



# THE MASTER'S SEMINARY

2019–2020 | Academic Catalog

**We Train Pastors  
and Trainers of Pastors**

Dear Minister of the Gospel,

You will certainly agree with me that there is nothing more thrilling and, at the same time, humbling than to be called by the God of the universe to be one of His special representatives to His church and to a needy and lost generation.

If our wonderful Lord has laid His hand upon you for such an exciting ministry, it is critical that you receive the very best training that is available. In fact, choosing a seminary is one of the most crucial ministry decisions you will ever make. This is true because your life, and later the lives of those to whom you minister, will reflect the character and quality of your study and experience in seminary.

At The Master's Seminary we offer theological education that is centered in the inerrant Word of God, sustained by scholarly study and research, nurtured in discipling relationships and ministry experiences, characterized by personal growth, and directed toward effectiveness in evangelism and edification. Here you will find seminary training that majors on personal holiness, exegetical study, and biblical theology and does so right in the context of a vital local church.

If God is calling you to a special ministry, if you aspire to effectiveness in a ministry of the Word, if you are willing to submit yourself to the discipline of diligent study and to discipleship by godly men, then we invite you to prayerfully consider the exciting potential for study with us at The Master's Seminary.

For the Master,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Mordant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Chancellor Emeritus

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The Master's Seminary is accredited as a graduate seminary division of The Master's University and Seminary by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education. WSCUC can be reached at 985 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501 or (510) 748-9001.

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## EDUCATIONAL PRIORITIES

The Master's Seminary offers biblical, theological, and professional education designed to equip men for effectiveness in Christian ministry to the universal body of Christ, primarily through the local church. This educational task is accomplished through emphasis on the following:

- Careful instruction in the Scriptures, including the original languages.
- The study of various systems of theological thought including exposure to both past and present movements in history and Christian missions with a view to embracing a comprehensive, coherent theology built from Scripture.
- A consistent focus upon involvement and accountability within a local church.
- Ongoing efforts to challenge each student in developing a biblical philosophy/style of ministry.
- The development and improvement of communication, relationship, leadership, and administrative skills for ministry. The objective is to produce graduates who are recognized as men of God and who are equipped to serve effectively as pastors, missionaries, teachers, evangelists, counselors, and leaders in evangelical ministries around the world (1 Tim 3:1–7; Tit 1:5–9; 1 Pet 5:1–4).

## TRAINING DISTINCTIVES

The seminary community and curriculum are designed with the following goals and ideals in view:

- Excellence in academics is to be cultivated in an attitude of spiritual devotion.
- The essential focus of all study at the seminary is to be biblical, exegetical, theological, expositional, and practical.
- Though other viewpoints are given careful consideration, the emphasis is to be positive in building upon the certainties of God's inerrant Word.
- Careful attention is to be devoted to the cultivation of Christian character qualities and living skills which are essential for godly living, for leadership in ministry, and for effective involvement in serving others.
- Each program of study is to include a significant focus on the development of the appropriate ministry skills which are necessary for effectiveness in the chosen areas of Christian service.
- The entire seminary community is to be characterized by the desire for the worship of God, mutual edification, and by an evangelistic and missionary zeal.

## PERSONAL OBJECTIVES

The following characteristics portray an alumnus of The Master's Seminary in terms of the kind of person he should be, what he should know, and what he should be able to do.

### Character

- He should be a godly man, notable for holiness of conduct in all his relationships (Ps 1; 15; 1 Tim 3:1–7; Tit 1:5–9).
- He should be caring, generous, wise, discerning, mature, secure, disciplined, accountable, humble, purposeful, empathetic, and teachable (1 Tim 4:11–16).
- He should be a loving and responsible husband and father (if married and if blessed by God with children—1 Tim 3:4–5; Tit 1:6), and his heart should be moved by the compassion of Christ for others.
- He should readily acknowledge his own failures and deal honestly and humbly with sin in his own heart (Prov

28:13; Matt 7:1–5).

- His service for God should reflect the awesomeness and glory of ministry (2 Cor 2:14– 6:10) with awareness that God is concerned with attitudes as well as with actions (1 Sam 15:22–23; 1 Cor 9:24–27; 1 Pet 5:1–7).
- His Christian life should reflect stability and maturity (1 Tim 3:2, 6–7) as demonstrated by the exercise of good judgment in facing the trials of life and ministry in a contemporary context (1 Tim 6:11–12; 2 Tim 2:1–13; 4:1–8).
- He should be one who establishes genuine, God-centered relationships with a wide range of people, encouraging and exhorting them according to their need in the mutual pursuit of God (Gal 6:1–5).

## Knowledge

- He should have a general comprehension of the entirety of God’s written revelation and should have developed a well-formulated theological framework which adequately synthesizes the biblical and historical data.
- He should have a functional linguistic facility in biblical Hebrew and Greek, and a basic knowledge of the contributions of major Christian leaders, thinkers, and authors throughout church history (Ezra 7:10; 1 Tim 4:13–16; 2 Tim 2:2, 14–15; 3:14–17; 4:1–4).
- He should have an understanding of the world, of culture, and of human problems, interests, and concerns.
- He should be able to address contemporary culture with a biblical worldview and confront unbiblical religious and philosophical thought in defending the Christian faith (Col 2:8; Tit 1:9; 1 John 2:15–17).
- He should know himself, including his strengths, weaknesses, responsibilities, and people skills (Matt 20:20–28; Acts 6:1–7; Eph 4:11–13; 1 Pet 5:1–3).

## Abilities

- He should be able to articulate a biblical philosophy of ministry that balances principles of worship, prayer, exposition, edification, evangelism, and discipleship.
- He should be able to lead with conviction, teach with authority, and preach with passion.
- He should be able to use appropriate tools for research, for record-keeping, and for writing.
- He should be sharpening those skills through the efficient use of research facilities, critical reading of current literature, and other forms of continuing education.
- He should be able to make decisions, to motivate, to listen, to empathize, to set priorities, and to defend the faith.
- He should be able to assess the needs of individuals and apply the Word of God to those needs in various ministry situations such as preaching, teaching, counseling, and witnessing (1 Cor 2:1–5; 1 Tim 2:2; 2 Tim 2:14–15; 4:1–5; Tit 1:9).
- He should be able to equip and stimulate people to do the work of ministry (Eph 4:11–13; 2 Tim 2:2).
- He should know how to lead in church activities, administer church ordinances, and conduct the services and ceremonies of the church in a God-focused manner.
- He should be deeply involved in the ministries of evangelism, discipleship, restoration, and edification with conviction and passion.
- He should have a deep concern for the lost and he should be challenged by the biblical command to proclaim the gospel to the ends of the earth. These concerns should be evidenced in his prayer life, in his evangelistic endeavors, and in his lifestyle. In all his roles, he should model the message he proclaims (1 Tim 4:12; 2 Tim 3:10–14; Tit 2:6–8; 1 Pet 5:1–3).

## EDUCATIONAL PARAMETERS

To *adhere* unswervingly to the founding purpose of training pastors to shepherd and equip Christ's church.

To *keep* The Master's Seminary faithful to its biblical foundations. All biblical content is to be based on God's inerrant Word and developed through the exegetical process. The curriculum must constantly reflect scriptural absolutes to avoid deviation from God's truth.

To *enrich* faculty leadership. Every member of The Master's Seminary faculty fits a fivefold profile in that they are all men of God, men of the Word, men of scholarship, men of Christ's church, and men of compassion.

To *insist* on an educational philosophy that is consistent with Scripture by:

- Majoring on biblical certainty, not doubt or theory
- Striving for spirituality in The Master's Seminary students, not intellectualism alone
- Preparing men to serve the Lord, not merely to know about the Lord
- Emphasizing a methodical, disciplined approach to studying Scripture rather than using a haphazard approach
- Encouraging excellence and never accepting mediocrity
- Expecting the faculty to be examples, not merely experts
- Stressing the imperative to function in the body of Christ, not merely function as an individual

To *emphasize* the well-articulated goals of The Master's Seminary—both personal and pastoral.

### Personal

- To cultivate a holy, intimate relationship between every student and God
- To produce compassionate men who have gracious relationships with others

### Pastoral

- To study God's Word with precision
- To speak God's message with power
- To serve God's purpose with zeal
- To shepherd God's flock with care
- To fight God's battle with courage

## LOCATION

The Master's Seminary is located on the campus of Grace Community Church in the heart of the San Fernando Valley, a part of the metropolitan Los Angeles complex. The main campus is fifteen miles north of downtown Los Angeles, twenty-five miles north of Los Angeles International Airport, five miles from the Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena Airport, and is easily accessible by major freeways, being one-half mile west of the intersection of the Hollywood and Golden State Freeways (Highway 170 and Interstate 5) and three miles east of the San Diego Freeway (Interstate 405).

## DISTANCE LOCATIONS

In addition to The Master's Seminary campus in Los Angeles, several distance locations have been established in conjunction with TMS alumni-lead churches. These distance locations allow men to train for ministry under the auspices of experienced pastors and teachers, all while maintaining their shepherding ministries in their local churches. These men are taught by the TMS faculty through online and Two-Way Live courses, and they are

mentored by experienced TMS alumni with onsite courses that give the students hands-on ministry experience. Information and locations for the distance locations can be seen on the TMS website.

## FACILITIES

The spacious campus facilities of Grace Community Church, a church with approximately seven thousand in attendance each Sunday, are made available for seminary use. A 30,000-square-foot education building, providing additional classrooms, was completed in 1990. In 1998, TMS occupied a 34,000-square-foot library and faculty office complex.

## LIBRARY

The Master's Seminary Library presently contains over 130,000 volumes of books and bound periodicals, with access to over 250,000 additional eBooks shared with The Master's University Library. Ex Libris' Primo Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) offers students powerful access to its own holdings as well as other strategic materials. The library also enjoys reciprocal borrowing privileges with other theological schools throughout the United States. Through the seminary web site students have access to a growing collection of online full text publications. In order to serve the library's Spanish speaking patrons better, the Primo page can be switched from English to Spanish language display. A program designed to continually add important retrospective materials and special collections, continues to be maintained. Ten major collections were purchased and merged to provide a rich depth and breadth of holdings in a wide spectrum of theological thought. Other important collections representing various disciplines have been acquired for the purpose of obtaining one-time scholarship in the critical areas of biblical and theological studies with a view toward building a comprehensive collection in these areas.

The seminary's administration is committed to building a strong library, one that balances traditional holdings with forward thinking and technical excellence. An efficient and knowledgeable staff is equally committed to providing assistance in accessing its rich holdings and services, and an environment conducive to using these resources in an effective and productive manner.

Library policy and service statements are available online at <https://masters.libguides.com>. This information provides guidelines and assistance for on-campus, online, and distance location site students. The library encourages its patrons to visit this site for information outlining how to access both physical and electronic resources.

## HISTORY OF THE SEMINARY

The Master's Seminary is a young seminary, having opened its doors in 1986 under the leadership and vision of Dr. John MacArthur. For a number of years, the elders of Grace Community Church, pastored by Dr. MacArthur, had envisioned a seminary program that would train men for ministry in the context of a local church. In 1977, Talbot Theological Seminary helped bring partial fruition to that vision by initiating an extension center offering seminary courses on the church campus.

Several years later, Dr. MacArthur was chosen as President of The Master's College (1985), which is now The Master's University. Dr. MacArthur transitioned to the role of Chancellor Emeritus at the end of June, 2019. The Master's University had a history of involvement with seminary education, having originally opened its doors in 1927 as the Los Angeles Baptist Theological Seminary. Building upon these foundations—the heritage at the college and the extension courses at the church—the time seemed right in 1986 for the birth of a new seminary. The Master's Seminary came into existence for the purpose of building men of God, thoroughly equipped for Bible exposition and local church ministry, through emphasis on careful biblical scholarship, pastoral training, and

personal spiritual growth.

Initially, this was accomplished through a Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree program. Then, in 1992, a Master of Theology (ThM) degree program was inaugurated, focusing on the effective use of advanced exegetical and theological skills. A Doctor of Theology (ThD), launched in 2000, is based on the ThM degree (the name changed to PhD in 2015). Its unique design combines the European model with the salient features of traditional American models and allows for a residency primarily consumed with researching, writing, and defending the dissertation. A Doctor of Ministry (DMin) was launched in 2004 with an emphasis on expository preaching. A Spanish Master degree was launched in 2017, *Maestría en Ministerio Bíblico* (MMB).

Beginning with ninety-five students and four full-time faculty members in its inaugural year, the seminary has grown to its current level of approximately 500 students and a faculty of eighteen full-time members. During this period of steady growth, the seminary has maintained its singular commitment to training men for the ministry of the Word. Over 1,500 alumni now minister on six continents of the world, with about eighty-five percent ministering in a full-time capacity and approximately fifteen percent serving overseas.

The Master's Seminary's regional accreditation was officially recognized in 1988. As a result of the second full accreditation visit, the regional accrediting association (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) stated in their February 1992 report: "The seminary has been very intentional in its development of an MDiv program with few analogies in the U.S., distinguished above all by its almost single-minded commitment to the preparation of ordained pastors for leadership in the local church.... Given the fundamental focus of the seminary, the structure of the MDiv program seems well-oriented to its goals. The model itself—combining church-based involvement, personal discipleship, and academic study—is worth applauding, and it is not insignificant that at the level of degree structure, the seminary is on the cutting-edge of reform in seminary education in this regard. In all three areas of the formal aspects of the academic curriculum—Bible, Theology, and Pastoral Ministries—a logical progression is detected, and discussions with the Faculty indicated a high degree of familiarity with how one aspect of the program integrates with other aspects. All of the interviewed alumni expressed high levels of satisfaction with the program, believing that the seminary prepared them well for the ministries in which they are currently involved" (pp. 23–24). The Master's Seminary completed a third and fourth full accreditation visit in Spring 2000 and Spring 2009 respectfully, with full affirmation.

## THE MASTER'S SEMINARY JOURNAL

*The Master's Seminary Journal* is a publication of the faculty of The Master's Seminary. It is published semiannually and contains scholarly articles dealing with the biblical text, theology, and pastoral concerns. It also contains reviews of current books and significant articles relating to these issues. *MSJ* is distributed electronically free of charge to students, alumni, and interested friends. Hard copies are available by subscription. For subscription inquiry, please contact the Reception Desk at 818-909-5622.

## LEGAL NOTICES

As the graduate seminary division of The Master's University and Seminary, The Master's Seminary is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Western Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education. The institution operates under a charter granted by the State of California in 1927 and is qualified under the California Education Code Section 94310(a) to grant degrees. WSCUC can be reached at 985 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501 or (510) 748-9001.

Students and prospective students should read this catalog carefully. The appropriate catalog, along with other

bulletins or distributed materials, determines student rights and responsibilities with respect to the seminary. Matriculation constitutes an agreement by the student to abide by the regulations and policies of The Master's Seminary.

Information regarding the accessibility of facilities to handicapped students is available from the Administration office.

The Master's Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, nationality, non-disqualifying disability, or ethnic origin in its admissions policies, educational policies, employment policies, services, or scholarship and loan programs. Admission policies and hiring practices are governed by the institution's statement of faith, as indicated in this Catalog.

The provisions of this catalog, including academic offerings, academic policies, and all financial charges are subject to unilateral change by The Master's Seminary. While the seminary attempts to keep costs at reasonable levels, it is anticipated that costs will increase in future years.

The Washington Student Achievement Council has determined that The Master's University and Seminary qualifies for religious exempt status from the Degree-Granting Institutions Act for the following programs: Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) and Master of Divinity (M.Div.). The Council makes no evaluation of the administration, faculty, business practices, financial condition or quality of the offerings by this institution. Any person desiring information about the requirements of the act or the applicability of those requirements to the institution may contact the Council at P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA 98504-3430 or by email at [degreeauthorization@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:degreeauthorization@wsac.wa.gov).

## DEVELOPMENT & INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

TMS cannot train men for gospel-ministry apart from the generous financial investment of ministry partners all around the world. Consequently, every student's tuition is subsidized by nearly 60%. Many of the supporters of TMS become aware of TMS through our graduates who are faithfully preaching and shepherding God's people. As alumni are faithful to the task, God's people will be faithful to invest in the training of men. As the mission of raising up a generation of men to be faithful pastors and shepherds progresses, prospective supporters should also consider becoming part of an ever-widening circle of ministry partners who support the work here. Alumni are faithful in preaching and shepherding God's people and through ministry efforts, and so people are encouraged to support the work here. They do this in the following ways:

- Regular gifts, one time or monthly—including gifts that are matched by your employer
- Gifts of appreciated securities or real property
- Scholarships (including opportunities you might wish to create)
- Life Insurance or IRA beneficiary designations
- Estate planning and Donor Advised Fund charitable distributions
- Charitable Trusts and Charitable
- Gift Annuities
- Memorial gifts

For more information on how to partner with TMS financially, please feel free to call 1-800-225-5867.

For ministry updates and gifts within any given year:

Jade Greenfield

Chief Development Officer

818-909-5628 | [jgreenfield@tms.edu](mailto:jgreenfield@tms.edu)

## PREAMBLE

Members of the board of directors, administrators, and faculty members of The Master's Seminary recognize that any doctrinal statement is but a fallible human attempt to summarize and systematize the riches of an infallible divine revelation. But this in no way detracts from the importance of such a statement. In fact, members of the board of directors, administration, and faculty members are annually required to sign a statement affirming agreement with this Statement of Faith.

## THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

We teach that the Bible is God's written revelation to man, and thus the 66 books of the Bible given to us by the Holy Spirit constitute the plenary (inspired equally in all parts) Word of God (1 Cor 2:7–14; 2 Pet 1:20–21).

We teach that the Word of God is an objective, propositional revelation (1 Thess 2:13; 1 Cor 2:13), verbally inspired in every word (2 Tim 3:16), absolutely inerrant in the original documents, infallible, and God-breathed. We teach the literal, grammatical-historical interpretation of Scripture which affirms the belief that the opening chapters of Genesis present creation in six literal days (Gen 1:31; Exod 31:17), describe the special creation of man and woman (Gen 1:26–28; 2:5–25), and define marriage as between one man and one woman (Gen 2:24; Matt 19:5). Scripture elsewhere dictates that any sexual activity outside of marriage is an abomination before the Lord (Exod 20:14; Lev 18:1–30; Matt 5:27–32; 19:1–9; 1 Cor 5:1–5; 6:9–10; 1 Thess 4:1–7).

We teach that the Bible constitutes the only infallible rule of faith and practice (Matt 5:18; 24:35; John 10:35; 16:12–13; 17:17; 1 Cor 2:13; 2 Tim 3:15–17; Heb 4:12; 2 Pet 1:20–21).

We teach that God spoke in His written Word by a process of dual authorship. The Holy Spirit so superintended the human authors that, through their individual personalities and different styles of writing, they composed and recorded God's Word to man (2

Pet 1:20–21) without error in whole or in part (Matt 5:18; 2 Tim 3:16).

We teach that, whereas there may be several applications of any given passage of Scripture, there is but one true interpretation. The meaning of Scripture is to be found as one diligently applies the literal grammatical-historical method of interpretation under the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit (John 7:17; 16:12–15; 1 Cor 2:7–15; 1 John 2:20). It is the responsibility of believers to ascertain carefully the true intent and meaning of Scripture, recognizing that proper application is binding on all generations. Yet the truth of Scripture stands in judgment of men; never do men stand in judgment of it.

## GOD

We teach that there is but one living and true God (Deut 6:4; Isa 45:5–7; 1 Cor 8:4), an infinite, all-knowing Spirit (John 4:24), perfect in all His attributes, one in essence, eternally existing in three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14)—each equally deserving worship and obedience.

God the Father—We teach that God the Father, the first person of the Trinity, orders and disposes all things according to His own purpose and grace (Ps 145:8–9; 1 Cor 8:6). He is the creator of all things (Gen 1:1–31; Eph 3:9). As the only absolute and omnipotent ruler in the universe, He is sovereign in creation, providence, and redemption (Ps 103:19; Rom 11:36). His fatherhood involves both His designation within the Trinity and His relationship with mankind. As Creator He is Father to all men (Eph 4:6), but He is spiritual Father only to believers (Rom 8:14; 2 Cor 6:18). He has decreed for His own glory all things that come to pass (Eph 1:11). He continually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events (1 Chron 29:11). In His sovereignty He is neither author nor approver of sin (Hab 1:13; John 8:38–47), nor does He abridge the accountability of moral, intelligent creatures (1 Pet 1:17). He has graciously chosen from eternity past those whom He would have as His own (Eph 1:4–6); He saves from sin all who come to Him through Jesus Christ; He

adopts as His own all those who come to Him; and He becomes, upon adoption, Father to His own (John 1:12; Rom 8:15; Gal 4:5; Heb 12:5–9).

God the Son—We teach that Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity, possesses all the divine excellences, and in these He is coequal, consubstantial, and coeternal with the Father (John 10:30; 14:9).

We teach that God the Father created "the heavens and the earth and all that is in them" according to His own will, through His Son, Jesus Christ, by whom all things continue in existence and in operation (John 1:3; Col 1:15–17; Heb 1:2).

We teach that in the incarnation (God becoming man) Christ surrendered only the prerogatives of deity but nothing of the divine essence, either in degree or kind. In His incarnation, the eternally existing second person of the Trinity accepted all the essential characteristics of humanity and so became the God-man (Phil 2:5–8; Col 2:9).

We teach that Jesus Christ represents humanity and deity in indivisible oneness (Mic 5:2; John 5:23; 14:9–10; Col 2:9).

We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ was born of a virgin (Isa 7:14; Matt 1:23, 25; Luke 1:26–35); that He was God incarnate (John 1:1, 14); and that the purpose of the incarnation was to reveal God and to redeem men (Ps 2:7–9; Isa 9:6; John 1:29; Phil 2:9–11; Heb 7:25–26; 1 Pet 1:18–19).

We teach that, in the incarnation, the second person of the Trinity laid aside His right to the full prerogatives of coexistence with God and took on an existence appropriate to a servant while never divesting Himself of His divine attributes (Phil 2:5–8).

We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through the shedding of His blood and sacrificial death on the cross and that His death was voluntary, vicarious, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive (John 10:15; Rom 3:24–25; 5:8; 1 Pet 2:24).

We teach that on the basis of the efficacy of the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, the believing sinner is freed from the punishment, the penalty, the power, and one day the very presence of sin; and that he is declared righteous, given eternal life, and adopted into the family of God (Rom 3:25; 5:8–9; 2 Cor 5:14–15; 1 Pet 2:24; 3:18).

We teach that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead and that He is now ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He mediates as our Advocate and High Priest (Matt 28:6; Luke 24:38–39; Acts 2:30–31; Rom 4:25; 8:34; Heb 7:25; 9:24; 1 John 2:1).

We teach that in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave, God confirmed the deity of His Son and gave proof that God has accepted the atoning work of Christ on the cross. Jesus' bodily resurrection is also the guarantee of a future resurrection life for all believers (John 5:26–29; 14:19; Rom 1:4; 4:25; 6:5–10; 1 Cor 15:20, 23).

We teach that Jesus Christ will return to receive the church, which is His body, unto Himself at the rapture and, returning with His church in glory, will establish His millennial kingdom on earth (Acts 1:9–11; 1 Thess 4:13–18; Rev 20).

We teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is the one through whom God will judge all mankind (John 5:22–23):

- a. Believers (1 Cor 3:10–15; 2 Cor 5:10)
- b. Living inhabitants of the earth at His glorious return (Matt 25:31–46)
- c. Unbelieving dead at the Great White Throne (Rev 20:11–15).

As the mediator between God and man (1 Tim 2:5), the head of His body the church (Eph 1:22; 5:23; Col 1:18), and the coming universal King who will reign on the throne of David (Isa 9:6; Luke 1:31–33), He is the final judge of all who fail to place their trust in Him as Lord and Savior (Matt 25:14–46; Acts 17:30–31).

God the Holy Spirit—We teach that the Holy Spirit is a divine person, eternal, underived, possessing all the attributes of personality and deity including

intellect (1 Cor 2:10–13), emotions (Eph 4:30), will (1 Cor 12:11), eternity (Heb 9:14), omnipresence (Ps 139:7–10), omniscience (Isa 40:13–14), omnipotence (Rom 15:13), and truthfulness (John 16:13). In all the divine attributes He is coequal and consubstantial with the Father and the Son (Matt 28:19; Acts 5:3–4; 28:25–26; 1 Cor 12:4–6; 2 Cor 13:14; and Jer 31:31–34 with Heb 10:15–17).

We teach that it is the work of the Holy Spirit to execute the divine will with relation to all mankind. We recognize His sovereign activity in creation (Gen 1:2), the incarnation (Matt 1:18), the written revelation (2 Pet 1:20–21), and the work of salvation (John 3:5–7).

We teach that a unique work of the Holy Spirit in this age began at Pentecost when He came from the Father as promised by Christ (John 14:16–17; 15:26) to initiate and complete the building of the body of Christ, which is His church (1 Cor 12:13). The broad scope of His divine activity includes convicting the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ and transforming believers into the image of Christ (John 16:7–9; Acts 1:5; 2:4; Rom 8:29; 2 Cor 3:18; Eph 2:22).

We teach that the Holy Spirit is the supernatural and sovereign agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:13). The Holy Spirit also indwells, sanctifies, instructs, empowers them for service, and seals them unto the day of redemption (Rom 8:9; 2 Cor 3:6; Eph 1:13).

We teach that the Holy Spirit is the divine teacher Who guided the apostles and prophets into all truth as they committed to writing God's revelation, the Bible. Every believer possesses the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit from the moment of salvation, and it is the duty of all those born of the Spirit to be filled with (controlled by) the Spirit (John 16:13; Rom 8:9; Eph 5:18; 2 Pet 1:19–21; 1 John 2:20, 27).

We teach that the Holy Spirit administers spiritual gifts to the church. The Holy Spirit glorifies neither Himself nor His gifts by ostentatious displays, but He does glorify Christ by implementing His work of redeeming the lost and building up believers in the

most holy faith (John 16:13–14; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor 12:4–11; 2 Cor 3:18).

We teach, in this respect, that God the Holy Spirit is sovereign in the bestowing of all His gifts for the perfecting of the saints today and that speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles in the beginning days of the church were for the purpose of pointing to and authenticating the apostles as revealers of divine truth, and were never intended to be characteristic of the lives of believers (1 Cor 12:4–11; 13:8–10; 2 Cor 12:12; Eph 4:7–12; Heb 2:1–4).

## MAN

We teach that man was directly and immediately created by God in His image and likeness. Man was created free of sin with a rational nature, intelligence, volition, self-determination, and moral responsibility to God (Gen 2:7, 15–25; Jas 3:9). Man was also created by God as either male or female, biologically defined and distinct sexes (Gen 1:27; 2:5–23; 1 Cor 11:11–15; Rom 1:26–27) set by God for each individual (Ps 119:13–14). Confusion between the two is an abomination to Him (Lev 8:22; Deut 22:5; Rom 1:26–27; 1 Cor 6:9).

We teach that God's intention in the creation of man was that man should glorify God, enjoy God's fellowship, live his life in the will of God, and by this accomplish God's purpose for man in the world (Isa 43:7; Col 1:16; Rev 4:11).

We teach that in Adam's sin of disobedience to the revealed will and Word of God, man lost his innocence; incurred the penalty of spiritual and physical death; became subject to the wrath of God; and became inherently corrupt and utterly incapable of choosing or doing that which is acceptable to God apart from divine grace. With no recuperative powers to enable him to recover himself, man is hopelessly lost. Man's salvation is thereby wholly of God's grace through the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ (Gen 2:16–17; 3:1–19; John 3:36; Rom 3:23; 6:23; 1 Cor 2:14; Eph 2:1–3; 1 Tim 2:13–14; 1 John 1:8).

We teach that because all men were in Adam, a nature corrupted by Adam's sin has been transmitted to all men of all ages, Jesus Christ being the only exception.

All men are thus sinners by nature, by choice, and by divine declaration (Ps 14:1–3; Jer 17:9; Rom 3:9–18, 23; 5:10–12).

## SALVATION

We teach that salvation is wholly of God by grace on the basis of the redemption of Jesus Christ, the merit of His shed blood, and not on the basis of human merit or works (John 1:12; Eph 1:7; 2:8–10; 1 Pet 1:18–19).

Regeneration—We teach that regeneration is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit by which the divine nature and divine life are given (John 3:3–7; Tit 3:5). It is instantaneous and is accomplished solely by the power of the Holy Spirit through the instrumentality of the Word of God (John 5:24), when the repentant sinner, as enabled by the Holy Spirit, responds in faith to the divine provision of salvation. Genuine regeneration is manifested by fruits worthy of repentance as demonstrated in righteous attitudes and conduct. Good works will be its proper evidence and fruit (1 Cor 6:19–20; Eph 2:10), and will be experienced to the extent that the believer submits to the control of the Holy Spirit in his life through faithful obedience to the Word of God (Eph 5:17–21; Phil 2:12b; Col 3:16; 2 Pet 1:4–10). This obedience causes the believer to be increasingly conformed to the image of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Cor 3:18). Such a conformity is climaxed in the believer's glorification at Christ's coming (Rom 8:17; 2 Pet 1:4; 1 John 3:2–3).

Election—We teach that election is the act of God by which, before the foundation of the world, He chose in Christ those whom He graciously regenerates, saves, and sanctifies (Rom 8:28–30; Eph 1:4–11; 2 Thess 2:13; 2 Tim 2:10; 1 Pet 1:1–2).

We teach that sovereign election does not contradict or negate the responsibility of man to repent and trust Christ as Savior and Lord (Ezek 18:23, 32; 33:11; John 3:18–19, 36; 5:40; Rom 9:22–23; 2 Thess 2:10–12; Rev 22:17). Nevertheless, since sovereign grace includes the means of receiving the gift of salvation as well as the gift itself, sovereign election will result in what God determines. All whom the Father calls to Himself will come in faith and all who

come in faith the Father will receive (John 6:37–40, 44; Acts 13:48; Jas 4:8).

We teach that the unmerited favor that God grants to totally depraved sinners is not related to any initiative of their own part nor to God's anticipation of what they might do by their own will, but is solely of His sovereign grace and mercy (Eph 1:4–7; Tit 3:4–7; 1 Pet 1:2).

We teach that election should not be looked upon as based merely on abstract sovereignty. God is truly sovereign but He exercises this sovereignty in harmony with His other attributes, especially His omniscience, justice, holiness, wisdom, grace, and love (Rom 9:11–16). This sovereignty will always exalt the will of God in a manner totally consistent with His character as revealed in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matt 11:25–28; 2 Tim 1:9).

Justification—We teach that justification before God is an act of God (Rom 8:33) by which He declares righteous those who, through faith in Christ, repent of their sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 11:18; Rom 2:4; 2 Cor 7:10; Isa 55:6–7) and confess Him as sovereign Lord (Rom 10:9–10; 1 Cor 12:3; 2 Cor 4:5; Phil 2:11). This righteousness is apart from any virtue or work of man (Rom 3:20; 4:6) and involves the placing of our sins on Christ (Col 2:14; 1 Pet 2:24) and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to us (1 Cor 1:30; 2 Cor 5:21). By this means God is enabled to "be just, and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus" (Rom 3:26).

Sanctification—We teach that every believer is sanctified (set apart) unto God by justification and is therefore declared to be holy and is identified as a saint. This sanctification is positional and instantaneous and should not be confused with progressive sanctification. This sanctification has to do with the believer's standing, not his present walk or condition (Acts 20:32; 1 Cor 1:2, 30; 6:11; 2 Thess 2:13; Heb 2:11; 3:1; 10:10, 14; 13:12; 1 Pet 1:2).

We teach that there is also by the work of the Holy Spirit a progressive sanctification by which the state of the believer is brought closer to the standing the believer positionally enjoys through justification. Through obedience to the Word of God and the

empowering of the Holy Spirit, the believer is able to live a life of increasing holiness in conformity to the will of God, becoming more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ (John 17:17, 19; Rom 6:1–22; 2 Cor 3:18; 1 Thess 4:3–4; 5:23).

