



**2020–2021**  
MID-AMERICA  
SEMINARY  
CATALOG



**MID-AMERICA**  
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

# 2020–2021 Catalog

Volume XLIX



“ . . . that in all things He might have the preeminence.”

(Colossians 1:18)

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The catalog is not to be understood as a contract, real or implied, between Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary and any potential, current or former student. It is for informational purposes only, and the most current version available on the Mid-America website is always operative.





Dear Friend,

Let me take a moment to thank you for your interest in Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. Our school is committed to training pastors, church staff leaders, and missionaries to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. Our school emphasizes the inerrant Bible, personal evangelism, and missions as a way of life and ministry. I hope that as you seek to learn more information about Mid-America, God will guide you in what He is doing at this wonderful place. With our God-called faculty, state-of-the-art facilities, and incredible staff, we are experiencing an unusual day of God's great blessings on Mid-America.

Discover the passion of the Mid-America family and friends. Our world-class faculty members are active Southern Baptists, committed to the local church, and they are personal soul-winners.

At Mid-America, we are not just in the business of providing academic training, we are in the ministry of changing lives to make an eternity's worth of difference. Come join us and learn to be more like the Lord Jesus, ready to minister effectively in a lost and dying world.

In Christ,

Michael R. Spradlin, PhD  
President





# Contents

General Information.....7

Buildings and Facilities .....21

Student Religious Emphases.....22

Student Organizations and Programs.....23

Student Assistance Services .....25

Tuition and Student Aid.....27

Admission Requirements and Procedures .....35

Registration Requirements and Procedures .....45

The Witness One:Seven Program .....47

General Academic Regulations .....51

Connected Campus Online .....70

Introduction to Academic Programs .....73

Master of Arts Program .....76

Accelerated Master of Divinity Program.....87

Master of Divinity Program.....99

Doctor of Ministry Program .....135

Doctor of Philosophy Program .....145

Faculty Vitae.....169

# General Information

Brief History ..... 7

Articles of Religious Belief ..... 9

Mid-America and the Bible ..... 11

Board of Trustees ..... 13

Executive Administration ..... 14

Faculty ..... 15

Instructors ..... 17

Academic and Administrative Directors and Deans ..... 18

Executive Administrative Staff ..... 18

Mid-America Seminary Development Council ..... 19

Mid-America Seminary Advisory Council ..... 20

# General Information

## Brief History

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary (MABTS) began in the fall of 1971 as “The School of the Prophets” by a charter granted by the state of Louisiana. The purpose of the school was to provide theological education for those whom God called to vocational Christian service. By action of the Board of Trustees, the location of the school was changed to Little Rock, Arkansas, and the school name was changed to Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. A charter was granted by the state of Arkansas in March 1972, and the first session of classes began with Founders’ Days, August 23–25, 1972. Four professors offered classes to 28 students. The Seminary conducted classes for three years in the facilities of Olivet Baptist Church, Little Rock, Arkansas.

In 1975, the Seminary negotiated the purchase of the Reformed Jewish Temple and Hebrew School located at 1255 Poplar Avenue in Memphis, Tennessee. The Seminary conducted classes during the 1975–1976 school term in Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. The purchase of the Temple and Hebrew School was finalized in August 1976, and the Seminary moved into the new debt-free facilities in October 1976. In 1982, the Seminary purchased the adjoining property at 1257 Poplar, which housed the Ora Byram Allison Memorial Library and an administration building.

In 1994, friends of the Seminary made available an eight-acre campus in Germantown, Tennessee. The Seminary renovated the facilities, and in January 1996, moved to the new campus debt-free. The campus provided classrooms, offices, library, a chapel, a cafeteria, a gym, a bookstore, childcare facilities, lounges, and resource rooms under one roof. In addition, the campus provided a pleasant, welcoming environment for learning. The move to the Germantown campus allowed the Seminary to expand its course offerings into the evenings and provide more opportunities for the wives of students to enroll in classes and be involved in Seminary life.

In 1996, a group of concerned and committed men formed Mid-America Student Housing, Inc., a 501 (c) not-for-profit corporation for the purpose of providing student housing. A dear friend of the Seminary donated 32 acres for housing that was only 15 minutes from the Seminary in Olive Branch, Mississippi. The first 100 units of student housing opened in August 1998.

In fall 2003, Mid-America’s next-door neighbor, Methodist Hospital, approached the Seminary with an offer to purchase the Germantown campus. After numerous negotiations, Methodist Hospital purchased the campus in December of that year while allowing Mid-America to use the campus for up to four years, rent free, until a new campus could be built. In June 2004, the people of Bellevue Baptist Church, led by their pastor—the late Dr. Adrian Rogers—voted to give Mid-America thirty-five acres of land across Applying Road from Bellevue Baptist Church as Mid-America’s new home.

Construction began in spring 2005 and was completed in August 2006, in time for Founders’ Days and the beginning of the 2006 fall term. Soon after Mid-America

received the gift of land, sixteen additional acres of land was purchased adjacent to the Appling Road property as the site for Mid-America's student housing. Construction of student housing was conducted concurrently with the campus construction and was also completed by fall 2006.

From the beginning of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, the administration and faculty have desired to establish a Bible-believing, Bible-preaching, Bible-teaching, soul-winning campus in the northeastern part of the United States. In 1987, the Northeast campus was approved by the Board of Regents of the State of New York to offer the Master of Divinity degree. The Seminary purchased ten 10 acres in the heart of the Capital District in the state of New York in February 1988, constructed a 15,400 square foot building, and started classes in the fall of 1989. The focus of the Northeast campus is to train pastors for evangelism, church planting, and serving Southern Baptist churches throughout this heavily populated and strategic area of America.

In the fall of 2016, the Seminary administration began to prayerfully consider the possibility of establishing a college which would be academically excellent, affordable, Christ-centered, and ministry focused. In the spring of 2017, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to start The College at Mid-America as a school of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

## **Accreditation**

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, bachelor, master, and doctoral degrees. For questions about the accreditation of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097, or call 404-679-4500.

## **Our Purpose**

The primary purpose of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is to provide graduate theological training for effective service in church-related and missions vocations. Undergraduate training is also offered for effective Christian leadership in various fields. Other levels of training are also offered.

The Seminary attempts to guide students into a thorough understanding of the Bible and its relevance for today, preparing those who have been called of God to preach and teach the Word of God. Further preparation is offered through instruction in preaching, counseling, education, and cross-cultural ministry. In addition, all graduate and doctoral students are required to participate in the Witness One:Seven program of the school and are encouraged to be involved in churches during their seminary days. Undergraduate students are encouraged but not required to participate in the GO! Program.

In response to the distinct training needs among Southern Baptists, the Seminary offers the following programs: Master of Arts, Master of Divinity, Doctor of Ministry, and Doctor of Philosophy.

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary desires to glorify Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This purpose is achieved by:

- Teaching the Bible as the verbally-inspired Word of God, wholly without error as originally given by God, and sufficient as our infallible rule of faith and practice;
- Maintaining high academic standards and promoting reverent scholarship;
- Teaching that people should be faithful in the Lord's service through the local church;
- Demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit as His gifts are exercised; and
- Training people to do evangelism at home and cross-culturally.

## **Articles of Religious Belief**

### **Article I: The Bible**

We believe that the Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God, wholly without error as originally given by God, and is sufficient as our only infallible rule of faith and practice. We deny that other books are inspired by God in the same way as the Bible. Please see the position paper following the Articles of Religious Belief.

### **Article II: God**

We believe in the one true and living God, the Creator and Sustainer of all things. He is infinite, eternal, unchangeable, and is revealed to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father is the head of the Godhead, and into His hands the kingdom shall be delivered. The Son is the promised Messiah of the Old Testament, Jesus Christ, who was born of the Virgin Mary, hence the God-Man. He died on the cross to redeem man, rose again from the dead to justify the believer, ascended to the right hand of God where He intercedes for us, and in the Father's own time will return in visible, personal form to overthrow sin and judge the world. The Holy Spirit is the One sent from God to convict the world of sin, of righteousness, of judgment, and to regenerate and cleanse from sin. He is the resident guide, teacher, and strengthener of the believer.

### **Article III: Satan and Sinful Man**

We believe that man was created innocent, that he was tempted by Satan, and that man sinned; because of this action, men have been born in sin since that time and are by nature the children of wrath. We believe that Satan is a personal devil who with his angels carries on the work of iniquity in this world. Sin is basically rebellion against God, and the end of sin is eternal separation from God.



## **Article IV: Salvation**

We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Savior from sin. He atoned for our sins on the cross and rose again for our justification. Apart from Jesus Christ there is no salvation. All men are under condemnation through personal sin, and escape from condemnation comes only through the righteousness of Jesus Christ. This righteousness is imputed to the believer by grace through faith. The Holy Spirit regenerates the one who makes the life commitment to Jesus, and the life begun in regeneration is never lost.

## **Article V: Resurrection**

We believe in the final resurrection of all men, just and unjust. We believe that those who commit their lives to Jesus Christ during this life will be raised to everlasting life, but those who are not committed to Jesus Christ in this life will be raised to everlasting condemnation.

## **Article VI: The Church**

We believe that a New Testament church is a voluntary association of baptized believers in Christ who have covenanted together to follow the teachings of the New Testament in doctrine, worship, and practice. We believe that the only two church ordinances are baptism and the Lord's Supper. We likewise believe that only those who are committed to Jesus Christ as Lord are scriptural subjects for baptism and that immersion is the only proper mode of baptism. We believe that the Lord's Supper is a memorial to the Lord's death. The bread symbolizes His body that was given for us, while the fruit of the vine symbolizes His blood that was shed for us. We believe that a church is a democratic organization served by two types of officers: pastors or bishops and deacons.

## **Article VII: Civil Government**

We believe that God established civil government. We likewise believe in the complete separation of church and state.

## **Article VIII: Baptist Distinctives**

We are Baptists because we believe that Baptists stand for distinctive truths to which other denominations do not adhere. We believe that we cannot compromise these truths without being disloyal to our Lord and to His Word. We do seek to cooperate with all others who are committed to Jesus Christ as Lord.

## **Addendum: To Be Signed by All Professors**

I do solemnly promise and engage not to inculcate, sanction, teach, or insinuate anything that shall contradict or contravene—either directly or implicitly—any element of the foregoing statement of religious beliefs. Now, therefore, the undersigned in the presence of God declares that he or she consents, agrees, and binds himself or herself to all of the foregoing without any reservation whatsoever. He or she further agrees that he or she will immediately notify in writing the administration of the Seminary should a change of any kind take place in his or her belief that is not in accord with this statement.

# Mid-America and the Bible

## A Position Paper

One of the defining hallmarks of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is our high view of the Bible as the pure and true Word of God. This commitment to the Bible was one of the motivating reasons for the birth of the Seminary. Our founders recognized the urgent need for a seminary where every professor would believe all of the Bible. The need for such a seminary is as urgent, if not more urgent, today. Throughout our history, churches and individuals have supported the Seminary because of this distinctive commitment to the Word of God. We have communicated to students that if they come to Mid-America they will receive solid biblical/theological training and preparation for ministry.

It is important that we communicate clearly the fact that our commitment to the Bible never changes. It is imperative that we do this to be faithful to the Lord, to fulfill our educational purpose, to undergird the confidence of our supporters and students, and to keep our distinctiveness at the forefront.

For years, we have all used the word *inerrancy* to express our position. Language, however, has a way of changing. Over a period of years, words that express concrete ideas can lose the precision and sharpness that they once communicated as they are used in different contexts and given added connotations. During the past few years, there have been those who have sought to add an elasticity to the word inerrancy and broaden its meaning. Thus, while we are all avowed inerrantists in the classical sense of the word, the best place for us to focus in communicating our unchanging commitment to the Bible is with Article I on the Bible in our Articles of Religious Belief. Article 1 affirms that “We believe that the Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God, wholly without error as originally given by God, and is sufficient as our only infallible rule of faith and practice. We deny that other books are inspired by God in the same way as the Bible.”

In this article the Seminary makes a clear and unambiguous statement about the Bible. Each year when we sign the Articles and verbally affirm our agreement with them we, too, are making the same clear and unambiguous statement. Several assertions about the Bible are included in this statement:

1. God is the Author of the Bible. We recognize the divine-human aspect of Scripture, that God used human authors and utilized their personalities in the process of inspiration. God alone, however, is the ultimate Author of Scripture. He is the source of inspiration, the initiator of inspiration, and communicates His absolute truth through inspiration. What the Bible says is what God says.
2. Verbal inspiration affirms that God inspired the actual words of Scripture. What the human authors wrote is exactly what God intended to be said, and they wrote the words which God intended to be used to communicate His truth. The words of the Bible are the very words of God.
3. While the article does not forward a particular theory of inspiration, it communicates the result of inspiration. That result is absolute and perfect truth. The article affirms that the Bible is infallible, that it is incapable of error.

Everything that the Bible declares—whether doctrine, exhortation, or history—is truth.

4. The Bible is our guide in faith and practice. Our response to reading and studying the Bible is the belief in and obedience to the revealed will and way of God.
5. The Bible is unique as the Word of God; no other book compares to it. The Bible alone is the deposit of eternal truth.

These assertions in turn give us guidance in:

1. Teaching. Our task is to foster in students complete confidence in the Bible and to equip them for effective Bible-based and Bible-centered ministry.
2. Translation. Because of our commitment to verbal inspiration, we believe that the task of translation is to translate accurately the words that God chose to use in the original languages. The standard of translation is fidelity to the words that God chose to use and not the accommodation to changing contemporary trends. We believe that God is omniscient. In His omniscience He knew that language would change and deliberately chose those words inspired in the original text to convey exactly what He wanted to be said.
3. Textual criticism. Textual criticism is a tool to be used reverently to examine the available texts and validate translations. In those very few instances where there are legitimate questions about the text, we continue research. If there is no legitimate question about the text, we believe the text to be the very Word of God. We believe further that textual criticism should never be used in a manner that will erode a student's confidence in the Word of God.
4. Scholarly research. Our purpose in scholarly research is the pursuit of truth, not just the increase of knowledge. Our commitment to verbal inspiration, therefore, does not restrict genuine scholarly research. This commitment, instead, provides the standard for directing and judging true scholarly research. Here we stand. By the grace of God, here we shall ever stand.

Note: The Trustees adopted this position paper as the Seminary's official interpretation and application of Article 1 of the *Articles of Religious Belief*.

# Board of Trustees

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is controlled by a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees. All trustees are active members of cooperating Southern Baptist churches.

**Mr. Ray Skinner, Chairman**  
Rolla, Missouri

**Mr. Terry Brimhall**  
Bartlett, Tennessee

**Mr. Keith Noble**  
Springfield, Missouri

**Mr. Gene Howard Sr.**  
Lakeland, Tennessee

**Judge Richard Proctor**  
Wynne, Arkansas

**Mr. Roland Maddox**  
Collierville, Tennessee

**Mr. Jimmie Williams**  
Memphis, Tennessee

# Executive Administration



Dr. Michael R. Spradlin  
President



Dr. Bradley C. Thompson  
Executive Vice President  
Dean of the College  
at Mid-America



Dr. Lee Brand Jr.  
Vice President  
Dean of the Seminary



Dr. Randy Redd  
Vice President for Finance  
and Operations



Mr. Nathan Cole  
Vice President for Institutional  
Advancement

**A DISTINCTIVE FACULTY:** A select group of men and women who have proven themselves faithful to God's Word in God's work.

**Every faculty member** accepts the plenary verbal inspiration of the Bible.

**Every faculty member** is a faithful witness for Jesus Christ.

**Every faculty member** is an active member of a cooperating Southern Baptist church.

**Every faculty member** holds an earned doctorate in his or her field.

**Every faculty member** is available for counseling with students.

## Faculty

### **Michael R. Spradlin**

President; Chairman of the Department of Evangelism; Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, Evangelism, Practical Theology, and Church History. BA, Ouachita Baptist University; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Bradley C. Thompson**

Executive Vice President; Dean of The College at Mid-America; Chairman of the Department of Christian Education; Professor of Christian Education. BA, The Criswell College; MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; DMin, Luther Rice Seminary; PhD, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; EdD, Columbia University.

### **Lee Brand Jr.**

Vice President; Dean of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Chairman of the Department of Practical Theology; Professor of Practical Theology, New Testament and Theology; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Randy Redd**

Vice President for Finance and Operations; BBA, Baylor University; MBA, University of Texas at Tyler; PhD, Sullivan University.

### **Matthew R. Akers**

Associate Dean of Doctoral Programs; Director of Connected Campus/Distance Learning; Associate Professor of Old Testament, Hebrew, New Testament, Greek, and Biblical Counseling. AA, BA, Central Baptist College; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Wayne E. Cornett**

Associate Dean of Graduate Programs; Assistant Professor of New Testament and Greek. BA, Andersonville Baptist Seminary; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary



**John Babler**

Chairman and Professor of Biblical Counseling. MA, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; MSSW, University of Texas at Arlington; PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Michael S. Haggard**

MOVE Northeast Coordinator; Assistant Professor of Church History. BS, Hyles-Anderson College; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**R. Kirk Kilpatrick**

Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew. BA, University of Memphis; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Kenneth R. Lewis**

Director of Information Technology; Assistant Professor of New Testament, Theology and Church History; BS, Mississippi State University; BA, Huntsville Bible College; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**William Thomas Marshall**

Director of Institutional Assessment; Director of Security; Assistant Professor of Christian Education. BS, MS, Troy University; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**T. Van McClain**

Research Librarian; Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew. BA, Dallas Baptist College; MDiv, PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; MLS, State University of New York.

**Stephen R. Miller**

Chairman of the Department of Old Testament and Hebrew; Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew. BS, Union University; ThM, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Jimmy A. Millikin**

Professor Emeritus of Theology. AA, Williams Baptist College; BA, East Texas Baptist College; MDiv, ThD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Michael P. Mewborn**

Associate Dean of The College at Mid-America; Chairman of the Department of Theology and Church History; Director of Campus Life; Dean of Men; Director of the Go! Program; Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, Church History, and Theology. BA, University of South Florida; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Jere L. Phillips**

Editor, *The Journal of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary*; Professor of Practical Theology. BA, Union University; MDiv, ThD, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Bradley P. Roderick**

Chairman of the Department of Missions; Director of Witness One:Seven Program; Professor of Missions. BA, Mississippi College; MDiv, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

**David G. Shackelford**

Chairman of the Department of New Testament and Greek; Professor of New Testament and Greek. BSE, University of Arkansas; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**John Mark Terry**

Professor Emeritus of Missions. BS, John Brown University; MDiv, PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Mark Thompson**

Director of Arkansas Prison Initiative; Assistant Professor in Church History, Theology, and Missions. BS, Crichton College; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Instructors****Brian Carmichael**

Instructor of Church History and Practical Theology. BSOL, Union University; MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Nicholas Daniel**

Instructor of Christian Education. BA, University of Memphis; PhD candidate, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Cody Goss**

Instructor of Music and Worship. BME, Jacksonville State University; MMus, DMA, University of Alabama.

**Daniel L. Jones**

Instructor of Practical Theology and New Testament. BA, Leavell College; MDiv, PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Justin Mullins**

Instructor of Christian Education. BA, University of Tennessee; MACE, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; EdD, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Joseph Shin**

Instructor of English and Christian Education. BA, Kyunghee University; MA, Sogang University; MACE, PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**James D. Whitmire**

Instructor of Music and Worship. BA, Stetson University; Honorary Doctorate in Music, Liberty University.

## **Academic and Administrative Directors/Deans**

Dr. Michael Spradlin, President

Dr. Bradley Thompson, Executive Vice President, Dean of The College at Mid-America

Dr. Lee Brand Jr., Vice President, Dean of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Matt Akers, Associate Dean of Doctoral Programs

Dr. Wayne Cornett, Associate Dean of Graduate Programs

Dr. Mikey Mewborn, Associate Dean of The College at Mid-America, Director of Campus Life, Dean of Men

Mr. Terrence Brown, Director of Library Services

Miss Cary Beth Duffel, Director of International Student Affairs

Mr. Ray Helton, Chief Development Officer

Dr. Kenneth Lewis, Director of Information Technology

Mrs. Rose Mink, Registrar

Mrs. Karen Nelson, Director of Human Resources

Mrs. Glenda Norville, Dean of Women

Dr. Brad Roderick, Director of the Witness: One Seven Program

Mrs. Betsy Wade, Assistant Director of Financial Aid

## **Executive Administrative Staff**

Miss Cary Beth Duffel, Executive Assistant to the President

Mrs. Karen Nelson, Executive Assistant to the Executive Vice President/Dean of the College

Mrs. Glenda Norville, Executive Assistant to the Vice President/Dean of the Seminary

Mrs. Carol Wilson, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Institutional Advancement

Mrs. Betsy Wade, Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Finance and Operations

# Mid-America Seminary Development Council

The Mid-America Seminary Development Council consists of Christian laymen from across the United States. The Development Council assists in the continuing development and expansion of the Seminary and is especially concerned with expanding the physical facilities and with operating and endowment funds.

Mr. Ken Bridges Cordova, Tennessee	Mr. John Hyneman Memphis, Tennessee	Mr. Fred Rawlinson Cordova, Tennessee
Dr. Larry Browning, Jr. Lakeland, Tennessee	Mr. Jack Johnson Eads, Tennessee	Dr. Truman Sandlin Germantown, Tennessee
Mr. Guy Bulliner Senatobia, Mississippi	Mr. DeWayne Jones Cordova, Tennessee	Mr. James Shoemaker Germantown, Tennessee
Mr. Don Bunch Morristown, Tennessee	Mr. Neil Kenemer Lakeland, Tennessee	Dr. Robert Skinner Olive Branch, Mississippi
Mr. John Calcote Cordova, Tennessee	Mr. Tom Leatherwood Arlington, Tennessee	Mr. Alan Strain Germantown, Tennessee
Mr. Sam Camp Memphis, Tennessee	Mr. Bill McGaughey Germantown, Tennessee	Mr. John H. Tilmon Olive Branch, Mississippi
Mr. Jerry Flynt Eads, Tennessee	Mr. Bill McNeil Eads, Tennessee	Dr. J. Robert Vincent Walls, Mississippi
Mr. Emmett Gadberry Hughes, Arkansas	Mr. Rama Miller Maumelle, Arkansas	Mr. Jim Waggener Cordova, Tennessee
Mr. Jack Gilbert Olive Branch, Mississippi	Mr. Pat Musgrave Lorena, Texas	Mr. Lance Walker Memphis, Tennessee
Mr. Barry Griffith Memphis, Tennessee	Mr. Gordon Nevells III Lakeland, Tennessee	Mr. David Wikenheiser Arlington, Tennessee
Mr. David Hogan Arlington, Tennessee	Dr. Mike Parrish Eads, Tennessee	Mr. Rick Williams Germantown, Tennessee

# Mid-America Seminary Advisory Council

The Mid-America Seminary Advisory Council consists of Christian vocational workers from churches throughout the United States. The Advisory Council offers suggestions and counsel concerning the training projected by the Seminary. In addition, the Advisory Council advises and aids in the continuing development of methods, means, and facilities for implementing the program of the Seminary.

## Leadership Council:

<b>Dr. Robert Pearle</b> Aledo, Texas	Rev. Charles L. Grigsby Arlington, Tennessee	Dr. Robert C. Pitman Muscle Shoals, Alabama
<b>Dr. Monte Shinkle</b> Jefferson City, Missouri	Dr. Jack Graham Plano, Texas	Dr. David Pope Connersville, Indiana
<b>Rev. Josh Reavis</b> Jacksonville, Florida	Rev. James Guenther Lee, Massachusetts	Rev. Bill Ricketts Athens, Georgia
Rev. Lewis Adkison Colorado Springs, Colorado	Dr. Gerald Harris Atlanta, Georgia	Rev. Glenn Rogers Deland, Florida
Rev. Jimmy Albritton Picayune, Mississippi	Dr. O. S. Hawkins Dallas, Texas	Dr. P. J. Scott Paris, Tennessee
Rev. Ken Babrick Palm Beach Gardens, Florida	Dr. Ron Herrod Sevierville, Tennessee	Rev. Lyle Seltsmann LaVergne, Tennessee
Rev. Clarence L. Badon Prairieville, Louisiana	Dr. Tim Hight Christiansburg, Virginia	Dr. Mike Trammell New Market, Maryland
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Rev. Steve Brumbelow Willis, Texas	Dr. Jimmy Jackson Huntsville, Alabama	Rev. Ken Whitten Tampa, Florida
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Rev. Dan Crow Elliott City, Maryland	Dr. Forrest Lowry III Spring, Texas	Dr. Ed Young Houston, Texas
Dr. Walter H. Davis Winter, Florida	Rev. H. D. McCarty Fayetteville, Arkansas	
Dr. Tom Elliff Richmond, Virginia	Dr. Jeff Noblit Tuscumbia, Alabama	
Rev. Rich Gregory Decatur, Illinois	Dr. Roger S. Oldham Nashville, Tennessee	

# Buildings and Facilities

## The Campus

The campus of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is conveniently located at 2095 Appling Road, Cordova, Tennessee.

The building complex includes an auditorium seating 1,100 persons, executive offices, administrative offices, faculty offices, classrooms, doctoral carrels, seminar rooms, bookstore, banquet room, cafeteria, gym, missions room, preaching chapel, and the Ora Byram Allison Memorial Library. The library houses the main library collection and offices. Seminary housing is located adjacent to the main campus, across Goodlett Farms Parkway.

## The Ora Byram Allison Memorial Library

Dedicated in August 1979 as the academic core of the Seminary, the Ora Byram Allison Memorial Library is committed to the mission of the Seminary and the College by developing, providing, and maintaining facilities, materials, and services for the academic programs. The Allison Library extends those services to the entire seminary community both traditional and distance—students, faculty, staff, alumni, local Southern Baptist pastors, and missionaries on furlough. Located in a separate wing west of the chapel, the Allison Library includes a spacious circulation and browsing area, periodical and reference rooms with adjacent study rooms, and a separate space for materials on microfiche. The stacks area accommodates all current circulating collection—books, DVDs, CDs, and books on microfiche—with additional space for growth up to 220,000 volumes. Dividing the periodical and reference rooms from the general collections are offices for technical processing and library staff. Over 200,000 items are available, including 40,000 volumes of eBooks, plus over 40,000 periodicals through print or electronic subscriptions. Neighboring libraries have entered into cooperative, reciprocal agreements with the Seminary and the College to allow the Seminary community to use their facilities and materials via membership in the Memphis Area Library Council. These libraries include the University of Memphis, Memphis Theological Seminary, Harding Graduate School of Religion, and the Memphis-Shelby County Public Library and Information Center.



# Student Religious Emphases

## Founders' Days

Mid-America starts each school year with Founders' Days. At the beginning of the fall semester, the Seminary family and friends gather for fellowship, worship, and Bible preaching. These services of inspiration and challenge are an essential part of the educational experience of Mid-America Seminary.

## Chapel Services

Chapel services are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tuesday chapels are devoted to personal witnessing testimonies by faculty and students. Thursday chapel services include preaching by faculty, pastors, Christian theologians, and biblical scholars. Such worship, inspiration, and Bible preaching make a lasting contribution to the spiritual development of students and are an integral part of the total training program.

## Missionary Days

Missionary Days are designed to promote an understanding of and commitment to Southern Baptist mission work. Outstanding field missionaries and missions leaders present the challenges and opportunities of both international and home mission fields. During these services, students are invited to make public commitments to serve as missionaries.

## Campus Revival

Each year the faculty and students set apart time for a special season of spiritual renewal and commitment. In these refreshing times of prayer and revival preaching, members of the Seminary family are challenged to renewed personal devotion to Christ, holiness of life, and evangelistic fervor.

# Student Organizations and Programs

## Student Body Association

The Student Body Association is composed of all students at the Seminary during any given semester. The association meets periodically to implement projects and programs developed through the Student Council.

## Student Council

The Student Council is composed of elected and appointed representatives from the student body with the director of Campus Life appointed as advisor. The council is governed by its own constitution and functions as a service organization. It meets as often as is necessary to discuss student problems, needs, and programs, and makes recommendations to the Student Body Association. The Student Council promotes fellowship and recreation among the students and assists students through the Student Relief Fund, as funds are available. Additional information regarding the Student Council is published in the *Student Supplement and Housing Handbook*.

## Student Relief Fund

Students participate in an ongoing ministry of compassion and care to fellow students through the Student Relief Fund. On the first Tuesday and Thursday of each month, following chapel, students may contribute to this fund, which is administered by the Student Council and assists with emergencies and special needs of students.

## Student Representation on Committees

It is the policy and practice of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary to include student representation on committees that are concerned with the planning, implementation, and evaluation of key phases of the Seminary's programs. Student Council representatives serve on the student disciplinary committee and make recommendations to the Student Aid and Scholarship Committee in addition to other committees as appointed by the president of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

## The Mid-America Alumni Association

The Mid-America Alumni Association is a national organization with state and regional chapters. The Association informs the alumni about Seminary news, promotes continued alumni involvement in the life of the Seminary, and provides fellowship for the alumni. The national Alumni Association gathering is held each year in connection with

Founders' Days. Alumni fellowship meetings are also held at annual state Baptist convention meetings.

## **Authorization for Special Appeals**

Permission must be secured from the administration of the Seminary for any special appeals for needs such as money, clothes, and food. Inquiries concerning such appeals should be made to the director of Campus Life.

# Student Assistance Services

## Campus Life

Campus Life assists students by providing information on available housing, employment, health services, children's schooling, and day care, as well as other general information. Campus Life provides assistance for students who have personal and/or emergency financial needs. All information is held in confidence.

## Mid-America Student Housing (MASH)

Mid-America Student Housing is located at 1975 E. Beaman Circle, which is part of the main campus. The community building plus 144 apartments, one playground, and a multi-purpose recreational field make up MASH. Arrangements for housing are made through Campus Life. Rent for unfurnished apartments ranges from \$587.00 to \$775.00 monthly. Campus Life can assist students in locating other housing.

## MASH Commuter Apartments

MASH maintains a commuter apartment at the housing complex, which is useful for non-resident students and others who have need of short-term housing in a furnished setting. Enrolled students who plan to spend two to three nights a week on campus to complete coursework, as well as doctoral students attending seminars, may find it helpful to rent a room or portion of a room in the commuter unit.

This three-bedroom apartment is available on a first come, first served basis. Once the space is occupied, others requesting the unit must make other arrangements. The commuter apartment can accommodate a maximum of six occupants; each bedroom has a max occupancy of two. To fill out the current application for renting the commuter apartment and to see current rental rates, go to [www.mabts.edu](http://www.mabts.edu), or call Campus Life at 901-751-3079 for more information.

## Church Relations

Church Relations serves as a liaison between churches and students. The office of the vice president and dean of the Seminary maintains contact with local churches, making them aware of opportunities for church staff employment. Search committees representing churches are provided with resumes for their consideration, and those needing pastors or staff are introduced to students and graduates of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. Special attention is given to help graduating students find church-related vocational service. Students are encouraged to seek counsel with the director of Church Relations and to maintain a current resume for referral. All resumes are handled electronically through the Seminary website at [www.mabts.edu](http://www.mabts.edu).

