designated as Report Hour for practical missions, where both faculty and students give personal witnessing testimonies. Chapel services also include preaching by faculty, pastors, Baptist leaders, and other special guests. Such worship, inspiration, and Bible preaching make a lasting contribution to the spiritual development of the Seminary family and are an integral part of the total training program. The Northeast campus holds chapel on Tuesdays and Fridays.

**Academic Freedom**

Students at MABTS enjoy academic freedom. The freedom in Jesus Christ is basic in the atmosphere of a theological seminary. It is desired that students be superior in all phases of their studies, and this necessitates freedom. However, the practice of Christian freedom in this Seminary must come within the framework of responsibility. Academic freedom for both faculty and students is bound by commitment to the “Articles of Religious Belief” of the Seminary and loyalty to the stated purpose of MABTS as adopted by the Board of Trustees.

**Student Grievance Policy and Procedure**

Seminary policy grants to the administration and faculty of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary the authority to develop and administer the processes for study and other issues related to student life. Students are expected to conform to expectations and standards of performance and conduct. The same policy that establishes the governance of academic and administrative affairs, however, allows the student the opportunity to seek recourse from what they consider to be unfair or unjust evaluations or processes. In the case of doctoral students, grievance procedures and decisions are established and administered by each doctoral committee.

Before completing the following application for grievance for redress, the student should:
1. Review documents that address the situation (syllabi, policies and procedures, etc.).
2. Prayerfully consider the validity of the grievance.
3. In keeping with Matthew 18, discuss the issue with the professor or administrator involved.
4. If the issue cannot be resolved at this level, then the student should follow the Student Grievance Process as described below.

It is the policy of the seminary to evaluate seriously student grievances and either resolve the problems brought by the student or make appropriate recommendations to the appropriate office for such resolution. Procedures are established below for addressing student grievances in three sections: academic issues, administrative issues, and ethical conduct issues.

The grievance process described below begins with the completion of a student-initiated application for review, the Student Grievance Form. This form may be obtained from the Campus Life office or from www.mabts.edu. It is the responsibility of the administrative assistant/associate in the appropriate division of the Seminary to coordinate the process for grievance including the scheduling of meetings.

**Section I – Academic Grievances**

For Grievances of Academic Issues Related to Grades, Course Information, Course Content, Faculty Conduct, Performance, or Attitude

The seminary specifically assigns to the individual faculty member responsibility for establishing grade criteria and the subsequent assignment of grades upon evaluation of student work.

(Matters related to dropping and adding are dealt with by petition through the Registrar's office. Matters related to
excessive excused or unexcused absences are dealt with by petition through the Masters and Undergraduate Committee.

In the case that a discussion of the issue with the professor or administrator involved does not resolve the issue, the following procedure should be followed:

1. The student completes, signs, and delivers the Student Grievance Form to the appropriate Department Chair's Office, who will then meet with the professor or administrator to attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance.
2. If the situation remains unresolved, the department chair will deliver the Student Grievance Form to the academic vice president, who will meet with all parties involved to attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance. The student may request that a student council representative or another faculty member attend the meeting as well.
3. The academic vice president will make a final decision concerning the grievance.

Section II – Administrative Grievances

For Grievances of Administrative Issues Related to Support Services

1. The student completes, signs, and delivers the Student Grievance form to the Dean of Men or Women’s Office, who will attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance.
2. If the situation remains unresolved, the Dean of Men or Dean of Women will deliver the Student Grievance Form to the academic vice president, who will meet with all parties involved to attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance. The student may request that a student council representative or another faculty member attend the meeting as well.