Undergraduate Degree Programs: Courses of Instruction

Cross Departmental

BH 2100—Basic Biblical Interpretation
A basic study of interpreting the Bible. The major focus is on the historical, grammatical principles of interpreting the biblical text.

Old Testament and Hebrew

Dr. Stephen R. Miller, Department Chairman
(Dr. Matthew R. Akers; Dr. Michael R. Spradlin; Dr. R. Kirk Kilpatrick; Dr. T. Van McClain)

Old Testament Survey

OT 2101—Old Testament Survey 1
A study of general issues pertaining to the Old Testament and the Pentateuchal and Historical books. Matters such as authorship, date, historical background, and critical theories will be discussed for the biblical books Genesis through Esther and their contents will be surveyed. An understanding of the Old Testament Scriptures is vital for those involved in ministry.

OT 2102—Old Testament Survey 2
A study of the Old Testament Poetical and Prophetic books, Job through Malachi. Includes a general introduction to Hebrew poetry and prophecy. Matters such as authorship, date, and historical background will be discussed for the biblical books, and their contents will be surveyed. Key theological themes of the prophets will be emphasized: holiness, salvation, Messiah, and eschatology.

Old Testament Intensives

OT 2200–2229—Studies in the Pentateuch
Studies to aid the student in confronting significant interpretive problems and in recognizing major theological themes. Individual books or significant doctrinal themes in the Pentateuch are studied. The selection of individual books varies from year to year.
OT 2230–2269—Studies in the Historical Books
Studies designed to promote a thorough grasp of individual books or selected historical periods. An introduction is presented to the important literature in this field. Intensive study of the biblical text is reinforced by expository lectures by the professor. The selection of individual books varies from year to year.

OT 2270–2299—Studies in Poetic Literature
Studies that consist of individual selections from the Psalms or Old Testament wisdom literature. Introductory material pertinent to this genre of literary expression, various literary forms used, and representative psalmic material are presented. Emphasis is given to major theological themes. The selection of individual books varies from year to year.

OT 2300–2399—Studies in Prophetic Literature
Studies which feature individual books from the major and minor prophets or outstanding prophetic themes. The student is introduced to the literature of the book studied, and special attention is given to major theological matters. Expository lectures accompany each lesson. The selection of individual books varies from year to year.

HB 2401—Hebrew 1
An introduction to the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew. Major emphasis is on the assimilation of basic grammatical forms and vocabulary. Students will translate selected texts from the Hebrew Old Testament and be introduced to exegetical methodology.

HB 2402—Hebrew 2
A continuation of HB 2401, which is a prerequisite for this course. An introduction to the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew. Major emphasis is on the assimilation of basic grammatical forms and vocabulary. Students will translate selected texts from the Hebrew Old Testament and be introduced to exegetical methodology.

New Testament and Greek
Dr. David G. Shackelford, Department Chairman
(Dr. Matthew R. Akers)

New Testament Survey
Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver Edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

NT 2601—New Testament Survey 1
A study of the interbiblical period, the first-century environment, includes a survey of the four Gospels, and the Book of Acts. Includes the unique features, contributions, and content of each Gospel as well as an assessment of critical methodologies in Gospel studies. The survey of Acts includes both matters of introduction and content.
NT 2602—New Testament Survey 2

NT 2700–2799—New Testament Intensives
A series of intensive studies in individual books of the New Testament. Although consideration is given to critical problems which relate to the book being studied, the primary emphasis is on interpreting the text. The selection of individual books varies from year to year.

GR 2801—Greek 1
An introduction to the grammar of the Greek of the New Testament. Includes areas of grammar significant to the interpretation of the New Testament and exegesis of selected passages in the second semester. Attention is given to areas of the Greek New Testament that are invisible to the English reader. Logos Bible Research Systems (Silver edition or above) is required for these courses.

GR 2802—Greek 2
A continuation of GR 2801, which is a prerequisite for this course. Includes areas of grammar significant to the interpretation of the New Testament and exegesis of selected passages in the second semester. Logos Bible Research Systems (Silver edition or above) is required for these courses.

