Master Degree Programs: Courses of Instruction

Cross Departmental

BH 5100—Hermeneutics
A study of the science of interpreting the Bible. The major focus is on the historical-grammatical principles of interpreting the biblical text, though some attention is given to contemporary issues in hermeneutics.

Old Testament and Hebrew

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

Old Testament Survey

OT 5101—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.

OT 5102—Old Testament Survey 2
A study of the Old Testament Poetical and Prophetic books, Job through Malachi. Characteristics of the poetic genre and wisdom literature will be presented, as well as a general introduction to Hebrew 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 Special Studies

OT 5110—Archaeology and the Old Testament
An introduction to the discipline of biblical archaeology, specifically as it relates to the Old Testament. Archaeological periods, methods, leading scholars in the
field, and major finds will be studied. Emphasis will be placed on the significance of archaeology for Old Testament studies. On site study in Israel (or other biblical lands) under the supervision of a MABTS professor may substitute for the on-campus classroom hours.

**OT 5123—Old Testament Messianism**
An introduction to the important subject of Old Testament Messianism. Contemporary approaches and issues surrounding the Old Testament Messianic promise will be examined. The student will be introduced to the extensive body of literature relating to the topic, and Messianic passages in the Old Testament will be surveyed.

**OT 5125—Old Testament Soteriology**
An examination of selected key passages in the Law, the Writings, and the Prophets that reflect Old Testament instruction and/or illustration concerning its total message of salvation. The approach to the study is biblical and exegetical.

**OT 5130—Old Testament Eschatology**
A study of selected materials that deal with end-time events. The character of prophetic and apocalyptic literature is examined, and critical prophetic and apocalyptic passages are examined and evaluated in an effort to determine a biblically consistent understanding of Old Testament Eschatology.

**Old Testament Intensives: English Text**

**OT 5200–5229—Studies in the Pentateuch**
Studies designed 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 5230–5269—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 5270–5299—Studies in Poetic Literature**
Studies which 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 materials are presented. Emphasis is given to major theological themes.

**OT 5300–5396—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.
Hebrew and Semitic Languages

HB 5195—Middle Egyptian
This course is an in-depth examination of the classical stage of the ancient hieroglyphic language known as Middle Egyptian. The course places the language in its historical context as the literary language of ancient Egypt that came to prominence during the period of the Israelite captivity. HB 5401–5402 are prerequisites for HB 5195.

HB 5401–5402—Hebrew Grammar 1 and 2
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 5401 is a prerequisite for HB 5402.

HB 5403—Intermediate Hebrew Grammar
A study at the intermediate level of Hebrew grammar, word study, syntax and the translation of selected material building upon the essentials of first year Hebrew grammar. This course of study includes the translation of selected verses and passages of the Hebrew Bible that will incorporate grammatical and syntactical observations with exposure to both prose and poetry. While first year study deals heavily with grammar and translation of brief sentences, this course places more emphasis upon syntax and the translation of extended sections. HB 5401–5402 are prerequisites for this course.

HB 5404—Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis
A survey of the essential elements of Hebrew syntax. This course introduces the student to the reading of the Hebrew Old Testament with a view to implementing exegesis. HB 5401–5402 are prerequisites for this course.

HB 5411—Reading from the Hebrew Bible
An advanced Hebrew program designed to prepare the student for thorough exegesis of the Hebrew Old Testament. Selected passages and/or books are assigned to enhance the ability for accurate translation and interpretation. Consultation of the best critical and exegetical literature is included. HB 5401–5402 are prerequisites for this course.

HB 5415—Preaching from the Hebrew Old Testament
A Hebrew Old Testament course designed to enable the student to communicate the message of the text with greater understanding and clarity. Special attention is given to principles learned in HB 5411 and their practical value for sermon development. Hebrew 5401–5402 are prerequisites for this course.

HB 5420—A Survey of Extrabiblical [or Ancient] Near Eastern Languages and Literature
A survey of the languages and literature of Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Canaan with special emphasis upon the relationship to the Old Testament. This course provides an introductory exposure to Ancient Near East Scripts (Middle Egyptian, Sumerian, Akkadian, and Ugaritic), an introduction to various grammars and primary source
materials, an introduction to comparisons and contrasts with the Hebrew language, and an introduction to the varied genre of literature available for comparison with the Old Testament.

**HB 5425—Biblical Aramaic**
An introduction to the grammar, vocabulary, syntax, and linguistic peculiarities of biblical Aramaic. The student studies selected verses from the Aramaic portions of the books of Daniel and Ezra. Other Aramaic texts related to the Bible are studied as time permits. HB 5401–5402 are prerequisites for this course.