## **Career Counseling and Planning**

The vice president and dean of the Seminary counsels students regarding career planning. Within the context of God's calling, students receive counsel concerning ministry opportunities as pastors, associate pastors, education ministers, ministers to children, youth ministers, church planting, and missionary work. Before graduating, each student is encouraged to schedule a personal interview for assistance.

## **Student Assistance**

### **Off-Campus Employment**

The Seminary is happy to assist students and their spouses seeking information or making application for off-campus employment. Cordova, Memphis, and the surrounding areas offer work opportunities in various fields, and off-campus employment is generally available for all desiring work. Campus Life maintains a current job opportunity listing.

### **On-Campus Employment**

On-campus employment is available for a limited number of students and spouses from time to time, including work in administrative offices, campus maintenance, and the library. Requests for information and applications for on-campus employment are made through the office of Human Resources.

### **Insurance**

The Seminary encourages students to secure adequate health and life insurance coverage. An insurance packet from GuideStone Financial Resources is available at the beginning of fall and spring semesters.

### **Health Needs**

A list of family physicians and dentists is available to students seeking medical services. Information may be secured from Campus Life.

### **Household Goods and Clothes Closet**

From time to time, appliances and furniture are made available to Mid-America students at no cost. A clothes closet is maintained in the community building at MASH for the convenience of seminary families. Information may be secured from Campus Life.

# Tuition and Student Aid

## Financial Support

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is operated through funds received from student tuition and fees, endowment income, income from wills and trusts, direct gifts from interested individuals, and designated gifts from churches to the general scholarship fund. The Seminary's low tuition is made possible through the regular gifts of individuals and churches that include the Seminary in their budget as a direct missions project. The Seminary welcomes support from those who are interested. The annual cost of one student's education exceeds \$25,000.00. The student pays approximately \$8,000.00 of this amount. In effect, the student's education is underwritten by friends of the Seminary at the equivalent of a scholarship of over \$17,000.00 each year.

## The Office of Financial Aid

### Scholarships/Awards

There are currently a variety of scholarships available to students of MABTS. Some scholarships are based on merit and some are based on need. After the designated scholarship application period, the Financial Aid Committee will assign scholarships to the students.

In addition to scholarships, there are special awards given to students who meet certain requirements at various times throughout the semester:

The Dr. J.P. Allison Award recognizes the student with the highest grade point average in Beginning Greek.

The Steven T. Cox Memorial Award recognizes the student with the highest grade point average in the Master of Divinity in Missions program.

The President's Award recognizes the student with the highest grade point average in the Master of Divinity program.

The Morris Mills Development Council Scholarship is available to entering master-level students who show promise in the ministry.

To apply for scholarships online, go to:

[www.mabts.edu/office-financial-aid-mabts-scholarship-application](http://www.mabts.edu/office-financial-aid-mabts-scholarship-application).

Or Contact the Office of Financial Aid at: [FinancialAid@mabts.edu](mailto:FinancialAid@mabts.edu).



# 2020–2021 Tuition and Fees

## Current tuition for Graduate programs:

On-Campus:	\$325.00 per credit hour
Online:	\$325.00 per credit hour
Audit:	\$50.00 per course

## Current tuition for PhD program\*:

Tuition per semester:	\$3,295.00 per semester
3rd PhD seminar in semester:	\$1,650.00 ( <i>by approval only</i> )
Interrupted Status fee:	\$100.00 per semester
Other Program fees:	*see PhD handbook

## Current tuition for DMin program\*:

Tuition:	\$1,647.50 per semester
Maintenance fee (after 3 years):	\$600.00 per semester
Interrupted Status fee:	\$100.00 per semester
Other Program fees:	*see DMin handbook

*\*Doctoral students seeking degrees at other institutions that wish to take a seminar for credit must contact the business office for tuition information.*

## Current tuition for other programs:

Institute for Nouthetic Studies:	Prices vary by course
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# Additional Fees

**Application Fees:** \$35.00 for new or re-admit application for master’s level, \$50.00 for doctoral applicants.

**Add/Drop Fee:** \$5.00 for each course added or dropped after close of registration.

**Student Fee:** \$250.00 per semester for students taking classes on campus.

**LOGOS Software Fee:** \$599.98 charged one time at first semester at MABTS. Obtains LOGOS Software, Silver Edition that the student will use throughout Seminary coursework.

**Late Registration Fee:** \$100.00 assessed once registration has closed.

**Returned Payment Fee/Business Office:** \$40.00 for checks returned to the business office.

**Returned Payment Fee/Nelnet:** \$30.00 for payments returned to Nelnet.

**Nelnet Payment Plan Fee:** \$25.00 per each semester you enroll in a payment plan.

**Paper Cut Fees/Printing:** Allows students to wirelessly print to the Library printer; minimum of \$2.00.

**Paper Cut Fees/Copies:** Allows students to copy pages from books; minimum of \$5.00.

**Other fees may be assessed.**

*All student fees are subject to change without notice.*

## **Student Relief Fund**

Students contribute regularly to the Student Relief Fund to provide emergency assistance to fellow students through the regular offering in chapel and designated gifts. These funds are distributed by the Office of Financial Aid.

## **The Financial Aid Committee**

The Financial Aid Committee awards the various scholarships and student aid money received by the Seminary.

## **Tuition Payment and Fees**

### **Application Fees**

A \$35.00 non-refundable application fee is required with each undergraduate and graduate application for admission to the Seminary. This fee is not applicable to tuition or other student charges. A \$50.00 non-refundable application fee is required for applicants to doctoral programs.

### **Readmission Fees**

Students seeking readmission to any academic program other than the doctoral programs at the Seminary must submit a nonrefundable readmission fee of \$35.00 at the time the application is submitted. Graduates of Mid-America applying for admission to a doctoral program must submit a nonrefundable readmission fee of \$50.00 at the time the application is submitted. Students who have been out more than one semester but not exceeding five years may submit the Application for Readmission; after that time the student must submit the full application.

### **Financial Responsibility**

Students are expected to be prompt and faithful in payment of all tuition and fees to the Seminary. All current financial obligations must be paid before a student can register for classes for the following semester and before grades, diplomas, or transcripts can be issued. *Payment arrangements are considered part of registration and must be made by the registration deadline.* Accounts must be paid in full before graduation. The Seminary reserves the right to secure a file report through Equifax to confirm the continued credit reliability of each student.

### **Returned Check Policy and Fees**

First incident: \$30.00 NSF fee\* and Sonis hold

Second incident: \$30.00 NSF fee\* and consultation with business office

Third incident: \$30.00 NSF fee\* and payment due in the business office

\*Charged by Nelnet and added to student Nelnet account.

If a student misses three monthly payments due to NSF, the Nelnet agreement will be terminated, and the remaining balance must be paid in full immediately to the business office.

**Third-Party Invoicing**

Students may request the business office to invoice a third party for tuition payment. Proper documentation must be provided in advance of registering for classes. When requesting that MABTS invoice a third party for the first time, students must make arrangements at least one week before registering for classes. Students that have previously participated in invoicing must secure and return new documentation at the start of each academic year in advance of registering for classes. Failure to submit paperwork or confirm third party approval in advance will delay registration and may result in additional fees.

**Late Registration Fees**

Late registration will incur an additional fee of **\$100.00** and is by appointment only. This fee may be waived for those that make an appointment before the end of the registration period. Payment of tuition is considered part of registration and must be made by the deadline or during a late registration appointment.

**Graduation Fees**

Fees for December and May graduation expenses are to be paid in the business office. The deadline will be announced by the Campus Life office each semester through email and a mail out to each graduate.

Master of Arts Degrees.....	\$100.00
Master of Divinity Degrees .....	\$100.00
Doctor of Ministry.....	\$150.00
Doctor of Philosophy.....	\$150.00

**Paper Services**

A Paper Cut account is automatically established for all students for wireless printing from computer to the copier in the library. Deposits of \$2.00 or greater may be made to Paper Cut via cash or check in the business office. Each page printed from the student’s Paper Cut account costs \$0.05.

Students wanting to make copies by placing books or other materials on the copier in the library may establish a copies account. Minimum deposits of \$5.00 may be made to copies via cash or check in the business office.

## **Textbook Expenses**

Textbooks for classes may be purchased through the website at [www.mabts.edu](http://www.mabts.edu). If a required book or resource is unavailable online, then it will be available for purchase in the MABTS bookstore, The Lion's Den.

## **Reading and Binding Fees for Doctoral Programs**

Students completing the Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Ministry programs must pay for the reader fees associated with dissertations and major projects. These fees are specific to each program and are listed in the program handbooks. Doctor of Ministry program students must pay for binding four copies of their major project. Students completing the Doctor of Philosophy program must pay for the expense of binding four copies and publishing costs of their dissertation. These specific fees are listed in each program handbook. *All fees are subject to change.*

## **Fees for Student Transcripts**

Academic transcripts are released to other persons or institutions only with the written consent of the student involved. A fee of \$15.00 is charged for each transcript. Transcripts are not released until all financial obligations to the Seminary have been satisfied.

## **Fees for Adding or Dropping Courses after Registration Day**

An additional fee of \$5.00 is charged for each course added or dropped by a student after the close of the regular registration time as indicated in the academic calendar. *Tuition for dropped courses is non-refundable once the class has started.*

## **Refunds of Tuition Fees**

### **Dropped Courses or Withdrawal from the Seminary**

Seminary policy states that *tuition fees are non-refundable after the start of classes*. Tuition fees are still applicable if a student drops a course at any point during a semester or withdraws from the Seminary unless the student qualifies under the exception policy.

### **Exception to the Non-Refundable Fee Policy**

An exception is made if a student is forced to drop a course or withdraw from the Seminary during the first 12 class days of a semester due to personal or family illness or due to an emergency beyond the student's control. In such circumstances, the vice president for finance and operations may, at his discretion, authorize the refund of half

the tuition fee paid for the semester. Each emergency withdrawal is evaluated by the vice president for finance and operations.

## **Veterans Educational Benefits**

Mid-America Seminary has been approved by the Tennessee State Approving Agency to certify veteran students and other eligible persons to receive benefits toward educational expenses from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Students who receive financial benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs program are required to verify their current enrollment status at the Seminary monthly.

Records for veterans are maintained in the financial aid office on campus. These confidential records are accessible to the student and are not released to others without the written consent of the student. Additional information regarding the release of veterans' records is published in the *Student Supplement and Housing Handbook*.

Students intending to utilize veterans' benefits must contact the financial aid office each semester.

## **Notary Public Service**

The business office provides a notary public service for students and faculty at no cost.



# Admission Requirements and Procedures

Communication with the Seminary Regarding Admission .....35

Dates for Student Admission and Registration.....36

Students with Disabilities .....36

Regulations Concerning General Admission.....36

Admission to the Master’s Degree Programs .....38

Admission to the Doctoral Programs.....39

Admission Procedure for New Students.....39

Application Requirements .....39

Admission Procedure for International Students .....42

Readmission of Former Students.....44

Registration Requirements and Procedures .....45

Witness One:Seven Program Requirements .....47

# Admission Requirements and Procedures

## Communication with the Seminary Regarding Admission

### Initial Contact

Requests about admission should be addressed to the following:

Admissions Department  
Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary  
P. O. Box 2350  
Cordova, TN 38088-2350  
Telephone: 901-751-8453 or  
800-968-4508  
Fax: 901-259-0397  
Web address: [www.mabts.edu](http://www.mabts.edu)  
Email: [admissions@mabts.edu](mailto:admissions@mabts.edu)

### Correspondence Regarding Applications

The admissions office responds promptly to all inquiries after initial application materials are submitted. Applicants are notified as soon as the Admissions Committee has acted on the prospective student's request for admission.

### Campus Visits

Prospective students and other guests are welcome to visit the campus. Tours of the facilities, meetings with faculty and students, and classroom observation are arranged by the admissions office assistant. Chapel services are a highlight of a visit. The admissions counselor will direct prospective students to administrative offices, faculty members, or other personnel who are available to provide information, counseling, and prayer concerning God's will.

Upon request, the admissions office will provide information concerning lodging while visiting the campus.



# Dates for Student Admission and Registration

## Registration Schedule

First time students are encouraged to enroll in the fall semester. Many multi-semester curriculum offerings, particularly biblical languages, begin only in August. Students may, however, enroll at the beginning of any of the academic semesters. The registrar's office will advise prospective students of specific dates.

## Deadlines for Application

Application deadlines are published in the academic calendar. Application for admission and all supporting documents should be received by the admissions office at least 30 days before the student's first registration to allow processing and consideration by the Admissions Committee. Students may register for classes only after receiving written notification of admission approval from the registrar's office. (Doctoral students should refer to the respective program guidelines for information regarding application.)

## Policy of Nondiscrimination

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary admits students of any race, color, national, or ethnic origin. The Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, national, or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, or other school-administered programs. The rights, privileges, and activities accorded to students are given equally to all students who have been admitted.

## Students with Disabilities

The Seminary makes every effort to provide full access to higher education for all qualified students. Students with hearing or other physical disabilities will be given all the assistance needed in order for them to succeed. All facilities are equipped with wheelchair access.

## Regulations Concerning General Admission

Each prospective student should consider carefully the following regulations concerning admission to the Seminary before submitting any application materials:

### Christian Experience and Conduct

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is a Christian institution whose primary purpose is to provide theological training for effective service in church-related and missions vocations. Applicants to the Seminary must have professed Christ as Savior for at least one year before registration. Maturity of character, personal integrity, and commitment to Christian service are necessary for acceptable study in the Seminary.

It is required that students conduct themselves in a manner deemed by the Seminary as consistent with biblical standards of moral purity. In particular, married students are expected to maintain marital fidelity, and single students are expected to maintain sexual abstinence. Departure from biblical standards of moral purity disqualifies individuals for admission to the Seminary or continued enrollment.

## **Regulation Regarding Divorce**

The Seminary holds the position that marriage is intended to be a lifelong covenant between one woman and one man. The primary biblical passages that support this understanding are: Matthew 5:32; 19:3-9; Mark 10:9; Luke 16:18 and Malachi 2:16. Therefore, the Seminary seeks to honor God's original intention of marriage and views divorce as a serious matter.

The Seminary does not admit anyone as a student who has ever been divorced or whose spouse has ever been divorced in the master's degree programs or doctoral programs.

This regulation applies without exception both to those who are innocent parties of divorce and to others. Such a policy does not judge the manner of life of any divorced person.

## **Regulations Regarding Female Students**

The Seminary admits women as students to study for any program except for degree programs designed to prepare students to serve as ordained pastors (Master of Divinity in pastoral ministry, Doctor of Ministry in practical theology, pastoral ministry or expository preaching, and Doctor of Philosophy in Old Testament [including Hebrew], New Testament [including Greek], theology, and practical theology [pastoral track]). Female students are welcome to audit or to take for credit any individual course offered in the curriculum for which they are otherwise qualified. This policy accords with the Seminary's conviction that the ordained pastor of a church must be male. The following is the trustee resolution mandating this: "We believe that God has signally blessed women and has given them a position of honor and opportunities for service. However, we believe that Scripture prohibits a woman from serving as pastor of a church. The following Scriptures specifically refer to this regulation:

1 Corinthians 11:3 ff. This passage teaches that women are under the leadership of men. (This headship relates to functional relationships, not spiritual standing.) For a woman to serve as pastor/teacher reverses this creation ordinance.

1 Timothy 2:9-15. This passage is part of a larger context which outlines the qualifications of bishops (pastors) and deacons and forbids women to exercise positions of authority and teaching over men. Therefore, a woman should not be pastor of a church.

Genesis 2-3. In the record of Creation and the subsequent fall of man, Adam stood in a primary relationship over Eve. The ramification of this position was intensified by the Fall (i.e., the negative aspects of subordination of woman to

man) but was in existence prior to the Fall. Thus, from Creation and in the Fall, the woman is subordinate to the man, which is the basis of Paul's argument in 1 Timothy 2:13–14 in which women are forbidden to teach or exercise authority over men in the church.”

## **Admission to the Master's Degree Programs**

In addition to the Regulations Concerning General Admission, applicants for admission to any master's degree program must meet the following requirements:

### **Education Requirements**

Normally, all applicants to any master's degree program must have graduated from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree or equivalent. It is recommended that this degree should include at least 60 semester hours of liberal arts studies (other than religious studies). The applicant's grade point average for all college-level work must be at least a C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale).

An official transcript is required from each institution of higher learning that the applicant has attended. Transcripts from institutions from which the applicant has received a degree must show the date of graduation and the degree granted. Students still in the process of completing an undergraduate degree at the time that they apply to the Seminary may submit a current official transcript. An official final transcript showing the degree granted and date of graduation must then be submitted by the end of the first semester of study at MABTS.

Undergraduate students who are within nine semester hours of graduation from college may be allowed, with faculty permission, to enroll concurrently in the Seminary for a maximum of one semester while completing their baccalaureate degree, provided that all other admission requirements are met.

### **Minimum Age**

All applicants to any master's degree program must be at least 20 years old by the time of their first registration.

### **Conditional Admission**

The Seminary may require students to make up serious deficiencies in their undergraduate studies. All exceptions to published admission requirements must be approved by the faculty upon recommendation of the Dean of the Seminary. In such cases an applicant will be granted conditional admission. During this period, students are subject to the same limitations as students under academic probation, described under Disciplinary Regulations in this catalog. Conditional admission will be removed after a student completes 15 semester hours at the Seminary and keeps a grade point average of at least a C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale). Students granted conditional admission must attend the Student Writing Center under the supervision of their advisor and/or writing coach and complete course requirements.

## **Non-Accredited Baccalaureate Institutions**

Students are admitted from baccalaureate institutions that are not accredited by one of the regional accreditation agencies within the following guidelines:

1. Students must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale), and it is recommended that their degree should include at least 60 semester hours of liberal arts.
2. Not more than 10 percent of the total enrollment in master-level programs may be made up of graduates from non-accredited institutions.
3. Students must have completed the work in resident study. In the case of students who receive their degrees from institutions that offer online baccalaureate degrees, such degrees must be accredited by one of the regional accrediting agencies. The Seminary faculty will consider each application on an individual basis.
4. The Seminary faculty must approve such applicants.
5. Approved students will be on academic probation during their first semester.

The Seminary does not discriminate against students who graduated from non-accredited institutions once they have been admitted.

## **Admission to the Doctoral Programs**

In addition to the Regulations Concerning General Admission, applicants for admission to the doctoral programs (Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy) must meet additional requirements. Please refer to the Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy sections of this catalog for specific information regarding admission requirements for doctoral programs.

## **Admission Procedure for New Students**

### **Admission Classifications**

A regular student is one who applies for admission to one of the master or doctoral programs offered by the Seminary. A special student is one who applies to take courses at the Seminary but does not intend to complete requirements for a specific degree. Both regular students and special students must fulfill all admission requirements for the academic level at which they intend to register for courses.

## **Application Requirements**

The director of admissions and associate dean of the program (master or doctoral) consider for approval applicants whose files are complete. These sixteen items are described in detail in the following paragraphs:

1. Official Application Form with God-Controlled Life Statement
2. Application Fee (master's degree programs: \$35.00; doctoral programs: \$50.00)
3. Autobiographical Statement
4. Photograph

5. Health Record Form
6. Immunization Record Form
7. Educational Transcripts
8. Pastoral Recommendation
9. Church Endorsement
10. Personal References (two)
11. Criminal Background/Credit Reference
12. Miller Analogies Test (DMin and PhD programs)
13. Essay (DMin program only)
14. Major Field Research Paper (PhD program only)
15. PhD Questions (PhD program only)

## **Official Application Form with God-Controlled Life Statement**

Application is made on an official form furnished by the admissions counselor or downloaded from [www.mabts.edu](http://www.mabts.edu). Along with the official application form, applicants answer questions acknowledging a commitment to God-controlled living over the previous 12 months. The information requested must be provided completely and accurately. It is best for the admissions department to receive these forms at least 30 days before registration. (See Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy sections for information regarding doctoral applications.)

## **Application Fee**

### **(Master's Degree Programs \$35.00/Doctoral Programs \$50.00)**

A check or money order payable to Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary must accompany the application. This processing fee is non-refundable, and it does not apply to tuition or other student fees. (See Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy sections for information regarding doctoral application fees.)

## **Autobiographical Statement**

Applicants must complete and submit an autobiographical statement on the official form provided. This statement includes a personal experience of salvation in Jesus Christ, water baptism, calling to Christian ministry, and reasons for seeking to study at the Seminary.

## **Photograph**

A passport-style studio-quality photograph of the applicant must be submitted. This photograph should be about 2.5 by 3.5 inches, in color or black and white. (Electronic or photocopies will not be accepted.)

## **Health Record Form**

A physician must complete the official health record form provided in the registration materials. Elements of the form include a statement of the applicant's medical history and a record of any communicable diseases. The physician should indicate that the applicant

is physically, emotionally, and mentally able to meet the challenges of seminary life. Appropriate supplemental medical documents may be submitted or may be requested.

## **Immunization Record Form**

Residential students: Immunization records for measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) and chicken pox (vaccine or case documentation) are required for the state of Tennessee. Students under the age of 22 who plan to live in MASH must also show proof of meningitis immunization.

## **Educational Transcripts**

Each program has a required prerequisite minimum education, which is described fully in the section concerning each degree. In general, an applicant for any master's degree program must submit official transcripts from all undergraduate colleges or universities that granted the student credit for academic study. The applicant is responsible for requesting that official transcripts be sent to the Admissions Department and for all expenses involved. Only official transcripts will be accepted. The registrar's office of Mid-America reserves the right to judge which transcripts are official and meet the Seminary's requirements.

International students who apply must note the requirements concerning evaluation of their transcripts described in the section Admission Procedure for International Students.

## **Pastoral Recommendation**

The applicant's pastor must send a letter of personal recommendation, which must affirm the prospective student's Christian character and suitability for seminary study. If the applicant is a pastor of a church, the letter may come from another pastor qualified to evaluate the applicant or from a denominational worker, such as the applicant's associational director of missions.

## **Church Endorsement**

The clerk, or other authorized person, from the church of which the applicant is a member must complete and sign the official church endorsement form in the registration materials. This form certifies that the church has endorsed the applicant for study at the Seminary.

## **Personal References (Two)**

Two personal friends, other than family, must write letters of recommendation. These referents must be individuals who have known the applicant for at least a year; previous teachers are acceptable for this purpose.

## **Background/Credit Reference Authorization**

Applicants must handle their current financial obligations, including student loans, consistent with the standards of the institution concerning financial integrity. Mid-America will secure a report through a standard consumer credit association confirming

the credit history of the applicant. Continued enrollment requires continued financial integrity, including acceptable credit standing.

Applicants must complete and sign a criminal and financial background check authorization form. This form authorizes the Seminary to utilize a third party to search for criminal and financial records.

## **Added Requirements of Specific Degree Programs**

Applicants for a specific degree program must meet all requirements for general admission as well as the requirements for the specific degree program for which they apply. These requirements are listed fully in the sections of this catalog that describe each program.

### **Time Limitation for Admission**

Once applicants have been notified of approval for admission, they have one year from the date of notification in which to register for classes. After one year, the application expires, and the applicant must begin the process again.

## **When Admission Is Declined**

Materials relative to application are considered confidential and the Seminary has no obligation to disclose information regarding an applicant's being declined admission into the program to which application is made.

## **Admission Procedure for International Students**

Applicants who are not citizens of the United States must meet the following additional requirements for admission to the Seminary:

### **Immigration Laws**

This school is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students. All requirements of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States must be satisfied before the applicant will be admitted. The International Student Affairs office will provide international applicants information about the Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student (Form 1 20A-B). Applications from international students are considered by the designated committee of the various programs on the same basis as all other students.

### **Financial Responsibility**

International applicants must submit documents demonstrating funds available or guaranteed support adequate for international travel, educational expenses, and living expenses in the United States. The Seminary will provide a Financial Statement for International Applicants form that must be used for this purpose. This statement also requires certain designated affidavits that must be provided. The Seminary, at its discretion, may require the applicant to submit an Affidavit of Support (Form I-134),

which is issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States Department of Justice.

The Seminary will not accept financial responsibility for any part of an international student's support in connection with its academic programs. Beyond the low cost of tuition, the Seminary is not in a position to provide financial support. Students must not depart from their home nation before receiving confirmation of admission approval and the Immigration I-20 form from the International Student Affairs office. International students are required to meet the financial deposit required by the Seminary. The deposit is refundable to the student upon graduation or withdrawal from the Seminary.

## **Transcript Requirements**

International applicants must meet the same academic prerequisites as United States citizens for the program for which they are applying. Official transcripts (translated into English) of all institutions of higher education that the applicant has attended must be submitted. If the applicant has received postsecondary degrees from an institution outside the United States, these degrees MAY be reviewed by the academic vice president and/or an independent credentials evaluation agency. The applicant must pay for all expenses involved in this process. The Seminary will provide international applicants with information about independent credentials evaluation upon request. Applicants who received postsecondary degrees from a United States institution of higher education must submit official transcripts.

## **English Language Requirement**

All instruction at the Seminary is in English. Applicants whose indigenous language is not English must score at least 550 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 79 to 80 on the Internet-based TOEFL for master level work and 600 on the paper-based TOEFL or 100 on the Internet-based TOEFL for doctoral work. This examination must be completed no more than two years before admission to the Seminary.

In the United States, information concerning the TOEFL examination may be received from the Educational Testing Service: P.O. Box 899, Princeton, NJ 08549. Outside the United States, information concerning the TOEFL is available from United States embassies, consulates, or information centers. The MABTS code number, 1712, must be used to report TOEFL scores.

Exceptions to this requirement are presented to the designated program committee, which must then be approved by the faculty. Students who have received a postsecondary degree from an English-speaking institution of higher learning, particularly from the United States, Canada, or Great Britain, sometimes are not required to take the TOEFL exam. This is not an automatic exception and is determined on an individual basis.

## **Conditional Admission**

Because of the cultural, language, and educational diversity associated with living in a complex world, international students face a special challenge in succeeding at Seminary



studies. The Seminary makes every effort to admit as students only those who are well-suited to its programs. However, the Seminary always reserves the right to evaluate the progress of all students.

International applicants are admitted with the provision that their status and academic progress is reviewed at the end of the first semester of study and thereafter at the end of each year of study. The Seminary may require remedial studies or restrict the academic course load of any student, including internationals, if these actions appear to be in the best interest of the student.

## **Readmission of Former Students**

### **Out of School One Semester**

No readmission requirements are imposed on students who have dropped out of school for one semester.

International students on an F-1 Visa must maintain continuous enrollment as a full-time student in order to maintain the visa status and avoid illegal residence in the United States.

### **Out of School More Than One Semester**

Students who have not been enrolled for more than one semester but not exceeding five years, must submit an Application for Readmission to the Seminary. Applicants must complete a background check authorization form and answer the personal questions concerning God-controlled living, submit a pastoral recommendation, and submit a letter of explanation describing their activities since last enrollment and reason for the lapse in enrollment. A nonrefundable application fee of \$35.00 must also be included. The designated program committee reviews these materials, and the applicant will be advised of any special requirements concerning readmission.

### **Graduated but Returning**

Students who graduate from Mid-America and want to return within one calendar year of graduation must complete an Application for Readmission and submit a letter of explanation describing their activities since graduation. A non-refundable readmission fee of \$35.00 must be included with the application.

# Registration Requirements and Procedures

Registration procedures are coordinated through the registrar's office. Registration is online, and students are responsible for registering for any academic semester for which they want to enroll. This procedure includes completing requests for information, selecting courses, and paying tuition.

## Preparing for Registration

Students must gain financial and Witness One:Seven clearance with four offices before they can register for classes for a new semester: the business office, to satisfy any outstanding financial accounts; the library, to pay any assessed fines; the student housing office, to satisfy any outstanding rent or fees; and the Campus Life office concerning Witness One:Seven responsibilities remaining from the previous semester.

## Registration for Classes

Currently enrolled students may register for the following semester during the designated registration period. Students will have specific dates to register based upon the number of credit hours completed. A schedule of these dates will always be posted and publicized on the MABTS website and on campus. The registrar's office will assist by providing students with a degree audit worksheet of their degree-plan requirements. Degree audit worksheets are also available at [mabts.edu](http://mabts.edu).

If a student does not register during the designated registration period, he or she must register on the late registration day by setting up an appointment with the registrar and business office (see the academic calendar). In addition to selecting his or her courses, the student must finalize all matters with the pertinent Seminary offices, which includes the payment of tuition for the previous semester as well as payment arrangements for the current semester.

## New Student Orientation

New Student Orientation is held on-campus before the start of each semester for all new students. It is designed to give an informative and enlightening overview of Seminary life. Students are introduced to the different departments of the Seminary and their designated functions; important and helpful information is shared during the session. Orientation dates and times are included in the acceptance letter.

## **Late Registration Day**

During the regular academic year, late registration day is scheduled on the Monday before classes begin for each semester. If that specific Monday happens to be a holiday and the Seminary is closed, registration will be the preceding Friday. Registration on this day will be done by appointment only. The appointments are made through the registrar and the business office. Students must finalize all official matters with Seminary offices and verify courses on registration day. See the academic calendar to verify the specific dates of registration.

## **Late Registration Fee**

Late registration will result in an additional fee of \$100.00 and is by appointment only. This fee may be waived for those that make an appointment before the end of the registration period. Payment of tuition is considered part of registration and must be made by the deadline or during a late registration appointment.

## **Student Identification Cards**

Student identification cards are produced for on-campus students (excluding audit students) during orientation and doctoral students during the first week a student is on campus for classes, or by appointment with Campus Life. On campus, student identification cards are used to access the building and various areas within the building; these cards also function as a library card and record attendance at report hour.

## **Adding and Dropping Courses after Registration**

Before the first day of class, courses may be added and dropped by contacting the registrar. There is no additional fee for adding and dropping courses before the first day of class. However, once classes have begun, tuition is non-refundable.

After the first day of any academic semester, courses may be added and dropped through the registrar only by email. There is a \$5.00 charge for each course added or dropped. Courses may not be added after the fourth class session of any semester. Courses must be dropped before the 12th class session of the semester in order to be recorded as WP (Withdraw Passing) on the student's official transcript and will not be factored into the student's GPA. Any course dropped after the 12th class session will be recorded as WF (Withdraw Failure) on the student's transcript and will be factored into the student's GPA as a 0.00. The GPA points may be replaced by a higher grade if the student retakes the course. In emergency cases beyond the student's control, the faculty may be petitioned to grant an exception.

# The Witness One:Seven Program

## The Nature and Scope of the Witness One:Seven Program

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary seeks to train for effective service those whom God has called. Therefore, evangelism at home and cross-culturally is the Seminary's theme and mission. Witness One:Seven (practical missions work) is the demonstration of what the student learns in the classroom. Students are expected to fulfill the biblical command to witness and thus are required to meet mission assignments each week, share their faith, and report on the work completed. This linking of the classroom and the practical aspects of ministry and evangelistic zeal is one of the unique identities of Mid-America.

Chapel services are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tuesday chapels are devoted to personal witnessing testimonies by faculty, staff, and students. During this period, the Witness One:Seven director and various professors report on their evangelistic witness for the week. Following these reports, the students share the fruit of their witnessing. Students are involved in hands-on missions work throughout the Memphis-metro and outlying areas. Each year students witness to thousands through their Witness One:Seven activities and their personal evangelism, and each year students lead thousands to profess faith in Christ.

