

— 2020–2021 —

# ACADEMIC CATALOG

WESTMINSTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

v.2 Published August 7, 2020



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# 1. Welcome

## Letter from the President

Welcome to Westminster Theological Seminary! I trust that the following pages will provide the information you need to consider thoughtfully and prayerfully if God would have you study here.

Westminster is a thriving community seeking to understand the meaning of Scripture and apply it to all areas of life. We are guided in this work by three primary beliefs:

- First, we believe that Reformed theology, as defined by the Westminster Standards, most accurately represents the teachings of Scripture. We are therefore boldly committed to confessional, Reformed Christianity.
- Second, we believe that proper interpretation of Scripture requires careful scholarship. We are therefore deeply committed to academic excellence and a Christ-centered hermeneutic shaped by the Reformation principle of Sola Scriptura that flows from a conviction that the Bible is the infallible and inerrant Word of God.
- Third, we believe that genuine and effective gospel service requires a heart of love and devotion to Christ. We are therefore passionately committed to spiritual formation.

These core beliefs undergird each degree program we offer as we seek to train leaders who are specialists in the Bible and equipped to proclaim the whole counsel of God for Christ and His global church. Our graduates serve all over the world as pastors, professors, missionaries, counselors, translators, church planters, and in many other capacities. We are grateful for the privilege of being used by God in the training of men and women who, for almost 90 years, have been extending the knowledge of the glory of God in Christ until that knowledge covers the earth as the waters cover the sea (Habakkuk 2:14).

I invite you to join our international community of students and scholars and our thousands of alumni who are serving the church around the globe. We would be honored to help prepare you for a life of Christian service to the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Soli Deo Gloria!



Peter A. Lillback  
President

## 2. About Westminster

### Mission and Vision

Westminster Theological Seminary exists to train specialists in the Bible to proclaim the whole counsel of God for Christ and his global church. Committed to extending the knowledge of the glory of God in Christ until that knowledge covers the earth as the waters cover the sea (Habakkuk 2:14), and with a vision to serve with excellence in global Reformed theological education, we offer graduate-level theological education at our Philadelphia campus.

Specifically, Westminster pursues this mission and vision in three ways. First, we seek to form men for ordained ministry and men and women for gospel service. Second, we seek to teach the whole counsel of God in order to shepherd Christ's church. Third, we seek to engage a changing world with God's unchanging Word through Reformed scholarship.

### Core Values

In the pursuit of our mission and vision we hold to the following core values:

- The triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is worthy of the worship of all people in all places of his dominion, and this fact must be the fundamental motive for every human activity.
- Scripture, as the very Word of God written, is absolutely authoritative and without error. The Bible-centered curriculum is developed on the basis of our motto, "the whole counsel of God."
- Reformed orthodoxy, as informed by the system of doctrine contained in the Westminster Standards, and secondarily in other Reformed confessions, represents faithfully and accurately what Scripture teaches.
- Biblical exegesis and biblical theology (in the tradition of Geerhardus Vos) in harmony with systematic theology and presuppositional apologetics (in the tradition of Cornelius Van Til) are among the crucial methods to be used in interpreting and applying the teaching of Scripture and in developing a biblical worldview.
- A learned ministry set in the lifestyle of humble and holy affection for Jesus Christ is essential in today's church and world and must be modeled by the board, administration, faculty, and students.
- A fundamental mandate of the church, discipling the nations for the glory of Christ, requires culturally sensitive, theologically competent ministers who have both the ability and the passion to apply the eternal word of Scripture to the changing world in which God has placed us.
- Because there is one body and one Spirit, all who would build up the whole body of Christ must make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Westminster is committed to Scripture and to the systematic exposition of biblical truth known as the Reformed faith. In addition to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, the Seminary treasures the rich and harmonious diversity of creeds and confessions within the historic Reformed tradition. In particular, it recognizes that the system of doctrine contained in Scripture is also confessed in the Three Forms of Unity (the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort). Westminster desires to be used in the training of ministers of the gospel and others for service in churches committed to the Three Forms of Unity as subordinate standards.

## **Distinctive Curriculum**

Based on our core values, the curriculum of the Seminary includes Westminster's distinctives:

- Study of Scripture in the original languages
- Exegetical theology and covenantal hermeneutics
- Systematic theology grounded in biblical theology
- Presuppositional apologetics
- Reformed confessionalism
- Christ-centered preaching
- Biblical counseling
- Spiritual formation for ministry in the church
- Contextual missiology
- Presbyterian polity

## **History and Government**

Theological education in the United States was originally available only to students who were tutored and mentored by able ministers. In the eighteenth century, a number of pastors were widely known for their willingness to take students under their oversight and guide their reading. A single minister often mentored many students at a time.

When formal theological seminaries were organized, one of the first was the Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church at Princeton, New Jersey, where instruction began in 1812. Founded by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the seminary held to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as its doctrinal standards.

Princeton excelled under the leadership of distinguished teachers who devoted themselves vigorously and effectively to the development, propagation, and maintenance of the Reformed faith. Among those best known as teachers of the great scriptural system of theology set forth by Princeton's first professor, Archibald Alexander, were Charles Hodge, J. A. Alexander, B. B. Warfield, Geerhardus Vos, and J. Gresham Machen. But eventually a movement surfaced to end Princeton's adherence to scriptural theology, and in 1929 Princeton Theological Seminary was reorganized under modernist influences.

Among the Princeton faculty who loved the Reformed faith were Robert Dick Wilson, J. Gresham Machen, Oswald T. Allis, and Cornelius Van Til. Almost immediately after Princeton's reorganization, these four men founded Westminster Theological Seminary, and, with others who were invited to join the teaching staff, continued the exposition and defense of the Reformed faith. Over the years, Westminster has prospered as the Seminary has maintained the infallible Scripture as our foundation.

The Seminary is governed by a self-perpetuating board consisting of at least fifteen but not more than thirty trustees, of whom at least one-half but not more than three-fifths must be ministers of the gospel. Each member of the board is required by the charter to subscribe to a pledge of a character similar to that required of the Faculty, and is required to be a ruling or teaching elder in a church that shares the Seminary's commitments and Presbyterian and Reformed heritage. The President of the Seminary is the chief executive officer, directly responsible to the board. Academic policies are established by the President and Provost, with advice from the Faculty, subject to review by the board.

Current members of the Board of Trustees are listed on our [website](#).

## Senior Administration

President  
Dean of Faculty and Vice President of Global Initiatives  
Vice President and General Counsel  
Vice President of Advancement, Engagement, and Strategy  
Vice President of Campus Life and Dean of Students  
Vice President of Finance and Operations  
Dean of Online Learning

Peter A. Lillback  
David B. Garner  
James Sweet  
Jerry Timmis  
Steve Carter  
Chun Lai  
Iain Duguid

## Accreditation

Westminster is a school of theology at the graduate level. Under a charter from the [Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#) granted in 1930 and as subsequently amended, the Seminary has the power to grant the degrees of Master of Arts in Counseling, Master of Arts (Theological Studies), Master of Arts (Religion), Master of Divinity, Master of Theology, Doctor of Ministry, and Doctor of Philosophy. Degrees are granted upon recommendation of the Faculty and by the authority of the Board of Trustees.

The Seminary is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and has held this accreditation since 1954, the year in which the Middle States Commission first began accrediting theological seminaries. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education can be contacted at 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, telephone: (267) 284-5000, fax: (215) 662-5501, website: [www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org).

The Seminary is also accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, which is the national accrediting agency for theological schools in the United States and Canada. The following degree programs of the Seminary are approved: MAC, MATS, MAR, MDiv, ThM, DMin, PhD. The following extension site is approved as specified: London, United Kingdom. The following degree program is approved at the London extension site: ThM. The Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada can be contacted at 10 Summit Park Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15275, telephone: (412) 788-6505, fax: (412) 788-6510, website: [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu). To request more information about accreditation, approval, or licensing, please inquire with the Seminary.

Westminster admits students of any race, color, national, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally made available to students at the Seminary. The Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, or scholarship and loan programs. The Seminary believes that Scripture restricts the ordained ruling and teaching offices of the church to men and therefore does not admit women to the MDiv Pastoral Ministry emphasis and the DMin Preaching concentration. Westminster also believes that the Lord has given a variety of gifts to women and men not called to the ordained offices of the church and is committed to training those students for positions of service in the church which do not require ordination. Those students in the non-pastoral track degree programs are considered eligible for financial aid and for other services provided by the Seminary for its students.

## Academic Resources

- [Montgomery Library](#)
- [Center for Theological Writing](#)
- [Craig Center for the Study of the Westminster Standards](#)
- [J. Alan Groves Center for Advanced Biblical Research](#)
- [SaRang Korean Mission Center](#)
- [Westminster Theological Journal](#)

## Location and Facilities

The Seminary is located on a suburban campus of 15 acres at the intersection of Church Road (Route 73) and Willow Grove Avenue in Glenside (Cheltenham Township, Montgomery County), approximately three miles from the Fort Washington exit of the Pennsylvania Turnpike and within a half hour of Center City Philadelphia. Visitors are welcome at any time of the year. Prospective students should contact [Admissions](#) to arrange an appointment. For directions, [click here](#).

All communications and packages sent through the postal system should be addressed to:

**P.O. Box 27009  
Philadelphia, PA 19118**

Shipments sent by United Parcel Service and freight should be addressed to:

**2960 West Church Road  
Glenside, PA 19038**

The Seminary's phone number is (215) 887-5511 or (800) 373-0119.  
The Seminary's fax number is (215) 887-5404.

There are five buildings on the main suburban campus:

**Van Til Hall** was dedicated in 1975 in honor of Cornelius Van Til, former professor of apologetics. It contains air-conditioned classrooms equipped with both audio and video instructional aids, one smart classroom, a large lobby for receptions or exhibits, and the 350-seat Rust Auditorium, named in honor of Adolf H. Rust, a longtime friend and supporter of the Seminary.

**The Montgomery Library**, dedicated in memory of James H. Montgomery of Rochester, New York, and of his sister, Marguerite Montgomery, is a three-story stone building, air-conditioned, and containing quiet areas for research. With the addition of the Andreas Academic Center, seating is available for 215 users.

**The Andreas Academic Center** is a four-story addition to the library, named for honorary trustee Lowell W. Andreas. Here the faculty offices are arranged by departmental floor. This building also houses the J. Alan Groves Center for Advanced Biblical Research, the SaRang Korean Mission Center, the Craig Center for the Study of the Westminster Standards, the Edward J. Young Seminar Room, and the Center for Theological Writing.

**The J. Gresham Machen Memorial Hall** houses the administrative offices. It also provides dormitory and kitchen facilities for 11 single male students.

**The Carriage House** provides a place for conversation and respite for the Westminster community.

## **Online Learning**

Westminster's Online Learning program provides two degrees fully online, offering a ministry-minded, global community that combines academic studies and practical training to equip students to better help those in need—whatever their vocation.

Westminster Theological Seminary has partnered with the [Christian Counseling & Educational Foundation](#) (CCEF) for a unique online counseling curriculum encompassing classes in counseling, ministry, and theology. In the MAC and MATS programs as well as in courses for our other online degrees, students will engage diverse classmates who include pastors, missionaries, youth workers, lay leaders, business people, parents, doctors, and more to grow in giving and receiving biblical wisdom and care.

Online programs are accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the [Association of Theological Schools](#) and the [Middle States Commission on Higher Education](#) as described above. Authorization to offer online learning in states other than Pennsylvania is approved by the [National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements](#). For more information contact the Westminster Online Learning team at [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu).



# 3. Campus Life and Student Development

## Type of Students

Residential students are those that are enrolled in degree programs that require attendance at on-site instruction. The residential programs include master's level, advanced degree, and modular programs.

Online students are those enrolled in any degree offered fully online. These programs include master's level and visiting student programs. Online Students should reference the [Online Academic Catalog](#) for updated academic information regarding their degree program.

## Student Development

The primary responsibility of the Dean of Students, Associate Dean of Students, and the Dean of Online Students is to provide pastoral care, counsel, and encouragement for students in the Seminary's residential programs. The Deans and Associate Dean are available for consultation throughout the academic year and are eager to provide, alongside local churches, mentoring support for students during their theological education.

## Campus Corporate Worship

One day a week during the fall and spring semesters, faculty members and, occasionally, seminary guests, speak in chapel. Seminary administrative offices and the library are closed during this important weekly time for the on-campus seminary community to gather in worship. On another day of the week, prayer groups led by faculty members meet. Students are strongly encouraged to attend both chapels and prayer groups.

Times of worship vary in their form but not in their goal: to remind us of our chief end of glorifying God and enjoying him forever.

## Fellowship and Accountability Groups

Fellowship and accountability groups meet regularly on campus during the academic year. More information can be found [here](#).

## Conferences

The Seminary regularly sponsors a preaching conference and missions conferences. On these occasions notable speakers, along with many visitors, are invited to the campus. These conferences provide significant times of spiritual growth and development of global vision as students prepare for Christian service.

## Health Insurance

All students, whether domestic or international, are required to have health insurance coverage. Minimum international student insurance coverage must provide all of the following for the international student and all dependents with them in the U.S.:

- Medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness;
- Remains repatriation coverage of at least \$25,000 per person covered;
- Coverage for expenses associated with medical evacuation to the international student's home country of at least \$50,000 per person covered; and
- Deductibles that do not exceed \$500 per accident or illness.

## On-Campus Housing for On-Site Programs

Westminster has 17 rooms on the main campus, housing 21 students. Rooms are only open to full-time, first-year students, with the exception of the resident assistant. During the summer months vacant rooms may be made available to new and returning students enrolled in summer courses or programs. All rooms are furnished, but residents must supply bed linens, blankets, pillows, and towels.

On-campus residents may prepare meals in the on-campus residence kitchen. Meals may not be prepared in residence bedrooms.

Westminster does not require any vaccination records for students living on campus.

In addition, the Seminary leases seven one-bedroom condominium units to married couples. These units are open to full-time residential students and their spouses.

New students interested in applying to reside in Westminster on-campus housing should complete the on-campus housing request form through their application portal. Through the request form they will be able to read and agree to the terms of the campus housing handbook and express preference for type of housing space desired, single or shared. Students interested in leasing a condo unit should write [studentdevelopment@wts.edu](mailto:studentdevelopment@wts.edu).

Please see the [Housing webpage](#) for information about off-campus housing.

## International Student Arrival

International students on F-1 visas may not arrive earlier than one month prior to the beginning of classes, but they are advised to arrive as early as they are legally permitted to do so to allow sufficient time to settle into a new culture, secure housing, open a bank account, and, as needed, obtain a driver's license.

## Center for Theological Writing

The Center for Theological Writing (CTW) equips students of theology with the tools to write clearly, cogently, and profoundly. To that end, the CTW offers writing classes and maintains over 100 online writing resources which are available to all current students without charge. In addition, the CTW offers one-on-one consultations and editing for a fee.

- **Writing Consultations:** Consultations are available for current students at all levels. The number of consultation hours available is limited, and an appointment is required. Please see the [CTW website](#) for details.
- **Events:** All students are invited to participate in Writers' Circles, a lunchtime workshop series for improving theological writing. Participation is at no charge.
- **Editing Service:** CTW provides referrals to WTS-recommended editors. Please see the [CTW website](#) for details.
- **Writing Resources:** Go to the [CTW website](#) for an orientation to writing in the major theological genres. In addition, general and course specific writing guides, sample course papers, writing schedules, and handouts on editing, study skills, and time management can be found on the [CTW Canvas site](#) available to current students. We also post recordings of faculty talks on writing. Print copies of selected resources are available in racks outside the CTW office in the Andreas Center (A213).

## Online Small Groups and Workplace

A key feature of Westminster online courses are face-to-face small group interactions throughout each course. Ministry is personal and the practice of interacting with diverse peers in a learning environment is essential to growth in ministry capacity. Students will have opportunities to interact on topics of ministry and theology with peers of various ages, geographies, cultures, ministry experiences, and professions.

To help facilitate small groups and community, Westminster has designed a unique, private edition of Facebook for our online community called Workplace. It is expected that students protect and promote the Westminster Online Community Values outlined below in promoting respect, humility, and stewardship on Workplace and throughout their program. All online faculty, students, and staff are connected here to discuss, share resources, engage in small groups, message and video chat, and more. As the student population grows, groups will form around student interests, job and ministry opportunities, alumni, and more.

## Westminster Bookstore

The Seminary maintains an [online bookstore](#) for the convenience of faculty and students, where books may be purchased at discounted rates. In addition to textbooks for courses, the bookstore carries a complete line of books relating to theology, church history, apologetics, biblical studies, commentaries, and the Christian life. Purchases from the Westminster Bookstore support the work of the Seminary.

## Conduct

Student conduct is under the supervision of the Deans of Students. The Seminary reserves the right to dismiss from the institution a student whose conduct is found to be unsatisfactory or unbecoming. The Seminary refers to the *Westminster Standards*, as based on Scripture, as a standard for behavior.

Student conduct is considered under three primary contexts. The first is academic violations addressed by the Honor Code. The second is character and spiritual violations addressed by the Policy on Unsatisfactory or Unbecoming Behavior. Both the Honor Code and the Policy on Unsatisfactory or Unbecoming Behavior may be found in the Student Handbook, which is available to all students in [Canvas](#). The third context is the Westminster Online Community Values, outlined below, which applies to any student taking online courses. Any violation of the standards will be evaluated by the Student Development Office and Dean of Online Students.

## Westminster Online Community Values

These values outline what we expect every member of the online community to protect and promote and applies to any student taking online courses.

Quality learning requires an environment of engagement, inquiry, and support. Westminster Theological Seminary is committed to the flourishing of all students who participate in our programs. Our Westminster Online Community Values (WOCV) are designed to promote this goal among students, staff, and faculty. All who enroll in, support, or lead courses are required to promote and protect these values throughout all aspects of our programs.

### Respect

We are a community that values learning among the culturally and theologically diverse expressions of the church. As an online network, we are able to select an intentionally diverse community that will shape the way we train for ministry. We realize that along with the opportunity to engage different cultures and beliefs, greater diversity can also challenge us to show trust and mutual respect in new and unfamiliar scenarios. As members of the Westminster community, we agree to promote empathy and excel in honor and respect for everyone we come into contact with during the program.

We expect students to affirm and respect the differences displayed across students, staff, and faculty in all communication and collaboration. Bias, prejudice, and disrespect have no place in our learning community.

### **Humility**

The process of quality learning happens in a community that values free expression, inquiry, and a safe environment to explore ideas. Online communication can make it easier to overemphasize our own perspective. As members of the Westminster community we will assume the best about each other's communication, seek clarification where valuable, and support one another in processing and developing their ideas rather than enforcing our own conclusions.

We expect students to pause, listen, learn to ask great questions, promote others' perspectives, practice challenging our own conclusions, and promote dialogue rather than monologue in all mediums.