In this respect, we teach that every saved person is involved in a daily conflict—the new creation in Christ doing battle against the flesh—but adequate provision is made for victory through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. The struggle nevertheless stays with the believer all through this earthly life and is never completely ended. All claims to the eradication of sin in this life are unscriptural. Eradication of sin is not possible, but the Holy Spirit does provide for victory over sin (Gal 5:16–25; Eph 4:22–24; Phil 3:12; Col 3:9–10; 1 Pet 1:14–16; 1 John 3:5–9).

Security—We teach that all the redeemed once saved are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 5:24; 6:37–40; 10:27–30; Rom 5:9–10; 8:1, 31–39; 1 Cor 1:4–8; Eph 4:30; Heb 7:25; 13:5; 1 Pet 1:5; Jude 24).

We teach that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion for sinful living and carnality (Rom 6:15–22; 13:13–14; Gal 5:13, 25–26; Tit 2:11–14).

Separation—We teach that separation from sin is clearly called for throughout the Old and New Testaments, and that the Scriptures clearly indicate that in the last days apostasy and worldliness shall increase (2 Cor 6:14–7:1; 2 Tim 3:1–5).

We teach that out of deep gratitude for the undeserved grace of God granted to us and because our glorious God is so worthy of our total consecration, all the saved should live in such a manner as to demonstrate our adoring love to God and so as not to bring reproach upon our Lord and Savior. We also teach that separation from any association with religious apostasy, and worldly and sinful practices is commanded of us by God (Rom 12:1–2; 1 Cor 5:9–13; 2 Cor 6:14–7:1; 1 John 2:15–17; 2 John 9–11).

We teach that believers should be separated unto our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thess 1:11–12; Heb 12:1–2) and affirm that the Christian life is a life of obedient righteousness demonstrated by a beatitude attitude (Matt 5:2–12) and a continual pursuit of holiness (Rom 12:1–2; 2 Cor 7:1; Heb 12:14; Tit 2:11–14; 1 John 3:1–10).

## THE CHURCH

We teach that all who place their faith in Jesus Christ are immediately placed by the Holy Spirit into one united spiritual body, the church (1 Cor 12:12–13), the bride of Christ (2 Cor 11:2; Eph 5:23–32; Rev 19:7–8), of which Christ is the head (Eph 1:22; 4:15; Col 1:18).

We teach that the formation of the church, the body of Christ, began on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1–21, 38–47) and will be completed at the coming of Christ for His own at the rapture (1 Cor 15:51–52; 1 Thess 4:13–18).

We teach that the church is thus a unique spiritual organism designed by Christ, made up of all born-again believers in this present age (Ephesians 2:11–3:6). The church is distinct from Israel (1 Cor 10:32), a mystery not revealed until this age (Eph 3:1–6; 5:32).

We teach that the establishment and continuity of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:23, 27; 20:17, 28; Gal 1:2; Phil 1:1; 1 Thess 1:1; 2 Thess 1:1) and that the members of the one scriptural body are directed to associate themselves together in local assemblies (1 Cor 11:18–20; Heb 10:25).

We teach that the one supreme authority for the church is Christ (1 Cor 11:3; Eph 1:22; Col 1:18) and that church leadership, gifts, order, discipline, and worship are all appointed through His sovereignty as found in the Scriptures. The biblically designated officers serving under Christ and over the assembly are elders (males, who are also called bishops, pastors, and pastor-teachers; Acts 20:28; Eph 4:11) and deacons, both of whom must meet biblical qualifications (1 Tim 3:1–13; Tit 1:5–9; 1 Pet 5:1–5).

We teach that these leaders rule as servants of Christ (1 Tim 5:17–22) and have His authority in directing the church. The congregation is to submit to their leadership (Heb 13:7, 17).

We teach the importance of discipleship (Matt 28:19–20; 2 Tim 2:2), mutual accountability of all believers to each other (Matt 18:5–14), as well as the need for discipline of sinning members of the congregation in accord with the standards of Scripture (Matt 18:15–22; Acts 5:1–11; 1 Cor 5:1–13; 2 Thess 3:6–15; 1 Tim 1:19–20; Tit 1:10–16).

We teach the autonomy of the local church, free from any external authority or control, with the right of self-government and freedom from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations (Tit 1:5). We teach that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other for the presentation and propagation of the faith. Local churches, however, through their pastors and their interpretation and application of Scripture, should be the sole judges of the measure and method of their cooperation (Acts 15:19–31; 20:28; 1 Cor 5:4–7, 13; 1 Pet 5:1–4).

We teach that the purpose of the church is to glorify God (Eph 3:21) by building itself up in the faith (Eph 4:13–16), by instruction of the Word (2 Tim 2:2, 15; 3:16–17), by fellowship (Acts 2:47; 1 John 1:3), by keeping the ordinances (Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38–42) and by advancing and communicating the gospel to the entire world (Matt 28:19; Acts 1:8; 2:42).

We teach the calling of all saints to the work of service (1 Cor 15:58; Eph 4:12; Rev 22:12).

We teach the need of the church to cooperate with God as He accomplishes His purpose in the world. To that end, He gives the church spiritual gifts. First, He gives men chosen for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of the ministry (Eph 4:7–12) and He also gives unique and special spiritual abilities to each member of the body of Christ (Rom 12:5–8; 1 Cor 12:4–31; 1 Pet 4:10–11).

We teach that there were two kinds of gifts given the early church: miraculous gifts of divine revelation and healing, given temporarily in the apostolic era for the purpose of confirming the authenticity of the apostles'

message (Heb 2:3–4; 2 Cor 12:12); and ministering gifts, given to equip believers for edifying one another. With the New Testament revelation now complete, Scripture becomes the sole test of the authenticity of a man's message, and confirming gifts of a miraculous nature are no longer necessary to validate a man or his message (1 Cor 13:8–12). Miraculous gifts can even be counterfeited by Satan so as to deceive even believers (1 Cor 13:13–14:12; Rev 13:13–14). The only gifts in operation today are those non-revelatory equipping gifts given for edification (Rom 12:6–8).

We teach that no one possesses the gift of healing today but that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith and will answer in accordance with His own perfect will for the sick, suffering, and afflicted (Luke 18:1–6; John 5:7–9; 2 Cor 12:6–10; Jas 5:13–16; 1 John 5:14–15).

We teach that two ordinances have been committed to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:38–42). Christian baptism by immersion (Acts 8:36–39) is the solemn and beautiful testimony of a believer showing forth his faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, and his union with Him in death to sin and resurrection to a new life (Rom 6: 1–11). It is also a sign of fellowship and identification with the visible body of Christ (Acts 2:41–42).

We teach that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration and proclamation of His death until He comes, and should be always preceded by solemn self-examination (1 Cor 11:28–32). We also teach that whereas the elements of communion are only representative of the flesh and blood of Christ, the Lord's Supper is nevertheless an actual communion with the risen Christ who is present in a unique way, fellowshiping with His people (1 Cor 10:16).

## ANGELS

Holy Angels—We teach that angels are created beings and are therefore not to be worshiped. Although they are a higher order of creation than man, they are created to serve God and to worship Him (Luke 2:9–14; Heb 1:6–7, 14; 2:6–7; Rev 5:11–14; 19:10; 22:9).

Fallen Angels—We teach that Satan is a created angel and the author of sin. He incurred the judgment of God by rebelling against his Creator (Isa 14:12–17; Ezek 28:11–19), by taking numerous angels with him in his fall (Matt 25:41; Rev 12:1–14), and by introducing sin into the human race by his temptation of Eve (Gen 3:1–15).

We teach that Satan is the open and declared enemy of God and man (Isa 14:13–14; Matt 4:1–11; Rev 12:9–10), the prince of this world who has been defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Rom 16:20) and that he shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire (Isa 14:12–17; Ezek 28:11–19; Matt 25:41; Rev 20:10).

## LAST THINGS

Death—We teach that physical death involves no loss of our immaterial consciousness (Rev 6:9–11), that the soul of the redeemed passes immediately into the presence of Christ (Luke 23:43; Phil 1:23; 2 Cor 5:8), that there is a separation of soul and body (Phil 1:21–24), and that, for the redeemed, such separation will continue until the rapture (1 Thess 4:13–17) which initiates the first resurrection (Rev 20:4–6), when our soul and body will be reunited to be glorified forever with our Lord (Phil 3:21; 1 Cor 15:35–44, 50–54). Until that time, the souls of the redeemed in Christ remain in joyful fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Cor 5:8).

We teach the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life (John 6:39; Rom 8:10–11, 19–23; 2 Cor 4:14), and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Dan 12:2; John 5:29; Rev 20:13–15).

We teach that the souls of the unsaved at death are kept under punishment until the second resurrection (Luke 16:19–26; Rev 20:13–15), when the soul and the resurrection body will be united (John 5:28–29). They shall then appear at the Great White Throne judgment (Rev 20:11–15) and shall be cast into hell, the lake of fire (Matt 25:41–46), cut off from the life of God forever (Dan 12:2; Matt 25:41–46; 2 Thess 1:7–9).

The Rapture of the Church—We teach the personal, bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ before the seven-year tribulation (1 Thess 4:16; Tit 2:13) to translate His church from this earth (John 14:1–3; 1 Cor 15:51–53; 1 Thess 4:15–5:11) and, between this event and His glorious return with His saints, to reward believers according to their works (1 Cor 3:11–15; 2 Cor 5:10).

The Tribulation Period—We teach that immediately following the removal of the church from the earth (John 14:1–3; 1 Thess 4:13–18) the righteous judgments of God will be poured out upon an unbelieving world (Jer 30:7; Dan 9:27; 12:1; 2 Thess 2:7–12; Rev 16), and that these judgments will be climaxed by the return of Christ in glory to the earth (Matt 24:27–31; 25:31–46; 2 Thess 2:7–12). At that time the Old Testament and tribulation saints will be raised and the living will be judged (Dan 12:2–3; Rev 20:4–6). This period includes the seventieth week of Daniel's prophecy (Dan 9:24–27; Matt 24:15–31; 25:31–46).

The Second Coming and the Millennial Reign—We teach that after the tribulation period, Christ will come to earth to occupy the throne of David (Matt 25:31; Luke 1:31–33; Acts 1:10–11; 2:29–30) and establish His Messianic kingdom for a thousand years on the earth (Rev 20:1–7). During this time the resurrected saints will reign with Him over Israel and all the nations of the earth (Ezek 37:21–28; Dan 7:17–22; Rev 19:11–16). This reign will be preceded by the overthrow of the Antichrist and the False Prophet, and by the removal of Satan from the world (Dan 7:17–27; Rev 20:1–7).

We teach that the kingdom itself will be the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel (Isa 65:17–25; Ezek 37:21–28; Zech 8:1–17) to restore them to the land which they forfeited through their disobedience (Deut 28:15–68). The result of their disobedience was that Israel was temporarily set aside (Matt 21:43; Rom 11:1–26) but will again be awakened through repentance to enter into the land of blessing (Jer 31:31–34; Ezek 36:22–32; Rom 11:25–29).

We teach that this time of our Lord's reign will be characterized by harmony, justice, peace, righteousness, and long life (Isa 11; 65:17–25; Ezek

36:33–38), and will be brought to an end with the release of Satan (Rev 20:7).

The Judgment of the Lost—We teach that following the release of Satan after the thousand year reign of Christ (Rev 20:7), Satan will deceive the nations of the earth and gather them to battle against the saints and the beloved city, at which time Satan and his army will be devoured by fire from heaven (Rev 20:9). Following this, Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone (Matt 25:41; Rev 20:10) whereupon Christ, who is the judge of all men (John 5:22), will resurrect and judge the great and small at the Great White Throne judgment.

We teach that this resurrection of the unsaved dead to judgment will be a physical resurrection, whereupon receiving their judgment, they will be committed to an eternal conscious punishment in the lake of fire (Matt 25:41; Rev 20:11–15).

Eternity—We teach that after the closing of the millennium, the temporary release of Satan, and the judgment of unbelievers (2 Thess 1:9; Rev 20:7–15), the saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God, after which the elements of this earth are to be dissolved (2 Pet 3:10) and replaced with a new earth wherein only righteousness dwells (Eph 5:5; Rev 20:15, 21–22). Following this, the heavenly city will come down out of heaven (Rev 21:2) and will be the dwelling place of the saints, where they will enjoy forever fellowship with God and one another (John 17:3; Rev 21, 22). Our Lord Jesus Christ, having fulfilled His redemptive mission, will then deliver up the kingdom to God the Father (1 Cor 15:24–28) that in all spheres the triune God may reign forever and ever (1 Cor 15:28)

#### STATEMENT ON LIFE, MARRIAGE, AND SEXUALITY

We teach that God as Creator established life (Gen 1:1, 26–28), marriage (Gen 2:22–23; Matt 19:4–6), and the moral implications therein (Gen 2:24; Lev 18:1–30; Matt 5:28; 1 Thess 4:1–8). We teach this is exclusively, authoritatively, and sufficiently expressed in Scripture and that such definitions are universal truths which define reality and do not

change (Prov 8:22–36; Ps 19:8–15; John 17:17; 2 Tim 3:16–17).

We teach that humans bear the image of God (Gen 1:26–27; 9:6; Jas 3:9) and are such persons at conception (Ps 139:13, 15; cf. Job 3:3) as directly recognized by God (Ps 22:10; Isa 49:1; Jer 1:5; Luke 1:41–44; Rom 9:10–11; Gal 1:15). God does not differentiate between murder in or outside of the womb (Exod 21:12; 22–24). Therefore, any form of abortion is murder, a defiant act against the God of life (John 5:26) and against children whom He cares about (Matt 18:10) and gives as blessings (Ps 127:3). We teach that those created in the image of God must be treated with dignity (Gen 9:6; Luke 13:15–16; Jas 3:9) and that this must extend to these persons in the womb.

We teach that marriage was given by God as part of His common grace, and that it has no meaning other than as He has provided (Gen 2:18–24). We teach that marriage is subject to the curse of the Fall, but this curse does not change the definition of marriage established at creation (Matt 19:1–9). We teach that the term “marriage” has only one meaning and that is marriage sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in scripture (Gen 2:23–24). Believers, living in obedience to the Scripture and under the control of the Holy Spirit, can begin to experience peaceful, productive, and fulfilled marriage as intended by God (Gen 3:16; 1 Pet 3:7).

We teach that the marriages of believers are to illustrate the loving relationship of Christ and His church, with the husband loving his wife as Christ loves the church and the wife responding to her husband’s loving leadership as the church responds to Christ (Eph 5:18–33).

We teach that as believers’ marriages are to illustrate Christ’s relationship with His church, believers should choose to marry those who share their faith and regenerate life (2 Cor 6:14).

We teach that marriage is always a public, formal, and officially recognized covenant between a man and a woman. We teach that without such a covenant, which may include a “common law marriage,” where

valid in specific cases under pertinent law, prolonged conjugal cohabitation does not establish, and is not equivalent to, marriage (John 4:18). Biblically, such a relationship is fornication (1 Cor 6:9) requiring repentance of such behavior. We teach that where no such covenant exists, or can be discerned, between a cohabiting couple prior to coming to faith in Christ, family units should be preserved to the extent possible and, if otherwise appropriate, solemnization encouraged. We teach that where a valid marriage has been established prior to coming to faith in Christ, the couple should remain married (1 Cor 7:24).

We teach that God hates divorce, permitting it only where there has been unrepentant sexual sin (Mal 2:14–16; Matt 5:32, 19:9) or desertion by an unbeliever (1 Cor 7:12–15). We teach that remarriage is permitted to a faithful partner, but only when the divorce was on biblical grounds.

We teach that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We teach that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman (Heb 13:4).

We teach that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pedophilia, pornography, in desire or behavior (Matt 5:28) is sinful and offensive to God. In addition, any attempt to change one's sex or disagreement with one's biological sex is sinful and offensive to God who ordained the sexes of male and female at creation (Gen 1:26–28) and one's particular sex at conception (Lev 18:1–30; Deut

22:5; Matt 5:8; Rom 1:26–29; 1 Cor 5:1, 6:9; 1 Thess 4:1–8).

We teach that homosexuality, in particular, is subject to God's wrath of abandonment, is a matter of choice and not inherited status, and epitomizes man's ungrateful rebellion against God (Rom 1:18–28).

We teach that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture or the doctrines of the church. We teach that the faithful proclamation of the Scripture, including the call to repentance, does not constitute hate speech, or hateful and harassing behavior, but is instead a fundamental part of the church's loving mission to the world (Matt 28:16–20; 2 Cor 5:11–20; 1 Tim 1:5; 2 Tim 4:1–2).

We teach that God offers redemption and forgiveness to all who confess and forsake their sin, including sexual sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. We teach that His forgiveness is total and complete (Pss 103:11–12, 130:3–4; Isa 43:25, 44:22; John 5:24; Col 2:13–14) and that God imputes the full righteousness of Christ (2 Cor 5:21) to the believing sinner. We teach that the forgiven sinner has been cleansed from the guilt of sin, set apart unto God, or made holy, and justified before Him (1 Cor 6:9–11). We teach that any man or woman who has received that forgiveness is "in Christ" and is a "new creation" (2 Cor 5:17), able to persevere in and pursue a way of life that pleases the Lord by the power of the Spirit (Rom 8:10–15; 2 Cor 3:16; Phil 2:13).

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The Master's Seminary exists to equip godly men to be pastors and/or trainers of pastors for service to Christ in strategic fields of Christian ministry through an educational program and an environment of spiritual fellowship and relationships which emphasize unreserved commitment to the worship of God, submission to the authority of the Scriptures, a life of personal holiness, the priority of the local church, and the mission of penetrating the world with the Truth.

Since there is no higher calling in life than to be a proclaimer of God's Word, there is no more worthy enterprise than training faithful men to carry out that charge. The Master's Seminary seeks to fulfill this charge by offering the following programs:

Diploma of Theology (DipTh), Bachelor of Theology (BTh), Master of Biblical Ministry (MMB, in Spanish), Master of Divinity (MDiv), Master of Theology (ThM), Doctor of Ministry (DMin), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

### CANDIDACY REQUIREMENTS

Admission to the seminary and satisfactory completion of academic requirements are not a guarantee of graduation. Since the seminary's programs are designed to qualify its graduates for positions of pastoral leadership, each semester the faculty and administration will also evaluate a student's personal, spiritual, doctrinal, and professional qualifications. These are qualifications without which any attempt to serve or fill a role in a ministry of the gospel can result in nothing but personal tragedy. The seminary reserves the right to withdraw the privileges of enrollment from those who, after admission, may prove to be lacking in these necessary qualifications.

The character qualities, knowledge, and skills described earlier in this catalog as personalized objectives will also serve as a standard for evaluation of progress and for admission to candidacy. Absolute fulfillment of these objectives is an ideal which will never be accomplished but should always be in process. What is expected is evidence of progress toward these objectives, continuing evidence of potential for such progress, increasing desire for such progress, and a genuine repentance when there is failure in evidencing such progress.

Following each semester of seminary, the faculty will assess the appropriateness of the student's vocational and educational goals in light of demonstrated abilities and attitudes. Academic records, Ministry Aptitude Program results, discipleship involvement, and evidence of continuing personal growth as demonstrated in chapel attendance, church ministries, etc., may all be examined in these candidacy evaluations. Following evaluation, the Dean of Students, or another assigned faculty member, will counsel with any students whose progress toward candidacy is questioned and will, by June 1, advise any students for whom candidacy and/or continued enrollment is denied.

### DIPLOMA OF THEOLOGY (DIPLOMA PROGRAM)

#### Purpose

The Diploma of Theology program is designed with the same purpose as the Bachelor of Theology program. It is limited to a select number of applicants who are usually beyond the average age of college students and

who have a consistent record of commendable Christian ministry experience. However, it differs from the Bachelor of Theology program in that it does not require the minimum of 30 units of undergraduate general education credits, and it is not accredited through the accreditation body. As a result of not being accredited, students in the DipTh are not eligible for financial aid.

#### Program & Graduation Requirements

The admissions, curriculum, residence, and candidacy and graduation requirements for the Diploma of Theology degree are the same as those for the Master of Divinity degree with the following exceptions: A grade point average of 2.0 is required for graduation.

For the curriculum, see MDiv curriculum chart for required courses.

### BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY (UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM)

#### Purpose

The Bachelor of Theology program has the same purpose as the Master of Divinity program. Like the MDiv program, it is designed to provide a program for those planning to invest their lives in church or mission vocations which require ordination. The program offers a broad biblical, theological, and practical foundation for such ministries. The program, however, is offered only to a select number of applicants who are beyond the average age of college students (usually at least 30 years of age), who have not completed a baccalaureate degree program but have earned a minimum of 30 semester units of undergraduate general education credits (including at least 3 credit hours of quantitative reasoning/mathematics), and who have a consistent record of commendable Christian ministry experience. The nomenclature, Bachelor of Theology, is designed to emphasize the fact that in no case does the seminary offer graduate degrees (master's degrees) for those who have not completed a baccalaureate program.

#### Program & Graduation Requirements

The admissions, curriculum, residence, candidacy and graduation requirements for the Bachelor of Theology degree are the same as those for the Master of Divinity degree with the following exceptions: A grade point average of 2.0 is required for graduation.

For the curriculum, see MDiv curriculum chart for required courses.

### GRADUATE PROGRAMS

#### MASTER OF DIVINITY

#### Purpose

The Master of Divinity curriculum provides a basic three-year program in graduate theological education for those preparing for church or mission vocations requiring ordination. The program is designed to provide a broad biblical, theological, and practical foundation for those entering pastoral, missionary, or other Christian education ministries. The program may also provide a basis for further graduate study leading to such degrees as Master of Theology (ThM), Doctor of Ministry (DMin), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

In fulfilling the mission of the seminary, as stated and elaborated earlier in this catalog, the Master of Divinity program focuses on three areas of special emphasis: Biblical-theological understanding, personal growth, and professional preparation. The emphasis on a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Bible is demonstrated throughout the curriculum, especially in direct Bible study courses, and in the biblical languages, hermeneutics, and theology courses. The emphasis on personal growth is demonstrated in the required discipleship groups, chapels, and in significant portions of pastoral ministry courses. The emphasis on professional development is demonstrated primarily through the pastoral ministry, expository preaching, ordination, and counseling courses.

Included in the three broad areas of emphasis outlined above, the Master of Divinity program also intends to:

- Emphasize the primacy of the local church in commissioning for ministry and as the institutional focus for spiritual accountability
- Cultivate an attitude of devotion and worship
- Instill and nurture a missionary and evangelistic zeal
- Encourage growth in godliness, especially as demonstrated in an attitude of love and ministry as a servant, while developing the appropriate skills for leadership
- Advance ability in independent and constructive thought in areas relating to ministry and contemporary concerns
- Promote growth in self-discipline, reading habits, and methodologies so that independent study may be continued as a pattern of life and ministry

Specifically, the Master of Divinity program is designed to provide a broad biblical-theological understanding, personal growth, and professional preparation for church or mission vocations requiring ordination, as detailed in the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

- PLO 1: *As a future elder, pastor, missionary, or educator*, comprehend the significant areas of biblical interpretation, biblical languages, Christian theology and pastoral ministry.
- PLO 2: *As a future elder/pastor*, construct a personal, biblical philosophy of ministry with application to the desired vocational goals.
- PLO 3: *As a future preacher/teacher of the Scripture*, synthesize the input of biblical languages, Bible backgrounds and theological constructs to preach and teach the Bible to varied age levels and abilities within any ministry context.
- PLO 4: *As a future spiritual leader*, exhibit the disciplines of holiness, prayer, leadership, and compassion required for ministry.

### Program Requirements

Master of Divinity students must complete the prescribed curriculum, comprising a minimum of 98 semester hours of credit, with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.5. Students transferring from other seminaries may be granted a maximum of 48 semester hours of credit, providing the work conforms to the academic and theological standards of the seminary.

### Curriculum

Students enrolling in The Master's Seminary have only one opportunity to take the Greek PASS exam, prior to taking Beginning Greek I (NT 501). Anyone not taking the exam when offered at the start of their first

semester on campus will be required to enroll in and pass NT 501 and 502 as part of his seminary curriculum before enrolling in NT 603. Those who gain credit through the Greek PASS exam are expected to enroll in Greek Exegesis I and II for the first year and in Hebrew Grammar I and II for the second year.

Students are encouraged to apply for a waiver of any course considered to be repetitious of previous education. This is especially encouraged for BI 501, 502 and 601. If approved, a waiver grants no credit but allows the student to take elective credits instead of the required course(s). For more information see the section Academic Policies and the subheading Transfer Policies.

Students who are fluent in the Spanish language are permitted to take up to 48 credit hours of the MDiv in the Spanish language. For more information contact the Office of Spanish Education.

### Curriculum Chart

JUNIOR YEAR		
<i>1st Semester</i>		
BI 501	Old Testament Studies I	3
BI 505	Hermeneutics	3
OT 503	Hebrew Grammar I	3
TH 507	Historical Theology I	3
PM 501	Foundations of Expository Preaching	1
PM 505	Grammar, Research & Writing	2
<i>Total</i>		<i>15</i>

<i>2nd Semester</i>		
BI 502	Old Testament Studies II	3
PM 511A	Foundations of Pastoral Ministry	2
OT 504	Hebrew Grammar II	3
TH 508	Historical Theology II	3
PM 512A	Pastoral Counseling	3
	General Elective I	2
<i>Total</i>		<i>16</i>

<i>Summer</i>		
NT 501	Beginning Greek I	2
NT 502	Beginning Greek II	2
	General Elective II	2
<i>Total</i>		<i>6</i>

MIDDLER YEAR		
<i>1st Semester</i>		
BI 601	New Testament Studies	3
OT 603	Intro to Hebrew Exegesis	3
NT 603	Greek Exegesis I	3
TH 605	Theology I	3

PM 601	History of Expository Preaching	1
	Elective III	2
<i>Total</i>		<i>15</i>

<i>2nd Semester</i>		
TH 602	Apologetics & Evangelism	3
NT 604	Greek Exegesis II	3
TH 606	Theology II	3
PM 602	Mechanics of Preaching	2
PM 604	Expository Preaching Workshop	3
OT	Elective IV (Hebrew Exegesis)	2
<i>Total</i>		<i>16</i>

SENIOR YEAR		
<i>1st Semester</i>		
BI 705	Advanced Hermeneutics	2
OT 796	Old Testament Introduction	3
TH 705	Theology III	3
PM 703	Expository Preaching Lab	3
NT	Elective V (Greek Exegesis)	2
	Elective VI	2
<i>Total</i>		<i>15</i>

<i>2nd Semester</i>		
BI 701	Ordination Preparation	2
PM 712	Practice of Pastoral Ministries	3
NT 796	New Testament Introduction	3
TH 706	Theology IV	3
PM 714	Prayer and the Pastor	2
	Elective VII	2
<i>Total</i>		<i>15</i>
<i>Total Degree Units</i>		<i>98</i>

### Graduation Requirements

In addition to the requirements specified in the preceding paragraphs, which include completion of 98 semester hours of credit with a grade point average of 2.5 or above (2.0 for BTh or DipTh), each candidate must submit an official Application for Graduation when registering for their final semester prior to graduation. Transfer students must complete at least 50 semester hours of credit at The Master's Seminary. All graduates must be present at the commencement ceremonies unless excused on the basis of a written appeal to either the Dean of Faculty or the Dean of Students. Graduation in absentia will be permitted only in cases of personal emergency or undue hardship.

## MASTER OF BIBLICAL MINISTRY (Spanish Language)

### Purpose

The Master of Biblical Ministry (MMB) curriculum provides a basic three-year program in graduate theological education designed to provide students an in-depth survey of biblical content and Christian theology along with coursework designed to equip them to adequately serve as lay ministers and elders in the local church. The program may also provide a basis for further graduate study leading to such degrees as Master of Divinity (MDiv), Master of Theology (ThM), Doctor of Ministry (DMin), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). This program, delivered in Spanish, is available entirely online and also residentially.

In fulfilling the mission of the seminary, as stated and elaborated earlier in this catalog, the Master of Biblical Ministry program focuses on three areas of special emphasis: Biblical-theological knowledge, personal growth, and ministry preparation. The emphasis on a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Bible is demonstrated throughout the curriculum, especially in hermeneutics, Bible survey courses, and theology courses. The emphasis on personal growth is demonstrated in the required discipleship interactions for each course. The emphasis on ministry preparation is demonstrated primarily through those courses designed to instruct in this area.

Specifically, the Master of Biblical Ministry program's purpose is detailed in the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

- PLO #1: Demonstrate an in-depth working knowledge of the background and context of each Bible book.
- PLO #2: Demonstrate the correct application of hermeneutical principles to develop an interpretation of a biblical text.

### Propósito

El currículo de la Maestría en Ministerio Bíblico (MMB) provee un programa básico de tres años de educación teológica de postgrado, diseñado para proveer a los estudiantes un estudio profundo del contenido bíblico y de la teología cristiana, junto con cursos diseñados para equiparles al servicio adecuado como ministros laicos y ancianos de la iglesia local. El programa también provee una base para estudios de postgrado adicionales que conduzcan a títulos tales como la Maestría en Divinidad (MDiv), maestría en Teología (ThM), Doctorado en Ministerio (Dmin) y Doctorado en Filosofía (PhD). Este programa, impartido en español, está disponible totalmente en línea y también de forma presencial.

En cumplimiento de la misión del seminario, como se ha venido expuesto y detallado en este catálogo, el programa de la Maestría en Ministerio Bíblico se centra en tres áreas especiales de énfasis: Conocimiento bíblico-teológico, crecimiento personal y preparación ministerial. El énfasis en un conocimiento y entendimiento profundo de la Biblia se demuestra a lo largo del currículo, especialmente en los cursos de hermenéutica, panoramas bíblicos y cursos de teología. El énfasis en el crecimiento personal se demuestra en las interacciones de discipulado requeridas para cada curso. El énfasis en la preparación ministerial se presenta principalmente a través de los cursos diseñados para instruir en esta área.

Específicamente, el propósito de la Maestría en Ministerio Bíblico se detalla en los siguientes objetivos de aprendizaje del programa (OAPs):

- OAP #1: Mostrar un conocimiento práctico y profundo del trasfondo y contexto de cada libro de la Biblia.
- OAP #2: Realizar una correcta aplicación de los principios hermenéuticos al desarrollar la interpretación de los textos bíblicos.

- PLO #3: Express with precision the major biblical themes in doctrinal formulations and apply them to current theological and cultural issues.
- PLO #4: Demonstrate a consistent pattern of self-reflection leading to growth in the character qualities necessary for effective biblical ministry.
- PLO #5: Apply the fundamentals of message preparation, and demonstrate aptitude to teach in a variety of local church contexts.
- OAP #3: Abordar con precisión los principales temas bíblicos en asuntos doctrinales aplicándolos a los problemas teológicos y culturales actuales.
- OAP #4: Reflejar un patrón constante de auto examinación que conduzca al crecimiento de las cualidades necesarias del carácter para ejercer un ministerio bíblico efectivo.
- OAP #5: Aplicar los fundamentos de la preparación de mensajes y demostrar aptitud para enseñar en una variedad de contextos de las iglesias locales.

### Program Requirements

Master of Biblical Ministry students must complete the prescribed curriculum, comprising a minimum of 39 semester hours of credit, with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.5. Students transferring from other training programs may be granted a maximum of 18 semester hours of credit, providing the work matches the theology and rigor of the MMB. The last 20 hours of credit applied toward the degree must be earned in the MMB program. Fluency in reading, writing and understanding Spanish is necessary for students in the program.

### Requerimientos del programa

Los estudiantes de la Maestría en Ministerio Bíblico deben completar el currículo prescrito, que comprende un mínimo de 39 horas de crédito semestrales, con un promedio acumulado de calificaciones no menor de 2.5. A aquellos estudiantes que se transfieren de otros programas de capacitación se les puede otorgar un máximo de 18 horas semestrales de crédito, siempre y cuando el trabajo coincida con la teología y el rigor de la MMB. Las últimas 20 horas de crédito aplicadas al título deben ser obtenidas en el programa de la MMB. La fluidez de la lectura, la escritura y la comprensión del español es necesaria para los estudiantes del programa.