## Witness One:Seven Assignments

Each full-time student (12 or more hours per semester) must complete two mission hours per week during the semester. Each part-time student (11 or fewer hours a semester) must complete one mission hour per week during the semester. Witness One:Seven ministry time should provide the student with the opportunity to present the type of witness described in this section. The total number of Witness One:Seven assignments that a student may complete during any given week is computed on this basis.

All students are required to participate in one of the different Witness One:Seven opportunities associated with the Seminary. These opportunities include work with the prison ministries, urban outreach, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Campus Crusade, hospital ministries, rescue mission ministries, and church survey work. These activities are designed to orient the beginning students to evangelistic ministries outside the local church. A list of these opportunities can be found in the Witness One:Seven handbook.

The Witness One:Seven director may grant special permission for the first-year student in unusual circumstances to do a specialized evangelistic ministry.

## Personal Witnessing

All enrolled students must witness to an average of at least one person per week during the semester. To constitute a personal witness, the interview is to include a presentation of the plan of salvation to a person believed to be unsaved and an invitation for that person to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The essential elements of the Gospel—faith in Jesus Christ alone and repentance of sin—are what the Seminary holds to be necessary for salvation. In order to fulfill the personal witnessing requirement, no other element should be involved in the Gospel witness (i.e., baptism, church membership, etc.).

## Chapel and Report Hour

Each student is required to attend report hour and chapel in its entirety every Tuesday and Thursday. Each student is required to report his or her Witness One:Seven activities online weekly. A student is not allowed more than six absences from chapel and report hour during a semester. Online students participate via video available at the MABTS website.

A student unable to attend chapel and report hour on a regular basis as the result of a schedule conflict with essential outside responsibilities may petition the director of Witness One:Seven for excused absences for the semester. Requests are submitted to the Witness One:Seven office and must be renewed each semester (August and January). NOTE: Notification from an employer must be on company letterhead showing that the student's work schedule prevents chapel attendance.

## Minimal Requirements for the Witness One:Seven Program

In order to meet the minimal requirements for the Witness One:Seven program each semester, students must satisfy three criteria:

1. Full-time students must complete an average of two Witness One:Seven hours per week, and part-time students must complete an average of one Witness One:Seven hour per week. With each semester's registration, students must list the Witness One:Seven in which they will be involved on SonisWeb in order to clear the practical missions hold they will have on their student account each semester at the time of registration. Full-time students must complete at least 75 percent of the practical missions required that semester from the Witness One:Seven mission they list in SonisWeb. The remaining 25 percent of the Witness One:Seven hours due for that semester may be from Witness One:Seven activities other than those for which the student registered.
2. Students must witness to an average of at least one person per week during the semester.

Students must not have more than six absences from chapel and report hour during the semester.

## **Relationship of the Witness One:Seven Program to the Academic Programs of the Seminary**

The Witness One:Seven program is an integral part of the training for every student enrolled at Mid-America. No academic credit is given for Witness One:Seven requirements. However, no academic credit is given to any student for the semester if he or she does not satisfy the minimal requirements for the Witness One:Seven program for that semester. No student is permitted to graduate from the Seminary without completing the Witness One:Seven requirements for each semester enrolled.

Students failing to complete the requirements for the Witness One:Seven program are subject to probation or dismissal by action of the faculty upon recommendation of the Graduate Programs Committee. The semesters of dismissal, as well as possible readmission at a later time, are the same as those noted under Disciplinary Regulations in this catalog.

### **Witness One:Seven Probation**

Students who do not fulfill and report requirements correctly and on time for each semester are subject to a probationary period. If students fulfill their Witness One:Seven requirements in the following semester, they are removed from probationary status. However, if students persist in delinquency during the probationary period, they may be suspended from classes for one semester by action of the faculty. Students failing to complete their total Witness One:Seven requirements by 4:30 p.m. on the third business day after the last exam day of a semester may not receive academic credit for that semester.

# General Academic Regulations

The School Year .....	51
The Academic Week.....	51
Student Advising .....	51
Student Counseling.....	51
Student Absences.....	51
Founders’ Days Attendance.....	52
Student Responsibility for Official Announcements.....	52
Attendance and Inclement Weather.....	52
Academic Load Regulations.....	53
Transfer of Academic Credit from Other Institutions .....	53
Granting of Academic Credit for Previous Non-Academic Experience .....	53
Granting of Academic Credit for Supervised Field Education Projects.....	54
Advanced Standing.....	54
Directed Study .....	55
Auditing Courses .....	56
Class Assignments.....	56
Examinations .....	56
Incomplete Work .....	56
Grading Regulations .....	57
General Requirements for Graduation.....	59
Student Grievance Policy and Procedure .....	60
Disciplinary Regulations .....	65
Withdrawal from the Seminary .....	68
Maintenance of Academic Records .....	69
Connected Campus Online .....	70

# General Academic Regulations

## The School Year

The regular school year is comprised of the fall semester (beginning in August) and the spring semester (beginning in January). Residential classes meet 50 minutes a day, three days per week (Tuesday through Thursday) throughout the semester. Three-hour evening courses meet two and one half hours one day per week.

## The Academic Week

Classes meet Tuesday through Thursday of each week from 8:00 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. and evening courses meet from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Mondays. Outside commitments conflicting with courses at the regularly scheduled times should be avoided.

## Student Advising

### Academic Advising

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary provides academic advising to all students to assist them in scheduling classes, to aid in selecting courses for effective training, and to help ensure timely completion of their course of study. Graduate students are responsible for initiating contact with their assigned academic advisor. Academic advisors are available to meet with assigned students during registration of each semester and by appointment.

Doctoral Students—The associate dean of doctoral programs is responsible for the academic advising of all PhD and DMin students. He assigns faculty members to assist as needed.

## Student Counseling

Counseling is provided through several avenues. Students may make inquiry regarding any specific question or need at the appropriate administrative, academic, or faculty office(s). Mid-America has an “open-door” policy in which faculty and administrative staff are available to provide personal counseling, advisement, prayer, and encouragement for students. As a courtesy, however, students should schedule appointment times through the faculty member’s administrative assistant.

## Student Absences

### Student Attendance Expected

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions. However, it is recognized that from time to time emergencies interrupt normal class attendance.



## **Maximum Number of Absences Which Are Allowed**

### **Student Absences**

To receive academic credit in a course during a regular semester, a student cannot exceed the maximum number of absences. A student cannot miss more than nine class hours in any course and still receive credit. A Monday night class equals three class hours. While recognizing that various occasions call for a student to leave class early, a student must be in class for at least half of the class time in order to be counted present; otherwise, an absence will be recorded.

### **Tardies**

Students are expected to arrive at class on time. Three tardy marks are the equivalent of one class hour absence.

### **Petition for Faculty Consideration of Excessive Absences**

If a student exceeds the maximum number of absences because of prolonged illness or extreme emergency, the student may submit a petition to the associate dean of the graduate programs, requesting the faculty to grant credit for a course. In such circumstances, credit may be granted for a course in which there are no more than 12 class hour absences. In no case is credit given for any course in which there are more than 12 class hour absences. A class hour is 50 minutes long. Students should see the registrar's office for the proper form.

## **Founders' Days Attendance**

Attendance at Founders' Days services is required for each student. All missed sessions of Founders' Days are counted as absences in each class for the first semester.

## **Student Responsibility for Official Announcements**

Unless excused by action of the appropriate academic committee, each student at the Cordova campus is required to attend chapel each Tuesday and Thursday. In addition to Witness: One Seven reports, important announcements are made about academic affairs and other significant matters. Official announcements are also posted in *The Advisor*, which is emailed to each student at their Mid-America address. Each student is responsible for awareness of such official announcements.

## **Attendance and Inclement Weather**

Change in schedule or cancellation of classes because of inclement weather or natural disaster is announced daily on local radio and television. Cancellation of the campus classes due to weather or natural disaster coincides with the closing of the Shelby County Schools; however, special provisions may be announced. If classes are canceled due to inclement weather or natural disaster on a day of final exams, exams for the missed day will be taken on the day the Seminary reopens.

# Academic Load Regulations

## Normal Student Academic Load

The normal academic load is 15 semester hours (five courses) per semester during the regular school year. For purposes of student classification, an academic load of 12 semester hours or more per semester is considered to be full-time.

## Requests to Exceed the Normal Load

First-year students are not allowed to take more than 15 hours per semester. After completion of 30 semester hours, students who maintain a 3.0 GPA on a scale of 4.0 may request permission to carry 18 semester hours (six courses) during any given semester.

## Transfer of Academic Credit from Other Institutions

A student seeking to transfer academic credit from another seminary-level institution must complete a Transfer of Credit Form. Transfer credit may be granted for previous education in institutions providing similar courses with equivalent standards and requirements. Transfer credits may be accepted from institutions listed in the *Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education* [published by the American Council on Education (ACE) in consultation with the Council for Higher Education (CHEA)] as long as the transfer hours are pertinent to the courses offered at Mid-America. No transfer credit is given for baccalaureate courses toward the requirements for the master's degree programs. No transfer credit is granted for courses taken by correspondence, extension programs, or distance learning programs unless such courses are included on the official transcript of an accredited institution. Transfer credit is granted only for courses in which the grade is C or higher. No remedial courses will be accepted. The student can transfer only the amount of electives that are required for their specific program. The Transfer of Credit Form will not be officially reviewed until student has been approved to attend Mid-America. Contact the registrar's office for the appropriate form.

Each degree program has a limit on the number of hours that can be transferred from another institution. The 60-hour master's degrees may transfer in up to 30 hours, and the 90-hour master's degrees are allowed to transfer as many as 60 hours. For the doctoral degrees, normally no more than half of seminars may be transferred into the program. (Policy consistent with SACSCOC 3.6.3.)

## Granting of Academic Credit for Previous Non-Academic Experience

No academic credit is granted for previous non-academic experiential learning activities or for related field experience toward the completion of requirements for any degree program at the Seminary.

# Granting of Academic Credit for Supervised Field Education Projects

Academic credit may be granted for supervised field education projects such as mission trips, archaeological studies, or hospital chaplaincy programs, provided that the student is enrolled at the Seminary, the field project includes a substantial component of academic requirements, and the field project is supervised and evaluated by an authorized person designated by the Seminary. Requests for specific field education projects for credit must be processed through the associate dean of graduate programs. Students should contact the registrar’s office for the appropriate form.

## Advanced Standing

Advanced standing refers to departmental authorization to substitute advanced courses in the place of certain survey courses normally required in an academic program. Applications for advanced standing based on previous academic training are approved through the departmental chairman. If advanced standing is approved, the student does not receive academic credit for the basic course from which he or she is exempted; however, the student does receive authorization to substitute for credit other advanced courses in the department. Contact the registrar’s office for form.

## Requirements for Advanced Standing

Students who have completed a parallel college course with a grade of B or better may apply for advanced standing on the basis of their college record. A proficiency examination may be required to demonstrate competency if deemed necessary by the chairman of the department. Students who have not completed a parallel academic course in college may nevertheless apply for advanced standing on the basis of equivalent personal study, but they must demonstrate competency by a proficiency examination.

## Application Procedure for Advanced Standing

Students who seek advanced standing must make timely application in advance to allow for processing and approval by the department chairman. Application forms for advanced standing are obtained from the registrar’s office. The application is submitted to the department chairman for evaluation and determination of conditions under which advanced standing may be granted (on the basis of previous academic record and/or proficiency examination). If advanced standing is granted, the department chairman will prescribe the courses which may be substituted in each individual circumstance.

## Proficiency Examinations for Advanced Standing

The following proficiency examinations are offered by appointment on the Monday before the first day of registration for each semester:

Elementary Hebrew .....	(HB 5401–5402)
Elementary Greek .....	(GR 5801–5802)
Old Testament Survey .....	(OT 5101–5102)

New Testament Survey.....(NT 5601–5602)  
History of Christianity ..... (CH 6001)

In addition to the regularly scheduled proficiency examinations, individual proficiency examinations may be scheduled during the year by appointment with the department chairman. Students who qualify on these examinations must substitute for credit the advanced courses deemed appropriate by the department chairman.

**Exemption from Beginning Greek, GR 5801–5802**

A student who has completed two semesters of college Greek, with the approval of the chairman of the New Testament Department, may be permitted to be exempt from GR 5801–5802 and to enroll in Intermediate Greek, GR 5811.

A student whose transcript does not show acceptable college credit who nevertheless offers strong evidence of expertise in Beginning Greek, may request to take the Greek placement exam with the approval of the chairman of the New Testament Department. With adequate scoring, the student will be allowed to enroll in Intermediate Greek, GR 5811.

**Directed Study**

After completing 45 semester hours in the Master of Divinity program or 30 hours in the Master of Arts program, a qualified student may petition the faculty for permission to take a directed study.

Directed studies are available for advanced research in specialized areas of academic pursuit. This program is not designed as an alternative approach for the completion of courses which are available in the curriculum offerings. Students therefore may not take a required course as a directed study.

The student must have at least a 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 and must submit a request to the associate dean of graduate programs. The request must include a recommendation by the department chairman and the professor who will direct the research together with a course syllabus. Requests for directed studies must be approved by the associate dean of graduate programs or, if the request does not meet catalog policy, the graduate programs committee. Directed Study Request forms are available from the registrar’s office.

The student will be guided in reading and assignments and will report their progress (related to the syllabus and any other assignments) weekly to the professor. An annotated bibliography will be required for reading that is done for non-language-based directed studies in addition to a research paper.

## **Auditing Courses**

Current students may request permission to audit elective courses for personal enrichment without receiving academic credit. Students auditing a course are not required to take the tests in the course.

## **Class Assignments**

Class assignments must be submitted on or before the due date announced by the professor. Late assignments may be reduced in grade or refused by the professor at his or her discretion. It is the prerogative of the professor to determine the nature, extent, and due date of makeup work. There is no obligation for the professor to provide a makeup opportunity.

## **Examinations**

### **Examinations during the Semester**

All regular examinations must be taken at the time announced by the professor. Makeup tests may be reduced in grade or refused by the professor at his or her discretion. All makeup tests must be completed within two weeks at the time and place designated by the professor.

### **Final Examinations**

A final examination is given in each class. Final examinations are to be taken at the time scheduled by the Seminary. No test may be taken early, and a student absent because of illness or emergency must make up the examination at the instructor's discretion within two weeks. Take-home final examinations may be distributed at any point during the course by the professor and are due no later than the final day of the examination schedule. Final examinations may be rescheduled only by special petition to the graduate programs committee.

## **Incomplete Work**

All work required in a course is due by the end of the semester. Incomplete grades (I) are given only when emergencies or physical difficulties prevent students from completing their work. Any course work incomplete at the end of the semester may be made up only at the discretion of the professor and in accordance with his or her instructions. A grade penalty will be assessed even though the student can make up the work. Any grade of Incomplete (I) must be removed within 30 days after the end of the semester or the grade automatically becomes an F.

# Grading Regulations

## Grading Scale

Grade point averages are determined on a 12-point grading system. The grade point value of each letter grade is listed below:

A	97–100	4.0 quality points per semester hour
A-	95–96	3.8 quality points per semester hour
B+	93–94	3.5 quality points per semester hour
B	90–92	3.0 quality points per semester hour
B-	87–89	2.7 quality points per semester hour
C+	84–86	2.3 quality points per semester hour
C	81–83	2.0 quality points per semester hour
C-	77–80	1.7 quality points per semester hour
D+	75–76	1.3 quality points per semester hour
D	72–74	1.0 quality points per semester hour
D-	70–71	0.7 quality points per semester hour
F	69 and below	0.0 quality points per semester hour

The 12-point grading system allows a student the possibility of graduating with a perfect 4.0 average. A cumulative grade point average of 2.0, however, will constitute the lowest passing average to graduate. A cumulative grade point average below 2.0 will be the basis for academic probation and will necessitate that students attend the Student Writing Center under the supervision of their advisor and/or writing coach and complete course requirements.

## Course-Related Code Designations

I	Incomplete; becomes an F if not removed within 30 days after the end of the semester
TR	Transfer credit accepted from another institution
WP	Withdrawal before 12 class hours; no penalty
WF	Failure due to withdrawal after 12 class hours
FA	Failure due to excessive absences
AU	Audit completed
AW	Withdrawal from an audited course; no penalty
AN	Audit not completed; no penalty
AS	Advanced standing granted in a required course; alternate prescribed elective course to be taken
P	Pass
EX	Exempt
CO	Course completed

## **Failure of a Course**

A required course in which a grade of F is received must be repeated until a passing grade is achieved. If a grade of F is received in an elective course, the course may be repeated, or another elective course may be attempted. In either event, the cumulative grade point average of a student must be maintained at the level of at least 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 for the student to continue working toward graduation without restriction.

## **The Student Writing Center**

The Student Writing Center offers assistance to students through a course entitled Power Up, which covers topics such as planning, organizing, writing, editing, and revising research papers. Each semester, Power Up is offered residually for eight weeks on Wednesdays from 11:00-11:50 a.m. by a professor/writing coach or online through Moodle. Students who feel that they need assistance in writing papers may voluntarily sign up for the course by contacting the registrar's office at the beginning of the semester.

Other students may be required to take Power Up based upon certain criteria. Students enrolled in CN 4103/7103 Introduction to Biblical Counseling, EN 4900/7900 Introduction to Research and Writing, or NT 2601/5601 New Testament Survey 1 will be required to write a research paper which will be collected and graded by two outside reviewers at the completion of the semester. Students who do not make a 12 or higher on the Power Up rubric will receive an "Incomplete" for the course and will be required to attend Power Up, where they will be coached through rewriting the research paper. A composite score of 12 or higher on the second paper will reverse the "Incomplete" to a passing grade for the course.

For other criteria in which a student is required to attend Power Up, see the sections of this catalog entitled, "Conditional Admission," "Grading Regulations," and "Academic Probation."

## **Transcript Records of Grades**

All grades are permanently recorded on the student's academic transcript and become a part of his or her scholastic record. An unsatisfactory grade (D or F) in a course must remain on the transcript and is used in calculation of the student's grade point average.

If a student repeats a course due to an unsatisfactory grade, the new grade is also recorded on the transcript. The last grade earned in the course is the grade used to calculate the student's grade point average. Students cannot repeat a course to raise a grade of B or C.

## **Grade Reports**

Grade reports are available to the student through SonisWeb. Grades are generally posted approximately three weeks after final examinations.

# Quality Points

Quality points are recorded as follows:

A	=	4.0	A-	=	3.8			
B+	=	3.5	B	=	3.0	B-	=	2.7
C+	=	2.3	C	=	2.0	C-	=	1.7
D+	=	1.3	D	=	1.0	D-	=	0.7
F	=	0.0						

The total number of quality points earned in each course is recorded on the student’s transcript along with the record of the course grade and the student’s cumulative grade point average. The grade point average is calculated by adding the total number of quality points earned and dividing by the total number of academic hours attempted.

# General Requirements for Graduation

To qualify for graduation from the Seminary, students must fulfill the specific program requirements stipulated in this catalog regarding their degree. In addition, each student must satisfy the following general requirements for graduation:

## Academic Credit Requirements

Of the total number of credit hours required for graduation in the student’s degree program, he or she must complete 30 semester hours at Mid-America. Each student’s cumulative grade point average must be a minimum of 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 in order to be eligible for graduation.

## Witness One:Seven Program Requirements

The Witness One:Seven program is an integral part of the training of every student enrolled at this Seminary. Students may not graduate without completing the Witness One:Seven requirements for each semester enrolled. The nature, scope, and requirements of the Witness One:Seven program are clarified in that section of this catalog.

## Financial Requirements

Before graduation, each student must settle all financial obligations to the Seminary, including all payments for tuition, fees, bookstore accounts, library accounts, as well as any outstanding balances to Mid-America Student Housing for rent, late fees, etc.

## Personal Behavior Requirements

As a prerequisite for graduation, each student must in the opinion of the faculty display a consistent Christian conduct and attitude and must demonstrate reasonable suitability for effective Christian service.



## **Graduation Ceremony Requirements**

To be awarded his or her degree, each student must participate in a formal graduation ceremony held by the Seminary. Any request to graduate in absentia must be made for a valid reason beyond the student's control and must be approved in advance by the faculty. Forms for this petition are obtained through the registrar's office.

## **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 polity that establishes the governance of academic and administrative affairs, however, allows the student the opportunity to seek recourse from what he or she considers to be unfair or unjust evaluations or processes.

In the case of doctoral students, grievance procedures and decisions are established and administered by the doctoral programs committee.

Before completing the 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 issues in four sections: academic issues, administrative issues, harassment issues and honor code violations.

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](http://www.mabts.edu) and should be returned to the Campus Life Office, as it is the responsibility of the director of Campus Life to coordinate the resolution process.

### **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 courses are dealt with by petition through the registrar's office. Matters related to excessive absences are dealt with by petition through the graduate programs 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 director of Campus Life, who will then contact the appropriate person(s) to attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance.
2. If the situation remains unresolved, the matter will be addressed by the academic vice president, who will 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 director of Campus Life, who will then contact the appropriate persons(s) to attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance.
2. If the situation remains unresolved, the matter will be addressed by the executive vice president, who will 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 executive vice president will make a final decision concerning the grievance.

## **Section III – Harassment Grievances**

Grievances of Academic or Administrative Issues Related to Harassment

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary respects the personhood of all individuals, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or religion. The Seminary, therefore, will not tolerate the abuse of individuals regarding these matters. It is the Seminary's policy to maintain an atmosphere free from all forms of harassment, which includes sexual harassment, whether verbal or physical.

This policy is directed at verbal and physical conduct that constitutes discrimination/harassment under state and federal law and is not directed at the content of

speech. In cases in which verbal statements and other forms of expression are involved, MABTS will give due consideration to an individual's constitutionally protected right to free speech and academic freedom.

Sexual harassment is prohibited by Seminary policy as well as by federal and state law. Sexual harassment includes all unwelcomed sexual overtures or advances including, but not limited to, offensive jokes, comments, innuendos, or other sexually oriented statements; requests for sexual favors; and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly as terms or conditions of a student's academic achievement, or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for decisions regarding the student's academic status, or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment.

If a student feels that he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment, normally the offense is to be initially reported to the president's office within 48 hours. A written complaint should include the name of the person(s) involved, the specific nature of the offense, and the date that it occurred. The president's office will conduct a thorough investigation of the complaint, and appropriate remedial action will be taken. Any information as is gathered will be treated as confidentially as practical. Where investigation confirms the offensive behavior, prompt corrective action will be taken with appropriate redress to the complaining party. Students reporting incidents of sexual harassment or cooperating with an investigation thereof will be protected from reprisals in any form. The confidentiality of the parties involved will be protected throughout the investigation, and only those parties whom the president deems necessary to have knowledge of the case will be informed. If the offense involves the president, the student should submit their report to the executive vice president's office.

Any employee found to be guilty of violating this policy will be disciplined, up to and including termination. Likewise, disciplinary measures will be applied in any instance determined fabricated for malicious reasons.

If the student feels that he or she has been subjected to any type of harassment (other than sexual), the offense may be reported to the president's office, or the student may follow the steps below:

1. The student completes, signs, and delivers the Student Grievance Form to the director of Campus Life, who will forward the grievance to the president's office within 48 hours to establish a resolution to the grievance with appropriate personnel.
2. If the situation remains unresolved, the matter will be addressed by the president, who will attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance.
3. After a thorough investigation, the president will make a final decision concerning the grievance.

## Section IV – Honor Code Violations

Each Student Agrees:

- I understand and will support and follow the Honor Code.
- I will not personally use unauthorized materials, and I will not participate with others in cheating.
- I will not facilitate cheating, and if I become aware of violations of academic or moral integrity, I understand that I have a responsibility to the Seminary community and will at least say something to the student involved or discuss the situation with a professor or the appropriate dean.

Academic work is evaluated on the assumption and the expectation that the work presented is the student's own, unless designated otherwise. Anything less is unacceptable and is considered academically dishonest. Collaboration, plagiarism, and cheating—all defined below—are considered forms of academic dishonesty and students guilty of such are subject to disciplinary action.

- **Collaboration:** Submission of a paper that is paraphrased from, or identical to, another student's paper. A "paper" is defined as "any materials submitted by a student for credit in a course."
- **Plagiarism:** Submission of a paper in which substantial portions are paraphrased without documentation or are identical to published or unpublished material.
- **Cheating:** The improper use of books, notes, another student's tests, or other aids during an examination. It is the responsibility of the student to get approval for the use of such aids prior to the time of the examination, and without such approval they will be considered improper. An "examination" is defined as "any testing situation in which the score will be used for credit in a course."

Failure on a student's part to live up to this Honor Code becomes the concern of the appropriate dean and faculty advisor. (It is assumed, however, that any matter of concern in this area between members of the Seminary community will first be dealt with according to the principles of Matthew 18:15–22.) All disciplinary matters are subject to review before a Student Disciplinary Committee. This committee is composed of the dean of women or the dean of men, as chairperson, the faculty advisor of the student in question, the president of the Student Council, and one other faculty member.

Due process in dealing with disciplinary problems is primarily for protecting the reputation of a student against false or unsupported accusations. The purpose of disciplinary action is always redemptive, with every effort made to help the student involved to gain insight into his or her own needs and motivations as a potential minister in Christian service. Where there is evidence of personality and character weaknesses that would make it unwise for a student to continue in preparation for the ministry, the student is given counsel to help him or her see that fact.

A student disciplinary committee will handle all cases referred to it by the appropriate dean and will be the appellate body for decisions made by the dean that are appealed by the student. The committee will handle any case involving the possible dismissal of a

student; dismissal may only take place by action of the faculty. The student will receive a written statement of charges against him or her. He or she may be accompanied by a personal representative, may bring witnesses on his or her own behalf, and may choose not to answer any of the questions directed to him or her. If either the student disciplinary committee or the student deems the advice of a lawyer necessary, such a person may give any advice he or she believes pertinent; but he or she may not enter into the proceedings and/or deliberations of a student disciplinary committee.

Should the situation warrant it, the student may be given a warning, a disciplinary probation, a required leave of absence, or dismissal. Appeal of any action of the Student Disciplinary Committee may be made to the faculty in writing. Further appeal may be made after the faculty's decision to the president of the Seminary. Such an appeal must be in writing, and a personal interview will be granted with the appeal.

If the student feels that he/she has witnessed a violation of the honor code, or if they themselves have violated the honor code, they are to take the following steps below:

1. The student completes, signs, and delivers the Student Grievance Form to the director of Campus Life, who will then contact the appropriate person(s) to attempt to establish a resolution to the grievance.
2. If the situation remains unresolved, the matter will be addressed by the academic vice president, who will 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 V — Academic Grievances**

*For grievances related to compliance with the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA)*

Complaint Resolution Policies and Procedures for Non-Tennessee Resident Students in State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement States, commonly known as SARA.

Student complaints relating to consumer protection laws that involve distance learning education offered under the terms and conditions of the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), must first be filed with the institution to seek resolution.

Complainants not satisfied with the outcome of the Institution's internal process may appeal, within two years of the incident about which the complaint is made, to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (<https://www.tn.gov/thec/bureaus/student-aid-and-compliance/postsecondary-state-authorization/request-for-complaint-review.html>).

For purposes of this process, a complaint shall be defined as a formal assertion in writing that the terms of SARA or the laws, standards or regulations incorporated by the SARA Policies and Standards (<http://www.nc-sara.org/content/sara-manual>) have been violated by the institution operating under the terms of SARA.

For a list of SARA member States, please visit the NC-SARA website (<http://nc-sara.org/sara-states-institutions>). Students residing in non-SARA states should consult their respective State of residence for further instruction for filing a complaint.

# Disciplinary Regulations

## Unsatisfactory Academic Progress

A required course in which a grade of F is received must be repeated until a passing grade is achieved. If a grade of F is received in an elective course, the course may be repeated, or another elective course may be attempted. In either event, the cumulative grade point average of a student must be maintained at the level of at least 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 for the student to continue working toward graduation without restriction.

## Academic Probation

If a student's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 at the end of any semester, he or she is automatically placed on academic probation for one semester. If the student raises his or her cumulative grade point average to the minimum requirement of 2.0 during that period, probationary status is removed. If the cumulative grade point average does not reach 2.0 by the end of the semester, however, the student continues academic probation for another semester. Students on academic probation must attend the Student Writing Center under the supervision of their advisor and/or writing coach to complete course requirements.

Each student placed on academic probation is assigned to direct supervision by the associate dean of the graduate programs in matters related to course schedule approval and remedial action. The associate dean prescribes appropriate academic limitations which may include: the maximum number of hours which the student can take during a semester; the sequential priority for scheduling previous courses which must be retaken and new courses which may be allowed; and the nature and extent of any counseling or remedial action deemed necessary. The associate dean reports the status of students on academic probation to the faculty.

## Academic Dismissal

The Seminary reserves the right to dismiss students whose academic progress is unsatisfactory. Students on academic probation for two consecutive semesters without raising their cumulative grade point average to the minimum 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 are subject to academic dismissal and may be required to withdraw from the Seminary for at least one semester.

Veteran students on academic probation for two consecutive semesters without raising their cumulative grade point average to the minimum 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 are subject to academic dismissal and will have the veteran education benefits terminated until a 2.0 grade point average on a scale of 4.0 is obtained.

## Disciplinary Dismissal

The Seminary is dedicated to the training of students who are committed to Christian ministries. This type of student greatly reduces the occasion of disciplinary problems. The locus of authority in dealing with discipline problems is the faculty through the dean

of men, the director of Campus Life, the dean of women, and the student disciplinary committee.

It is the desire of MABTS to be responsive to the needs of the student in all areas of his or her life. Policies and procedures, therefore, in both academic and financial areas as well as personal, moral/ethical, and spiritual development have been established. These policies and procedures are intended to cover most circumstances that may arise; but it is recognized that on occasion there are situations that warrant special, individual consideration.

## **MABTS Standards of Conduct**

In moral/ethical or spiritual development, the Seminary recognizes the freedom of each student to develop under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. However, it must also be noted that MABTS students are not only preparing for positions of spiritual leadership but are often already viewed as Christian leaders by men and women in the community. Thus, it is essential that they exemplify a God-controlled life both on and off the campus, conforming to the highest standards of conduct.

All members of the Seminary—trustees, faculty, administrative staff members, or students—assume the responsibility to conduct themselves in compliance with the objectives and standards of conduct established by the Seminary. Misconduct that renders a member of the Seminary liable for discipline, up to and including dismissal, falls into the following categories:

1. Dishonesty, including cheating, theft, plagiarism, forgery, or giving false information on official documents.
2. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research administration, or Seminary sponsored activities by force or violence or threat of violence.
3. Physical, verbal, written, or mental abuse or threat of abuse of another member of the Seminary.
4. Theft or damage to Seminary or community property or the personal property of a member of the Seminary community, which includes taking materials from the library.
5. The use of tobacco, alcohol, or the abuse of controlled substances.
6. Solicitation to or participation in immoral relationships, including but not limited to sodomy, adultery, sex outside of marriage, or participation in same-sex relationships (“marriage”).
7. Any blurring of the boundary between maleness and femaleness, such as identifying oneself as a transvestite, transsexual, or transgender, is contrary to biblical standards and is considered grounds for removal from the Seminary.
8. Participation in or viewing of pornography.
9. Participation in spousal abuse, whether physical, verbal, mental, or psychological.
10. Unauthorized entry to or use of Seminary facilities or equipment.
11. Failure to comply with directions of the president or other officers of the Seminary when acting in the performance of their duties.