Evangelism
Dr. Michael R. Spradlin, Department Chairman
(Dr. B. Gray Allison; Dr. Timothy K. Christian)

EV 3200—Personal Evangelism
A study of the imperative of personal witnessing and various methods of presenting the claims of Christ. Emphasis is upon doing.

Missions
Dr. John Mark Terry, Department Chairman
(Dr. B. Gray Allison; Dr. Steven P. Wilkes)

MS 3310—Introduction to Church Growth
A basic survey of the terminology, principles, and methodology of church growth theory. This elective course deals with both technical and practical aspects of strategies designed to win persons to Jesus Christ and to establish growing and healthy churches throughout the world.

MS 3328—Church Conflict and Church Growth
A study of strategies to address and avoid conflict in our churches. Additionally, the matter of church growth during and after conflict will be studied.
**MS 3370—Principles of Southern Baptist Missions**
An introductory study of Southern Baptist missions, with emphasis upon the preparation, life, and work of the cross-cultural missionary. The first part considers the biblical basis, call, qualifications, and appointment procedure. The second part deals with field adjustment of the missionary family on the foreign field. The third part surveys the traditional methods of missionary work and examines current innovative approaches. Primary attention is given to international missions, with additional attention being given to North American missions. Two major objectives are: (1) to provide an adequate understanding of Southern Baptist missions and (2) to encourage each Mid-America student toward a personal commitment to missions.

**MS 3405—Traditional Religions, World Religions, and Cults**
A general survey of the major world religions and American cults, with a focus on Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and Mormons. The course examines basic concepts in these religions and is designed to help students understand the basic beliefs in order to contextualize the message of the gospel in appropriate forms and lead followers of these religions to faith in Jesus Christ.

**MS 3500—Leadership in Missions**
This course provides a study of the nature of Christian leadership, primarily in the context of international missions. Substantial attention is given to various character qualities and leadership competencies necessary for effectiveness in cross-cultural ministry. This course deals with issues related to discipling and equipping new Christians for church leadership. It also deals with the processes and procedures related to advanced strategic planning and team ministry.

**Theological and Historical Studies**
Dr. Jimmy Millikin, Department Chairman
(Dr. Matthew R. Akers; Dr. B. Gray Allison; Dr. Timothy K. Christian; Dr. John Mahony; Dr. Michael W. McDill; Dr. Michael R. Spradlin)

**CH 3001—The History of Christianity**
A concise survey of the history of Christianity from the first century to the present, focusing on the development of pivotal doctrines and ecclesiastical institutions in the Patristic, Medieval, Reformation, and Modern periods.

**CH 3150—The History of the Baptists**
An interpretive survey of the history of Baptists from the seventeenth century to the present. Three specific divisions include: (1) the rise and development of English Baptists, (2) Baptist beginnings in the United States to the formation of the Southern Baptist Convention, and (3) the history of the Southern Baptist Convention to the present.

NOTE: Refer to the church history electives offered at the master level. Selected church history electives are offered at the undergraduate-level as needed.
TH 3601—Theology of the Old Testament
A survey of the theology of the Old Testament, including an analysis of current thought. Biblical terminology and methodology are used.

TH 3602—Theology of the New Testament
A survey of the major doctrines of the New Testament. Biblical terminology and methodology are used.

TH 3701—Basic Biblical Doctrines
A basic and systematic study of the major doctrines of the Christian faith.

TH 3710—The Doctrine of Revelation and Inspiration
A study of the nature of biblical revelation and inspiration. Special attention is given to the various views of inspiration and the relationship between revelation and the Bible.

TH 3720—The Doctrine of God
An intensive study of the doctrine of God from a biblical, historical, and contemporary perspective. Special attention is given to the attributes and works of God.

TH 3735—The Doctrine of Sin
A historical, biblical, and systematic analysis of human sinfulness.

TH 3740—The Doctrine of Christ
A biblical and systematic study of the doctrine of Christ. Special attention is given to the humanity and deity of Christ.

TH 3890—Contemporary Theological Issues
A study of contemporary theological issues and trends. Emphasis is on a biblical critique and response to these issues and trends.

PH 3901—Introduction to Philosophy
An introduction to the main contributors in the Western philosophical tradition. These philosophers will be critiqued in light of a biblical worldview.