**Old Testament Intensives: Hebrew Text**
Studies in individual books of the Old Testament, involving translation and exegesis of the Hebrew text of the book being studied. Consultation of the best critical and exegetical literature is included. HB 5401–5402 are prerequisites for these courses. The selection of individual books varies from year to year.

**New Testament and Greek**
Dr. David G. Shackelford, Department Chairman
(Dr. Matt Akers)

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

**New Testament Survey**

**NT 5601 New Testament Survey 1—Interbiblical Period, the Gospels, and Acts**
A study of the inter-biblical 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 the critical methodologies in Gospel studies. The survey of Acts includes both matters of introduction and content.

**NT 5602 New Testament Survey 2—The Pauline Corpus, General Epistles, and Revelation**

**New Testament Special Studies**

**NT 5623—New Testament Textual Criticism**
A study of the history and principles of New Testament textual criticism, including an examination of the relative values of the critical text and the Textus Receptus. GR 5811 is a prerequisite for this course.
NT 5632—New Testament Translation Theory
An introduction to the theories of translation practice and the corresponding rise of so many English Bibles. This course will give a brief history of the Bible in English, focusing on the more popular and recent versions from the King James to the Holman Christian Standard. This course will also analyze the various translation theories that lie behind these many translations. While not a prerequisite, Greek is helpful in understanding some of the translation issues.

NT 5653—Life of Christ
This is a chronological and thematic study of the life, time and teachings of Christ. This course will introduce the Old Testament prophecies concerning Christ that are fulfilled in the Canonical Gospels. This course will offer a presentation of the life of Christ that is in harmony with the four Gospels and present such interpretations for ministry and application for life.

NT 5668—New Testament Hermeneutics

NT 5693—Difficult Passages in the New Testament
Designed to investigate selected passages of the New Testament that have been historically problematic or controversial. Special focus is on passages that are often encountered in the pastorate. Included in the course are hermeneutical considerations offered as an aid in understanding such texts.

NT 5696—Qumran and the New Testament
This is an investigation of the Essenes and their relationship to key figures in the New Testament such as John the Baptist, the disciples and other early Christians. This course compares the New Testament Gospels, the Dead Sea Scrolls and selected Old Testament texts cited by the Gospels. These texts would include Masoretic or pre-Masoretic texts based on Isaiah found among the Dead Sea Scrolls.

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.

Greek

GR 5801–5802 Beginning Greek 1 and 2
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. If Beginning Greek has been taken in college, a student may seek advance standing in Beginning Greek through an interview with the department chairman. If advance standing is given, the student
may take elective hours in the place of Beginning Greek and move immediately into Intermediate Greek. Logos Bible Research Systems (Silver edition or above) is required for these courses. GR 5801 is a prerequisite for GR 5802.

**GR 5811—Intermediate Greek**
A study of intermediate Greek syntax building upon the basic grammar learned in Beginning Greek. Selected New Testament texts are examined lexically, syntactically, historically, and contextually, with application of resultant exegetical principles to the pulpit ministry. GR 5801 and GR 5802 are prerequisites for this course. Logos Bible Research Systems (Silver edition or above) is required for this course.

**GR 5821—Advanced Greek Grammar/Exegesis**
An advanced study of Greek grammar. Emphasis is placed upon the history, morphology, and syntax of New Testament Greek. GR 5811 is a prerequisite for this course.

**GR 5824—Principles of Greek Exegesis**
An examination and application of exegetical principles which are essential to the study of New Testament Greek. Attention is given to selected significant passages in the New Testament. Exegetical research papers are assigned to each student. GR 5811 is a prerequisite for this course.

**GR 5991—Difficult Passages in the Greek New Testament**
Designed to investigate, at the exegetical level, selected passages of the New Testament that have been historically problematic or controversial. Special focus is on passages that are often encountered in the pastorate. Included in the course are hermeneutical considerations offered as an aid in understanding such texts. GR 5811 is a prerequisite for this course.

**GR 5992—Readings in the Greek New Testament**
A guided reading course in which students read substantial portions from each of the genres in the Greek New Testament: Gospels, Acts, Epistles, and Revelation. The purpose of the course is to gain an appreciation for the varieties of writing styles and vocabulary in the Greek New Testament and to gain confidence in Greek reading skills. Students are assigned to reading teams of two or three and are required to read extensively outside of class time. GR 5811 is a prerequisite for this course.

**GR 5994—Preaching from the Greek New Testament**
A Greek New Testament course designed to enable the student to communicate the message of the text with greater understanding and clarity. Special attention is given to principles learned in GR 5811 and their practical value for sermon development.