12. Conduct which adversely affects the member's suitability as a member of the Seminary community or which interferes with the rights and privileges of another member of the Seminary community.
13. The willful commission of any act which is a crime under the laws of the states of Tennessee and/or the state of New York that results in a criminal charge and conviction in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Academic work is evaluated on the assumption and the expectation that the work presented is the student's own, unless designated otherwise. Anything less is unacceptable and is considered academically dishonest. Collaboration, plagiarism, and cheating—all defined below—are considered forms of academic dishonesty and students guilty of such are subject to disciplinary action.

1. **Collaboration:** Submission of a paper that is paraphrased from, or identical to, another student's paper. A "paper" is defined as "any materials submitted by a student for credit in a course."
2. **Plagiarism:** Submission of a paper in which substantial portions are paraphrased without documentation or are identical to published or unpublished material.
3. **Cheating:** The improper use of books, notes, another student's test(s), or other aids during an examination. It is the responsibility of the student to get approval for the use of such aids prior to the time of the examination, and without such approval they will be considered improper. An "examination" is defined as "any testing situation in which the score will be used for credit in a course."

Failure on a student's part to live up to this standard becomes the concern of the director of Campus Life, dean of women, and dean of men. (It is assumed, however, that any matter of concern in this area between members of the Seminary community will first be dealt with according to the principles of Matthew 18:15–22.) All disciplinary matters are subject to review before the student disciplinary committee. Due process in dealing with disciplinary problems is primarily for protecting the reputation of a student against false or unsupported accusations. Disciplinary action is always redemptive, with every effort made to help the student involved to gain insight into his or her own needs and motivations as a potential minister in Christian service. Where there is evidence of personality and character weaknesses that would make it unwise for a student to continue in preparation for the ministry, the student is given counsel to help him or her see that fact.

A student disciplinary committee will handle all cases referred to it by the dean of women or dean of men and will be the appellate body for decisions made by the dean that are appealed by the student. Any case involving the possible dismissal of a student will be handled by the committee, and dismissal may only take place by action of the faculty. The student will receive a written statement of charges against him or her. He or she may be accompanied by a personal representative, may bring witnesses on his or her own behalf, and may choose not to answer any of the questions placed on him or her. If the advice of a lawyer is deemed necessary by either the student disciplinary committee or the student, such a person may give any advice he or she believes pertinent; but he or she may not enter the proceedings and/or deliberations of a student disciplinary committee.



Should the situation warrant it, the student may be given a warning, a disciplinary probation, a required leave of absence, or a dismissal. Appeal of any action of the student disciplinary committee may be made to the faculty in writing. Further appeal may be made after the faculty's decision to the president of the Seminary. Such an appeal must be in writing, and a personal interview will be granted with the appeal.

## **The Student Disciplinary Committee**

While not a standing committee, the student disciplinary committee is appointed by the president to deal with disciplinary matters. The dean of women, dean of men, the academic vice president, the director of Campus Life, and the president of the Student Council association serve on the committee. Other members are appointed as needed to deal with specific issues. This committee addresses specific student ethical or moral problems. After due and fair consideration, the student disciplinary committee, in consultation with the student involved, may recommend that disciplinary action be taken by the full faculty. The faculty has authority to impose loss of academic credit, probation, or dismissal, as appropriate to the seriousness of the situation. Information regarding student rights and due process is published in the Student Supplement.

## **Readmission after Academic and/or Disciplinary Dismissal**

A student dismissed from the Seminary for academic and/or disciplinary reasons must remain out of school for at least one semester or as otherwise stipulated in the notice of dismissal. If the student desires readmission after the conclusion of the stated period, he or she must follow the procedure set forth under Readmission of Former Students, with the stipulation that the final approval of the terms of such readmission must be authorized by action of the faculty. The Seminary reserves the right to refuse readmission to any person who has been dismissed for academic and/or disciplinary reasons or to specify terms of readmission under conditional status.

## **Withdrawal from the Seminary**

### **Withdrawal Procedure**

A student withdrawing from the Seminary must complete the withdrawal form, which may be obtained from the registrar's office, and have it approved by the Campus Life, the Witness One:Seven office, the library, the academic vice president, and the vice president for finance and operations. The form is returned to the registrar's office for final processing. This procedure enables the student to satisfy responsibilities to the Seminary and thus permits re-enrollment eligibility for readmission at a later date.

### **Withdrawal During an Academic Term**

A student can withdraw from the Seminary without penalty during an academic semester by completing the withdrawal process within the first twelve class sessions of the semester. Withdrawal after 12 class hours results in an automatic grade of WF in all classes unless an exception is granted by faculty action in the case of a severe emergency.

See the drop/add procedures listed in the Registration Requirements and Procedures section of this catalog for further information.

## **Withdrawal by Default**

A student failing to register for courses for two consecutive semesters (excluding summer or special terms) is considered to have withdrawn. The student is responsible for completion of the withdrawal procedure.

## **Readmission after Withdrawal**

A student who withdraws (whether by direct action or by default in enrollment) must apply for readmission under the current catalog.

# **Maintenance of Academic Records**

## **Current Student Admission and Academic Records**

Prospective student admission files are maintained in the Admissions office and are available to the program associate deans and to the faculty. All other academic records are maintained in the registrar's office and are available to the faculty when offering counseling to a current student. Mid-America Seminary practices the highest confidentiality standards and fully cooperates with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

## **Continued Maintenance of Student Admission Records**

Pertinent data for each student is stored along with his or her admissions records in the Academic Records office.

## **Cumulative Academic Transcripts**

Transcripts of all academic work done at the Seminary are kept permanently. All permanent student records are maintained in the registrar's office. Transcripts are also saved electronically and stored in a secured off-site location.

## **Release of Student Academic Records to Other Persons and Institutions**

Student admission and academic records are available for inspection by the student and authorized Seminary personnel, but these records are regarded as confidential and are not released to unauthorized persons. Student academic records are released to another person or institution only with the written consent of the student. No transcript of a student record is furnished until all financial obligations to the Seminary have been satisfied. A fee of \$10.00 is charged for each transcript. Additional information regarding the release of student records is published in the *Student Supplement and Housing Handbook*.

# Connected Campus Online

## Purpose

Mid-America's online program offers quality theological education and ministerial training for effective service in church-related and missions vocations. The goal of the Seminary is to provide a quality educational experience through the provision of course work through this non-traditional program.

MABTS offers courses online through [www.midamericaondemand.org](http://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 residential classes.

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 can interact through the various features of online courses. Enrollment occurs through the standard registration process.

## Distance Education Privacy Policy

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary seeks to protect the privacy of students enrolled in distance education courses through the following means:

1. A student's coursework is viewable only by the course professor unless the student gives permission for specific information to be shared with others.
2. A student's grades are viewable only by the student, the professor, and the registrar's office.
3. A student's posts to online forums are considered part of the open class discussion and meet best practices expectations (MABTS Posting Rubric) for student to student and student to professor interaction. Students should have the expectation of privacy within the online class for posts to these forums.
4. A student's emails or instant messaging to the professor are considered private and should not be made available to other students. However, should a student's communication violate seminary policies or include information which a professor is legally obligated to report, such communication does not have expectation of confidentiality.
5. Students who believe their privacy has been violated should contact the professor first. If no satisfactory result occurs, the student may make appeal to the institution through the Student Grievance Policy and Procedure.

## **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.

## **Schedule**

Online courses follow the academic calendar of the residential campus. Exceptions are noted in each class syllabus.

# Introduction to Academic Programs

- Distinction Between Program Levels ..... 73
- General Educational Objectives of the Academic Programs..... 73
- Key to the Identification of Courses ..... 74
- Course Level and Identification..... 74
- Academic Credit Hours for Courses..... 75
- Publication of Course Offerings ..... 75
- Elective Courses ..... 75
- Changes in Course Offerings..... 75
- Master of Arts Program ..... 76
  - Master of Arts – Biblical Counseling ..... 77
  - Master of Arts - Christian Education ..... 79
  - Master of Arts – Missiology and Intercultural Studies..... 81
  - Master of Arts – Theology..... 83
  - Master of Arts – Worship ..... 85
- Accelerated Master of Divinity Program..... 87
  - Accelerated Master of Divinity – Biblical Counseling ..... 89
  - Accelerated Master of Divinity – Christian Education ..... 91
  - Accelerated Master of Divinity – Missiology and Intercultural Studies..... 93
  - Accelerated Master of Divinity – Pastoral Ministry ..... 97
- Master of Divinity Program..... 99
  - Master of Divinity - Biblical Counseling..... 100
  - Master of Divinity - Christian Education..... 102
  - Master of Divinity – Missiology and Intercultural Studies ..... 104
  - Master of Divinity - Pastoral Ministry..... 109
- Master’s Degree Programs Courses of Instruction ..... 111
- Doctor of Ministry Program ..... 135
- Doctor of Philosophy Program..... 145

# Introduction to Academic Programs

## Distinction between Program Levels

### Distinction Between the Graduate Programs and the Doctoral Programs

The Seminary offers graduate and doctoral level degrees at the main campus. Courses offered at the graduate level and at the doctoral level are separate and distinct. Graduate level students are not allowed to enroll in doctoral seminars.

Doctoral students are not allowed to take graduate level courses for credit to fulfill requirements for doctoral seminars. Doctoral students are allowed to audit or to take for credit graduate level courses for remedial purposes or for their personal edification.

### Dual Degrees at the Graduate Level

The Master of Divinity (90 semester hours, emphases in Biblical Counseling, Christian Education, Missions and Intercultural Studies, and Pastoral Ministry) and the Master of Arts (60 semester hours, emphases in Christian Education, Theology and Worship) may be earned concurrently with a minimum of 120 semester hours. A minimum of 30 hours of course credit is required, beyond the initial degree completion, for graduates to obtain a second degree.

## General Educational Objectives of the Academic Programs

In the light of its stated institutional purpose, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary seeks to achieve the following general educational objectives in its academic programs:

1. To develop an understanding of the Bible and its relevance for today;
2. To develop a comprehensive theological framework within which to interpret God's message to man's need;
3. To develop a functional philosophy of Christian ministry in contemporary society;
4. To develop personal spiritual vitality and Christian character through Bible study, prayer, and devotional reading;
5. To develop appropriate skills required to preach, teach, and otherwise communicate the Word of God;
6. To develop appropriate skills required to exercise leadership positions in the church and denomination;
7. To develop the appropriate skills required to communicate the gospel and plant churches cross-culturally;

8. To develop a Great Commission worldview to encourage involvement in missions endeavors and support; and
9. To develop a personal commitment to and involvement in evangelism nationally and internationally.

Specific educational objectives of each individual academic program are set forth in the subsequent sections which describe each respective program.

# Key to the Identification of Courses

## Subject Category

The initial letters indicate the subject category of the course:

BH	Cross Departmental	LA	Latin
CA	Church Administration	MA	Mathematics
CE	Christian Education	MS	Missions
CH	Church History	NT	New Testament
CM	Church Music	OT	Old Testament
CN	Counseling	PH	Philosophy
CS	Computer Science	PM	Pastoral Ministry
EN	English and Literature	SC	Sciences
EV	Evangelism	SP	Spanish
GR	Greek	TH	Theology
HB	Hebrew	WH	World History
HM	Homiletics		

## Course Level and Identification

In each course listing, the subject category code letters are followed by a four-digit number which indicates the course level and identifies the specific course within the subject category. The classification of course numbers is as follows:

<b>5000–7999</b>	<b>Graduate Level Courses</b>
5000–5099	Biblical Archaeology
5100	Cross Departmental
5101–5599	Old Testament and Hebrew
5600–5999	New Testament and Greek
6000–6199	Church History
6200–6299	Evangelism
6300–6599	Missions
6600–6999	Theology and Philosophy
7000–7399	Practical Theology
7400–7699	Christian Education
7700–7779	Church Music
7780–7799	Bridge Program Courses
7900–7999	Communication Skills

<b>8000–8999</b>	<b>Doctor of Ministry Courses</b>
8000–8099	Colloquium
8100–8399	Pastoral Ministry
8400–8799	Missiology
8800–8899	Expository Teaching
8900–8999	Christian Education
 <b>9000–9999</b>	 <b>Doctor of Philosophy Courses</b>
9000–9099	Required Proficiencies
9101	Biblical Archaeology
9102–9299	Old Testament and Hebrew
9300–9499	New Testament and Greek
9500–9599	Church History
9600–9699	Evangelism and Missions
9700–9799	Theology
9800–9899	Practical Theology
9900–9999	Education

## Academic Credit Hours for Courses

The Seminary reports academic credits in units of semester hours. Each course description listed for graduate level subjects represents a three-semester-hour unit.

## Publication of Course Offerings

A schedule of required and elective course offerings is published each June for the academic year. The registrar's office also maintains a proposed schedule of required course offerings for the following year so that students may plan for completion of graduation requirements.

## Elective Courses

Elective courses are available each semester. Students are encouraged to take required courses first, and then to utilize their free elective hours to select elective courses which are meaningful to their individual educational goals.

## Changes in Course Offerings

It is the goal of the Seminary to provide a clear path for students who register for five courses per semester to graduate in the allotted time-frame for their degree program. The Seminary, however, reserves the right to change the times when courses may be offered, offer courses more than once a year, change or drop courses, and add new courses to the schedule during the school year.



# Master of Arts Program

## Description of the Master of Arts Program

The Master of Arts program is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent, designed to equip students for service as a biblical counselor, a minister of education, a missionary, a teacher of theology, or leader in worship. This program offers emphases in biblical counseling, Christian education, missiology and intercultural studies, theology and worship, requiring 60 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

## Educational Objectives of the Master of Arts Program

In addition to the Seminary's general educational objectives, the Master of Arts program is designed to promote growth toward personal maturity and ministry competence in the practice of Christian education, theology and worship. The objectives of this program are accomplished through classroom instruction, the modeling of professors, the practice of ministry through the Witness One:Seven program, chapel services, and student organizations.

## Foundational Studies

The Master of Arts program seeks to guide students to develop the ability to understand and interpret the Christian faith in light of its biblical, theological, and historical dimensions and to utilize insights gained from these disciplines for the effective practice of Christian education, knowledge of theology and worship in the church, the community, and the world.

## Essential Skills for Service

The Master of Arts program seeks to guide students to understand, develop, and utilize the essential skills for the effective performance of Christian education, theology and worship leadership roles in the church, including education administration, staff relationships, teaching, age-group ministries, program evaluation, evangelism, and missions.

## Personal Growth and Professional Development

The Master of Arts program seeks to guide students to develop lifelong patterns of continuing personal spiritual growth and professional development.

# **Master of Arts Biblical Counseling**

## **Description of the Master of Arts/Biblical Counseling Degree**

The Master of Arts/biblical counseling degree is designed to equip students for service as a biblical counselor in the local church, a minister in the area of biblical counseling in a para-church organization or Christian school, or a minister in the area of discipleship training in the local church. This degree requires 60 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

## **Completion Requirements for the Master of Arts/Biblical Counseling Degree**

### **General Requirements**

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student seeking the Master of Arts/biblical counseling degree must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

### **Course Requirements**

Each student pursuing the Master of Arts/biblical counseling degree must complete the 60 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart, including 57 semester hours of required courses and three practicum hours. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

**Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Biblical Counseling Degree**

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101-5102	6	
Introduction to Christian Education	CE 7484	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Introduction to Research & Writing	EN 7900	3	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Crisis Counseling	CN 7176	3	
Traditional/World Religions and Cults	MS 6405	3	
			30
SECOND YEAR			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601-5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701-6702	6	
Preaching or Teaching 1	HM 7001/CE 7450	3	
Introduction to Biblical Counseling	CN 7103	3	
Counseling Practicum	CN 7190	3	
Theology of Counseling	CN 7172	3	
Marriage and Family	CN 7174	3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

# Master of Arts

## Christian Education

### Description of the Master of Arts/Christian Education Degree

The Master of Arts/Christian Education degree is designed to equip students for service as a minister of education, minister to youth, minister to children, administrator in the local church, a missionary in the area of Christian education, or a teacher or administrator in a church-related school. This degree requires 60 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

### Completion Requirements for the Master of Arts/Christian Education Degree

#### General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student seeking the Master of Arts/Christian education degree must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

#### Course Requirements

Each student pursuing the Master of Arts/Christian education degree must complete the 60 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart, including 54 semester hours of required courses and six elective hours. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

**Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Christian Education Degree**

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Introduction to Christian Education	CE 7484	3	
Childhood/Youth Education in the Church	CE 7610	3	
Adult Education in the Church	CE 7660	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
			30
SECOND YEAR			
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Principles of Teaching 1	CE 7450	3	
Principles of Teaching 2	CE 7452	3	
Introduction to Biblical Counseling	CN 7103	3	
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Theology Elective		3	
Christian Education Elective		3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

# **Master of Arts**

## **Missiology and Intercultural Studies**

### **Description of the Master of Arts/Missiology and Intercultural Studies**

The Master of Arts/missiology and intercultural studies degree is designed to equip students for service as a minister in the area of missions in the local church, leadership in missions, both foreign and home, or a director or leader in a local community ministry agency. This degree requires 60 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

### **Completion Requirements for the Master of Arts/Missiology and Intercultural Studies**

#### **General Requirements**

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student seeking the Master of Arts/missiology and intercultural studies degree must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

#### **Course Requirements**

Each student pursuing the Master of Arts/missiology and intercultural studies degree must complete the 60 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart, including 53 semester hours of required courses and six practicum hours. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

# **Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree**

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Principles of Teaching 1, 2 or Preaching 1, 2	CE 7450-7452 or HM 7001-7005	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701-6702	6	
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601-5602	6	
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101-5102	6	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
			30
SECOND YEAR			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Church Planting	MS 6311	3	
Intro to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
Traditional World Religions and Cults	MS 6405	3	
Strategies of Missions and Leadership Dev.	MS 6332	3	
Anthropology and Worldview	MS 6520	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Pauline Theology of Missions	MS 6435	3	
Missions Practicum	MS 6581	3	
Missions Practicum	MS 6582	3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

# Master of Arts Theology

## Description of the Master of Arts/Theology Degree

The Master of Arts/theology degree is designed to equip students for service in a supportive role in the local church. Courses include Old and New Testament biblical theology, systematic theology, and apologetics, providing students with a solid theological foundation for ministry. This program requires 60 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

## Completion Requirements for the Master of Arts/Theology Degree

### General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student seeking the Master of Arts/theology degree must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

### Course Requirements

Each student pursuing the Master of Arts/theology degree must complete the 60 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart, including 57 semester hours of required courses and three elective hours. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.



**Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Theology Degree**

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Introduction to Christian Education	CE 7484	3	
Introduction to Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
Biblical OT Theology	TH 6601	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
			30
SECOND YEAR			
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Biblical Preaching 1, 2 or Teaching 1, 2	HM 7001-7005/ CE 7450-7452	6	
Introduction to Biblical Counseling	CN 7103	3	
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Theology Elective		3	
Biblical NT Theology	TH 6602	3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

# Master of Arts Worship

## Description of the Master of Arts/Worship Degree

The Master of Arts/worship degree is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent, designed to equip students for service as a worship leader in the local church or on the mission field. This program is primarily related to specialized music ministry, requiring 60 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

## Completion Requirements for the Master of Arts/Worship Degree

### General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student seeking to earn the Master of Arts/worship degree must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

### Course Requirements

Each student pursuing the Master of Arts/worship degree must complete the 60 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

**Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Worship Degree**

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Introduction to Christian Education	CE 7484	3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
Music Ministry 1	CM 7721	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
			30
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Music Ministry 2	CM 7722	3	
Conducting	CM 7734	3	
Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs	CM 7735	3	
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Worship Leadership/Design/Tech	CM 7723	3	
Vocal Ensemble Leadership	CM 7733	3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

# Accelerated Master of Divinity Program

## Description of the Accelerated Master of Divinity Program

The accelerated Master of Divinity is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree. With emphases offered in biblical counseling, Christian education, missiology and intercultural studies or pastoral ministry, it is designed to equip students for effective ministry as a pastor, church educator, counselor, evangelist, or missionary. This accelerated version of the Master of Divinity allows students who have completed an undergraduate biblical studies or biblical counseling degree with Mid-America to shorten the traditional Master of Divinity from 90 credit hours to 60 credit hours. It eliminates courses that would be duplicated between the undergraduate and graduate programs. Students with undergraduate degrees from other Christian colleges may also be eligible if they have completed at least 10 of the following 15 courses:

- Evangelism
- Hermeneutics (Basic Biblical Interpretation)
- History of Christianity
- Introduction to Biblical Counseling
- Introduction to Christian Education
- Introduction to Missions
- Introduction to Research and Writing
- New Testament Survey 1
- New Testament Survey 2
- Old Testament Survey 1
- Old Testament Survey 2
- Pastoral Ministry
- Spiritual Formation
- Systematic Theology 1 (Basic Biblical Doctrine)
- Traditional World Religions and Cults

# **Educational Objectives of the Accelerated Master of Divinity Program**

The accelerated Master of Divinity program is designed to promote growth in students toward personal maturity and professional ministry competence. The objectives of the program are accomplished through classroom instruction, the modeling of professors, the practice of ministry through the Witness One:Seven program, chapel services, and student organizations.

## **Foundational Studies**

The accelerated Master of Divinity program seeks to guide students to develop the ability to understand and interpret the Christian faith in light of its biblical, theological, and historical dimensions and to utilize insights gained from these disciplines for the effective practice of ministry in the church, the community, and the world.

## **Essential Skills for Ministry**

The accelerated Master of Divinity program seeks to guide students to understand, develop, and utilize the essential skills for ministry in the effective performance of pastoral leadership roles, support staff roles, and missionary roles, including preaching, teaching, worship leadership, pastoral leadership, pastoral ministry, biblical counseling, and evangelism.

## **Personal Growth and Professional Development**

The accelerated Master of Divinity program seeks to guide students to develop lifelong patterns of continuing personal spiritual growth and professional development.

# **Accelerated Master of Divinity Degree**

## **Biblical Counseling**

### **Description of the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree**

The accelerated Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent. It is designed to equip both male and female students for effective ministry as biblical counselors. The degree focuses on counseling that is strictly biblical in nature (nouthetic), and students receive a background in the theology of counseling and evidence that the Word is sufficient to bring about change. The accelerated Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree requires 60 semester hours of course credit and is only available to students who have completed a Bachelor of Arts in Christian studies or Bachelor of Arts in biblical counseling at Mid-America, or students from other Christian colleges who have satisfied the specific course requirements as indicated.

### **Completion Requirements for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree**

#### **General Requirements**

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student in the accelerated Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree program must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

#### **Course Requirements**

Each student seeking the accelerated Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree must complete the 60 semester hours of credit specified in the following chart. The accelerated Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree includes several components: (1) 45 hours of required courses (2) nine semester hours of elective courses (3) a three credit hour practicum and (4) a three-credit hour capstone paper/course.

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

# Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
Systematic Theology 2	TH 6702	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
Theology of Counseling	CN 7172	3	
Medical Issues in Counseling	CN 7145	3	
Marriage and Family Counseling	CN 7174	3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
Intro to Ethics	PM 7280	3	30
SECOND YEAR			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	
Principles of Teaching 1, 2 or	CE 7450/7452,		
Biblical Preaching 1, 2	HM 7001/7005	6	
New Testament Elective		3	
Crisis Counseling	CN 7176	3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
Free Elective		3	
Counseling Practicum	CN 7190	3	
Capstone Paper	CN 7191	3	30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

The Master of Divinity/biblical counseling program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Accelerated Master of Divinity Degree

## Christian Education

### Description of the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree

The accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian education degree is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent. It is designed to equip students for service as a minister of education, minister to youth, minister to children, or administrator in the local church; a missionary in the area of Christian education; or a teacher or administrator in a church-related school. The accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian education degree requires 60 semester hours of course credit and is only available to students who have completed a Bachelor of Arts in Christian studies or Bachelor of Arts in biblical counseling at Mid-America, or students from other Christian colleges who have satisfied the specific course requirements as indicated.

### Completion Requirements for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree

#### General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student in the accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian education degree program must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

#### Course Requirements

Each student seeking the accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian education degree must complete the 60 semester hours of credit specified in the following chart. The accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian education degree includes several components: (1) 39 hours of required courses (2) 18 semester hours of elective courses (3) a three-credit hour capstone paper/course.

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



# Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
Systematic Theology 2	TH 6702	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
Theology Elective		3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
Adult Education in the Church	CE 7660	3	
Free Elective		3	
Intro to Ethics	PM 7280	3	
			30
SECOND YEAR			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	
Principles of Teaching 1, 2	CE 7450/7452	6	
New Testament Elective		3	
Childhood/Youth Education in the Church	CE 7610	3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
Christian Education Elective		3	
Free Elective		3	
Capstone Paper	CE 7670	3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

The Master of Divinity/Christian education program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Accelerated Master of Divinity Degree

## Missiology and Intercultural Studies

### Description of the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies

The accelerated Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies program is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent. It is designed to equip both male and female students for effective ministry as cross-cultural missionaries. This is a 60-semester hour accelerated program primarily related to preparation for cross-cultural missionary ministry. It is only available to students who have completed a Bachelor of Arts in Christian studies or biblical counseling at Mid-America, or students from other Christian colleges who have satisfied the specific course requirements as indicated. The first two-year segment of this program consists of prescribed on-campus studies. The final portion of the program may be completed in one of two ways:

- 1. On-Campus Studies**

The final hours of academic studies may be completed by prescribed courses in residence at the Mid-America campus.

- 2. On-Field Studies**

The final hours of academic studies may be completed by prescribed courses on an assigned mission field as students serve under a two-year or three-year appointment with missions agencies such as the International Mission Board and North American Mission Board, or another mission agency approved by the missions department. During the two or three years, the students are actively involved in supervised functional field ministry as set forth in the job description prepared by the International Mission Board or mission agency.

# Completion Requirements for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies

## General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student in the accelerated Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies degree program must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

## Course Requirements

Each student seeking the accelerated Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies degree must complete the 60 semester hours of credit specified in the following chart. The accelerated Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies degree (fully On-Campus option) includes several components: (1) 42 hours of required courses (2) 15 semester hours of elective courses and (3) a three-credit hour capstone paper/course.

The accelerated Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies degree (2+2 On-Campus/On-Field option) includes several components: (1) 33 hours of required courses (on-campus) (2) one 3 semester hour elective course (on-campus) (3) 15 semester hours of master Missiology thesis work (on-field) and (4) 9 semester hours annotated bibliography (on-field).

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

## Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree (Fully On-Campus)

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
Systematic Theology 2	TH 6702	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
Theology Elective		3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
Anthropology and Worldview	MS 6520	3	
Church Planting	MS 6311	3	
Intro to Ethics	PM 7280	3	
			30
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	
Principles of Teaching 1, 2 or Biblical Preaching 1, 2	CE 7450/7452, HM 7001/7005	6	
New Testament Elective		3	
Strategies of Missions and Leadership Dev.	MS 6332	3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
Missions Elective		3	
Free Elective		3	
Capstone Paper	MS 6595	3	
			30
<b>Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation</b>			60

The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

**Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree (2+2 On Campus/On Field)**

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	24
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
Systematic Theology 2	TH 6702	3	
Intro to Ethics	PM 7280	3	
Strategies of Missions/Leadership Dev.	MS 6332	3	
Anthropology and Worldview	MS 6520	3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
SECOND YEAR			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	12
Principles of Teaching 1, 2 or	CE 7450/7452,	6	
Biblical Preaching 1, 2	HM 7001/7005		
THIRD YEAR			
Master’s Mission Thesis		15	24
Annotated Bibliography		9	
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Accelerated Master of Divinity Degree

## Pastoral Ministry

### Description of the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree

The accelerated Master of Divinity with emphasis in pastoral ministry degree is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent, designed to equip male students for effective ministry as a pastor, associate pastor, church planter, evangelist or missionary. This is a program primarily related to preparation for the pastoral and missionary ministry, requiring 60 semester hours of academic credit for graduation. It is only available to students who have completed a Bachelor of Arts in Christian studies or biblical counseling at Mid-America, or students from other Christian colleges who have satisfied the specific course requirements as indicated.

### Completion Requirements for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree

#### General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student in the accelerated Master of Divinity program must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

#### Course Requirements

Each student seeking to earn the accelerated Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry degree must complete the 60 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart. The accelerated Master of Divinity program includes three components: (1) 51 hours of required courses and electives (2) 6 semester hours of practicums and (3) a 3-semester hour capstone course/paper. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

# **Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree**

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
FIRST YEAR			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
Systematic Theology 2	TH 6702	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
Theology Elective		3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
Free Elective		3	
Free Elective		3	
Intro to Ethics	PM 7280	3	30
SECOND YEAR			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	
Biblical Preaching 1, 2	HM 7001-7005	6	
New Testament Elective		3	
Intermediate Greek	GR 5811	3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
Practicum 1 and 2	PM 7290-7291	6	
Capstone Paper	PM 7308	3	30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			60

The Master of Divinity/pastoral ministry program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Master of Divinity Program

## Description of the Master of Divinity Program

The Master of Divinity is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent. With emphases offered in biblical counseling, Christian education, missiology and intercultural studies or pastoral ministry, it is designed to equip students for effective ministry as a pastor, church educator, counselor, evangelist, or missionary.

## Educational Objectives of the Master of Divinity Program

The Master of Divinity program is designed to promote growth in students toward personal maturity and professional ministry competence. The objectives of the program are accomplished through classroom instruction, the modeling of professors, the practice of ministry through the Witness One:Seven program, chapel services, and student organizations.

### Foundational Studies

The Master of Divinity program seeks to guide students to develop the ability to understand and interpret the Christian faith in light of its biblical, theological, and historical dimensions and to utilize insights gained from these disciplines for the effective practice of ministry in the church, the community, and the world.

### Essential Skills for Ministry

The Master of Divinity program seeks to guide students to understand, develop, and utilize the essential skills for ministry in the effective performance of pastoral leadership roles, support staff roles, and missionary roles, including preaching, teaching, worship leadership, pastoral leadership, pastoral ministry, biblical counseling, and evangelism.

### Personal Growth and Professional Development

The Master of Divinity program seeks to guide students to develop lifelong patterns of continuing personal spiritual growth and professional development.



# **Master of Divinity Degree Biblical Counseling**

## **Description of the Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree**

The Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent. It is designed to equip both male and female students for effective ministry as biblical counselors. The degree focuses on counseling that is strictly biblical in nature (nouthetic), and students receive a background in the theology of counseling and evidence that the Word is sufficient to bring about change. The Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree requires 90 semester hours of course credit.