### Curriculum Chart / Plan del programa

FIRST YEAR / PRIMER AÑO	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> semester / 1<sup>er</sup> semestre</i>	
Hermeneutics / Hermenéutica	3
OT Studies I / Estudios del AT I	3
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> semester / 2<sup>do</sup> semestre</i>	
Intro. to Counseling / Introducción a la Consejería	3
OT Studies II / Estudios del AT II	3

SECOND YEAR / SEGUNDO AÑO	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> semester / 1<sup>er</sup> semestre</i>	
Theology I / Teología I	3
NT Studies / Estudios del NT	3

<i>2<sup>nd</sup> semester / 2<sup>do</sup> semestre</i>	
Theology II / Teología II	3
Intro. to Exegesis / Introducción a la Exégesis	3

THIRD YEAR / TERCER AÑO	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> semester / 1<sup>er</sup> semestre</i>	
Theology III / Teología III	3
Message Prep.: Mechanics / Preparación de mensajes: Mecánica	3
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> semester / 2<sup>do</sup> semestre</i>	
Theology IV / Teología IV	3
Message Prep.: Workshop / Preparación de mensajes: Taller	3
Biblical Ministry (Ministerio bíblico)	3

### Graduation Requirements

In addition to the requirements specified in the preceding paragraphs, which include completion of 39 semester hours of credit with a grade point average of 2.5 or above, each candidate must submit an official Application for Graduation when registering for their final semester prior to graduation. Transfer students must complete at least 20 semester hours of credit at The Master's Seminary. All graduates must be present at the commencement ceremonies unless excused on the basis of a written appeal to the Academic Provost. Graduation in absentia will be permitted only in cases of personal emergency or undue hardship.

### Requerimientos para graduar

Además de los requisitos especificados en los párrafos anteriores, que incluyen el cumplimiento de 39 horas semestrales de crédito con un promedio de notas de 2.5 o más, cada candidato debe presentar una solicitud de graduación oficial al inscribirse para su último semestre antes de la graduación. Los estudiantes transferidos deben completar al menos 20 horas de crédito semestrales en The Master's Seminary. Todos los graduados deben estar presentes en la ceremonia de graduación, a menos que sean exceptuados en base a una apelación por escrito al decano académico. La graduación en ausencia se permitirá sólo en casos de emergencia personal o de dificultades indebidas.

## MASTER OF THEOLOGY

### Purpose

The Master of Theology (ThM) degree is designed to provide a focused study in a specific facet of biblical or theological studies, equipping the student to hone the exegetical and theological skills necessary for teaching in local pastoral ministry, conducting a training ministry, and researching and writing for the church and academia. Upon completion, the student will be equipped to fulfill a teaching position and/or will be prepared to enter into a doctoral level program, such as the PhD.

The 28-unit ThM program offers semester-length modular courses that provide specialized preparation in the disciplines of New Testament (NT), Old Testament (OT), and Theological Studies (TH). The majority of coursework pertains to the student's chosen discipline. The course of study is designed to provide the basis for further specialized study in advanced degrees such as the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). In addition to

coursework in the chosen discipline, students will take research, writing, and teaching courses in the subject area of Educational Pedagogy (EP).

The purpose of the ThM program is detailed in a series of learning objectives, which reflect the educational results intended for students in both broad and particular ways. The following *Program-level Learning Outcomes* (PLOs) guide the structure of the ThM curriculum:

- PLO #1: *As an advancing scholar*, specialize in an area of biblical or theological studies, gaining facility in its literature and scholarship.
- PLO #2: *As an advancing exegete*, employ more refined skills in Hebrew and Greek translation, exegesis, and interpretation.
- PLO #3: *As an advancing teacher*, implement the skills of communication and effective teaching of course content.
- PLO #4: *As an advancing researcher*, demonstrate thoughtfulness, in-depth interaction, thorough research, and excellence in scholarly writing.

Training in Educational Pedagogy (EP) supports all discipline-level outcomes. EP courses provide the student with the skills necessary to fulfill a variety of ministries related to biblical and theological teaching and writing in the church and also in academia. The courses aim to refine the student's skills as a scholarly researcher, instructor, and writer, and to qualify him for potential doctoral studies.

The combination of coursework in the chosen discipline and in Educational Pedagogy is designed to develop practical teaching and writing skills in a specialized area of research that will culminate in a scholarly thesis-equivalent research portfolio suitable for development in teaching and in future doctoral work.

The ThM curriculum is structured so that students will develop the following core skills:

1. Acquire critical reading skills in relation to historical, contemporary, and emerging scholarship from a variety of perspectives. (Corresponds to PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4)
2. Hone the academic writing skills of topic development, scholarly engagement, and persuasive argumentation. (Corresponds to PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4)
3. Utilize specific language skills for the purpose of translation, exegesis, and interpretation. (Corresponds to PLOs 1, 2, 4)
4. Develop research habits with application to scholarly writing and teaching. (Corresponds to PLOs 3, 4)
5. Gain effective teaching skills: clarity, engagement, persuasion, assessment, and management. (Corresponds to PLOs 3, 4)
6. Instruct in an area of specialization. (Corresponds to PLO 3)
7. Engage in designing advanced, specialized curriculum. (Corresponds to PLO 3)

## Program Overview

The duration of the 28-unit ThM program is two to three years of full-time study (four or more credit hours per term), though part-time study is permissible. In the interest of preparing men for ministry and successive doctoral study, the program is not to exceed four years except by permission of the ThM committee. The program follows fall and spring semesters of 18 weeks.

Dedicated students can complete both the ThM and PhD programs at The Master's Seminary in a total of 5

years. To expedite future doctoral studies, each ThM discipline includes four major exams, which serve as PhD qualifying exams.

### Modular Format

Students can take up to 3 modular courses each semester. The semester-length modular courses allow for significant scheduling flexibility, as the majority of coursework is done from a distance. The student must come to the Los Angeles campus twice a year (Nov/Dec, May, per the below academic calendar). The 18-week fall and spring terms are divided into 3 segments: 1. The pre-module period involves 10 weeks of interactive learning facilitated through the online platform Canvas; 2. The modular period lasts between 1–3 weeks at the Los Angeles campus each semester, as individual courses meet for one week each (or up to three weeks for certain research languages); 3. The post-module period provides an additional 5 weeks of supplemental learning facilitated through Canvas after the on-campus modular period ends.

### Curriculum Charts

NEW TESTAMENT DISCIPLINE		
<i>Year 1 – Fall Semester</i>		
EP 810	Intro. to Academic Research	1
OT 761	Exegesis of Genesis 1–11	2
NT 877	Exegesis of Pastoral Epistles	2
NT 855	NT Textual Criticism*	2
<i>Year 1 – Spring Semester</i>		
EP 820	Philosophy of Pedagogy	1
NT 745	Exegesis of John	2
NT 856	Criticism of Syn. Gospels	2
NT 853	Advanced Greek Grammar*	2
<i>Year 2 – Fall Semester</i>		
EP 830	Practice of Pedagogy	1
TH 824	Seminar in Soteriology	2
TH 888	Seminar in Eschatology	2
LT 800	Theo. Latin* (PhD track) Or Winterim Course (Non-PhD track)	2
<i>Year 2 – Spring Semester</i>		
NT 840	Advanced Research Methods	3
NT 861	Exegesis of Luke-Acts	2
GR 800	Theo. German* (PhD Track) Or NT Directed Study (Non-PhD)	2
Credit Hour Total		28

\*Incorporates PhD qualifying exam.

OLD TESTAMENT DISCIPLINE		
<i>Year 1 – Fall Semester</i>		
EP 810	Intro. to Academic Research	1
OT 761	Exegesis of Genesis 1–11	2
TH 888	Seminar in Eschatology	2
OT 841	Old Testament Issues*	2

<i>Year 1 – Spring Semester</i>		
EP 820	Philosophy of Pedagogy	1
NT 745	Exegesis of John	2
OT 872	Biblical Aramaic	2
OT 871	Advanced Hebrew Readings*	2
<i>Year 2 – Fall Semester</i>		
EP 830	Practice of Pedagogy	1
TH 824	Seminar in Soteriology	2
OT 753	Exegesis of Zechariah	2
OT 873	Akkadian* (PhD track) Or Winterim Course (Non-PhD track)	2

<i>Year 2 – Spring Semester</i>		
OT 839	Advanced Research Methods	3
OT 853	Advanced Hebrew Grammar	2
GR 800	Theo. German* (PhD Track) Or OT Directed Study (Non-PhD)	2
Credit Hour Total		28

\*Incorporates PhD qualifying exam.

THEOLOGICAL STUDIES DISCIPLINE		
<i>Year 1 – Fall Semester</i>		
EP 810	Intro. to Academic Research	1
TH 824	Seminar in Soteriology	2
TH 888	Seminar in Eschatology	2
TH 805	Readings in Historical Theology*	2
<i>Year 1 – Spring Semester</i>		
EP 820	Philosophy of Pedagogy	1
NT 745	Exegesis of John	2
TH 828	Seminar in Dispensational Theo.	2
TH 807	Readings in Systematic Theology*	2
<i>Year 2 – Fall Semester</i>		
EP 830	Practice of Pedagogy	1
OT 753	Exegesis of Zechariah	2
TH 813	Seminar in Bibliology	2
LT 800	Theo. Latin* (PhD track) Or Winterim Course (Non-PhD track)	2
<i>Year 2 – Spring Semester</i>		
TH 840	Advanced Research Methods	3
TH 816	Seminar in Theology Proper	2
GR 800	Theo. German* (PhD Track) Or TH Directed Study (Non-PhD)	2
Credit Hour Total		28

\*Incorporates PhD qualifying exam.

## Graduation Requirements

Degrees are awarded to qualified candidates at the seminary's spring commencement. To qualify for graduation, candidates must present an acceptable research portfolio and have completed all 28 credit hours of required course work, with no grade less than B- credited toward the ThM degree. Candidates must also manifest promise of competency in Christian ministry, exhibit exemplary and consistent Christian character, and must be in accord with the ideals of the institution as recorded in its current catalog.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

### Purpose

The Doctor of Ministry (DMin) in Expository Preaching Program is designed to equip pastors and church leaders in enhancing their skills in sermon preparation and public exposition of Scripture. The program engages in the classical disciplines of Exegesis (principles and practices of interpretation), Exposition (principles and practices of content synthesis), and Eloquence (principles and practice of rhetoric) to enhance sermon preparation and delivery in a culminating Preaching Research Project.

- PLO #1: *As an experienced biblical expositor*, to add further understanding, quality, and depth to the exegetical skill needed in sermon preparation.
- PLO #2: *As an experienced biblical expositor*, to add further understanding, quality, and depth to the sermon content synthesis.
- PLO #3: *As an experienced biblical expositor*, to add further understanding, quality, and depth to the rhetorical eloquence.
- PLO #4: *As an experienced biblical expositor*, to demonstrate enhanced expository preaching skills in a culminating program project.

### Curriculum

The overall program and individual seminars are intended to develop the student/preacher in the three classical disciplines of sermon preparation: exegesis, exposition, and eloquence.

### Seminars Organized by Sequence

FIRST YEAR		
<i>Fall</i>		
DM 916	Doctrinal Foundations for Expository Preaching	4
DM 914	Expository Preaching and the Old Testament	4
DM 913	Research Seminar I	1
DM 900	Preaching Evaluation I	0.5
<i>Spring</i>		
DM 925	Theology and Expository Preaching	4
DM 917	Preaching Evaluation II	0.5

SECOND YEAR		
<i>Fall</i>		
DM 924	Homiletics and Sermon Delivery	4
DM 923	Expository Preaching and the New Testament	4
DM 918	Preaching Evaluation III	0.5
<i>Spring</i>		
DM 915	Historical and Contemporary Preaching Models	4
DM 920	Preaching Evaluation IV	0.5
DM 921	Research Seminar II	1
(The program cycle is repeated every two years)		
THIRD YEAR		
<i>1<sup>st</sup> semester</i>		
DM 937	Preaching Research Project I	4
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> semester</i>		
DM 938	Preaching Research Project II	4

The Master’s Seminary Doctor of Ministry program runs cyclically, with core seminars repeating every two years. This means a student may begin during any July or January module and still complete the core seminars in two years with no detriment to their progression in the program. The student’s third year in the program will focus on the preaching project. This project will be built upon the seminars and coursework completed during the first two years of the program.

#### Philosophy

The TMS Doctor of Ministry in Expository Preaching is for the experienced pastor or church leader engaged in ministry who desires to further refine his skills in all aspects of teaching and preaching the Word of God.

The program is designed to permit the student to remain in his present ministry while completing the degree program. However, the student should allot enough time to complete the work with excellence. The program will demand between 600 to 800 hours a year for three years to complete. Although some of these hours should already be scheduled in expository preaching preparation, many hours will have to be devoted to the program above and beyond one’s present ministry. As much as possible, the seminar projects and the Preaching Research Project will relate directly to the ongoing expository ministry in one’s local church.

The TMS degree will follow the standard academic nomenclature of Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree. This is a recognized vocational degree within the pastoral ministry community. The requirements for the DMin degree from The Master’s Seminary are equal to and even surpass the requirements of other accredited Doctor of Ministry programs.

#### Focus

The primary focus of this program is refining the art of preaching. Courses are designed to improve the preacher’s study, preparation, and delivery of expository sermons. Professional enhancement is furthered by the application of seminar material in post-seminar reading, writing, and preaching assignments. Preaching refinement is fostered by personal preaching mentorship and feedback by seasoned, gifted expositors throughout the program.

## Distinctives

- Designed for the seasoned MDiv/MA pastor who has the capabilities and desires to improve both the content delivery of his expository preaching.
- Uniquely focused curriculum on the exegesis and exposition of Scripture.
- Taught by both seminary professors and experienced practitioners from across the country.
- Large class size (60+) and diversity allows for increased fellowship and camaraderie with other pastors and church leaders.
- Personal preaching mentorship and feedback throughout the program.
- Required elder qualifications, as taught in 1 Timothy 3:1–7 and Titus 1:5–9, as a basis for entrance.

## Program Description

### *Administration of the Program*

Under the direction of the Academic Provost, the Director for Doctor of Ministry Studies serves as the program director. Working closely with each doctoral student's assigned mentor and the DMin committee, the Director oversees the orderly and timely completion of each student's program. The Associate Director for Doctor of Ministry works closely with the Director to ensure proper implementation and administration of the program.

### *Design of the Program*

Following the historical design of DMin programs, the TMS DMin program is designed to permit the student to remain in his present ministry location. During his first two years, the seminars will be offered in a two-week period in July and a one-week period in January. Consequently, the student will be absent from his pulpit three Sundays during the year. The seminar projects will necessitate that the student be preaching on a weekly basis in his home church.

The student's third year will be spent researching and writing his preaching research project. The student will not be required to be on campus during his third year except for the oral defense of his project near the end of his final semester.

### *Assessments*

To assess progress in preaching skills, students will be engaged in regular sermon evaluation during their first four semesters. Students will be assigned a preaching mentor their first and third semesters in order to receive diverse and balanced observations and suggestions. These seasoned expositors will provide one-on-one mentorship to the student. The student will submit an original sermon and self-evaluation to their preaching mentor, and schedule a time for the preaching mentor to provide feedback and encouragement. After receiving feedback on their sermon, the student will re-preach the sermon, implementing the advice and feedback received. During the second and fourth semesters, students will partake in peer evaluations with an assigned group of classmates. Students will submit sermons and self-evaluations with each other and likewise schedule a time to provide insights and recommended areas of improvement.

Each seminar syllabus includes learning objectives, outlining what the student is expected to accomplish. Students are assessed by the quality of their completed assignments both before and after each seminar. Seminar coursework will include substantial reading, academic and reflective writing, and preaching in the student's active ministry.

### *Preaching Research Project Requirements*

The final phase of the DMin process involves the development and implementation of the Preaching Research Project. This component of the program is intended to demonstrate the student's knowledge, preaching skills, research methods, theological understanding, and practical ministry abilities. The Preaching Research Project should exhibit the student's ability to relate preaching knowledge (demonstrated in research) with his preaching skills. The project will consist of a sermon series and doctoral dissertation pertaining to a specific area of study chosen by the student.

Based on the student's selected topic, the Director and Associate Director will assist in selecting a faculty advisor whose role will be to insure a meaningful and significant project. The length of the Preaching Research Project will be no less than 100 pages and no more than 200 pages. It must include doctoral level research as well as professional experience. Each thesis will be individually designed around the student's preaching context.

### *Length of the Program*

Two years (twice a year) of on-campus seminars plus one year for completing the doctoral project. Exceptions are made only in cases of extreme emergency.

### *Continuing Registration*

During the preaching project phase, if a student were to need more time to complete the project, he must register for "continuing registration" *before* registering for his final course (see Curriculum). Please refer to the information on Matriculation for more details on "continuing registration."

### Graduation Requirements

Candidates for the DMin degree must complete all seminar work and the Preaching Research Project with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. The completion of the minimal requirements does not automatically qualify the student for the degree. The candidate must have also continued to evidence pastoral character and expository proficiency to the faculty. All financial obligations to TMS must be met before the awarding of the diploma and the issuing of transcripts.

### Housing

The seminary does not provide room and board for students. The student must make his own arrangements. It is the student's responsibility to arrange his travel to arrive on the TMS campus in time to attend all required seminars. He should plan to be on campus through the end of the on-campus term. No early departures will be allowed, except for emergencies.

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

### Purpose

As with the Master of Divinity and the Master of Theology degree programs, the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program is specifically designed for individuals preparing for those vocations requiring ordination, with special emphasis given to training the next generation of professors to staff seminary and college/university biblical and theological studies faculties.

The purposes of the program include:

- Preparing equippers of pastors for assignments in institutional settings where doctoral-level credentials are a prerequisite
- Providing pastors and equippers of pastors opportunity to further sharpen their exegetical and theological skills beyond their Master of Theology studies
- Equipping pastors who are also inclined toward a calling in theological writing that requires the highest level of exegetical and theological training

To achieve the above purposes, the program is designed to enable the student to:

- Develop an expertise in a specialized area of biblical and theological study through original research
- Expand his breadth of knowledge beyond the scope of his specific discipline and dissertation topic
- Defend ideas and refute error among peers
- Demonstrate proficiency in effective writing skills

The Program Learning Objectives for the PhD Program are:

- PLO 1: As a critical thinker, collect and analyze primary and secondary sources of information, critique interpretations of the evidence, synthesize the evidence for future scholarly contributions to the field of study, and draw and integrate implications for professional practice.
- PLO 2: As a theological exegete, apply exegetical skills to the biblical text, develop a theological critique of views related to the text, and connect the issue with its historical precedents.
- PLO 3: As a scholarly communicator, engage in quality written papers and oral presentations in colloquia for the purpose of disseminating personal scholarship to peer audiences as well as future readers and hearers of their work.

### Program Overview

The Doctor of Philosophy is a three- to five-year program (including writing qualifying exams, dissertation, and completing residency) designed to give a select number of highly qualified Master of Theology (or equivalent) graduates who have demonstrated the necessary academic abilities, ministry skills, and character qualities, the opportunity to pursue a terminal degree specializing in Old Testament, New Testament, Systematic Theology, or Historical Theology.

The program is based on the study of the original language texts of Scripture and requires an awareness of the entire sweep of historical theology and biblical theology systematically expressed.

The program requires a minimum of twenty-four credit hours of study while in residence, the first of which is the Dissertation Prospectus course (four credit hours). The remaining study load is designed to assist in the research/writing and defense of the dissertation, the full-time load of which is four credit hours per semester. In cases of minor academic deficiency, additional coursework may be assigned (see “Residency Requirements: Coursework” below).

Coursework is elevated past the MDiv level, and doctoral students are not consigned to a traditional classroom environment. Rather, the delivery mode follows the one-on-one mentoring model, with coursework comprised of directed studies and research seminars.

## Design

The program is designed to permit the student to remain in his present location/occupation while completing the qualifying exams. For that reason, the exams are prerequisite to matriculation. Only after successfully completing these exams would the student need to relocate to begin his residency and to research and write the dissertation. Other programs often require students to relocate at the beginning of their doctoral studies, leaving students in the precarious position of not knowing if they will successfully complete the course work, pass the qualifying exams, or complete the dissertation. In contrast, this program allows students to complete the qualifying and language exams prior to interrupting family life and initiating residency. Then, once begun, residency focuses predominantly on researching, writing, and defending the dissertation—a process that enjoys the benefits of frequent, personal interaction with one's mentor, unlimited access to the finest library resources, and uninterrupted concentration on research and writing.

## Administration

The PhD Program Director gives oversight to the program. Working closely with each doctoral student's mentor and the ThM/PhD Studies Committee (comprising the Dean of Faculty, the PhD Program Director, the ThM Coordinator, and the chairman of each discipline), the PhD Program Director oversees the orderly and timely completion of each student's program.

## Prerequisites

The program is based on the (post-Master of Divinity) Master of Theology degree, in which approximately twenty-two semester credit hours of course work plus a research portfolio or research thesis are required.

## Qualifying Exams

Upon being admitted to the PhD program, the qualification phase begins, comprising four (4) qualifying exams: Two in the major discipline (OT, NT, or Theology) the TMS German exam, and the TMS Latin exam (for NT and Theology) or the TMS Akkadian exam (for OT). No exams from other institutions are accepted. TMS offers a course in German and a course in Latin, culminating in the respective PhD qualifying exams for these languages. Students are allowed two years to complete all qualifying exams. After or during the two years, a student must apply to the PhD Studies Committee for extension of one semester. A fee is charged for any extension granted by the Committee.

Notes: 1) Beginning in Fall 2018, the Master of Theology program incorporated the qualifying exams into the ThM curriculum. As a result, students are able to complete their PhD qualifying exams while in the ThM program. Newly admitted PhD students who received TMS-approved ThM degrees from schools other than TMS, or from TMS before 2018, will be required to take the four (4) "PhD track" ThM courses that culminate in the respective four PhD qualifying exams. 2) If the ThM/PhD Studies Committee deems an applicant's training in exegesis or scholarly research and writing to have been inadequate, that applicant will be required to take the full TMS ThM program.

## Academic Advisor

At the time of admission into residency, the PhD Studies Committee will assign an advisor to oversee the student's research and writing. The advisor will assess the student's previous education, assigning additional course work as deemed necessary.

## Residency Requirements

Continuous Enrollment— Because the nature of this program does not allow for non-residency or ABD (“All But Dissertation”) status, the student is expected to relocate to the area and to personally interact with his advisor frequently as scheduled by the advisor. The program specifically requires that the student enroll for each semester successively for six semesters (summers included) until the first draft has been accepted by his dissertation committee. After or during six semesters the student must apply to the PhD Studies Committee to depart the LA area. Premature departure will result in termination of the program.

## Additional Foreign Language Proficiency

In addition to German (OT, NT, and Theology) and Latin (NT and Theology) or Akkadian (OT), each student may be required by his advisor to demonstrate the ability to read relevant sources in another non-biblical foreign language (e.g., French, Modern Hebrew, or Dutch) as determined by one’s dissertation topic. Study for the second language will be two of the twenty-four credit hours.

## Course Work

A student must enroll in a minimum of twenty-four credit hours of study during his academic residency, the first of which would be the Dissertation Prospectus course (four credit hours). These courses, the full-time load of which is four credit hours per semester, are constructed in consultation with the advisor, and are designed to assist in the dissertation research. Any course work required by the student’s advisor due to deficiency would be additional. A grade of “B” or higher is required in each course.

## Dissertation Prospectus

Each student begins his first semester of residence by enrolling in the Dissertation Prospectus course. This course will allow the student, under the advisor’s supervision, to select and refine the dissertation topic, establish its need, outline the procedure for its undertaking, build an extensive bibliography, and defend its choice. The librarian must aid in conducting a search of all known writings on the proposed topic to ensure that the topic is unique, and must provide the student with significant bibliographic data.

Approval of the prospectus by the advisor and eventual admission to candidacy status does not guarantee acceptance of the proposed dissertation, but merely grants permission to prepare and submit the first draft of the dissertation to the student’s dissertation committee (advisor, second reader from TMS, and third reader from another institution) for evaluation.

## Length of Program

Although the actual length of the program may vary, due to emergencies, a two to three-year residency is expected. The program is expected to be completed within three years from the date of initial matriculation.

## Admission To Candidacy Status

### *Application to Candidacy*

Upon successful completion of the additional foreign language requirements, the Dissertation Prospectus course, any additional course work assigned by the academic advisor due to deficiency (cf. “Qualifying Exams” above),

and successful defense of his dissertation topic before the faculty, the student is granted formal admission to candidacy by the PhD Studies Committee.

#### *Dissertation Committee*

Once admission to residency has been approved by the PhD Studies Committee, the Director of PhD Studies will, in consultation with the academic advisor, formally select the faculty members who will serve on the student's dissertation committee. The committee will generally consist of the student's dissertation advisor (serving as chair), a second faculty member, normally from the area of specialization, and a third faculty member from another institution. Any unforeseen changes in committee membership will be made by the Director of PhD studies in consultation with the advisor.

#### Dissertation Requirements

##### *Dissertation Research*

The dissertation is expected to embody the results of original research and make a significant unique contribution to knowledge in the field of concentration. In light of the structure and philosophy of the program, the dissertation should evidence a high level of scholarly competence and theological awareness. Special study carrels with computer hookups are available for the exclusive use of doctoral students.

##### *Dissertation Length*

An acceptable dissertation, consisting of not less than 250 pages or more than 400 pages of text material, must be submitted to the dissertation committee by the student prior to breaking residence. While the dissertation must adhere strictly to the length stipulations, approval is based on doctrinal integrity, literary quality, and academic competency.

##### *Dissertation Format*

All dissertation drafts must be prepared in conformity with the eighth edition of Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Where this source lacks specificity for a theological dissertation, the latest edition of *The SBL Handbook of Style* takes precedence.

##### *Dissertation Deadlines & Acceptance*

The first draft of the dissertation is due no later than March 1 of the year of his anticipated graduation and should be submitted in triplicate, plus one electronic copy as an institutional backup, to the Director of PhD Studies for proper tracking. If major revisions are required by the dissertation committee, the student should be prepared to delay graduation by a full year. Final acceptance is predicated upon acceptance of the first draft by the dissertation committee, successful oral defense of the dissertation, and an acceptable final draft.

##### *Dissertation Defense*

Once the dissertation committee deems the dissertation draft ready, the student is required to defend the dissertation before his advisor (acting as chair) and the other TMS faculty members, ideally scheduled no later than March 15 of the year of anticipated graduation. The date and place of the defense are announced to all faculty so that interested members may attend. The first draft of the dissertation plus a separate paper comprising the table of contents, abstract, outline, summary presentation, and bibliography of the dissertation must be presented

to the dissertation chairman (advisor) and the Director of PhD Studies two weeks prior to the oral defense.

Following the defense, the faculty will vote whether to approve the dissertation and recommend the student for graduation, making suggestions to the student's Dissertation Committee for any final minor revisions of the dissertation. Subsequently, the dissertation committee and the Director of PhD Studies may meet to decide upon one of the following actions:

- Approve the dissertation and its defense, subject to any minor revisions required by the committee.
- Delay graduation by rejecting the dissertation and its defense if the faculty has voted not to approve the dissertation and recommended delaying graduation until major revisions are completed under the direction of the advisor, necessitating another defense for the following year.
- Reject the dissertation and its defense and terminate the student's program, if the faculty has so voted.

The chair of the student's dissertation committee (advisor) will immediately notify the student of the committee's decision.

### Graduation Requirements

Once approval of the dissertation and its defense has been granted, the student must submit by the first Friday in April the following items:

- An "Application for Graduation" (due in January)
- An approved original printed copy, three photocopies, and one electronic copy of the dissertation to the Director of PhD Studies; each copy must include a one-page single-spaced abstract (Additional personal copies may be submitted for binding.)
- A vitae sheet, written in narrative style and including the date and place of birth, a summary of the candidate's professional and academic career and degrees earned, publications, memberships, and special honors.
- A completed form for sending the dissertation to TREN (Theological Research Exchange Network)

### Alternative Residency Option for TMAI Faculty

Faculty of The Master's Academy International centers have the option of applying for an alternative five-year residency. This arrangement does not require locating to the LA campus. The residency requirements are met through study weeks on campus every March and interaction with one's advisor by Skype or similar online live-stream two-way communication. Details of this alternative residency for TMAI faculty are published in the PhD Handbook.

## PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Enrollment in The Master's Seminary is limited to those who give testimony of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, who demonstrate submission to the will of God and obedience to the Word of God, who evidence possession of the personal and spiritual gifts necessary for ministry, and who are in essential agreement with the seminary's statement of faith.

As outlined in a previous section of this catalog, it is the conviction of the seminary faculty that there are personal, spiritual, doctrinal, and professional qualifications which an educational process alone cannot produce, and without which any preparation for an entrance into the ministry of the gospel can result in nothing but personal tragedy. The seminary administration and faculty reserve the right to withdraw the privilege of enrollment from any student who, after admission, may prove to be lacking in these essential qualifications. In evaluating all applications, the Admissions Committee will look for evidence of increasing Christian maturity, normally with at least two years of growth as a Christian.

Persons with any history of divorce for either spouse should be aware that their applications will be given special scrutiny.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

### Diploma of Theology

In addition to the personal qualifications described above, applicants must be over the age of 30. No undergraduate coursework is required for entry into the Diploma of Theology. International applicants seeking a student visa may not be admitted to this program.

### Bachelor of Theology

In addition to the personal qualifications described above, applicants must be over the age of 30. Enrollment in the Bachelor of Theology program requires possession of an associate degree or 30+ units of liberal arts undergraduate work from an approved institution, with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for all undergraduate work. At least three (3) of these credit hours must be in the area of quantitative reasoning or mathematics. Applicants who attended unaccredited institutions or who present grade point averages lower than 2.5 may be considered for probationary admission status if their references include unusually high recommendations for potential ministry. International students should note the special requirements found later in the catalog.

### Master of Divinity

In addition to the personal qualifications described above, enrollment in the Master of Divinity program requires possession of a baccalaureate degree from an approved institution, with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for all undergraduate work. Applicants who are graduates of unaccredited institutions or who present grade point averages lower than 2.5 may be considered for probationary admission status if their references include unusually high recommendations for potential ministry.

Graduates of Bible colleges, Christian liberal arts colleges, and secular colleges and universities are encouraged to apply. The seminary recommends that pre-seminary studies include a broad exposure to general education

subjects. Normally this should include a minimum of 60 semester hours of liberal arts subjects. In particular, it is recommended that adequate attention should be devoted to English composition, literature, speech, logic, and history—especially ancient and world history. Bible courses are also recommended, providing the student is attending an institution where such courses are competently taught in a context of faith and obedience.

#### Master of Biblical Ministry (Spanish language)

In addition to the personal qualifications described above, enrollment in the Master of Biblical Ministry (MMB) program requires possession of a baccalaureate degree from an approved institution, with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for all undergraduate work. Applicants who are graduates of unaccredited institutions or who present grade point averages lower than 2.5 may be considered for probationary admission status if their references include unusually high recommendations for potential ministry.

#### Master of Theology

Applicants must present an acceptable undergraduate baccalaureate degree and a Master of Divinity degree, with a 3.25 grade point average in his master's program. Senior Master of Divinity students who have completed at least 80 semester credit hours by the end of the current semester are eligible to apply. Acceptance is based upon the applicant's previous education, academic capability, character, qualities, ministry involvement, and the recommendation of others.

In addition, applicants must also give evidence of the personal, character, and spiritual qualifications necessary for a minister of Christ as outlined in the personal qualifications section above. International students should note the special requirements found later in the catalog.

#### Doctor of Ministry

Applicants to the DMin Program must meet the personal qualifications described above. A Master of Divinity, or a Master of Arts of a theological nature consisting of at least 72 semester units (96 quarter units) from an approved school is required. The program is designed for pastors currently serving in a pastoral leadership position. It is recommended that applicants have a minimum of three years consecutive preaching experience after receiving the MDiv, or five years following the MA degree. It is also recommended that their educational background includes biblical language studies in Greek and/or Hebrew. Applicants need to show evidence of academic writing proficiency and must possess a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (3.0 on 4.0 scale) in their master's program. International students should note the special requirements found later in the catalog.