### **Stewardship**

We are a community committed to handling sensitive and personal information with care and wisdom. We are vigilant to handle information shared about our ministries and peers as confidential, both inside and outside of courses. Information we share about ourselves should be done with discretion in a way that promotes learning and godliness. Since stewardship of information is a required skill in ministry, it is especially important to begin practicing that skill in earnest now.

We expect students to maintain the highest integrity with sensitive or confidential information in every platform of the program. We have intentionally designed all tools with security in mind and students must do their part in guarding information.

A student should never share information about another student outside of a small group or course unless granted explicit permission by that person. Students should not share any written or visual material from any of our platforms with an outside audience without the permission of the Online Learning staff. Counseling or ministry details may compromise privacy rights. Many students are in sensitive or hostile geographies and could be at risk if accidentally exposed. We need to operate with wisdom and care when it comes to personal information.

### **Our Commitment to One Another**

We are each personally responsible to act with honesty and integrity and are accountable to integrate these community values into every aspect of our Westminster experience.

Failure to promote and protect any of these values may be grounds for immediate removal from the program, upon the evaluation of the Westminster Online Learning Team and the Student Development Office. If staff, faculty, or students feel these values are being compromised in any place in the program, they are equally responsible to report their concerns to the Westminster Online Learning Team.

Our students, staff, and faculty create an environment of productive and healthy learning when we hold one another accountable to these values as we grow personally and prepare for ministry to the church and world.

### **Grievance Policy**

In providing the procedure for students to lodge a complaint regarding issues at Westminster, the Seminary's desire is for students to know they have a voice on the peer level as well as the institutional level. As a seminary, Westminster's ultimate procedural purpose is to honor Christ in how Christians deal with their differences and disappointments. General grievance guidelines follow the biblical mandates given in Matthew 18 as to how to process concerns personally and corporately.

There are two primary contexts in which complaints may be lodged. One is the area of individual academic and administrative concerns, including financial issues. The second has to do with things that involve the community as a whole, including attitudes and actions that affect individuals or groups within the campus community. Code of conduct policies are used in responding to grievances expressed within the second context.

For information about the process of filing a grievance, please refer to the Grievance Policy in the [Student Handbook](#) on Canvas. Students in online courses should reach out to [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu).

## 4. Faculty

Westminster is committed to Scripture and to the systematic exposition of biblical truth known as the Reformed faith. Our constitution prescribes the following pledge for every voting member of the faculty:

*I do solemnly declare, in the presence of God, and of the Trustees and Faculty of this Seminary, that (1) I believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice; and (2) I do solemnly and ex animo adopt, receive, and subscribe to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms in the form in which they were adopted by this Seminary in the year of our Lord 1936, as the confession of my faith, or as a summary and just exhibition of that system of doctrine and religious belief, which is contained in Holy Scripture, and therein revealed by God to man for his salvation; and I do solemnly, ex animo, profess to receive the fundamental principles of the Presbyterian form of church government, as agreeable to the inspired oracles. And I do solemnly promise and engage not to inculcate, teach, or insinuate anything which shall appear to me to contradict or contravene, either directly or impliedly, any element in that system of doctrine, nor to oppose any of the fundamental principles of that form of church government, while I continue a member of the Faculty in this Seminary. I do further solemnly declare that, being convinced of my sin and misery and of my inability to rescue myself from my lost condition, not only have I assented to the truth of the promises of the Gospel, but also I have received and rest upon Christ and His righteousness for pardon of my sin and for my acceptance as righteous in the sight of God and I do further promise that if at any time I find myself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, I will on my own initiative, make known to the Faculty of this institution and, where applicable, my judicatory, the change which has taken place in my views since the assumption of the vow.*

### **Emeritus Faculty**

William Shirmer Barker II, PhD  
Professor of Church History, Emeritus

John Frank Bettler, DMin  
Professor of Practical Theology, Emeritus

Daniel Clair Davis, DrTheol  
Professor of Church History, Emeritus

George Cain Fuller, ThD  
Professor of Practical Theology, Emeritus

Richard Birch Gaffin, Jr., ThD  
Professor of Biblical and Systematic Theology, Emeritus

Timothy Z. Witmer, DMin  
Professor of Practical Theology, Emeritus

## **Voting Faculty**

Gregory K. Beale, PhD  
J. Gresham Machen Chair of New Testament  
Research Professor of New Testament and Biblical Theology

David Briones, PhD  
Associate Professor of New Testament

Stephen Coleman, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Old Testament and Biblical Languages

Brandon D. Crowe, PhD  
Associate Professor of New Testament

John Currie, DMin  
Professor of Pastoral Theology

Iain M. Duguid, PhD  
Professor of Old Testament

William Edgar, DrTheol  
Professor of Apologetics

William R. Edwards, MDiv, DMin cand.  
Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology

Alexander (Sandy) Finlayson, MLS, MTS  
Professor of Theological Bibliography

David B. Garner, PhD  
Associate Professor of Systematic Theology

Jonathan Gibson, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Old Testament

Peter A. Lillback, PhD  
Professor of Historical Theology

K. Scott Oliphint, PhD  
Professor of Apologetics and Systematic Theology

Vern S. Poythress, PhD, DTh  
Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Biblical Interpretation

Todd Rester, PhD  
Associate Professor of Church History

Chad Van Dixhoorn, PhD  
Professor of Church History  
Director of the Craig Center for the Study of the Westminster Standards

### **Visiting Faculty**

Crawford Gribben, PhD  
Sinclair B. Ferguson, PhD  
R. Kent Hughes, DMin, DD  
Robert William Oliver, PhD  
Alfred Poirier, DMin  
James Calvin Ward, MMus  
Garry J. Williams, DPhil

Visiting Professor of Church History  
Distinguished Visiting Scholar  
Visiting Professor in Pastoral Theology  
Visiting Professor of Church History  
Visiting Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Visiting Professor of Church Music  
Visiting Professor of Historical Theology

### **Adjunct Faculty**

Jason Barrie, DMin  
Robert Cara, PhD  
Stafford Carson, PhD  
Chris Castaldo, PhD  
Gyu Hyun Chae, DMin  
Joseph J. U. Chi, PhD  
Young Chun Cho, PhD  
Bruce Clark, PhD  
Aaron Denlinger, PhD  
Robert Evans, PhD  
David Filson, PhD  
Richard Gamble, PhD  
Mark Garcia, PhD  
Kyu Sam Han, PhD, ThD  
Michael Haykin, PhD  
Ernest R. Holloway III, PhD  
Sung Min Hong, PhD  
Yannick Imbert, PhD  
Robert D. Jones, DMin  
Thomas Keene, PhD  
Julius Kim, PhD  
Hukmin Kwon, PhD Cand.  
Jonathan S. Kwon, ThD  
Diane Mandt Langberg, PhD  
Cheul Hee Lee, PhD  
John S. Leonard, PhD

Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of New Testament  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Church History  
Adjunct Professor of Church History  
Adjunct Professor of Church History  
Adjunct Professor of Church History  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Church History  
Adjunct Professor of Church History  
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Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology



Robert Letham, PhD  
Brian Mattson, PhD  
Rod Mays, DMin  
Rolf Meintjes, DMin  
David Murray, PhD  
Douglas O'Donnell, MA  
Gregory Paek, DMiss  
Sung-Il Steve Park, PhD  
Richard Phillips, DD  
Hunter Powell, PhD  
Harry Reeder, DMin  
David Rowe, MDiv  
Philip Graham Ryken, DPhil  
James Skillen, PhD  
Scott Ward Smith, MA  
William Smith, PhD  
Theodore (Tedd) Tripp, DMin  
A. Craig Troxel, PhD  
Guy Waters, PhD  
Edward Thomas Welch, PhD  
Kyu Myeong Whang, DMin  
Christopher Wisdom, DMin  
Joel Wood, DMin  
Sangsub Yoo, PhD

Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Apologetics  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
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Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Apologetics  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Church History  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Apologetics  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology  
Adjunct Professor of New Testament  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Practical Theology  
Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology

## Lecturers

Leslie Harsch Altena, PhD	Lecturer in Theological English
Annette G. Aubert, PhD	Lecturer in Church History
James Bland, PhD	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Steven J. Carter, DMin Cand.	Lecturer in Practical Theology
John Dennis, DMin, MLA	Lecturer in Pastoral Theology
Carl Francis Ellis, Jr., DPhil	Lecturer in Pastoral Theology
Michael Emlet, MD	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Steven Estes, ThM	Lecturer in Pastoral Theology
Bruce R. Finn, DMin	Lecturer in Pastoral Theology
Jeffrey Forrey, PhD	Lecturer in Pastoral Theology
Michael Gembola, MAR, MAC	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Mark Giacobbe, PhD	Lecturer in New Testament
Elizabeth W. Groves, MAR	Lecturer in Biblical Hebrew
Robert G. Hall, ThM	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Allen Harris, MDiv	Lecturer in Practical Theology
William Haselton, MDiv, MA TESOL	Lecturer in Theological English
Pierce Hibbs, ThM, MS TESOL	Lecturer in Theological English
Gregory Charles Hobough, ThM	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Daniel Hyde, ThM	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Monica Mee Yong Kim, MAR	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Frederick Emil Klett III, MAR	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Julie Lowe, MAC, LPC, RPT	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Ron Lutz, DMin	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Bruce McDowell, PhD	Lecturer in Pastoral Theology
J. Mark Sallade, MDiv	Lecturer in Pastoral Theology
Mark Sarracino, DMin	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Nate Shannon, PhD	Lecturer in Systematic Theology
Aaron Sironi, MSMFT	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Stephen Smallman, MDiv	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Winston T. Smith, MDiv	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Darby Anne Strickland, MDiv	Lecturer in Practical Theology
Edward T. Welch, PhD	Lecturer in Practical Theology

## Online Instructors

Laura Andrews, MDiv	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
Cecelia Bernhardt, MDiv	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
Joseph J. U. Chi, PhD	Online Instructor in Church History
Gregory Church, MDiv	Online Instructor in Old Testament and Biblical Theology
Ben Dunson, PhD	Online Instructor in New Testament and Biblical Theology
Stephen Fix, MDiv, MA, PhD Cand.	Online Instructor in Old Testament and Biblical Theology
J. Alasdair Groves, MDiv	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
Thomas Keene, PhD	Online Instructor in New Testament and Biblical Theology
Eunjin Kim, ThM, PhD Cand.	Online Instructor in Church History
Laura Leon, MAR, PhD Cand.	Online Instructor in New Testament and Biblical Theology
Stephen Lewis, PhD	Online Instructor in Old Testament and Biblical Theology
Lexie Martin, MABC	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
R. Jason Pickard, MDiv, PhD Cand.	Online Instructor in Church History
Daniel Schrock, MDiv, PhD Cand.	Online Instructor in Systematic Theology and Apologetics
Kristin Silva, MA	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
Jeffrey Stivason, PhD	Online Instructor in Systematic Theology
Todd Stryd, PsyD	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
Nathaniel Sutanto, PhD	Online Instructor in Systematic Theology and Apologetics
Jacklyn Tubel, MABC	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
Lauren Whitman, MA	Online Instructor in Practical Theology
Joel Zartman, ThM, PhD Cand.	Online Instructor in Church History
Chip Zimmer, JD	Online Instructor in Practical Theology

# 5. Admissions

## Residential Programs

### Admission Credentials

In order to be considered for admission as a student in the Seminary (for MDiv, MAR, ThM, DMin, or PhD programs), the applicant ordinarily must submit the following to the Admissions Office:

- A completed application form (available [online](#)) along with the non-refundable application fee.
- Specified personal essays. Essays vary depending upon desired degree program. Essays should be written, edited, and submitted solely by the applicant. Applicants should not seek to have an outside source edit their essays. Some applications also require a verbal video essay.
- A spouse reference, if applicable. Required reference form provided in the application.
- A church reference from a non-familial minister or session of the church of which the applicant is a member. Required reference form provided in the application.
- An academic reference from a non-familial college professor under whose guidance the applicant has pursued studies. An employer may complete the Academic Reference form if the applicant has been out of school for more than four (4) years. Required reference form provided in the application.
- Unofficial transcripts may be submitted for the application review process. An official transcript must be submitted before final admission can be granted. An official transcript is one that is sent directly from the institution to the Admissions Office in a sealed envelope or in a verified electronic format. If it is opened before it reaches the Admissions Office, it then becomes unofficial. An applicant previously registered at Westminster may use the official transcripts provided in his or her previous application, as long as the applicant graduated within the last five years. Applicants who have attended an international institution must submit official transcripts verified and credentialed through the “Course by Course” evaluation provided by [World Education Service](#) (WES).
  - An applicant’s transcript must show the attainment of a baccalaureate degree. An applicant may be admitted while in the process of completing a baccalaureate degree, contingent upon the successful completion of the degree. The applicant will be fully admitted after submitting a final, official transcript stating the date the degree was conferred and documenting no significant drop in GPA compared to the unofficial transcript.
  - The grades attained shall give promise that the applicant can pursue courses in the Seminary satisfactorily. The transcript should show the broad and comprehensive education essential to theological studies.
- All applicants whose native language is not English, or for whom Standard English was not the language of instruction from the primary grades (kindergarten through fifth grade), regardless of U.S. citizenship or residency, must take the TOEFL. See the Non-Native English Speakers (TOEFL) section below for more detailed information.

- International students enrolled in a residential program who wish to obtain an I-20 visa eligibility form or an I-20 transfer form from Westminster must indicate sufficient personal financial resources for themselves and their dependents.

### **Admission Credential Exceptions**

Westminster allows an exception for a limited number of individuals over the age of 30, who have completed five years of ministry experience and 60 undergraduate-level academic credits but who do not hold a baccalaureate degree, to seek admission into the MDiv program. For more information about these exceptions, please contact the [Admissions Office](#).

At the discretion of the Admissions Review Committee, an applicant may be admitted to a degree program for one year on provisional status. After one year, if the student wishes to continue studies at Westminster, the Committee will review the student's transcripts, and if required, updated references, and will make a determination regarding full admittance to the degree program.

### **Additional ThM Program Admission Credentials**

In addition to the regular Admission Credentials mentioned above, a ThM program applicant (Regular and Modular ThM) must present the following to the Admissions Office:

- An unofficial transcript of the applicant's theological program, including an attestation of the attainment of the MAR, MDiv, or first graduate theological degree providing equivalent theological background or its educational equivalent. The educational equivalent must include at least the standard requirements for Westminster's MAR degree in the same field (Biblical Studies or Theological Studies) that is to be pursued in the student's concentration in the ThM program (Old Testament/New Testament or church history/systematic theology/apologetics). Additionally, applicants must show evidence of knowledge of the original languages of Scripture at least equivalent to the original language requirements for Westminster's MAR degree. Full official transcript(s) of the applicant's theological graduate-level work is required for full admission.
- Course descriptions of the Greek and Hebrew language courses completed in the MAR, MDiv, or first graduate theological degree.
- An academic reference from a non-familial former teacher in the area chosen by the applicant for the ThM concentration (Old Testament, New Testament, church history, systematic theology, or apologetics), under whose guidance the applicant has pursued studies, or from another source approved by the Director of Admissions. An employer may complete the Academic Reference form if the applicant has been out of school for more than four (4) years.

### **Additional PhD Program Admission Credentials**

In addition to the regular Admission Credentials mentioned above, a PhD program applicant must present the following to the Admissions Office:

- Full unofficial transcript of all college work, including an attestation of the attainment of a baccalaureate degree, and a full unofficial transcript of the applicant's theological program, including an attestation of the attainment of a first theological degree. A two-year degree (such as the MAR or the ThM) is acceptable, but a three-year degree (such as the MDiv) is preferred. Applicants with a two-year degree should be aware that the PhD preliminary examinations are designed to test whether one has the equivalent of a Westminster MDiv degree, and therefore they may need to take certain MDiv courses at Westminster. Full official transcript(s) of the applicant's theological graduate-level work is required for full admission. Only applicants who have

maintained an overall academic average of at least B plus (or equivalent) in their college and seminary work will be considered for admission as candidates for the degree Doctor of Philosophy.

- The results of the Aptitude Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). This examination is given several times a year at various centers throughout the world by the Educational Testing Service. Information regarding registration for the examination can be found on the Educational Testing Service's [website](#). The Educational Testing Service will transmit the examination results directly to Westminster. (Westminster's code number is 2976; this code number should be noted on materials completed for the Educational Testing Service.)
- Applicants for the PhD in Systematic Theology, Church History, or Apologetics should submit the following:
  - A paper from their master's program in the concentration in which they plan to study. The paper should be no longer than 10 pages.
  - A 3-5 page summary of a dissertation project proposal, including a bibliography of their intended research.
- Applicants for the PhD in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation should submit the following:
  - A major exegetical research paper that they have written that shows their skill in biblical interpretation. The paper should be no longer than 10 pages.
  - A 3-5 page summary of a dissertation project proposal, including a bibliography of their intended research.
- Two academic references from non-familial former professors in the area chosen by the applicant for the PhD concentration, under whose guidance the applicant has pursued studies, or from another source approved by the Director of Admissions. An employer may complete the Academic Reference form if the applicant has been out of school for more than four (4) years. Westminster graduates need supply only one academic reference.

### **Additional DMin Program Admission Credentials**

In addition to the regular Admission Credentials mentioned above, a DMin program applicant must present the following to the Admissions Office:

- A brief resume of the applicant's experience in ministry. A minimum of three years of ministry experience is prerequisite for admission.
- For the DMin in Preaching, an audio file of a sample sermon.
- An online personal interview.
- A full unofficial transcript of the applicant's theological program, including an attestation of the attainment of the MDiv degree and evidence of knowledge of the original languages of Scripture. Full, official transcript(s) of the applicant's theological graduate-level work are required for full admission. The applicant must submit course descriptions of the Greek and Hebrew language courses completed in the MDiv.

### **DMin Program Admission Credential Exceptions**

Applicants lacking evidence of knowledge of Greek and/or Hebrew may be admitted, but, in order to graduate, these candidates must satisfy one of the following alternatives for each language in which they are deficient:

- Receive a waiver for study of the language(s) in which the candidate is deficient. This waiver would be based on genuine hardship (such as ministry in a remote area of the world) and significant promise of excellence in DMin work (as evidenced by a record of ministry achievement and academic excellence), and must be approved by the Director of the DMin Program.
- Sustain an additional qualifying exam in the necessary language(s). This exam will be devised by the New Testament or Old Testament department coordinator.
- Complete at a seminary or university a number of credit hours of language study in the language(s) in which the candidate is deficient. The institution and the number of hours must be approved by the Director of the DMin Program.