**GR 5900–5990—New Testament Intensives: Greek Text**
Studies in individual books of the New Testament, involving translation and exegesis of the Greek text of the book being studied. Consultation of the best critical and exegetical literature is included. GR 5811 is a prerequisite for these courses. The selection of individual books varies from year to year.
Evangelism

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

**EV 6200—Personal Evangelism**
The first part of the semester is spent in a study of the imperative of personal witnessing and various methods of presenting the claims of Christ. Emphasis is upon doing. The second part of the semester deal with various strategies of equipping, mobilizing, motivating, and involving local churches in evangelism.

**EV 6213—Youth Evangelism**
A study of the principles of evangelism with particular emphasis upon ministry to youth in the context of the contemporary youth environment.

**EV 6214—Childhood Evangelism**
A study of the principles of evangelism with particular emphasis upon ministry to children and the unique sensitivities involved.

**EV 6215—Contemporary Evangelism**
A study of American evangelistic philosophies, strategies, and programs which have arisen within the past fifteen years. Emphasis is given to nontraditional and emerging approaches to lost people which attempt to gain a hearing for the gospel.

**EV 6240—Vocational Evangelism**
A study designed particularly for men who are called to vocational evangelism. The course deals with the ethics and devotional life of the evangelist and with practical matters in helping churches to prepare for evangelistic meetings.

Missions

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

Church Growth

**MS 6310—Introduction to Church Growth**
A basic survey of the terminology, principles, and methodology of church growth theory. The course examines both the theoretical and practical aspects of strategies designed to win persons to Jesus Christ and to establish growing and healthy churches throughout the world. This course is a prerequisite for MS 6312—Global Church Growth.
**MS 6311—Church Planting**

An introductory course in church planting. The goal will be to gain a general understanding of church planting and church planting issues. Students will integrate theological, missiological, and cultural church planting principles as they ask several key questions: What is church planting? What are the critical church planting milestones? How can new churches contextualize to reach unchurched peoples? Students will also gain an understanding of the theological, environmental, and leadership factors that each church planter must face. This course is required for students interested in the Nehemiah Project of the North American Mission Board.

**MS 6312—Global Church Growth**

An advanced course for students of church growth interested in the international or foreign aspects of church growth. The course builds on basic church growth terminology and thinking from the prerequisite course Introduction to Church Growth. The course deals with global church growth from both the practical and theoretical aspects of the discipline. The theories and understandings of the course will be based on the historic groundwork done by Donald McGavran in his teachings and writings. These theories are then applied to planting churches in an international setting.

**MS 6325—Spiritual Factors of Church Growth**

An elective course designed to look beyond the obvious causes of the growth of local churches. The course examines the spiritual reasons that churches grow: prayer, revival, spiritual leadership, and other spiritual factors.

**Missionary Strategy**

**MS 6332—Strategies of Missions and Leadership Development**

A study of the planning process and leadership strategies for use in developing effective strategies in missionary ministry. The course deals with a model for planning mission strategies. It provides a framework that allows both the individual and the missionary organization to approach their task with an overall understanding of the ultimate goal and the steps by which that goal may be achieved. The course also deals with significant aspects of leadership training utilized by missionaries in crosscultural development of churches on the mission field. The course considers foundational discipleship training for new Christians, continuing equipping of lay leaders in the local church setting, intermediate training of pastors for church planting and development, and advanced training of pastors for positions of leadership at national and international levels.

**MS 6334—Indigenous Church Planting**

An elective course examining indigenous methodology and practice in the planning of new churches. Indigenous methods are studied historically, scripturally, and strategically to help the student understand the necessity for employing indigenous principles. The course reflects a Southern Baptist approach.
MS 6340—Cross-Cultural Church Planting
A course that examines biblical, historical, and strategic methods designed to help
the cross-cultural missionary plant new churches in E-2 and E-3 situations. Missions
models are examined in light of Scripture and practical effects; and practical methods
are presented, with an emphasis on Southern Baptist strategies.

MS 6345—Church Planter’s Toolkit: Church Planting in North America
A practical resource program designed to guide persons in a step-by-step consideration
of the crucial aspects involved in planting a new church in a traditional area or in
a pioneer field in North America. Outlines of significant issues and practical
worksheets are included in the course materials. The course is related particularly
for church planters who plan to work in cooperation with the Southern Baptist North
American Mission Board.

MS 6350—Urban Church Planting
An examination of strategies related to winning people to Christ and planting
churches in North American urban settings. The course explains the demographics of
the emerging urban world and various strategies of urban church planting.

MS 6352—Growing the Smaller Church
An examination of the methods and philosophies that help produce numerical growth
in churches averaging less than two hundred in average attendance. Emphasis is
placed on developing a culture of evangelism and ministry in the church, managing
change and developing lay leaders and staff to facilitate growth.