PH 3910—Introduction to Apologetics
An introduction to the study of crucial issues in the defense of the Christian faith.

PH 3911—Introduction to Ethics
An introduction to the major ethical systems with a special focus on Christian approaches. Contemporary ethical issues will be examined in light of biblical revelation.
Practical Theology

Dr. Timothy C. Seal, Department Chairman
(Dr. Michael R. Spradlin; Dr. B. Gray Allison; Dr. Jere Phillips; Dr. Timothy K. Christian; Dr. Michael W. McDill)

Preaching

HM 4001—Biblical Preaching 1
Biblical Preaching 1 provides an emphasis on expository sermon development from the Word of God. In addition, the course applies the principles for the expository method of biblical preaching in the development of a dynamic series of messages from the Epistle of Philippians.

HM 4005—Biblical Preaching 2
This course combines elements of Biblical Preaching 1 with principles of sermon delivery. Each student delivers expository sermons before the professor and class members. The student who successfully completes this course will be able to: (a) deliver an effective expository sermon to a typical congregation, (b) critique a sermon in a manner that improves his own preaching, and (c) evaluate his readiness and willingness to accept the responsibility of a regular preaching ministry. HM 4001 is a prerequisite for this course.

HM 4012—Advanced Expository Preaching
The course focuses on principles for persuasive biblical preaching, with an emphasis on expository sermon development through practical examples from the Word of God. HM 4012 includes an advanced study of preaching through a Bible book and specialized forms of expository preaching through the book or letter.

HM 4013—Expository Preaching in a Post-Modern Era
This course guides the student in using the principles of expository preaching in the midst of the various philosophies and cultural implications of the post-modern era.

HM 4020—Preaching from Titus
The universal principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 serve as the basis for developing a series of dynamic sermons from the Epistle of Titus. The course surveys the literary and historical background of the letter and provides a detailed outline of the epistle. Approaching the letter of Titus in an expository fashion equips the student to preach through individual books and letters of the Bible in a systematic fashion.

HM 4024—The Theology of Preaching
The course involves a study of the preaching task in the context of its theological foundations. Included in the course is a survey of the contributions that major theologians made to preaching. A key emphasis of the course is upon how various theologies affect preaching regarding hermeneutics, exegesis, content, structure and delivery.
HM 4025—Evangelistic Preaching
The universal principles of expository preaching are used to develop expository evangelistic sermons. Emphasis is given to the clear proclamation of the Gospel and to the extending of the Gospel invitation.

HM 4026—Contemporary Preaching
A study of various contemporary preaching styles and philosophies. This course helps the student of biblical preaching to consider the practices of different types of sermons in light of the standards of expository biblical preaching. Studies include preaching in the emerging churches, seeker sensitive churches, new church starts and traditional sermons with contemporary applications.

HM 4029—Preaching and Technology
A study of the influence and use of technology in the development and delivery of sermons. Emphasis is given to resources for biblical exegesis as well as presentation aids. Innovations such as sermon podcasts, webcasts and other technologies will be studied as well as the potential and problems of the Internet related to preaching.

HM 4036—Preaching to Youth
A study of various elements in preaching biblical messages to students in a church setting. This course includes how to understand different types of student audiences based on developmental stages and cultural influences. It also addresses the key elements of biblical interpretation, application, illustration and delivery in the context of preaching to students.

HM 4040—Great Preachers
Great preachers and their sermons are evaluated, using the principles of expository preaching developed in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2. The course analyzes the types, structures, content, application and styles of representative sermons; to learn from preachers of the past and to apply those insights to preaching in the future.

Counseling

CN 4103—Ministerial Counseling
An introduction to pastoral and church-related methods of counseling. Consideration is given to the scriptural background for counseling, the counselor and counseling, the counselee and counseling, the counseling process, and some of the most common problems that people face.

CN 4114—Marriage and the Family
An exploration of the basic issues of the marriage and family relationships. The emphasis of this course is on marriage and family as social institutions with application to the student’s life and counseling in the local church.
Pastoral Ministries

PM 4200—Pastoral Ministries
A practical course to help the student prepare for ministry in the church. It deals with the administration of the ordinances, conducting marriages and funerals, leading the church through committees and business, and other related matters.