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Applicants to the PhD Program must meet the personal qualifications described above and be in full agreement with the TMS doctrinal statement. A Master of Theology from an approved school is required. The applicant also must evidence prior teaching effectiveness and pastoral capabilities. The program is designed to prepare pastors and equippers of pastors to further sharpen their exegetical and theological skills in order to fill professorships in seminary and college/university Biblical Studies faculties, as well as to fulfill a calling in theological writing. It is based on a post-MDiv ThM degree requiring 28 credit hours of course work plus an acceptable research portfolio or research thesis and proficiency in the biblical languages. Pre-matriculation qualifying exams must be taken with the ThM "PhD track" modular courses that respectively culminate with each of these exams, then relocation to the Los Angeles Main Campus is required to research and write the dissertation. There are two qualifying exams in the candidate's chosen major, as well as exams that test proficiency in theological German (OT, NT,

and Theology) and Latin (NT and Theology) or Akkadian (OT) . A GPA of 3.5 or above in all previous seminary studies is required. A GRE may be required.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

All who are contemplating admission to the seminary should submit an application. Applications are available on the seminary website: [www.tms.edu/admissions/apply/](http://www.tms.edu/admissions/apply/)

### Diploma of Theology

- The seminary's application form with all applicable questions answered in full
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50
- A recent photograph of the applicant (and spouse, if married)
- If married or engaged, a completed Spouse Reference Form
- Four personal reference forms
  - Pastor (the pastoral reference must include an affirmation of the applicant's fitness and giftedness for Christian ministry)
  - Church leader
  - Academic
  - Employer
- A personal interview may be arranged with the Director of Admissions and the Review Committee. If married, the committee may request an interview with the applicant's wife as well.

### Bachelor of Theology

- The seminary's application form with all applicable questions answered in full
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50
- A recent photograph of the applicant (and spouse, if married)
- If married or engaged, a completed Spouse Reference Form
- Four personal reference forms
  - Pastor (the pastoral reference must include an affirmation of the applicant's fitness and giftedness for Christian ministry)
  - Church leader
  - Academic
  - Employer
- Official transcripts showing that the admission requirements above have been met. GPA must be included.
- A personal interview may be arranged with the Director of Admissions and the Review Committee. If married, the committee may request an interview with the applicant's wife as well.

### *Additional International Student Application Requirements*

- Official copies of your transcripts should be sent directly from your former institution to TMS.
- We require that all foreign transcripts be translated and evaluated for equivalency. We suggest the following evaluator, though others are available. Look for a credential evaluation service that holds an NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) membership, to ensure the highest possible accuracy in your transcript evaluation. Please follow the instructions on the evaluators' websites. World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) (ICAP Course-by-course)
- International students for whom English is a second language must submit a TOEFL score of at least 90 (IBT). The TOEFL's website is [www.toefl.com](http://www.toefl.com).

- International students should note the special requirements found later in the catalog.
- Prospective students with transcripts from institutions in Spanish speaking countries do not need to have their transcripts translated and may not need the transcript evaluation.

#### Master of Divinity

- The seminary's application form with all applicable questions answered in full
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50
- A recent photograph of the applicant (and spouse, if married)
- If married or engaged, a completed Spouse Reference Form
- Four personal reference forms
  - Pastor (the pastoral reference must include an affirmation of the applicant's fitness and giftedness for Christian ministry)
  - Church leader
  - Academic
  - Employer
- Official transcripts showing that an undergraduate degree was conferred. GPA must be included.
- A personal interview may be arranged with the Director of Admissions and the Review Committee. If married, the committee may request an interview with the applicant's wife as well.

#### *Additional International Student Application Requirements*

- Official copies of the applicant's transcripts sent directly from your former institution should be sent by mail to TMS.
- All foreign transcripts must be translated and evaluated for equivalency. We suggest the following evaluator, though others are available. Look for a credential evaluation service that holds an NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) membership, to ensure the highest possible accuracy in your transcript evaluation. Please follow the instructions on the evaluators' websites. World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) (ICAP Course-by-course)
- Prospective students with transcripts from institutions in Spanish speaking countries do not need to have their transcripts translated and may not need the transcript evaluation.
- International students for whom English is a second language must submit a TOEFL score of at least 90 (IBT). The TOEFL's website is [www.toefl.com](http://www.toefl.com).
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#### Master of Biblical Ministry (Spanish-language)

- The seminary's application form with all applicable questions answered in full
- A non-refundable application fee of \$25
- A recent photograph of the applicant (and spouse, if married)
- If married or engaged, a completed Spouse Reference Form
- Four personal reference forms
  - Pastor (the pastoral reference must include an affirmation of the applicant's fitness and giftedness for Christian ministry)
  - Church leader
  - Academic
  - Employer
- Official transcripts showing that the admission requirements above have been met. GPA, degree, and date conferred must be included.
- A personal interview may be arranged with the Director of Admissions and the Review Committee. If

married, the committee may request an interview with the applicant's wife as well.

#### *Additional International Student Application Requirements*

- Official copies of your transcripts should be sent directly from your former institution to TMS.
- We require that all foreign transcripts be translated and evaluated for equivalency. We suggest the following evaluator, though others are available. Look for a credential evaluation service that holds an NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) membership, to ensure the highest possible accuracy in your transcript evaluation. Please follow the instructions on the evaluators' websites. World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) (ICAP Course-by-course)
- Prospective students with transcripts from institutions in Spanish speaking countries do not need to have their transcripts translated and may not need the transcript evaluation.
- International students should note the special requirements found later in the catalog.

#### Master of Theology

Application requirements may vary for students who are currently enrolled in TMS's MDiv program. Contact the Office of Admissions for more details.

- The seminary's application form with all applicable questions answered in full
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50
- A recent photograph of the applicant (and spouse, if married)
- If married or engaged, a completed Spouse Reference Form
- Four personal reference forms
  - Pastor (the pastoral reference must include an affirmation of the applicant's fitness and giftedness for Christian ministry)
  - Church leader
  - Academic
  - Employer
- Official transcripts showing that an undergraduate degree and Master of Divinity degree has been conferred. GPA must be included.
- A personal interview may be arranged with the Director of Admissions and the Review Committee. If married, the committee may request an interview with the applicant's wife as well.

#### *Additional International Student Application Requirements*

- Official copies of your transcripts sent directly from your former institution should be sent by mail to TMS.
- We require that all foreign transcripts be translated and evaluated for equivalency. We suggest the following evaluator, though others are available. Look for a credential evaluation service that holds an NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) membership, to ensure the highest possible accuracy in your transcript evaluation. Please follow the instructions on the evaluators' websites. World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) (ICAP Course-by-course)
- \*Prospective students with transcripts from institutions in Spanish speaking countries do not need to translate their transcripts and may not need the transcript evaluation.
- International students for whom English is a second language must submit a TOEFL score of at least 90 (IBT). The TOEFL's website is [www.toefl.com](http://www.toefl.com).

## Doctor of Ministry

- The seminary's application form with all applicable questions answered in full
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50
- A recent photograph of the applicant (and spouse, if married)
- If married or engaged, a completed Spouse Reference Form
- Three personal reference forms
  - Pastor
  - Church Leader
  - Church Member
- Official transcripts including the degree conferred date and GPA are required for all undergraduate and graduate work.
- A personal interview may be arranged with the Director of Admissions and the Review Committee. If married, the committee may request an interview with the applicant's wife as well.

### *Additional International Student Application Requirements*

- Official copies of your transcripts sent directly from your former institution should be sent by mail to TMS.
- We require that all foreign transcripts be translated and evaluated for equivalency. We suggest the following evaluator, though others are available. Look for a credential evaluation service that holds an NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) membership, to ensure the highest possible accuracy in your transcript evaluation. Please follow the instructions on the evaluators' websites. World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) (ICAP Course-by-course)
- Prospective students with transcripts from institutions in Spanish speaking countries do not need to have their transcripts translated and may not need the transcript evaluation.
- International students for whom English is a second language must submit a TOEFL score of at least 100 (IBT). The TOEFL's website is [www.toefl.com](http://www.toefl.com).

## Doctor of Philosophy

- The seminary's application form with all applicable questions answered in full
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50
- A recent photograph of the applicant (and spouse, if married)
- If married or engaged, a completed Spouse Reference Form
- Four personal reference forms
  - Pastor (the pastoral reference must include an affirmation of the applicant's fitness and giftedness for Christian ministry)
  - Church leader
  - Academic
  - Employer
- Official transcripts showing that an undergraduate and graduate degree was conferred. GPA must be included.

### *Additional International Student Application Requirements*

- Official copies of your transcripts sent directly from your former institution should be sent by mail to TMS.
- We require that all foreign transcripts be translated and evaluated for equivalency. We suggest the following evaluator, though others are available. Look for a credential evaluation service that holds an

NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) membership, to ensure the highest possible accuracy in your transcript evaluation. Please follow the instructions on the evaluators' websites.

- Prospective students with transcripts from institutions in Spanish-speaking countries do not need to have their transcripts translated and may not need the transcript evaluation. World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) (ICAP Course-by-course)
- International students for whom English is a second language must submit a TOEFL score of at least 90 (IBT). The TOEFL's website is [www.toefl.com](http://www.toefl.com).
- A personal interview will be arranged with the PhD Studies Committee. If married, the committee may request an interview with the applicant's wife as well.
- Hard copy of the ThM thesis.

Enrollment in all programs is selective and limited. The Admissions Review Board (ThM/PhD Committee) may grant admission on the basis of the above credentials alone, or may request the submission of additional materials, and/or may require an interview with the Academic Provost or another representative of the seminary.

### NON-DEGREE STUDENTS

Students who are not intending to complete a program or who have not been officially admitted to a degree program are classified as non-degree students. For purposes of class organization these students are counted as members of the Junior class. Enrollment as a non-degree student is permitted for no more than 12 credit hours for two semesters (a total of 24 credit hours). Permission to enroll for an additional 12 credit hours must be requested by the student and approved by the Director of Admissions and Academic Provost. Enrollment with non-degree student status is especially encouraged for winter and summer sessions.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Life at The Master's Seminary is enriched and missionary vision is enlarged by the presence of international students. The seminary's purpose for existence is expanded by the opportunities to equip international students for ministry.

#### International Student Applications

In addition to the usual application materials and procedures, international applicants must meet the following requirements.

1. Each international applicant whose native language is other than English will need to provide a TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score taken within the last two years (see academic catalog for degree specific score requirements). Applicants may make arrangements to take the examination by contacting Educational Testing Service at [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org). Test results should be sent directly to The Master's Seminary (institution code 5997).
2. Each applicant must submit official transcripts sent to TMS directly from their former institution(s). Translated and evaluated transcripts are required for all prerequisite degrees. The evaluation must be done by a service that holds a National Association of Credential Evaluation Services membership. We recommend World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org). The evaluation should include a degree conferral date and a GPA.

## International Student Requirements

1. International students at The Master's Seminary must obtain an F-1 student visa in order to join us for classes on our campus. Following receipt of a letter of acceptance from the admissions department, and subsequent payment of the advance tuition deposit, the incoming international student will be contacted by the seminary's Designated School Official who will gather the information needed to produce the Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status, also known as the Form I-20. As a part of this process, the student will be required to provide evidence of adequate funding to cover tuition and living expenses for the first academic year for himself as well as the support and care of any F-2 dependents who will be coming with him. The seminary is unable to issue an I-20 until an affidavit of support guaranteeing these funds has been received and all application forms, transcripts, and other necessary materials have been officially approved. Without a form I-20, a student visa cannot be obtained.
2. International students who are admitted to the United States on a student visa are required by law to maintain full-time status.
3. No off-campus employment is permitted without prior authorization from the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States Department of Justice. F-1 student's dependents in F-2 status are not authorized for employment under any circumstances.

## TRANSFER STUDENTS

Please see *Transfer Policies* under *Academic Policies* for information regarding transfer students.

## TUITION DEPOSIT

An advance tuition payment of \$250 is required of all approved applicants (excluding MMB degree). This payment is due upon acceptance to ensure his matriculation.

## ORIENTATION

DipTh, BTh, MDiv

At the beginning of each semester orientation is held for incoming on campus students. Attendance is required. An unexcused absence usually requires postponement of matriculation until the following semester. Orientation sessions are critical for adequate matriculation into the seminary and include devotional messages, introductions, tours, various student instructions, an opportunity to get to know your fellow incoming students, and an evening for new students and wives to meet the faculty in a social setting.

## MMB

Accepted MMB students receive an orientation to the online modality and to the course two weeks before his first semester. This is administered through the Learning Management Software platform and is designed to ensure the success of the student working in the online environment.

## ThM

Incoming ThM students receive their orientation materials by contacting the ThM Program Coordinator.

DMin

Incoming DMin students receive their orientation materials by contacting the DMin Program Director.

PhD

Incoming PhD students receive their orientation materials by contacting the PhD Program Director.

## ACADEMIC LOAD

The minimum full-time MDiv load for residential students is 11 hours of credit, which is the same for the residential DipTh and BTh programs. The minimum full-time load for a ThM student is 4 credit hours of credit. The credit hour load for DMin students varies per semester according to the curriculum chart. The most common credit hour load for MMB students is 6 hours per semester.

Any student enrolled in the residential MDiv program (including DipTh and BTh) with fewer than 11 hours of credit, and any ThM student enrolled for less than 4 credit hours during a regular semester will be classified as a part-time student. Students enrolled part-time may be ineligible to have student loans deferred. There is no part-time status for students in the MMB, DMin, or PhD programs.

The normal unit of credit consists of one in-class session (50 minutes) a week for the semester. In some cases, such as with Beginning Greek and some expository preaching classes, a unit of credit may require more than one hour of class time per week.

Students on academic probation may be required to limit the number of hours of enrollment. Those on final academic probation are not permitted to take more than 11 hours of course work in any semester.

## REGULAR STUDENT CLASSIFICATIONS

Depending on the number of semester hours of course work completed, MDiv students are generally classified as follows.

- Junior: Fewer than 32 hours
- Middler: 32 to 62 hours
- Senior: Above 62 hours

The primary exception to the above is that classification as a senior requires an expected May graduation within one year. Students completing graduation requirements at the end of a summer session (except for those completing 4 hours or less) and those completing graduation requirements during the fall or winter sessions are counted as members of the senior class graduating the following May.

## AUDITORS

A formal audit is sought when a class participant who is not a matriculated student is seeking an institutional record of participation in a class. Auditing is rarely permitted, though at times professors will allow guests to sit in a class for personal enrichment, including wives, alumni, and special guests. However, no credits or grade points are recorded.

At the discretion of the administration, or the professor involved, auditing is not permitted for some courses, especially for seminar, laboratory, or practicum classes. In other courses, auditing may be permitted only if the student is willing to complete certain course assignments as specified by the professor. An auditor may enroll for only one semester as a “full-time” auditor (12 hours or more), or for a cumulative maximum of 24 semester hours of course work.

A student may change from credit to audit only during the first two weeks of the semester.

## CLASS SCHEDULING

Most of the English-language seminary classes are scheduled between 7:30 a.m. and 5:50 p.m. on Tuesday through Thursday. The seminary is currently offering Saturday daytime courses at the Los Angeles campus in order to provide students with greater flexibility for class scheduling along with other considerations such as full-time employment and traffic patterns. Check the course schedule per semester for current information. A block system of class scheduling is used, so that two-hour classes meet only once per week and three-hour classes meet either once or twice per week. This block system offers an advantage for commuters since it makes it possible to carry a significant class load even when it is impossible to be on campus for more than one or two days per week.

In addition to the classes held on campus, certain online courses are also offered through Canvas, the seminary's online learning management system. Select courses are currently offered with more courses slated for the future.

## REGISTRATION

The seminary designates a period during each fall and spring semester for registration for the following semester. These periods provide opportunities for students to meet with a faculty advisor in order to update the student's academic plans. All students will be notified by e-mail or through Canvas regarding the registration information (i.e., class schedules, instructions, and any other reminders). The dates for the registration periods are included in the academic calendar at the back of this catalog.

Registration cannot be completed until financial obligations have been completed with the student finance office. Students must have their tuition bill paid in full in order to register for the following semester.

## ADVISING

Each registration period students have the opportunity to meet with a faculty member for academic advising. . Students can make appointments through the Office of Student Services or by contacting the Faculty Secretary in the Office of the Dean of Faculty and Academic Provost. Although the seminary attempts to provide adequate academic advising, final responsibility for meeting all program, residence, and graduation requirements, including conformity with all assigned deadlines, rests with the student.

## CONTINUING REGISTRATION

DipTh, BTh, MDiv, MMB, ThM and DMin

All students are expected to register for each successive semester until graduation from their program. To maintain active student status a student who does not register for credits, either class or thesis credits, during any regular semester must register for Continuing Registration. This may be viewed as a non-credit course which is required whenever there would otherwise be an interruption in the student's program. Undergraduate and graduate students may register for Continuing Registration for no more than two successive semesters. DMin students may register for Continuing Registration for no more than two successive semesters.

A student who fails to register for either course credits, thesis credits, or Continuing Registration during any semester regularly scheduled for his program will be dropped from the program and must re-apply for admission prior to any subsequent registration.

## PhD

A student enrolled in the PhD program is expected to finish both his qualifying and residency phases without interruption. Under emergency circumstances a student can request approval, from the PhD Studies Committee, to sit out a semester. If the Committee approves, the student must enroll in a non-credit course named “Approved Absence.” See Tuition and Fees section for associated charges.

## ADDING AND WITHDRAWING

### DipTh, BTh, MDiv and MMB

#### *Fall and spring 16-Week Classes*

Classes can be added and dropped until the end of the “drop” period, on the Sunday following the second week of the semester. A grade of “W” indicates withdrawal during the third through the twelfth weeks for fall and spring semester. Information on refunds and penalties for failure to withdraw officially may be found later in this catalog.

#### *Eight-Week Classes*

Classes can be added through the first day of the eight week class. They can be dropped until the Sunday following the first week of class. A grade of “W” indicates withdrawal during the second and third week of the course. Information on refunds and penalties for failure to withdraw officially may be found later in this catalog.

#### *Summer and Winter Post-Sessions Classes*

Classes must be added by the first day of class and can be dropped until the second day of class. There is no withdrawal period for post-sessions.

## ThM

Classes can be added and dropped until the end of the “drop” period, the Sunday following the second week of the semester. A grade of “W” indicates withdrawal during the third through the twelfth weeks for fall and spring semester. Information on refunds and penalties for failure to withdraw officially may be found later in this catalog. The modular class “clock” starts

## DMin

Classes can be added through the first day of class. They can be dropped until the second day of class. There is no withdrawal period for Doctor of Ministry classes.

## PhD

Classes can be added and dropped until the end of the “drop” period, the Sunday following the second week of school. A grade of “W” indicates withdrawal during the third through the twelfth weeks for fall and spring semester. Information on refunds and penalties for failure to withdraw officially may be found later in this catalog.

## APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION

Students anticipating graduation in May must complete an Application for Graduation form available from the Administration office. This must be turned in January of the respective spring semester.

## CREDIT HOUR POLICIES

## DipTh, BTh, MMB and MDiv

The “credit hour” represents the fundamental unit of measurement of student workload for a given course. In a 15 week semester, a one credit hour course will have approximately 15 in-class hours (each class period being 50 minutes in length).

A work load ratio of 2:1 is expected. Thus, a one-credit hour class would require at least 2 hours of out-of-class work each week. Spread over a 15 week semester, that would approximate 30 hours of out-of-class work per credit. In summary, a credit hour corresponds to approximately 45 hours of total work over the course of a semester. Course workload calculations appear in each course syllabus.

## ThM

A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement. In a 15 week semester, a one credit hour course will have approximately 15 in-class hours (each class period being 50 minutes in length).

Given the advanced academic nature of ThM studies, a work load ratio of 3:1 is expected. Thus, a one credit hour class would require at least 45 hours of out-of-class work. Spread over a 15 week semester, that would approximate 3 hours of out-of-class work each week. In summary, a credit hour corresponds to 60 hours of total work over the course of a semester.

## DMin

A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement. In a fifteen-week semester, a one credit hour course will have approximately 15 in-class hours (each class period being 50 minutes in length).

Given the nature of D. Min. studies, as a professional post-graduate program, a work load ratio of 3:1 is expected. Thus, a one hour class would require at least 45 hours of out-of-class work. In the D. Min’s modular system, that would approximate 3 hours of out-of-class work each week. In summary, a credit hour corresponds to 60 hours of total work over the course of a semester.

## PhD

A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement. In a doctoral (PhD) course of study, each credit hour involved in the individually-designed program of study will equate to approximately 15 in-class hours (each class period being 50 minutes in length).

Given the advanced academic nature of research PhD studies, a work load ratio of 4:1 is expected. Thus, a one credit hour class would require at least 60 hours of student work in a semester. Spread over a 15 week semester, that would approximate 16 hours of student work each week.

## TRANSFER POLICIES

### DipTh, BTh and MDiv

#### *Transfer Credits/Advanced Academic Standing*

Applicants transferring into the Master of Divinity, Bachelor of Theology or Diploma of Theology programs from other seminaries with recognized theological and academic standards will ordinarily be given full credit for course work satisfactorily completed (C or above) up to a maximum of 48 semester hours of applicable credits. The last 12 hours must be completed at The Master's Seminary. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the institutions involved to the Office of the Academic Provost. In no case is credit granted for course work taken at the undergraduate level or for life experiences.

#### *Credit by Examination*

TMS offers an incoming student to earn course credit through PASS Exams (*Provision for Advanced Scholastic Standing*). Students that earn a passing score on these exams are eligible to receive a maximum of 16 credit hours. PASS exams are offered during Orientation. Students taking advantage of this opportunity could potentially complete their work a semester early.

The following courses are eligible for PASS exams:

Beginning Greek I & II	(2 + 2)
Greek Exegesis I & II	(3 + 3)
Hebrew Grammar I & II	(3 + 3)
OT I & II/NT Studies	(3 + 3 + 3)

#### *Course Waivers*

TMS does not wish to require any student to enroll in a class that is repetitious of previous education. The seminary invites any student to appeal to the Academic Provost for a waiver for previously completed courses. The decision will be based on a review of the student's official transcript and the course syllabus. A waiver grants no credit; rather, in such cases, an elective course from the same discipline must be taken in the place of the waived course.

### MMB

Applicants transferring into this program from other seminaries with recognized theological and academic standards will ordinarily be given full credit for course work satisfactorily completed ("C" or above) up to a maximum of 18 semester hours of applicable credits. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the institutions involved to the director of the program. In no case is credit granted for course work taken at the undergraduate level or for life experiences.

#### *Credit by Examination*

TMS offers an incoming MMB student the option to earn course credit through PASS Exams (*Provision for Advanced Scholastic Standing*). Students that earn a passing score on these exams are eligible to receive a maximum of 15 credit hours. Normally, PASS Exams are taken by arrangement within the first semester. PASS exams may include both an exam component and a written project component. Students taking advantage of this opportunity

could potentially complete their work early. MMB PASS exams are available for all courses except Hermeneutics or Biblical Ministry.

## ThM

Applicants transferring into the Master of Theology (ThM) program may apply up to four advanced graduate semester credit hours from an accredited theological institution toward fulfillment of ThM course requirements at The Master's Seminary.

## DMin

Students with previous training in the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree program will be required to submit official transcripts prior to enrollment. The transcript(s) will be evaluated by the Academic Provost and the Director of the DMin degree program and appropriate transfer credit given. Credits awarded will be recorded in the student's official record and the length of the course shortened proportionately. The student and any relevant governmental agency (e.g., Department of Veteran Affairs [DVA]) will be notified.

## PhD

Students with previous training in this degree program will be required to submit official transcripts prior to enrollment. The transcript(s) will be evaluated by the Academic Provost and the Director of the PhD degree program and appropriate transfer credit given. Credits awarded will be recorded in the student's official record and the length of the course shortened proportionately. The student and any relevant governmental agency (e.g., Department of Veteran Affairs [DVA]) will be notified.

## GRADING SYSTEM

To distinguish various levels of achievement in the mastery of subject material, in effectiveness of research, in fulfillment of assignments and responsibilities, or in improvement in personal and ministry skills, as appropriate for each course, the seminary employs the following grading symbols.

A	96–100	A and A-	= Exceptional achievement
A-	94–95	B+, B and B-	= Above average achievement
B+	92–93	C+, C and C-	= Fair or average achievement
B	88–91	D+, D and D-	= Below average, minimally acceptable achievement
B-	86–87		
C+	84–85	F	= Unacceptable achievement, failure
C	80–83		
C-	78–79	I	= Incomplete work
D+	76–77	W	= Withdrawal during the third through the twelfth weeks of regular semesters
D	72–75		
D-	70–71		
F	69 and below		

Grade points are awarded according to the following scale.

A	4 points for each semester hour
A-	3.7 points per credit hour
B+	3.3 points per credit hour
B	3 points per credit hour
B-	2.7 points per credit hour
C+	2.3 points per credit hour
C	2 points per credit hour
C-	1.7 points per credit hour
D+	1.3 points per credit hour
D	1 points per credit hour
D-	0.7 points per credit hour
F	0 points per credit hour
I	Not counted until changed

The grading symbol W does not affect grade point averages and the courses for which they are assigned do not count in computing credit hours attempted.

A failing grade (“F”) is never removed from the student’s transcript. Any student who receives a grade of “C” or below may retake the course. However, when the course is repeated, the second grade is recorded in such a manner as to delete any negative effect of the failing grade (“F”) when computing grade points.

The following system for converting number grades or percentages to letter grades, where appropriate, is in general use:

#### INCOMPLETE

A grade of “I” may be granted only in instances of unusual circumstances such as an extended serious illness. An Incomplete (“I”) indicates that the work done for the course has been acceptable but that some portion of the required work is incomplete for an excusable reason. Requests for an Incomplete must be addressed, in writing (a form is available in Office of Academic Administration), to the Academic Provost, and must be approved, or rejected, by a faculty committee. An Incomplete (“I”) automatically becomes a Failure (“F”) unless the requirements are satisfactorily completed within 60 days after the end of the semester. No exceptions or additional extensions will be granted except upon written petition by the student and special action by the Academic Provost (students making the request must sign their acceptance of these stipulations).

#### PROBATION

A student may be admitted on academic probation for a variety of reasons, including an inadequate academic record or graduation from an unaccredited institution.

The term “probation” refers to a status, assigned by institutional regulations or administrative decision, which indicates that the student has failed to meet the stated expectations of the seminary. In the majority of cases it is the result of unsatisfactory academic performance. Unless the probationary status is removed at the end of the semester of probation the student will be placed on final probation. A student may be on probation for one semester only, and on final probation for one semester only. A student on probation may, at the discretion of the Dean of Faculty, be limited in hours of enrollment and thus required to lengthen the time required for completing the remainder of his program.

A student whose cumulative grade point average falls below 2.5 (or 2.0 for Bachelor of Theology and Diploma of Theology students, and 3.0 for Master of Theology students) will be placed on probation for the following semester. If the minimum grade point average is not achieved at the end of the semester of probation the student will be placed on final probation. A student on final probation for any regular semester must terminate his program at the end of that semester if the final probationary status is not removed by achieving the cumulative grade point average required for graduation from his program.

A student whose program has been terminated for academic reasons may appeal this action. Such an appeal must be addressed to the faculty, through the Administration office, in writing, and must include an explanation of why the minimum academic requirements were not met and why consideration of an exception is warranted. The appeal must be received within two weeks of notification of termination. The faculty decision with regard to the appeal is final.

An application for admission after termination for academic reasons may be considered only after a full academic year of non-enrollment.

#### ACADEMIC HONORS

Any student who completes his respective academic program (DipTh, BTh, MMB, MDiv, ThM, DMin, PhD) with a high grade point average is eligible, upon graduation, for academic honors as follows.

3.700–3.799	Cum Laude
3.800–3.899	Magna Cum Laude
3.900–4.000	Summa Cum Laude

All grade point averages are based exclusively on course work completed at The Master's Seminary.

#### ADVANCING DEGREES

Students who complete the DipTh and wish to advance to the BTh, or students who complete the BTh and wish to advance to the MDiv must make their intentions known within five years of completing their degree.

#### PLAGIARISM

In order to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity and personal ethics, The Master's Seminary has adopted the following policy regarding plagiarism.

##### General Policy

Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking and using the thoughts, writings, inventions, etc., of another person as one's own. The intention of the student is taken into consideration. The most serious forms of plagiarism will manifest some level of knowledge of the act and generally display an effort to conceal the plagiarism. Knowledge of sources used is required at this academic level. Even after graduation, the consequences of plagiarism do not simply evaporate. Should serious plagiarism be discovered in a thesis or dissertation—even years after graduation—the seminary may move to revoke the offender's degree.

## Common Types of Plagiarism

Secondary Source Plagiarism—Plagiarism often involves the problem of claiming the results of others—taking a quotation from one’s reading and placing it into a paper without using a “cited in” notation. When using a quotation in another work, the student is under an ethical obligation to go to the original source, verify the citation and context, and only then may the student list it in a footnote or bibliography. If unable to view the original source, a “cited in” reference must be used for this quotation. This ethical consideration may well save the student from the embarrassment of perpetuating a mis-quotation or taking a quotation out of context.

Paraphrase Plagiarism— Simply paraphrasing a quotation (without attribution) from a source is still plagiarism. This type of plagiarism is avoided by doing the hard work of taking research, distilling it, and then writing one’s own thoughts, interpretations, and conclusions, giving attribution as often as necessary. Facts widely available in reference books, newspapers, magazines, etc., are common knowledge and need no citation.

## Penalties

When an act of plagiarism is discovered or suspected (even after graduation), the matter will be reported to the Dean of Students who will move to investigate the matter.

Penalties for those found guilty of plagiarism can be as follows.

1. Reduced or failing grade
2. An official letter of reprimand
3. A defined period of probation, with or without the attachment of conditions
4. Withdrawal of seminary scholarship funding
5. A defined period of suspension, with or without the attachment of conditions
6. Expulsion from the seminary
7. Revocation of an awarded degree

To avoid the temptation of the sin of plagiarism, allow for the proper amount of time to research and write papers. Lack of time is the most common excuse for engaging in plagiarism.

## RECORDING OF LECTURES

No personal audio or video recordings of any class sessions may be made without securing the permission of the professor. Professors may legitimately choose not to allow such recording. When permission is granted, it is understood that the recording is to be used only by the student(s) registered in the course involved. No public use or reduplication is permitted without permission of the professor. The recording of one class, or several classes, or portions of classes, when absence is necessary, may generally be permitted, but such recordings should not be collected, copied, or preserved for other uses. In no case should the professor be expected to arrange for the recording or asked to operate the recording devices. Occasionally, when daily recording is helpful for a student attending the course, as with certain disabled persons, recording is permitted with the understanding that it will not be distributed.

In rare cases may a student record, or have recorded, an entire course or a major portion of a course in lieu of attending classes or as a way to solve a scheduling conflict. Exception may be granted in the case of unavoidable scheduling conflicts during the final two semesters before graduation, but not even then if one of the two conflicting classes is an elective.

## ATTENDANCE

All students are expected to be prompt and faithful in class attendance. Unexcused absence for the equivalent of one week of the class time for any class is allowed without penalty in a given course to provide for absences due to personal reasons or to fulfill ministry opportunities. Students are responsible for all work required, including any assignments missed because of absence. Professors are not under obligation to review missed assignments or provide supplementary instruction for students who miss classes. Whenever possible the student should consult with the professor for any instructions or assignments in advance of a foreseeable absence. Excused absence is permitted in cases of sickness or emergency, but in no case may the number of absences for any course exceed the equivalent of three weeks of class time. When absences exceed this limit, a grade of “F” is required as appropriate. Individual faculty members are responsible to clarify any additional attendance policies, and corresponding penalties, for each class.

## EXAMINATIONS

Except in cases of illness or family emergency, students are expected to be present for any scheduled examination. Requests to take an examination at any time other than the time scheduled must be addressed to and approved by the class professor.