Applicants lacking an MDiv degree may be considered but will not exceed more than 10% of Westminster's total DMin enrollment. Typically, an applicant lacking an MDiv degree must hold an MAR degree from Westminster. In order to be considered these candidates must submit:

- A full transcript of their theological program, including an attestation of the attainment of a Westminster MAR degree and the successful completion of sufficient additional seminary-level study to give them a total of 92 semester hours approved by the Director of the DMin Program. The MAR degree and the additional semester hours must include at least the following:
  - A total of 92 semester hours of seminary-level work distributed among biblical studies (minimum of 28 hours), historical and theological studies (minimum of 18 hours), and practical studies (minimum of 12 hours).
  - Evidence of knowledge of the original languages of Scripture including course descriptions of the Greek and Hebrew language courses completed in the theological degree. Applicants who lack evidence of the knowledge of Greek and/or Hebrew should see the exception noted above.

Under exceptional circumstances an applicant may be admitted who holds a master's degree from an institution other than Westminster and who has demonstrated competencies in ministry, writing, and teaching. Only those who have demonstrated these competencies through published writing and adjunct teaching in a graduate theological institution will be considered.

### **Visiting Student Admission Credentials**

Those not seeking to earn a degree from Westminster may register for courses as a visiting student. Students from other seminaries or graduate schools may also take courses as visiting students for transfer back to their institutions. The applicant must seek approval from the Admissions Office before applying as a visiting student.

The following items must be submitted to the Admissions Office:

- A completed Visiting Student Application Form online
- Non-refundable application fee
- Completed essay as specified by the Admissions Office

- A completed Church Reference form, provided in the application
- Evidence of having earned a baccalaureate degree (copy of transcript or diploma)
- Students whose native language is not English must meet the same TOEFL and Advanced Theological Writing requirements as regular students

Visiting Student, Master status permits the student to register for master's level courses for the equivalent of one academic year only. Visiting Student, Advanced Theological status permits the student to register for ThM/PhD courses for the equivalent of one academic year only. Visiting Student, Advanced Ministerial status permits the student to register for DMin courses for the equivalent of one academic year only. To continue studies beyond one academic year, admission to a regular degree program of the Seminary is required. Financial aid is not available to visiting students, and in most cases international students cannot be granted visas as visiting students.

### Application Deadlines

Any applications received after these deadlines will not be processed. Deadlines for visiting student applications are the same as for applications to regular programs.

Doctor of Philosophy	<b>January 15</b>
Doctor of Ministry	<b>June 1</b>
DMin Concentration in Korean (KDMin)	<b>November 20</b>
MDiv and MAR programs	
Summer	<b>June 1</b>
Fall	<b>July 31</b>
Winter	<b>December 1</b>
Spring	<b>December 31</b>
ThM programs	
Summer and Fall	<b>June 1</b>
Winter and Spring	<b>December 1</b>
Mastering Theological English I	<b>July 31</b>
Mastering Theological English II	<b>December 1</b>

### Notification of Admission

After reviewing the credentials submitted, the Seminary will notify the applicant of its decision regarding admission by email. Matriculation for course work is contingent upon receipt of an official transcript showing completion of any prerequisite degree.

#### For residential students:

Students will subsequently be granted access to all online library resources at Westminster's Philadelphia campus.

#### For PhD students:

The Director of Admissions will notify the applicant of the admission decision by email on or before March 15.



## **Enrollment Deposit**

In order to confirm their intention to enroll in the Seminary, applicants who have been notified of their admission are required to submit an enrollment deposit prior to matriculation. (See Chapter 11.) This deposit is applied to tuition and is non-refundable.

## **Deferment**

An admitted student may defer matriculation for up to one year by notifying the Admissions Office through email and paying the non-refundable enrollment deposit. At the discretion of the Admissions Review Committee, a deferral may be denied.

## **Special Accommodations**

If an applicant has any disability requiring special attention, he or she must submit documentation of his or her disability, along with details on specific needs to be accommodated, to the Dean of Students 60 days (two months) prior to matriculation. Westminster's Students with Disabilities Policy can be found [online](#).

## **International Students Studying in Philadelphia**

Students of high academic standing from other countries are encouraged to apply to the Seminary. Applicants from other countries should follow the application procedure outlined in the Admission Credentials section above. Applicants should note that, because of United States banking restrictions, checks must be payable in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank, with the bank's computer code located in the lower left-hand corner of the check. Checks not meeting these requirements will be returned, which may delay admission.

Applicants must be provisionally admitted into their degree programs and must document sufficient financial resources before their certificates of eligibility forms (I-20 or DS-2019) will be prepared. The Seminary reserves the right to administratively withdraw any student whose financial resources are insufficient to pay the student's tuition and living expenses.

All students on either a J-1 visa or an F-1 visa are required to pursue a full course of study, according to the Seminary and the United States government policies. For details, contact [Student Development](#).

For degree program time limits, see Chapter 8. International students should always allow three years to complete a MAR and four years to complete a MDiv, due to Greek, Hebrew, and Advanced Theological Writing requirements. For students on an F-1 visa, no more than one online course per semester or term may count towards the student's full course load.

Students coming to the United States for the first time are required to arrange health insurance coverage effective at matriculation that will adequately cover them and any family members who will be accompanying them in the United States. (See Chapter 3 for health insurance requirements.)

## **Non-Native English Speakers (TOEFL)**

An applicant whose native language is other than English, or for whom English was not the language of instruction from the primary grades (regardless of U.S. citizenship or residency), must demonstrate proficiency in English. Applicants to the KDMin are exempt from the English proficiency requirement, since the program is taught in Korean or English with translation provided.

The minimum score for applicants on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is indicated on the chart below. An official record of the test must be sent to the Seminary by the Educational Testing Center. Photocopies of test results will not be accepted. Only TOEFL test scores are accepted. Tests scores may not be older than two years of application date.

Students who are admitted to the Seminary but score less than 111 on the TOEFL iBT must take a test of academic writing in English prior to the first day of classes. Based on the results of this test, they may be registered for an Advanced Theological Writing (ATW) course in their initial semester/term.

Applicants who do not meet the TOEFL score requirement for admission to Westminster but are otherwise qualified applicants and have a TOEFL iBT score of at least 68 may fulfill the English language admissions requirement by passing Mastering Theological English I (and II if applicable). (See Chapter 7.) Mastering Theological English is available for applicants to all Master's and ThM programs but is not available for applicants to the PhD program. All ThM and PhD applicants, including graduates of Westminster programs, must meet the score required for the ThM and PhD programs. If a student seeks to switch to a new degree program prior to completing the degree program to which they were originally admitted, the student must meet the English requirements for that program.

To register for the TOEFL test, applicants should contact: TOEFL Services, P.O. Box 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151, USA (609-882-6601, [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org)). Westminster's code number, 2976, should be noted on materials sent to TOEFL Services.

### Minimum Required Scores:

TOEFL	Internet-Based
MTE I	68
MTE II	85
Online MAC	100 with speaking score of 23
MAR, MDiv	88
DMin	100
ThM, PhD	100

### New Student Orientation

New student orientation helps students integrate into the Westminster community. It introduces students to life at Westminster, casts a vision for how they can make the most of their seminary education, allows them to begin connecting with fellow classmates, and provides essential policy and procedural information.

Orientation has two parts. The first part is completed online, and requires completing the new student forms on the student's application status page and taking a writing proficiency exam. This first part of Orientation must be completed at least three weeks before the start of the semester. The second part is the required orientation event on campus.

Both parts of orientation are mandatory for students attending the Philadelphia campus. Only the online portion is mandatory for DMin and Modular ThM students. If a student attending the Philadelphia campus is unable to attend the orientation event, they must obtain an excused absence from the Director of Admissions at least two weeks prior to the event.

# Online Programs

## Admissions Procedure

In order to be considered for admission into an online MAC or MATS degree program, prospective students will submit an online application. The application is made up of five (5) parts:

- A personal interview to be completed online. It consists of timed video and written responses that allow the applicant to introduce themselves and describe their motivation for pursuing the degree.
- Official Transcripts showing completed degrees earned since secondary school and the attainment of a baccalaureate degree. An applicant may be admitted while in the process of completing a baccalaureate degree, contingent upon the successful completion of the degree. The applicant will be fully admitted after submitting a final, official transcript stating the date the degree was conferred and documenting no significant drop in GPA compared to the unofficial transcript. Electronic transcripts can be sent to [onlinelearning@wts.edu](mailto:onlinelearning@wts.edu). Hard copies of transcripts should be sent to:

ATTN: Online Learning  
Westminster Theological Seminary  
P.O. Box 27009  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19118

- One (1) Letter of Reference is required. The reference letter should be obtained from an individual who can outline the ability of the applicant to excel with graduate level work and give insight into motivation and work ethic. Please contact the Online Learning admissions team with additional questions by emailing [onlinelearning@wts.edu](mailto:onlinelearning@wts.edu).
- Language information about an applicant's English speaking background. The applicant's background will determine whether or not TOEFL scores are required as part of the application. All applicants who are required to submit TOEFL scores must have an internet based TOEFL score of 100 with a minimum speaking score of 23.
- Application Fee of \$100 submitted with the application. This is non-refundable.

## Admissions Credential Exceptions

A limited number of individuals who have completed five years of ministry experience, are at least 23 years old, and 30 undergraduate-level academic credits, but who do not hold a baccalaureate degree, may seek admission into the online programs.

## Online Application Deadlines

Any application received for online programs will be reviewed ongoing. Members of the Enrollment Committee are responsible to review and determine final admission to programs.

## Change of Degree

Due to the different admission requirements for each program, all students interested in transferring to or from an online program will be required to submit a change of program form to the desired degree program. A student in an online program must have a minimum grade-point average (GPA) of 3.00 to be approved to transfer to the MAR or MDiv program. Please note that courses taken in a previous degree program may not transfer toward the new program.

### **Non-Native English Speakers (TOEFL)**

All applicants whose native language is not English, or for whom Standard English was not the language of instruction from the primary grades (kindergarten through fifth grade), regardless of U.S. citizenship or residency, must take the TOEFL. Applicants are required to have an internet-based TOEFL score of 100 with a minimum speaking score of 23.

### **Notification of Admission**

After reviewing the credentials submitted, the Seminary will notify the applicant of its decision regarding admission via email. If admitted, the student must secure a seat in the program with a \$500 non-refundable enrollment deposit that will be applied to the first class taken. Matriculation for coursework is contingent upon receipt of the deposit within two (2) weeks of admittance.

### **Deferment**

An admitted student may defer matriculation one time for up to one term by notifying the Online Admissions Office through email. At the discretion of the Online Learning Team, deferment can be denied.

### **Special Accommodations**

If an applicant has any disability requiring special accommodation, he or she must submit documentation of his or her disability, along with details on specific needs to be accommodated, to the Associate Dean of Online Students 60 days (two months) prior to matriculation. Westminster's Students with Disabilities Policy can be found online.

### **New Student Orientation**

New student orientation helps students integrate into the Westminster online community. It introduces students to the online educational experience, casts a vision for the values and focus of the program, allows them to become acquainted with the tools, and provides essential policy and procedural information.

The orientation experience is done online. It requires completing new student forms, setting up the systems needed to be a successful online student, and beginning practice for the processes of successful online education. Students must complete this prior to the start of their first term.

## 6. Academic Policies and Information

### Attendance

#### Residential Courses

Students must be appropriately registered to attend classes. Each student is expected to attend every residential class session for which he or she is registered. Absences caused by illness or other justifiable causes will be permitted to a limited extent. If, in the judgment of the instructor, these permitted absences or other (unauthorized) absences endanger the standing of the student in the course, the instructor shall counsel the student concerning the situation. Further absences will normally result in a failing grade in the course.

#### Online Courses

Students must complete all required coursework for registered courses, including viewing all lectures, attending small groups, and completing assignments. Absences are not offered due to the flexibility of completing the required coursework. If for any reason a student has extenuating circumstances, please contact [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu).

### Changes to Program/Emphasis/Concentration

A student enrolled in the MDiv, MAR, or Certificate programs who is interested in transferring to another master's program is required to submit a Change of Program form. The student's overall academic standing may be a factor in approval of the requested change. A student in the MAC or MATS programs must have a minimum grade-point average (GPA) of 3.00 to be approved to transfer to the MAR or MDiv program.

Any current student who is interested in transferring to or from an online degree program will be required to submit an admissions application for the desired degree program. Current online students moving to another online degree should contact the Online Learning Team to request a change of program application. A student's overall academic standing may be a factor in approval of the requested change. If approved, the program change will become effective at the beginning of the term following the approval. Please note that not all courses taken may transfer into the new program. Students should contact the Online Learning Team to discuss which courses may or may not apply to the new program.

A student enrolled in the ThM, PhD, or DMin degree program who is interested in transferring to another degree program must consult his/her advisor and then submit an admissions application to the Admissions Office by the admissions application deadline for the program. The student must have completed at least two courses to be considered. KDMin students are not permitted to transfer into any other residential or online program.

A student who wishes to change emphasis within an MDiv or MAR program must submit to the Academic Affairs Office a Change of Emphasis form. A student who wishes to change concentrations within the ThM, PhD, or DMin program must contact the Academic Affairs Office.

Program and emphasis changes become effective at the beginning of the semester following approval. There is a processing fee for each change in MDiv and MAR program and emphasis.

## **Courses**

### **Auditing**

A limited number of auditors are permitted in most residential courses. Auditing privileges include regular class attendance, copies of all printed material distributed to the class, the opportunity to ask occasional questions in class, and full library privileges. Normally, auditors will not be permitted to participate in classroom exercises or recitations or to make seminar presentations, nor will assignments or examinations be reviewed or graded by the instructor.

### **Auditing Restrictions**

Course availability for audit is subject to the approval of the instructor. A non-ThM/PhD student must obtain the instructor's approval in order to audit a ThM/PhD course.

Auditing of the following is not permitted: hybrid courses, online courses, Advanced Theological Writing courses, Case Study Seminars, MTE courses, and Independent Study courses. For additional courses not available for audit, see Chapter 10.

Auditing of DMin modules is allowed for current DMin students or persons interning with a current DMin student, by permission of the Dean of Pastoral Theology. Auditors of DMin modules are charged the typical audit fee, plus an additional hospitality fee.

Permission to audit a biblical language course required for any degree (Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic) is given by the Academic Affairs Office only to current students who have previously taken the course or its equivalent and who, due to extenuating circumstances, have received approval from the professor. Readmitted students may not audit language courses in preparation for a placement exam. No more than 20 credits per semester (Fall or Spring) and no more than 5 credits per term (Summer or Winter) may be audited.

### **General Auditor**

A person who is not a current or former student may seek permission to audit a course by submitting the appropriate form and a letter of reference from a pastor or church elder. A person wishing to audit a ThM/PhD course must also provide proof of a master's degree or its educational equivalent, including year the degree was conferred, and the reason for wanting to audit the course. Restrictions mentioned above apply. Contact the Academic Affairs Office for further information.

### **Auditor Registration and Payment**

Anyone seeking to audit is required to secure the permission of the Academic Affairs Office by completing the [online registration form](#), and pay a non-refundable fee for each course audited. See Section 11 for information about the fees associated with auditing a course.

### **Independent Study Courses**

Qualified students may make arrangements with available faculty to take research courses on subjects of interest and value. These courses will be conducted by means of assigned readings, a paper, conferences with the professor, and, at the option of the professor, an examination. The faculty member and student must hold a minimum of four conferences during the course, either in person, by phone, or through internet video conference. A student wishing to pursue an independent study course must also be registered for one or more on-campus or distance education courses or have previously attained at Westminster a minimum 2.80 GPA for MDiv and MAR students, and minimum 3.00 GPA for ThM, PhD and DMin students. Independent Study courses are offered to students in all degree programs with the exception of MAC, MATS, Certificate, and Visiting Students programs. MDiv and MAR students are limited to taking a total of three independent study courses (not including Advanced Theological Writing

courses). Please refer to Chapter 8 for the independent study limit for students in the ThM and PhD programs.

**Registering for an independent study course:** A student should first get approval from his/her academic advisor (ThM, PhD, or DMin students only) and secure approval from the faculty member who will supervise the course. The student must then submit an Independent Study Request form to the Academic Affairs Office for approval. The form must be received no later than the registration or add/drop periods.

Taking independent study courses for required courses in the curriculum is strongly discouraged and will require approval of the faculty member who normally teaches the course and of Academic Affairs. If a student encounters extreme career or family hardship that he or she thinks warrants taking a required course via independent study, the student must submit a petition form to the Academic Affairs Office along with the Independent Study Request form.

**Deadlines:** All deadlines for regular courses (e.g., registration, add/drop, withdrawal, incomplete, etc.) and the normal tuition refund schedule will apply. Final examinations are due no later than the last day of the exam period for the fall and spring semesters.

### **Online Learning Courses**

Priority for registration for online courses is given to students in an online program or in a program for which an online course is required. For students on an F-1 visa, no more than one online course per semester or term may count towards the student's full-time course load.

### **ThM/PhD Course Eligibility**

MAR and MDiv students who have obtained credit for 24 hours of the curriculum or give evidence of possessing exceptional qualifications may elect to take advanced-level courses (ThM/PhD). These courses fulfill three hours of elective credit toward the MDiv or MAR degree. Such students shall have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or its equivalent for the preceding academic year, whether in this institution or elsewhere. Additional prerequisites for admission to particular courses may be required by the professor in charge. There is an additional tuition charge for these courses.

## **Course Changes**

### **Adding or Dropping Courses**

Students who have registered for a semester or term may add and/or drop courses beginning after the student has registered until the deadline specified below.

A dropped course does not appear on a student's transcript. See the "Withdrawal" section for automatic withdrawal due to dropping all courses and exceptions to this policy.

Since adding and/or dropping courses might affect financial aid eligibility, students receiving financial aid are required to notify the Financial Aid Office of their intention to add and/or drop a course.

## MDIV, MAR, ThM, DMin and PhD Students:

### Add/Drop deadlines:

<b>Fall/Spring semester</b>	10th day of semester
<b>Summer term</b>	9th day of term
<b>10 week module</b>	7th day of term
<b>4 week module</b>	3rd day of module*
<b>2 week module</b>	2nd day of module*
<b>1 week module</b>	1st day of module*
<b>DMin modules</b>	30 days prior to the start of the module
<b>Online courses</b>	First day of the course

\*For one and two week modules, the student must attend the first day of the course if he or she is adding the course. For 4-week Greek and Hebrew language intensives, a student may drop the course by the deadline but must add the course prior to the first day of classes.

If the length of a course is other than that specified above, an appropriate comparable time for dropping the course will be set.

Deadlines for adding or dropping a course in the fall and spring semesters are listed in the Academic Calendar. After the Add/Drop period, a student is not permitted to register for any course.

Students add/drop course(s) in Populi unless otherwise noted. Students with a registration lock on their account should contact the Academic Affairs Office.

### MAC/MATS Students:

Students will have the opportunity to register for courses during a week-long registration period. Once closed, students will not have the ability to add courses to their enrollment but may drop a course before the first day of the course without penalty. After the first day of the term, financial and academic penalties may apply.