Southern Baptist Missions and Area Studies

MS 6370—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 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: to provide an adequate
understanding of Southern Baptist missions and to encourage each Mid-America
student toward a personal commitment to missions.

World Religions and Cults

MS 6405—Traditional Religions, World Religions, and Cults
A three hour general survey of the major world religions and American cults, with a
focus on Islam, Animism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and Mormons.
The course examines fundamental 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 6410—Introduction to Roman Catholicism
An elective introduction to Roman Catholic distinctives in theology, practice, authority, and philosophy. The course emphasizes Roman Catholic theology and practice in the post-Vatican II years. Special attention is given to witnessing to Roman Catholics and to recent changes in the Roman Catholic church.

MS 6416—Engaging Islam
The course explores the history, background, and current impact of global Islam. Students will learn key theological and doctrinal differences between Christianity and Islam, and will be able to converse intelligently about the differences between the main sects of Islam (Sufi, Sunni, Shia), as well as the content of the Qur’an. This course will prepare students to share the gospel with Muslims, whether on the mission field or in a church setting.

Mission Theory

MS 6435—Pauline Theology and Missions
A study of the life, theology and missionary methods of the Apostle Paul, including his view of the missionary mandate. Attention is given to Luke’s explanation of Paul’s mission and theology as outlined and presented in the Book of Acts. The course highlights Paul’s understanding of the Gospel and the practical application of both evangelism and church planting.

MS 6438—Issues in Missiology
An investigation of crucial issues facing missions strategists, missionaries, and missionary-sending churches today. The course emphasizes the causes underlying contemporary issues, prioritization of evangelism, contextualization, and leadership development.

MS 6442—Contextualization and Chronological Bible Storying
A course that examines the means by which the primary functions of the local church can be contextualized in such a way that they are compatible with cultural patterns of people groups on the mission field. Specific emphasis is placed on the examination of Chronological Bible Storying as a method of evangelism, church planting, and leadership training.

History of Missions

MS 6460—History of Modern Missions
A study of missionary expansion during the modern missionary movement from the time of William Carey to the present. The course provides an outline of the significant developments in the history of the modern missions era. Particular emphasis is given to the unique way in which God calls, prepares, and uses chosen individuals in carrying out His redemptive plan for sharing the gospel with people groups throughout the world. Biographies of selected missionaries are featured to demonstrate missionary endeavor as it is seen through the eyes of those who have been involved in God's Kingdom purpose.
On-Field Course Work

MS 6482–6484—Annotated Missions Bibliography
A specialized bibliography course that involves a minimum of five thousand pages of supervised reading and results in preparation of an annotated bibliography that is relevant to the missionary work that is being carried out on the assigned field. Students will read materials that normally are required in the third-year courses in the on-campus program in Cordova as well as other specific materials designated by the Missions Department. Students may select other reading from materials found on the mission field. Sources must include a balance of materials that includes journals; people profiles, reports and field studies generated by missionaries and others on the field; and carefully selected internet sources.

A typed report is to be prepared for each book or other source. The format will include the bibliographical entry, a statement of the author’s purpose, the manner in which the author develops or organizes his topic and a critical evaluation of the effectiveness and relevance of the source for missionary ministry in the assigned field of service. The reviews are to be written in the format of the sample reading report distributed by the Missions Department.

Finally, students must prepare an annotated bibliography that is relevant to the missionary work that is being carried out on the assigned field. All initial written assignments must be submitted to the Missions Department at least six months prior to expected graduation. Final corrected versions of all written assignments must be submitted to the Missions Department at least one month prior to the end of the term in which students are scheduled for completion of the on-field work and graduation from the Seminary (nine semester hours credit).

MS 6485–6486—Master’s Missions Thesis
A master-level thesis of at least seventy-five to ninety pages of text (plus an appropriate bibliography) that deals with significant selected aspects of the work that is being carried out on the assigned field. The primary purpose of the thesis is to draw together what the students have learned from the two years of field experience, from the study of the language and culture of the target people, from the reading and research that has been accomplished during that time, and to write a formal paper that makes a significant contribution of the work in the assigned mission area. The sections of the paper should encompass a study of the geographical, physical, and political environment, historical development, anthropological and religious features, and a specific strategy of evangelism, church planting, and leadership development relevant to the target people group. Each paper is to include a title page, contents page, approximately seventy-five to ninety pages of text and a bibliography of source materials pertaining to the topic. The research thesis is to be written in accordance with A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th ed., by Kate Turabian (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013). The paper must conform to the Mid-America Supplement to the Turabian manual. The initial draft of the thesis must be submitted to the Missions Department at least six months prior to expected graduation. Four corrected final copies must be submitted to the Missions Department at least one month prior to the end of the term in which students are
scheduled for completion of the on-field work and graduation from the Seminary (MS 6485 counts as seven hours credit, and MS 6486 counts as 8 hours credit for a total of fifteen semester hours credit).