## **Completion Requirements for the Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree**

### **General Requirements**

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student in the Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree program must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

### **Course Requirements**

Each student seeking the Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree must complete the 90 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart. The Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree includes two components: (1) 84 hours of required courses and (2) six semester hours of elective courses. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

## Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	30
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	30
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Preaching or Teaching 1	HM 7001 or CE 7450	3	
Preaching or Teaching 2	HM 7005 or CE 7452	3	
Introduction to Biblical Counseling	CN 7103	3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	30
Theology of Counseling	CN 7172	3	
Traditional World Religions and Cults	MS 6405	3	
Introduction to Christian Education	CE 7484	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Marriage and Family Counseling	CN 7174	3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
New Testament Elective		3	
Crisis Counseling	CN 7176	3	
Counseling Practicum	CN 7190	3	
<b>Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation</b>			90

The Master of Divinity/biblical counseling degree meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Master of Divinity Degree

## Christian Education

### Description of the Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree

The Master of Divinity/Christian education degree is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent, designed to equip students for service as a minister of education, minister to youth, minister to children, or administrator in the local church; a missionary in the area of Christian education; or a teacher or administrator in a church-related school. This program is primarily related to specialized ministry in Christian education, requiring 90 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

### Essential Skills for Service

The Master of Divinity/Christian education degree seeks to guide students to understand, develop, and utilize the essential skills for the effective performance of Christian education leadership roles in the church, including education administration, staff relationships, leadership development, teaching, educational curriculum, age-group ministries, program evaluation, evangelism, and missions.

### Completion Requirements for the Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree

#### General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student seeking to earn the Master of Divinity/Christian education degree must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

#### Course Requirements

Each student pursuing the Master of Divinity/Christian education degree must complete the 90 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart. The Master of Divinity/Christian education degree includes 78 semester hours of required courses and

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

## Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
			30
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Principles of Teaching 1, 2	CE 7450-7452	6	
Old Testament Elective		3	
Christian Education Elective		3	
			30
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Introduction to Biblical Counseling	CN 7103	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Intro to Christian Education	CE 7484	3	
Traditional/World Religions & Cults	MS 6405	3	
Childhood/Youth Education in the Church	CE 7610	3	
Adult Education in the Church	CE 7660	3	
Theology Elective		3	
New Testament Elective		3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			90

The Master of Divinity/Christian education degree meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Master of Divinity Degree

## Missiology and Intercultural Studies

### Description of the Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree

The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies program is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent. It is designed to equip both male and female students for effective ministry as cross-cultural missionaries. This is a 90-semester hour program primarily related to preparation for cross-cultural missionary ministry. The first two-year segment of this program consists of prescribed on-campus studies. The final portion of the program may be completed in one of two ways:

- 1. On-Campus Studies**

The final hours of academic studies may be completed by prescribed courses in residence at the Mid-America campus.

- 2. On-Field Studies**

The final hours of academic studies may be completed by prescribed courses on an assigned mission field as students serve under a two-year or three-year appointment with missions agencies such as the International Mission Board and North American Mission Board, or another mission agency approved by the missions department. During the two or three years, the students are actively involved in supervised functional field ministry as set forth in the job description prepared by the International Mission Board or mission agency.

Students enrolled in the on-field option for the third and fourth year of study must meet the same Witness One:Seven requirements as students in the on-campus option. The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies degree meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry and the Doctor of Philosophy programs.

### Entrance Requirements

The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies is a specialized degree for both male and female students preparing for cross-cultural missionary ministry. To enter the program, therefore, students must meet all general requirements for admission to the Seminary and must meet the following qualifications:

1. Applicants should have a sense of God's calling to cross-cultural missionary service.
2. Applicants who plan to complete their final 30 semester hours on the mission field must meet appointment qualifications of the International Mission Board

and North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, or another sending agency which can be approved by Mid-America.

## **Completion Requirements for the Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree**

### **General Requirements**

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, students in the master of missiology and intercultural studies program must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

### **Course Requirements**

Students in the master of missiology and intercultural studies program must complete 90 semester hours of courses specified in either of the three following charts. The master of missiology and intercultural studies includes two components: (1) three years of courses on-campus, or (2) two years of initial courses completed on-campus, plus two years of advanced courses completed on field while the student serves a two-year cross-cultural missionary appointment. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

## Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree On-Campus Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	30
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	30
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Biblical Preaching or Principles of Teaching 1	HM 7001, or CE 7450	3	
Biblical Preaching or Principles of Teaching 2	HM 7005, or CE 7452	3	
Strategies of Missions and Leadership Development	MS 6332	3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>			
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	30
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Traditional World Religions and Cults	MS 6405	3	
Church Planting	MS 6311	3	
Introduction to Biblical Counseling	CN 7103	3	
Theology Elective		3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
Anthropology and Worldview	MS 6520	3	
Missions Elective		3	
New Testament Elective		3	
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			90

The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

## Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree International 2+2 On-Campus and On-Field Combination Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
			<b>30</b>
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Biblical Preaching or Principles of Teaching 1	HM 7001, or CE 7450	3	
Biblical Preaching or Principles of Teaching 2	HM 7005, or CE 7452	3	
Strategies of Missions and Leadership Development	MS 6332	3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
			<b>30</b>
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>			
Traditional World Religions and Cults	MS 6405	3	
Anthropology and Worldview	MS 6520	3	
Annotated Bibliography	MS 6482–6484	9	
			15
<b>FOURTH YEAR</b>			
Master's Missions Thesis	MS 6485–6486	15	
			15
<b>Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation</b>			<b>90</b>

The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.



## Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree Urban Church Planting Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	30
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	30
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Biblical Preaching or Principles of Teaching 1	HM 7001, or CE 7450	3	
Biblical Preaching or Principles of Teaching 2	HM 7005, or CE 7452	3	
Church Planting Elective		3	
Missions Elective		3	
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>			
Practicum in Church Planting	MS 6583-6584	9	15
Annotated Bibliography	MS 6482-6484	6	
<b>FOURTH YEAR</b>			
Master's Missions Thesis	MS 6485–6486	15	15
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			90

The Master of Divinity/missiology and intercultural studies program meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Master of Divinity Degree

## Pastoral Ministry

### Description of the Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree

The Master of Divinity with emphasis in Pastoral Ministry degree is a professional graduate degree beyond the Bachelor of Arts or equivalent, designed to equip male students for effective ministry as a pastor, associate pastor, church planter, evangelist or missionary. This is a program primarily related to preparation for the pastoral and missionary ministry, requiring 90 semester hours of academic credit for graduation.

### Completion Requirements for the Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree

#### General Requirements

In order to qualify for graduation from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, each student in the Master of Divinity program must satisfy the General Requirements for Graduation as set forth in this catalog.

#### Course Requirements

Each student seeking to earn the Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry degree must complete the 90 semester hours of courses specified in the following chart. The Master of Divinity program includes two components: (1) 78 hours of required courses and (2) 12 semester hours of elective courses. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all courses in the New Testament Department.

## Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Hours	Total Hours
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
Old Testament Survey 1, 2	OT 5101–5102	6	
Beginning Greek 1, 2	GR 5801–5802	6	
History of Christianity	CH 6001	3	
Personal Evangelism	EV 6200	3	
Introduction to Research and Writing	EN 7900	3	
Introduction to Missions	MS 6370	3	
Hermeneutics	BH 5100	3	
Apologetics	PH 6910	3	
			30
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
Hebrew Grammar 1, 2	HB 5401–5402	6	
New Testament Survey 1, 2	NT 5601–5602	6	
Systematic Theology 1, 2	TH 6701–6702	6	
Biblical Preaching 1, 2	HM 7001, 7005	6	
Intermediate Greek	GR 5811	3	
Old Testament Elective		3	
			30
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>			
History of the Baptists	CH 6150	3	
Introduction to Biblical Counseling	CN 7103	3	
Traditional Religions, World Religions, and Cults	MS 6405	3	
Introduction to Christian Education	CE 7484	3	
Spiritual Formation	PM 7300	3	
Pastoral Ministry	PM 7200	3	
Introduction to Worship	CM 7700	3	
Theology Elective		3	
Free Elective		3	
New Testament Elective		3	
			30
Total Semester Hours Required for Graduation			90

The Master of Divinity/pastoral ministry degree meets all prerequisite master-level requirements for both the Doctor of Ministry program and the Doctor of Philosophy program.

# Master's 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

### **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.

#### **OT 5166—The Coming Kingdom: Israel and the Age to Come**

This is a course that involves the study of the Old Testament with a focus on the progressive revelation by God of His coming kingdom, coupled with a special emphasis on whether the nation of Israel will play a role in the age to come. It will use the discipline of biblical theology to follow the progressive revelation from God about the physical manifestation of the kingdom for which Christians have been taught to pray, to seek first and to anticipate.

### **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 5404—Hebrew Exegesis**

In this course students will translate various passages from the Hebrew Old Testament and learn basic principles of Hebrew 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 Extra-biblical [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**

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, including 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**

A study of the epistles of the New Testament and the Apocalypse of John. Includes both matters of introduction and content.

### **New Testament Special Studies**

#### **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 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 5700–5795—New Testament Intensives: English Text**

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 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 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

## **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 deals 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 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

## **Church Planting**

### **MS 6310—Church Evangelism**

A study of significant components needed to develop an evangelistic church. Emphasis is given to biblical, theological, and methodological principles as a frame of reference to consider the church's understanding of its context, mission statement, potential leadership, evangelistic methods and programs. This course is a prerequisite for MS 6312—Global Church Growth.

### **MS 6311—Church Planting**

This is an introductory course in church planting. The goal is for each student to gain broad exposure to and a general understanding of church planting strategies, methods, and issues. Students will integrate theological, missiological, and anthropological church planting principles as they observe and evaluate existing models of church planting.

### **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.

### **Missionary Strategy**

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

This course is a study of distinctive strategies for world evangelization. The instructor will emphasize application to current missions practice. Special attention will be given to the historical development of mission strategies and leadership development.

### **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 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.

## **Southern Baptist Missions and Area Studies**

### **MS 6370—Introduction to Missions**

This course provides students with an introduction to Christian missions. The course will emphasize how Southern Baptists fulfill the Great Commission.

## **World Religions and Cults**

### **MS 6405— Traditional World Religions and Cults**

A general survey of the major world religions and cults. The course examines basic beliefs in these religions and is designed to help students understand the basic concepts 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.

## **Mission Theory**

### **MS 6435—Pauline Theology and Missions**

A study of the life of the Apostle Paul, including the missionary mandate of the local church according to Paul. Attention will be given to Luke's explanation of Paul's mission and theology, including Paul's understanding of the Gospel and the practical application for 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 5,000 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 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 75 to 90 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 75 to 90 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 Guide for Form and Style*. The initial draft of the thesis must be submitted to the missions department at least six months prior to expected graduation. A corrected final copy 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 eight hours credit for a total of 15 semester hours credit).

## **Behavioral Sciences and Cross-Cultural Ministry**

### **MS 6500—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.

### **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.

### **MS 6581—6582 Missions Practicums**

The Missiology Practicums (MS 6581 and MS 6582) seek to provide students with forty hours of on-the-field training under a school authorized seasoned field missionary. The student will receive instruction by a missionary or ministry action coordinator that includes the following: observe and participate in ministry opportunities in a missions setting (church plant or ministry site), benefit from regular debriefing sessions, and learn best practices in accomplishing the core missionary task.

### **MS 6595—Missions Capstone Course**

The purpose of the Missiology Capstone course is to help the student to encapsulate in theory and practice the core elements of his or her studies in the field of missiology. The aim is to help the student to distill the curriculum into a biblically sound and practical ministry approach in a missions setting.

## **Theological and Historical Studies**

### **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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **TH 6650—Syntactical and Exegetical Study of 1<sup>st</sup> Peter**

The course involves the practical application of the expository preaching/teaching principles, taught in BPI-II or Principles of Teaching I-II, to Peter's First Epistle. Key elements such as discovering the overall theme, the occasion, the major movements, and the historical, grammatical, and theological understanding of the text will be highlighted. Ultimately, the student will develop a series of expository messages throughout the Epistle of First Peter.

## **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; applications to specific contemporary moral issues are made.

**TH 6882—Contemporary Roman Catholic Theology**

Contemporary Roman Catholic Theology will introduce students to the theology and practice of the Roman Catholic Church. The course will underscore the commonalities that Catholic and Protestant theologies share, and it will emphasize the doctrines and practices that distinguish Catholicism from Protestantism. These include but are not limited to, the source of divine revelation, the doctrine of Scripture, human beings and original sin, justification, grace, the sacraments, the authority of the Church, Mary, and eschatology. A brief history of the Church will be outlined, and recent developments and trends will be contrasted with more traditional Church positions.

**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**

## **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 7007—Multi-Generational Preaching**

This course utilizes the principles of expository preaching in addressing the multi-cultural 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 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 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 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.

## **Pastoral Ministry**

### **PM 7200—Pastoral Ministry**

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 Ministry**

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 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 7270—Leadership Development**

A study of leadership development. Emphasis is given to leadership theory, theorists, and the practice of leadership development.

### **PM 7280—Introduction to Ethics**

A study of the Christian responses to the ethical problems of society in 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 7291—Pastoral Ministry Practicum 2**

The Pastoral Ministry Practicum 2 seeks to provide students with on-the-field training under a school authorized seasoned biblical counselor over a two-month period. The protégé will receive instruction by a biblical counselor that includes the following: observe and participate in counseling sessions at Bellevue Baptist Church, benefit from debriefing sessions, develop a manual based on the counseling and debriefing sessions for future reference, and learn best practices in assigning homework and in developing discernment in what counseling resource material to recommend to counselees.

### **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.

### **PM 7308—Practical Ministry Capstone**

The purpose of the Pastoral Ministry Capstone course is to help the student to encapsulate in theory and practice the core elements of his field of study. The aim is to help the student to distill the curriculum into a coherent applicable pastoral ministry.

### **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.

## **Biblical Counseling**

#### **CN 7103—Introduction to Biblical 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 7145—Medical Issues in Counseling**

While all mental health problems are subjective, based on hypotheses and labeled as disorders, it does not follow that there are not physiological issues that may cause symptoms such as depression and other such mood swing struggles. In this course, the emphasis is on examining the current methods of diagnosis (DSM-V), clarifying what does and what does not constitute a disease, identifying the physical diseases that mimic what the world terms as mental health problems, and on surveying the common medical treatments in vogue today (pharmaceutical, electroshock, psychiatry, etc.). The overarching purpose of these examinations will be to develop a biblical approach regarding medical issues in counseling and in knowing how to cooperate with the medical profession in bringing help to those who are hurting.

### **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.

### **CN 7176— Crisis Counseling**

An exploration of common crises that counselees may encounter. Attention is given to critical counseling situations and appropriate interventional responses that are informed by biblical solutions.

### **CN 7190— Counseling Practicum**

A course that concentrates on the application of sound biblical counseling methods to the counseling room. Emphasis is placed upon analyzing real and theoretical counseling situations, as well as the observation and evaluation of actual counseling sessions.

### **CN 7191 – Biblical Counseling Capstone**

The purpose of the Biblical Counseling Capstone course is to help the student to encapsulate in theory and practice the core elements of his or her field of study. The aim is to help the student to distill the curriculum into a coherent, applicable theory of biblical counseling.

## **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 non-possessive love, are also given consideration.

### **CE 7510—Education Curriculum**

A study of educational curriculum and development. Consideration is given to choosing and writing 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.

## **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.

### **CE 7670—Christian Education Capstone**

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 praxis within the context of a local church. Three hours.

### **CM 7700—Introduction to Worship**

A study of the development of worship theory and practice for church ministry today. Strategies for selecting worship materials, worship planning and the basics of leading music are also reviewed.

### **CM 7721—Music Ministry 1**

Music Ministry 1 distills the wisdom derived from real-world experience on how to build, organize and conduct a church worship ministry beginning with adult choirs, but extending to all ages. In addition, the course discusses the philosophy of intergenerational worship, the organization of rehearsals, touring, vocal techniques, production techniques, costuming, make-up, scripts and sets.

### **CM 7722—Music Ministry 2**

The Music Ministry 2 course addresses the art of leading worship with a focus on leading children's choirs up through youth age. A key component of the course is to highlight how to develop the vocal production of a child's voice as it matures into youth and adult age. In addition, the student will learn to organize tours, musicals, and mission trips with their vast potential for revival and outreach.

### **CM 7723—Worship Leadership Design and Technology**

Two key elements comprise the core of this course, namely worship design and technology. Beginning with worship design, students learn to cultivate a music staff and a music organization. Included in this portion of the study are such formative topics as what to look for in a potential staff member, how to hire and fire, how to be a leader and a team member, working with the finance committee, and the pastor. It will cover uses of new and emerging technology in worship, sound systems, acoustics and choir loft and stage design, attendance technology.

### **CM 7733—Vocal Ensemble Leadership**

This course teaches vocal pedagogy (voice training) and its practical use in ensemble singing, spanning small praise teams to large choirs. At least one-third of this course will consist of two one-half hour worship band labs, where the student will learn the basics of playing two of the following instruments: guitar, keyboard, bass guitar, drum set.

### **CM 7734—Worship Band/Orchestra Conducting**

A study of the fundamentals of conducting technique, including basic time patterns, expressive gestures, and advanced methods. An emphasis is placed on conducting, organizing, and managing instrumental ensembles in the church, including orchestras and worship bands.

### **CM 7735—Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs**

Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs is a practical study of how to create and lead worship services throughout the seasons of the church year. A consideration of how to utilize multi-age choirs and praise teams, in intergenerational worship, is included. In addition, the class features instructions on how and where to buy music and how to build a yearly church budget, including budgets for seasonal productions or community outreach programs (i.e. Easter, Christmas, 4th of July in the Park, etc.).

## **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—Intro 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.



# Doctor of Ministry Program

## Description of the Doctor of Ministry Program (DMin)

The Doctor of Ministry degree is an advanced professional degree designed to enable students to practice ministry at a high level of competency. The program builds on the general theological preparation of the Master of Divinity degree and moves toward a concentration that combines theory and significant experience. The professional character of the degree is designed to prepare students to be effective in the practice of ministry rather than preparing for research and teaching vocations.

The program of study integrates the classical disciplines of biblical, historical, theological, social, and linguistic studies with those significant tasks of one involved in the practice of ministry. It assists those whose responsibilities range broadly in pastoral, missionary, or administrative ministries by enhancing both competency and excellence in the practice of ministry. Six Doctor of Ministry specializations are offered:

- DMin, Biblical Counseling
- DMin, Christian Education
- DMin, Church Revitalization
- DMin, Expository Preaching
- DMin, Missions
- DMin, Pastoral Ministry

## Educational Objectives of the Doctor of Ministry Program

The Doctor of Ministry program is expected to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To enable participants to develop a theology of ministry which is responsive to both the leadership of God and the needs of the church, or ministry in which they serve;
2. To satisfy the demand for continuing education in ministry;
3. To renew the personal life of faith and servanthood of the participant;
4. To stimulate continued growth in biblical and theological foundations;
5. To develop skills that facilitate intellectual inquiry, creativity, and critical thinking;
6. To enable participants to communicate the truth of God's Word effectively with greater competency in the total practice of ministry;
7. To enable those serving in mission ministries to gain competence in the practice of mission ministries; and
8. To enable the participant to acquire a sensitivity for the needs of society, thus preparing the participant for excellence in ministry leadership in a complex and changing world.

## **Modified Cohort System of Study**

A cohort system of study operates on the principle that groups of people who share a common goal or experience are better able to learn and to finish a course of study within a defined period. Building on that principle, the system of study employed by the DMin program at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary consists of a modified cohort system designed to take three to five years to finish, though some students may choose to extend their time in the program.

The modified cohort system will operate as follows. Upon satisfactory completion of all the prerequisites required for admission, students will receive notification of their acceptance and will begin seminar work in September of the same year. From that point on, students will follow the prescribed curriculum according to one of the six Doctor of Ministry specializations: biblical counseling, Christian education, church revitalization, expository preaching, missions, or pastoral ministry.

## **Cohort System Advantages**

By utilizing the modified cohort system, various advantages accrue:

- Ensures interaction with teachers from various fields of study.
- Allows for interaction between students in various fields of study (core courses involve students from other specializations).
- Serves to provide built-in incentives for members to finish together.
- Promotes camaraderie and fellowship within the specialty cohort groups while still allowing for interaction with students in other areas.
- Increased numbers in the seminars provides for a wider variety of input from the students, enhancing the learning environment.

## **Admission Requirements and Procedure for the Doctor of Ministry Program**

### **Undergraduate Degree Requirements**

Applicants must have a Bachelor of Arts degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university. Any exception must be approved by the doctoral programs committee.

### **Seminary Degree Requirements**

Applicants normally will have completed the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent from an accredited institution. Biblical language requirements are six semester hours of Greek and six semester hours of Hebrew. Other master's degree work may be acceptable with approval from the doctoral programs committee. Leveling courses may be required.

An applicant must have maintained an average of 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 in their master's degree work.

## Field Experience Requirements

The Doctor of Ministry degree is the most advanced professional degree any seminary can offer. Because Mid-America is committed to preparing persons for the most effective ministry possible, we believe significant ministry experience contributes to that end. The completion of the Doctor of Ministry degree, therefore, requires two years of pastoral ministry, church staff service, missionary service, or denominational service. Final evaluation of the completed practical experience is made by the doctoral programs committee.

## International Students

The DMin program does not fulfill the residential requirement of an F-1 Visa. Applicants from international seminaries offering the Master of Divinity or its equivalent may be admitted to the Doctor of Ministry program on the same basis as students from national seminaries, provided they score a minimum of six hundred on the paper-based TOEFL examination or one hundred on the internet-based TOEFL. Refer to Admission Procedure for International Students in this catalog.

## The Procedure for Admission to the Doctor of Ministry Program

An applicant must complete all procedures and requirements for approval by the Seminary's doctoral programs committee. Applicants will receive notice of approval from the associate dean of doctoral programs. The application must be complete and approved by May 1 to enter the program in the fall.

Applicants must perform satisfactorily on the Miller Analogies Test to demonstrate competency to function at the graduate level. The Miller Analogies Test can be taken at any of the regional testing centers. Evaluation of test results is consistent with the practice of similar educational institutions and is in conformity to performance scales published in the Miller Analogies Test Manual and corroborating research reports. The MABTS code number, 1750, must be used to report Miller Analogies Test Scores.

## Essay

An applicant must submit a 10-page essay which includes the following components:

1. Three pages of autobiography;
2. One page giving a brief personality sketch;
3. Two pages describing the applicant's vocational experience and ministry intentions; and
4. Four pages relating to the applicant's personal view of Christian ministry.

The essay is to be written in accordance with *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (latest edition), by Kate Turabian (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013).

## Conditional Admission

An applicant may be admitted on a conditional basis for the first year of study in the doctoral program at the discretion of the doctoral programs committee. The associate dean of doctoral programs will notify the applicant of the reasons for any conditional status, specify any requirements that must be fulfilled, and state any limitations to be imposed upon the projected seminar load. Students admitted conditionally are evaluated at the conclusion of the first year of study, and the doctoral programs committee governs the student's continuance in the program. Exceptions to the published admission requirements for the Doctor of Ministry program must be approved by the faculty.

## Time Limit for Approved Applicants

Applicants for the Doctor of Ministry program who do not enroll in a seminar within one year from the date of approval must submit a new application to the program.

## Completion Requirements for the Doctor of Ministry Program

### Completion Time and Continuous Enrollment

The degree requires 30 semester hours of doctoral-level work above the Master of Divinity or its equivalent. The student must complete six four-semester hour seminars, plus the major project (six semester hours of credit). The program is designed to be completed in three to five years, though some students may choose to extend their time in the program. Continuous enrollment is required.

Students will take three seminars (12 semester hours) during a 12-month period. A load of 12 semester hours per year is considered full-time status for loan verification or for Department of Veterans Affairs purposes.

### Doctor of Ministry Courses

Each seminar in the Doctor of Ministry program has the following three components:

1. Pre-seminar reading of a minimum of 2,000 pages from a seminar bibliography provided to the student at the time of preregistration;
2. A one-week intensive seminar; and
3. A post session project that applies the theory of the reading and seminar sessions in the student's ministry setting.

### Dissertation

In addition to the seminar work, students must complete a dissertation. The dissertation is a supervised ministry project, which may be done in a local church or ministry setting, or it may be a research project. Details are provided in the *Doctor of Ministry Handbook*.

The student will be advanced to candidacy status after the satisfactory completion of the comprehensive examinations, all academic course work, the approval of the prospectus for the dissertation, and the completion of any Witness One:Seven deficiencies. Students initiate the process of advancement by submitting the prospectus for the dissertation to the DMin office. The associate dean of doctoral programs will give a formal notice of advancement to candidacy when all requirements have been satisfied and the doctoral programs committee has given approval.

**Comprehensive and Oral Examinations**

After the satisfactory completion of all seminars, the student will participate in written examinations, which will cover each of the seminars taken (reading, intensive session, post-seminar written paper). Details are provided in the *Doctor of Ministry Handbook*.

In addition, after the submission and completion of the ministry project or research project, the student must present and orally defend the project. The student should discuss the inception, justification, development, implementation, evaluation, and impact of his project. This professional and creative presentation is considered a major component in the overall grade of the dissertation.

**Doctor of Ministry Curriculum**

Core Seminars .....	12 hours
Concentration Seminars.....	12 hours
Dissertation.....	<u>6 hours</u>
Total .....	30 hours

**Cost of the Program**

Tuition and fees for the Doctor of Ministry program are covered in the Fees and Expenses section of the catalog and in the *Doctor of Ministry Handbook*.

**Interruption of Study**

An interruption of study status may be requested when a student experiences a natural disaster or major medical problem, (i.e., death in the family, major illness, cancer treatment, etc.). Interruption status can only be granted by the doctoral programs committee. It will not be granted for minor illness. The interrupted status fee is listed in the Fees and Expenses section of the catalog and in the *Doctor of Ministry Handbook*.

**Acceptable Grades**

Only course work with a grade of B or above (3.0 on a scale of 4.0) will satisfy the requirements for this degree. If a student receives a B- in the course, the student need not retake the seminar but may be assigned remedial work by the professor that will, upon successful completion, bring the student’s grade to a B (90). If the grade in two seminars is lower than B, the student will not be allowed to continue in the program.



# Doctor of Ministry Seminars

All seminars are four credit hours.

## Doctoral Core (12 Hours)

The following doctoral core seminars are required for all concentrations except Biblical Counseling (an additional counseling course is offered instead of Leadership Development).

### DR 9910—Doctoral Research and Writing

During the first year of ministry study, all students must complete Doctoral Research and Writing in order to demonstrate proficiency in research and writing. This course is designed to assist students in developing writing skills for their work in the Doctor of Ministry program. Students will learn doctoral-level research skills, the basic elements of form and style appropriate for doctoral studies, and how to prepare a doctoral dissertation or project.

### DM 8620—Relationships/Spiritual Formation

The first section examines interpersonal relationships and offers biblical and practical strategies for relationship building and conflict resolution among families and peers. The second section examines primary areas of ministry stress and the personal formation, development, cultivation, and nurturing of a personal walk with God.

### DM 8150—Leadership Development

This seminar focuses on pastoral leadership. Special attention is given to leadership theory, leadership roles, personal leadership development, and equipping leaders. Individuals who excel in specific leadership and administrative areas are used as team teachers.

## Biblical Counseling Concentration (16 Hours)

### DM 8871— An Introduction to Nouthetic Counseling

This 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.

### DM 8872 – The Theology of Counseling and Critical Stages

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.

### **DM 8873 – 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.

### **DM 8874 – 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.

## **Christian Education Concentration (12 Hours)**

### **DM 8160—Interpretation/Teaching**

This seminar focuses on the task of teaching the Word of God. It assumes that teaching correctly comes only from understanding the Word correctly. Accordingly, the seminar has two focuses: hermeneutics and homiletics. The hermeneutics component has a threefold emphasis: a brief synopsis of the history and basic issues in interpretation, a survey of contemporary issues in interpretation, and a thorough discussion of proper principles and methodologies involved in interpretation. All of this is done with a view to teaching biblical passages in a manner consistent with God's intent. The homiletics component deals practically with lesson preparation and delivery in light of the hermeneutical reference points. Specific texts are analyzed, and lesson guidelines are discussed. This component emphasizes the communication and application of the Word of God today.

### **DM 8170—Development and Administration of Education Ministry**

This seminar focuses on the development and administration of educational programs within the local church. Special attention is given to the role of education leadership in promoting the growth of the church, approaches to leadership theories, roles, ministries, and training, development of church staff, selection and development of education curriculum, and administrative organization, organization paradigms, and program implementation in the different stages of church growth. Consideration is given to qualifications and duties of staff members, to staff relationships, to the place of each staff member in carrying out the functions of the church, and to choosing curriculum that aids teachers in an effective Bible teaching ministry.

### **DM 8820—Change, Power, and Conflict**

This seminar focuses on methods and approaches for effectively managing change, power, and conflict within the context of the local church. This will include a study of the effects of change on people and the church. Ways to diffuse the negative reactions people have to change will also be discussed to help leaders make needed changes without raising resistance or conflict. The issue of power will also be explored so church leaders better understand the people dynamics within a church that drive it. Biblical ways of responding to and handling conflict will also be discussed.

## **Church Revitalization Concentration (12 Hours)**

### **DM 8800 – Principles and Practice of Church Revitalization/Congregational Renewal**

The goal of this seminar is to explore methods of congregational and community exegesis and contemporary models for church revitalization.

### **DM 8810 – Critical Issues in Church Revitalization**

In this seminar, participants will examine biblical, theological, and historical aspects as well as current realities in church revitalization.

### **DM 8830 – Evangelism and Disciple-Making in the Context of Church Revitalization**

This seminar helps discover strategies for leading existing membership into a deeper discipleship that will help them to reach into their surrounding community with the Gospel and make disciples.

## **Expository Preaching Concentration (12 Hours)**

### **DM 8100—Interpretation/Preaching**

This seminar focuses on the task of preaching the Word of God. It assumes that preaching correctly comes only from understanding the Word correctly. Accordingly, the seminar has two focuses: hermeneutics and homiletics. The hermeneutics component has a threefold emphasis: a brief synopsis of the history and basic issues in interpretation, a survey of contemporary issues in interpretation, and a thorough discussion of proper principles and methodologies involved in interpretation. The goal is to preach biblical passages in a manner consistent with God's intent. The homiletics component deals practically with sermon preparation and delivery in light of the hermeneutical reference points. Specific texts are analyzed, and sermon guidelines are discussed. This component emphasizes the communication and application of the Word of God today.

### **DM 8115—The History of Preaching**

The goal of this seminar is to provide a historical overview of preachers and preaching. Particular emphasis will fall upon the spiritual lives of great preachers and their homiletical works.

### **DM 8121—Contemporary Preaching**

This seminar seeks to provide the student with an overview of contemporary preachers and their methods of preaching. Students will learn some of the latest means and methods of preparing and delivering sermons.

## **Missions Concentration (12 Hours)**

### **DM 8420—Missionary Principles and Practices/Issues in Missiology**

The first section studies the elements of life and work on the mission field. Special attention is given to developing contextualized models of ministry to meet the changing paradigms of missions in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The second section examines current issues and global trends that impact missions theory, methodology, and strategy.

### **DM 8570—Cultural Anthropology**

This seminar is an introduction to the basic concepts of cultural anthropology that 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. Special attention is given to the significant features of animism and traditional folk religions, with a focus upon the manner in which traditional religious expressions underlie and permeate even the more developed formal religions such as Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. It is designed to equip practicing cross-cultural missionaries for more effective evangelism and church development among un-reached people groups.