## Withdrawing from a Course

### Residential Courses

After the Add/Drop period, a student may withdraw from a course only with the written acknowledgement of the instructor and the Academic Affairs Office. For that course, the student will be assigned a 'W' (Withdrawn from course) grade on his or her transcript record. The effective date of withdrawal from a course is the date on which approval is granted by the Academic Affairs. A student who withdraws from all of his or her courses for the fall or spring semester is automatically withdrawn from the Seminary. Exceptions will apply if approved by the Academic Affairs Office. A student may apply for reinstatement/readmission if he or she desires to resume studies at a later time.

### Deadline to withdraw from course(s) - residential courses:

<b>Fall/Spring semester</b>	10th week of semester
<b>Summer term</b>	9th week of term
<b>10 week module</b>	7th week of term
<b>4 week module</b>	3rd week of module
<b>2 week module</b>	Post-modular assignment submission
<i>ThM, DMin, PhD:</i>	deadline
<i>All other programs:</i>	6th day of module
<b>1 week module</b>	April 15/Nov 15



<i>DMin:</i>	8 weeks after the last day of the term
<i>ThM/PhD:</i>	3rd day of module
<i>All other programs:</i>	
<b>Online courses</b>	4th week of course

If the length of a residential course is other than that specified above, an appropriate comparable deadline will be set to withdraw from the course. Course Withdrawal deadline dates for the fall and spring semesters and winter term are listed in the catalog's Academic Calendar.

A student who withdraws from a course after the withdrawal deadline will be assigned a failing grade for the course.

See Chapter 11 for tuition refund schedule and information.

### Online Courses

Online students can withdraw from a course they have already begun but are not able to complete. Students should email [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu) to discuss the withdrawal process. The effective date for withdrawing from a course is the date on which approval is granted. Students will receive a "W" grade for the course if they withdraw within the first four weeks of the term, which may impact the students' Satisfactory Academic Progress. Students will receive an "F" (failing) grade for the course after the completion of the fourth week. Withdrawing from all courses in a term will signal that a student is taking a term off.

## Course Prerequisite Waiver

Certain courses have prerequisites that are required to be completed in order for a student to register for those courses. Other courses permit prerequisites to be taken concurrently. All prerequisites are listed in the Course Description section of the catalog under the individual course description. With a compelling reason, students may contact Academic Affairs to petition to waive the prerequisites for a course. All requests must be approved by the instructor who teaches the course and may also require approval from the department coordinator. Waiver approvals must be obtained prior to a student's registration.

## Credit Hour Assignment

For all programs with the exception of the MAC and MATS, Westminster's academic year is defined as a minimum of two semesters (fall and spring). The fall semester is typically 15 weeks in duration, including an exam period. The spring semester is typically 14 weeks in duration, including an exam period. The winter term plus spring semester combined typically totals 18 weeks, including exam periods.

For the MAC or MATS programs, the academic year begins with the May term and concludes with the March term. It consists of four primary terms: June, October, January, and March, and two secondary terms: May and September. All online terms are 10 weeks in duration except for January term, which is 9 weeks in duration.

All residential Westminster courses must provide a minimum of 14 hours of instruction per credit hour, excluding the final exam. If an on-campus course is scheduled for less than 14 hours of on-campus instruction per credit, alternative instructional hours approved by the faculty must be added to total 14 hours of instruction. Hybrid courses, when offered, include a combination of on-campus instructional hours and faculty-approved alternative instructional hours and may include a final exam.

## Final Examinations/Assignments

### Fall and Spring semesters

For residential courses, final examinations are given during an announced period at the end of each semester or term. The final exam period is listed in the Academic Calendar and the final exam schedule is listed in Westminster's [student info center](#). Any residential student who needs to take a final exam at a time different from the published schedule, but within the exam period, must submit a [rescheduling request form](#) to Academic Affairs by the deadline specified on the form. Approval by both the Dean of Students and the course instructor may be required. The student must take the exam at the time approved; the time limit stated for the exam must be observed.

If theses, reports on assigned readings, or other special assignments are required—either in place of or in addition to a final examination—the deadline to submit such work is set by the professor in charge, which date shall not be later than the last day of classes of the semester for MDiv and MAR courses. For ThM and PhD courses, the submission deadline is ten calendar days after the last day of classes. At the discretion of the professor, a student may receive permission to submit a paper after the deadline up until the last day of exams. The professor may choose to apply a penalty of a lower grade.

The Fall and Spring semester assignment deadline policy applies to modular courses that meet during Spring break.

### Winter term and Summer subterms

For modular courses in the Winter term or Summer subterms, final examinations, if required, are given at the conclusion of the course. If a final paper, report, or other assignment is required—either in addition to or in place of a final exam—the deadline to submit such work for master's level courses is set by the professor in charge which date shall be not more than eight weeks from the last day of the term or subterm. For ThM/PhD and tiered courses (courses offered at both the master's and ThM/PhD level), the deadline to submit such work is eight weeks from the last day of the term or subterm. For the DMin program, please see Chapter 8 for post-modular assignment submission deadlines.

An Incomplete Request must be submitted for permission to take a final exam or submit a final assignment after the last day of exams (fall or spring semesters) or exam date (term or module). See Incomplete Requests section below.

### Online courses

The final exam period occurs during the last week of courses and finishes on the last day of the term or as outlined in the syllabus. Any student enrolled in an online course is expected to follow the course deadlines as listed in the syllabus.

## Grading

A, B, C, and D are passing grades; F is a failing grade. The general standing for the year of every regular student is ascertained by the use of a grade point system. Grade points are assigned to grades as noted on the chart below. A student's general standing is the result of the total number of grade points earned, divided by the total number of semester hours taken.

The faculty has adopted a four-point grading system with 12 levels for all programs as follows:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Points	4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	1.00	0.67	0.00

In addition to meeting due dates and using correct English, the following table will serve as general criteria for grade levels for all programs. Final grades for each course are awarded at the discretion of the member of faculty responsible for that course.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>A</b>	An outstanding and thoughtful piece of work which shows evidence of reading and research beyond that which was assigned. The student has shown mastery of the subject and offers new insights which are well-supported by cogent and profound arguments.
<b>B</b>	A standard, good piece of work which fulfills the assignment and shows a good grasp of the basic principles. There is substantial evidence of ability to analyze and utilize course content.
<b>C</b>	This work is satisfactory but is lacking in a significant area and does not show a grasp of some basic principles.
<b>D</b>	There are serious problems with this work, though it is still passable. It represents a poor performance in comprehending the course content and only meets the minimal standard of the professor.
<b>F</b>	This work is unacceptable and fails to meet the requirements of the assignment.

#### **Unearned F grade (UF)**

A student who does not attend or submit any coursework, or stops attending or submitting coursework, may receive an unearned F (UF) grade for the course.

#### **Administrative F grade**

One month after the grade submission deadline, if a professor has not submitted a final grade, the student will automatically be assigned a grade of “n.r.” (“not reported”). If no grade is submitted by the end of the following semester, the “n.r.” grade will automatically convert to a failing grade. The student and professor will both be notified when the “n.r.” grade and failing grade are assigned. If the student believes there are extenuating circumstances that warrant removal of the failing grade, the student has three weeks after the end of the following semester to submit a petition to the Academic Affairs Office, which will seek a decision from the Faculty Academic Affairs Committee.

#### **Repeating a Course**

When a student repeats a course with a failing grade of F, the F remains factored into the grade-point average (GPA), as does the new grade. If a student repeats a course that has been passed, the second grade will be shown on the transcript, but only the first grade will be factored into the GPA. In language courses, below 70% is a failing grade. A student scoring below 70 will receive a letter grade of F and must re-take the course and pass it before being able to move on to the next level (or to complete their language requirements in the case of NT 013 and OT 013).

#### **Permission to Raise a Failing Grade**

For a course in which a failing grade has been received (including a former incomplete “I” resulting in a failing grade), a student with extenuating circumstances (unusual and unavoidable circumstances which contribute to the failing grade) might, at the professor’s discretion, be granted permission to take a re-examination or complete a reassignment of sufficient quality to raise the grade to an FD. Such work must be completed within a maximum of 28 days after notification of the failing grade. If the grade is

raised to an FD, the student receives credit for the course, but no grade points are counted in calculating the student's general standing.

## Graduation

No student will be granted a degree or certificate whose cumulative grade point average at the completion of the program is lower than what is required for Satisfactory Academic Progress. A degree or certificate shall be granted only to persons enrolled at Westminster at the time of completion of their program of study. No student in the MDiv or MAR program who lacks the equivalent of the courses in the original languages of Scripture will be granted a degree.

### Application for Graduation

A student in the Certificate, MDiv, MAR, ThM, PhD, and DMin programs expecting to graduate with a degree or certificate is required to notify the Academic Affairs Office by April 15 prior to the academic year in which the student expects to graduate. The Academic Affairs Office will perform a degree audit for the student and email the results to the student's Westminster student email address. Students whose applications are received by the submission deadline will receive their degree audit results before the start of the following fall semester. Students whose applications are received after the submission deadline are not guaranteed degree audit results before the start of the following fall semester. The student is responsible for completing all program requirements, including registering for the appropriate courses, whether or not he or she receives the degree audit prior to the fall semester of the expected graduating year.

MAC and MATS expecting to graduate will complete a graduation application at the start of their final year of studies. The Online Learning Team will perform a degree audit before students are approved to graduate.

### Commencement Ceremony

Students who are recommended by the Academic Affairs Office for graduation should review the [online guide to graduation](#) for further requirements no later than February of their graduating year. All questions regarding commencement should be submitted to [Academic Affairs](#).

All graduating students are invited to participate in Westminster Theological Seminary's annual commencement ceremony and will be contacted regarding details of the graduation ceremony. All students participating in the commencement ceremony are required to attend graduation rehearsal, held the day before graduation.

### Graduating *in Absentia*

Westminster has a strong heritage of learning in community. Our commencement ceremony, therefore, is a significant time in which this community assembles to send its graduates into the world to do the Lord's work. Because of this, all graduates are to be present at the ceremony. However, if a student is not able to attend, he or she must request to receive his or her degree *in absentia*, which is granted only by permission. A student's request to graduate *in absentia* will be considered if one of the following conditions applies:

1. The student has completed the requirements for his or her degree at the end of the winter term.
2. The student will be living outside the continental United States at the time of graduation.
3. The student is an online student and unable to attend the graduation.

Requests to graduate *in absentia* are completed using the graduate information form. Questions about graduating *in absentia* should be directed to [Academic Affairs](#). Online students seeking to graduate *in absentia* should contact the Online Learning team at [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu).

## Incomplete Requests

If extenuating circumstances (i.e., unusual and unavoidable circumstances which hinder completion of assigned work) prohibit a non-graduating student from completing a course on time, an interim “incomplete” grade might be granted. No incompletes will be granted to students for classes taken in the spring semester of their graduating year.

### Residential Courses

**To petition for an “incomplete” grade:** A student in a residential course must submit an *Incomplete Request* form to the Academic Affairs Office with the professor’s written approval and recommendation for the additional time, up to a maximum of four weeks from the last day of exams or original assignment deadline, to complete all work. The Academic Affairs Office will seek the appropriate faculty approval. DMin students who need a deadline extension should consult the process for requesting an extension outlined in Chapter 8.

**If approval is granted:** the student will be assigned an interim grade of “I” and an extension, which might be less than that recommended by the professor, up to a maximum of four weeks from the last day of exams or original assignment deadline, to complete all work. The completed work must be submitted by the extension deadline to the Academic Affairs Office, not the professor. At the professor’s discretion the grade will or will not be reduced. The final grade assigned by the professor will replace the “I” grade on the student’s transcript.

### Incomplete Request Deadline:

<b>Fall/Spring semester</b>	Friday before the last day of classes
<b>Online learning terms</b>	10 business days before the last day of class
<b>Terms longer than 5 weeks</b>	Friday before the last day of the term
<b>4 &amp; 5 week module</b>	5 business days before the last day of class
<b>1 &amp; 2 week modules</b>	MDiv/MAR: Day before exam ThM/PhD: Post-modular assignment submission deadline DMin: One week prior to coursework submission deadline

The deadline to submit an incomplete request is waived only if the extenuating circumstance occurs after the deadline.

### Online Courses

Students in an online course who are unable to complete the coursework during the term should contact the Online Learning team to discuss options for coursework extensions. No incomplete requests will be granted. Only extenuating circumstances (i.e. unusual and unavoidable circumstances) will be considered for an unpenalized extension of an assignment; pre-planned events are not considered grounds for an extension.

If approval is granted, the student will have a maximum of up to two additional weeks from the last day of exams or original assignment deadline to complete all work. The exact length of the extension will be

decided by the Online Learning team. Completed work must be submitted by the extension deadline on Canvas. At the professor's discretion the grade may or may not be reduced.

## **Leave of Absence**

### **Residential Students**

Any student who encounters unusual and unavoidable career or family circumstances that cause interruption in participation in his or her program may submit to the Academic Affairs Office a petition for a leave of absence (LOA), for a period of one semester up to three academic years. The petition should specify the reason(s) the student believes warrants an LOA and the number of semesters of LOA desired. Supporting documentation might be required. The petition should be received no later than two months prior to the starting semester of the LOA requested. Residential students will be notified by the Academic Affairs Office whether or not the LOA is approved. While on a leave, the student is considered a current Westminster student. However, since during a leave the student is not working on his or her program and is exempt from fees, it is expected that the student will not be using Westminster facilities, personnel, or resources.

A student who is a member of a military reserve unit and whose studies are interrupted by a call to active duty must inform Academic Affairs of his or her call to active duty and the duration of the call. The student shall then be granted an LOA from his or her academic program. A student who returns to his or her academic program within one year of his or her release from active duty shall be reinstated and allowed to repeat, without charge, those courses in which he or she was enrolled when called to active duty, provided he or she enrolls in those courses the first time the courses are offered after his or her return. A student who fails to return within one year of his or her release from active duty shall be automatically withdrawn.

The student should notify Academic Affairs of any change of address while on leave and, no later than one month before the start of the semester or term that follows the leave, contact Academic Affairs that he or she will resume the program.

Students receiving financial aid (including government loans) who wish to take an LOA should contact the Financial Aid Office for possible restrictions.

### **Online Students**

Any student who encounters unusual and unavoidable career or family circumstances that cause interruption in participation in his or her program, including a call to active military duty, may submit a petition for a leave of absence (LOA), for a period of up to 1 year. The petition should specify the reason(s) the student believes warrants an LOA and the length of LOA desired. Supporting documentation may be required.

The deadline to receive a petition is one month before the student's next registration period. The Online Learning team will notify the student if the LOA is approved. While on a leave, the student is considered a current Westminster student. The student should notify [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu) of any changes while on leave, including the planned return date at least one month prior to the returning term.

Students receiving financial aid (including government loans) who wish to take an LOA should contact the Online Learning Team for possible restrictions.

## **Matriculation**

Matriculation into a program occurs on the first day of classes of one's initial semester or term after having registered. However, if a new student drops all registered courses before the Add/Drop period deadline of the initial semester or term, that student will be considered as not yet matriculated.

## **Registration**

### **Residential courses**

Registration is contingent upon receipt of an official transcript showing completion of any prerequisite degree. Except as otherwise noted, all students are required to register each semester to be enrolled as a current student. DMin candidates in coursework phase are required to register during the spring for the following summer modules or during the fall for winter modules. ThM, PhD, and DMin candidates who have completed all coursework are required to register as continuing students during the spring registration period for the following academic year. MTE students who have paid their deposits by the deadline will automatically be registered for their program. Registration period dates are stated in the Academic Calendar. No student is permitted to register after the Add/Drop period.

See Withdrawal section regarding automatic withdrawal for failure to register.

### **Online Courses**

Registration for online courses occurs during a 1-week period approximately 3 weeks before the start of the term. Course registration is finalized on the last day of the registration. Students are invoiced tuition during registration and are required to pay in full by the date listed on the invoice. Except as otherwise noted, all students are required to register each term to be enrolled as a current student.

## **Reinstatement/Readmission to the Seminary**

If a former student from a residential program desires to resume studies in the semester following a withdrawal period of up to four consecutive semesters, he or she should submit a Reinstatement Request form, along with the reinstatement fee, to the Academic Affairs Office. The student will be notified by the Academic Affairs Office if he or she is approved for reinstatement. If the former student desires to resume studies after a withdrawal period of five or more consecutive semesters, he or she must apply for readmission through the Admissions Office.

If a former online student desires to resume studies following a withdrawal period of up to two years after the completion of the last course, he or she should contact the Online Learning Team for reinstatement. If a former online student desires to resume studies following a withdrawal period of two years or more, he or she must apply for readmission to their program.

Approval for reinstatement or readmission to any program at Westminster is at the discretion of the Seminary. A readmitted or reinstated student will be subject to all program requirements, as well as all financial and academic policies current at the time of return.

## **Students' Rights of Privacy and Access to Records**

### **Annual Notification of Rights under FERPA**

Annually, the Seminary informs students of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), as amended, in the following ways: the annual notification is published in the Seminary's catalog and in the [student info center](#), and an announcement is made from the Academic



Affairs Office during the fall registration period. Online Students are notified by the Online Learning Team annually at the start of the academic year and can find the notification in the [online academic catalog](#). The annual notification is:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the Seminary receives a request for access.

A residential student should submit to the Academic Affairs Office a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. Academic Affairs will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Online students should make requests by contacting the [Online Learning Team](#).

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

A residential student who wishes to ask the Seminary to amend a record should write to the Academic Affairs Office, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. Online students should contact the [Online Learning Team](#).

If the Seminary decides not to amend the record as requested, the Seminary will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the Seminary discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent (Ref: 34 CFR §99.31).

The Seminary discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the Seminary in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position; a person or company with whom the Seminary has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using Seminary employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the Seminary.

Upon request, the Seminary also discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Seminary to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901



## Directory Information

FERPA defines directory information as “[i]nformation contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed.” The Seminary designates the following as directory information, which it may disclose at its discretion: student’s name, spouse’s name, address(es), telephone listing(s), Westminster-assigned student email address, personal email address(es), photograph, program and year of study, enrollment status (e.g., full-time, part-time), dates of attendance, degree(s) awarded, most recent school attended, citizenship, and hometown. According to FERPA, a student’s denomination/religious affiliation is not considered directory information and therefore might be considered for disclosure only if the student has provided written consent.

Students may withhold free disclosure of *directory information* (on an “all or nothing” basis) to non-institutional persons or organizations. To do this, the student must submit a completed *Request to Withhold Directory Information* form to the Academic Affairs Office. A photo ID may also be required. Though a request may be submitted to Academic Affairs at any time, it must be received by the first week of fall semester classes in order for the student’s *directory information* to be withheld from disclosure. The request will be honored until revoked by the student in writing.

If a student elects to withhold *directory information*, no information for that student will be released such that a third party (e.g. loan company, prospective employer, church official, family member, etc.) will be informed that the Seminary has no record of the student’s attendance, unless the student submits to the Academic Affairs a written authorization to release information to the designated third party. Also, the student must make all address changes with a signed authorization or in person with an appropriate form of photo ID.

