Non-Traditional Programs

Purpose

Non-traditional programming offers quality theological education and ministerial training for effective service in church-related and missions vocations. Following the seminary’s quality enhancement project, the goal of the Seminary is to provide a quality educational experience through the provision of course work through non-traditional programming.

Online

MABTS offers master-level courses online through www.midamericaondemand.org. The purpose of this system is to provide educational opportunities for students whose residence and/or work schedule prevents them from attending regular classes. Students may earn up to and including 49% of graduation requirements through online and extension courses. The additional 51% of graduation credits are available through a combination of on-campus mini-terms, Monday evening classes and normal residential classes. Undergraduate students may obtain permission to take an online class by petitioning the master and undergraduate committee.

Courses involve a variety of methodologies. Instruction may include video, PowerPoint, text instruction, and independent tasks such as research projects and papers. Some courses include hyperlinked projects, such as preaching videos, historical journals, biblical studies, and geographical mapping. Each class includes interaction through methods, such as chat rooms, forums, threads, email, and video conferencing. Quizzes, assignments, and tests may also be conducted through the online course management system.

Students and professors are able to interact through the various features of online courses. Sample classes are available to guests through this website. Enrollment occurs through the normal registration process.

Extension Centers (Off-Campus Instructional Sites)

Mid-America offers classes at off-campus instructional sites. Classes are available in New York, New York, and Jonesboro, Arkansas. The classes typically occur on Mondays or Saturdays. Some classes will meet, however, during the summer on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Courses are scheduled in a specific three-year rotating pattern. Students should contact the director of distance education or the
registrar for a schedule of courses. As mentioned above, students may earn up to 49% of graduation requirements through extension courses. The remaining 51% are available through on-campus offerings.

**Mini-Terms**

Mini-terms are one-week intensives that are designed to give our online and extension students more options for fulfilling their residential requirements. Mini-term offerings are available in January, March, June, and August. The registration for mini-terms will be at least four weeks before classes begin. The sessions consist of four week cycles that include the following: (1) pre-course reading and assignments, (2) one week course meetings from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, and (3) post-course work, including writing assignments, that are due two weeks after the course unless otherwise noted in the course syllabus.

**Admission**

Students must complete the regular admissions process. Applications are available at the campus or on the seminary website. No one may register for a class until the admissions process is complete, and the application has been approved.

**Registration**

Registration will take place each semester through the regular registration process. Students may enroll in courses for credit or as non-credit auditors. Courses taken in audit status may not count for credit should the student later enroll in a degree program. Students taking classes at extension centers and through the online programs must meet all academic requirements.

**Schedule**

Online courses follow the academic calendar of the Cordova campus. Classes at extension centers may vary. Exceptions are noted in each class syllabus.

**Bridge Programs**

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary offers two bridge programs, namely, the bachelor bridge program (BBP) and the master’s bridge program (MBP). Through these programs, a student can earn up to twenty-four hours of credit towards a bachelor of arts in Christian studies degree or thirty hours of credit toward a master degree.