**Behavioral Sciences and Cross-Cultural Ministry**

**MS 6520—Anthropology & Worldview**
An introduction to the basic concepts of cultural anthropology which have practical relevance to effective missionary communication of the Gospel in a culturally heterogeneous world. The course examines marriage, family, and kinship structures; authority and decision-making structures; status, role, and function; the life cycle and rites of passage; and other factors relevant to meaningful public confession of Christ and church membership in traditional societies. The section on worldview defines worldview and focuses on the nature and functions of worldview in human culture as well as the dynamics of worldview change. Major emphasis is given to the importance of worldview understanding to communicate the Gospel in a relevant fashion.

**North American Church Planting**

**MS 6582—Methods for North American Church Planting**
Methods of North American Church Planting introduces several tried and proven church planting strategies. The traditional Southern Baptist strategy will be examined along with several other methods which have helped start thriving churches.

**MS 6583–6584—Practicum in Church Planting 1 and 2**
A course designed for selected individuals who are committed to planting a new Baptist church in North America. The students will not meet in classroom format, but will be involved in the practical exercise of a church start under the authority of a local church in cooperation with a Baptist association. Students will be accountable to the mentoring supervision of the pastor of the sponsoring church who will communicate with the professor of record regarding the student’s activities and progress in the church start.

**Theological and Historical Studies**
Dr. Jimmy A. 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.)

**General History Studies**

**CH 6001—The History of Christianity**
A 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 6008—Classics of Christian Devotion
An examination of the classic devotional literature of the Christian church. The procedure of the course consists of an interaction with primary sources, including such writings as Augustine’s Confessions, Thomas à Kempis’s *Imitation of Christ*, and John Bunyan’s *Pilgrim’s Progress*.

CH 6010—Patristic Christianity
An examination of developments in postapostolic Christianity through the mid-fifth century, with a special focus on the writings of the church fathers.

CH 6020—Medieval Christianity
A comprehensive study of the Roman Catholic Church and various dissenting groups from Gregory the Great to the eve of the Protestant Reformation. Special attention is given to historiographical, biographical, theological, and cultural issues.

CH 6040—The Magisterial Reformation
An in-depth focus upon the historical context, life, writings, compatriots, and influence of the great Magisterial Reformers. Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, Knox, and the English Reformers are studied.

CH 6050—The Radical Reformation
An introduction to the heterogeneous sixteenth-century movement known as the Anabaptists.

American History Studies

CH 6100—American Christianity
A study of the Christian experience in America from colonization to the present.

CH 6105—Colonial American Christianity
A study of the Christian experience in America from the earliest Spanish and French colonization through the Revolutionary War.

CH 6115—Religion and the Founding Fathers
This study examines the role of religion in the personal lives and political philosophy of selected Founding Fathers of the United States, including both those holding to traditional Christian beliefs and those more inclined to the Deistic impulse of the Enlightenment.

CH 6120—American Revivals
A study of revivalism and revivalists in America from the colonial period to the present.
Baptist History Studies

CH 6150—The History of the Baptists
An interpretive survey of the history of the 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.

CH 6160—Baptist Confessions
A systematic study of the confessional record left by Anabaptists and Baptists since the sixteenth century.

CH 6165—Baptist Distinctives
An integrated study of the historical witness and biblical content as they inform who Baptists have been in their history and issues central to their unique identity. Particular attention is given to ecclesiological issues.

CH 6170—Baptist Theologians
An examination of the lives and writings of formative Baptist theologians. Among those studied are Benjamin Keach, John Gill, Andrew Fuller, John Dagg, J. P. Boyce, A. H. Strong, B. H. Carroll, E. Y. Mullins, and W. T. Conner. Comparisons to contemporary Baptist writings constitute an important part of the course.

Biblical Theology

TH 6601—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 6602—Theology of the New Testament
A survey of the major doctrines of the New Testament. Biblical terminology and methodology are used.

Systematic Theology

TH 6701–6702—Systematic Theology 1 and 2
A systematic study of the major themes of Christian theology.

TH 6710—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 6720—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 6730—The Doctrine of Man
A study of the Christian doctrine of man. The course consists of a biblical, historical, and systematic study of man’s origin, nature, and destiny.

TH 6735—The Doctrine of Sin
A historical, biblical, and systematic analysis of human sinfulness.

TH 6740—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 6750—The Doctrine of Salvation
An intensive study of God’s provision of salvation for man. Special attention is given to the atonement and its results.

TH 6760—The Doctrine of the Church
A systematic study of the nature, ordinances, polity, and mission of the church.