## COURSE PAPERS

All assigned course and term papers are to be submitted in thesis form unless the professor indicates otherwise. All papers should be prepared in conformity with the latest editions of the *TMS Style Guide* and Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations 9th Edition*. Where these sources differ, the seminary’s “Guidelines” takes precedence.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Master’s Seminary complies with the provisions of the (FERPA) Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. The seminary does not permit access to, or the release of, personally identifiable information, or educational records, to any individual without the written consent of the student, with the following exceptions.

- All records are available to the administrators, faculty, or staff of the seminary, having legitimate educational concerns.
- Appropriate information is released to medical personnel when the health of the student or others would be endangered by the withholding of information.
- Appropriate information is supplied to financial aid personnel in connection with an application for such aid.
- Specified data is given to the governmental officials and agencies designated by law, or in compliance with a judicial order.

FERPA permits institutions to specifically define some education record information as “directory information” not confidential under FERPA. This is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The seminary may release “directory information” unless the student withholds permission. Directory information is defined as:

- Student name
- TMS e-mail address
- Date of birth (verification only)
- Dates of attendance at the seminary

- Degrees and honors received
- Program enrollment status
- Year in the program
- Program discipline (if applicable)
- Participation in officially recognized activities
- Photographs
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

The seminary recognizes the right of the student to limit or prohibit disclosure of this information. In view, however, of this statement of disclosure, the seminary assumes that failure on the part of any student to request the withholding of this information indicates permission for such disclosure. Requests to limit or withhold this information should be submitted to the Administration office.

Before releasing any directory information, call the Office of the Registrar to see if the student has placed a hold on the release of directory information.

## ELECTIVE COURSES (TRACKS)

### Summary

The MDiv curriculum includes seven elective courses (14 units total). These courses enable students to prepare for various kinds of future ministry opportunities—whether they want to (1) preach more effectively, (2) pursue further academic training, (3) serve overseas on the mission field, or (4) hone their skills in the area of pastoral counseling.

### Purpose

Though not required, students are encouraged to plan their elective courses strategically—choosing to take elective courses that correspond to a specific track. These tracks, though not a formal part of the MDiv program, allow students to customize the education they receive at TMS.

### Academic Tracks

For students planning to pursue further studies (at the ThM or PhD level), the seminary recommends concentrating on a specific area of academic study. Numerous electives are regularly offered in the following areas.

1. Old Testament
2. New Testament
3. Systematic Theology
4. Bible Exposition

Students can emphasize any one of these fields of study by selecting electives in these areas.

## PROFESSIONAL/PASTORAL TRACKS

Additionally, the seminary offers electives for students who wish to focus on (1) Missions and Bible Translation (2) Pastoral Counseling, and (3) Homiletics and Preaching. Elective courses are regularly offered for students looking to be equipped in these vital areas of ministry.

### Missions & Bible Translation

The seminary's partnership with The Master's Academy International (TMAI) makes TMS a unique training ground for men who desire to serve in ministry overseas. Electives in both International Missions and Bible Translation are regularly offered for students looking to be equipped for future missionary service.

### Biblical Counseling Studies

The Master's Seminary is recognized as a Certified Biblical Counseling Center, with counseling classes taught by Certified Biblical Counselors. Consequently, the counseling courses are an accepted source of education for the certification of Biblical Counselors by the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC).

## Homiletics & Preaching

The core curriculum at TMS places a primary emphasis on the priority and practice of biblical exposition. A number of electives have been designed to help students further develop their preaching ability. From rightly dividing the Word of truth, to preaching it effectively, these courses are aimed at preparing future pastors for pulpit ministry.

## STUDY ABROAD

### Israel Studies

The Master's Seminary, through the Israel Bible Extension (IBEX) program of The Master's University, offers graduate and post-graduate training in the fields of biblical history, geography, customs, and archaeology by means of studying in Israel. Our main vehicle for doing this is a three week study trip in Israel in May, right after the end of the spring semester. During that trip the Director of the Israel Studies Program guides the students through numerous biblical sites throughout the land of Israel. This trip can be taken for academic credit as an elective in the MDiv or ThM curriculum. TMS is also a member of a consortium of schools that works with Associates for biblical Research, who conducts archaeological digs in Israel every May/June. Any student interested in Biblical archaeology can join ABR on one of their summer digs as well. Finally, there is also the option for a student to spend a semester studying in Israel on the IBEX campus in the beautiful Judean hills. The interested student would need to contact Dr. Grisanti for more information about that possibility.

### Lands of Paul Studies

The Master's Seminary offers seminary credit for a study trip offered by The Master's University, retracing the missionary journeys of Paul in Turkey and Greece, including the seven churches of Revelation. The trip also includes visits to 44 major biblical and historical sites, including Istanbul, Tarsus, Ephesus, Troy, Athens, Corinth, Thessalonica, and Philippi. Students will receive information regarding this trip.

### Cross-Cultural Training

The seminary has a high level of commitment to overseas ministry. When possible, ministry teams travel to one or more countries conducting leadership seminars and visiting missionaries. In most cases the student will be involved with experienced pastors who will guide the student throughout the cross-cultural experience. The student may be eligible to receive two units of elective credit for the overseas involvement, providing that the assignments are satisfactorily completed.

### Foreign Studies in Missions

In order to expand the world-vision of its students, The Master's Seminary encourages students to participate in ministry trips in foreign countries and in study programs sponsored by the seminary, by Grace Community Church, or by other approved missions agencies or churches that sponsor foreign internship programs. These programs are designed to introduce students, both practically and academically, to both specialized and non-specialized missionary service while under the direction of approved missiologists. In all cases where seminary credit is approved, special course assignments designed by the seminary faculty must be fulfilled. Approval will be granted for more than four hours of credit only when the foreign stay involves actual *in situ* class work.

## DISTANCE LEARNING & INDEPENDENT STUDIES

### Distance Education Program

The Master's Seminary has begun multiple distance locations for students who wish to study under the TMS faculty without relocating to Los Angeles. These distance locations have been established in conjunction with TMS alumni-lead churches across the United States. Students at each location have the opportunity to study under the TMS faculty through online and two-way live courses. Each distance location is founded on the principle of training up men to shepherd God's flock through both a strong academic education and mentorship with those who have years of experience leading churches. For specific information on current Distance Locations consult [www.tms.edu](http://www.tms.edu).

### Online Courses

In conjunction with the distance locations, students have the opportunity to take Online classes. While no student may finish their degree online, all students, whether at the distance locations or those students planning on attending the Los Angeles campus in the future, may take online courses. TMS utilizes the online learning platform Canvas which allows the students to view pre-recorded class lectures, complete assignments, interact with other online students, and interact with instructors. Each class has been designed to maximize the advantages of online learning. Both 8 and 16 week options are available to students throughout the academic year. The online courses grant students access to *The Master's Seminary Journal*, numerous links to Biblical and theological studies, and the library's Online Public Access Catalogue. These resources ensure that students have access to all necessary academic resources and scholarship.

### Arranged Courses

Students who have completed a minimum of 50 credit hours may occasionally wish to pursue an elective course or topic of interest that is not currently offered in a classroom setting. In such cases, the student is encouraged to discuss the possibility of arranging an independent study course with a professor from that discipline. A required course may not be so arranged unless it is in the student's final year, and then only if it conflicts with another required course. All petitions for Arranged Courses must be approved by the Academic Provost.

## WINTER & SUMMER SESSIONS

A limited selection of courses is offered in winter and summer sessions. Except for Beginning Greek, which is scheduled each summer, students should not plan for a substantive part of curriculum requirements to be offered in these sessions. One elective course each winter will usually be offered by a distinguished guest lecturer (list of past lecturers is noted below). Winter students are permitted to pay for it by adding it to their spring semester bill. However, one must enroll in a minimum of 11 units in the spring semester (in addition to the winter units) to maintain full-time status.

### Winter Distinguished Scholars Series

- 1990 S. Lewis Johnson, Jr., Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament
- 1991 Homer A. Kent, Jr., Exposition of Acts
- 1992 Robert L. Saucy, Dispensational Theology
- 1993 Kenneth L. Barker, Scope of OT Theology as Fulfilled in Christ's First and Second Advents
- 1994 John A. Sproule, Exposition of Hebrews
- 1995 John Woodbridge, History of Evangelicalism and Fundamentalism

- 1996 Stanley D. Toussaint, Galatians  
1997 Walter C. Kaiser, Old Testament Ethics  
1998 George W. Knight, III, Studies in the Pastoral Epistles  
1999 John S. Feinberg, Continuity & Discontinuity between the Testaments  
2000 Thomas R. Edgar, Gifts of the Holy Spirit in Acts & 1 Corinthians  
2001 Eugene Merrill, Theology of the Pentateuch  
2002 Harold Hoehner, Ephesians  
2003 Wayne Grudem, Biblical Manhood and Womanhood  
2004 Steven Lawson, Preaching from the Psalms  
2005 R. Kent Hughes, Paul's Concept of Ministry in Second Corinthians  
2006 Ralph Alexander, Ezekiel  
2007 John D. Hannah, Life of Jonathan Edwards  
2008 Douglas Moo, Epistle of James  
2009 Daniel Block, Worship in the Old Testament  
2010 Bruce Ware, Universal Reign of the Triune God  
2011 Charlie Dyer, Jeremiah and Lamentations  
2012 John S. Feinberg, Issues in Christian Ethics  
2013 Robert Yarbrough, 1,2,3 John  
2014 Duane Garrett, Job  
2015 Larry Pettegrew, Contemporary Evangelicalism  
2016 Tom Pennington, Practical Process for Exposition: A Study in Romans  
2017 Carl Trueman, The Reformation  
2018 Thomas Schreiner, Biblical Theology

STUDENT ACCOUNTS CONTACT INFORMATION

Accountinfo@masters.edu  
661-362-2212

STUDENT FEES

Tuition charges paid by students cover slightly more than one-half the cost of the normal operating expenses. The continuing support of individuals and churches is necessary for the ongoing ministry of the seminary.

The charges listed below reflect the pricing structure for the current academic year. The seminary reserves the right to change these charges and it is possible that some increases will be necessary in succeeding years.

Application fee           \$50     (not refundable; MMB is \$25)  
Advance tuition deposit \$250   (not refundable after June 1 for fall, November 1 for spring, April 1 for summer)

Tuition

*MDiv, BTh, DipTh programs*

Tuition per credit hour for on campus, full-time students (11 credit hours or more) ..... \$290\*  
Tuition per credit hour for on campus, part-time students (under 11 credit hours) ..... \$480  
Tuition per credit hour in summer & winter post-sessions ..... \$435  
Tuition per credit hour for Online students ..... \$495  
Tuition per credit hour for Distance Location Campus ..... \$435  
Continuing registration ..... \$50

\*This represents the price after receiving the full-time residential scholarship available to all on campus students. Without the scholarship, the cost is \$435 per credit hour.

*MMB program*

Tuition per credit hour ..... \$250  
Continuing registration ..... \$25

*ThM program*

Tuition per credit hour, full-time students (4 credit hours or more) ..... \$495  
Tuition per credit hour, part-time students (under 4 credit hours) ..... \$625  
Continuing registration ..... \$150

*PhD program*

Tuition (per unit) ..... \$750  
Approved absence, qualifying and residency (per semester) ..... \$600  
TMAI Approved absence, qualifying and residency (per semester) ..... \$0

*DMin program*

Tuition (per semester) .....	\$2,900
Continuing registration .....	\$150

General Fees

On campus student service fee (fall and spring semesters) .....	\$250
Shepherds Conference Fee (MDiv, BTh, DipTh on campus, spring semester) .....	\$200
Distance Location student service fee (fall and spring semesters) .....	\$250
Online student service fee (fall and spring semesters).....	\$125
MMB on campus student service fee.....	\$125
MMB online student service fee .....	\$60
ThM student service fee (fall and spring) .....	\$125
DMin student service fee (fall and spring semesters) .....	\$125
PhD student service fee (fall and spring semesters) .....	\$250
Pre-Registration Fee (fall, spring, summer and winter- all degrees).....	\$35
Carrel rental fee (optional, per semester of residency) .....	\$75
Payment plan (5-month plan) .....	\$85
Late payment fee .....	\$25
Class schedule change during withdraw period .....	\$25
Thesis/ Project binding (ThM, DMin & PhD, original plus two copies).....	\$100
Additional personal copies (each) .....	\$45
Graduation fee .....	\$225
Transcript fee .....	\$10

Projected Tuition Cost and Length of Program

Note that the following chart assumes full-time status.

Degree	Total Cost of Tuition**	Projected Length of Program
DipTh (on campus)	\$27,440	3–4 years
Dip. Th. (distance)	\$41,650	4 years
BTh (on campus)	\$27,440	3–4 years
BTh (distance)	\$41,650	4 years
MMB	\$7,800	3 years
MDiv (on campus)	\$27,440	3–4 years
MDiv (distance)	\$41,650	4 years
ThM	\$13,860	2–4 years
DMin	\$16,500	3 years
PhD	\$18,000	2–3 years of residential program

\*\*see general fees for additional charges

HOUSING AND OTHER COSTS

The seminary does not provide housing for either married or single students; students are responsible for making their own living arrangements. In addition to tuition and fees, students should plan for expenses like medical insurance, housing, food, transportation, and books. Married students who have children should anticipate the

additional expenses involved.

## MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERAGE

Adequate health insurance coverage is mandatory for all part-time and full-time L.A. campus students. A health insurance policy may be obtained through an insurance company of the student's own choosing (providing it is ACA compliant) or through participation in a plan where the student or spouse is employed. A group hospitalization plan for seminarians and their families is available through the seminary. Further information regarding the reasonable premiums and the extent of coverage is available from the Administration Office.

Medical Insurance is required for all L.A. campus students. Students without adequate coverage through employment or other means will be automatically enrolled in the TMUS insurance plan each semester. (Information on medical insurance coverage is available from the TMS website. Insurance for spouse and/or children would be an additional cost.)

## PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Tuition, fees, and charges are due in a timely manner during the regular billing cycle. Students who are unable to pay their entire semester charges may elect to use the Payment Plan (5-month payment plan). This plan allows students to budget more easily, reducing the size of the tuition payments by spreading them over the semester. Actual monthly payments are automatically adjusted when courses are added or dropped, or when enrollment plans change.

For those who choose this plan, a student's *semester* tuition charges, based on his enrollment, are paid over a five-month period, beginning in July and ending in November for the fall semester, and beginning in December and ending in April for the spring semester. No interest is charged in this plan. There is a \$85 *per semester* set-up fee and a charge of \$25 for each payment received after the due date. Each payment is due on the tenth of each month.

Student tuition accounts must be paid in full by the following deadlines. (There is no extended payment plan for summer post-session.)

- November 10 for the fall semester
- April 10 for the spring semester
- June 10 for the first summer post-session
- August 10 for the second summer post-session

Winter post-session tuition costs can be rolled into your spring tuition payment plan. However, summer post-session tuition costs *cannot* be rolled into your fall tuition payment plan.

Students with unpaid balances after these dates may be suspended from classes in Canvas and will forfeit the opportunity to enroll in courses for the subsequent school term until their bill is paid.

Transcripts and diplomas may also be withheld. Note: If your tuition is being paid by another person or organization, it is your responsibility to make sure your tuition is paid on time to avoid the penalties listed above.

Questions regarding the payment of accounts should be addressed to the Student Accounts Office, The Master's University and Seminary, 21726 Placerita Canyon Road, Newhall, California 91321, or at (661) 362-2212.

## REFUNDS

See below for refund policies. Note that for all degrees *failure to withdraw officially will result in an “F” on the student’s transcript, as appropriate, even though the student may never have attended the class(es), and a student who does not withdraw officially will not be entitled to any refund.* A student who chooses to withdraw from a class or classes, or from all classes for which he has registered, whether he has attended them or not, must officially withdraw by completing the forms which are available from the Administration office.

DipTh, BTh, MMB, and MDiv

### *Fall and Spring 16 Week Classes*

Refunds of tuition payments are based upon the week that the official withdrawal form is signed by the Administration office, not on the time the student ceases to attend the class(es).

Withdrawal during the first two weeks	100%
During the third week	75%
During the fourth week	60%
During the fifth week	45%
During the sixth week	30%
During the seventh week	15%
During the eighth week	5%
During the ninth week or later	0%

### *Eight-Week Classes*

Refunds of tuition payments are based upon the week that the official withdrawal form is signed by the Administration office, not on the time the student ceases to attend the class(es).

Withdrawal during the first week	100%
During the second week	75%
During the third week	50%
During the fourth week or later	0%

### *Summer and Winter Post-Sessions*

The following policy pertains to all summer and winter post-session classes except for eight-week classes, see above for the eight-week refund policy. For summer classes 100% refund if dropped prior to or during the first two days of class. No refund if dropped after the second day of class. For winter classes, 100% if dropped prior to or during the first day of class. No refund if dropped after the first day of class. The date used to establish the amount of refund will be the date that the drop slip is signed by the Office of Academic Administration.

ThM

A student who chooses to withdraw from a class or classes, or from all classes for which he has registered, whether he has attended them or not, must officially withdraw by completing the forms which are available from the

Administration office. See refund schedule under DipTh, BTh, M.M.B & MDiv 16 week classes. Modular withdraw periods start the first day of the modular session, not the first day of the on campus class.

#### DMin

Doctor or Ministry courses receive a 100% refund if dropped prior to or during the first two days of class. No refund if dropped after the second day of class. Refunds of tuition payments are based upon the week that the official withdrawal form is signed by the Administration office, not on the time the student ceases to attend the class(es).

#### PhD

Refunds of tuition payments are based upon the week that the official withdrawal form is signed by the Administration office, not on the time the student ceases to participate in the program. See refund schedule under DipTh, BTh, M.M.B & MDiv 16 week classes.

#### ACCOUNT CREDITS

Students who receive federal or state loans will receive a refund of the amount remaining after tuition has been paid. The refund will be processed the week after the official add/ drop period has ended.

#### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

There are select opportunities available for on campus employment at The Master's Seminary and Grace Community Church. Most students work between ten and twenty hours per week and wages vary by department. Employment opportunities exist in the library, facilities, bookstore, security, and select internships are available based on need in other departments.

#### FINANCIAL AID CONTACT INFORMATION

Financialaid@masters.edu  
661-362-2290

#### FINANCIAL AID POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

##### Federal Student Aid

##### Eligibility:

- To be eligible to receive federal student aid, a student must:
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident (except for international scholarships).
- Have a bachelor's degree conferred or higher. (For those in the BTh you must have a high school diploma or equivalent.)
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress towards graduation and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA as required.
- Be registered for the draft with the Selective Service if the student is male, at least 18 years old, was born after December 31, 1960 and is not a current member of the active armed service.
- Not be in default on any Title IV loans or owe repayment on any Title IV grant.

## Graduate Federal Aid

Graduate level students (i.e. MDiv, DMin, ThM, etc.) are eligible to receive unsubsidized Stafford loans in the amount of \$20,500 per academic year. New students will need to complete a FAFSA, a Seminary Financial Aid Application and a Seminary Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy. Continuing students, who have received loans in previous years, only need to complete the FAFSA each year.

## Undergraduate Federal Aid

Undergraduate students in the BTh program may be eligible to receive federal aid in the form of Pell Grant and subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford loans. Eligibility for Pell Grant and Subsidized loans is based on need determined by the FAFSA. New students will need to complete a FAFSA, a Seminary Financial Aid Application and a Seminary Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy. Continuing students, who have received loans in previous years, only need to complete the FAFSA each year.

## Federal Student Aid Application Process

To apply for federal aid, the student will need to:

- Complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Complete The Master's Seminary Financial Aid Application (FAA) and return it to the Office of Financial Aid.
- If required for verification, submit the appropriate Federal Verification Worksheet and appropriate tax documents.
- Submit any additional documentation requested by the Office of Financial Aid

## Determination of Need

Financial need is calculated by information the student provides on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This standard form, used nationwide in higher education, gathers information on the family's financial situation—their income and assets. Other requested information includes the number of family members and the number of family members in college. The results of this calculated assessment are commonly referred to as the Expected Family Contribution or (EFC).

The EFC is subtracted from the cost of attendance and the result is a calculation of the student's "financial need." Aid eligibility at The Master's Seminary is a function of both the cost of attendance and the student's expected family contribution.

## TMS Scholarship Aid

The Master's Seminary has a scholarship program which is made possible by the generosity of ministry partners. Therefore, scholarships are awarded each semester based on availability of these funds. Students must complete a scholarship application to be considered for funds. Before funds can be applied to a student's account, the student will need to complete the scholarship application process.

### *TMS Scholarship Application Process*

To apply for a TMS Scholarship, the student will need to:

- Complete The Master's Seminary Financial Aid Application (FAA) and return it to the Office of Financial Aid.

- Submit The Master’s Seminary Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy
- Submit a scholarship application for the scholarship desired.
- Submit any additional documentation requested by the Office of Financial Aid

Priority in awarding is based upon the timely filing of all required applications, supporting documents and notification of admission to the Seminary. Most awards (scholarships, grants, loans) are disbursed in two equal installments, which are credited directly to the student’s account. Most financial awards are eligible for renewal based on program guidelines and an annual application (modified for continuing students) must be submitted.

#### Financial Aid Awards

Once all applications and supporting documents are received, a financial aid award will be offered to the student.

#### Verification

Verification is the process of confirming the accuracy of information reported on the FAFSA. All students selected for verification by the federal government are required for verification at The Master’s Seminary. A student required for verification will need to submit a Federal Verification Worksheet and complete IRS Data Retrieval or IRS transcript. This process is required of The Master’s Seminary by the federal government in order to help maintain the integrity of the Federal Student Aid program.

#### Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Each student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) as outlined below:

2.00 GPA Requirement	2.5 GPA Requirement	3.0 GPA Requirement
Bachelor of Theology	Master of Divinity Master of Biblical Ministry	Master of Theology Doctor of Ministry Doctor of Philosophy

Cumulative GPA is based on institutional and transfer credit hours. A student must also complete 80 percent of the institutional units he/she has attempted. For example, a student who attempts 30 credit hours for the first year must complete 24 of those credit hours. A student who has attempted 60 credit hours by the end of the second year must have completed 48 of these credit hours. A student must also demonstrate progress toward graduation. The timeframe in which a student finishes his degree cannot exceed 150 percent of the published length of the program. For example, for an academic program with a program length of 98 units, the timeframe of completion cannot exceed 147 units. Part-time students must also complete 80 percent of their attempted units. “F” grades, incompletes, withdrawals, and “no credit” marks affect your GPA as outlined in this catalog.

#### Evaluation of Student’s Progress

The GPA and unit evaluation is done at the beginning of each semester. If either of the criteria are not met at their times of evaluation, the student will be notified of his failure to meet the qualifications and the student will be placed on financial aid warning.

## Financial Aid Warning for Failure to Meet the GPA Requirement

If a student is put on financial aid warning for failure to meet the cumulative GPA requirement for their program, the student has one semester to raise his cumulative GPA to the minimum requirement. The student must maintain the minimum cumulative GPA for one semester before being removed from financial aid warning.

If the student does not raise his GPA to the minimum requirement within the warning semester, the student will have all financial aid suspended until they have met the cumulative GPA requirement. After maintaining the cumulative GPA for one semester, the student will again be eligible for financial aid.

If a student is academically suspended, the student must complete the re-admission procedures for an academically disqualified student as outlined in the student catalog. The student must then meet the minimum cumulative GPA requirement for one semester before that student will be eligible for financial aid. After such a time as the requirements have been met, the student may again apply for financial aid.

## Financial Aid Warning to Meet the Unit Requirement

If, at the time of the unit evaluation, a student has failed to complete 80 percent of the attempted units, they will be placed on financial aid warning and will be notified of the failure to meet the requirements. That student will have one semester in which to improve this percentage. If, by the end of that semester, the student has not completed 80 percent of the cumulative attempted units, that student will have all financial aid suspended until such a time as they have met the requirement. The student may again apply for financial aid after requirements have been met.

## Appeal

A student may appeal this suspension by presenting a letter of appeal to the Office of Financial Aid. The appeal must include why you have failed to meet Satisfactory Progress. It must also include what has and will change in order for you to achieve Satisfactory Progress by the next semester. Cases of extreme illness or death in the family will be taken into consideration. The Office of Financial Aid will notify the student as to the final decision.

An approved appeal will grant the student one semester of probation in which they will still be eligible to receive financial aid. If satisfactory progress is not met at the end of this probation period, the student will be placed on financial aid suspension until the student has met the requirements.

## FORMS OF FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is money provided from federal and local governments, independent and private organizations and from funds set aside by the seminary to assist families in meeting the costs of higher education. Most opportunities for financial assistance fall into either of two categories: “merit-based aid” and “need-based aid.” “Merit-based” scholarships are granted based on a student’s achievements or promise of achievement in academics. “Need-based” aid, as the name implies, requires that the student and their family demonstrate a financial need in meeting seminary costs. Simply stated, financial need is the difference between the amount a family is expected to contribute and the actual amount to attend seminary. In most cases the amount of financial aid offered will be based on a combination of factors involving both types of aid. Once application materials are received, students are assigned counselors to assist them through the financial aid process.

## Scholarships

Scholarships and tuition grants come through the endowment funds and sacrificial gifts provided by friends of TMS. A limited number of scholarships are available. Please see [www.tms.edu/finaid](http://www.tms.edu/finaid) for a current listing of scholarships.

## Pell Grant

Eligibility (BTh Students Only)	Must meet all eligibility requirements for federal student aid. Must demonstrate financial need.
Amount	Varies year to year.

## Federal Stafford Loans

Subsidized	Need-based, fixed rate, low-interest student loan in which the government pays the interest while the student is enrolled at least half-time (6 units). Loan is deferred until 6 months after the student graduates or drops below half-time.		
Unsubsidized	Fixed rate, low-interest student loan in which interest accrues while the student is enrolled at least half-time (6 units). Loan is deferred until 6 months after the student graduates or drops below half-time.		
Eligibility	Must meet all eligibility requirements for federal student aid. Minimum half-time enrollment		
Amount	Grade Level	Base Sub Stafford	Unsub Stafford
	Freshmen (0-23 units)	\$3,500	\$6,000
	Sophomore (24-48 units)	\$4,500	\$6,000
	Junior (49-74 units)	\$5,500	\$7,000
	Senior (75+ units)	\$5,500	\$7,000
	Graduate	N/A	\$20,500

## Veterans' Educational Assistance

The Master's Seminary welcomes veterans and members of the U.S. Armed Forces. The Master's Seminary is approved to enroll those students and their families who are eligible for educational assistance benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). We are committed to assisting you in taking full advantage of your Veterans benefits to secure an excellent higher Christian education at The Master's Seminary.

Eligible persons should submit a copy of the Certificate of Eligibility available from Department of Veterans Affairs. The Master's Seminary receives Post 9/11 (Ch. 33) benefit, including yellow ribbon, Montgomery GI Bill (Ch.30), Reserve Educational Assistance (REAP) and Surviving and Dependent (DEA)

## FINANCIAL AID REFUND POLICY

### Dropping Classes

A student's final eligibility for aid will be based on the number of hours for which they are enrolled on the Official Day of Record, as listed in the class schedule. If a student registers for, and then drops a class (or classes) prior to the Official Day of Record, the student's eligibility for aid will be re-calculated based on the hours remaining as of the Official Day of Record. Since financial aid is released prior to the Official Day of Record, students who receive a financial aid payment based on more hours than those remaining as of the Official Day of Record may be responsible for repaying a portion of any financial aid received.

Dropping classes may affect a student's eligibility for future aid. Students should consult the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy or the Office of Financial Aid to determine if dropping classes will affect their eligibility for future aid.

### Total Withdrawal from School

If a student registers and then completely withdraws from all classes, their eligibility for aid will be re-calculated based on the number of days they attended class. If a student totally withdraws from all classes prior to the first class day, all financial aid will be canceled, and no funds will be disbursed. If a student withdraws on or after the first class day, the student may have to repay a portion of any cash financial aid received. See Return of Title IV Funds. Withdrawal from classes may affect a student's eligibility for future aid. Students should consult the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy, or the Office of Financial Aid to determine if dropping classes will affect their eligibility for future aid.

### School Return of Title IV Funds

The Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2008 changed the formula for calculating the amount of aid a student and school can retain when the student totally withdraws from all classes. Students who withdraw from all classes prior to completing 60% of the semester will have their eligibility for aid recalculated based on the percentage of the semester completed. The Office of Financial Aid encourages students to read a complete copy of this policy carefully. Students considering withdrawal from all classes PRIOR to completing 60% of the semester, should contact the Office of Financial Aid to see how that withdrawal may affect their financial aid.

### Student Consumer Information

In compliance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act, students can access compliance and consumer information for The Master's University and Seminary at [www.masters.edu/HEOA](http://www.masters.edu/HEOA).

## DEVOTIONAL LIFE

The most important aspect of life for a student at The Master's Seminary is his personal relationship with God. The seminary seeks to provide an environment which encourages spiritual growth that is commensurate with academic and intellectual growth.

In order to promote an atmosphere conducive to such development, the seminary provides various programs and pursues various approaches designed to emphasize worship, spiritual discernment, and devotion to the Lord. Because of the biblical requirements for a role in Christian leadership (1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1) and in view of the character qualities which are the goal for all maturing believers (Galatians 5:22–23), it is the conviction of the seminary that every administrator, faculty member, and student must zealously pursue these qualifications. In an effort to assist in achieving these objectives, the seminary desires that all activities be pervaded by an atmosphere of prayer so that not only chapel services and prayer meetings, but also every class, every committee meeting, every task, and every ministry might become, by God's grace, an avenue of spiritual blessing and growth.

## CHAPEL

The seminary community meets each Tuesday and Thursday morning for a one-hour chapel service. Tuesday chapels highlight expository preaching, while Thursday chapels focus on discipleship and small-group interaction. The purpose of the chapel is for worship and exposure to current issues and ministries. Speakers for Tuesday chapels include faculty members, pastors, missionaries, and other Christian leaders.

Because chapel services are an integral part of the pastoral training, campus life, and educational experience, enveloping both the corporate and individual growth of the student body, attendance is required. Students whose classes start before 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday are required to attend chapel. Students taking 4 or less units in a semester are automatically exempted from the chapel requirement.

From time to time, it may be necessary to be absent from chapel because of extenuating circumstances (illness, the birth of a child, family tragedy, unavailable transportation, church crisis, etc.) truly beyond the student's control. Students may choose to miss chapel, but must make it a matter of integrity when deciding if the circumstances are justifiable. Please know that attendance will still be monitored and may require an audience with the Dean of Students if a student demonstrates a pattern of unjustifiable chapel absences.

Any exemption from chapel attendance requires a written application to the Dean of Students. Students should plan their work schedule around their class and chapel requirements.

At Distance Locations, the site administrator determine the best process for chapel in their respective locations.

## DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Discipleship Groups focus on discussions relating to the development of Christian living skills and character qualities. Students meet in small groups during the Thursday chapel hour with a faculty member or a church leader. Individual giftedness, personal and ministry experiences, the application of chapel messages, and personal ministry goals are discussed and evaluated.

Groups are not primarily academic in nature, but instead, are designed to promote self-examination, growth in Christian character qualities, and increased ability in encouraging and motivating others toward deeper

devotion to God, greater love for others, and a more effective ministry to others. The rationale for these practicums is based on the fact that most failures in pastoral ministry are not because of a lack of knowledge but because of moral failure and the inability to work well with others. Therefore, Discipleship Groups are designed as a major part of the seminary's commitment to being involved in the ministry of Building Men of God. In Distance Locations, the Associate Deans determine the best process for discipleship groups in their respective locations.

Specifically, Discipleship Groups are designed to:

- Strengthen personal relationships between the students
- Focus on the personal character and giftedness of each student
- Evaluate and hone each student's "people skills"
- Mentor each student
- Entertain questions that classroom time does not allow
- Validate the "candidacy" process by which the faculty can determine a student's suitability for ministry
- Provide time to pray with students and see how God answers
- Create a lifetime friendship between students and faculty member

#### MINISTRY APTITUDE PROGRAM

One of the strongest points of distinction for TMS is the emphasis placed on character development. When the seminary puts the seal of graduation upon a student, it is an affirmation not only of his academic ability and spiritual qualification, but also upon his aptitude for pastoral ministry. Effective preparation for the ministry of the gospel requires on-the-job training; therefore, the seminary requires significant ministry involvement under a faithful church and pastoral supervision. The distinctive nature of the school's presence on the campus of Grace Community Church and its location in the ethnically-diverse Los Angeles area provide students with opportunities to be involved in a wide variety of ministries. Our location also gives students varied employment opportunities in church-related ministries.