## Release of Academic Records

In addition to the student’s rights under FERPA, a student may authorize, by submitting a written request to the Academic Affairs Office, release of academic information to a designated third party in the form of an official letter. Written authorization must include the specific information for release. The Academic Affairs Office may require that the student submit instead an Official Transcript Request for release to the third party. Online students should make requests directly to the [Online Learning Team](#).

## Limits to Academic Records Access

The Seminary is not required to permit students to inspect confidential letters and recommendations received prior to January, 1, 1975, financial information submitted by parents, or records containing information about another student, unless all reference to the other student is redacted. Students waive their right to view recommendations unless they have previously communicated the contrary to the Admissions Office before submitting their application. Application materials, once submitted, become the property of the Seminary. Under no circumstances will a student be permitted to copy, photograph, or have returned any part of his or her academic records, including transcripts and any materials related to the admissions process.

## Solomon Amendment

The Seminary, which receives federal funding via the Federal Direct Student Loan Program, is required under the Solomon Amendment to provide “student recruiting information” to military recruiters from the twelve eligible units within the four branches of the Military Service. “Student recruiting information” consists of: student’s name, address, telephone listing, age or year of birth, place of birth, level of education or degrees received, academic major, and the most recent previous educational institution attended. “Student recruiting information” will be withheld only for those students who have submitted a signed Request to Withhold Directory Information form that is still current (i.e., not revoked by the student).

## Student Status

Westminster uses two measures to determine a student's status in their program - enrollment and academic progress. Based on these measures, students can be either placed on probation in or withdrawn from their program.

### Enrollment Status

Enrollment status is determined by minimum number of credits or, for post-coursework phase (after coursework is completed), year in program, as indicated in the table below.

#### Residential Degrees

Degree	Enrollment Status	Phase of Program	POE (Period of Enrollment)	
			Summer (June–Aug.)	Fall and Winter/Spring <sup>1</sup>
MDiv, MAR	Full Time, Residential		9 or more	12 or more
	Full Time, Online		8	8
	Half Time		4	4
ThM, Thesis capstone	Full Time	Course Work	9 (3 co.)	9 (3 co.)
		Post	N/A	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr. in prog.
	Half Time	Course Work	6 (2 co.)	6 (2 co.)
		Post	N/A	3 <sup>rd</sup> yr. through 6 <sup>th</sup> yr. in prog.
ThM, Major Paper capstone	Full Time	Course Work	N/A	9 or more
	Half Time	Course Work	5-8	5-8
PhD	Full Time	Course Work	N/A	9 (3co.)
		Post		Through 5 <sup>th</sup> yr. in prog.
	Half Time	Course Work	6 (2 co.)	6 (2 co.)
		Post	N/A	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> yr. in prog.

Chart abbreviations: sem. = semester, co. = courses, yr. = year, post = post-coursework, prog. = program

<sup>1</sup>Winter term and Spring semester credits are combined to calculate enrollment status.

#### Online Degrees

Degree	Enrollment Status	POE (Period of Enrollment) (Any Term)
MAC, MATS	Full Time	6 or more
	Part Time	3

### Satisfactory Academic Progress

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) measures the qualitative and quantitative aspects of a student's academic work as being adequate to receive the desired degree. SAP academic requirements are listed below. **For specific SAP requirements for financial aid, including student loans, VA Benefits, and/or scholarships, please see chapter 12.**

Students in the MDiv, MAR, or Certificate program:

1. For students who have completed their first semester (having completed at least two courses but attempted less than 24 credit hours): the student's GPA must be 1.96\* or higher. (\*1.76 for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18)
2. For students who have completed or attempted 24 credit hours: the student's cumulative GPA must be 2.00\* or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 67% (i.e., the student must have completed 67% of the credits attempted). Credits attempted but not completed are credits for courses from which the student withdraws or for which the student receives a failing grade. They do not include credits for courses that the student dropped during the Add/Drop period. (\*1.80 for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18.)
3. To be eligible to graduate, students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.00\* or higher. (\*1.80 for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18)

Students in the MAC or MATS program:

1. For students who have completed at least one course but attempted less than 12 credit hours: the student's GPA must be 2.00 or higher.
2. For students who have attempted 12 or more credit hours: the student's cumulative GPA must be 2.00 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 67% (i.e., the student must have completed 67% of the credits attempted). Credits attempted but not completed are credits for courses from which the student withdraws or for which the student receives a failing grade. They do not include credits for courses that the student dropped on or before the first day of class.
3. To be eligible to graduate, students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher.

Students in the ThM, PhD or DMin program:

1. ThM and PhD students who are required to take one or more competency exams must pass the exam(s).
2. ThM students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00 after the completion of three courses. PhD students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00 during the program of study. In addition, PhD students in the Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation field must maintain a 3.00 GPA in the four area seminars. DMin students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.00 in order to graduate.

Students in all programs: All students must complete the program within the maximum program time limit or be administratively withdrawn.

Students required to take Advanced Theological Writing (ATW): The student must take the appropriate ATW course every semester until a passing grade is earned in ATW III. This grade must be earned by the end of the fourth semester.

A student who does not meet the SAP requirement(s) is either placed on probation or administratively withdrawn. Students receiving financial aid should refer to Chapter 12 for additional SAP requirements.

## Probation

Academic probation is a warning that the student's academic work does not meet the Seminary's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements. (See *Satisfactory Academic Progress* section for more details.)

A student in the MDiv, MAR, or Certificate program will be placed on academic probation as follows:

1. For the student who has completed his or her first semester (having completed at least two courses taken but attempted less than 24 credit hours): the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) is 1.95\* or lower. This student must raise his or her GPA by the semester that he or she meets or exceeds 24 hours of coursework in an official program or be administratively withdrawn from his or her program. (\*1.75 for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18)
2. For the student who has completed or attempted 24 credit hours: the student's cumulative GPA is between 1.96\* and 1.99\* inclusive. This student is required to raise his or her GPA to 2.00\*\* or above to be approved to graduate. (\*1.76 and 1.80 for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18; \*\*1.80 for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18)

A student who has completed or attempted 24 credit hours and meets the minimum cumulative GPA requirement but whose term GPA falls below 1.95\* and/or whose course completion rate is less than 67% (the student completes less than 67% of the courses he or she attempts) must meet with the Dean of Students before the beginning of the following semester and might be placed on academic probation. If the student's term GPA is less than 1.95\* for two consecutive terms, the student must meet with the Dean of Students a second time and might be administratively withdrawn. (\*1.76 for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18)

A student on academic probation will be required to meet with the Dean of Students before the beginning of the following semester and take a reduced course load or withdrawal will result.

A student in the MAC or MATS programs will be placed on academic probation as follows:

1. For students who have completed at least one course but attempted less than 12 credit hours: the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) is 1.95\* or lower. This student must raise his or her GPA by the semester that he or she attempts 12 hours of coursework in an official program or be administratively withdrawn from his or her program. (\*1.75 for MAC students in the residential program)
2. For students who have attempted 12 credit hours or more: the student's cumulative GPA is between 1.96 and 2.00\* and/or whose course completion rate is less than 67% (the student completes less than 67% of the courses attempted). This student is required to raise his or her GPA to 2.00\*\* or above to continue in the program or to be approved to graduate. If the student does not meet these requirements, he or she may be administratively withdrawn from the program. (\*1.76 and 1.80 for MAC students in the residential program; \*\*1.80 for MAC students in the residential program)

For students in the ThM or PhD programs:

Competencies in Greek and/or Hebrew will be assessed through examinations. After the completion of the exam(s), if a student is assigned remedial work for a competency exam, but does not fulfill that requirement, the faculty maintains the right to place that student on academic probation, pending satisfactory completion of that requirement. To see when competency exams are taken based on the student's program, please refer to Chapter 8 - Master of Theology and Doctor of Philosophy.

At the discretion of the appropriate field committee, a ThM or PhD student who would otherwise be withdrawn due to a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or below, might instead be placed on academic probation.

For students in the DMin program:

At the discretion of the Pastoral Theology field committee, a DMin student who might otherwise be withdrawn due to a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or below, might instead be placed on academic probation.

## **Withdrawal from the Seminary**

It is expected that anyone on withdrawn status is not using Westminster facilities, personnel, or resources.

### **Administrative Withdrawal**

A student is administratively withdrawn for three reasons: if he or she has 1) not met satisfactory academic progress requirements, having a grade point average too low to continue, 2) not fulfilled financial payment obligations, or 3) violated the Seminary's standards for student conduct, which includes violation of the [Honor Code](#) and/or the Westminster Online Community Values.

### **Academic Withdrawal**

A student in the MDiv, MAR, residential MAC or Certificate program whose cumulative grade point average after the attempt or completion of 24 semester hours is 1.95\* or lower, or who does not meet the requirements to remain on probation, is withdrawn from the Seminary. (\*1.75 or lower for students who matriculated prior to 2017-18) An student in the MAC or MATS program whose cumulative grade point average after the attempt of 12 credit hours is 2.0 or lower, or who does not meet the requirements to remain on probation, is withdrawn from the Seminary. However, if the faculty considers it probable that, in the future, the student will be able to meet SAP requirements, it may reinstate or readmit him or her to the Seminary on probationary status, upon petition, and grant whatever credit for work completed it deems appropriate. A student in the ThM or PhD program is required to maintain a grade point average of 3.00 during the program. A student whose cumulative grade point average at the completion of three ThM/PhD courses is lower than 3.00 is not permitted to continue in the institution, except as detailed in the Probation section. A student in the DMin program is required to have a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 to continue in the program, except as detailed in the Probation section.

If a student required to complete the ATW requirement does not pass ATW within the four semester/term deadline, that student will be withdrawn from the Seminary.

### **Personal Withdrawal**

A student in the MDiv, MAR, ThM, PhD, or DMin programs planning to withdraw from the Seminary, whether during or between an academic semester or term, should inform the Academic Affairs Office in writing. If the "Personal Withdrawal" notification is received during a semester/term, the effective date of withdrawal will be the date of notification. If the notification is received between semesters/terms, the effective date of withdrawal will be the last day of exams of the previous semester. A student who withdraws from the Seminary after the final date to withdraw from a course will receive a failing grade for each course not completed.

An MAC or MATS student planning to withdraw from the Seminary should contact the [Online Learning Team](#). The student will be asked to complete supporting information. The deadline to withdraw from a course is 4 weeks into the term. If a student withdraws after the last eligible day, they will be assigned a grade of "F" for the course.

### **Automatic withdrawal**

A student is automatically withdrawn from the Certificate, MDiv, MAR, ThM, PhD or DMin program if he or she a) does not register by the end of the Add/Drop period for the semester (fall or spring) or, in the case of ThM students, PhD students in post-coursework phase, and DMin students, for the academic year, b) drops or withdraws from all of his or her courses during the progress of any semester, or c) fails to return after an approved leave of absence. Exceptions to this policy: 1) a student in the Certificate program who has already completed at least one course is considered enrolled for two consecutive semesters following the last semester/term enrolled in courses beyond the Add/Drop period. In the semester following the two consecutive semesters, if the Certificate student does not register and complete at least one course, that student is withdrawn by default. 2) A ThM, PhD, or DMin student in coursework phase may submit to Academic Affairs a petition to remain enrolled as a current student for a given semester, pledging to work on non-coursework degree requirements. The Academic Affairs Office will seek approval from the appropriate faculty field committee. If granted, the student's enrollment status for that semester would be considered "less than half time." 3) Modular ThM or London ThM students in coursework phase are current if they take at least one course in an academic year. Otherwise, they are withdrawn unless they petition and are approved a leave of absence.

Online students are automatically withdrawn from the program if they do not register for a course after taking two terms away or if they do not register for the following term after withdrawing from a course in the previous term.

## **Theological English**

### **Advanced Theological Writing Courses**

Advanced Theological Writing (ATW) courses are specially designed to teach international students to write fluently, comprehensibly, and succinctly in English at the high level of complexity required by seminary courses. Incoming students who score less than 111 on the TOEFL iBT are required to take a placement test to determine which ATW class will best help them meet the required writing proficiency level. In addition, professors who have identified international students as needing improvement in their writing may require students to take the ATW placement test. According to the results, students are placed in one of the courses in the ATW sequence and expected to complete all remaining courses in the sequence. The standard sequence of ATW courses is TE 3, TE 4, and TE 5.

Students required to take ATW must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress in ATW. The policies pertaining to all non-native English speakers are the same for all degree programs with the exception of the DMin concentration in Korean. (See Chapter 5.) Students needing to take an Advanced Theological Writing course must register for the course during their first semester on campus. If a new or reinstating student had fulfilled the ATW requirement while previously a student at Westminster, the student is not required to do so again.

### **Mastering Theological English**

Students who qualify for admission to a Westminster program in all respects, with the exception of their TOEFL scores, may satisfy their English language requirement by successfully completing the Mastering Theological English (MTE) program. An applicant with a TOEFL score that meets admission requirements may also choose to take MTE to prepare for study at Westminster. Current master's level students who have passed ATW and desire to enter the ThM program may register for MTE II with the MTE director's approval. See Chapter 7 for program details.

After completion of MTE, a student must begin his or her Westminster program in the subsequent semester. Students who complete MTE may defer matriculation for up to one year by notifying the

Admissions Office through email and paying the non-refundable enrollment deposit. At the discretion of the Admissions Review Committee, a deferral may be denied.

### **Excellence in Theological Writing**

The Excellence in Theological Writing course seeks to strengthen the writing skills of native English speaking students and equip them to write for Christ and his global church both during and after seminary.

### **Transcript Requests**

Requests for an official transcript should be submitted in writing from the current or former student to the Academic Affairs Office, accompanied by the appropriate fee. Transcript requests can be made [online](#). Altering a record is an act of fraud.

Transcripts for students enrolled in the online MAC or MATS programs will be delivered electronically and securely within 24 hours of request. Hard-copy transcripts are unavailable for these online programs. Transcripts for these programs do not currently incur a charge for online students. Students should [request a copy of their transcript here](#).

### **Transfer Credit/Shared Credit**

An official determination of transfer credit will be considered after admission to a degree program. Credits normally must have been earned in an accredited graduate theological school and must be reported on an official transcript.

#### **Steps to seeking transfer of credit: Residential Students**

Step 1. Review the transfer credit policy below.

Step 2. Review the catalog's description of programs and courses to compare Westminster's requirements to work done at the other institution.

Step 3. Consult with appropriate office (Admissions Office for anticipated residential students and Academic Affairs for current residential students) regarding any questions related to Steps 1 and 2 above.

Step 4. Submit the Transfer of Credit Request form to Academic Affairs.

Approval for transfer credits must be secured from the Academic Dean for MDiv and MAR and from the advisor in conjunction with the dean for ThM, PhD, and DMin students, unless otherwise noted.

Westminster does not transfer more than the number of credits required for a student's degree and emphasis. Therefore, approved transfer credit reduces accordingly the number of credit hours required at Westminster. Conversely, courses taken at Westminster that are the equivalent of courses for which transfer credit was previously approved will reduce accordingly the approved transfer credit. Transfer credit approval is dependent upon the nature and quality of the work, contingent upon a student's successful matriculation into a degree program, and not effective or applied until successful completion of a student's matriculation semester or term.

#### **Steps to seeking transfer of credit: Online Students**

Online students can make official requests for master's level course credit to transfer into an online degree. Students interested in applying for transfer credit from any institutions should complete the [transfer request form](#). Courses are approved when approximate equivalency in academic workload,

theological perspective, and academic rigor are deemed fulfilled by assessment of the Dean of Online Learning. Approval is contingent upon a student's successful matriculation into a degree program and is applied upon successful completion of matriculation term. Students requesting transfer credits should follow the steps below. All courses must be completed within the past ten years prior to matriculation term and students must have earned a C or above. With the exception of the Christian Counseling and Educational Foundation (CCEF), up to two courses may be transferred from an outside institution toward a student's Westminster degree.

**Step 1:** Review the complete transfer policy below, including the Christian Counseling & Educational Foundation (CCEF) transfer credit policy for all courses being transferred from CCEF.

**Step 2:** Review the course descriptions to determine requirements of Westminster courses.

**Step 3:** Submit official transcripts and course syllabi of the courses seeking to be transferred.

**Step 4:** Complete the [Transfer Request Form](#), including all requested information.

Students must complete at least one term in their program before requests will be reviewed. Transfer credit requests are reviewed quarterly by the Dean of Online Learning and decisions will be communicated to the student via email.

## Residential Master's Programs

1. No transfer credit is granted for the Certificate program.
2. In general, online courses are not approved for transfer credit to residential programs except where PTC courses are required as part of an MDiv degree. This is consistent with the residential nature of the MDiv and MAR degrees. If a student encounters extreme career or family hardship that he or she thinks warrants taking a required course online he or she may petition Academic Affairs for an exception.
3. If any credit hours are earned via online courses, these will reduce the maximum number of credits eligible for transfer, since both are considered "off-campus" courses.
4. Shared Credit (transfer credit from an institution from which the student has completed a master's degree): Ordinarily, the Seminary may accept up to one-half of the credits earned for a first theological master's degree toward a degree at Westminster, not to exceed one-half of the credits required for the MDiv and MAR degrees at Westminster. The minimum number of credit hours of study that a student must complete on Westminster's campus, excluding Greek, Hebrew, English Bible Survey, and Advanced Theological Writing courses, is 46 hours for the MDiv degree, 28 hours for the MAR degree, and 28 hours for the residential MAC degree. For the MDiv and MAR degrees, the final 24 credit hours must be Westminster courses unless a petition for an exception due to extenuating circumstances is approved, except as permitted for CCEF courses in the CCEF transfer credit policy. The maximum number of "off-campus" credits (shared credit and online credits combined) that will be eligible for approval towards a student's degree program is 46 for the MDiv degree, 27 for the MAR degree, and, except as specified elsewhere, 28 for the residential MAC degree.
5. Transfer Credit (from an institution from which the student has not received a Master's degree): The minimum number of credits hours of study that a student must complete on Westminster's campus, excluding Greek, Hebrew, English Bible Survey, and Advanced Theological Writing courses, is 46 hours for the MDiv degree, 28 hours for the MAR degree, and 24 hours for the residential MAC degree. For all of the degrees cited above, the final 24 credit hours must be Westminster courses unless a petition for an exception due to extenuating circumstances is



approved, except as permitted for CCEF courses in the CCEF transfer credit policy. The maximum number of “off-campus” credits (transfer credit and online credits combined) eligible for approval towards a student’s degree program is 46 for the MDiv degree, 27 for the MAR degree, and, except as specified elsewhere, 28 for the residential MAC degree.