TH 6770—The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit
An exegetical and theological study of the biblical teaching concerning the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

TH 6780—The Doctrine of Last Things
A systematic study of the doctrine of last things. Death and the intermediate state, the Second Coming of Christ, and the millennium are included in the topics to be covered.

TH 6790—Theological Ethics
Includes a study of the moral teaching of the Bible. Following an analysis of the Christian ethic, a comparison with other philosophical options is given; and applications to specific contemporary moral issues are made.

TH 6890—Contemporary Theology
A critique of reaction against theological idealism, giving attention to the contemporary idea of biblical theology and to the influence of empirical forms of thought on recent theological tendencies.

Philosophy

PH 6900—Philosophy of Religion
An overview of the major challenges to belief, specifically within a Christian worldview.

PH 6910—Introduction to Apologetics
The study of crucial issues in the defense of the Christian faith.
PH 6920—C.S. Lewis: Christian Apologist and Writer
A study of the thought of C.S. Lewis as found in his philosophical, theological and imaginative works integrated with a discussion of Lewis’ life.

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

Preaching

HM 7001—Biblical Preaching 1
Biblical Preaching 1 provides principles for biblical preaching, with an emphasis on expository sermon development from the Word of God. This course includes advanced study of preaching through a Bible book and specialized forms of expository preaching.

HM 7005—Biblical Preaching 2
This course combines elements from 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 7001 is a prerequisite for this course.

HM 7006—Principles of Biblical Communication
This course provides a basic overview of the principles of communicating the Bible orally. Emphasis is given to structural and exegetical analysis, and to interpretation of the biblical text with Christocentric applications to cross-cultural situations and service.

HM 7007—Multi-Generational Preaching
This course utilizes the principles of expository preaching in addressing the multicultural audiences called generations that compose every congregation. Rather than advocating different kinds of sermons or services for different age groups, through this course students will be equipped to: (a) recognize the cultural identities of various generational groups and (b) utilize expository preaching to address cross-generational cultures.

HM 7009—Narrative Preaching
The principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2 are used to develop a series of dynamic narrative sermons from both the Old and the New Testaments. The course focuses on the inductive form of biblical preaching, with an emphasis on the redemptive-historical Christocentric applications to contemporary life.
HM 7011—Expository Preaching in a Post-Modern Era
This course guides the student into an understanding of how to use the principles of expository preaching in the midst of the various philosophies and cultural implications of the post-modern era.

HM 7012—Preaching from the Pastoral Epistles
The principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2 are used to develop a series of dynamic sermons from the Pastoral Epistles. This practical approach not only will equip the student to preach through individual books of the Bible, but also will provide some essential scriptural guidelines for effective pastoral ministry.

HM 7015—Doctrinal Preaching
The principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2 are used to develop expository sermons that focus on the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith and their application to contemporary life.

HM 7017—Preaching from the Gospel of John
The principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2 are used to develop a series of dynamic sermons from the Gospel of John. This practical approach will not only equip the student to preach through individual books of the Bible, but will also provide some essential scriptural guidelines for effective pastoral ministry.

HM 7018—Preaching from Romans
The principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2 are used to develop a series of dynamic sermons from Paul's Epistle to the Romans, with particular consideration given to the many significant doctrines developed in the Epistle. This practical approach will not only equip the student to preach through individual books of the Bible, but will also provide some essential scriptural guidelines for effective pastoral ministry.

HM 7020—Preaching from Titus
The principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2 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 7024—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 7025—Evangelistic Preaching
The principles of expository preaching are used to develop expository evangelistic sermons. Emphasis is given to the clear proclamation of the Gospel and to the extension of the Gospel invitation.

HM 7029—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 7032—Preaching from the Life of David
The principles of expository preaching learned in Biblical Preaching 1 and 2 are used to develop a series of dynamic sermons from the life of David, with particular consideration given to the significant narratives and doctrines developed in 1 and 2 Samuel. This course focuses on the redemptive-historical Christocentric applications to contemporary life.

HM 7036—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 7040—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. The course is conducted in seminar format.

HM 7044—Preaching through the January Bible Study
An expository study of the particular book of the Bible which will be the focus of the annual Southern Baptist Convention Winter Bible Study, with a view toward applying the principles of expository preaching in developing a sermon series through that book of the Bible.

HM 7095—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.
Counseling

CN 7103—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 in counseling, the counseling process, and some of the most common problems that people face.

CN 7105—Pastoral Care and Counseling Skills
A study of the essential biblical principles of care and counseling in the church with an emphasis on the ability to relate to others. Particular emphasis is given to a theoretical and practical study of crisis situations in individual and family life. The focus is on the nature and management of crisis situations with special attention given to the relation of the pastor, the individual, and the community resources.