### **DM 8250—North American Church Growth**

This seminar focuses primarily on evangelism from a church growth perspective. Methodologies which are currently producing church growth are presented and evaluated. Models of evangelistic ministry are examined.

## **Pastoral Ministry Concentration (12 Hours)**

### **DM 8100—Interpretation/Preaching**

This seminar focuses on the task of preaching the Word of God. It assumes that preaching correctly comes only from understanding the Word correctly. Accordingly, the seminar has two focuses: hermeneutics and homiletics. The hermeneutics component has a threefold emphasis: a brief synopsis of the history and basic issues in interpretation, a survey of contemporary issues in interpretation, and a thorough discussion of proper principles and methodologies involved in interpretation. The goal is to preach biblical passages in a manner consistent with God's intent. The homiletics component deals practically with sermon preparation and delivery in light of the hermeneutical reference points. Specific texts are analyzed, and sermon guidelines are discussed. This component emphasizes the communication and application of the Word of God today.

**DM 8200—Advanced Pastoral Ministry and Care**

The purpose of this seminar is to provide an increased understanding in the field of pastoral care. Emphasis is given to pastoral care as a ministry of teaching, preaching, and counseling. The seminar integrates biblical, historical, and psychological perspectives in pastoral understanding and care of persons.

**DM 8800 Principles and Practice of Church Revitalization/Congregational Renewal**

The goal of this seminar is to explore methods of congregational and community exegesis and contemporary models for church revitalization.

# Doctor of Philosophy Program

## Description of the Doctor of Philosophy Program

The Doctor of Philosophy degree equips students for advanced scholarship, independent research, effective teaching and preaching, and service in church-related ministries that benefit from advanced Christian scholarship. The Doctor of Philosophy program involves a minimum of two years of study beyond the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent. Students entering the program should be aware that three or more years are frequently needed for completion of the degree requirements, depending upon individual circumstances.

The Doctor of Philosophy program consists of graduate seminars, an examination covering each seminar as it is completed, comprehensive written examinations, directed reading and research, teaching under faculty supervision, the writing of a dissertation, and an oral examination covering the dissertation and related fields. The program is specifically oriented toward preparing students for teaching in universities and seminaries; for specialized church, missions, and denominational leadership; and for scholarly writing.

## Educational Objectives of the Doctor of Philosophy Program

In addition to the program objectives set forth in connection with the Master of Divinity program, the Doctor of Philosophy program is designed to provide opportunity for students to develop in the following advanced disciplines:

### Creative Scholarship

The Doctor of Philosophy program seeks to guide students to develop the capacity for critical evaluation and quality in research which produce creative scholarship and contribute to the field of theological knowledge and literature.

### Independent Research and Writing

The Doctor of Philosophy program seeks to guide students to develop competence in principles of independent research and to achieve a proficiency in the techniques of scholarly writing.

### Graduate-Level Teaching

The Doctor of Philosophy program seeks to guide students in advanced studies in a specialized field and to help them develop skills which qualify them for teaching at the graduate level in a college, university, or theological seminary.

## **Specialized Leadership**

The Doctor of Philosophy program seeks to prepare students for the assumption of specialized pastoral leadership in the church, in missions, and/or in administrative leadership in the denomination.

# **Admission Requirements and Procedure for the Doctor of Philosophy Program**

## **General Qualifications**

The Doctor of Philosophy is the highest academic degree offered by the Seminary. The program is reserved for students of exceptional academic ability and promise. Students must demonstrate an understanding of the basic techniques of scholarly research and writing, as well as an ability to communicate through effective teaching. They must be committed to the program and demonstrate that they are willing to fulfill the time requirements and the disciplinary standards that are required for distinguished scholarly achievement. Students' health, finances, and outside responsibilities must be within such a level of tolerance that they are not unduly distracted from reasonable pursuit of the demands of the program. Read the Regulations Regarding Female Students section in this catalog.

## **Undergraduate Degree Requirements**

Applicants must have a Bachelor of Arts degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university, including 60 semester hours of liberal arts content. Any exception must be approved by the doctoral programs committee.

## **Seminary Degree Requirements**

Applicants must have a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent from this Seminary or from another accredited seminary which has comparable language requirements. Students must have maintained a 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) or better in their Master of Divinity work or its equivalent. Any exception must be approved by the doctoral programs committee.

## **Biblical Language Requirements**

All applicants must have completed a minimum of six semester hours of Greek and six semester hours of Hebrew. However, if the major field of study is to be in New Testament, the student is required to have completed an additional nine semester hours of advanced Greek. If the major field of study is to be Old Testament, the student is required to have completed an additional nine semester hours of advanced Hebrew courses. The doctoral programs committee reserves the right to administer preliminary language exams and/or require language instruction in any case in which it is deemed expedient.

## **Doctoral Research & Writing Course (DR 9910)**

Either before or during the first year of Doctor of Philosophy study, candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy degree must complete for credit the course designated Graduate Research & Writing (DR 9910) in order to demonstrate proficiency in research and writing. Equivalent work from another recognized institution may be accepted in fulfillment of this requirement at the discretion of the doctoral programs committee. A prospective PhD student who is a last year MDiv student may be allowed, with permission from the doctoral programs committee, to enroll in this course.

## **Graduate Teaching Course (DR 9920)**

Candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy degree must complete for credit the course designated Graduate Teaching (DR 9920) which is designed to aid students in their proficiency in teaching. Equivalent work from another recognized institution may be accepted in fulfillment of this requirement at the discretion of the doctoral programs committee. A prospective PhD student who is a Master of Divinity (in biblical counseling, Christian education, missiology and intercultural studies or pastoral ministry); last year MDiv students may be allowed, with permission from the doctoral programs committee, to enroll in this course.

## **Graduate Research Methodology (DR 9921)**

Candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy in education degree must complete for credit the course designated Graduate Research Methodology (DR 9921) which is designed to aid students in their proficiency in social science methodology. Equivalent work from another recognized institution may be accepted in fulfillment of this requirement at the discretion of the doctoral programs committee. A prospective PhD student who is a last year MDiv student may be allowed, with permission from the doctoral programs committee, to enroll in this course. This course may be used as a substitute for one classical or modern language requirement.

## **International Students**

Students from an international seminary offering the Master of Divinity or its equivalent may be admitted to the Doctor of Philosophy program on the same basis as students from national seminaries if they meet all requirements and pass the qualifying examinations. Refer to Admission Procedure for International Students in this catalog.

## **The Procedure for Admission to the Doctor of Philosophy Program**

Application for admission into the Doctor of Philosophy program is processed through the doctoral programs committee. Applications may be obtained through the admissions office. A non-refundable admission fee of \$50.00 must accompany the application form. The application must be submitted by February 15 in order to begin seminar work in August and by September 1 to begin seminar work in January. Students are not fully admitted into the Doctor of Philosophy program until written acceptance is issued by the associate dean of doctoral programs.



## Miller Analogies Test

Applicants must perform satisfactorily on the Miller Analogies Test to demonstrate competency to function at the graduate level. This test can be taken at any of the regional testing centers in the United States. The results of the test are to be in the admissions office by February 15 for August enrollment and September 1 for January enrollment. Evaluation of test results at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is consistent with the practice of similar educational institutions and is in conformity to performance scales published in the Miller Analogies Test Manual and corroborating research reports. With the approval of the doctoral programs committee, the Miller Analogies Test may be waived for an applicant who has already taken the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) and made an acceptable score. The MABTS code number, 1750, must be used to report Miller Analogies Test Scores. Miller Analogies Test scores will be valid for five years.

## English Language Requirement

Applicants to the Doctor of Philosophy degree program whose indigenous language is not English must score at least 600 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 100 on the Internet-based TOEFL. This examination must be completed not more than two years before admission to the Seminary. Exceptions to this requirement must be approved by the doctoral programs committee. International students are not required to take the Miller Analogies Test.

## Major Field Research Paper

Applicants are required to write a 10-page research paper on a departmentally selected subject from their major field. The paper is designed to probe the student's general theological or educational background in their area of study and to test their ability to organize their thoughts and express themselves logically, clearly, and in good English form. Applicants will write their papers in conformity to the form and style guidelines set forth in *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th ed.*, by Kate L. Turabian (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2013). The major field research paper is due in the admissions office by February 15 for August enrollment and September 1 for January enrollment.

## Written Major Field Essay Examination

Applicants must take a written essay examination covering the general scope of their major field. This examination occupies one day of no more than four hours and is designed to test the student's overall comprehension of the major issues in his designated field. (Refer to the Schedule of Academic Dates for the Doctor of Philosophy program in the Seminary calendar.)

## Major Department Interview

Applicants are required to have an interview with the faculty members who comprise their major department to discuss their previous academic preparation and future goals in the context of their declared field of concentration in the doctoral program. Arrangements for this interview are made through the PhD office. (Refer to the Schedule of Academic Dates for the Doctor of Philosophy program in the Seminary calendar.)

## **Doctoral Programs Committee Interview**

Applicants who are not graduates of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary must have an interview with the doctoral programs committee. In special circumstances, a Mid-America graduate may also be required to have an interview with the committee. The interview discusses the applicant's prior academic training and practical experience, their purpose for pursuing the Doctor of Philosophy degree, and their intended utilization of the degree in future vocational commitment. The interview must be held by May 1 prior to entry into the program in August or by October 1 for entry into the program in January. Appointments should be confirmed at the office of the associate dean of doctoral programs.

## **Remedial Work in the Major Field**

The doctoral programs committee reserves the right to require any student to supplement deficiencies in preparation in their major field of study by taking for credit courses from the Master of Divinity curriculum, in addition to their required doctoral seminars. A student may be required to audit certain Master of Divinity courses as a means of maintaining awareness of current developments in their field. Doctor of Philosophy students who audit or take for credit Master of Divinity courses are required to follow the procedure for proper registration each term.

## **Conditional Admission**

At the discretion of the doctoral programs committee, an applicant may be admitted on a conditional basis for the first year of study in the doctoral program. The associate dean of doctoral programs provides written notification to advise the student of the reasons for the conditional status, to specify any requirements which he must fulfill, and to state any limitations to be imposed upon his projected course load. The student is reevaluated at the conclusion of his or her first year of study, and the student's major department makes recommendation with regard to the conditions governing his or her continuance in the program. Any exception to the published admission requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy program must be approved by the faculty upon the recommendation of the doctoral programs committee.

## **Approval by the Doctoral Programs Committee**

Applicants are considered on the basis of: (1) application form for admission to the program, (2) previous academic record, (3) performance on the Miller Analogies Test, (4) demonstration of writing skills on the major field research paper, (5) performance on the written comprehensive entrance examination, and (6) personal interview with the faculty. Although no single criterion is necessarily determinative by itself, the above stated criteria are scrutinized by the doctoral programs committee to determine the applicant's competency and motivation to undertake doctoral study. Only those applicants who are approved by the doctoral programs committee may be admitted into the program.

## **Declined Admission**

When an applicant is declined admission to the program, the student may choose to submit another application. One opportunity to reapply may be granted with the

permission of the doctoral programs committee. Materials relative to the application are considered confidential and the doctoral programs committee has no obligation to disclose information regarding an applicant's being declined admission into the program.

### **Time Limit for Approved Applicants**

If an applicant for the Doctor of Philosophy program does not begin advanced studies within one year from the date of approval, a new application must be submitted.

### **Assignment of a Major Professor**

Upon admission to the Doctor of Philosophy program, the student requests a major professor in their major department. The major department must approve this choice or assign another professor from the department. The major advisor assists the student in planning a comprehensive program of study. Once the student's dissertation topic is approved by the doctoral programs committee, the major professor supervises the student's work in the writing of the dissertation. The student should initiate a meeting with their major professor at least once each term for advisement in every phase of their academic program while they are taking seminars. Upon completion of seminars, the student is expected to maintain monthly contacts with their advisor.

## **Completion Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program**

### **Continuous Enrollment Requirement/Fee**

The candidate for the Doctor of Philosophy degree must be registered for each semester of the regular academic year during the period of time taken to earn this degree. Continuous enrollment includes both the time spent in seminar study and the time spent in the writing of the dissertation, whether or not the student is actually on-campus. Students (including those on the mission field) may request to take a leave with the approval of the doctoral programs committee, but must register each semester and pay the Interrupted Status fee. Failure to register for any semester is automatically considered as withdrawal from the program.

### **Study at Other Institutions**

With the approval of the doctoral programs committee, two seminars may be taken at other institutions. No credit toward this degree is given for work done in other institutions unless it has first been approved by the doctoral programs committee.

### **Classical and Modern Language Requirements**

Candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy degree must have a working knowledge of two languages (in addition to the normal requirements of Greek and Hebrew) suited to their academic interests. The student and the major department will negotiate the best combination of languages for the specific student's program. The languages will be Latin,

German or French. Completion of the language requirement may be certified: (1) by completing a minimum of six semester hours of study of the language at an accredited college or university, (2) by passing a standardized test administered by an accredited college or university or (3) by passing a language examination administered by the doctoral programs committee. The language requirements may be met within five years prior to admission to the Doctor of Philosophy program. Language examinations are administered by the doctoral programs committee as scheduled during the academic year. If the candidate fails to make an acceptable score on a language examination, at the option of the doctoral programs committee, he or she may be permitted one additional opportunity to qualify. Both language examinations must be successfully completed prior to the beginning of the second year of doctoral study. A student will not be allowed to begin seminars during their second year unless both language requirements have been met. Students pursuing a degree in the field of education must take Graduate Research Methodology (DR 9921) to fulfill one language requirement.

## **Research Methodology Requirement**

Candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy in education degree must have a working knowledge of empirical research methodologies. Completion of the research methodology requirements may be certified: (1) by completing a minimum of six semester hours of study of empirical research methodology at an accredited college or university, (2) by passing a standardized test administered by an accredited college or university or (3) by passing an empirical research methodology examination administered by the doctoral programs committee. This requirement may be used as a substitute for one classical or modern language requirement for PhD in education students only.

## **Fields of Academic Study**

Graduate seminars are offered in church history, education, missions, New Testament (including Greek), Old Testament (including Hebrew and/or Semitic languages), practical theology (pastoral track and counseling track), and theology. The Doctor of Philosophy degree may be granted in the following fields: (1) Old Testament (including Hebrew and/or Semitic languages), (2) New Testament (including Greek), (3) church history, (4) missions, (5) theology, (6) practical theology, (7) biblical counseling, and (8) education.

## **Modified Residency Format**

MABTS offers PhD seminars in a modified residency format, which allows students to complete their degree without having to leave their current place of ministry. Excellent faculty teach PhD courses and maintain high standards for academic excellence in these intensive classes.

Students come to campus for one-week seminars, usually twice per semester. Exact dates for registration and classes can be found on the PhD calendar. Prior to each seminar, students will complete pre-seminar work that typically consists of extensive reading and intensive writing assignments. The student's major professor (see Assignment of a Major Professor) will guide them through the program. After completing seminars during the initial stage of the program, students take comprehensive exams that assess their learning

in their areas of study. The program then culminates in the research phase as students write and defend their dissertation.

## **Graduate Seminars**

Any faculty member in the theology or education area is qualified to offer Doctor of Philosophy seminars. They must, however, be recommended by the appropriate academic department and be approved by the doctoral programs committee.

Eight graduate seminars are required in the Doctor of Philosophy program. Four of the seminars are to be in a given field of discipline and shall constitute the major field. The other four seminars are usually in two fields other than that of the major and shall constitute the two minor fields. In lieu of a second minor, students also have the option of taking two additional seminars in their major field, or electives. The normal academic load for a PhD student is two seminars per semester. Requests to exceed the normal load must be approved by the doctoral programs committee. Minor fields available to female students are church history, Old Testament, New Testament, practical theology (biblical counseling track), and missions. Note: Logos Bible Research Software (Silver edition or above) is required for all MABTS students.

## **Doctoral Colloquia**

Each student enrolled in Doctor of Philosophy seminars is required to attend two doctoral colloquia each academic year. One colloquium will be program-wide and held in conjunction with the annual Forum of Contemporary Theological Issues. One colloquium will be sponsored by each academic department offering a doctoral seminar for departmental majors and seminar participants. A departmental colloquium will meet for two hours and will normally consist of a presentation by a guest scholar or of discussions of trends, issues, and bibliography in the academic field. Doctor of Philosophy students with candidacy status are encouraged to attend the colloquia. Modified residency seminars will include the colloquium during the week on campus.

## **Forum of Contemporary Theological Issues**

The purpose of this forum is to provide stimulating exposure and engagement with outstanding research scholars with divergent theological perspectives through lectures, debates, and/or dialogue on selected contemporary theological issues. This forum is available to the Seminary community but designed specifically for and required of PhD students. Attendance at this forum counts as one of the required colloquia for PhD students. All students must attend the forum, or with permission listen/view a recording of the forum.

## **Comprehensive Examinations**

After the completion of seminars, doctoral students who have completed their seminar work will take comprehensive written examinations. These must be taken within a 12-month period of one of the scheduled dates for comprehensive examinations. Each day the examination will be a minimum of four hours and a maximum of eight hours. The examinations include: (1) general field, one day (2) major seminars one, two, three, and four, one day (3) remaining seminars, one day. A minimum grade of B is required to pass an examination. A student must pass at least five of these examinations on the first

attempt. In cases of failure, the student may retake a maximum of four of the examinations. If the student fails the second attempt, he or she must retake the seminar; but no additional time in the program is allowed.

## **Candidacy Status**

At the completion of seminar work, students are expected to qualify for candidacy status. Candidacy status means that students may officially work on their dissertations. Students are declared candidates for the degree if they complete the following: (1) successful completion of the comprehensive examinations, (2) completion of the colloquia requirements, (3) good standing in Witness One:Seven, (4) exemplary conduct, (5) dissertation subject approved by the doctoral programs committee, and (6) major department recommendation. Any exceptions to this procedure must be approved by the doctoral programs committee.

## **Teaching Experience (Supervised Instruction DR 9940)**

After a minimum of four doctoral seminars and completion of the Graduate Research & Writing course and the Graduate Teaching course (22 hours), students are required to teach in their major field under the guidance of their advisors. With the approval of their major department and the doctoral programs committee, students may teach in another department if they have received credit for two semester-long Doctor of Philosophy seminars in that field. With approval, female education majors may teach in the Church History or Missiology Departments. Students will work under the direct supervision of their major advisors in assisting in the development of a course syllabus, a teaching plan, and the assignment of course grades. A minimum of three days classroom teaching under the supervision of a professor is required. At the discretion of the doctoral programs committee, other arrangements may be made to fulfill this requirement, especially for those students whose second language is English. The academic vice president's office will keep the PhD office informed of PhD students who fulfill this assignment by teaching a complete course.

## **Supervised Departmental Reading (DR 9945)**

Each department offers a directed study which consists of intensive reading to provide students with a comprehensive exposure to the literature in their major area of study. At the discretion of the department, this work may be done during the summer.

## **Practical Experience**

The Doctor of Philosophy degree is a research and teaching degree. Because Mid-America is committed to preparing persons to train others for effective ministry, it is important for those who teach to have significant ministry experience. The completion of the Doctor of Philosophy degree, therefore, requires two years of pastoral ministry, significant church staff service, missionary service, or significant denominational service. Final evaluation of the completed practical experience is made by the doctoral programs committee.

## Dissertation Requirements

Each candidate must write a dissertation in their major field of study in accordance with directions specified by the doctoral programs committee. Candidates must demonstrate the ability to research a thesis in relative independence and present their research in a clear and logical manner. The dissertation must make a contribution to the scholarly literature in its field. The dissertation should consist of 150-200 pages in the main body. Variations from these numbers must receive prior approval from the doctoral programs committee.

Each Doctor of Philosophy student is required to attend a dissertation orientation meeting, normally at the time of the oral defense of the prospectus. Students will follow the guidelines in *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (latest edition), by Kate L. Turabian (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2013). The doctoral programs committee provides *The MABTS Form and Style Guide*, which supersedes the manual by Turabian where the latter is not precise and which provides sample pages illustrating requirements for academic writing. *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th ed. (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, 2003) is another required resource.

The topic of the dissertation must be approved by the doctoral programs committee with the prior recommendation of the student's major professor and his major department. A prospectus of the dissertation must be submitted to the PhD office to be forwarded to the major department for its approval no later than April 1 (for students anticipating graduation in December) or no later than September 15 (for students anticipating graduation in May). The prospectus must be defended orally before the department before it is submitted to the PhD office for consideration by the doctoral programs committee.

Within two weeks, the major department must submit the prospectus with its written approval to the PhD office for consideration by the doctoral programs committee. The prospectus includes the title of the proposed dissertation, the thesis to be investigated, the methodology to be employed, the outline by which the research is to be organized, and a bibliography. The outline and the bibliography should correspond to the same standards of style and form as the dissertation. Any subsequent changes in the outline must be approved by the doctoral programs committee.

The dissertation must contain the following parts in sequence: blank page; abstract (not to exceed two pages); title page; blank page; approval sheet; table of contents; introductory chapter; the body or text of the paper consisting of two or more chapters; concluding or summary chapter; selected bibliography; and blank page. The parts mentioned in Turabian A.2.1.7–A.2.1.11 may be included (all after the table of contents and before the introductory chapter); and appendix or appendices (between the concluding chapter and the bibliography).

Students are encouraged to work carefully with their advisor and their major department at each stage in the preparation of his dissertation. The completed dissertation on standard bond paper must be presented to the PhD office to forward to the advisor no later than July 15 for December graduation or January 5 for May graduation. The advisor will read and evaluate it with regard to content and form prior to forwarding it with his approval to

the PhD office for distribution to the major department. Should the advisor find that the dissertation is not acceptable with regard to content or form, it is his prerogative to return it to the student without submission to the department.

After the advisor approves the dissertation with regard to content and form, he will forward it along with his recommendation to the PhD office for distribution to the major department no later than August 1 (for students anticipating graduation in December) or no later than January 18 (for students anticipating graduation in May). Suggested corrections and/or changes may be made during the six weeks after submission to the department.

The dissertation must be submitted to the doctoral programs committee along with the written approval of the major department before September 1 or February 1, respectively. A student who submits a dissertation to his or her major department is allowed no more than two opportunities for the dissertation to be approved. Upon receipt of the dissertation from the major department, the associate dean of doctoral programs assigns an external reader (from outside the department) to evaluate the dissertation along with the major department. The associate dean of doctoral programs will analyze all of the evaluation forms from the major department and the external readers and will notify the student of changes or corrections that need to be made. It is the prerogative of the doctoral programs committee to assign additional readers if the situation warrants it. In each case, there will be a minimum of three primary readers, including external readers. A dissertation is acceptable in form if it contains 150 or fewer errors in form, style, grammar and spelling. If errors number more than 150, advisors may return dissertations to students for correction. Students may then resubmit their dissertation after correcting these errors. If advisors find more than 100 new errors or uncorrected errors in the second edition, students will be notified that they cannot resubmit until the next graduation date. If the dissertation is acceptable, it will be returned to the student for final corrections. If the doctoral programs committee determines that the dissertation is not acceptable, the document is then returned to the student with no more than one additional opportunity to resubmit his or her dissertation. If the dissertation is rejected as unsatisfactory for any cause, the doctoral programs committee may, at its discretion, authorize the candidate to revise, correct, and resubmit the document after a period of at least three months but not later than one year from the time of the extension. No dissertation may be submitted twice for the same prospective graduation date. After the doctoral programs committee approval, five corrected copies of the dissertation must be submitted, including four copies on one hundred percent cotton-content white paper and one copy on regular white bond paper. The corrected copies must be presented to the doctoral programs committee after the oral defense but before graduation. Under no circumstances may any candidate receive his or her degree or graduate prior to his or her dissertation being submitted in final form with all copies ready for binding. (Refer to graduation requirement dates in the schedule of academic dates for the Doctor of Philosophy program.)

## **Oral Examination**

A one-hour oral examination is conducted during the last academic term prior to the commencement service in which the student expects to graduate. The oral examination covers the dissertation and relevant areas of cognate academic disciplines which are necessary for a full evaluation of the research. The oral examination over the dissertation



is directed by the major professor who supervised the research, other faculty members who comprise the major department, and the external readers. Questions may be submitted by any authorized person who participates in the oral examination.

The Oral Examination Committee is composed of all faculty members in the major field department, faculty members under whom the student has taken a seminar in the major field, and the external reader of the dissertation. The Oral Examination Committee makes the final decision as to whether the student passes his oral examination.

**Summary of Requirements**

Doctoral Research & Writing	4 hours
Graduate Teaching	3 hours
Four Seminars (Major)	16 hours
Two Seminars (First Minor)	8 hours
Two Seminars (Second Minor)*	8 hours
Supervised Departmental Reading	1 hours
Supervised Instruction	0 hours
Comprehensive Program Exams	4 hours
<u>Dissertation Writing and Defense</u>	<u>16 hours</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>60 hours</b>

\*In lieu of a second minor, students may choose to take these two seminars as electives or in their major field.

**Dissertation Fees**

**Reader’s Fee**

At the time of the submission of the dissertation to the major department, the student must deposit a minimum dissertation reader’s fee of \$250.00. A \$500 fee is also required for a style reader.

**Binding Fees**

After the dissertation is formally approved by the doctoral programs committee, the candidate must deposit sufficient money with the PhD office to cover the cost of binding four copies, for making a microfilm copy, and for publishing the abstract in Dissertation Abstracts International. The student must pay a biding fee of \$131 and a publishing fee of \$65. The microfilm copy and three copies of the dissertation remain the property of the Seminary, and one copy of the dissertation becomes the property of the student. The student must request in writing permission from the doctoral programs committee for copyright privileges and/or to publish his dissertation.

**Application for Graduation**

The candidate for the Doctor of Philosophy degree must make application to the doctoral programs committee for graduation no later than April 1 (for students anticipating

graduation in December) or no later than August 15 (for students anticipating graduation in May). Application for graduation must be submitted through the office of the associate dean of doctoral programs.

### **Time Limit for Completion of the Doctor of Philosophy Program**

Students are allowed seven years to complete the Doctor of Philosophy program. This time is calculated from the first semester of enrollment and terminates at the end of the 14th consecutive semester. Normally, graduation is to take place within two years after the student is approved as a doctoral candidate. Special consideration is given to missionaries.

### **Acceptable Grades**

No grade below B is counted toward the PhD degree. A student who makes a grade of C or below must take an additional seminar to remove the deficiency. Grades are issued to doctoral students upon completion of seminars. A Doctor of Philosophy student who makes a lower grade than a B in a seminar is placed on probation, then dropped from the program if a subsequent grade lower than a B is achieved.

### **Doctor of Philosophy Records**

Appropriate student records are maintained in the PhD office and the registrar's office. Student inquiries should be directed to the associate dean of doctoral programs.

# Doctor of Philosophy Seminars

## **DR 9910—Doctoral Research & Writing**

This course is designed to assist the student in developing writing skills for his work in the Doctor of Philosophy program. It is designed to cover the basic elements of form and style appropriate for doctoral studies and to give a general overview of the preparation of a doctoral dissertation. The course is for four semester hours of credit but is not included in the requirements for the doctoral seminars regularly assigned to meet the qualifications for the major and minor fields.

## **DR 9920—Graduate Teaching Seminar**

This course is designed as a study of the philosophy and methodology of teaching at the postsecondary level. The seminar will include necessary elements for the preparation of teaching a graduate-level course. These elements include creating a syllabus, stating objectives, preparing assignments, meeting the class for the first time, understanding learning theory and motivation, and understanding teaching methodology. The course is for three semester hours of credit but is not included in the requirements for the doctoral seminars regularly assigned to meet the qualifications for the major and minor fields.

## **DR 9921—Graduate Research Methodology (PhD in Education Only)**

This course is designed to aid students in their proficiency in social science methodology. Equivalent work from another recognized institution may be accepted in fulfillment of this requirement at the discretion of the doctoral programs committee. A prospective PhD student who has earned a Master of Divinity or is in his last year of the MDiv program may be allowed, with permission from the doctoral programs committee, to enroll in this course. This course may be used as a substitute for one classical or modern language requirement.

## **OT 9105—Studies in the Pentateuch**

An exegetical and theological study of selected texts or a book of the Pentateuch with emphasis on the ancient Near Eastern setting, critical theory, and scholarly interpretation. Attention is given to the history of Pentateuchal criticism and to current developments in this field.

## **OT 9116—Archaeology and the Old Testament**

An investigation of archaeology's role in the field of Old Testament studies. Current trends and attitudes in the discipline will be examined, and critical theories will be considered in light of the innumerable discoveries in the last two centuries. Key archaeological finds will be surveyed according to historical periods, and their particular contributions to the understanding of the Old Testament will be investigated.

## **OT 9131—The Book of Daniel**

A comprehensive study of the Book of Daniel, an enigmatic and controversial work of Old Testament prophecy. The extensive body of Danielic literature, key critical issues, historical background, and other significant matters related to the prophecy are examined. Particular attention is given to the interpretation and theology of the book. Translation of the Hebrew and Aramaic text is involved in the study.

### **OT 9146—Studies in the Prophetic Books**

A study of the nature of prophetic literature and of the methods appropriate for its interpretation. Attention will be given to an evaluation of modern critical views, special interpretative problems, and key themes of individual prophetic books. A careful exegesis of sections of the prophetic literature will be made.

### **OT 9151—Studies in the Poetic Books**

A study of the Psalms and Hebrew poetry and/or Wisdom Literature. Special attention will be given to the nature and forms of Hebrew poetry. The course will include exegetical and theological study of selected texts.

### **OT 9161—Old Testament Cultures**

During this course of study, the major cultural groups of the Old Testament (those which interacted with Israel as recorded in the Law, the Prophets, and the Writings of the Hebrew Bible) are surveyed in light of biblical as well as extra-biblical information. The study of Israelite culture forms the background against which comparisons and contrasts are drawn. Non-Israelite cultures will be surveyed with regard to their history, religion, languages, and literatures (or extant inscriptions). Cultural groups are studied in relation to their respective geographical regions.

### **OT 9181—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 9195—Old Testament Theological Themes**

An investigation of some major areas of theological concern in the Old Testament, including soteriology, eschatology, Christology, theodicy, pneumatology, the community of faith, etc. Special attention is given to the literary devices associated with each of these themes.

### **HB 9221—A History of the Hebrew Language**

A survey of the various periods of the Hebrew language including: pre-exilic Hebrew inscriptions, biblical Hebrew and later traditions (Palestinian, Babylonian, and Tiberian), and later developments in Hebrew (postexilic influence of Aramaic, Samaritan Hebrew, Rabbinic Hebrew, Medieval Hebrew, and a brief excursus on Modern Hebrew).

### **HB 9230—Advanced Hebrew Studies**

An advanced Hebrew program for study of the biblical text and the extensive body of literature pertaining to the language. The seminar will consist primarily of readings from selected passages from the Hebrew Bible with attention to grammar, syntax, lexicography, textual criticism, the Masoretic tradition, and exegesis. Related topics, such as the history of the language and modern methods for teaching biblical Hebrew, will be examined.

