check used Christian bookstores or order through their local bookstore.

ALUMNI/AE ASSOCIATION

The Alumni/ae Association was founded in 1906 for the purpose of fellowship, sharing information, and ongoing support of the seminary.

The objectives of the Alumni/ae Association are:

- to create experiences of fellowship among alumni and alumnae
- to generate financial support for the seminary
- to recruit students who are called to the ministry
- to pray for the seminary
- to represent alumni and alumnae to the seminary's administration and board
- to recognize outstanding achievements in the ministries of former students

The Alumni/ae Association is led by a team of elected officers (president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer) who work in partnership with the seminary staff and administration. Membership is available in five categories: annual membership, lifetime membership, alumni/ae by choice, associate membership, and honorary membership. Details can be obtained from the association officers or the staff liaison. Projects in which the Alumni/ae Association is actively involved include: scholarships, awards of merit, commencement banquet, mission trips, and other meal events and fellowship functions.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Central Seminary is committed to providing scholarship assistance so that persons called to ministry may graduate from seminary with as little educational debt as possible. To that end, the seminary provides financial aid and works with students to assist them in securing other sources of financial aid.

Students must reapply every year for seminary scholarships. Application deadlines are listed on the seminary scholarship form.

Students are not awarded Central Seminary scholarships above the cost of attendance.

Called To Serve Support

While tuition and fees are significant, they cover only a small part of the actual cost of educating each student. Currently, it costs about \$20,000 per year to educate one student at Central Seminary. Through the seminary's support programs, roughly \$12,000 of the educational costs for each student is provided through the generosity of donors.

Support for American Baptist Students

American Baptist students may receive funds through the American Baptist Churches, USA. If a student seeking their first theological Master's degree has been a member of an American Baptist church for the previous year and enrolls in at least two classes per semester, she or he is eligible to receive up to \$500 in matching funds per semester through the American Baptist Seminarian Support Program.

If an M.Div. or M.A. degree student has been a member of a church in the American Baptist Churches of the Central Region for the previous year and enrolls in at least two classes per semester, he or she is eligible for a \$1000 scholarship each semester.

Students may receive ABC Seminarian Support for one degree only. To receive this support, a student must submit

an ABC Seminarian Support pledge/remittance form.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Scholarship

Students in the Master of Divinity program who are members of a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship church and maintain full-time enrollment may be eligible to receive the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Leadership Scholarship. The scholarship is an award of \$2000 per semester. Annually, there are three scholarships available. Application forms to the CBF Leadership Scholarship are made available to students in the spring.

Native American Scholarship

Native American students in good standing may receive full tuition scholarships for up to 75 hours of credit. Three scholarships are available per semester. Students must provide proof of Native American nationality at the time of registration.

Married Students

Married couples, when individually enrolled in a degree or diploma program, are eligible for a tuition discount. The spouse carrying the greater number of credits is charged full tuition, and the other spouse receives a 50% tuition discount.

Spouses of degree or diploma students may take courses for continuing education at no cost.

Children of Alumni/ae

Children of alumni/ae who have received a degree from Central are eligible for a 50% tuition discount.

Federal Direct Stafford Loans

Central Seminary participates in the Federal Direct Stafford Student Loan program. Federal Direct Stafford Loans are low interest loans for students to help pay for the cost of education after high school. Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents taking classes at one of the seminary's eligible sites. The lender is the U.S. Department of Education. Students should direct questions about this loan program to the Business Office. Students should contact their lender for deferment information.

Tuition & Fees

Central Baptist Theological Seminary reserves the right to adjust tuition and fees as necessary.

D.Min. Tuition (per credit hour)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$475.00
Masters/Diploma Tuition (per credit hour)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$360.00
Lifelong Learning (per course)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$300.00
Foundations Certificate Program (per course)			-	-	-	-	\$50.00
Registration Fee (per semester; degree or diploma students only)					-	-	\$250.00
Drop Fee (after class begins)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$50.00
Application Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$50.00

Directed Study/Independent Study Fee (per course)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$100.00
D.Min. Advisor Fee (charged during dissertation project)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$850.00
D.Min. Advisor Fee – Korean Program (charged during dissertation project)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$800.00
Sustaining Fee ¹ (per semester)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$125.00
Graduation Fee ²							
Masters/Diploma level	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$200.00
Doctoral level	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$250.00
Official Transcripts ³ (per transcript)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$10.00
Assessment (for course CS501)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$85.00

¹ For students finishing their work at another seminary and requesting graduation from Central

² Includes cap and gown purchase, tassel, diploma and cover, reception, group photo, senior luncheon, and invitations

³ No charge for current students

Withdrawals and Refunds/Adjustments

When a student drops a class after the first day of the semester, the student must pay for contact hours attended (or even those not attended if the student fails to notify the Registrar of dropping). The student will receive a refund or adjustment to his/her account. At the 2015-2016 rates, Master's/Diploma tuition is \$24 per contact hour. Fees are nonrefundable.

For Internet courses, the professor will certify the contact hours in the course in order to arrive at the amount of refund or adjustment.