CN 7106—Clinical Pastoral Education
An advanced course of study relating to ministry in a clinical ministry setting such as a hospital or other chaplaincy setting. Work will involve on-site study with a cooperating care-giving institution.

CN 7110—Premarital and Marital Counseling
A study with a dual focus: The first part of the course focuses on the need for and value of premarital counseling and the development of a specific premarital counseling program. The second part of the course deals with various approaches to marital counseling, with an emphasis on specific tools and interventions available in counseling couples.

CN 7125—Christian Conciliation Procedures
A course designed to teach church leaders to function as, and train others to serve as, Christian conciliators. Emphasis is placed on discerning the nature of various biblical processes for resolving conflict and understanding the legal ramifications and limitations of Christian conciliation. Course content includes negotiations, mediation, arbitration, church discipline skills, ethics of biblical conflict resolution, and methods of biblical change.

CN 7171—An Introduction to Nouthetic Counseling
The seminar is a foundational course dealing with the need for and the fundamentals of biblical counseling. Attention will be given to an understanding of what nouthetic counseling means and how it differs from the prominent secular and religious counseling models. In addition, the course will address the key elements of the counseling process including data gathering, questioning, homework, giving hope, methods of change, and the role of the Holy Spirit in counseling. Other topics include the sufficiency of Scripture, self-esteem, and counseling failure.

CN 7172—The Theology of Counseling
This seminar will deal with the importance of sound theology as it relates to the counseling process. The class will survey the entire scope of theology as it relates to
counseling issues and process. The importance of solid exegesis and hermeneutics will also be discussed. Additionally, students will examine the process of training others to be biblical counselors.

CN 7173—Counseling Theories & Issues
The seminar will begin with an overview of the history and current state of the modern biblical counseling movement. Included will be a survey and critique of many Christian counseling teachers, philosophies, and organizations with a special focus on the dangers of integrating secular psychological concepts. Other topics will include legal issues in counseling, counseling in the local church, evaluating counseling resources, the value and process of certification in biblical counseling, and the critical stages in the progression of typical counseling cases.

CN 7174—Marriage and Family Counseling
The seminar consists of an examination of the biblical concept of marriage and the specific Scripture passages that relate. The student will be challenged to lead couples to biblical solutions to marriage conflict. Specific topics include communication, the purpose of marriage, gender roles, the sexual relationship, adultery, finances, raising children, and the dynamics of counseling couples. In addition, the course will include a study of the relevant Scripture passages dealing with the issue of divorce and remarriage with the goal of leading the student to a biblical view of the issue and an application of that view to counseling situations. The course concludes with an examination of specific counseling cases in a church setting.

Pastoral Ministries

PM 7200—Pastoral Ministries
A practical course to help the student prepare for ministry in the church. It addresses routine pastoral functions, the administration of the ordinances, conducting of marriages and funerals, leadership/organization within the local church and other related matters.

PM 7205—Advanced Pastoral Ministries
A study of the issues and skills needed to provide holistic pastoral care to a congregation. The course examines the pastoral role in equipping and involving lay leaders in ministry.

PM 7220—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 7225—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 7235—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 7237—Life in the Pastorate
This course is designed as a practical introduction to life in the pastorate. The course is purposefully designed for both the student and his wife.

PM 7250—Pastoral Administration
An introductory study of the role of the pastor in administering a local church. The course includes the issues of leadership, organization and evaluation. Individual elements such as staff relationships, business meetings and budgeting are dealt with from the pastor’s perspective.

PM 7260—Church Conflict Management
An examination of conflict management principles applied to the context of local church conflicts.

PM 7270—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 7280—Introduction to Ethics
A study of the Christian responses to the ethical problems of society in the light of the moral teachings of the Bible. The emphasis of the course is on what it means to live as a responsible disciple of Jesus in the world.

PM 7290—Pastoral Mentoring Practicum
The Pastoral Mentoring Practicum (PMP) at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary seeks to provide interns with on-the-field training under a school authorized seasoned pastor. Interns will receive mentoring by a pastor that includes the following: participation in regular meetings led by the pastor (worship services, business meetings, funerals, weddings, deacons meetings, staff meetings), critiquing and developing expository sermons under the direction of the pastor, reviewing books, accompanying the mentoring pastor on evangelistic and hospital visits, accountability/devotional time with the pastor, and the construction of a philosophy of ministry paper under the guidance of the pastor.

PM 7300—Spiritual Formation
A theological and practical course designed to aid the student to understand the spiritual character development required for effective spiritual ministry. Emphasis is given to the development of spiritual vitality through Bible study, prayer, and devotional reading.
PM 7306—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 Administration

CA 7355—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.

CA 7380—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.