### **HB 9281—An Introduction to Old Testament Languages and Literature**

An introduction to the background languages of the Hebrew Bible, including Phoenician, Ugaritic, and Akkadian. Examples are given to demonstrate how knowledge of such

languages helps in the translation of the Hebrew Bible and with Old Testament interpretation.

### **NT 9301—The Synoptic Gospels**

A comprehensive study of the synoptic Gospels, including a history of synoptic studies, a survey of contemporary approaches, literary criticism, theology, and content. Students will work from the Greek New Testament.

### **NT 9311—The Johannine Corpus**

A comprehensive study of the fourth Gospel, the three Johannine epistles, and Revelation, including introductory issues, hermeneutics, exegesis, and John's life. Students will work from the Greek New Testament.

### **NT 9321—New Testament Hermeneutics**

An introduction to the principles and methods of interpretation used by the New Testament writers, the history of hermeneutics, and contemporary approaches to biblical interpretation. Students will use the Greek New Testament to understand principles, methods, and illustrations.

### **NT 9331—The Pauline Corpus**

A comprehensive study of the 13 letters of Paul, including introductory issues, hermeneutics, exegesis, and Paul's life and thought. Students will work from the Greek New Testament.

### **NT 9335—Historiography and the Book of Acts**

This seminar is an introduction to the interpretative methodology of historiography. Theories of Greek, Roman and Jewish history writing will be discussed, based on a reading of primary sources in Greek, Hebrew and Latin as well as secondary sources in German and French. This seminar also investigates the book of Acts from the perspectives of languages, history, culture, and theology.

### **NT 9341—The Book of Hebrews**

A comprehensive study of the Epistle to the Hebrews including introductory issues, hermeneutics, and exegesis. Includes a unit on textual criticism. Students will work from the Greek New Testament.

### **NT 9343—James, Jude, 1 and 2 Peter**

A study of these general epistles including introductory issues, hermeneutics, and exegesis. Students will work from the Greek New Testament. Special attention will be given to those passages that have proven particularly difficult and/or controversial.

### **NT 9381—New Testament Background**

This seminar is an intensive investigation of background issues of the New Testament world. This seminar investigates the languages, history, and culture in which the New Testament was written (Hellenistic Judaism, Palestinian Judaism, and Roman Hellenism). The participants of this seminar will read from primary sources in Greek, Hebrew, and Latin as well as secondary sources in German and French.

### **NT 9383—New Testament Textual Criticism**

This seminar is an intensive 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. The students will discuss methods and issues concerning textual criticism with noted text critics. Each seminar participant will learn how to collate fragments, manuscripts and documents. The participants of this seminar will read from primary sources in Greek, Hebrew, and Latin and other languages of antiquity as well as secondary sources in German and French.

### **NT 9385—New Testament Theology 1**

The history of the theology of the New Testament is traced, along with examining contemporary issues in the discipline, including the nature, center, and methodology. After giving proper attention to these issues, the seminar majors on issues in the theology of Jesus and on Jesus as presented in the four Gospels.

### **NT 9387—New Testament Theology 2**

A seminar devoted to a detailed study of the theology of Pauline writing. Attention is given to contemporary issues in Pauline theology and an examination of the salient features of the theological content of the Pauline epistles.

### **NT 9392—Difficult Passages in the New Testament**

This doctoral seminar covers the content and major critical issues of selected passages of Scripture that have a history of being especially challenging and enigmatic to biblical interpreters. Emphasis will be on hermeneutics and exegesis. Since this seminar is exegetically based, extensive reading and work will be from the Greek New Testament.

### **GR 9406—New Testament Translation: Philosophy and Praxis**

A seminar focusing on the principles of translating the Greek New Testament with some attention given to the Septuagint. The seminar consists of an intensive investigation into the philosophy, principles, and practice of modern translation theory with special attention given to the era following James Barr's *Biblical Words and Their Meaning*. Competence in New Testament Greek is required for this seminar.

### **CH 9541—Patristic Christianity**

A comprehensive study of the early church from the post-New Testament era through the Council of Chalcedon. Special attention is given to historiographical, biographical, theological, and cultural issues.

### **CH 9551—The Protestant Reformation**

A comprehensive study of the 16th century Protestant Reformation, including the Magisterial Reformers and the Anabaptists. Special attention is given to historiographical, biographical, theological, and cultural issues.

### **CH 9561—American Christianity**

A comprehensive study of the Christian experience in America from the colonial to the present, including Puritanism, revivalism, denominationalism, fundamentalism, and

evangelicalism. Special attention is given to historiographical, biographical, theological, and cultural issues.

### **CH 9571—Baptist History**

A comprehensive study of the Baptists from the early 17th century to the present, with major attention given to Baptists in England and America. Special attention is given to historiographical, biographical, theological, and cultural issues.

### **CH 9573—History of Preaching 1**

A historical overview of preaching with a focus on the preachers of biblical days through the Great Awakening. Emphasis is given to major homiletical developments and outstanding personalities.

### **CH 9575—History of Preaching 2**

A historical overview of preaching with a focus on great American preachers of the 20th century. Emphasis is given to major homiletical developments and outstanding personalities.

### **CH 9577—The History of Christian Missions**

A comprehensive overview of the historical expansion of Christianity from a missionary perspective. The seminar differs from a church history seminar in that the focus is upon the factors in the spread of Christianity with regard to the agents and methods involved rather than on the development of theology and the church councils. Special attention is given to Latourette's chronological divisions of missionary history and his seven analytical questions which are employed to examine significant factors in each period.

### **CH 9582—The History of Western Christian Theology and Philosophy**

An overview of western intellectual development from ancient Greece to newer trends of Postmodernity. This study includes a mapping of both philosophical and theological developments in western history. It is particularly interested in the ongoing relationship between Christian theology and the broader worldviews in which faith is embedded.

### **CH 9591—Medieval Christianity**

A comprehensive study of Medieval Christianity from the ascension of Gregory the Great to the eve of the Protestant Reformation. Special attention is given to historiographical, biographical, theological, and cultural issues.

### **MS 9611—The History of Christian Missions**

A comprehensive overview of the historical expansion of Christianity from a missionary perspective. The seminar differs from a church history seminar in that the focus is upon factors in the spread of Christianity with regard to the agents and methods involved rather than on the development of theology and the church councils.

### **MS 9621—Theology of Missions**

A thorough examination of the theology of missions, beginning with the development of a biblical basis for a proper understanding of God's mission in the world and continuing through an analysis of historical perspectives on missions and concluding with the development of a biblically based contemporary theology of missions.

### **MS 9651—Strategy of Christian Missions**

An investigation of the components of strategies for world evangelization. These components include planning, management, targeting specific people groups, maximizing the available resources, and analyzing methods to accomplish this task in a cross-cultural setting. Additional areas of investigation include the practicality and urgency of world evangelism, the principles and methods for the planting and development of indigenous churches, and contextualization on the mission field.

### **MS 9681—Contextualized Missionary Anthropology**

A survey of significant aspects of cultural concepts and social organization that have practical relevance to effective missionary communication of the Gospel in a culturally heterogeneous world. Special attention is given to family structure, kinship webs, tribal authority, and decision-making within a communal society. This course is also a study of the phenomenon of traditional religions in the missionary context, examining the primary characteristics of traditional religious expressions such as animism, the spirit world, demon possession, magic, religious specialists, veneration of ancestors, and concepts of God, even in the more developed formal religions such as Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism.

### **PH 9712—Introduction to Apologetics**

The seminar will cover the history and practice of Christian apologetics. This will include a survey of Christian history with special emphasis upon those who have served Christianity as apologists. The seminar will also cover methodology and the philosophical concerns which accompany the apologetic task. Finally, the course will investigate current challenges to the Christian message raised by modernity, secularity, and postmodernity.

### **TH 9711—Old Testament Soteriology**

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

### **TH 9720—Doctrine of God**

Doctrine of God is the study of the person and work of the God revealed in scripture. The seminar will focus upon God's existence, his attributes, and his triune nature.

### **TH 9725—New Testament Theology 1**

The history of the theology of the New Testament is traced, along with examining contemporary issues in the discipline, including the nature, center, and methodology. After giving proper attention to these issues, the seminar majors on issues in the theology of Jesus and on Jesus as presented in the four Gospels.

### **TH 9727—New Testament Theology 2**

A seminar devoted to a detailed study of the theology of Pauline writing. Attention is given to contemporary issues in Pauline theology and an examination of the salient features of the theological content of the Pauline epistles.



### **TH 9761—Christology**

An approach to the study of Christ, His person and His work, both historically and systematically. The course involves a study of the historical development of the doctrine (with special emphasis upon the first six centuries of the Christian Era, the Reformation Period, and the Modern Period), and a systematic presentation of the historical and biblical materials concerning the doctrine of Christ. Both of these approaches include selected readings from various Christologies and systematic theologies.

### **TH 9765—Hamartiology**

The seminar focuses upon the sinfulness of humankind using the format of historical, biblical and systematic theology. Accordingly, the student will examine the major historical development within the doctrine of sin. Then the biblical teaching regarding the nature and origin of sin will be treated. Finally, the seminar will survey the various theological aspects of the doctrine.

### **TH 9771—Ecclesiology**

An exploration of the biblical teaching on the doctrine of the church and its interpretation in various theological traditions in general and in the Baptist tradition in particular.

### **TH 9775—Eschatology**

A biblical and systematic study of eschatology. The intent is to expose the seminar members to the biblical teaching on the doctrine of last things, and the various interpretations of the doctrine that have been held on the subject. Topics covered are death and the intermediate state, the rapture, second coming, tribulation, millennium, hell, and heaven. Special attention will be given to the book of Revelation.

### **TH 9781—Soteriology**

An analysis of the Christian understanding of salvation which includes a detailed description of human sinfulness and the application of Christ's work in the believer. The approach of the seminar relates human salvation to the covenants of works and the covenant of grace.

### **TH 9785—Old Testament Theological Themes**

An investigation of some major areas of theological concern in the Old Testament, including soteriology, eschatology, Christology, theodicy, pneumatology, the community of faith, etc. Special attention is given to the literary devices associated with each of these themes.

### **TH 9796—Contemporary Theological Issues, 1800–Present**

A critical survey of strategic theological movements from the appearance of Protestant Liberalism to the postmodern era designed to equip the student for interaction with contemporary theological issues.

### **HM 9810—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 9828—Survey of Evangelistic Preaching**

This seminar is a study of the facets and factors of evangelistic preaching. Various past and present approaches to evangelistic preaching will be investigated.

### **HM 9831—Biblical Preaching**

An examination of theory and methodologies of biblical preaching. The seminar studies the universal principles of expository preaching in various applications. The seminar helps prepare students to teach preaching at the seminary and university level.

### **HM 9835—New Testament Hermeneutics**

An introduction to the principles and methods of interpretation used by the New Testament writers, the history of hermeneutics, and contemporary approaches to biblical interpretation. Students will use the Greek New Testament to understand principles, methods, and illustrations.

### **HM 9841—Major Series of Lectures on Preaching**

A study of selected lectures and lecturers from a major series of lectures on preaching. Included are the Yale Lectures, the Warrack Lectures, and the Farris Lectures (MABTS).

### **HM 9851—The History of Preaching 1**

A historical overview of preaching with a focus on the preachers from biblical days through the Great Awakening. Emphasis is given to major homiletical developments and outstanding personalities.

### **HM 9853—History of Preaching 2**

A historical overview of preaching with a focus on great American preachers of the 20th century. Emphasis is given to major homiletical developments and outstanding personalities.

### **HM 9855—The Theology of Preaching**

The study of the preaching task in the context of its theological foundations. Investigations will include the contributions that major theologians have made to preaching and exegetical developments and contemporary theological trends and movements and their effect on preaching.

### **HM 9857—Expository Preaching in a Postmodern Era**

A comprehensive study of the various philosophies and cultural implications of post-modernism with a specific view of employing the principles of expository preaching in addressing people within that culture.

### **PM 9861—Ethical Dimensions of Pastoral Ministry**

An examination of biblical ethics in application to contemporary preaching and Pastoral Ministry. The seminar explores the moral teaching of the Scriptures and the ethical

demands of discipleship in the context of contemporary culture and examines the pastoral response.

### **CN 9871 — 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 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 9872— 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 9873—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 9874—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 seminar 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 seminar concludes with an examination of specific counseling cases in a church setting.

### **ED 9931—Christian Higher Education**

A study of the principles of educational administration in Bible colleges, Christian liberal arts colleges, and seminary education. Attention is given to the educational role of the institution as well as its administrative tasks.

### **ED 9932—Curriculum Theory and Design**

An exploration of the major curriculum developments in Christian education including a review of historical trends, the design of curriculum frameworks and teaching-learning sessions, the supervision of curriculum in the local church and a critique of curriculum issues in higher education.

**ED 9933—Personality and Developmental Theory**

An evaluation of personality theories, educational psychology and developmental psychology and an analysis of their contributions to the practices of leadership, instruction, and spiritual formation.

**ED 9934—Organizational Theory and Development**

Explores psychological and developmental underpinnings of organizations. Presents classical and contemporary theories and principles of organizational development. Students gain skills in the analysis of organizational culture, communication processes, and staff training.



# Faculty Vitae



## Matthew R. Akers, PhD

Associate Dean of Doctoral Programs  
Chairman of Biblical Counseling Department  
Associate Professor of Biblical Counseling, Old Testament,  
Hebrew, New Testament, Greek, and Theology

### Education:

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Instructor of Classics, University of Memphis; Assistant Professor, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary

### Field Experience:

Youth Intern, Kaley Hill Baptist Church, Quitman, AR; Summer Youth Intern, Breton Creek Baptist Church, Potosi, MO; Intern, Park Place Baptist Church, Little Rock, AR; Pastor, Fourth Street Baptist Church, West Helena, AR; Interim Youth Pastor, Kirby Woods Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; Pastor, La Iglesia Bautista Nueva Vida en Kirby Woods, Memphis, TN; Executive Vice President, Agua Viva Children's Home, Chimaltenango, Guatemala.

### Other Experience:

Director of E.S.L. Ministries, Kirby Woods Baptist Church; Kirby Woods Baptist Church Missions Committee Member; Strategy Coordinator for the Ayacucho Quechua People Group of Peru; Team Leader for Missions Trips to Guatemala and Peru.

### Writings:

"Key Sources of Conflict in Multiethnic Marriages." *Journal of Biblical Soul Care* Vol. 1, no. 2 (Spring 2018): 73-102; "Multiethnic Marriage in the Old Testament." *Journal of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary* (2018): 11-23; "The Employment of Zeroa' as a Messianic Motif with Particular Emphasis on the Origin of the Concept as Well as Its First Usage in Exodus 6:1-8." PhD Dissertation; Co-author of *A Hebrew Grammar for Students of the Bible*; "My Word Will Not Return Void," *Journal of Evangelism and Missions*; "Be Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind," *Messenger*; "What's in a Name? An Examination of the Usage of the Term 'Hebrew' in the Old Testament," *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*. "The Soteriological Development of the Arm of the Lord Motif," *Journal for the Evangelical Study of the Old Testament*. "Equally Yoked: An Investigation of Multiethnic Marriage with an Application for Premarital Biblical Counseling" PhD Dissertation. "Nouthetic Confrontation in 1 Samuel: Two Case Studies," *The Journal: Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary*.

**Scholarly Papers Read at Professional Societies:**

“An Exegetical Analysis of Hebrews 6:4–6,” E.T.S. Regional Meeting; “Who Are the Habiru of the Amarna Letters?” E.T.S. Regional Meeting; “The ‘Arm of the LORD’ as Messiah: A Survey of the Phrase *Zeroa’ YHWH* in Early Jewish and Christian Literature,” E.T.S. Regional Meeting; “The Arm of the Lord Motif: Its Origin and Importance in the Old Testament,” E.T.S. Regional Meeting; “What’s in a Name? An Examination of the Usage of the Term ‘Hebrew’ in the Old Testament,” E.T.S. National Meeting.

**Professional Societies:**

Evangelical Theological Society, Society of Biblical Literature

**Personal Travel:**

Guatemala, Peru, Ecuador, Japan, Philippines, El Salvador, Honduras, and Canada.



## John E. Babler, PhD

Chairman of the Department of Biblical Counseling  
Professor of Biblical Counseling

### Education:

MSSW, University of Texas at Arlington; MA, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Professor of Social Work, Ministry-Based Evangelism, and Counseling and taught Pastoral Ministry at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Held Warren C. Hultgren Chair of Ministerial Counseling.

### Field Experience:

Minister of Missions, Birchman Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas. Served as associate pastor and youth minister in local church settings.

### Other Experience:

Police Officer and Chaplain, Forest Hill Police Department, Forest Hill, Texas; Fire Chief and Chaplain, Edgecliff Village Fire Department, Edgecliff Village, Texas; Social Work Coordinator, Huguley Hospice, Fort Worth, Texas; Program Administrator, The Children's Home, Amarillo, Texas; Missionary, Baptist Community Center, Fort Worth, Texas.

### Writings:

*Counseling by the Book, Revised and Expanded Edition*, Edited with Nicolas Ellen; *Biblical Crisis Counseling, Not if, but When; Counseling by the Book*, Co-Authored with David Penley and Mike Bizzell; Journal articles and blog articles published by the Journal of Biblical Counseling, Southwestern Seminary, Association of Certified Biblical Counselors, National Hospice Organization, and National Association of Christians in Social Work.





## Lee Brand Jr., PhD

Vice President  
Dean of the Seminary  
Chairman of the Department of Practical Theology  
Professor of Practical Theology

### Education:

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Adjunct Professor of New Testament, Old Testament, Practical Theology, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Starkville Extension, 2015-2019; Adjunct Professor of New Testament and Old Testament, East Mississippi Community College, 2014-2016.

### Field Experience:

Pastor of Beth-el Missionary Baptist Church, Starkville, MS, 2002-2019; Dean of the Northeast Mississippi Baptist State Congress of Christian Education, 2017-2019; Dean of Whitefield District Baptist Association, 2008-2019; Evangelistic meetings, Bible conferences, and Church growth seminars.

### Writings:

Book Review *Joseph and the Gospel of Many Colors: Reading an Old Story in a New Way*, The Journal of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; “An Examination of the Influences of Puritanism as Evidenced in the Preaching of Lemuel Haynes,” PhD dissertation.

### Memberships:

Evangelical Theological Society; Evangelical Homiletical Society



## Wayne E. Cornett, PhD

Associate Dean of Graduate Programs  
Assistant Professor of New Testament and Greek

### Education:

BA, Andersonville Baptist Seminary; MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Seminars at Tyndale House, Cambridge UK; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Online Adjunct Professor, Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, 2011-2015; Adjunct Professor, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, 2007-2008.

### Field Experience:

Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Paintsville, KY; Senior Pastor, Antioch Baptist Church, Wynne, AR; Interim Pastor, Rosemark Baptist Church, Millington, TN; Interim Pastor, Locke Station Baptist Church, Marks, MS; Interim Preacher, Friendship Baptist Church, Lenoir City, TN; Staff Evangelist/Missions Director, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Lenoir City, TN; Preached Revivals and Bible Conferences in Tennessee, Montana, California, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Arkansas.

### Denominational Service:

Finance Committee, Enterprise Baptist Association, 2014-2016; Discipleship and Education Team, Enterprise Baptist Association, 2014-2016; Resolutions Committee, Enterprise Baptist Association, 2013-2014; Resolutions Committee, Tri-County Baptist Association, 2010-2012.

### Professional Memberships:

The Evangelical Theological Society

### Writings:

“Singular Reading of the Firsthand Scribe of Codex Sinaiticus in the Gospels: A Test Case in Scribal Habits,” PhD dissertation, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; “Singular Readings of the Firsthand Scribe of Codex Sinaiticus in John 1-6: A Test Case in Scribal Habits,” 2008 ETS Southeast Regional Meeting, Cordova, TN; “The Christology of Philippians 2:6-11,” 2007 ETS Southeast Regional Meeting, Graceville, FL; Multiple articles in Kurian, George Thomas and Mark A. Lamport, eds., *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2016.



## Michael S. Haggard, PhD

MOVE Northeast Coordinator  
Assistant Professor of Church History, Theology and  
Old Testament

### **Education:**

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Assistant Professor, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Field Experience:**

Assistant Pastor for Outreach and Education, First Baptist Church, Macon, TN; Assistant Pastor for Congregational Care, Grace Community Chapel, Ballston Spa, NY.

### **Other Experience:**

Retired U.S. Army Major with 20 years of active service.

### **Writings:**

“A Bid to Come and Die: The Impact of Dietrich Bonhöffer’s Leadership Against the Nazification of the German Protestant Church, 1933 Through 1943” PhD Dissertation; “The Incarnational Leadership of Dietrich Bonhöffer,” *Journal of Evangelism and Missions*.

### **Professional Societies:**

Evangelical Theological Society; International Bonhöffer Society.

### **Travel:**

Canada, Mexico, England, Holland, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Grenada, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Ethiopia.



## R. Kirk Kilpatrick, PhD

Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew

### Education:

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Teaching Fellow under Dr. T. V. Farris, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Biblical Hebrew, summer, 1992; adjunct instructor, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Biblical Hebrew, Job, and Psalms, 1994–1995; guest lecturer for graduate level courses and seminars, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Research and Writing Course, Computer Assisted Research, PhD and DMin programs, since 1995; guest lecturer for the Graduate Teaching Seminar, tests, and examinations, DMin program, 1996; guest lecturer for the Synoptic Gospels Seminar, PhD program, 1996–1997. Courses and seminars at MABTS at the undergraduate and graduate levels from 1993-present.

### Field Experience:

Pastor, Salem Baptist Church, Henning, TN; Executive Director, Greater Mid-South chapter of Youth for Christ; summer mission trips, Arizona (Navaho Reservation); Interim Pastor, churches in TN, MS, and AR; supply preaching, revivals, retreats, and winter Bible studies in area churches; Pastor, Beaver Baptist Church, Brighton, TN;

### Professional Societies:

Evangelical Theological Society; Ancient Near Eastern Archeological Society.

### Writings:

*The Hammoreh Workbook: A Companion Vocabulary, Exercise, and Study Guide for the Hammoreh Computerized Hebrew Tutorial*, jointly written with Dr. T. V. Farris, 1993; “Ancient Mythology Versus Eternal Reality: Judgments upon Egypt,” presented orally at both the Southeastern regional meeting and the national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society; “Ephraim and Egypt: A History of Idolatry,” *Mid-America Baptist Theological Journal*; “The Eighth-Century Political and Religious Climate in Israel,” *Mid-America Baptist Theological Journal*; “The Parable of the Tower,” *Mid-America Baptist Theological Journal*; articles for the *Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary Messenger* (general audience); “Against the Gods of Egypt: An Examination of the Narrative of the Ten Plagues in the Light of Exodus 12:12,” PhD dissertation; contributor to the *New Holman Bible Dictionary*; “Shadows of Death: Common Noun(s) or Place Name” presented at the 2002 Regional meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society; contributor to the 2007 *HCSV Harmony of the Gospels*; “Messianic Portraits in the Hebrew Bible and in the Dead Sea Scrolls,” presented at MABTS conference on *Qumran, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and Biblical Interpretation*, April 23, 2009; *Follow Me: First Steps for New Believers – Obeying the Commands of the Lord Jesus*, 2010.

### Travel:

Brazil, England, France, Israel, Mexico, and Switzerland.



## **Dr. Kenneth R. Lewis, PhD**

Director of Information Technology  
Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, Church History  
and New Testament

### **Education:**

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Teaching Fellow under Dr. Michael R. Spradlin, President, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, Church History, and New Testament, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Field Experience:**

Pastor, Briarwood Baptist Church, Cordova, TN; Interim Pastor, Grace Pointe Baptist Church, Whiteville, TN; Church Planter, Christ Hope Baptist Church, Cordova, TN; Associate Minister, Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, Cordova, TN; Associate Minister, Fletcher's Chapel Primitive Baptist Church, Madison, AL; Deacon, Sunday School Teacher, Director of Education, and Director of Brotherhood Ministry; Student Missionary, North American Mission Board; Workplace Chaplain, Marketplace Chaplains, USA; Itinerant and supply preaching in various churches; Mission trips to Dominican Republic, Indonesia, and Ivory Coast, West Africa.

### **Other Experience:**

Director of Information Services, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Project Manager and Software Developer for technology companies in Huntsville, AL; Mississippi Army National Guard, Sergeant, honorable discharge.

### **Writings:**

"An Examination of the Preaching of E. K. Bailey in Light of Expository Preaching Methodology," PhD dissertation; book reviews in *Journal of Evangelism and Missions*, *Great Commission Research Journal*, and *The Journal of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary*.

### **Professional Memberships:**

Evangelical Theological Society, Evangelical Homiletics Society.



## **William T. Marshall, PhD**

Director of Institutional Assessment  
Director of Security  
Assistant Professor of Education

### **Education:**

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; ThD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Adjunct Professor, Crichton College, 2000-2005; Adjunct Professor, Bethel College, 2001-2003; Online/Residential Adjunct Professor, Belhaven University, 2014-Present; Online/Residential Adjunct Professor, Webster University, 2013-Present; Assistant Professor, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, 2017-Present.

### **Field Experience:**

Senior Pastor, Parkway Baptist Church, Hernando, MS; Associate Pastor, Parkway Baptist Church, Hernando, MS; Associate Pastor, Desoto Woods Baptist Church, Southaven, MS.

### **Professional Experience:**

Dean of Adult Education, Crichton College, Memphis, TN; Director of Admissions/Retention, Crichton College, Memphis, TN.

### **Denominational Service:**

Director of Personnel, Bellevue Baptist Church, Pensacola, FL; Director of Personnel, Skyview Baptist Church, Arlington, TN; Director of Sunday School, Desoto Woods Baptist Church, Southaven, MS; Director of Education, Parkway Baptist Church, Hernando, MS.

### **Writings:**

“Late Adolescent and Early Adult Conversion Experiences to Islam, Specific to Indigenous Southerners Who Previously Professed Christianity: A Phenomenological Study,” PhD dissertation, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; “From the Cross to the Crescent: How Islam is Luring Professing Christians from the Faith,” Xulon Press, 2019.



## T. Van McClain, PhD

Research Librarian  
Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew

### Education:

MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Field Experience:

Pastor, Perry Road Baptist Church (merger of Grace and New Horizon), Saratoga Springs, NY; Board member of Camp Pattersonville; Pastor, Grace Community Chapel, Interim Pastor, New Horizon Church, Saratoga Springs, NY, Ballston Spa, NY; Interim Pastor, Grace Brethren Church, Saratoga Springs, NY; Interim Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Niskayuna, NY; Interim Pastor, Good News Baptist Church, Middletown, CT; Interim Pastor, Long Falls Baptist Church, West Carthage, NY; Interim Pastor, Grace Baptist Church, Rome, NY; Interim Pastor, Long Falls Baptist Church, West Carthage, NY; Interim Pastor, One Heart Church, Rome, NY; Interim Pastor, Ithaca Baptist Church, Ithaca, NY; Interim Pastor, Beacon Light Baptist Church, Vernon, NY; Interim Pastor, New Hope Baptist Church, Watertown, NY; Interim Pastor, Friendship Baptist Church, Torrington, CT; Interim Pastor, Long Falls Baptist Church, Carthage, NY; Interim Pastor, One Heart (previously Floyd Baptist) Church, Rome, NY; Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Kemp, TX; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Quinlan, TX; Interim Pastor, Chapel of the Lake, Wills Point, TX; Assistant Pastor, Bobtown Road Baptist (previously La Prada Baptist) Church, Garland, TX; Minister of Music and Youth, Central Baptist Church, Weatherford, TX; Camp Pastor for various Christian camps; and revival and conference speaker.

### Writings:

“Joab, A Man after His Own Heart,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Hebrew Prayer Practices,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Eliezer: Abraham’s Faithful Steward,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Life After the Exile,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “The Rise and Fall of the Neo-Babylonian Empire,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “‘God Created’: A Word Study,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Israel as Tribes,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Who Was Artaxerxes?” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Creation in Ancient Near Eastern Thought,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Burnt Offerings in Ancient Worship,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Deserving of Death: Stoning in the Old Testament,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Ancient Courts,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Job’s Daughters,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Abraham’s Homeland,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “God as King in Ancient Israel,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “David’s Dynasty,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “The Pre-Tribulation Rapture,” in *Looking to the Future: Evangelical Studies in Eschatology*, (Baker 2001); “According to the Blessing,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Descriptions of the Word,” *The Biblical Illustrator*; “Gützlaff, Karl Friedrich August (1803B1851D),” in *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions* (Baker, 2000); “The Use of Amos in the New Testament,” *Mid-America Theological Journal*; “Hosea’s Marriage to Gomer,” *Mid-America Theological Journal*; and “Introduction to the Book of Isaiah,” *Mid-America Theological Journal*; presentation of various papers at the Evangelical Theological Society; *Prejudice in the Old Testament and Ancient Near East*, PhD dissertation; “Ask the Professor,” Trinity Baptist Church newsletter; “The Minister’s Corner,” *Tawakoni News*, Quinlan, Texas.

**Memberships:**

Evangelical Theological Society: Chairman of the Northeast Region, four years; Vice-Chairman of the Northeast Region, five years; Secretary-Treasurer of the Northeast Region, two years.





## **Michael P. Mewborn, PhD**

Associate Dean of The College at Mid-America

Director of Campus Life

Dean of Men

Chairman of the Department of Theology and Church History

Assistant Professor of Theology, Church History, and Practical

Theology

### **Education:**

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Instructor of Communication, University of Memphis; Instructor of Pastoral Ministry, Preaching and Spiritual Formation, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Instructor, The College at Mid-America; Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, Church History and Theology, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Field Experience:**

College Ministry Internship at Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; Speaker for Campus Crusade for Christ at the University of Memphis, Memphis, TN; Student and College Minister at Collierville First Baptist Church, Collierville, TN; Senior Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Collierville, TN.

### **Writings:**

“A Comparative Analysis of the Preaching of Walter Rauschenbusch, Charles Sheldon, and George W. Truett as Related to Social Ministry,” PhD dissertation.

### **Mission Trips:**

Guatemala, Brazil, India, Canada, Dominican Republic, and Haiti.

### **Personal Travel:**

Canada, Germany, Amsterdam, Israel, France, England, and extensive travel throughout the U.S.



## Stephen R. Miller, PhD

Chairman of the Department of Old Testament and Hebrew  
Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew

### Education:

ThM, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, 1982–Present; Pskov Baptist Pastors School, Pskov, Russia, March, 1995 (student credit granted through the Ethnic Leadership Division of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary).

### Field Experience:

Interim Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Osceola, AR; Pastor, Neal's Chapel Baptist Church, Lepanto, AR; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Weiner, AR; Pastor, Gosnell Baptist Church, Blytheville, AR; Interim Pastor, Temple Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; Interim Pastor, Trafalgar Village Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; Interim Pastor, First Baptist Church, Monette, AR; Interim Pastor, First Baptist Church, Parkin, AR; Interim Pastor, Harvest Baptist Church, Dyersburg, TN; Interim Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Waynesboro, TN; Interim Pastor, Boulevard Baptist Church, Memphis, TN (and Southaven, MS); Interim Pastor, East Side Baptist Church, Paragould, AR; Interim Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Harrisburg, AR; Interim Pastor, First Baptist Church, Manila, AR; Interim Pastor, Good Hope Baptist Church, Adamsville, TN; Interim Pastor, Gravel Hill Baptist Church, Ramer, TN; Interim Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Independence, MS; Interim Pastor, Looxahoma Baptist Church, Senatobia, MS; Interim Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Horn Lake, MS; other preaching ministries and Bible studies in local churches; seminar leader "The Book of Ecclesiastes" at the National Conference for Church Leadership, Ridgecrest, NC.