PM 4220—Pastoring the Rural Church
A study of pastoral ministry in a rural setting. Not limited to any geographical region, the rural church has unique challenges for pastoral ministry. Studies include the rural church in the pioneer areas of the Northeast and West as well as the southern United States.

PM 4225—Pastoring the Urban Church
A study of pastoral ministry in an urban setting with particular emphasis on ministry in the inner city. Consideration is given to racial, ethnic, economic and other influences on ministry in the city. Urban churches in all geographic areas of the United States are included in this study.

PM 4235—Principles of Financial Management
A course designed to provide the student with the tools to begin a lifelong process of developing a practical, comprehensive financial plan and personal financial policies. The initial focus is upon individual objectives and goals. Then, based upon biblical principles of Christian stewardship, financial management is developed as a personal response to God.

PM 4237—Life in the Pastorate
A course designed as a practical introduction to life in the pastorate. The course is purposefully designed for both the student and wife.

PM 4260—Church Conflict Management
An examination of conflict management principles applied in the context of local church conflicts.

PM 4270—Leadership Development
A study of leadership development in a local church context. Emphasis is given to personal leadership development and the developing of other leaders.

PM 4300—Spiritual Formation
A theological and practical course designed to aid the student to understand the spiritual character development required for effective spiritual ministry. The course emphasizes the development of spiritual vitality through Bible study, prayer, and devotional reading.

PM 4302—Contemporary Worldview
An introduction to major worldview types, including a study of the elements and formation processes involved in worldviews.
PM 4304—Religion in the Public Square
An introduction to key issues connecting religion and political thought, such as the nature of government, the historic role of politics, and the relationship between religion and political issues. Special consideration is given to the relationship between church and state and the crisis of moral authority in American society.

PM 4306—Contemporary Issues in the Church
An introduction to recent theological and ministry trends within the local church. The course will focus upon new theological issues as well as the interaction between theology and culture. Special emphasis will be given to theology’s relationship to popular culture within the context of a local church.

Church Ministries

Dr. Bradley C. Thompson, Department Chairman
(De. Tanner Hickman)

CE 4401—History and Philosophy of Christian Education
An integrated study of the historical and philosophical developments which have influenced Christian education. The course traces the development of Christian education throughout history to the present day. The philosophies and methods of significant Christian educators are considered in their historical settings. Contemporary trends are noted.

CE 4430—Introduction to Education Administration
A general study of the educational ministry in the local church. Specific components in the development of the various organizations are examined. Approaches to leadership theories, roles, ministries, and training are studied briefly.

CE 4440—The Church Staff
A study of the development of a church staff. Consideration is given to the qualifications and duties of staff members, to staff relationships, and to the place of each staff member in carrying out the functions of the church.

CE 4450—Principles of Teaching 1
A foundational study of biblical and educational principles of teaching. Specific attention is given to the principles, forms, and methods of Jesus. Individual and group-teaching projects expose students to a practical application of teaching principles.

CE 4452—Principles of Teaching 2
This course combines the principles of effective lesson preparation with those of lesson delivery in which students deliver biblically based lessons before the professor and class members. The content and delivery of each lesson are evaluated by means of class discussion, written evaluation and videotape. This course is designed to help the student enhance his or her teaching ability. CE 4450 is a prerequisite for this course.
CE 4480—Developing a Sunday School
A study of the philosophy and methodology of developing a Sunday school in a local church to promote evangelism, Bible study, and church growth.

CE 4482—Church Growth through the Sunday School
A study of church growth principles applied to the Sunday school to produce qualitative and quantitative growth of local churches.

CE 4484—Introduction to Christian Education
An integrated study of the development of Christian education. Consideration is given to the foundations of Christian education, the outstanding patterns of education, the teaching/learning process, and the philosophy and methodology of Christian education practice within the context of a local church.

CE 4505—Ministry Relationship Skills
A study of the relationship skills necessary for an effective ministry. Consideration is given to those skills necessary for establishing and maintaining effective relationships in the church. Barriers to communication, the development of listening, assertive, and conflict management skills are examined. Qualities that foster improved communication, such as genuineness, empathy, and non-possessive love, are also given consideration.