6. Only courses in which a grade of C or above was received will be considered for transfer credit to a residential MAC, MAR, or MDiv degree program.
7. Grades are transferred only from courses from a Westminster program in which no degree was earned or from courses taken at Jerusalem University College (JUC). (See Holy Land Studies in Chapter 7.)
8. Credits on a quarter system are figured as a two-thirds equivalent of Westminster’s semester system.
9. Courses might be transferred as required or elective credit. It is more likely that, if approved, course credit will be applied to elective hours rather than to required courses (since the content or perspective might not be the same).
10. The emphasis chosen in the MAR or MDiv program could make a difference in the number of credits that are transferred. For example, the MAR and MDiv General emphases require more elective hours.
11. A special restriction applies to courses at other institutions in the areas of Old Testament, New Testament, and Systematic Theology, when the courses do not use the original languages. Such courses can normally be transferred for MAR or MDiv credit only as electives. But the coordinator of the department (Old Testament, New Testament, or Systematic Theology, as the case may require) may at his discretion allow up to a maximum of three hours per department to be transferred toward required credit for the MAR or the MDiv (for a total of nine hours in Old Testament, New Testament, and Systematic Theology combined).
12. Greek and Hebrew language courses completed at another institution will not be considered for transfer credit. Greek and Hebrew language courses completed at Westminster will count toward MDiv or MAR degree requirements in the case of reinstatement but will not count in the case of readmission. Students whose language courses do not count toward the MDiv or MAR degree requirements must take the language courses or place out of some or all of them by means of a placement exam. See Chapter 8 for placement exam information.
13. Unless otherwise noted elsewhere, courses completed at Westminster or at another institution that are more than ten years old prior to initial matriculation or readmission will not be considered for transfer credit or be applicable to a present Westminster MDiv, MAR, or residential MAC program. Coursework (except for language courses) between five and ten years old will be accepted only with the approval of the appropriate department. This limitation does not hold in the case of reinstatement. However, please refer to the Seminary’s maximum time limit policy for individual programs.

### **ThM, PhD and DMin Programs**

14. Only courses in which a grade of B or above was received will be considered for transfer credit to a ThM, PhD, or DMin degree program.
15. Study completed at Westminster or another institution more than five years prior to initial matriculation in the PhD, ThM, or DMin program cannot be applied for transfer credit to the

program that the student is entering. This limitation does not hold in cases of reinstatement or readmission. Credit for study completed in Westminster's PhD, ThM, or DMin program prior to reinstatement or readmission is subject to the approval of the appropriate field committee.

16. Normally, up to two approved ThM/PhD level courses from another institution may be transferred to the ThM program, only one of which may count toward the three required courses in the ThM candidate's concentration. A ThM candidate who has completed the MDiv degree at Westminster may petition the appropriate Field Committee for permission to transfer a third approved ThM/PhD level course, as long as at least two courses in the candidate's concentration are taken at Westminster. However, the number of non-classroom courses taken at Westminster (directed reading and independent study) will reduce the maximum number of courses eligible for transfer credit. See Chapter 8 for non-classroom course limits.
17. Transfer credit toward the PhD program for courses completed in Westminster's ThM program is given depending upon the nature and quality of the work. However, individuals who have obtained a ThM degree from Westminster may be given shared credit for up to four courses. For PhD candidates in the Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation field, credit for non-NT or OT courses is not granted unless by exception.
18. Shared credit toward the ThM or PhD degree, for ThM/PhD work pursued before the completion of requirements for a Westminster MDiv or MAR degree, shall be limited to two courses.
19. PhD candidates in the field of Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation: Ordinarily, transfer credit will not be granted for courses completed at other institutions prior to enrollment. With written permission of the advisor, the candidate already matriculated at Westminster may take courses at other graduate institutions to transfer as elective credit. Transfer credit will not be approved for required courses.
20. PhD candidates in the field of Historical and Theological Studies: Up to four courses of advanced work beyond a first theological degree may be approved for transfer credit, if the advanced work is not credited toward an earned degree. However, approved transfer credit is limited to two courses if the advanced work is pursued prior to completion of a first theological degree. Transfer credit must substitute for the "external" courses requirement, while any remaining transfer credit may substitute for any of the other course categories. With the exception of a ThM from Westminster, work credited toward an earned degree is not eligible for shared credit.
21. A maximum of 2 courses may be accepted for elective transfer credit for the DMin program. See Chapter 8 for further restrictions.

### **Pre-approval of Transfer Credits**

22. A current MDiv, MAR, ThM, PhD, or DMin student who has received pre-approval to take a course at another institution for transfer credit must make arrangements for enrollment at the other institution and report to Academic Affairs at Westminster in writing before the beginning of the semester when he/she will enroll at the other institution. If no Westminster course is taken in the semester the student is enrolled elsewhere, the student is withdrawn for that semester and will not pay a fee to Westminster. See Automatic Withdrawal section for exceptions. Failure to conform to these stipulations may result in withdrawal of the student from the program and in the refusal of Westminster to count these courses toward degree requirements.

### **Sharing credit with another Westminster degree**

For those completing the online MAC or MATS degree and another master's level degree, a student is able to share up to half of the credits required for the MAC or MATS degree with another degree from Westminster Theological Seminary. Courses must be completed within the past ten years of student's matriculation term and receive a grade of "C" or higher to be considered for transfer. Credits accepted for transfer will be reviewed by the Online Learning team and the Dean of Online Learning.

### **Transfer of credit from unaccredited institutions**

Students in the MDiv or MAR program who seek transfer credit from courses earned in an equivalent degree program at an unaccredited, graduate level theological institution must supply the following:

- a. A copy of the course syllabus stating the instructor's name and the course requirements for each course for which transfer credit is requested.
- b. At least one sample of coursework submitted in fulfillment of course requirements for each course for which transfer credit is requested.

All decisions are made on a course-by-course basis. Acceptance of one course from an unaccredited institution for transfer credit carries no implication regarding the acceptance of other courses from that institution.

Only courses in which a grade of B or above was received will be accepted for transfer credit.

No more than 15 semester credit hours from an unaccredited institution will be accepted for transfer credit toward a student's degree program at Westminster.

Students in the online MAC and MATS programs are ineligible to transfer credit from an unaccredited institution other than CCEF.

### **Christian Counseling & Educational Foundation (CCEF)**

Upon approval, credit earned for coursework completed at CCEF is transferable to the MDiv, MAR, MAC, and MATS. Only courses in which a grade of C or above was received will be accepted for transfer credit.

### **Students matriculating in the 2017-2018 academic year or later:**

A maximum of 35 credits may be accepted for transfer credit from CCEF, subject to the specifications listed below, the general transfer credit limitations stated in an earlier section and also the requirements of the student's degree program. (See "Transfer of credit from accredited graduate theological schools" section and Chapter 8 Degree Programs.)

- CCEF courses completed BEFORE September 1, 2017  
Up to 35 credits may be transferred with a transfer fee of \$100 per course.
- CCEF courses taken AFTER September 1, 2017  
Up to 15 credits may be transferred with a transfer fee, which is the difference in current tuition between the CCEF course transferred and its corresponding MAC course.

All transfer courses must be transferred in toward a student's degree program before their final term. Students must take at least one Westminster course during the final semester of coursework.

**Returning and reinstating students who initially matriculated during 2011-2012 through 2016-2017 academic years:**

Up to 15 semester credit hours may be accepted for transfer credit toward a student's degree program at Westminster. Students may take one or more CCEF courses in their graduating year for transfer credit as long as, prior to their graduating year, they notify the Academic Affairs Office of the CCEF courses and take at least one Westminster course during their final semester of coursework.

Returning and reinstating students who initially matriculated prior to the 2011- 2012 academic year: Normally, up to two courses may be transferred without tuition payment. Students may request approval for two additional courses to be transferred. Full Westminster tuition is required for these additional courses. No more than four courses will be accepted for transfer credit. For any coursework to be considered for transfer from CCEF, the courses must be completed (including having been graded) prior to beginning any coursework at Westminster.

**Transcription of credit from The Resurgence Training Center (Re:Train)**

Upon approval by Academic Affairs, credit earned for coursework completed at Re:Train can be transcribed and accepted toward the MDiv or MAR programs. Courses from Re:Train will not be accepted for transfer into the MAC or MATS programs.

Only courses in which a grade of C or above was received will be accepted for transcription.

Up to a maximum of 9 semester credit hours from Re:Train will be transcribed and accepted toward a student's degree program at Westminster. The amount of transcribed credits will vary based upon the degree program requirements. Courses which have been approved for transcription will be considered elective credit.

Please contact the Academic Affairs Office for the current list of approved courses that may be transcribed from Re:Train.

**Transfer of Credit for Courses Taken at Reformed Episcopal Seminary (RES)**

The transfer credit policy agreement with RES is aimed at allowing Westminster MDiv students who are seeking ordination in CANA/ACNA or REC the ability to take the required coursework for licensure in their denomination.

1. Upon approval by Academic Affairs, credit earned for RES courses listed below is transferable to the MDiv (general emphasis) program for elective credit.
2. Only courses in which a grade of C or above was received will be accepted for transfer credit.
3. The following courses may be transferred:
  - a. AN 503 Liturgics - 2 hrs.\*
  - b. AN 512 Creeds and Councils - 2 hrs.
  - c. AN 615 Anglican Studies - 2 hrs.
  - d. AN 703 Thirty-Nine Articles - 2 hrs.\*
  - e. AN 603 Book of Common Prayer - 2 hrs.\*
  - f. AN 714 Anglican History and Polity - 2 hrs.

\* May count towards the elective hours required in Pastoral Theology

## 7. Non-Degree Programs

### Visiting Students (formerly “Special Level Students”)

#### Residential

Those not seeking to earn a degree from Westminster may register for courses as a visiting student. Students from other seminaries or graduate schools may also take courses as a visiting student for transfer back to their institutions. The applicant must seek approval from the Admissions Office before applying as a visiting student.

Visiting Student, Master status permits the student to register for master’s level courses. Visiting Student, Advanced Theological status permits the student to register for ThM/PhD courses. Visiting Student, Advanced Ministerial status permits the student to register for DMin courses. Students in all levels are limited to the equivalent of one academic year only. To continue studies beyond one academic year, admission to a regular degree program of the Seminary is required. Financial aid is not available to visiting students and, in most cases, international students cannot be granted visas as visiting students.

#### Online

Those interested in taking online courses without seeking a degree from Westminster can apply to become a Visiting Student. These students will gain access to Westminster online courses for ministry for continued training or transfer credit to other schools. Students interested should [request more information here](#).

### Certificate in Christian Studies Program

The Certificate in Christian Studies program is offered for men and women who desire graduate-level courses from Westminster but do not desire to enter a degree program.

Upon graduation, the Certificate in Christian Studies student will:

1. Exhibit a deep love for the triune God, his word, his truth, and his church; and a Christ-like humility in relation with others.
2. Demonstrate basic knowledge of Scripture, Reformed theology, biblical theology, church history and apologetics.
3. Demonstrate the ability to apply God’s word to a changing world in the student’s ministry context.

Admission to the certificate program requires the same qualifications as admission for the MDiv or MAR program. Registration, tuition charges, and all academic procedures and prerequisites are also the same.

The certificate is earned after the completion of 25 credit hours of MDiv or MAR courses only. The following courses must be included: AP 101 (Introduction to Apologetics) and ST 101 (Prolegomena to Systematic Theology). Greek, Hebrew, and online courses are not approved for credit toward the certificate program.

Students who have earned a Certificate in Christian Studies from Westminster and desire to apply this work toward an MDiv or MAR degree must surrender the certificate prior to graduation. Before choosing to enter a program beyond the certificate, students should consult with the Academic Affairs Office in regard to which courses will transfer to the MDiv or MAR program.

In most cases, international students cannot be granted visas for participating in this program.

**Time Limit:** The maximum time limit to complete the Certificate is 10 years (including any leave of absence or withdrawal period). Petitions for an extension due to unusual circumstances or hardship must be granted by the Faculty Academic Affairs Committee.

## Mastering Theological English

Mastering Theological English is an intensive language course sequence that equips international students with the high level of skill in theological English required for study at Westminster. Students who qualify for admission to a Westminster program in all respects, with the exception of their TOEFL scores, may satisfy the requirement by successfully completing the appropriate level of Mastering Theological English (MTE).

- MTE I is for students with TOEFL iBT scores of 68 - 87 iBT who are applying to the MDiv, MAR, DMin, or Certificate programs; or who are applying to the ThM program and need to fulfill the prerequisite to enter MTE II.
- MTE II is for students with TOEFL iBT scores of 85 - 99 iBT who are applying to the ThM program. Entrance requirements for MTE II can also be met through successful completion of MTE I.

For a sample schedule and a description of the current year's programming, please visit the [MTE web page](#).

## Holy Land Studies

The Seminary is associated with the [Jerusalem University College](#) (JUC). Students who participate in this program may receive academic credit upon approval by Academic Affairs in consultation with the relevant department coordinator. Information concerning Holy Land studies may be secured from the Director of the Program for Holy Land Studies.

Students in the programs indicated below may complete part of their program at the JUC as indicated:

1. MDiv and MAR degree programs: Elective course work may be selected from approved master's level courses at JUC. Approved JUC courses will be regarded as transfer credit when applied to the student's Westminster degree program. Depending on the student's program and emphasis, a student may request JUC transfer credit of up to 18 elective hours. (See Transfer Credit in Chapter 6.)
2. ThM/PhD degree programs: Up to one-third (two courses) of the course work for either the ThM in Old Testament or the ThM in New Testament may be selected from approved master's level courses at JUC. Up to one-third (five courses) of the course work for the PhD in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation may be selected from approved master's level courses at JUC. ThM/PhD students will be required to complete additional work in each of the master's courses taken at JUC in order for those courses to be credited toward Westminster's ThM/PhD programs. Arrangements for this additional work must be made in advance through the student's advisor at Westminster and in consultation with the appropriate faculty member at JUC. The JUC course and additional work will be considered an independent study, with the student receiving a grade that is a weighted average of the additional work and the grade for the JUC course. (See Independent Study Courses in Chapter 6.)

Westminster students who, under provisions (1) and (2) above, pursue any work at JUC ordinarily will be expected to participate in an approved Reformed ministry in Israel.

## 8. Degree Programs

### MDiv and MAR Program General Requirements

#### Enrollment

Twelve credit hours during the fall semester, and 12 credit hours for the winter term and spring semester combined, is the minimum required for full-time enrollment status for residential MDiv, MAR, and Certificate students. Online MDiv and MAR students must maintain eight credit hours for full-time status. Three credit hours during the winter term would be considered full-time, but the full-time status for the winter term alone is not reported. No student may take more than 20 credit hours during a semester without the permission of the faculty. Not more than five credit hours may be taken during the winter term. International students on F1/J1 visa must be enrolled full time. When certified by the seminary's international student advisor as fulfilling SEVIS full-time equivalent status, an F1/J1 student may be enrolled in fewer than 12 but at least 9 credits.

#### English Bible Exam

To help ensure that students have an adequately comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and to assist those who are preparing for licensure and ordination exams, the English Bible Exam is required of all MDiv and MAR students. The exam is offered online in [Canvas](#) on multiple dates, which are listed on the Academic Calendar. If the exam is not passed with a minimum score of 80 percent after three attempts at taking the exam, he or she will be required to pay a fee in order to take the exam and complete the requirement. More information about the exam will be sent to students during their first semester after matriculation.

### Greek and Hebrew Language Sequences

#### Greek\*:

Semester	Fall-Start Track	Spring-Start Track
Fall	NT 001 (3 hrs.)	-
Winter intensive**	NT 002 (3 hrs.)	-
Spring	NT 003 (3 hrs.)	NT 001 (3 hrs.)
June intensive** July intensive**	-	NT 002 (3 hrs.) NT 003 (3 hrs.)

\*Students are not permitted to switch Greek tracks or sections within a Greek track except upon petitioned approval via the Academic Affairs Office for extenuating circumstances that would otherwise create severe hardship.

\*\*Students should be aware that the intensive language terms demand a full-time commitment and should plan to limit their job and ministry commitments accordingly.

## Hebrew:

Semester	Sequence A	Sequence B	Sequence C	Sequence D****
Summer*	OT 011 Hebrew 1** OT 012 Hebrew 2	-	-	-
Fall	OT 013 Hebrew 3	OT 011 Hebrew 1**	OT 011 Hebrew 1**	OT 011 Hebrew 1**
Winter intensive*	-	OT 012 Hebrew 2	-	-
Spring	-	OT 013 Hebrew 3	OT 012 Hebrew 2	OT 012 Hebrew 2
June intensive*, ***	-	-	OT 013 Hebrew 3	-
Fall	-	-	-	OT 013 Hebrew 3

\* Students should be aware that the intensive language terms demand a full-time commitment and should plan to limit their job and ministry commitments accordingly or choose to take the non-intensive course offerings.

\*\* OT 011 students should note that required videos, practice materials, and quizzes will be provided before the course begins and in some cases may be due in the two weeks before the term starts. The student should log into Canvas to see the assignments and due dates, which will vary based on the term in which the course is taken.

\*\*\*The June course may begin as early as the last week of May depending on the calendar year.

\*\*\*\* Sequence D (fall/spring/following fall) is not recommended for pedagogical reasons, and because students following this sequence risk delaying their program, since most OT courses (except OT 113) require Hebrew 3 as a prerequisite.

Entering MDiv and MAR students are strongly advised to follow one of the recommended course schedules given in Chapter 9. The schedules specify the appropriate sequencing of courses for each degree and emphasis, including Greek and Hebrew course sequences and, where appropriate, Greek/Hebrew combinations.

## Greek and Hebrew Placement Exam Information

Matriculating students who have studied Greek or Hebrew and who wish to place out of any level of either language must take the corresponding placement exam. Students must take placement exams, whether Greek, Hebrew, or both, before initial matriculation in the fall or spring term. This prevents complications in registering for courses that require language prerequisites. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by Academic Affairs. Exams are administered on campus three times throughout the year, and each exam is two hours in length. For further information, please visit the [Greek and Hebrew Languages page](#) in the Seminary's info center. Dates for placement exams are also given on the Academic Calendar.

Students may only take one placement exam per language, regardless of which level exam they choose. Once a student has taken a placement exam, he or she may not take another placement exam in that language at any time in the future. Students who are readmitted to the seminary are required to take a placement exam in order to determine whether they must retake language courses.

Students who take a placement exam will be placed in the appropriate course depending on their performance on the exam. Students who demonstrate sufficient competence on the level 3 exam will be exempt from all three semesters of the language.



Students interested in taking a higher-level placement exam should be aware that, if they are unable to demonstrate a high level of competence on the exam, they will not automatically be placed in the next highest-level course, unless sufficient mastery of the lower-level material is clearly demonstrated on the exam. Students should therefore prepare carefully according to the specific level of exam they wish to take.

## **Master of Divinity Degree Program**

A student who holds a baccalaureate degree from an approved institution receives the degree of Master of Divinity (MDiv) on the completion of the prescribed program of study. The purpose of this program is twofold: (1) to prepare men for pastoral ministry and to equip them to meet ecclesiastical requirements for ordination; (2) to train men and women for gospel ministries including counseling, Christian education, youth work, college and university student ministries, and urban service.