Students will take a MAP survey during pre-registration.

Each MDiv student is required to be involved in a local church ministry and will complete a MAP survey each semester during pre-registration. Areas will include an evaluation form by the leadership of his local church, as well as a Self-Evaluation form. These assessments enable the student, his church leadership, and the seminary faculty to monitor his progress in issues of character, biblical knowledge, and ministry abilities. Ministry observation and involvement, when coupled with seminary studies, provides an opportunity for the student to be involved in specific aspects of ministry that will help prepare him to shepherd God's flock with excellence. Each requirement or ministry involvement (e.g. attend elders/leadership meetings, preaching/teaching assignments, attend premarital training sessions) has a specific purpose that is attested to and evaluated by the student and the seminary.

These Ministry Aptitude evaluation forms help confirm the maturation progress of each student and assist the faculty and the Director of Placement in guiding the student through his training and into future ministry opportunities.

#### GRADUATION & PLACEMENT

Twice each year, the Placement Office hosts a one-day seminar designed to prepare students for finding ministry employment. The Director of Placement also works with denominational leaders and

interdenominational ministries to list available positions on the Placement portion of the Alumni Platform. Students are encouraged to use their internship and ministry involvements as opportunities to build a resume of experiences which will lead naturally toward their ministry goals.

In addition to assisting in placement for graduates, the seminary is often able to find part-time or interim ministries for advanced students. The seminary is unable to make recommendations or seek placement for applicants or first-year students, except in rare instances when there has been extensive ministry experience.

#### ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY

The students of The Master's Seminary maintain an organization designed to serve the student body. Through example and direction, the Associated Student Body (ASB) officers promote unity and fellowship among the students by leading in humility, "stimulating one another to love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24). They minister to the students *spiritually*, socially through organizing times of fellowship, and physically through arranging accommodations for new and prospective students when they arrive. The activities of the ASB are supported through a Student Activities Fee.

Seven ASB members, of whom 3 hold the offices of President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer, are selected annually by the members of the student body. The ASB Officers work closely with the Dean of Students as necessary to seek wisdom and counsel for the most effective way to serve the student body.

#### GRACE BOOKS

For the convenience of faculty and students, Grace Community Church, in cooperation with The Master's Seminary, maintains a bookstore, Grace Books, where books and supplies may be purchased at a discount. Most all required textbooks as well as a diverse selection of additional theological and practical volumes are available. Books not in stock may be ordered.

#### SHEPHERDS' CONFERENCE

Each spring Grace Community Church sponsors its annual Shepherds' Conference. Regular classes for this week are dismissed so that students may be involved in workshops and in interaction with pastors and church leaders from all over the world. Students receive a discounted admission that is covered through a student fee, and are encouraged to attend at least as many conference hours as class hours they normally attend each week.

#### ANNUAL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Early in each fall semester, the seminary faculty and students and families gather at the TMS Fall picnic for enjoyable food and fellowship. The event is designed to provide a special opportunity for all members of the seminary family to become better acquainted.

Social activities include regular lunches for students and faculty sponsored by the ASB, and various other activities sponsored by the seminary to help promote genuine fellowship and provide students a respite from their academic rigors.

#### DRESS

Student Attire, Los Angeles—Ultimately, clothing centers around three key ideas— culture, occasion, and purpose; the most important being purpose. Cleanliness and neatness in appearance are indispensable for

effectiveness in your Christian testimony. This attention to detail is part of your training.

Because the seminary is preparing men for professional occupations as ministers of the gospel, adherence to certain professional standards of dress and appearance is required. During class and chapel hours, students are required to wear dress shoes with socks (no tennis shoes), dress slacks (no jeans), dress shirts, and ties. Hair is to be worn conservatively and neatly groomed.

Dress requirements for summer school, winter, and finals week are more relaxed. Students are asked to wear slacks, dress shoes, and a collared shirt. Tennis shoes, blue jeans, and flip flops are not appropriate attire.

Student Attire, Distance Locations—Students are asked to wear slacks, dress shoes, collared shirts, and ties.

## GRIEVANCE AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

### Purpose

The purpose of these procedures is to provide faculty, staff, and students with a reasonable and fair process for reporting concerns or resolving disputes related to The Master's Seminary or members of the seminary family.

### Definition

For the purposes of this document, a grievance is defined as a formal complaint issued by a student, staff member, or faculty member against another member (student or employee) of The Master's Seminary due to a perceived injury or inequity, especially as it relates to institutional policies articulated in student and employee handbooks.

### General Principles

If a member of the faculty, staff, or student body has a grievance against any other individual at the Seminary, the grieved party has the choice of accepting the matter in grace or raising the matter directly with the other person in order to seek resolution. If the individuals can resolve the issue together, in grace, then the matter will be deemed resolved for all purposes. At that point, no one else needs to be informed (unless others have been harmed thereby, in which case they should follow the principles outlined herein).

The following steps for dealing with grievances are an attempt to apply biblical principles, in the spirit of Christian love, mutual edification, and relational reconciliation (cf. Matt. 5:9; 18:15–17; Rom. 12:9–21; 1 Cor. 13:4–7; Phil. 2:1–4; etc.). It is the desire of the administration that grievances be resolved in the timeliest manner possible, and that when possible they should be resolved between the two parties directly involved in the situation, without involving a third party.

### Informal Grievance Procedures

Open communication between students, staff, faculty, and administration is encouraged and solicited. Ideally, when a member of the faculty, staff, or student body has a concern or grievance, he or she should first discuss it with the person directly involved. However, in some cases, the grieved party may not feel comfortable approaching the other individual directly. (For example, a student may not feel comfortable sharing a grievance with a member of the faculty.) In such cases, the grieved party may immediately address his or her concerns to the Dean of Students, the Dean of Faculty, or the Vice President for Public Relations.

If direct discussions do not bring resolution between the two parties involved, and the grieved party is convinced

that substantial problems still exist, he or she should then approach the Dean of Students, the Dean of Faculty, or the Vice President for Public Relations for help in resolving the problem and, as needed, discussing it with all parties involved.

Please note: At this point, faculty or staff with a grievance should speak with the Dean of Faculty or the Vice President for Public Relations. Students with a grievance should approach the Dean of Students.

If the concern is still unresolved a formal grievance procedure may be initiated.

#### Formal Grievance Procedures

The formal grievance procedure outlined below provides members of the faculty, staff, and student body with an orderly process for seeking resolution of serious concerns that have not been resolved using the informal procedures articulated above. Only when all informal attempts have been exhausted should the following procedures be initiated.

##### *Step One*

If the grievance is not resolved by the informal procedure above, the grieved party may file a formal Grievance Complaint *in writing* with the Dean of Students (for students) or either the Dean of Faculty or the Vice President for Public Relations for faculty and staff. All Grievance Complaints must include a fully detailed and thorough explanation of the allegations and/or complaints being raised, and must be filed within 25 working days of the date on which the grieved party knew or should have known of the action(s) or condition(s) which occasioned the grievance. The Dean of Students, the Dean of Faculty, or the Vice President for Public Relations shall respond to the grieved party, in writing, within 10 working days of receiving the Grievance Complaint

##### *Step Two*

If the grievance is not resolved at Step One and the grieved party desires to pursue the matter further, he or she may file the Grievance Complaint with the Senior Vice President for Administration within 10 working days of the Step One decision. The grievance must state the specific policy, regulation, or procedure alleged to have been misinterpreted, misapplied or violated, and the resolution requested. The Senior Vice President for Administration shall investigate the grievance and respond to the grieved party, in writing, within 10 working days of receiving the Grievance Complaint. The Senior Vice President's decision will be final.

#### Special Circumstances

##### *Review of Severance for Cause Decision*

In the special case of a grievance filed to review a severance for cause decision (cf. Faculty Handbook or Staff Handbook), the grievance will commence with Step Two and the procedure will be revised as follows: Within fifteen (15) working days following receipt of the Grievance Complaint, the President will convene an investigative panel comprised of five full-time faculty members: Two of the grieved party's choosing, two appointed by the President, and one elected by the faculty. The panel will provide opportunities for the grieved party and either the Dean of Faculty or the Senior Vice President for Administration to make oral and/or written presentations. The committee's deliberation will not be conducted under strict rules of legal evidence. The disposition of the grievance by the panel will take the form of findings of fact and conclusions and a recommended disposition to the President will be issued within fifteen (15) working days after completion of the hearing. The recommended disposition must be based solely on the record, pertinent institutional policies, regulations, and

procedures, and in accord with the law of the land.

Prior to the issuance of a decision, and after any investigation is completed, the President shall hold an informal conference with the plaintiff (and/or the accused) in an attempt to reach an agreement or resolution. If no agreement or resolution is reached at that meeting, the President shall proceed to issue a decision.

Within fifteen (15) working days after the grievance was filed with the President (at Step Three), or within fifteen (15) working days after the recommendation of an investigative panel, the President will notify the plaintiff (and/or the accused) of his decision. The decision shall include a statement of the findings and conclusions supporting the decision. The President's decision shall be final.

#### *Grievance Against Senior Administration*

If the grievance is against the Dean of Faculty, the Senior Vice President for Administration will preside over the formal grievance proceedings. If the grievance is against the Senior Vice President for Administration, then the Dean of Faculty will handle the procedures as noted above; however, the President will be immediately notified. In such cases, the President's decision regarding proper resolution shall be final. If the grievance is against the President, then the above policy will be followed; but, additionally the Chairman of the Board of Directors will be immediately notified and will fill the President's role in the above policy.

In a matter where the recommendation is termination of employment, the grieved party retains the right of appeal to the Board of Directors.

#### Report to Faculty

Decisions relating to grievances settled by the above procedures are reported to the faculty only with the concurrence of both parties involved.

#### Code of Conduct

In view of the high calling of the ministry and the great responsibility of example which must be assumed by Christian leaders, and by those aspiring to such leadership, it is expected that students at The Master's Seminary will maintain the highest of standards in personal conduct and biblical conviction. The seminary does not presume to be a monitoring or censoring agency for all activities but does expect personal testimony and outward evidence of maturing Christian convictions, concern for the conscience of others, and a willingness to submit to the authority of mature Christian leaders. Accordingly, as examples of the numerous ways to enhance the testimony of the individual and of the institution, the seminary requires conformity to the following Code of Conduct:

Each student is expected to be faithful, committed, and involved in the ministry of a local church.

- The seminary standards for appearance and dress are to be fully respected. See the previous pages for seminary standards in these areas.
- Personal discipline in the discerning use of radio, television, and the printed page is expected. This includes total avoidance of pornographic programming, films, and literature.
- Students are required to abstain from such practices as gambling, the use of beverages for intoxication, the misuse of prescription drugs, the use of illegal drugs, and tobacco.
- Students must avoid all forms of dishonesty, including lying, plagiarism, cheating on exams or assignments, failure to meet financial obligations, and negligence in the performance of educational, employment, or ministry responsibilities.
- Family relationships and responsibilities are to be given a place of highest priority. Students are required to

maintain a biblical pattern in family relationships, and to abstain from unbiblical sexual activities or relationships.

The Master's Seminary reserves the right to discipline or dismiss any student who does not conform to this code of conduct or any other of the seminary's principles, policies, or required procedures. By virtue of his enrollment, a student agrees to live within the framework of these standards and principles.

## OVERVIEW

### Course Identification System

The alphabetical components of each course identification indicate the subject area as follows.

BI	Bible Exposition (English texts)
OT	Old Testament Language and Literature
NT	New Testament Language and Literature
TH	Christian Theology
MI	World Missions and Evangelism
PM	Pastoral Ministries
EP	Educational Pedagogy
DM	Doctor of Ministry

The first of the three numbers in each course identification indicates the curriculum year in which the course is normally scheduled. This is not necessarily an indication of content level.

5	First year of seminary (Junior year)
6	Second year (Middler year)
7	Third year (Senior year)
8	ThM courses
9	Doctoral courses

The third number indicates the semester in which the course is normally offered:

Odd numbers	= Courses normally offered in the fall
Even numbers	= Courses normally offered in the spring

### Class Schedules

A schedule of courses offered for any given semester, including winter and summers, is made available in advance of each registration period. The seminary reserves the right, however, to cancel any course for which enrollment is insufficient to justify offering the course. Courses may also be canceled in cases of faculty illness or other unforeseen circumstances. When such cancellations would cause unusual hardship for students, the seminary may arrange or allow for alternative requirements or electives.

### DIVISION OF BIBLE EXPOSITION

Bible Exposition courses include survey studies in both testaments, intensive studies of specific books, syntheses of biblical teaching relating to important themes, topics, and genres, and background studies relating to such issues as biblical cultures, geography, and chronology. These provide background materials which are essential for Old Testament and New Testament courses in exegesis as well as for theological studies.

The meaning of Hebrew and Greek terms and grammatical constructions are discussed when they make special contributions to an understanding of the biblical text, but the courses listed under this heading, and designated by BI in the course identification, do not require prerequisite study or facility in the biblical languages unless

otherwise noted.

#### Division of Bible Exposition—MDiv

The Division of Bible Exposition (MDiv) is designed to equip students for a foundational comprehension and accurate explanation of Scripture, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

- DLO 1: Demonstrate the use of historical-grammatical principles of biblical interpretation.
- DLO 2: Articulate the central themes and outlines of each Bible book.
- DLO 3: Articulate the purpose and development of each Bible book.

#### BI 501, 502 • Old Testament Studies I and II

Includes a survey of the entire Old Testament, with a focus on understanding the major contents of each book. Examines literary structure, historical backgrounds, geographical settings, and parallel passages to enhance comprehension and application to contemporary issues and concerns. The first semester covers Genesis through Esther. The second semester covers Job through Malachi. *Three hours each.*

#### BI 504 • Biblical Exposition of Prayer

A study of Old and New Testament prayers and of the scriptural teaching regarding prayer. The course is designed to impact the personal prayer life of the students and also to equip them for the responsibility of leading a congregation of believers in its prayer worship and ministry. Issues relating to the tensions with regard to the sovereignty of God, the responsibility of humans to pray and respond, and the role of the Holy Spirit, are evaluated. *Two hours.*

#### BI 505 • Hermeneutics

An introduction to the science and art of hermeneutics. Surveys the major interpretive approaches to the Bible, both historical and contemporary. Attempts to establish both general and special principles of interpretation by examining parables, types, prophecies, poetry, and a great variety of figurative constructs. Elucidates the principles of normal, cultural, and historical interpretation. *Three hours.*

#### BI 601 • New Testament Studies

A survey of the entire New Testament, devoting special attention to the major lessons of each book. Also examines the historical, cultural, and geographical setting for the New Testament and for each book. Emphasizes both the understanding of the text and the applications to Christian living, and evaluates the major problems associated with each book. *Three hours.*

#### BI 626 • The Life and Mission of Paul

A study of life and missionary journeys of the apostle Paul, with special emphasis placed on his ministry principles and practices as described in the book of Acts and the two biographical portions of his letters. *Two hours.*

#### BI 667 • Samuel, Kings & Chronicles

An expositional study of the prophetic record and evaluation of the rise and decline of the monarchy of Israel. Particular emphasis will be given to the Davidic Covenant as it is revealed, and lessons to benefit a life of godliness. *Two hours.*

#### BI 651 • Old Testament Backgrounds

An orientation to the world of the Old Testament in which the cultural and political history of the ancient Near East is surveyed from the perspective of its contributions to understanding the Old Testament. Includes a survey of important geographical and archaeological considerations. *Two hours.*

### BI 652 • Historical Geography of Israel

A careful study of the geographical layout of ancient Israel with a view to understanding the changes that occurred throughout Israel's history. The topographical and geological features of Israel will also receive treatment. *Two hours.*

### BI 653 • Historical Geography of Israel Field Studies

As part of the seminary's field studies program, the student will travel to Israel and examine key site related to Biblical history and archaeology, particularly the Old Testament and the Life of Christ. Field education and lectures from the college's extension campus program in Israel (IBEX) and other guest lecturers will expose students to the socio-religious issues in modern Israel, the history of the land, and the rich cultural and ethnic diversity. Prerequisite: BI652. *Two hours*

### BI 655 • Genesis

An expositional treatment of this foundational book of biblical revelation. The key events that shaped the remainder of history, such as creation, the fall, the flood, and the Abrahamic covenant, are given special attention. *Two hours.*

### BI 656 • Exodus and Leviticus

An analytical exposition of these two key Old Testament books, with special consideration of historical background, theme, interpretational difficulties, and the redemptive plan of God as evidenced and illustrated in the various aspects of the law, the priesthood, and the tabernacle. The theological dimensions of the books will be evaluated in the light of textual, historical, archaeological, and cultural perspectives. *Two hours.*

### BI 657 • Numbers and Deuteronomy

An expositional study of the books relating to God's preparation of Israel for entrance into the land of Canaan. Major interpretive issues will be considered, along with personal and homiletical applications. *Two hours.*

### BI 658 • Ezekiel

A study of the life and times of Ezekiel, together with an exposition of the book. Solutions to key interpretive problems are evaluated, with applications to believers today highlighted. *Two hours.*

### BI 659 • The Minor Prophets

A study of the role and significance of the prophets in Israel's history, a survey of each book, including its political, social, and religious milieu, and an exposition of the message of each prophet. *Two hours.*

### BI 659A • Preaching the Minor Prophets

A study of these often neglected books, including the authors, themes, and historical backgrounds. Special attention is given to how to preach each of the books. *Two hours.*

### BI 662 • Ezra and Nehemiah

An expository study of the post-exilic experience of Israel as described by Ezra and Nehemiah. The major interpretive and applicational issues of these books will receive special attention. *Two hours.*

### BI 665 • Proverbs

An expositional study of the Book of Proverbs, with attention to the nature of Hebrew wisdom literature, the genre of proverbs, and the various hermeneutical approaches to this literature. Also emphasizes personal and homiletical applications to contemporary issues and relationships. *Two hours.*

### BI 672 • New Testament History

A study of the historical backgrounds for understanding the New Testament, including an introduction to the literature, culture, and history of New Testament times. Special attention is given to understanding the political and social milieu of the Hellenistic period. Requires reading in both primary and secondary sources (see NT 672). *Two hours.*

### BI 675 • Life of Christ

A survey of the key events in the Life of Christ considered through the exposition of the pertinent narrative passages in the gospels. Important themes in the biblical narrative of the gospels and theologically significant aspects of the Life of Christ are highlighted. *Two hours.*

### BI 677 • Gospel of Mark

A study of the second Gospel with special emphasis on Mark's portrayal of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God and the Suffering Servant. The concept of discipleship seen in this gospel will also receive detailed consideration. *Two hours.*

### BI 678 • Gospel of Luke

A study of the third Gospel with special attention devoted to the infancy narratives, the kingdom of God as in the parables, the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem, and the events leading to Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. *Two hours.*

### BI 679 • Gospel of John

A study of the fourth Gospel in the light of the author's stated purpose (20:31), with emphasis on the self-revelation of Christ with regard to His own person and His saving and sanctifying ministries. *Two hours.*

### BI 681 • Parables

Surveys the use of parables in Scripture with primary attention to the parables of Jesus. Examines dispensational and alternative interpretations of the parables and evaluates proposed hermeneutical principles for understanding their meanings and applications. *Two hours.*

### BI 701 • Ordination Preparation

Beginning with the biblical basis for ordination, the practical process for ordination is outlined. A thorough review is conducted of the student's biblical knowledge, including code outlining, code themes, key chapters, key verses, and important people. It is designed to functionally prepare the TMS senior to enter ministry after graduation at the highest level of excellence. This class, without exception, is limited to those who will graduate the following May. Prerequisites: BI 501, 502, 601. *Two hours.*

### BI 705 • Advanced Hermeneutics

An apologetic for the Grammatical-Historical method of interpretation. This course will explain why the Grammatical-Historical method can be applied to understanding New Testament use of the Old Testament, evaluating theological systems, and addressing contemporary issues in hermeneutics. Prerequisite: PM 505, BI 505. *Two hours.*

### BI 715 • A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament

This class develops a pathway that begins with the hermeneutical principles for interpreting the Old Testament. With the Bible as the primary text, the course highlights the cohesion of the God's Word as traced through the biblical covenants, with a view towards the Advent of the Messiah in the New Testament. *Two hours.*

### BI 716 • Biblical Theology of the New Testament

This class develops a pathway that begins with the hermeneutical principles for interpreting the New Testament and culminates with preaching the riches of the Scriptures. With the Bible as the primary text, the course highlights the cohesion of the God's Word as traced through the biblical covenants. *Two hours.*

### BI 745 • Biblical Manners and Customs

A close look at manners and customs in the biblical setting and their contribution toward interpreting and understanding specific passages. The focus is directed toward aspects of culture in the habits of the people, not aspects of physical geography such as topography, climate, and rivers. *Two hours.*

### BI 751 • Acts

A course designed to acquaint the student with the genesis and progression of early Christianity. Devotes special attention to evangelistic methodologies and to the tensions and confusions with regard to that which is normative or commanded versus that which is transitional or occasional. Also includes a study of the chronology of key events in the life of the Apostle Paul. *Two hours.*

### BI 755 • 1 and 2 Thessalonians

An expositional approach to these early epistles with careful attention to their context in culture and history. Special emphases focus on the personal, pastoral, and prophetic elements that combine for a unique study. Appropriate applications for the contemporary church will be drawn. *Two hours.*

### BI 756 • Selected General Epistles

A study of James, 1 Peter, and Jude, with special attention given to the occasion, purpose, structure, contents, and message of each epistle. *Two hours.*

### BI 757 • Galatians

An exposition of the book, including the date, historical situation, and purpose. Special emphasis is given to the development of the argument and its relationship to the book of Romans. *Two hours.*

### BI 758 • Johannine Epistles

An in-depth study of these three epistles with special attention to John's "tests of life" for identifying and evaluating true fellowship and false pretense or personal deception. A treatment of the authorship of John's Gospel and his Epistles is included. *Two hours.*

### BI 762 • Daniel

An expository study, including an examination of the historical background, literary structure, prominent system of interpretation, and thematic development. Emphasis is placed on the prophetic chronology presented, and on the relationship with other prophetic portions of Scripture—in particular with the Olivet Discourse of our Lord. *Two hours.*

### BI 764 • Archaeology Residency

The Master's Seminary, as a research partner with Associates for Biblical Research participates in excavations in sites in Israel that are of vital importance for Biblical Studies. In this residency students are exposed to the basics of archeological field work and are assigned a "square" to work under the direction of an area supervisor. Students gain invaluable hands on experience and interaction with other scholars from around the world. *Two hours.*

### BI 765 • Biblical Archaeology

An introduction to the history, methodology and apologetic value of biblical archaeology, including a survey of the most significant finds in the last century. Emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of the archaeological data

and its proper role in the exegetical process. *Two hours.*

BI 770 • Jeremiah and Lamentations

An expositional study of the message of these often-overlooked books. Known as the weeping prophet, Jeremiah's life and character is examined, as well as the historical milieu of his riveting message. Key interpretive problems are discussed and evaluated. Special attention is given to the prophecies of Israel's future as well. *Two hours.*

BI 777 • Pastoral Epistles

An expositional analysis of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus, with emphasis on the practical application of the instruction of these epistles for contemporary Christian living and pastoral responsibilities. *Two hours.*

BI 779 • History of Israel

An examination of the history of God's chosen nation, Old Testament chronology, international relations, great national leaders, and the place of the prophets, beginning with the call of Abraham and ending with the Persian period (see OT 779). *Two hours.*

BI 780 • Biblical Ethics

This course treats both the theory and the practice of ethical and moral decision-making. An examination is also made of the key ethical passages in the Scriptures with special application to the issues raised in modern life (see TH 780). *Two hours.*

BI 784 • History of the English Bible

The English Bible, both in scope and volume, has been the most significant translation of the Bible in the history of the Church. With new versions of the Bible in English appearing almost annually, this course is designed to study the history of the Bible in English, examining genuine copies of the eight significant English Bibles. Additionally, the theological and practical issues related to Bible translation, evaluation of Bibles, and the Bible in worship will be engaged. *Two hours.*

BI 799 • Research in Bible Exposition

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary course work, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. Prerequisite: two years of seminary study (60 hours) with at least one year at The Master's Seminary (30 hours). Number of hours (not to exceed four) to be determined, prior to registration, by the faculty member involved. *Two hours.*

BI 822 • Hermeneutics in Contemporary Issues

Based on BI 505 (Hermeneutics), this course develops and hones the student's skill in using principles of interpretation. Principles are applied to contemporary issues such as the Health and Wealth Gospel, Signs and Wonders, Spiritual Warfare, the New Age Movement, Women's Lib Movement and other relevant issues. Prerequisite: BI 505 *Two Hours.*

BI 829 New Testament Use of the Old Testament

An examination of how the New Testament writers quote and apply the Old Testament. This course looks at the

ramifications of New Testament uses of the Old Testament for both hermeneutics and theology (see TH 829). Prerequisites: BI 505, OT 504 and NT 603. *Two hours.*

BI 834 • The Pastoral Epistles (seminar)

A penetrating investigation of passages in the Pastoral Epistles pertaining to church matters, e.g., eldership, women's role in Christian service, discipline, marriage and divorce among leaders, principles of godliness and leadership, and other crucial areas. *Two hours.*

BI 837A • Thesis Introductory Methods

This class is primarily an independent study, with initial and intermittent guidance provided by the student's thesis advisor. The class entails topic selection and approval, development of a prospectus (title page, outline, bibliography, and general synopsis of argument), and the introductory chapter. Deadline for completing this class is by the end of sixteen weeks. *Two hours.*

BI 838 • ThM Thesis

As the culmination of their ThM program, a student must write a ThM thesis. Building on the work submitted for BI 837A, this thesis must contain not fewer than 100 nor more than 150 pages of text material. Approval will be based upon literary quality and theological content. Prerequisite: BI 837A. *Two hours.*

BI 842 • Resolving Problem Passages

Views and solutions on selected key passages in both testaments in a variety of problems are dealt with. Examples include alleged contradictions, passages that have been interpreted various ways, matters of history, chronology, grammar and science. *Two hours.*

BI 847 • Pentateuch

Study of the major biblical and historical development of the first five books of the Old Testament. *Two hours.*

BI 851 • Gospel of Matthew

An analysis of the first Gospel with special attention devoted to the kingdom concept, the person of Christ, the Sermon on the Mount, the parables of the kingdom, and the Olivet Discourse. *Two hours.*

BI 853 • Hebrews

An analysis and exposition of the text, with attention given to authorship, date, theme, and interpretive difficulties. Special emphasis is also given to Christ's fulfillment of the types and shadows of the Old Testament sacrificial system. *Two hours.*

BI 862 • Isaiah

An analytical study of the words of this great prophet. Examines his life and character, as well as the historical background of his message, with special emphasis on messianic predictions. *Two hours.*

BI 864 • Romans

An exposition of the book, with careful attention given to background, theme, and doctrinal issues and solutions. Relevant practical applications are also presented. *Two hours.*

BI 874 • Revelation

An expository study of this book, including an examination of the historical backgrounds, literary structures, prominent systems of interpretation, and thematic development. Emphasis is placed on the prophetic chronology presented by the book, and on the relationships with other prophetic portions of Scripture—in particular with the Olivet Discourse of our Lord. *Two hours.*

### BI 899 • Research in Bible Exposition

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary coursework, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. *Two hours.*

## DIVISION OF OLD TESTAMENT STUDIES

Because the Old Testament contains the foundational revelation of God to man in written form and since these thirty-nine books, in our present divisions and numbering, constituted the Bible of our Lord, His apostles, and the early church, a basic understanding of these books is indispensable for any thoroughly equipped minister of the gospel. Accordingly, all candidates for graduation are required to acquire a broad familiarity with the contents of the Old Testament as seen against its historical and cultural backgrounds, an ability to translate biblical Hebrew with the use of appropriate language tools, and some practical skills in exegetical and expositional methodologies.

All of the courses listed under this heading, and designated by OT in the course identification, require extensive use of the Hebrew language.

### Division of Old Testament Studies—MDiv

The Division of Old Testament Studies(MDiv) is designed to advance critical thinking skills in linguistic, exegetical, and apologetical aspects of Old Testament study and to promote growth in disciplined habits for ongoing independent study of the Old Testament, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

- DLO 1: Demonstrate a mastery of basic Hebrew vocabulary.
- DLO 2: Translate Hebrew texts from the major literary types (narrative, poetry, & prophecy) with use of standard aids.
- DLO 3: Syntactically analyze Hebrew phrases and sentences.
- DLO 4: Exegete a Hebrew text within its context.
- DLO 5: Demonstrate an ability to research and explain a key issue in OT studies.

### OT 503 • Hebrew Grammar I

An introduction to biblical Hebrew designed to equip the student with a basic vocabulary and an understanding of the essential principles of phonology, morphology, and syntax. Permission to enter OT 504 is granted only when a minimum grade of “C-” (or 78%) is achieved. *Three hours.*

### OT 504 • Hebrew Grammar II

A continuation of the grammatical studies begun in OT 503 with emphasis on reading selected portions of the Hebrew Old Testament (with a view towards greater dexterity in handling the Hebrew text), increasing vocabulary, learning the basic use of language tools, and providing exposure to the major genres of the Old Testament. Permission to enter OT 603 is granted only when a minimum grade of “C-” (or 78%) is achieved. Prerequisite: OT 503. *Three hours.*

OT 505 • Modern Hebrew (IBEX)

An introduction to modern Hebrew with attention given to reading and conversation skills. *Two hours.*

OT 603 • Hebrew Exegesis

Designed to prepare the student for independent exegesis of the Hebrew text. Emphasizes principles of translation, syntactical analysis, and procedures in lexical word studies. Includes introduction to textual criticism, literary analysis, and relationship of ancient near eastern backgrounds to exegesis. Focuses on exegetical methodology with exposition as the goal. Prerequisite: OT 504. *Three hours.*

OT 686 • Hebrew Readings

Geared for students having completed first year of Hebrew, this course emphasizes reading, translation and parsing, with attention given to exegetical observations. Prerequisite: OT 504. *Two hours.*

OT 741 • Old Testament Biblical Theology

After summarizing the differences between systematic and biblical theology, attention is given to the theological message of each section of the Old Testament. This overview will prepare the student to write a biblical theology for one of the Old Testament books. *Two hours.*

OT 751 • Exegesis of Micah

An exegetical study of this significant prophetic book, giving attention to covenant treachery in general and social injustice in particular in the time of Amos as well as a key messianic prediction. Attention is also given to general principles for interpreting prophetic literature. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 752 • Exegesis of Amos

An exegetical study of this significant prophetic book as well as the last section of the book looking to Amos' distant future. It will give attention to covenant treachery in general and social injustice in particular in the time of Amos. Attention is also given to general principles for interpreting prophetic literature. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 753 • Exegesis of Zechariah

Careful exegetical and theological procedures are employed in examining the text of this important prophetic book for the purpose of exposing its meaning and significance for Zechariah's day, for the present, and for the future. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 754 • Exegesis of Great Texts

A study designed to introduce and illustrate intensive exegetical study of the Hebrew texts of selected key passages in the Old Testament. Combines insight from lexical studies, syntactic phenomena, and systematic theology. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 755 • Exegesis in Isaiah

Exegesis of selected portions of this book, one of the major literary and prophetic works of the Old Testament. The issues concerning historical background, authorship, and style are evaluated, but primary attention is focused on the most important sections of the book. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 756 • Exegesis in Habakkuk and Selected Readings

An exegetical and theological study of Habakkuk and other Old Testament texts dealing with sovereign providence. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 757 • Exegesis of Deuteronomy

Exegesis of selected portions, with special emphasis upon God's covenantal dealings with Israel. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 758 • Exegesis of Kings

Exegesis of selected portions of 1 and 2 Kings with an emphasis on clues for interpreting narrative/historical literature. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 759 • Exegesis of Hosea

An exegetical study of this significant book that graphically describes Israel's relationship (past, present, and future) with Yahweh. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 760 • Exegesis of Jonah and Obadiah

An exegesis of these books with careful attention to historical and theological issues. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 760A • Exegesis of Jonah

An exegesis of Jonah with careful attention given to significant historical, literary, syntactical, and theological issues. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours*

OT 764 • Exegesis of Psalm 119

An exegetical examination of the individual stanzas of the biblical text with an emphasis on sound exegesis as a basis for a future biblical exposition of each stanza. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 765, 766, 767, 768 • Exegesis of Selected Psalms I–IV

An examination of the structure of the Psalter, the nature and forms of Hebrew poetry, and an exegesis of a number of consecutive psalms. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 769 • Exegesis of Haggai and Malachi

An exegetical examination of these post-exilic books. Careful attention is given to introductory, exegetical, and theological issues. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 770 • Exegesis of Messianic Texts

Explores the key messianic passages in the Hebrew Bible with a view to understand and formulate the gradual revelation of the person of the Messiah. Prerequisite: OT603. *Two Hours.*

OT 775 • Exegesis of Ecclesiastes

An exegetical examination of the text, with comparisons to other wisdom literature, especially to Job. Special attention is given to the numerous textual allusions to Genesis 3, as well as the introductory matters of authorship and historical milieu. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 776 • Exegesis of Ruth and Judges

An exegetical study of the Book of Ruth and Judges chapters 12, 17, 18 and 19. Attention is given to their common historical and geographical setting. Other studies include the elements of the Hebrew short story and the concepts of levirate marriage and kinsman-redeemer. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 779 • History of Israel

An examination of the history of God's chosen nation, Old Testament chronology, international relations, great national leaders, and the place of the prophets, beginning with the call of Abraham and ending with the Persian period (see BI 779). *Two hours.*

### OT 796 • Old Testament Introduction

The course addresses the historical and cultural environment of the OT (Hebrew Bible), the composition of the OT and its literary genres, and the canonical development of the OT. Major contemporary interpretive and theological issues are discussed, including an examination and evaluation of the contribution of the modern critical approaches. Prerequisite: BI 501, BI 502, OT 603. *Three hours.*

### OT 799 • Old Testament Exegetical Research

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary course work, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. Prerequisite: OT 603, one OT exegesis course, and two years of seminary study (60 hours) with at least one year at The Master's Seminary (30 hours). Number of hours (not to exceed four) to be determined, prior to registration, by the faculty member involved. *Two hours.*

### Division of Old Testament Studies—ThM

The Division of Old Testament is designed to develop maturity in critical thinking skills related to exegetical and apologetical aspects of Old Testament studies, to refine disciplined habits for ongoing independent study of the Hebrew Bible. The Master of Theology Program in Old Testament provides the foundation as well as preparation for a doctoral program.