CE 4510—Education Curriculum
A study of educational curriculum selection and development. Consideration is given to choosing curriculum that aids teachers in an effective Bible teaching ministry.

CE 4552—Church Ministries
A practical course to help the student prepare for ministry in the church. It deals with the administration of educational programming, the role of age-graded ministers, issues of leadership, recruitment of church leaders, church-wide evangelism and discipleship and other related matters.

CE 4610—Childhood and Youth Education in the Church
An objective study of the ministry of the preschool, children, and youth divisions in the local church. Specific emphasis is given to the developmental stages of childhood. Consideration is also given to the knowledge of skills needed in developing effective children’s division workers. This course is also designed to equip leaders to integrate a comprehensive youth educational ministry based on the five biblical functions of the church. Emphasis will be given to factors that relate to youth education such as youth mental and physical development, the enlistment and training of youth lay leaders, and forming a sound intentional and biblical philosophy for youth ministry.

CE 4660—Adult Education in the Church
An objective study of adult ministry in the local church. Specific emphasis is given to the educational needs of singles, young adults, median adults, and senior adults. Consideration is also given to the skills needed to develop effective adult leaders.
CE 4700—Biblical Foundations of Worship  
A study of worship and its Biblical roots, as found in the Old and New Testaments. This course includes a study of the Tabernacle as a model of worship, the impact of Christianity on Old Testament worship and its spectacular development through the Reformation and the Revivals of the 18th through 21st centuries. It will also cover selecting worship materials and planning orders of worship.

General Education

CM 4701—Music Appreciation  
An introduction to the formal elements of music and musical styles, genres, and media within the context of a local church.

EN 4901—English Grammar 1  
An intensive study of formal English grammar rules, including parts of speech, syntax, punctuation, mechanics, and spoken and written usage.

EN 4902—English Grammar 2  
Building on EN 4901, a continued study of English grammar with an emphasis on editing to employ formal grammar rules rhetorically and serve as a bridge between theory and application in speech and composition. EN 4901 is a prerequisite for this course.

EN 4913—English Composition  
An intensive study of expository writing that synthesizes ideas from various readings. Includes library work and production of documented papers.

EN 4914—Introduction to Literature  
An intensive study of major texts of literary heritage, their historical and cultural contexts and their influence on society.

EN 4919—The Rhetorical Tradition: A History in Text  
A brief overview of the rhetorical tradition, emphasizing its history, use, and development. The course will review different texts concerning rhetoric—from the Greeks to contemporary history.

SP 4921—Spanish 1  
An introduction to the basic skills fundamental to language proficiency and culture.

SP 4922—Spanish 2  
Further development of basic skills fundamental to language proficiency and culture. SP 4921 is a prerequisite for this course.

LA 4923—Latin 1  
An introduction to elements of grammar, practice in Latin composition, and translation.
LA 4924—Latin 2
Completion of elementary Latin grammar with additional readings. LA 4923 is a prerequisite for this course.

CS 4950—Introduction to Computing
A basic introduction to the use of the personal computer, with special attention to word processing and selected programs applicable to academic research and professional ministry.

WH 4961—World History 1
An introduction to significant developments in the cultures relevant to biblical history. Based on ancient texts and archaeological evidence, the study will culminate with the Neo-Babylonian empire.

WH 4962—World History 2
An introduction to significant developments in the cultures relevant to biblical history. Based on ancient texts and archaeological evidence, the study will culminate with the Hellenistic period.

MA 4971—Applied Mathematics
An introduction to basic mathematical skills as applied to life and work. This course will give instruction on mathematical concepts and will aid the student in the comprehension and the performance of mathematical problems and the application of basic mathematics that arise in ministry situations.

SC 4980—Introduction to Political Science
An introduction to the study of the use of political processes to decide public policy and the distribution of resources within and among communities and nations. Systems of government, and individual behaviors and informal political processes within those systems, will be examined using examples from various parts of the world throughout history. In the process, students will begin to explore the major questions of political philosophy, civic leadership, and Christian public ethics.