The program of study prescribed for the MDiv degree provides two tracks for training, in keeping with the twofold purpose of the program: (1) Pastoral Ministry Track and (2) General Ministries Track. The degree requirements for both tracks are the same except for certain Pastoral Theology courses. Courses in both tracks are arranged to provide for orderly progress within the work of each department and for coherence within each semester of study.

Students planning to seek ordination for pastoral ministry should be aware that completion of the MDiv degree in a General Ministries Track may not satisfy the requirements for ordination in certain denominations. One should check with the appropriate denominational judicatory.

Beginning in the 2020-2021 academic year, the General Ministries emphasis will be offered both on our Philadelphia campus and online.

### **MDiv Student Learning Goals**

Upon graduation, the student will:

1. Exhibit a deep love for the triune God, his word, his truth, and his church; and a Christ-like humility in relation to others.
2. Be able to exegete the text of Scripture as given in the original languages.
3. Be able to understand and articulate the system of doctrine contained in the Westminster Standards and its importance for biblical, systematic, and pastoral theology, and integrate this system of doctrine into life and ministry.
4. Be able to understand the particularity of cultural context and apply God's eternal word to a changing world and to particular individuals and congregations.
5. Understand the biblical principles of leadership and demonstrate potential for becoming a future leader in the church.

### **MDiv Degree Requirements**

A total of at least 93 credit hours plus Hebrew and Greek language requirements is required for the MDiv degree.

## MDiv Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

A biblical understanding of wisdom forbids separating knowing from doing, learning from practice, since wisdom unites knowledge, character, and skill. Wisdom also results from academic learning and practical experience when accompanied by supervision and self-examination. Candidates for the MDiv degree are therefore required to participate in Curricular Practical Training (CPT).

**Field experience:** After the first year of seminary, MDiv students are automatically enrolled in a course, called “Curricular Practical Training,” in Canvas. Six modules of field experience must be completed for CPT. Modules types are five: Public Proclamation, Private Ministries, Teaching, Leadership, and Other. The purpose of the breadth of module types is to allow the application of Westminster’s distinctive curriculum over a wide range of ministry responsibilities. The student is responsible for finding a location(s) to complete the requirements for each module of CPT.

CPT is designed to get immediate specific feedback for the best learning experience. Towards that end, students are recommended to submit CPT materials in Canvas as they complete them.

A student must be enrolled in at least one seminary course while doing CPT. Final due date for CPT materials is March 1st of the student’s graduating year.

Transfer of up to two modules of CPT may be given to students who transfer from other seminaries with approved programs of mentored field experience. Transfer CPT would be applied after a student has completed PT 111.

International students must be authorized for CPT by the seminary’s U.S. government-Designated School Official (DSO) before starting CPT. International students should reference the instructions in the International Student Resources course in Canvas on how to seek authorization for CPT.

**Case Study Seminar:** M.Div. students must register for and participate in two Case Study Seminars during their degree program. These weekly, one-hour, semester-long, non-credit seminars have no more than 12 students who meet with faculty to analyze and discuss students’ field experience. Part of Case Study Seminar requirements is attendance at and feedback on weekly semester chapels. Seminars are offered each semester for registration.

The CPT MDiv degree requirement is managed by the Student Development Office. Students may email [cpt@wts.edu](mailto:cpt@wts.edu) with any questions regarding CPT.

## MDiv Core Courses

All MDiv students must take the following core courses (plus Hebrew and Greek language requirements):

AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs.	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs.
AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs.	PC 111	Introduction to Pastoral Counseling	2 hrs.
CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs.	PC 251	Marr. Counsl. in the Local Church	2 hrs.
CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs.	PC 323	Peacemaking Pastor	2 hrs.
CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs.	PT 021P	Mentored Min Integration Sem (x2)	0 hrs.
CH 321	The Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs.	PT 111	Intro to Pastoral Theology & Ministry	2 hrs.
NT 101	NT Introduction I	2 hrs.	PT 333	Practices of Leadership in the Local Church	2 hrs.
NT 103	NT Introduction II	1 hr.	PT 343	Theology of Evangelism and Missions	2 hrs.
NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs.	PT 352	Evangelism & Missions in the Local Church	2 hrs.

NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs.	ST 101	Introduction to Systematic Theology	2 hrs.
NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs.	ST 113	Doctrine of God	2 hrs.
NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs.	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs.
OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs.	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs.
OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs.	ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs.
OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs.	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs.
OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs.	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs.
					Total 79 hrs.

## MDiv Emphasis Courses and Electives

The remaining credit hours (13 hrs.) are determined according to emphasis, as follows:

### Pastoral Ministry

PT 121	Theology and Practice of Preaching	2 hrs.
PT 221	Expository Preaching from the New Testament	2 hrs.
PT 231	Expository Preaching from the Old Testament	2 hrs.
PT 311	Foundations for Leadership in the Local Church	2 hrs.
PT 353	Exposition and Sermon Delivery in Pastoral Ministry	2 hrs.
Electives	Courses from any department (AP, CH, NT, OT, PT, or ST)	3 hrs.

### General Ministries

PT 123	Gospel Communication	2 hrs.
Electives	Remaining elective credits can be from courses in any department (AP, CH, NT, OT, PT or ST)	11 hrs.

### Counseling

PT 123	Gospel Communication	2 hrs.
PTC 151	Dynamics of Biblical Change	3 hrs.
PTC 178	Helping Relationships	3 hrs.
PTC 222	Counseling and Physiology	3 hrs.
PTC 251	Marriage Counseling	3 hrs.
PTC 372	Counseling Observation	3 hrs.
Electives	6 of the 8 elective credits must be from PC/PTC courses	8 hrs.

**Note:** Westminster is no longer taking applications to the 'MDiv Counseling' emphasis. MDiv students wishing to deepen their knowledge of biblical counseling are encouraged to consider applying to receive the MAC in addition to the MDiv, as shared credit may be possible between the two degrees.

**To complete an MDiv after receiving an MAR:** Students who already possess a Westminster MAR degree may receive an MDiv by completing the following:

1. All of the course requirements for the MDiv (many of which will have been met in the MAR program);
2. MDiv Mentored Ministry requirements;
3. A total of at least 120 semester hours of academic work at the MAR/MDiv level, not including Hebrew and Greek; or a total of at least 139 semester hours of academic work at the MAR/MDiv level, including Hebrew and Greek.

### **MDiv Program Length and Time Limit**

MDiv students pursuing full-time study and matriculating in the summer or fall should choose the three-year or four-year plan, using the recommended course schedule for their emphasis. Students matriculating in the winter or spring should use the 3.5-year plan. The recommended course schedules indicate the order in which students should take required courses and the course load in a given semester/term. The course load varies from 15 to 17 credit hours per semester in the three-year plan, and from 12 to 14 credits hours per semester in the four-year plan. If a student chooses a language track/sequence other than that specified in the recommended course schedule, the student may drop below full-time status in one or more semesters.

It will take a minimum of three years of full-time study to complete the degree if no credits are transferred from another institution and no advanced placement in either Greek or Hebrew is awarded. Normally, students follow the four year plan of full-time study to complete the degree in order that they may take Greek and Hebrew in different years. The four-year plan is also recommended to balance course load with work, family, and church obligations. International students should always allow four years to complete an MDiv, due to Greek, Hebrew, and Advanced Theological Writing requirements.

Students who are taking courses on a part-time basis due to employment or other reasons should adjust their coursework plans and extend their program length accordingly using as a guide the four-year plan recommended course schedule for their emphasis. The Academic Affairs Office and Dean of Students are available for counsel concerning individual student needs. Students pursuing full-time study should consult Academic Affairs before deviating from a plan's recommended course schedule for their emphasis.

**Time Limit:** The maximum time limit to complete the MDiv degree is ten years (including any leave of absence or withdrawal period). Petitions for an extension due to extenuating circumstances or hardship must be granted by the Faculty Academic Affairs Committee.

## **Master of Arts (Religion) Degree Program**

A student who holds a baccalaureate degree from an approved institution receives the degree of Master of Arts (Religion), or MAR, on the completion of the prescribed program of study.

This program is designed for men and women who desire a theological background and training for various callings other than gospel ministry, including advanced study in religion or other disciplines. The MAR is an academic program which may serve either as a terminal degree or as a degree leading to further academic work. In the former case, it is especially appropriate for Christian professionals in any field who desire a solid biblical foundation for the work in which they are or will be engaged.

If the MAR is intended to be a terminal degree, the choice of emphasis will depend upon the student's aptitudes, interests, and career direction. Students who desire thorough and extensive familiarity with the biblical texts themselves should choose the Biblical Studies emphasis. Those whose interests and concerns

are with overall theological or historical perspectives would probably be better served with a Theological Studies emphasis. A General Studies emphasis allows for additional customization to thereby make the degree directly relevant to a student's own situation.

All MAR students regardless of emphasis receive thorough grounding in the Scriptures, Reformed theology, church history, and apologetics. Graduates of the program, therefore, possess tools for bringing the lordship of Christ to bear directly upon that part of God's world in which they are called to serve.

Beginning in the 2020-2021 academic year, the MAR degree will be offered both on our Philadelphia campus and online.

## MAR Student Learning Goals

Upon graduation, the student will:

1. Exhibit a deep love for the triune God, his word, his truth, and his church; and a Christ-like humility in relation to others.
2. Understand and articulate in writing a foundational knowledge of theological disciplines, including the Scriptures, Reformed theology, church history and apologetics.
3. Understand and articulate in writing a more focused knowledge of the student's area of emphasis as preparation for advanced academic work.
4. Understand and articulate the system of doctrine contained in the Westminster Standards and its importance for biblical and systematic theology, and integrate this doctrine into life and ministry.
5. Be able to exegete the text of Scripture as given in the original languages.

## MAR Degree Requirements

A total of at least 55 credit hours, including the Summative Evaluation, plus Hebrew and Greek language requirements, is required for the MAR degree. Courses are to be selected from the three categories below.

### Core Courses

All emphases require the following courses:

AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs
CH 321	The Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs
NT 101	General Introduction to the New Testament I	2 hrs	ST 101	Introduction to Systematic Theology	2 hrs
NT 103	General Introduction to the New Testament II	1 hr	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
SUM EVAL	Summative Evaluation	1 hr			

**Total: 24 hrs**

### Emphasis Courses

Specific requirements are based on degree emphasis.

#### Biblical Studies

NT 211	Gospels	4 hrs	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs
NT 223	Acts and Paul	4 hrs	OT 311	Prophetic Books	3 hrs

NT 311 Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs	OT 323 Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
OT 113 Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs		
<b>Total: 21 hrs</b>			

Department courses (see below): Choose one course from each of the following departments: Church History and Systematic Theology & Apologetics.

Elective courses: Choose any course(s) offered in the MAR or MDiv programs, except where limitations are noted in the course descriptions.

Total department + elective courses: 10 hrs.

### Theological Studies

AP 213 Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	ST 113 Doctrine of God	2 hrs
CH 211 Ancient Church	2 hrs	ST 211 Doctrine of Man	2 hrs
CH 223 Medieval Church	2 hrs	ST 223 Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs
CH 311 Reformation	3 hrs	ST 343 Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs

**Total: 19 hrs**

Department courses (see below): Choose one course from each of the following departments: Old Testament and New Testament.

Elective courses: Choose any course(s) offered in the MAR or MDiv programs, except where limitations are noted in the course descriptions.

Total department + elective courses: 12 hrs.

### General Studies

No emphasis courses are required.

Department courses (see below): Choose one course from each of the following departments: Church History, New Testament, Old Testament, and Systematic Theology & Apologetics.

Elective courses: Choose any course(s) offered in the MAR or MDiv programs, except where limitations are noted in the course descriptions.

Total department + elective courses: 31 hrs.

## Department Courses

### Church History

CH 211 Ancient Church	2 hrs
CH 223 Medieval Church	2 hrs
CH 311 The Reformation	3 hrs

### New Testament

NT 211 The Gospels	4 hrs
NT 223 Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs

### Old Testament

OT 113 Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs
OT 223 OT History and Theology II	3 hrs

### Systematic Theology & Apologetics

AP 213 Christian Apologetics	3 hrs
ST 113 Doctrine of God	2 hrs

OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs
OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs
			ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs
			ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs

## MAR Summative Evaluation

To provide students in the various MAR programs with an opportunity to review and draw the material of the curriculum's different courses into a comprehensive unity, there will be a concluding examination in the spring semester of the student's final year, which allows for a summative evaluation of the student's total program. Students finishing their coursework by the end of December or January in the year of the student's graduation will take the exam in the fall semester. Exam dates are posted in the Academic Calendar.

The examination consists of three questions. For the Biblical Studies emphasis, there will be one in Old Testament, one in New Testament, and one in hermeneutics. For the Theological Studies emphasis, there will be one in systematic theology, one in apologetics, and one in church history. For MAR General Studies, there will be a choice of any three from the six topics above. This is an "open book", take-home examination to be completed within a 32-hour period.

Students must register for the MAR Summative Evaluation during the normal registration period. The examination will count for one semester hour of credit. It will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Research will not be necessary for answering these questions. Rather, the questions will be designed to allow the student to draw upon their Westminster coursework. The examination is administered on [Canvas](#) through the Academic Affairs Office.

If a student fails the exam, a petition for a retake examination within a three-week period may be considered. Students who fail two or more courses in their final semester will be required to repeat the MAR Summative Evaluation during the semester in which courses are retaken.

## MAR Program Length and Time Limit

The MAR degree is designed as a two-year or three-year program. It will take a minimum of two years of full-time study to complete the degree if no credits are transferred from another institution and no advanced placement in either Greek or Hebrew is awarded. The two-year plan course load varies from 12 to 17 credit hours per semester. The three-year plan course load varies from 10 to 14 credit hours per semester. During the first academic year, when the student is taking language courses, the number of credits can vary depending upon the language track/sequence the student chooses. In order to take Greek and Hebrew in different years, students should take three years to complete the degree.

MAR students should use the recommended course schedules in Chapter 9 as a guide for building their academic plan. The Academic Affairs Office and Dean of Students are also available for counsel. Students pursuing full-time study should consult Academic Affairs before deviating from the plan's recommended course schedules for their emphasis.

International students should always allow three years to complete a MAR due to Greek, Hebrew, and Advanced Theological Writing requirements.

**Time Limit:** The maximum time limit to complete the MAR degree is 10 years (including any leave of absence or withdrawal period). Petitions for an extension due to extenuating circumstances or hardship must be granted by the Faculty Academic Affairs Committee.

## Master of Arts in Counseling Degree Program

The Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) is a fully online degree program designed to give a rich foundation in theology and counseling. It is not intended to prepare students either for ordination or for licensure, but to prepare men and women for ministry within the body of Christ, whether in lay vocational ministry or as supplementary to their work and life.

Westminster graduates have established themselves successfully in a wide range of occupations that do not require a professional licensure. With a Westminster counseling degree, graduates have pursued occupations in various fields such as campus ministry, adoption agencies, missions, church staff, counseling centers, youth work, human services, and educational institutions. Numerous Westminster graduates have also used their counseling training to enhance prior medical or nursing training for service in various missions and ministries.

Building on a basic foundation in the disciplines of biblical studies, theology, church history, and apologetics, this program provides comprehensive instruction and active involvement in the specific area of biblical counseling.

A student who holds a baccalaureate degree from an approved institution receives the degree of Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) on the completion of the prescribed program of study. The program requires at least two years of full-time study for completion.

### MAC Student Learning Goals

Upon graduation the student will:

1. Exhibit a deep love for the triune God, his word, his truth, and his church; and a Christ-like humility in relation with others.
2. Demonstrate basic knowledge in Scripture, Reformed theology, biblical theology, church history and apologetics.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the broad context of counseling and apply God's eternal word to a changing world in a counseling context.
4. Demonstrate skill in the practice of biblical counseling.

### State Licensure

Westminster is unable to provide administrative support to students seeking to satisfy licensure requirements in their state. The degree is not intended to prepare for licensure but rather to prepare for counseling activity in a church or religious setting.

### MAC Degree Requirements

A total of 60 credit hours is required for the MAC degree.

### MAC Core Courses

All MAC students must complete the following core courses:

AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	PTC 178	Helping Relationships	3 hrs
BT 101	Bible Survey	3 hrs	PTC 222	Counseling & Physiology	3 hrs
BT 173	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3 hrs	PTC 243	Theology & Secular Psychology	3 hrs



CH 141 or 151	History of Christianity I or II	3 hrs	PTC 251	Marriage Counseling	3 hrs
NT 143	New Testament Theology for Application	3 hrs	PTC 261	Human Personality	3 hrs
OT 141	Old Testament Theology for Application	3 hrs	PTC 303	Counseling Problems & Procedures	3 hrs
ST 611	Union with Christ	3 hrs	PTC 358	Counseling Children & Adolescents	3 hrs
PTC 151	Dynamics of Biblical Change	3 hrs	PTC 372a	Counseling Observation	3 hrs
			PTC 523	Counseling in the Local Church	3 hrs

**Total:** 51 hrs.

### MAC Counseling Electives

MAC students are required to take 2 Counseling electives, totalling 6 hours. The following are courses offered as electives in the program:

PTC 372b	Counseling Observation	3 hrs	PTC 674	Case Study Seminar	3 hrs
PTC 533	Counseling Abusive Marriages	3 hrs			

**Total:** 6 hrs.

### MAC Theology Electives

MAC students are required to take 1 theology elective, totalling 3 hours. The following are courses offered as electives options in the program:

AP 562	Christianity and Culture	3 hrs	ST 101	Introduction to Systematic Theology	3 hrs
AP 671	Science and Faith	3 hrs	ST 113	Doctrine of God	3 hrs
OT 641	Biblical Theology of Worship	3 hrs			

**Total:** 3 hrs.

### MAC Applied Ministry Program (AMP)

[The Applied Ministry Program \(AMP\)](#) is a program for practical application of the MAC degree. AMP requires students to partner with someone in their ministry context for 100 hours of practical ministry in order to receive encouragement and constructive feedback while tracking progress.

AMP is divided into two phases – the Planning Phase and the Evaluation Phase. In the Planning Phase students will choose specific areas of personal and ministerial growth in which the student and their ministry partner will focus constructive conversations. During the Evaluation Phase, ongoing feedback conversations with their partner will consider how and where growth has occurred. Please contact the Online Learning team for more details at [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu).

### MAC Program Length and Time Limit

The MAC degree is a 60 credit hour, 20 course program of coursework with a 100 hours field experience through the Applied Ministry Program. Students pursuing full-time study can complete the degree in as

few as 2 years. The course load varies from 6 to 9 credits per term. Part-time students should expect to complete the degree in a minimum of three years. The maximum time limit to complete the MAC degree is 10 years, including any leave of absence or withdrawal period.