- DLO 1: As an advancing scholar, specialize in an area of Old Testament studies, gaining facility in its literature and scholarship.
- DLO 2: As an advancing exegete, employ more refined skills in Hebrew translation, exegesis, and interpretation.
- DLO 3: As an advancing teacher, implement the skills of communication and effective teaching of course content.
- DLO 4: As an advancing researcher, demonstrate thoughtfulness, in-depth interaction, thorough research, and excellence in scholarly writing.

### EP 810 • Introduction to Academic Research

The course lays a foundation of research and writing skills necessary for critically engaging scholarship, and for establishing a potential area of specialization from which the student is encouraged to design a scholarly research portfolio and draw out a potential doctoral dissertation. *One hour.*

### EP 820 • Philosophy of Pedagogy

The course intends to help students understand instructional methodologies and learning theories that undergird the theologically-informed teaching of Pastor-Scholars to adult Christian students. The course addresses the role and function of the Pastor-Scholar in persuading for a conservative evangelical worldview largely through the development of scholarly argumentation in his chosen area of specialization. Reading selections aim to cultivate practical principles of instruction, and writing assignments aim to advance presentation skills for use inside and outside of the classroom. Prerequisite course: EP 810. *One hour.*

OT 825 • Ancient Near Eastern History

A summary of the historical, cultural, and geographical context of ancient Israel.

*Two hours.*

EP 830 • Practice of Pedagogy

The course applies teaching principles to two learning environments. First, students will design lesson plans and present classroom lectures to their peers on content from their research specializations. Second, using an online learning platform and instructional technology, students will design and assess curriculum in their areas of specialization for potential use in select cross-cultural academic contexts. Prerequisite course: EP 820. *One hour.*

OT 832, 834 • Old Testament Research Seminars I & II

A specific topic of contemporary significance in the area of Old Testament studies will be selected by the Old Testament faculty for each seminar. Students will present assigned papers with responses by fellow students and faculty. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours each.*

OT 837A • Thesis Introductory Methods

This class is primarily an independent study, with initial and intermittent guidance provided by the student's thesis advisor. The class entails topic selection and approval, development of a prospectus (title page, outline, bibliography, and general synopsis of argument), and the introductory chapter. Deadline for completing this class is by the end of sixteen weeks. *Two hours.*

OT 838 • ThM Thesis

As the culmination of their ThM program, a student must write a ThM thesis. Building on the work submitted for OT 837A, this thesis must contain not fewer than 100 nor more than 150 pages of text material. Approval will be based upon literary quality and theological content. Prerequisite: OT 837A. *Two hours.*

OT 839 • Advanced Research Methods

Students will construct and refine a scholarly corpus consisting of research papers written throughout the program totaling 35,000–50,000 words (approximately 150–200 pages). The instructor will advise as to additional pertinent writing, revisions, and formatting so that the portfolio provides a coherent literature review and contextual basis from which to draw a potential doctoral dissertation. Students will also work together in the revision process and in the pedagogical preparation of symposium-style research presentations. Prerequisite course: EP 830; to be taken in the final semester. *Three hours.*

OT 840 • Old Testament Textual Criticism

A study of the history of the Old Testament text in the Hebrew manuscripts and in the ancient translations. Various theories of textual criticism will be evaluated and a viable methodology developed. Application will be made to a variety of Old Testament textual problems. Prerequisite: OT 603 and one OT exegesis course. *Two hours.*

OT 841 • Old Testament Issues

The purpose of this class is to review and further develop the student's understanding of many of the most significant textual, historical, archaeological, and interpretive issues related to Old Testament studies.

Successful completion of this class and the final exam with a grade of 86% or above will also satisfy the OT PhD entrance exam requirements. *Two hours.*

OT 842 • Septuagint

Introduction to the Greek grammar of the Septuagint and selected readings in the text of the Septuagint. The contribution of the Septuagint to both Old and New Testament studies is presented. Prerequisites: NT 853, NT

854, OT 603 and one exegesis course in both NT and OT. (See NT 842.) *Two hours.*

OT 853 • Advanced Hebrew Grammar

Advanced studies in exegetically significant elements of Hebrew grammar and syntax. Readings in major Hebrew grammatical materials including periodical literature. Illustrated by selected readings in the Hebrew Bible. Prerequisite: OT 603 and one OT exegesis course. *Two hours.*

OT 861 • Exegesis of Genesis 1–11

An exegetical analysis of the first eleven chapters of Genesis with emphasis on problems having interpretive and theological significance. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 871 • Advanced Hebrew Readings

Translation of various passages in the Old Testament selected from various genres including narrative, prophetic, poetic, and apocalyptic. Prerequisite: OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 872 • Biblical Aramaic

An introduction to the grammar of biblical Aramaic. Includes translation of the Aramaic portions of the Old Testament. Prerequisite: A in OT 603. *Two hours.*

OT 873 • Akkadian

Introduction to Akkadian cuneiform signs and grammar. Contributions of Akkadian studies to the interpretation of the Old Testament are presented and evaluated. Prerequisite: OT 853. *Two hours.*

OT 875 • Ugaritic

Introduction to Ugaritic grammar and reading in selected texts. Contributions of Ugaritic studies to the interpretation of the Old Testament are presented and evaluated. Prerequisite: OT 853. *Two hours.*

OT 888 • Contemporary Old Testament Theology

An examination of the basis, task, and method of Old Testament theology as conceived by certain influential contemporary Old Testament theologians along with a survey of the contributions of these individuals to the understanding of the theological content of the Old Testament. Prerequisite: OT 796. *Two hours.*

OT 899 • Old Testament Exegetical Research

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary course work, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. *Two hours.*

Division of Old Testament Studies—PhD

The purpose of the Old Testament emphasis in the Doctor of Philosophy program is to produce the next generation of OT scholars and expositors who will advance OT studies and maintain the biblical integrity and vitality of the discipline. Graduates with an OT major must produce a significant dissertation and become stewards of the discipline, entrusted with preserving and developing scholarly literature as well as communicating Hebrew Bible knowledge in the classroom, from the pulpit, and in publishing.

- DLO 1: As a specialist, demonstrate a deep, active knowledge of a specialized area of OT study.
- DLO 2: As a scholar, make a significant contribution to the literature of that specialty by means of a dissertation reflecting honed skills in research, critical thinking, translation, exegesis, and writing.

#### OT 902 • PhD Qualifying Exam II

Following acceptance into the Doctor of Philosophy degree program, a student must register for this course during any semester he intends to write one or more qualifying exams.

#### OT 941 • Doctoral Dissertation Prospectus

This course is designed to launch the student's doctoral residency. Under the advisor's supervision, the student is expected to refine the dissertation topic, establish its need, defend its choice, and outline the procedure for its undertaking. Preparation of an extensive bibliography is also one of the course requirements. *Four hours.*

#### OT 942, 943, 944, 945, 946 • Dissertation Research I–V

Once the Dissertation Prospectus Course has been completed, the student is expected to register for this course for each subsequent semester of residency during which the dissertation is being researched and written. *Four hours each.*

#### OT 947 • Doctoral Dissertation

### DIVISION OF NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES

Because the New Testament is the culmination of divine revelation in written form, and therefore the major source of Christian truth, it is important for students to invest intensive study in comprehending and applying its vital contents. For this reason, a significant part of the seminary curriculum focuses on a study of the Greek language in which the New Testament was written. Grammatical and syntactical studies are emphasized with the goal of equipping students for life-long effectiveness in the study and exposition of this essential part of God's revelation to man.

As a part of the orientation program beginning each semester, a Greek PASS Exam is given to all entering students who have taken Greek at the undergraduate level. Students have one opportunity to pass the Greek PASS exam, that is the time when they first enter the seminary. Anyone not passing the exam at their first sitting or anyone not taking the exam when offered at the start of their first semester on campus will be required to enroll in and pass NT 501/502, or NT 500 as part of his seminary curriculum before enrolling in NT 603. Grades earned will be factored into the student's grade point average. Those who pass the exam are expected to enroll in Greek Exegesis I and II for the first year and in Hebrew Grammar I and II for the second year. Those entering seminary without having taken Greek, as well as those who do not pass the exam, are expected to enroll in Hebrew Grammar I and II for the first year, in Beginning Greek during the summer between the first and second year, and in Greek Exegesis I and II during the second year (see PASS Exams).

All of the courses listed under this heading, and designated by NT in the course identification, require extensive use of the Greek language.

#### Division of New Testament Studies—MDiv

The Division of New Testament Studies (MDiv) is designed to advance critical thinking skills in linguistic, exegetical, and apologetical aspects of New Testament study and to promote growth in disciplined habits for

ongoing independent study of the New Testament, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

- DLO 1: Translate a Greek text with use of standard aids, demonstrating a knowledge of basic Greek vocabulary.
- DLO 2: Syntactically analyze Greek phrases and sentences.
- DLO 3: Exegete a New Testament passage using the historical grammatical method.
- DLO 4: Review critical methods/ideologies of NT interpretation and discern appropriate issues and problems.

#### NT 501/502 • Beginning Greek I and II

An introductory study of the basic elements of New Testament Greek designed for those who have not had Greek and for those who have had some exposure to Greek but are unable to pass the proficiency examination. Emphasizes vocabulary, grammar, the basic principles of Greek syntax, and the effective use of lexical, grammatical, and syntactical tools. Includes translation of portions of the Greek New Testament. Permission to enter NT 502 is granted only when a minimum grade of “C” is achieved in NT 501. Permission to enter NT 603 is granted only when a minimum grade of “C-” (or 78%) is achieved in NT 502. *Two hours each.*

#### NT 603, 604 • Greek Exegesis I and II

These courses are designed to make Greek a useful tool for interpreting the New Testament. The first semester builds Greek vocabulary, increases confidence in translation, highlights the significance of important grammatical features and syntactical structures, and introduces the practice of exegetical procedures. The exegetical method employed is both synthetic and analytical, with primary applicability to the didactic and epistolary literature of the New Testament. The second semester provides extensive opportunity for the application of exegetical methodologies in careful study of several epistles from the following list: 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, James, and 1 Peter. Prerequisite: PM 505, passing the Greek Proficiency Exam, or NT 501, 502. *Three hours each.*

#### NT 656 • Selected Greek Readings

Various passages from the Greek New Testament are selected for translation. The passages selected are chosen on the basis of their contribution to Greek vocabulary, exposure to various syntactical features, or theological and devotional significance. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

#### NT 672 • New Testament History

A study of the historical backgrounds for understanding the New Testament, including an introduction to the literature, culture, and history of the New Testament times. Special attention is given to understanding the political and social milieu of the Hellenistic period. Requires reading in both primary and secondary sources. *Two hours.*

#### NT 675 • Life of Christ

Examines the earthly life of our Lord, using a harmony of the Gospels as a basis for study. Evaluates historical, chronological, political, and geographic factors, but devotes primary attention to the theological issues relating to each event and discourse in the Gospels (see BI 675). *Two hours.*

#### NT 730 • Readings in Non-Biblical Greek

This course introduces various genres of ancient Greek literature outside the NT. Readings will briefly cover several different genres of Greek literature and such diverse themes as the origin of the universe, the gods, the death of a condemned man, part of a military campaign, a theological treatise on the Incarnation, and an early Christian church service. Prerequisite: NT 604. *Two hours.*

NT 731 • Readings in Patristic Greek

Various passages from the writings of the Greek church fathers are selected for translation. Emphasis will be given to the vocabulary, grammar, style, and theology of the patristic authors. Points of comparisons and/or contrast in these areas will be drawn with various NT writings. Prerequisite: NT604. *Two hours.*

NT 741 • Exegesis of Mark

This course involves a detailed study of the Greek text of Mark with an examination of important introductory matters as well as major interpretive, grammatical and theological issues. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 745 • Exegesis of John 1–12

A detailed study of the Greek text of the first twelve chapters of John's gospel with an examination of important introductory matters as well as major interpretive and theological issues. Special emphasis will be given to the distinctive contribution of the gospel to the theology of the NT. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 746 • Exegesis of John 13–21

A detailed study of the Greek text of the last nine chapters of John's gospel that deal with the Upper Room Discourse and the last days of Jesus on earth. A discussion of interpretive and theological issues and their distinctive contribution to the theology of the NT. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 747 • Exegesis of Luke 1–12

This course involves a detailed study of the Greek text of Luke with an examination of important introductory matters as well as major interpretive, grammatical, and theological issues. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 748 • Exegesis of Luke 13–24

This course involves a continuation of a detailed study of the Greek text of Luke (see Luke 1–12 NT 747) with an examination of important interpretive, grammatical and theological issues. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 749 • Exegesis of Acts 1–12

This course involves a detailed study of the Greek text of Acts with an examination of important introductory matters as well as major interpretive, grammatical, and theological issues. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 750 • Exegesis of Acts 13–28

This course involves a continuation of a detailed study of the Greek text of Acts (see Acts 1–12 NT 749) with an examination of important interpretive, grammatical and theological issues. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 754 • Exegesis of Matthew 1–4, 8–12, 14–23, 26–28

An examination of the Greek text in portions of Matthew not covered by NT 755. A detailed study of the Gospel of Matthew with particular attention given to introductory matters, discourses, and narrative portions. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 755 • Exegesis of Synoptic Discourses

A study of the major discourses of Christ in the Synoptic Gospels. Principal attention is devoted to the Sermon on the Mount, the parables of the mysteries of the kingdom, and the Olivet Discourse. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 756 • Exegesis of Romans 1–8

A detailed analysis of the Greek text of Romans 1–8, noting the structure and theological orientation of the chapters, and with special emphasis on the important teaching of the chapters with regard to man, sin, and

salvation. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 757 • Exegesis of Romans 9–16

A detailed analysis of the Greek text of Romans 9–16, noting the structure and theological orientation of the chapters, and with special emphasis on the important teaching of the chapters with regard to the role of Israel in God’s plan and with regard to Christian deportment. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 759 • Exegesis of 1 Corinthians 1–6

A detailed study of the Greek text of 1 Corinthians 1–6. Attention is focused upon the meaning and significance of important foundational truths necessary for effective ministry and leadership in the church. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 761 • Exegesis of 1 Corinthians 7–11

An exegetical analysis of 1 Corinthians 7–11. The course is designed to take an in-depth look at Paul’s response to extremely relevant questions concerning marriage, Christian liberty, and proper roles and responses in worship. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 762 • Exegesis of 1 Corinthians 12–14

A careful study of 1 Corinthians 12–14, particularly the controversial passages, and suggestions regarding practical implementation of the lessons on spiritual gifts that are indicated therein. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 763 • Exegesis of Galatians

A careful consideration of the text of Galatians in the original language with special attention to the problems being addressed in the historical situation. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 764 • Exegesis of Ephesians

A critical and exegetical study of the Epistle to the Ephesians, designed to emphasize theological, expository, and practical values. Special attention is given to the major exegetical and theological problems. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 766 • Exegesis of Philippians

A careful analysis of the Greek text of the epistle, including an examination of each alternative solution in passages where interpretations differ. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 768 • Exegesis of Colossians

A detailed exegesis of the Greek text, with special attention to the nature of the error to which the Colossian church was exposed. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 771, 772 • Exegesis of 2 Corinthians

A critical and exegetical study, with special attention given to the theological, expository and practical values. Careful consideration is also given to the major exegetical and theological problems. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours each.*

NT 782 • Exegesis of NT Gender Passages

An exegetical study of NT gender passages with special attention given to the significance of the role of women in the church. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 784 • Exegesis of Hebrews

An examination of the Greek text with a view toward definitive interpretation. Special attention is given to

linguistic style and to the interpretation of the important warning passages. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 785 • Exegesis of James

A critical and exegetical study of the epistle, designed to emphasize theological, expository, and practical aspects. Special attention is given to the major interpretive issues. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 786 • Exegesis of 1 Peter

A detailed exegetical study of 1 Peter. Special attention is given to the examination of major syntactical and lexical problems as well as to the structure, argument and overall message of the book. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 787 • 2 Peter and Jude

An exegetical analysis of 2 Peter and Jude. Special emphasis is given to the structure, argument and message of 2 Peter with an additional focus on the uniqueness and similarities of Jude. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 790 • Theology of Peter

A detailed study of theological truths taught in 1 & 2 Peter. The course will be based on exegetical digests of these two epistles. It will include a study of Peter's sermons in Acts and related doctrinal truths found in the epistles of James and Jude. Prerequisite: NT 604. *Two hours.*

NT 791 • Theology of Paul

This course involves a first-hand study of the New Testament letters of the Apostle Paul as well as a critical reading of recent scholarly literature on these writings with a view to discovering the background, nature and distinctive of Paul's theology. Prerequisite: NT 604. *Two hours.*

NT 792 • Theology of John

A firsthand study of the New Testament literature of the Apostle John as well as a critical reading of recent scholarly literature on these writings with a view to discovering the background, nature, and distinctives of John's theology. Prerequisite: NT 604 and one NT exegesis elective. *Two hours.*

NT 793 • Exegesis of the Johannine Epistles

A detailed analysis of the Greek text of John's epistles, noting important introductory matters as well as major interpretive and theological issues in the epistles. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 795 • Exegesis of the Apocalypse

A study based on the original text and emphasizing the literary structure, prominent systems of interpretation, exegetical problems, and theological values of this major apocalyptic book of the New Testament. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

NT 796 • New Testament Introduction

A study of General Introduction and Special Introduction to the New Testament, including the fields of canonicity, textual criticism, criticism of the Synoptic Gospels, and special introductory matters pertaining to the books of the New Testament. Prerequisite: BI 601, NT 604. *Three hours.*

NT 799 • New Testament Exegetical Research

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and

interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary coursework, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. Prerequisite: NT 603 and two years of seminary study (60 hours) with at least one year at The Master's Seminary (30 hours). Number of hours (not to exceed four) to be determined, prior to registration, by the faculty member involved. *Two hours.*

#### Division of New Testament Studies—ThM

The Division of New Testament Studies is designed to provide advanced mastery in the skills and research of New Testament language as well as the grammatical-historical interpretation and exegesis of its literature. The Master of Theology Program in New Testament provides the foundation as well as preparation for a doctoral program.

- DLO 1: As an advancing scholar, specialize in an area of New Testament studies, gaining facility in its literature and scholarship.
- DLO 2: As an advancing exegete, employ more refined skills in Greek translation, exegesis, and interpretation.
- DLO 3: As an advancing teacher, implement the skills of communication and effective teaching of course content.
- DLO 4: As an advancing researcher, demonstrate thoughtfulness, in-depth interaction, thorough research, and excellence in scholarly writing.

#### EP 810 • Introduction to Academic Research

The course lays a foundation of research and writing skills necessary for critically engaging scholarship, and for establishing a potential area of specialization from which the student is encouraged to design a scholarly research portfolio and draw out a potential doctoral dissertation. *One hour.*

#### EP 820 • Philosophy of Pedagogy

The course intends to help students understand instructional methodologies and learning theories that undergird the theologically-informed teaching of Pastor-Scholars to adult Christian students. The course addresses the role and function of the Pastor-Scholar in persuading for a conservative evangelical worldview largely through the development of scholarly argumentation in his chosen area of specialization. Reading selections aim to cultivate practical principles of instruction, and writing assignments aim to advance presentation skills for use inside and outside of the classroom. Prerequisite course: EP 810. *One hour.*

#### EP 830 • Practice of Pedagogy

The course applies teaching principles to two learning environments. First, students will design lesson plans and present classroom lectures to their peers on content from their research specializations. Second, using an online learning platform and instructional technology, students will design and assess curriculum in their areas of specialization for potential use in select cross-cultural academic contexts. Prerequisite course: EP 820. *One hour.*

#### NT 837A • Thesis Introductory Methods

This class is primarily an independent study, with initial and intermittent guidance provided by the student's thesis advisor. The class entails topic selection and approval, development of a prospectus (title page, outline, bibliography, and general synopsis of argument), and the introductory chapter. Deadline for completing this class is by the end of sixteen weeks. *Two hours.*

#### NT 838 • ThM Thesis in NT Exegesis

As the culmination of their ThM program, a student must write a ThM thesis. Building on the work submitted for NT 837A, this thesis must contain not fewer than 100 nor more than 150 pages of text material. Approval will be based upon literary quality and theological content. Prerequisite: NT 837A. *Two hours.*

#### NT 840 • Advanced Research Methods

Students will construct and refine a scholarly corpus consisting of research papers written throughout the program totaling 35,000–50,000 words (approximately 150–200 pages). The instructor will advise as to additional pertinent writing, revisions, and formatting so that the portfolio provides a coherent literature review and contextual basis from which to draw a potential doctoral dissertation. Students will also work together in the revision process and in the pedagogical preparation of symposium-style research presentations. Prerequisite course: EP 830; to be taken in the final semester. *Three hours.*

#### NT 842 • Septuagint

Introduction to the Greek grammar of the Septuagint and selected reading in the text of the Septuagint. The contribution of the Septuagint to both Old and New Testament studies will be presented. Prerequisites: NT 853, NT 854, OT 603 and one exegesis course in both NT and OT (see OT 842). *Two hours.*

#### NT 851 • Advanced Hermeneutics

A study and evaluation of recent trends in the field of hermeneutics, along with new questions they raise regarding biblical inerrancy and interpretation. Prerequisites: BI 505 and NT 604. *Two hours.*

#### NT 853, 854 • Advanced Greek Grammar I and II

A detailed study of the definitive works on the grammar of NT Greek with a view to providing a more confident approach to New Testament interpretation. Prerequisite: NT 604 and two NT exegesis electives. *Two hours each.*

#### NT 855 • New Testament Textual Criticism

A study of the history of the New Testament text and an evaluation of various theories regarding choosing correct variants in the text. Prerequisites: NT 603 and NT 796. *Two hours.*

#### NT 856 • Criticism of the Synoptic Gospels

An explanation and analysis of various theories regarding source, form, redaction, and canon criticism as they pertain to the Synoptic Gospel. Prerequisite: NT 796. *Two hours.*

#### NT 868 • History of New Testament Interpretation

A critical and historical review of the history of interpretation of the New Testament with an emphasis on the modern historical period, from the Reformation through the Enlightenment to contemporary issues of NT theology and interpretation. Prerequisite: NT 604 and NT 796. *Two hours.*

#### NT 877 • Exegesis of the Pastoral Epistles

An exegetical analysis of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus, with emphasis on the practical application of the instruction of these epistles for contemporary Christian living and pastoral responsibilities. Prerequisite: NT 603. *Two hours.*

#### NT 896, 897 • Research Seminar

Principles of thorough research. Supervised research into a problem related to New Testament studies. Periodic reports to other members of the seminar. Either one or two semesters devoted to the research. Elective for ThM students. *Two hours each.*

### NT 899 • New Testament Exegetical Research

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary coursework, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. *Two hours.*

### Division of New Testament Studies—PhD

The purpose of the PhD New Testament emphasis is provide the *highest skills* in mastery and academic research of New Testament language, literal grammatico-historical interpretation and exegesis of its literature as well as its history of interpretation throughout the centuries for the purpose of teaching in institutions of higher learning or in other advanced ministry settings. The culmination of this major is the production of a dissertation which makes a unique contribution to the field.

- DLO 1: As a specialist, demonstrate a deep, active knowledge of a specialized area of NT study.
- DLO 2: As a scholar, make a significant contribution to the literature of that specialty by means of a dissertation reflecting honed skills in research, critical thinking, translation, exegesis, and writing.

### NT 903 • PhD Qualifying Exams III

Following acceptance into the Doctor of Philosophy degree program, a student must register for this course during any semester he intends to write one or more qualifying exams.

### NT 941 • Doctoral Dissertation Prospectus

This course is designed to launch the student's doctoral residency. Under the advisor's supervision, the student is expected to refine the dissertation topic, establish its need, defend its choice, and outline the procedure for its undertaking. Preparation of an extensive bibliography is also one of the course requirements. *Four hours.*

### NT 942, 943, 944, 945, 946 • Dissertation Research I–V

Once the Dissertation Prospectus Course has been completed, the student is expected to register for this course for each subsequent semester of residency during which the dissertation is being researched and written.

*Four hours each.*

### NT 947 • Doctoral Dissertation

## DIVISION OF PASTORAL MINISTRY

Because the local church serves as God's primary agency for Christian worship and nurture, pastoral ministries courses begin to translate the information and skills learned in biblical and theological studies into relevant application for pastoral ministry. Whether this application is to be demonstrated by public ministries in the pulpit, in the evangelistic and educational ministries of the church, in the ordinances and ceremonies of the church, in church worship and music, in administrative leadership in the church, or by the more private modeling of personal godliness in the private devotional life, in counseling sessions, in leadership within the family, and in all other relationships, careful and prayerful preparation is necessary. In all of these settings there is no necessary dichotomy between thorough preparation and prayerful reliance on the Holy Spirit. Though many of these

courses necessarily focus on skills and methodologies, all are also concerned with the preparation of the inner person with the development of those character qualities necessary for effective ministry and spiritual leadership. Expository Preaching courses are designed to channel the student's academic training, personal giftedness, and individual personality toward effectiveness in expositional preaching from God's Word. This training often interfaces with the Hebrew and Greek courses so as to take full advantage of exegetical assignments for developing pulpit materials. Preaching courses also require practicum sessions which include video taping of student preaching experiences for individual evaluation.

#### Division of Pastoral Ministry—MDiv

The Division of Pastoral Ministry (MDiv) is designed to advance on the knowledge base of biblical and theological studies, translating them into preaching and leadership skills necessary for effective ministry, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

- DLO 1: Effectively communicate the scriptures through expositional preaching.
- DLO 2: Demonstrate a strong grasp of core church organizational and administrative functions.
- DLO 3: Demonstrate the ability to effectively shepherd individual believers.

#### PM 500 • Continuing Registration

*Zero hours.*

#### PM 501 • Fundamentals of Expository Preaching

Understanding that the ultimate goal of every theological education is being able to effectively communicate God's truth, this first-semester course develops and illustrates the Biblical mandate for expository preaching. Special emphasis is placed on the essence and essentials of expository preaching and the source of its power.