Church Ministries

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

Foundations of Christian Education

CE 7401—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 7405—Foundations of Christian Education
A study in the development of Christian education. Consideration is given to foundations for Christian education, an emphasis on outstanding patterns of education, an examination of the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ, the use of the Bible in Christian education, and an emphasis on the teaching-learning process.

CE 7430—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 7440—The Church Staff
A study of the development of a church staff. Consideration is given to 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 7450—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 7452—Principles of Teaching 2
This class is a continuation of CE 7450 and focuses on educational methodologies used for effective teaching. Attention is given to the development of critical thinking and the recognition of learning styles in learners. CE 7450 is a prerequisite for this course.

CE 7480—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 7482—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 7484—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.

Specialized Ministries in Christian Education

CE 7505—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 nonpossessive love, are also given consideration.

CE 7510—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 7515—Christian School Ministry
A study of the role of the Christian school in the ministry of the local church. The course examines Christian school administration and ministry.

CE 7520—Church Recreational Ministry
A study of church recreational ministries as a means of outreach, family ministry, youth ministry, and children's ministry.
CE 7552—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 7570—Introduction to 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 in counseling, the counseling process, and some of the most common problems that people face.

Specialized Ministries in Women’s Studies

CE 7556—Women’s Ministry in the Local Church
A study of various strategies useful for building an effective ministry to women. Specific emphasis is given to program development appropriate for a balanced women’s ministry, as well as various philosophies and practices of leadership. Consideration is also given to strategies for reaching women for Christ, and the development and administration of women’s programs.

CE 7557—Current Issues for Women
An objective study of current issues facing women. Specific emphasis is given to a study of various stages in a woman’s life and her developmental needs. Consideration is also given to counseling women concerning: abortion, divorce, rape/abuse, eating disorders, marriage and parenthood, singleness, miscarriage, and menopause.

CE 7558—Biblical Womanhood
This course will explore biblical perspectives on women, and will include a study of the lives of women in the Bible. Characteristics of men and women will be analyzed and contrasted with an emphasis on God’s design for meeting their needs, for assigning them different roles, and for gifting them differently. The course will also examine multiple avenues of ministry available for women in the local church.

CE 7562—Cultural Influences on Women
A historical analysis of womanhood throughout the ages. The historical foundations of American feminism and its effect upon modern culture, specifically in regards to the church, will be covered. Attention will be given to such topics as the modern manifestations of ancient goddess worship and the negative cultural implications of the Feminist Theology movement.

Age Group Development Ministry

CE 7610—Childhood/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 7612—Childhood Education and the Law**
A study of the various legal issues involved in church childhood ministries. Specific attention is given to the legal steps involved in screening workers and protecting children.

**CE 7615—Strategies for Childhood Ministry**
A study of the various strategies to prepare Christian educators in the local church for effective ministry with preschoolers, children, and their parents.

**CE 7620—Childhood Worker Development**
A study of different skills needed for workers in a local church to minister effectively to children. The course examines practical methods of training church leadership.

**CE 7625—Ministry to Parents**
A study of ministry to parents of children. Emphasis is given to biblical principles of rearing children for parents in local churches.

**CE 7635—Strategies for Youth Ministry**
A study of the various strategies used in the local church for effective ministry to youth. Areas to be covered include: Parent ministry, strategies for developing effective lay youth leaders, methods for establishing youth committees, councils, and other support teams, as well as other topics related to developing a strategic youth ministry that has purpose and supports the biblical functions of the local church.

**CE 7640—Youth Ministry and Spiritual Formation**
A study of the various factors in adolescence that influence spiritual growth. Areas to be covered include: how social, physical, emotional, and cognitive development influences the spiritual development of adolescents; how culture impacts the spiritual formation of youth; using proper biblical guidance in dealing with youth issues related to spiritual maturity; and how youth ministers and ministries can best address these needs through the church.

**CE 7645—Issues in Youth Ministry**
A study of contemporary issues in youth culture today and how church youth ministers can best address those issues through the church. This course will include identifying top issues as identified by youth; applying proper responses in the discovery, confrontation, and resolution of issues in the lives of youth; and becoming acquainted with different sources of help for resolving problems in the lives of the youth. A strong emphasis will also be given to establishing a biblical foundation for dealing with these issues.
CE 7660—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.

CM 7700—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

EN 7900—Introduction to Research & Writing
This class will be an intensive study of academic composition in the form of argumentation with an emphasis on research. Since this class focuses on arguments, the class will also include a rhetorical study of material used in research, audience consideration, and tools to present information. Development of personal inquiry, discernment of credibility, and engagement of opposing ideas are also key components of this class.

EN 7919—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.

CS 7950—Computers and the Ministry
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.