### Foreign Travel:

Egypt, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Russia, Switzerland.

### Professional Societies:

Evangelical Theological Society; Near Eastern Archaeological Society; Society of Biblical Literature.

### Writings:

Books: *Daniel*, The New American Commentary, vol. 18 (Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1994); *Daniel*, Shepherd's Notes (Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1998); *Nahum*, *Habakkuk*, *Zephaniah*, *Haggai*, *Zechariah*, *Malachi*, Holman Old Testament Commentary, vol. 20 (Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2004); Co-author, *A Hebrew Grammar for Students of the Bible*, (Memphis: Mid-America Press, 2008). Articles in Journals and Periodicals: "Introduction and Outline for the Prophecy of Amos," *Mid-America Theological Journal* (vol. 19, 1995); "Introduction to the Book of Hosea," *Mid-America Theological Journal* (vol. 17, 1993); "The Authorship of Isaiah," *Mid-America Theological Journal* (vol. 15:1, 1991); "Introduction to the Book of Malachi," *Mid-*

*America Theological Journal* (vol. 11:1, 1987); “An Introduction to the Epistle to the Hebrews,” *Mid-America Theological Journal* (vol. 9:1, 1985); “Psalm 19: The Revelation of God,” *Mid-America Theological Journal* (vol. 8:2, 1984); “Islamic Jihad: Spiritual Struggle, Self-Defense or Deadly Doctrine?” *Journal of Evangelism and Missions* (Spring 2004); “Tithes and Offerings in Malachi 3,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Fall 1997); “Capital Punishment in the Ancient Near East,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Summer 2004); “The Neo-Babylonian Empire,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Summer 2005); “Isaiah’s Messianic Prophecies,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Spring 2006); “Xerxes, King of Persia,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Winter 2006); “The Egypt Joseph Knew,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Spring 2008); “Hosea’s Life and Times,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Winter 2010–2011); “Abomination: A Word Study,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Spring 2013); “Haggai, Prophet of the Return,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Spring 2015); “Interpreting Daniel’s Seventy Weeks: Dismal Swamp or Blessed Hope?” *The Journal of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary*, (vol. 2, Spring 2015): 47-62; “The Anticipated Deliverer: Isaiah 11:1-10,” *Biblical Illustrator* (Winter 2016). Contributor: *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*, Revised edition (2000); *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (2003), *The Apologetics Study Bible* (2007), and *Lexham Bible Dictionary*. PhD dissertation: *The Literary Style of the Book of Isaiah and the Unity Question*, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, 1982.

### **Scholarly Papers Read at Professional Societies:**

“A Literal Futurist View of Daniel’s Seventy Weeks,” The Evangelical Theological Society (National), San Diego, CA; “Old Testament Holy War and Islamic Jihad: A Comparative Study,” The Evangelical Theological Society (National), Toronto, Canada; “The Stylistic Unity of the Book of Isaiah: Evidence from Vocabulary,” The Evangelical Theological Society (Regional), Memphis, TN; “Capital Punishment in the Ancient Near East,” The Evangelical Theological Society (National), Valley Forge (Philadelphia), PA; Co-leader of Forum, “Teaching Hebrew in the Twenty-First Century,” The Evangelical Theological Society, (Regional), Memphis, TN.

### **Other Scholarly Projects:**

Participated in an archaeological excavation at Gezer, Israel. Led groups to Israel, Egypt, Greece, and Italy for which students received seminary course credit.

### **Other Writings:**

Numerous writings for LifeWay Christian Resources (SBC); Curriculum for Student Life Ministries (2005).

### **Other Experience:**

Casualty Underwriter, United States Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company, Memphis, TN; Accountant, Downtowner Motor Inn, Memphis, TN.

### **Bible Translator:**

Translator, *The Holman Christian Standard Bible* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2004).



## Jimmy A. Millikin, ThD

Professor Emeritus of Theology

### Education:

MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; ThD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Instructor, Williams Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, AR, College Division: Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, Christian Doctrine, Ministerial Speech; Adult Division: Systematic Theology, Evangelism, Old Testament Theology, New Testament Theology, Pastoral Care.

### Field Experience:

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Greenway, AR; Pastor, Ripley Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant, TX; Pastor, Richland Baptist Church, Sulphur Springs, TX; Pastor, Piedmont Baptist Church, Dallas, TX; Interim Pastor, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Jonesboro, AR; Interim Pastor, East Side Baptist Church, Paragould, AR; Interim Pastor, Carriage Hills Baptist Church, Southaven, MS; Interim Pastor, Fisher Street Baptist Church, Jonesboro, AR; Interim Pastor, Gosnell Baptist Church, Gosnell, AR; Interim Pastor, First Baptist Church, West Memphis, AR; Interim Pastor, First Baptist Church, Marvel, AR; Interim Pastor, First Baptist Church, Paragould, AR.

### Educational Administration:

President, Williams College, Walnut Ridge, AR.

### Writings:

Articles and weekly column in Arkansas Baptist newsmagazine. Books: *Christian Doctrine for Every Man*; *Testing Tongues by the Word*.

### Honors:

Graduated with honors, East Texas Baptist College; Faculty Award, Williams Baptist College; Bible Award, East Texas Baptist College; listed in *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*, *Outstanding Young Men of America*, *Outstanding Educators of America*, *Great Personalities of the South*.



## **Jere L. Phillips, PhD**

Professor of Practical Theology

### **Education:**

MDiv, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Professor of Practical Theology at MABTS since 2001; Associate Professor, Church Ministries, Trinity College of Florida, 1984–1987; Field Supervisor, Doctor of Ministry Program, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (1989, 1993) and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (1997); Guest Lecturer, Calcutta Bible College, Calcutta, India, and Malyon Baptist College, Australia.

### **Administrative Experience:**

Various administrative roles at MABTS since 2001; Executive Director/Minister, West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, 1995–2001; Director, missions department, Tennessee Baptist Convention, 1990–1995; Director of Church Ministries, Trinity College of Florida, 1984–1987. Various administrative roles in Baptist associations in TN, LA, FL.

### **Field Experience:**

From 1972–1990, served as pastor and as staff member of churches in TN, LA and FL; served as interim pastor 13 times since being at MABTS (2001-present) and preached in over 350 churches; mission trips to Mexico, Haiti, Brazil, Philippines, India, Malawi, Romania, Russia, Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Australia.

### **Other Experience:**

Leader for Empowering Kingdom Growth and Sunday School Development for the Russian Baptist Union (2002–2006), Ukrainian Baptist Union (2005), and the EuroAsiatic Federation (2005–2006); Conference Leader at Ridgecrest and Glorietta for the Home Mission Board of the SBC. Member, Beyond 2000 Planning Group, SBC; SALT Leader, TN, MI, AZ, WV; Consultant: Associational Strategy Planning; Steering Committee, Mississippi River Ministry (1992–1995); Steering Committee, Appalachian Regional Ministry.

### **Writings:**

Author of Pastoral Ministry for the Next Generation, Managing Stress in the Christian Family, and The Missionary Family: Managing Stress Effectively; over 200 lessons and articles published in 56 publications with total circulation exceeding 20 million, including lessons for more than 30 quarterlies of Sunday School curriculum for LifeWay Christian Resources; articles have been published in numerous magazines, including Preaching, The Deacon, Growing Churches, Church Administration, Mature Living, Home Life, Your Church, Search, Departure, Proclaim, The Journal of Evangelism and Missions, The Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society, The Voice of the Evangelist, and others. Contributing editor of Pulpit Notes From Galatians (1994), Pulpit Notes From Amos

(1995) and co-author of *Pulpit Notes from Ephesians* (1996) *Pulpit Notes From Luke* (1997) and *Pulpit Notes from Joshua* (1998) (published by Seminary Extension, SBC, Nashville, TN).

### **Papers Presented:**

“Transgenerational Preaching” presented to the regional meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2002; “Metamorphosis of the Southern Baptist Mosaic” presented to the regional meeting of the Evangelical Missiological Society, 2002; “The Emerging Church Conversation: A Study of the Emerging Church Movement in its theological adolescence” presented to the regional meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2008; “Empowering Kingdom Growth in the Commonwealth of Independent States (former Soviet Union),” presented to the regional meeting of the Evangelical Missiological Society, 2008; “The Missionary Family: Managing Stress Effectively,” presented to the regional meeting of the Evangelical Missiological Society, 2013; “Tongues of Fire: The Impact of the Holy Spirit on the Preaching of Great Evangelists,” presented to the Evangelical Homiletics Society, 2013.

### **Honors:**

Cited for service by the Russian Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptist. (2004); cited for community service by the cities of Piperton and Collierville (TN) and by the mayor of Shelby County and the governor of the state of Tennessee (1990).



## Bradley P. Roderick, PhD

Chairman of the Department of Missions  
Professor of Missions and Evangelism  
Director of the Witness One:Seven Program  
Editor of The Journal of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary

### Education:

BA, Mississippi College; MDiv, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Adjunct Professor, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Adjunct Professor, Naya Jeevan (New Life) in Bangalore, India; Adjunct Professor, Sekolah Tinggi Al Kitab in Malang, Indonesia; Visiting Professor of Missions, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Adjunct Professor, The Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary; Adjunct Professor, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Adjunct Professor, Gateway Baptist Theological Seminary

### Field Experience:

Home Mission Board Missionary (1986-1996): Church Planter Apprentice in Westfield, MA; Mission Pastor in Folsom, LA; Associational Church Planting Coordinator for the Massachusetts Baptist Association; Coordinator, New Church Extension, Baptist Convention of Penn-Jersey. International Mission Board Missionary (1996-2015): Church Planter, Strategy Coordinator, Cluster Leader, Strategy Associate, Strategy Training Associate, serving in India and Indonesia. Executive Director of Mission (2016-2017), Piedmont Baptist Association, Greensboro, NC.

### Publications:

PhD dissertation: An Evangelical Christian Response to the American Black Muslim Movement; "The Birth of a Nation: A Brief History of the Nation of Islam," *The Bulletin of the Henry Martyn Institute of Islamic Studies*; "God's Mission to Egypt in the Exodus," *The Theological Educator*; 4 articles on evangelism, *Discipleship Journal*; 12-part series on interfaith witnessing, *The New England Baptist*; 10-part series on church planting, *The Penn-Jersey*; IMB booklets: *Embracing ASAP 101: Preparing to Take the Gospel to South Asian Peoples*, *Thirty Days of Prayer for the Muslims of India*, *The Muslims of Karnataka*.

### Professional Societies:

Evangelical Missiological Society; American Society of Missiology.

### Travel:

All 50 US states, The Bahamas, Bangladesh, Canada, Cyprus, England, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, The

Philippines, Scotland, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Vatican City, Wales.





## David G. Shackelford, PhD

Chairman of the Department of New Testament and Greek  
Professor of New Testament and Greek

### Education:

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching and Administrative Experience:

Teaching Fellow for Dr. J. Philip Allison; chief administrator for the Oakhaven Baptist Academy of Oakhaven Baptist Church, Memphis, TN.

### Field Experience:

Pastor of Oakhaven Baptist Church and Academy, Memphis, TN; Friendship Baptist Church, Marianna, AR; Calvary Baptist Church, Desoto, MO; Interim Minister of Music, Cherokee Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; Assistant to the Pastor/Minister of Music, Trafalgar Village Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; numerous associational committees in the Baptist associations where pastorates were held; interim pastorates and other preaching/teaching opportunities for numerous churches throughout the Northeast, South, and Southeast. Committee on Committees for the Baptist Convention of New York; various Bible conferences and local church seminars/workshops in both Bible studies and church music; guest lecturer in New Testament for PRO Missions—classes held at the International Academy for Modern Knowledge, Obninsk, Russia, 1994; Protestant Chaplain, Otisville Federal Correctional Institute, Otisville, NY; Worship Leader, Baptist Convention of New York, 1997; Trustee, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Missions Opportunities:

Numerous mission trips to Russia, Indonesia, Peru, South Korea, and Singapore; numerous domestic missions opportunities.

### Professional Organizations:

Evangelical Theological Society; Society of Biblical Literature.

### Other Papers, Articles and Presentations:

“The Apostles,” in *A Harmony of the Gospels*. Kendal Easley and Steve Cox, eds. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2006; “The Beatitudes Then and Now,” *Mid-America Theological Journal*, 1992; “The Bible and Intoxicating Beverages.” Paper presented at the Baptist Distinctives Conference, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, 2005; “Binding and Loosing.” In *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Chad Brand, Charles Draper, Archie England, Gen. Eds. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2003; “Christology in the Gospels,” in *A Harmony of the Gospels*. Kendal Easley and Steve Cox, eds. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2006; “Church and State: Whatever Happened to the First Amendment?” Paper presented to the 4th Annual Bible Conference, Aberdeen, NJ, 1992; “Demons in the Gospels,” in *A Harmony of the Gospels*. Kendal Easley and Steve Cox, eds. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2006; “The Fall of Adam and Its Relationship to the Cross of Christ and the Fossil Record and

Its Incompatibility with Theistic Evolution,” *Creation Ex Nihilo Technical Journal* by Creation Science Foundation, Ltd., Queensland, Australia, 1996. (Also published by its sister organizations in Asia, Africa, and Europe.) “Foundational Biblical Truths: Creation and the Fall of Man,” *The Journal*. Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. Spring 2014; “Genesis 1-3 in Light of Romans 5:12-14; 8:18-25; and 1 Corinthians 15:21-58,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, San Francisco, CA; “Guidelines for Interpreting Jesus’ Parables” *Mid-America Theological Journal*, 1997; “Heaven,” paper presented to the 3rd Annual Bible Conference, Aberdeen, NJ, 1991; “Hell,” in *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, Chad Brand, Charles Draper, Archie England, Gen. Eds. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2003; “Hermeneutics in Modern Translation Practice: How Much Is Too Much?” paper presented at the 46th Annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, Chicago, IL, 1994; “How Short Morning and Evening: A Response,” *Creation Ex Nihilo Technical Journal* by Creation Science Foundation, Ltd., Queensland, Australia, 1997; “The Husband of One Wife: An Exposition of 1 Timothy 3:12,” 2009; “The Incomparable Christ” (exposition of John 1-5), *Mid-America Theological Journal*, 1988; “Modern Ethics and Morality: An Analysis and a Proposal for Evangelical Response,” paper presented to Capital District Association of Evangelicals, New York, 1993; “Motivations in the Ministry” (exposition of 2 Corinthians 3-5), *Mid-America Theological Journal*, 1989; “‘Mystery’ in Ephesians,” *Mid-America Theological Journal*, 1996; “The Sabbath Day: Its Formulation in the Old Testament; Its Fulfillment and Function in the New,” *The Journal*, 3, 2016; “That We Might War a Good Warfare: The Nature of Our Spiritual Conflict,” paper presented to the 5th Annual Bible Conference, Aberdeen, NJ, 1993; “The True Nature of Our Spiritual Conflict and a Proposal for an Evangelical Response,” paper presented to the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, Washington, D. C., 1993. Published by the Theological Research Exchange Network, 1994; “Was Adam a UFO?” *Creation Ex Nihilo* by Creation Science Foundation, Ltd., Queensland, Australia, 1999.

### **Books:**

Editor, *The Beatitudes: How to be Happy in an Unhappy World*. Texas: Wahoo Publishers, 2013.

*Beginner’s Grammar of the Greek New Testament* by William Hersey Davis, Revised and expanded ed. by David G. Shackelford. Eugene, OR, Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2006; digital edition published by Logos Bible Research software, 2008.

### **Other Experiences:**

Paraprofessional teaching assistant and soloist for the Teenage Performing Arts Workshop in New York, NY, sponsored by the New York Board of Education. Classes held at Manhattan School of Music, summers of 1971 and 1972.

### **Honors:**

Community Leaders and Noteworthy Americans, 1980–1981; Personalities of America, 4th edition.



## Michael R. Spradlin, PhD

President

Chairman of the Department of Evangelism

Interim Chairman of the Department of Theology and Church History

Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, Church History, Evangelism, and Practical Theology

### Education:

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, Evangelism, and Practical Theology; Assistant Professor of Evangelism and Practical Theology, Northeast campus and Memphis campus, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; further teaching in the Music and History Departments, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; lectured in Doctor of Ministry seminars, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Teaching Fellow, Department of Old Testament and Hebrew, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Administrative Experience:

President, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary and the College at Mid-America; Director of the Northeast Campus, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Director of Church Placement and Alumni, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Field Experience:

Director of Northeast Campus, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, 1994–1997, Schenectady, NY; Assistant Professor of Evangelism and Practical Theology; Director of Church Placement and Director of Alumni Affairs, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis, TN, 1993–1994; Associate Pastor of Missions and Satellite Ministry, Immanuel Baptist Church, Wichita, KS 1991–1993; concurrently Church Planter Missionary of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention; Assistant Pastor, First Baptist Church, Hughes, AR, 1984–1991; Minister of Youth and Youth Music, Smackover, AR, 1982–1984; Evangelist and leader of College Revival Team for the Admissions office, Ouachita Baptist University, 1982–1984; Youth Director, Sunset Lane Baptist Church, Little Rock, AR, 1981.

### Honors:

National Dean's List, Ouachita Baptist University; Doctoral Representative, Student Government Association, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Boys Varsity National Coach of the Year, National Christian Homeschool Basketball Championship (NCHBC) 2010.

### Travel:

Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, France, Germany, Ghana, Great Britain, Indonesia, Israel, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Philippines, South Korea, Switzerland, and Turkey.

### **Denominational Experience:**

Chaplain, Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention; Church Planter Missionary, Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention; Parliamentarian, Sedgwick Baptist Association, Wichita, KS; Committee on Nominations, Southern Baptist Convention; Executive Board, Baptist Convention of New York.

### **Publications:**

PhD dissertation: *An Investigation of Conditional Sentences in the Hebrew Text of Isaiah*, May 1991; "Preaching from the Book of Hosea," *Mid-America Theological Journal*, 1993; "Forgiveness," *Mid-America Messenger*, 1994; "Bold Mission Thrust in Action," *Mid-America Messenger*, 1994; "The Righteousness and Justice of God in the Book of Amos," *Mid-America Theological Journal*, 1995; Contributor to the *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions*, 2000; Contributor to the *Holman Bible Dictionary*, Revised 2002; Contributor to the updated Strong's Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Dictionary for the *HCSB Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* by Broadman and Holman Press, 2010; Contributed a chapter on Spiritual Formation to the book, *Reason for the Season: Ministerial Reflections on Personal Grief, Suffering, and Loss*, Founders Press, 2010; *Sons of the 43<sup>rd</sup>: The Story of Delmar Dotson, Gray Allison and the Men of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Bombardment Group in the Southwest Pacific*, Innovo Publishing, LLC, 2016.

### **Professional Societies:**

Evangelical Theological Society; Fellowship of Evangelical Seminary Presidents; Association of Memphis College and University Presidents.



## **J. Mark Terry, PhD**

Professor Emeritus of Missions

### **Education:**

MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Professor of Missions and Old Testament at the Southern Philippines Baptist Seminary, 1976–1989; Professor of Missions and Academic Dean at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, 1989–1999; Professor of Missions and Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1993–2000; Professor of Missions at Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary, 2005–2013; Professor of Missiology, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **Field Experience:**

Associate Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church, Dallas, TX, 1973–1975. Foreign Missionary with the International Mission Board 1975–1989, 2004–2013. Pastor of Bloomfield Baptist Church, Bloomfield, KY, 1999–2004.

### **Languages Spoken:**

Cebuano

### **Travel:**

Philippines, Trinidad, Romania, Israel, Egypt, Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, England, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, China, Thailand, Indonesia, Myanmar, Korea, Belgium, and Switzerland.

### **Writings:**

Books: *Evangelism: A Concise History*, Church Evangelism, Missiology: An Introduction (editor), Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 1998; *Paul's Missionary Methods: In His Time and Ours* (editor), Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012; *Developing a Strategy for Missions (Encountering Mission): A Biblical, Historical, and Cultural Introduction* (editor), Ada, MI: Baker Academic, 2013.

Articles: "Classic Principles of Church Growth," *Growing Churches*, July 1994. "Growing Through Groups," *Growing Churches* (Fall 1994). "Billy Graham: A Retrospective and Analysis," *Baptist History and Heritage* (Winter 1995). "Proactive Leadership," *Growing Churches* (Winter 1995). "Approaches to the Evangelization of Muslims," *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* (April 1996). "Evangelism Through Church Planting," *Growing Churches* (Winter 1996). "The Small Church Overseas," *Review & Expositor* (Summer 1996). "Cal Guy and the Church Growth Movement," *Faith & Mission* (Fall 1997). "Hocking, William Ernest," *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions*, Baker Book House, 2000. "Indigenous Churches," *The Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions*, Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2000. "Mission in the Pentateuch," *The Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions*, Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2000. "Philippines," *The Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions*, Grand

Rapids: Baker Book House, 2000. "Baptist Missions in the Twentieth Century," in *Evangelical Missions Between Past and Future*, Pasadena: William Carey Library, 2002. "Luther Rice: Dreamer and Doer," *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* (Winter 2002) "Cross-Cultural Church Planting," *The North American Mission Board*, 2003. "Mobilizing Sponsoring Congregations," *The North American Mission Board*, 2003. "Church Growth Overseas," *The Southern Seminary Magazine*, 2004. "The Great Commission and International Missions," in *The Challenge of the Great Commission*, Chuck Lawless and Thom S. Rainer, editors. Louisville: Pinnacle Publishers, 2005. "Can the Gospel Be Communicated Cross-Culturally?" *The Apologetics Study Bible* (2007). "Approaches to the Evangelization of Muslims," in *Envisioning Effective Ministry* (Wheaton: EMIS, 2010). "The Growth of Christianity in East Asia," *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* (Summer 2011). "The Ante-Nicene Church on Mission," in *Discovering the Mission of God* (InterVarsity Press, 2012).

**Lectureships:**

Abernathy International Symposium of Theology, Korean Baptist Theological Seminary, 2010.

**Professional Memberships:**

Evangelical Missions Society; Asia Theological Association.



## **Bradley C. Thompson, DMin, PhD, EdD**

Executive Vice President  
Dean of the College at Mid-America  
Chairman of the Department of Christian Education  
Professor of Church Ministries

### **Education:**

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; EdD, Columbia University.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Professor of Christian Education, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Adjunct Instructor, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Field Supervisor, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Liberty Baptist University, Reformed Theological Seminary; Speaker, Religious Education Conferences; Speaker, Church Growth Seminars.

### **Writings:**

PhD dissertation, "An Analysis of Critical Thinking Ability and Learning Styles of Entering Seminary Students;" EdD dissertation, "Translating Theory into Practice: A Study of Collaborative Action Research in Academic Administration;" Contributor to *Facts and Trends*, Baptist Sunday School Board; various articles for LifeWay Christian Resources.

### **Field Experience:**

Associate Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Columbus, GA; Associate Pastor, Bayside Baptist Church, Chattanooga, TN; Executive Pastor, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville, TN; Executive Committee Member, Columbus Baptist Association, GA, and Bledsoe Baptist Association, TN; led mission trips to Eastern Europe and Mexico; taught doctoral seminars and led colloquia in Indonesian Baptist seminaries.

### **Memberships:**

Phi Kappa Delta International; American Association of Christian Counselors; Ministers of Education Growth Association; Southern Baptist Religious Educators Association; North American Professors of Christian Education.

### **Honors:**

Outstanding Young Men of America, 1996; Who's Who Among Teachers in America 2004; Phi Delta Kappa International.

### **Travel:**

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France, Austria, Hong Kong, Indonesia.



## Mark E. Thompson, PhD

Director of Arkansas Prison Initiative  
Assistant Professor of Church History

### Education:

MDiv, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

### Teaching Experience:

Assistant Professor of Church History, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Teaching Fellow under Dr. Michael Spradlin, President, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; Adjunct Professor, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; REAP Bible Conference, Cairo, Egypt, 2010; All India Prayer Fellowship, Delhi, India, 2016; Seminary Extension of the Southern Baptist Convention, 2003-2006.

### Writings:

PhD dissertation, "The Role of Adrian Rogers and the Recovery of Biblical inerrancy in the Southern Baptist Convention;" "Review of Reformation 500: How the Greatest Revival Since Pentecost Continues to Shape the World Today," *The Journal of Mid-America Theological Seminary* (vol. 5, Spring 2018).

### Field Experience:

Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Hughes, AR, 2013-2019; Interim Pastor, Meridian Baptist Church, Jackson, TN 2013; Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Selmer, TN, 2010-2012; Senior Pastor, LaGuardo Baptist Church, Lebanon, TN 2001-2009; Senior Pastor, Fair River Baptist Church, Brookhaven, MS 1999-2001; Minister to Students, First Baptist Church, Millington, TN 1996-1999; Minister of Youth and Education, Highland Baptist Church, Grove City, OH 1994-1996.

### Memberships:

Evangelical Theological Society.

### Honors:

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, 1990; Student Body President, Crichton College 1988-90.

### Travel:

Egypt, Venezuela, India, Mozambique.



# Index

2020–2021 Tuition and Fees .....	28
Academic and Administrative Directors/Deans .....	18
Academic Credit Hours for Courses .....	75
Academic Load Regulations .....	53
Academic Week .....	51
Accelerated Master of Divinity Program .....	87
Accelerated Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree .....	89
Accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree .....	91
Accelerated Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree .....	93
Accelerated Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry .....	97
Accreditation .....	8
Adding and Dropping Courses after Registration .....	32, 46
Admission Procedure for New Students .....	39
Admission Procedure for International Students .....	42
Admission Requirements and Procedure for the Doctor of Ministry Program .....	136
Admission Requirements and Procedure for the Doctor of Philosophy Program .....	146
Admission Requirements and Procedures .....	35
Admission to the Doctoral Programs .....	39
Admission to the Master’s Degree Programs .....	38
Advanced Standing .....	54
Application Fees .....	29, 40
Application Requirements .....	39
Articles of Religious Belief .....	9
Attendance and Inclement Weather .....	52
Auditing Courses .....	56
Authorization for Special Appeals .....	24
Binding Fees for Projects and/or Dissertations .....	31
Board of Trustees .....	13
Brief History .....	7
Buildings and Facilities .....	21
Campus Life .....	25
Campus Revival .....	22
Career Counseling and Planning .....	26
Changes in Course Offerings .....	75
Chapel Services .....	22, 48
Church Relations Office .....	25
Class Assignments .....	56
Communication with the Seminary Regarding Admission .....	35
Connected Campus (Online) .....	70
Contents .....	5
Campus .....	21
Course Level and Identification .....	74
Dates for Student Admission and Registration .....	36
Directed Study .....	55
Disciplinary Regulations .....	65
Distinction Between Program Levels .....	73

Doctor of Ministry Program .....	135
Doctor of Ministry Seminars .....	140
Doctor of Philosophy Program .....	145
Doctor of Philosophy Seminars .....	158
Elective Courses .....	75
Entrance Requirements for Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree .....	104
Examinations .....	56
Executive Administrative Staff .....	18
Executive Administration .....	14
Faculty .....	15
Faculty Vitae .....	169
Financial Aid Committee .....	29
Financial Responsibility .....	29
Financial Support .....	27
Founders' Days .....	22
Founders' Days Attendance .....	52
General Academic Regulations .....	51
General Educational Objectives of the Academic Programs .....	73
General Information .....	7
General Requirements for Graduation .....	59
Grading Regulations .....	57
Graduation Fees .....	31
Granting of Academic Credit for Previous Non-Academic Experience .....	53
Granting of Academic Credit for Supervised Field Education Projects .....	54
Health Needs .....	26
Household Goods and Clothes Closet .....	26
Incomplete Work .....	56
Instructors .....	17
Insurance .....	26
Introduction to Academic Programs .....	73
Key to the Identification of Courses .....	74
Late Registration Day .....	46
Late Registration Fee .....	30, 46
Maintenance of Academic Records .....	69
MASH Commuter Apartments .....	25
Master of Arts Program .....	76
Master of Arts/Biblical Counseling Degree .....	77
Master of Arts/Christian Education Degree .....	79
Master of Arts/Missiology Degree .....	81
Master of Arts/Theology Degree .....	83
Master of Arts/Worship Degree .....	85
Master of Divinity Program .....	99
Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree .....	105
Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree .....	102
Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree .....	104
Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree .....	109
Master's Degree Programs: Courses of Instruction .....	111
Mid-America Alumni Association .....	23

Mid-America and the Bible .....	11
Mid-America Seminary Advisory Council .....	20
Mid-America Seminary Development Council .....	19
Missionary Days .....	22
Modified Cohort System of Study .....	136
Nelnet Payment Plan.....	29
New Student Orientation .....	45
Notary Public Service .....	32
Off-Campus Employment.....	26
Office of Financial Aid.....	27
On-Campus Employment .....	26
Ora Byram Allison Memorial Library .....	21
Our Purpose .....	8
Doctor of Ministry Curriculum.....	139
Paper Services.....	31
Policy of Nondiscrimination.....	36
Preparing for Registration.....	45
Publication of Course Offerings .....	75
Readmission Fees .....	29
Readmission of Former Students .....	44
Refunds of Tuition Fees .....	32
Registration for Classes .....	45
Registration Requirements and Procedures .....	45
Regulations Concerning General Admission.....	36
Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree ..	90
Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree ..	92
Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree .....	95
Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Degree (2+2) .....	96
Required Courses for the Accelerated Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree .....	98
Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Biblical Counseling Degree .....	78
Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Christian Education Degree .....	80
Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Missiology Degree .....	82
Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Theology Degree .....	84
Required Courses for the Master of Arts/Worship Degree .....	86
Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Biblical Counseling Degree .....	101
Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Christian Education Degree .....	103
Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Missiology and Intercultural Studies Urban Church Planting Degree .....	108
Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Master of Missiology and Intercultural Studies On-Campus Degree.....	106
Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Master of Missiology and Intercultural Studies International On-Campus and On-Field Combination Degree .....	107
Required Courses for the Master of Divinity/Pastoral Ministry Degree .....	110
Returned Check Policy and Fees .....	30
Scholarships/Awards .....	27
School Year .....	51
Standards of Conduct.....	66
Student Absences .....	51

Student Advising .....	51
Student Assistance .....	26
Student Assistance Services .....	25
Student Body Association .....	23
Student Council .....	23
Student Counseling .....	51
Student Grievance Policy and Procedure .....	60
Student Housing (MASH) .....	25
Student Organizations and Programs .....	23
Student Relief Fund .....	23, 29
Student Religious Emphases .....	22
Student Representation on Committees .....	23
Student Responsibility for Official Announcements .....	52
Students with Disabilities .....	36
Student Writing Center .....	58
Textbook Expenses .....	31
Third Party Invoicing.....	30
Transfer of Academic Credit from Other Institutions .....	53
Tuition and Student Aid .....	27
Tuition Payment and Fees .....	29
Veterans Educational Benefits.....	32
When Admission Is Declined .....	42
Withdrawal from the Seminary .....	68
Witness One:Seven Program .....	47



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