*One hour.*

#### PM 505 • Grammar, Research Writing

This course provides students with an introduction to the basics of English Grammar, Scholarly Research, and Academic Writing. These skills are necessary not only for student success in later courses, but for the lifelong pursuit of excellence in the study and communication of biblical truth. Topics covered include basic grammatical constructions (such as parts of speech, syntax, phrases and clauses, and sentence diagramming), research methodology, bibliographic formatting, effective use of the library, and keys to writing well. *Two hours.*

#### PM 511A • Foundations of Pastoral Ministry

This course is designed to introduce students to the roles and responsibilities inherent to being a pastor. The class is crafted for the purpose of enhancing each student's ministry preparedness, and focuses on topics like the qualifications for spiritual leadership, a biblical paradigm for local church ministry, and the practical realities of shepherding a congregation. *Two hours.*

#### PM 512A • Pastoral Counseling

This course covers topics such as the theological basis of discipleship/counseling, the definition of biblical counseling, the essentials for the discipler/counselor, a comparison of counseling philosophies, and the biblical view of change, guilt, and self-image. Also included are the key elements of the counseling process, handling one's past and one's attitude (case studies are also discussed). *Three hours.*

#### PM 601 • History of Expository Preaching

Throughout history, God has always had His spokesman who articulated God's message to the people. Beginning with the OT prophets, Jesus Christ, the NT apostles, and continuing to the present, this course highlights the

unbroken chain of preachers throughout history and establishes the student's responsibility and role in continuing this extraordinary chain. *One hour.*

PM 602 • Mechanics of Preaching

This course is designed to instruct the student in the fundamentals of actual sermon preparation and then how to effectively communicate that message. Attention is given to preparing the heart, selecting the approach, interpreting the text, and delivering the sermon. *Two hours.*

PM 604 • Expository Preaching Workshop

This course is built on the foundation of previous coursework, including but not limited to the preaching courses. As a laboratory class, it is designed to expose and train the student in developing the various constituent parts of the sermon, such as the introductions, conclusions, illustrations, etc. Prerequisite: PM 602 (or concurrent). *Three hours.*

PM 605 • Christian Writing

When God chose to reveal Himself in detail, He did so in writing. Appropriately, this course involves the written medium in areas of both unpublished and published writings. Both content and style receive attention to enhance the pastoral capacity to communicate clearly and effectively. *Two hours.*

PM 613 • Hymnology and Worship

This study addresses the importance of music in the worship service, the "language" of music, and how pastors must exercise careful oversight of the church's music ministry. Also included is a survey of worship from early Jewish music to the present day, with an evaluation of the latest paradigms. *Two hours.*

PM 668 • Adult Bible Teaching

A study of the principles involved in a Christian philosophy of learning and teaching, and an evaluation of models for Bible lesson plans. Also includes experience in the use of visual aids and practice in becoming a vibrant teacher of the Bible to adults. Maximum of 8 students. *Two hours.*

PM 702 • Expository Preaching Clinic

As a continuation of PM 703 Expository Preaching Lab, this course is designed to help the student increase his effectiveness in moving from exegesis to exposition and delivery. With an emphasis on public speaking skills, it provides additional opportunities for the student to hone his sermon delivery. Prerequisite: PM 703. *Two hours.*

PM 703 • Expository Preaching Lab

Continues the study of homiletical methodology with special emphasis on expositional preaching and the development of communication skills. Video recordings are used as an aid allowing more personalized evaluation of effectiveness of communication in both content and style. Prerequisite: PM 604, OT 503, NT 502 and either OT 603 or NT603. *Three hours.*

PM 708 • Preaching Historical Narrative

This course is designed to enhance the preaching of Historical Narrative, which comprises the largest amount of the biblical text. Special attention is given to transforming description (narrative discourse) into prescription (sermonic exhortation). How to preach longer and more difficult narrative sections is explored as well. The course also briefly surveys the history of preaching this genre, illustrating pitfalls to be avoided and examples to be emulated. Prerequisite: PM 606. *Two hours.*

PM 709 • Effective Sermon Delivery

This course is designed to improve one's skill in handling and communicating the Word of God. The sermons of

Jesus and great preachers of history are examined for the purpose of studying the reasons for their effectiveness. Many practical assignments help the student make his exegetical data more understandable, memorable and applicable to the hearers. Prerequisite: PM 703. *Two hours.*

#### PM 712 • Pastoral Ministries

Provides a foundation to integrate pastoral concerns and responsibilities with regard to evangelism, Christian education, discipleship, missions, developing church leadership, leading in worship and special services, long-range planning, community relations, and church ordinances. Prerequisite: PM 511A. *Three hours.*

#### PM 714 • Prayer and the Pastor

With a focus on the scriptural teaching on prayer, this course is designed to impact the personal prayer life of the students and also prepare them for leading a congregation of believers in its prayer worship and ministry. Issues relating to the tensions with regard to the sovereignty of God, the responsibility of humans to pray and respond, and the role of the Holy Spirit are evaluated. *Two hours.*

#### PM 715 • Implication, Application and Exposition

Students will explore the relationship of implication and application in expository preaching by considering the teaching of Scripture, biblical and historical examples, and the statements of noted expositors. Hermeneutical and pedagogical guidelines will be outlined to provide the parameters for preaching the implications and applications of a passage in the context of the local church for the edification of the body. Prerequisite: PM 604. *Two Hours.*

#### PM 756 • Church Growth

Qualitative and quantitative factors of growing a church from a biblical perspective receive attention. A twentieth century philosophy which remains biblical and is also contemporarily relevant highlights this course. *Two hours.*

#### PM 758 • Church Planting

Evaluates various kinds of church planting opportunities and methodologies. Offers step- by-step procedures, and calls upon successful local church planters for suggestions from their own experiences. *Two hours.*

#### PM 760 • Church Renewal and Planting

*Church Renewal and Planting* is an intense two-week course that equips men to plant a church with a core group or help rebuild an established church. The course covers practical topics ranging from steps before launching a church and developing lay leadership to vision casting and administrative principles for organizing ministry. *Two hours.*

#### PM 768 • Marriage and Family Counseling

This course is focused on the specific areas of marriage and the family. Topics covered include the purpose of marriage, divorce and remarriage, roles of husband and wife, physical intimacy within marriage, communication and conflict resolution, spouse and child abuse, stewardship of time and priorities, preventing and rebuilding after adultery, parenting, and family counseling (case studies are also discussed). Prerequisite: PM 512A. *Two hours.*

#### PM 769 • Advanced Biblical Counseling

This course is designed for those desiring to pursue a more in-depth understanding of discipleship/counseling. Topics covered include anger, worry, fear, depression, medical issues, counseling children, eating problems, decision making, incest, sexual abuse, crisis counseling, and other specific subjects (case studies are also discussed). Prerequisite: PM 512A. *Two hours.*

PM 772 • Biblical Conflict Resolution

An investigation into the nature of conflict, the divine perspective of it, and the biblical principles that should guide the believer in responding to it. Special attention is focused on understanding and handling interpersonal struggles in business, the church, and marriage in a way that honors the Lord. *Two hours.*

PM 788 • Analysis of Significant New Testament Churches

Twelve churches receive detailed attention to determine what Christ commends and condemns in first century churches which all started with a right ecclesiology. Areas to avoid and areas to emphasize are incorporated into a twentieth century “applied” ecclesiology (see BI 788). *Two hours.*

PM 792 • Theology of Worship

A thorough study of worship examples in both the Old and New Testaments. The course will examine current philosophies of corporate worship and compare these with biblical examples. It will also offer a discussion of music, its role in corporate worship, and how it relates to biblical worship, providing the student opportunity to set forth his philosophy of worship in the church. *Two hours.*

PM 794 • Military Chaplaincy Residency

This program offers an opportunity to minister in a military environment alongside one of the U.S. Navy chaplains at the Chapel of Hope in Yokosuka, Japan. Interns engage in the various aspects of international mission work among the 24,000 American sailors and their dependents of the Navy’s 7th fleet. Responsibilities include preparing ministry materials, sermons, Bible studies, and building relationships with sailors and their families. *Two hours.*

PM 795 • Counseling Residency

The goal of this course is to help the student learn, evaluate, and sharpen his discipleship/ counseling skills. Practical application of biblical principles to human problems and relationships is promoted. Opportunities for observing counseling are offered along with interactive follow-up with the counselor. Prerequisite: PM 512A. *Two hours.*

PM 796 • Hospital Chaplaincy Residency

A study of the role of the pastor in hospital chaplaincy, including legal restrictions, etiquette, ministering to both the sick as well as to their families, and relating to the hospital staff. Considerable “hands-on” training is included. *Two hours.*

PM 797 • Teaching Residency

For exceptional students who desire teaching as a ministry focus, opportunities will be provided to teach in Logos Bible Institute. This course will be conducted as directed study under faculty supervision. *Two hours.*

PM 798 • Pastoral Residency

Occasionally students are afforded significant ministry opportunity and responsibility that is over and above the normal pastoral ministry involvement and field education duties expected of all students. To be considered for enrollment in this course, the student must present, in consultation with a Pastoral Ministries faculty member and the pastor providing oversight, a detailed proposal describing how this ministry responsibility fits within the above parameters and what kind of assignments one would undertake to fulfill the academic requirements (research papers, reading, book reviews, etc.). *Two hours.*

PM 799 • Research in Pastoral Ministries

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written

form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary course work, research courses are permitted only when a particular course needed for graduation or important for needed expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. Prerequisites: two years of seminary study (60 hours) with at least one year at The Master's Seminary (30 hours). *Two hours.*

## WORLD MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM COURSES

In view of the explicit command of Christ, the entire curriculum at The Master's Seminary is permeated with a thematic emphasis on worldwide evangelism. In addition, specific courses have been designed to highlight this emphasis. The purpose of these courses is to equip students with a biblically based concern for the world mission of the church and to expand their understanding of missions activities, needs, and opportunities. The goal is to better prepare some for lifetime involvement in missions and others for lifetime support for missions in both their personal and pastoral roles.

### MI 750 • Introduction to Bible Translation

This course offers an introductory survey of Bible translation. After covering the motivation for Bible translation, the history of translation, and the continuing need for translation work, the course will focus on principles of translation and the challenges presented by various non-Indo-European languages. The course will include the reading of select biographies of well-known Bible translators. *Two hours.*

### MI 752 • Semantics and Pragmatics in Translation

This course addresses the relationships between form and meaning at various levels of language, from word to utterance, and the implications for translation. The difference between meaning and reference is explained; semantic distinctions such as homonymy, polysemy, and ambiguity are explored. The course describes and contrasts presuppositions, entailments, implicatures, and ellipses, especially as they relate to making information explicit in translation. The components of meaning are studied; students learn to create concise definitions based on componential analysis. *Two hours.*

### MI 754 • Grammatical Analysis in Translation

This course surveys the principal structures used for building words, phrases, clauses, and sentences across the world's languages and the implications for translation. The manner in which grammatical information about number, gender, tense, aspect, and mode are encoded in the verbal system is treated, followed by an in-depth discussion of how the meaning could be conveyed in another language. Common translation problems and appropriate solutions are discussed. *Two hours.*

### MI 756 • Discourse Analysis in Translation

This course surveys units of communication above the sentential level, from the paragraph to larger textual units. Linguistic features that signal the internal unity of a unit are contrasted with the features that signal a division. The course also covers participant reference, prominence, and direct and indirect quotations among other discourse features. The implications of discourse analysis for translation are examined in detail and common solutions addressed. *Two hours.*

### MI 776 • History of Missions

This course provides an historical overview of the progress of Christian missions from the proclamation of the gospel at Pentecost to today. Consideration will be given to denominational patterns of missions providing the

background to assess the current state of the church within specific geographical regions. Present trends and possible future developments will also be addressed in an effort to better understand the outworking of the Great Commission until the return of Christ. *Two hours.*

#### MI 778 • Theology of Missions

A study of the biblical teaching and principles defining and undergirding the reality of missions, as well as a consideration of the missionary practices which arise therefrom. Includes an examination and critique of those issues affecting missions today, namely religious pluralism and ethnotheology, contextualization and indigenization, and power-encounter and spiritual warfare (see TH 778). Prerequisite: TH 606. *Two hours.*

#### MI 780 • Theological Issues Facing the Global Church

This course surveys contemporary issues facing evangelical churches within specific cultural contexts, such as the prosperity gospel, liberation theology, and vernacular theologies in order to develop a biblical response and an effective strategy for confronting these errors. Students interested in ministering within specific cultural settings will be able to conduct research into those issues related to their future field of ministry. Research will be conducted with the assistance of TMAI's international faculty. *Two hours.*

#### MI 782 • The Church and Missions

This course outlines the role of missions within a biblical ecclesiology. The principles and practices necessary for implementing an effective missions philosophy, vision, and strategy for the local church will be explored in the light of Scripture. This course is designed to prepare future pastors to lead the missions effort of their local church. *Two hours.*

#### MI 784 • Major Religions

Surveys the origins, growth, doctrines, and practices of the major religions of the world. Also examines their historical relationships and confrontations with Christianity, as well as suggested strategies for effective evangelism. *Two hours.*

#### MI 787 • International Pastoral Training

This course surveys the opportunities and challenges of training pastors of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Differences in culture, educational structure, church relations, and related topics are addressed in order to prepare an informed strategy for training. This course coincides with TMAI's "Pathway to Membership" requirements and is intended to help those planning to lead a pastoral training center. *Two hours.*

#### MI 788 • Urban Church Ministry

This course explores the concept of urban ministry, looking at past and current trends in reaching urban, minority, and economically challenged communities with the Gospel. Students will investigate the history of the evangelical church and the city in North America, while developing a biblical view of poverty, compassion, mercy ministry, injustice, and racism. The course design will engage students with leaders of urban and ethnic ministries within the Los Angeles area. *Two hours.*

#### MI 789, 790 • Internship in Missions

A specialized field involvement program designed to encourage interest and experience in cross-cultural ministries. Each student will be accountable to both on-campus and off-campus supervision and will be given exposure to as many aspects of missions as possible in view of the particular field assignment and the maturity of the student. Mission internship programs may be sponsored by The Master's Seminary, Grace Community Church, or other approved mission agencies. In all cases preparatory study is required with both reading and writing assignments, an agreed upon subject will be researched while on the field, and a report or research paper must be submitted after the internship. No more than four hours of credit may be granted unless the internship

program requires actual course work on the field. When such course work is involved the student may register, with the permission of the Vice President for Academic Administration, for the specific courses involved.

*Two hours each.*

#### MI 795 • Theory and Practice of Bible Translation

This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of text translation, emphasizing the accurate, natural, and clear transference of meaning across languages and cultures. Current issues in translation theory will be discussed, especially the approach based on Relevance Theory. Practical aspects of the course will include recognizing common translation problems and solutions, maintaining quality control, the role of computation, program planning aspects of translation projects or activities, and teaching others to translate. *Two hours.*

#### MI 796 • Field Methods and Linguistic Analysis I

This course provides practical training in how to elicit, record, and transcribe linguistic data by working with a speaker of a non-Western language. Translation issues will be addressed with external sources as well as elicited data to formulate and test hypotheses and refine them to arrive at a better understanding of a given language and the best translation for that language. *Two hours.*

#### MI 797 • Field Methods and Linguistic Analysis II

This course provides practical training in how to elicit, record, and transcribe linguistic data by working with a speaker of a non-Western language. Translation issues will be addressed with external sources as well as elicited data to formulate and test hypotheses and refine them to arrive at a better understanding of a given language and the best translation for that language. *Two hours.*

### DIVISION OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

The theological approach at The Master's Seminary emphasizes the exegetical and systematic rather than the philosophical, creedal, or sociological. The analytical and synthetic contributions of Bible exposition, the data drawn from exegesis of the Old Testament and the New Testament, and the insights gained from church history, are all combined in comparing, exhibiting, and defending the theological truths revealed in the Christian Scriptures.

Theology courses at The Master's Seminary are not taught merely for the purpose of satisfying intellectual curiosity, but for the purpose of helping students grasp the significance of theology for Christian living, for the ministry of Bible-believing churches world-wide, and for insightful interaction with contemporary issues. Courses are offered in both Systematic Theology and Historical Theology.

#### Division of Theological Studies—MDiv

The Division of Theological Studies (MDiv) is designed to advance critical engagement in theology and apologetics through critiquing and refuting non-biblical systems along with promoting biblical doctrines as a foundation for teaching and godly living, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

- DLO 1: Describe, compare, and critique the major Christian theological systems.
- DLO 2: Describe and critique the major worldviews.
- DLO 3: Identify the major individuals, movements, and events that have shaped Christian thought.
- DLO 4: Articulate the major doctrinal themes of scripture with appropriate biblical support.

### TH 500 • Theological English

A practical course aimed at helping non-native English speakers interact with complex theological ideas and vocabulary in the English language, both in written literature and also as used in the classroom. *Two hours.*

### TH 507, 508 • Historical Theology I and II

A survey study designed to give the student a sense of perspective and appreciation of the church since the time of Christ. Primary attention is devoted to the major events, individuals, and issues which have played significant roles in the history of the church. The courses are constructed around three major periods: (1) Pre-reformation, A.D. 33–1500; (2) The Reformation period, A.D. 1500–1648; and (3) The Modern Age, A.D. 1648 to the present. Gnosticism, Arianism, Nestorianism, Church Councils, Anabaptism, Catholicism, the Reformation, the Puritans, and the Great Awakening, are examples of the subjects discussed. The last period is devoted to a survey of American Christianity. *Three hours each.*

### TH 602 • Apologetics and Evangelism

A careful biblical and theological development of a consistent apologetic. The course provides a basis for the evaluation of various empirical systems as well as a working knowledge of presuppositionalism for use in all aspects of practical ministry. Evangelism is then studied within this framework to present the student with a consistent gospel presentation for biblical evangelism. *Three Hours.*

### TH 605 • Theology I

A study of prolegomena, dealing with the essence and source of systematic theology, and reasons for its study; theology proper, including revelation, trinitarianism, and God's relation to the universe; and bibliology, emphasizing inspiration and inerrancy. Prerequisite (or concurrent enrollment): PM 505, BI 505 (or concurrent). *Three hours.*

### TH 606 • Theology II

A study of Christology, the person and work of Jesus Christ; pneumatology, the person and work of the Holy Spirit; and angelology, including the nature and ministry of angels, Satan, and demons. Includes an introductory examination and critique of the charismatic movement. Prerequisite: TH 605. *Three hours.*

### TH 601 • Apologetics

A careful biblical and theological development of a consistent apologetic. The course provides a basis for the evaluation of various empirical systems as well as a working knowledge of presuppositionalism for use in all aspects of practical ministry. Evangelism is then studied within this framework to present the student with a consistent gospel presentation for biblical evangelism. Prerequisite (or concurrent enrollment): TH 705. *Three hours.*

### TH 655 • Contemporary Cults

An examination of the historical roots, origin, development, doctrines, leading personalities, and practices of the major religious cults in America. Also suggests approaches for presenting the historic Christian faith to the members of various cults. *Two hours.*

### TH 682 • Roman Catholic Theology

A study of the tenets and representative literature of Roman Catholicism. Special attention is given to its distinctiveness compared with Protestant theology. Prerequisite: TH 507, TH 508. *Two hours.*

### TH 705 • Theology III

A study of anthropology, focusing on the origin and nature of man; hamartiology, dealing with the fall and its consequences, especially total depravity; and soteriology, dealing with the atonement of Christ, election,

regeneration, conversion, justification, sanctification, and glorification. Prerequisite: TH 606. *Three hours.*

#### TH 706 • Theology IV

A study of ecclesiology, focusing on the inception, organization, ordinances, and ministry of the church; and eschatology, including a study of the biblical covenants, the rapture, tribulation, the millennial reign of Christ, the resurrections, the eschatological judgments, the eternal state, and personal destiny. Prerequisite: TH 705. *Three hours.*

#### TH 743 • Readings in Biblical Cosmology

Substantial reading in the literature on origins and dual revelation are discussed and critiqued in the light of the Scriptural teaching on Creation and the Flood and biblical chronology. The influence of prevailing scientific hypotheses on exegetical and theological conclusions and the question of intelligent design are also given consideration. Recent Creationism, or Young Earth Creationism, is affirmed and defended against alternative proposals such as Theistic Evolution, Progressive Creationism, Pre-Creation Chaos, and Ruin-Reconstructionism. Preferred prerequisites: OT 603 and TH 605. *Two hours.*

#### TH 778 • Theology of Missions

A study of the biblical teaching and principles defining and undergirding the reality of missions, as well as consideration of the missionary practices which arise therefrom. Includes an examination and critique of those issues affecting missions today, namely religious pluralism and ethnotheology, contextualization and indigenization, and power-encounters and spiritual warfare (see MI 778). Prerequisite: TH 606. *Two hours.*

#### TH 780 • Issues in Christian Ethics

This course treats both the theory and the practice of ethical and moral decision-making. An examination is also made of the key ethical passages in the Scriptures with special application to the issues raised in modern life (see BI 780). *Two hours.*

#### TH 786 • Charismatic Theology

The major tenets of the contemporary charismatic movement are examined and critiqued in the light of Scriptural teaching on spiritual gifts, signs and wonders, revelation, tongues, prophecy, and healings, health and wealth, inter alia. Apostolic period and praxis is also given consideration as well as the importance and superiority of doctrine over experience and mysticism. Includes an overview of the historical background and development of the charismatic movement. Substantial readings make the student aware of the literature available on this important subject. Students are required to draw up position statements on selected issues. *Two hours.*

#### TH 795 • Fundamentals of Theological Method

The purpose of this course is to demonstrate the philosophical and theological underpinnings of the methodology of systematic theology, in contrast to evangelical postmodern methodology. Prerequisite: TH 605. *Two hours.*

#### TH 799 • Research in Theology

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary coursework, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. Prerequisite: BI 505, NT 604, TH 606, and two years of seminary study (60 hours) with at least one year at The Master's

Seminary (30 hours). Number of hours (not to exceed four) to be determined, prior to registration, by the faculty member involved. *Two hours.*

#### Division of Theological Studies—ThM

*The Division of Theological Studies is designed to offer students advanced specialized training in the major categories of theology and promote expertise in a specific area of theology. The Master of Theology Program in Theological Studies provides the foundation as well as preparation for a doctoral program.*

- DLO 1: As an advancing scholar, specialize in an area of systematic or historical theology, gaining facility in its literature and scholarship.
- DLO 2: As an advancing exegetical theologian, refine skills in biblical languages to develop a sound methodology for critically engaging theological issues.
- DLO 3: As an advancing teacher, implement the skills of communication and effective teaching of course content.
- DLO 4: As an advancing researcher, demonstrate thoughtfulness, in-depth interaction, thorough research, and excellence in scholarly writing.

#### EP 810 • Introduction to Academic Research

The course lays a foundation of research and writing skills necessary for critically engaging scholarship, and for establishing a potential area of specialization from which the student is encouraged to design a scholarly research portfolio and draw out a potential doctoral dissertation. *One hour*

#### TH 811 • Seminar in Christology

An in-depth study of selected topics relating to Christology, with student papers concentrating on exegesis of key passages and on research relating to important historical debates. Prerequisite: TH 606. *Two hours.*

#### TH 813 • Seminar in Bibliology

Selected issues concerning revelation, inspiration, canonicity, and illumination are researched, presented, and evaluated. Prerequisite: TH 605. *Two hours.*

#### TH 816 • Seminar in Theology Proper

An in-depth study of selected topics relating to theology proper, with student papers concentrating on exegesis of key passages and on research relating to important historical debates. Prerequisite: TH 605. *Two hours.*

#### TH 819 • Seminar in Pneumatology

A study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit in both testaments, with special emphasis on His ministries in the present age. Prerequisite: TH 606. *Two hours.*

#### EP 820 • Philosophy of Pedagogy

The course intends to help students understand instructional methodologies and learning theories that undergird the theologically-informed teaching of Pastor-Scholars to adult Christian students. The course addresses the role and function of the Pastor-Scholar in persuading for a conservative evangelical worldview largely through the development of scholarly argumentation in his chosen area of specialization. Reading selections aim to cultivate practical principles of instruction, and writing assignments aim to advance presentation skills for use inside and outside of the classroom. Prerequisite course: EP 810. *One hour*

#### TH 823 • Seminar in Anthropology and Hamartiology

A careful review of the biblical teachings about man and sin, with analysis of historical and current issues.

Prerequisite: TH 705. *Two hours.*

TH 824 • Seminar in Soteriology

An advanced study of the doctrine of salvation, focusing on the cross-work of Christ and the divine plan of salvation. Various viewpoints are critically analyzed. Prerequisite: TH 705. *Two hours.*

TH 828 • Seminar in Dispensational Theology

A study of contemporary issues in dispensational interpretations of Scripture, and critical interaction with other systems of theology. Prerequisite: TH 706. *Two hours.*

EP 830 • Practice of Pedagogy

The course applies teaching principles to two learning environments. First, students will design lesson plans and present classroom lectures to their peers on content from their research specializations. Second, using an online learning platform and instructional technology, students will design and assess curriculum in their areas of specialization for potential use in select cross-cultural academic contexts. Prerequisite course: EP 820. *One hour.*

TH 836 • Seminar in Sanctification

A careful study of key issues involved in God's work of progressive sanctification in the life of the believer. Prerequisite: TH 705. *Two hours.*

TH 837A • Thesis Introductory Methods

This class is primarily an independent study, with initial and intermittent guidance provided by the student's thesis advisor. The class entails topic selection and approval, development of a prospectus (title page, outline, bibliography, and general synopsis of argument), and the introductory chapter. Deadline for completing this class is by the end of sixteen weeks. *Two hours.*

TH 838 • ThM Thesis in Theology

As the culmination of their ThM program, a student must write a ThM thesis. Building on the work submitted for TH 837A, this thesis must contain not fewer than 100 nor more than 150 pages of text material. Approval will be based upon literary quality and theological content. Prerequisite: TH 837A. *Two hours.*

TH 840 • Advanced Research Methods

Students will construct and refine a scholarly corpus consisting of research papers written throughout the program totaling 35,000–50,000 words (approximately 150–200 pages). The instructor will advise as to additional pertinent writing, revisions, and formatting so that the portfolio provides a coherent literature review and contextual basis from which to draw a potential doctoral dissertation. Students will also work together in the revision process and in the pedagogical preparation of symposium-style research presentations. Prerequisite course: EP 830; to be taken in the final semester. *Three hours.*

TH 888 • Seminar in Eschatology

An advanced study of eschatology, including student papers on kingdom of God, heaven, hell, the rapture, tribulation, the millennial reign of Christ, the resurrections, the eschatological judgments, and the eternal state. Prerequisite: TH 706. *Two hours.*

TH 899 • Research in Theology

A limited number of credit hours may be earned by satisfactory completion of guided independent research. The special problem or area of investigation must relate closely to the course title, must be precisely stated in written form and must be pursued under faculty supervision and with the approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration. A fully documented research paper and a reading report are required. Because instruction and

interaction within a classroom setting are significant elements of seminary coursework, research courses are permitted only when a particular course that is needed for graduation or for additional expertise is not offered, or when a faculty member recommends such a course as an aid both to himself and to the student. Information regarding requirements, procedures, and grading is available from the Administration office. *Two hours.*

TH 788 • Contemporary Evangelicalism

An historical and theological analysis of the Evangelical movement as it distinguished itself from fundamentalism beginning in the 1940's. Prerequisite: TH 508. *Two hours.*

TH 804 • History and Theology of Pietism

An analysis of the European and American pietist movement, with special emphasis on its impact on contemporary theology. Prerequisites: TH 507 and TH 508. *Two hours.*

TH 815 • Puritan Theology

A study of the theological system emerging from the English Puritan tradition with emphasis given to the unique contributions made by the Puritans, and a biblical evaluation of their thought. Prerequisite: TH 508. *Two hours.*

TH 859 • Contemporary Theology

A survey of the significant theological developments and positions which have achieved prominence during the 19th and 20th centuries. Emphasizes the contribution of the Renaissance and the Enlightenment to the development of modern religious liberalism, as well as an analysis of specific schools and representative theologians: Classic Modernism, Neo-Orthodoxy, Lundensianism, Neo-Liberalism, Existentialism, and the radical theologies of the last three decades. Prerequisite: TH 508. *Two hours.*

TH 860 • Theological Systems

A comparative study of the various systems of theology by evaluating leading representative theologians. Student reports are included. Prerequisite: TH 706. *Two hours.*

TH 866 • Seminar in Christian Classics

Reading and discussion of selected classics from church history with an emphasis on the classics of spirituality. Prerequisites: TH 507 and TH 508. *Two hours.*

TH 869 • Seminar in Reformation Theology

A study of the major theologians of the Reformation and their theology, with special attention given to a comparison of its theology with Anabaptist theology. Prerequisite: TH 507, TH 508. *Two hours.*

Division of Theological Studies—PhD

The purpose of the Theological Studies emphasis is designed to offer students in the Doctor of Philosophy Program advanced specialized training in the major categories of theology and promote expertise in a specific area of theology through the writing of a dissertation which advances or makes a unique contribution to field.

- DLO 1: As a specialist, demonstrate a deep, active knowledge of a specialized area of Christian theology.
- DLO 2: As a scholar, make a significant contribution to the literature of that specialty by means of a dissertation reflecting honed skills in research, critical thinking, translation, exegesis, and writing which advances Christian theology.

TH 877 • The Kingdom of God

A study of God's kingdom program from a biblical theology perspective. Emphasis on the nature and timing of

the kingdom from Genesis through Revelation. *Two hours.*

TH 904 • PhD Qualifying Exam IV in Church History

Following acceptance into the Doctor of Theology degree program, a student must register for this course during any semester he intends to write one or more qualifying exams.

TH 905 • Qualifying Exam V in Theology

Following acceptance into the Doctor of Theology degree program, a student must register for this course during any semester he intends to write one or more qualifying exams.

TH 941 • Doctoral Dissertation Prospectus

This course is designed to launch the student's doctoral residency. Under the advisor's supervision, the student is expected to refine the dissertation topic, establish its need, defend its choice, and outline the procedure for its undertaking. Preparation of an extensive bibliography is also one of the course requirements. *Four hours.*

TH 942, 943, 944, 945, 946 • Dissertation Research I–V

Once the Dissertation Prospectus Course has been completed, the student is expected to register for this course for each subsequent semester of residency during which the dissertation is being researched and written. *Four hours each.*

TH 947 • Doctoral Dissertation

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY COURSES

The hallmark of the evangelical movement throughout its history has been the priority of expository preaching. Because The Master's Seminary exists to advance God's kingdom by equipping godly men to be pastors and/or trainers of pastors for excellence in service to Christ, the seminary is committed to making every effort to enable evangelical pastors to develop into master expositors through a doctoral program that is singularly focused on the exposition of Scripture.

The seminary, through the Doctor of Ministry program, is committed to enhancing the expositor's ability in the three classical disciplines of sermon preparation: exegesis, exposition, and eloquence. Each component of the curriculum relates clearly and specifically to the other elements of the program and is conducted with a view toward increasing the student's knowledge, understanding, and skills in these disciplines. The sequence of the seminars is designed to be linear, progressing from seminars that explore the more general and historical issues of expository preaching to studies in specific biblical genres of the Old and New Testaments, and culminating in an intensive examination of rhetorical/homiletical theory and models.

DM 900 • Preaching Evaluation I

These seminars (DM 900, DM 917, DM 918 and DM 920) will help the students refine their expository preaching through self-evaluation, critical evaluation of selected sermons, reading classic preaching texts, and receiving personal feedback and support from both peers and an experienced practitioner. *Half hour.*

DM 913 • Research Methods I

This seminar is designed to prepare the student for doctoral-level research, supporting both seminar work and the DMin Preaching Research Project. It also provides the opportunity to select the specific project topic to determine the best utilization of the subsequent seminars for project work. *One hour.*

DM 914 • Expository Preaching and the Old Testament

This seminar is an introduction to the interpretation of the Old Testament (OT) with the goal of attaining a faithful exposition of the OT based upon accurate handling of the text. Following a general introduction to the interpretation of the OT, professors will direct the student to appropriate hermeneutical strategies to be applied to different genres (types of literature) of the OT. Foundational to this approach is the conviction that the OT message is relevant for the church and the world today. *Four hours.*

DM 915 • Historical and Contemporary Preaching Models

This seminar involves an examination of the nature, history, and current state of preaching. Attention is given to historical and contemporary trends in order that the student may become a more reflective practitioner of the expository preaching model. The course employs various methods of research, evaluation, and analysis, thus enabling the student to understand the wider historical context of expository preaching and its contrasting models. *Four hours.*

DM 916 • Doctrinal Foundations for Expository Preaching

This seminar provides an introduction to the task of expository preaching and the doctrinal foundation upon which such a pulpit ministry is built. Specifically, the class emphasizes the sovereignty of God in preaching, the inerrancy of the scriptures, and preaching as a form of worship. The class will enable the men to define expository preaching and provide familiarity with several of the key preaching texts that have influenced this preaching style. *Four hours.*

DM 917 • Preaching Evaluation II

See DM900. *Half hour.*

DM 918 • Preaching Evaluation III

See DM900. *Half hour.*

DM 920 • Preaching Evaluation IV

See DM900. *Half hour.*

DM 921 • Research Methods II

This seminar is designed to prepare the student for doctoral-level research, supporting both seminar work and the DMin Preaching Research Project. It also provides the opportunity to select the specific project topic to determine the best utilization of the subsequent seminars for project work. *One hour.*

DM 923 • Expository Preaching and the New Testament

This seminar is an introduction to the interpretation of the New Testament (NT) with the goal of attaining a faithful exposition of the NT based upon accurate handling of the text. Following a general introduction to the interpretation of the NT, professors will direct the student to appropriate hermeneutical strategies to be applied to different genres of the NT. Foundational to this approach is the conviction that the NT message is relevant for the church and the world today. *Four hours.*

DM 924 • Homiletics and Sermon Delivery

This seminar is designed to help the preacher consider how their cultural setting impacts their preparation, the benefit of a *lectio continua* approach, and to refine the student's communication skills by examining various components of sermonic delivery. *Four hours.*

DM 925 • Theology and Expository Preaching

This seminar considers the role a systematic, biblical, historical, and practical theology may play in the

preparation and delivery of the expository message. Theological discussion will serve as the basis for insights into how the expositor can present theological content and address theological issues in his teaching and preaching ministry. *Four hours.*

DM 937, 938 • Preaching Research Project (I & II)

The Preaching Research Project is the student's major research and evaluation project in the degree program. The project must be related to the student's ministry and make a significant contribution to his expository preaching effectiveness. The length of the project is to be appropriate to the subject as judged by the student's mentor/advisor. The specific topic of the Preaching Research Project will normally be determined by the completion of the Doctoral Research and Methods seminar in July of the first year. *Four hours each.*

ADVANCED FOREIGN LANGUAGES

GR 900 • Theological German

Introduces the basics of the German language, including vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure. With a focus on theological German, the course is designed to prepare the student for the qualifying exam in German. ThM students are welcome to enroll in the course for elective credit, upon instructor approval. *Two hours.*

LT 900 • Theological Latin

Designed to introduce the student to the vocabulary and grammar of Latin as a preparation for reading and writings of the Church Fathers and Reformation theologians. ThM students are welcome to enroll in the course upon instructor approval. *Two hours.*

FL 900 • Foreign Language

*Two hours*

## PERSONNEL

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