Students who properly withdraw before the first day of the semester are not charged tuition and fees.

Account Payments

Students are mailed a monthly statement if they have an account balance.

All financial obligations must be met before Central Seminary will issue grades, confer degrees, and release transcripts. Before registering for future terms, students must meet all financial obligations for past and current terms. If a tuition payment(s) is to be made by a third party, such as a church or employer, payment must be received before the end of the current term. If a student plans to pay tuition with a Federal Student Loan, be sure to start any necessary paperwork well in advance so the loan funds arrive before the end of the term.

Students may make payments toward their account balance during the current term. The balance must be paid in full before registering for the next term.

Once a term is over, the Business Office will notify the Registrar of any student with a past due balance and lock the student's Populi record. The student will not receive grades; will not be able to request an official transcript; and will not be allowed to register for the next term's classes until the balance is paid in full.

In accordance with our mission statement, we are committed to the education and development of men and women called by God to be leaders for the Church of Jesus Christ. Part of that mission includes being responsible for timely payments that are required by Central Seminary. We appreciate the efforts of all our students to take care of their financial obligations. Please be assured we will work to resolve problems with any student who informs us in advance of his/her inability to meet the financial deadlines.

Insurance

Central Seminary recommends that all students and their families have health and accident coverage. Central Seminary requires all international students and their families to have health and accident insurance. For those students who do not have coverage, information about a health insurance plan is available through the Office of Enrollment Services.

ADMINISTRATION & FACULTY



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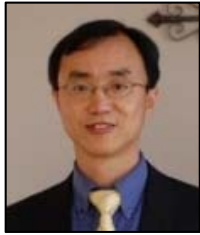
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Robin Sandbothe – Director of Seminary Relations
Debra Sermons – Director of Recruitment
Saeyee Yang – Admissions Coordinator, Korean Programs

OFFICE DIRECTORY

The Shawnee, KS campus number is 913-667-5700. Use the following extensions for information.

Academic Services (ext. 107)
Alumni/ae Relations (ext. 108)
Business Office (ext. 110)
D.Min. Studies (ext. 109)
Enrollment (ext. 107)
Facilities/Maintenance (ext. 133)
Korean Programs (ext. 120)
Library – front desk (ext. 125)
Office of the Dean (ext. 107)
Office of Institutional Advancement (ext. 101)
Office of the President (ext. 121)
Recruitment (ext. 111)
Registrar (ext. 107)
Seminary Relations (ext. 108)
Student Billing (ext. 110)
Web/Social Media (ext. 103)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

2015-2016

June 1 – July 24	Summer Session (8 weeks)
July 3	Independence Day Holiday – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
August 24	Fall Term Begins (15 week term)
August 31	Ordinary Term Begins (12 week term)
September 7	Labor Day – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
October 12-16	Fall Break (8 th week) – Seminary Closed Oct. 15-16
November 2	Registration Opens – Spring and Lent Terms
November 20	Ordinary Term Ends (12 week term)
November 26-27	Thanksgiving Break Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
December 14	Fall Term Ends (15 week term)
Dec. 24-Jan. 1	Christmas Break – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
January 4	Lent Term Begins (12 week term)
January 18	Martin Luther King Day Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
January 25	Spring Term Begins (15 week term)
March 7	Registration Opens – Summer and Easter Terms
March 14-18	Spring Break (8 th week)
March 17-18	Seminary closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
March 25	Good Friday – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
April 1	Lent Terms Ends (12 week term)
April 4	Registration Opens – Fall and Ordinary Terms
May 2	Easter Term Begins (12 week term)
May 3	Senior Work to Professors
May 9	Senior Grades to Registrar
May 14	Commencement
May 16	Commencement Holiday – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
May 30	Memorial Day – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
July 22	Easter Term Ends (12 week term)

2016-2017

June 6 – July 29	Summer Session (8 weeks)
July 4	Independence Day Holiday – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
August 22	Fall Term Begins (15 week term)
August 29	Ordinary Term Begins (12 week term)
September 5	Labor Day – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
October 10-14	Fall Break (8 th week) – Seminary Closed Oct. 13-14
November 7	Registration Opens – Spring and Lent Terms
November 18	Ordinary Term Ends (12 week term)
November 24-25	Thanksgiving Break Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
December 12	Fall Term Ends (15 week term)
Dec. 24-Jan. 1	Christmas Break – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
January 9	Lent Term Begins (12 week term)
January 16	Martin Luther King Day Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
January 23	Spring Term Begins (15 week term)
March 6	Registration Opens – Summer and Easter Terms
March 13-17	Spring Break (8 th week)
March 16-17	Seminary closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
March 31	Lent Terms Ends (12 week term)
April 3	Registration Opens – Fall and Ordinary Terms
April 14	Good Friday – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)

May 1	Easter Term Begins (12 week term)
May 2	Senior Work to Professors
May 8	Senior Grades to Registrar
May 13	Commencement
May 15	Commencement Holiday – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
May 29	Memorial Day – Seminary Closed (main offices in Shawnee, KS)
July 21	Easter Term Ends (12 week term)