Any MAC student who matriculated prior to Fall 2017 is held to the previous residential standards and have until 2021 to complete the degree under their entering Catalog year. If a student is unable to do so, they may be held to the online standards for graduation or offered an extension, granted based on extenuating circumstances or hardship by the Faculty Academic Affairs Committee.

## **Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Degree Program**

The Master of Arts (Theological Studies), or MATS, is designed to serve Christians around the globe in nonprofessional ministry settings who are looking for further education in their faith that can inform their lay ministry in the local church, at home, or in the workforce.

The MATS is offered fully online and is designed for Christians who are leaders within and outside of the church who want an introduction to the core aspects of their Christian faith and its relevance to their life and work. Those considering pastoral ordination should consider Westminster's MDiv degree.

### **MATS Student Learning Goals**

Upon graduation the student will:

1. Exhibit a deep love for the triune God, his word, his truth, and his church; and a Christ-like humility in relation with others.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the truths of the gospel and how they are based upon the Word of God, exhibited in the manifestation of a love for the triune God and a love of neighbor.
3. Apply the eternal truths of Scripture concerning God, salvation, Scripture, and man to a changing world and the various cultural and ministry contexts in which they serve.
4. Know, value, and articulate a Reformed perspective of biblical theology, systematic theology, church history, and apologetics as well as their importance for matters of life and ministry.

### **MATS Degree Requirements**

A total of 36 credit hours is required for the MATS degree. In addition to coursework, students will complete a Summative Evaluation.

### **MATS Program Length and Time Limit**

The MATS program is a fully online, 36 credit hour degree with a total of 12 courses and a Summative Evaluation. Students completing the full-time degree could finish between one and two academic years. Part-time students could complete in a total of 3 years. The maximum time limit to complete the MATS degree is 10 years from initial matriculation term, including any withdrawal or leave of absence period.

## MATS Core Courses

All MATS students must complete the following core courses:

AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	NT 143	New Testament Theology for Application	3 hrs
CH 141/151	History of Christianity I or II	3 hrs	OT 141	Old Testament Theology for Application	3 hrs
BT 101	Bible Survey	3 hrs	ST 101	Introduction to Systematic Theology	3 hrs
BT 173	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3 hrs	ST 113	Doctrine of God	3 hrs
			ST 611	Union with Christ	3 hrs

## MATS Elective Courses

MATS students are required to take 3 elective courses, totalling 9 hours.

AP 562	Christianity and Culture	3 hrs	PTC 151	Dynamics of Biblical Change	3 hrs
AP 671	Science and Faith	3 hrs	PTC 243	Theology & Secular Psychology	3 hrs
OT 641	Biblical Theology of Worship	3 hrs	PTC 178	Helping Relationships	3 hrs

**Total:** 9 hrs.

## MATS Summative Evaluation

To provide students in the MATS program with an opportunity to review and integrate the material of the curriculum's different courses into a comprehensive unity, there will be a concluding Summative Evaluation in the term prior to the student's anticipated graduation term, which allows for an evaluation of the student's total program.

A student can choose between one of three options for their Summative Evaluation: a comprehensive exam, an integrative thesis, or a capstone project. Each option requires careful study and thought to synthesize and articulate the content students learned throughout the degree program. More information about the MATS Summative Evaluation can be found in the [Online Academic Catalog](#).

## Master of Theology Degree Program

A student who holds a baccalaureate degree and the MDiv degree or first graduate theological degree providing equivalent theological background—or its educational equivalent from approved institutions—receives the degree of Master of Theology (ThM) on the completion of the prescribed program of study.

To satisfy the biblical languages requirement for the ThM program, the applicant must have the equivalent of the Greek and Hebrew requirements for the MDiv or MAR programs at Westminster prior to admission.

The purpose of the ThM is to increase the student's knowledge of a major field of theological learning, particularly through training and practice in the use of the methods and tools of theological research, and thus to further his preparation for pastoral ministry, teaching ministry, or for more advanced graduate study.

## ThM Student Learning Goals

Upon graduation, the student will:

1. Demonstrate a breadth of knowledge in the student's chosen field of study and cognate fields.
2. Demonstrate the ability to produce a scholarly work that makes an original contribution to the student's chosen discipline.
3. Demonstrate further preparation for pastoral ministry, teaching ministry, or more advanced graduate study.
4. Demonstrate, in addition to Greek and Hebrew, a working knowledge of one language for scholarly research.

## ThM Degree Requirements

### ThM Fields

The ThM degree is offered in two concentrations: Biblical Studies and Historical and Theological Studies. Each candidate is assigned an academic advisor by their corresponding field committee. The Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation Field Committee supervises the work of the candidates in the Biblical Studies field. The Historical and Theological Studies Field Committee supervises the work of the candidates in the Historical and Theological Studies field.

### ThM Courses

Students must complete six courses as a baseline requirement for either field in the ThM. At least three of these courses must be in the candidate's concentration. The candidate may choose the remaining courses from among any of the ThM/PhD courses. Up to two of the six courses may be taken as directed readings or independent studies. However, a maximum of three non-classroom courses (such as directed reading, independent studies, and approved transfer credit from other institutions) is allowed.

For transfer credit limits, see Chapter 6.

In addition to the six required courses, each candidate must complete PT 421P Theological Bibliography & Research Methods. Candidates must take this course (on a pass/fail, non-credit basis and without tuition charge) within one year of matriculation.

### ThM Languages

#### ThM Greek and Hebrew Competency

While knowledge of the original languages of Scripture is required of all ThM students, admitted ThM students in the Biblical Studies field must demonstrate knowledge of grammar and reading proficiency in Hebrew and Greek at an advanced MDiv level prior to matriculation. Such expertise will be demonstrated by means of a competency exam. Failure to demonstrate competence on the required examination will result in remedial language study and evaluation which must be completed during the first fall or spring semester of enrollment.

For language exam deadlines for modular ThM students, see the Modular ThM section.

The competency exams are similar to the placement exams described under the MDiv, MAR and Certificate General Requirements, except that they test translation in significantly greater depth than the MDiv/MAR placement exams. For further information, please visit the [Greek and Hebrew Languages page](#) in the Seminary's information center.

### **ThM Research Language Exam**

The candidate must demonstrate a working knowledge of one language for research. Students in the biblical studies field should know either French or German. Students in historical and theological studies should know French, German, Dutch, or ecclesiastical Latin. If another language is of particular value for the candidate's studies, the field committee, upon request, may approve its substitution. An examination in the language chosen must be sustained prior to completion of the comprehensive exam.

### **ThM Capstone**

The ThM capstone is the culminating requirement of the ThM. Typically for historical and theological studies students, the capstone is a thesis, and, for biblical studies students, the capstone is two courses with major research papers.

### **Thesis Capstone**

The master's thesis addresses an approved subject within the candidate's concentration. Approval of the thesis proposal by the academic advisor and/or the field committee should be obtained within the semester after coursework is completed. Upon approval of the thesis proposal, the field committee will appoint a faculty member to share with the academic advisor the responsibility of reading and approving the thesis.

The thesis receives a letter grade and accounts for the final ten credit hours of the ThM degree. A high standard of scholarly research and writing is expected and the thesis must earn a grade of 'C' to pass. The word limit for the thesis is 50,000 words (excluding bibliography). The thesis must also conform to the format and bibliographic style requirements in the *Format Guidelines for WTS Theses, Dissertations and Projects*, which is available at the Center for Theological Writing and [online](#). Students are also required to complete the [Format Guidelines Check-in form](#) online prior to submission. Three copies of the completed thesis must be submitted to the Academic Affairs Office by March 1 for graduation in the following May. Full-time students who begin studies in the spring semester should submit their thesis by October 1 of their final year. The corresponding thesis fee must be paid prior to submission (see Chapter 11).

The field committee approves theses by May 1 (December 1 for fall submissions). If approved, some minor corrections may be required. The student must submit two copies of the approved thesis in final form to the Academic Affairs Office by May 15 (December 15 for fall submissions).

### **Two-Course Capstone**

A "capstone course" is defined as any course within the student's concentration that culminates with a major research paper. After completing three courses, the biblical studies student may begin his or her capstone coursework. The requirement is comprised of two capstone courses. Hence, including the baseline coursework requirement, the total minimum number of courses for a biblical studies ThM student will be eight.

Capstone courses may include any course within the student's concentration, including independent studies, even if the student has already taken the maximum two independent studies as part of the baseline ThM course requirement. The major research paper substitutes for the normal course paper and should be 30-35 pages in length. The paper will count toward the grade for the capstone course and will appear with a corresponding pass/fail grade on a student's transcript.

Students must secure approval from the instructor of the course to make a course a capstone with a major research paper. Any student wishing to complete a capstone course which is not within the student's concentration will need to seek approval from his or her advisor as well as the instructor of the course. Deadline to submit this approval to Academic Support is the add/drop deadline.

## ThM Comprehensive Examination

An oral comprehensive examination is administered after submission of the thesis or, for students completing the two-course capstone, within a student's final term. The comprehensive examination must be sustained at least two weeks before the student's graduation.

It shall be conducted by members of the student's field committee under the direction of the student's advisor. All current faculty members shall have the opportunity of taking part. To be sustained, the oral examination must be approved by a majority of the faculty members present.

## ThM Program Timeline

The minimum length of time to complete the ThM program is one academic year of full-time study. Normally, however, full-time students will either complete their program in three semesters (with the two-course capstone) or four semesters (with the thesis capstone). Half-time students in biblical studies take two courses per semester (or at least one capstone course) and complete the program in two-and-a-half years. Half-time students in historical and theological studies may take six years. Students progressing part-time, however, may take up to six years to complete the program.

	Biblical	Historical/Theological
Full-time	1.5 years	2 years
Half-time	2.5 years	6 years
Other	Up to 6 years	

Each ThM student who is writing a thesis and who has completed all coursework must indicate continuation in the program by registering for each succeeding academic year (fall through spring semesters). If the last course is completed in the fall semester, the candidate must indicate continuation in the program by registering for the following spring semester. For thesis fee payment, see Chapter 11.

ThM biblical studies students taking the minimum of one course per semester will complete the program in four years. The biblical studies student will be withdrawn (or approved for a leave of absence) during any semester in which no coursework is taken.

## Schedule of Requirements:

Year	Requirement	Deadline Description
-	Greek & Hebrew Competency Exams (Biblical Studies only)	Due prior to matriculation (modular students, prior to second module).
Year 1	PT 421 - Theological Bibliography	Due prior to year two
Year 2-4	Thesis proposal (hist/theo only)	Due in the term directly succeeding the term in which coursework is completed
Year 2-6	Research language exam	Due prior to comprehensive exam
	Comprehensive Exam	Due in the student's final term
	Thesis submission (hist/theo only)	Due in the student's final term (March 1st)

## ThM Sample Full-time Schedules

The following sample schedules depict both a typical fall and spring start for full-time students, completing program requirements in three or four semesters.

### Thesis Capstone - 2 years (fall start)

Year 1	credits	Year 2	credits
Fall		Fall	
3 courses	9	Thesis Proposal	-
PT 421 - Theo Bibliography	-	Research language exam	-
Spring		Spring	
3 courses	9	Thesis	10
		Comprehensive exam	1

### Thesis Capstone - 2 years (spring start)

Year 1	credits	Year 2	credits	Year 3
Fall		Fall		Fall
-	-	3 courses	9	Thesis submission
		Research language exam	-	Comprehensive exam
Spring		Spring		Spring
3 courses	9	Thesis Proposal	-	Graduation*
PT 421 - Theo Bibliography	-			

\*Students matriculating in the spring will have a one-semester gap between the completion of their program requirements and conferral of their degree.

**Two-Course Capstone - 1.5 years (fall start)**

Summer: Greek/Hebrew Competency Exam

Year 1	credits	Year 2	credits
Fall		Fall	
3 courses	9	1 course	3
PT 421 - Theo Bibliography	-	1 capstone course	5
		Research language exam	-
		Comprehensive exam	1
Spring		Spring	
2 courses	6	Graduation*	-
1 capstone course	5		

\*Students matriculating in the fall will have a one-semester gap between the completion of their program requirements and conferral of their degree.

**Two-Course Capstone - 2 years\* (fall start)**

Summer: Greek/Hebrew Competency Exam

Year 1	credits	Year 2	credits
Fall		Fall	
3 courses	9	2 capstone courses	10
PT 421 - Theo Bibliography		Research language exam	
Spring		Spring*	
3 courses	9	Comprehensive exam	1

\*The enrollment status in the Two-Course Capstone 2 year schedule is less than half time (LTHT) in the second (graduating) spring semester.



**Two-Course Capstone - 1.5 years (spring start)**

Summer: Greek/Hebrew Competency Exam

Year 1	credits	Year 2	credits
Fall		Fall	
-	-	3 courses	9
		Research language exam	-
Spring		Spring	
3 courses	9	2 capstone courses	10
PT 421 - Theo Bibliography	-	Comprehensive exam	1

**ThM Sample Half-time Schedules****Thesis Capstone - 3 years**

Year 1	credits	Year 2	credits	Year 3	credits
Fall		Fall		Fall	
2 courses	6	2 courses	6	Thesis Research	-
PT 421P	-				
Spring		Spring		Spring	
2 courses	6	Thesis Proposal Research Language exam	-	Thesis	10
				Comprehensive exam	1

**Two-Course Capstone - 2.5 years**

Summer: Greek/Hebrew Competency Exam

Year 1	credits	Year 2	credits	Year 3	credits
Fall		Fall		Fall	
2 courses	6	2 courses	6	1 capstone course	5
PT 421P	-			Research Language exam	-
				Comprehensive exam	1
Spring		Spring		Spring	
2 courses	6	1 capstone course	5	Graduation	

## ThM Program Time Limit

International students on an F1 or J1 visa must be full-time every semester and complete all ThM requirements in two years (four semesters) or less. For all other students, the time limit to complete all ThM program requirements is six years from fall matriculation including any leave of absence or withdrawal period. For a comparison of the number of semesters required to complete the degree based on enrollment status, please refer to the ThM program timeline above. If the student has transferred from the PhD program, the amount of time in the PhD program will be included in determining the length of time the student has been working toward completing the ThM. Students are responsible to report to Academic Affairs when program requirements have been completed.

Students who do not expect to graduate within the program time limit must petition for one program extension by submitting an extension request ([online form](#)) to Academic Affairs, which will bring the petition before the student's advisor and field committee for review. The proposed deadline for this single extension is agreed upon in conversation between the student, his or her advisor and the field committee chair. For International students on F1 or J1 visa, the International Student Advisor will provide initial review of the petition for approval of a program extension and the extension is limited to one year only. If the student is unable to graduate by the extended deadline, he or she is notified of their withdrawal from the program. In extreme circumstances, exceptions can be made for one additional extension at the approval of the field committee and, in the case of international students, the International Student Advisor. After this deadline, the student will be administratively withdrawn, without opportunity for re-entry. The deadline for students to submit their extension petition is the Add/Drop deadline in the spring semester (mid-February) prior to their originally anticipated graduation year.

The ThM degree shall be granted only to persons enrolled at Westminster at the time of the completion of their degree requirements.

## London ThM Program

*Westminster is no longer accepting applications for the London ThM program.*

The general regulations governing the Philadelphia ThM degree program apply to the London-based ThM program in Historical Theology at the [Pastors' Academy](#) at London Seminary. This program is overseen in consultation with both the Historical and Theological Field Committee and the Director of the Pastors' Academy. Students should contact the [Academic Affairs Office](#) with any questions about the completion of their degree.

## Doctor of Ministry Degree Program

The Doctor of Ministry (DMin) is an advanced, professional degree program designed for those engaged in the full-time practice of ministry. It is the highest professional degree offered by Westminster. It differs from a PhD degree in that its focus is on competence in the practice of ministry rather than on advanced academic research. In this sense, it is better compared to other professional doctorates, such as those awarded in medicine (MD) or law (JD). Therefore, the purpose of the DMin program is to develop reflective practitioners in ministry who will grow not only in ministry comprehension and competence but also in character and conviction. Because it is a doctoral degree program, the student is expected to pursue a high standard of expertise in ministry reflection and practice.

While the DMin is built upon the biblical, theological, and professional foundations of the MDiv degree, the student benefits from the integration of the rich practical experiences gained from years of prior ministry. Thus a prerequisite for admission is at least three years in full-time pastoral ministry or Christian service along with the requisite MDiv. Application of theory and methodology must be evident in the applicant's history of professional ministry.

The DMin is one degree with four concentrations based upon the interests and ministry goals of each student. The student chooses a concentration in Preaching, Leadership, Pastoral Care and Counseling, or Evangelism and Missions. Our Korean DMin program offers a Pastoral Ministry concentration.

### **Preaching Concentration**

The purpose of the Preaching Concentration is twofold:

The concentration seeks primarily to make good preachers better. This is achieved through intensive evaluation and peer review of the student's preaching and expository skills. Coursework in the concentration reinforces and develops these skills through a foundational exploration of biblical exposition through extensive reading, as well as specialist courses in various aspects of biblical genre, including narrative, wisdom and poetry, apocalyptic, parable, and epistles. The student will also craft a personal philosophy and practicum for expository preaching.

The concentration also thereby seeks to enable the student to make a significant scholarly contribution to the field of homiletics through an applied research project. The program culminates in the completion of this project, through which the student is expected to demonstrate mastery in a particular area in the field of homiletics.

### **Leadership Concentration**

The purpose of the Leadership Concentration is twofold:

First, it aims to enhance the competencies, character, and convictions of those who have been entrusted with leadership in Christ's church. This is accomplished through rigorous studies in the theory and practice of leadership both in coursework and through the DMin project.

Second, this concentration aims to enable the student to make a genuine scholarly contribution to the field of pastoral leadership through a DMin project. The project is intended to build upon and sharpen the student's practice of leadership by drawing upon historical and biblical-theological research. The student is expected to demonstrate mastery of the field in both theory and practice in such a way that other church leaders can benefit from the student's work.

### **Pastoral Care and Counseling Concentration**

The purpose of the Pastoral Care & Counseling Concentration is twofold:

First, to restore, equip and enhance Christ's call for pastors to be true "physicians of souls" by applying the riches of the whole counsel of God to the care of souls within the context of the local church. Unabashedly biblical and deeply appreciative of our Reformed theological tradition, our aim is training pastors for a high degree of reflection on and competence in their duties of pastoral care and counseling that they may in turn train and equip the saints in the local church for mutual care. Underlying these performances must be the foundational abilities to examine one's self and ministry, to discern and critique cultural patterns of ministry detrimental to the care of souls, as well as to restore and construct a more faithful and biblically wise pastoral care in service to Christ our Lord.

Second, the concentration aims to enable the student to make a contribution to the field of pastoral counseling through a DMin project. The project is the student's actual counseling done in an unexplored, skill-enhancing, or problematic area of counseling ministry. The project must rest upon a biblical base, take into account any previous work done in the particular area of research, define in repeatable steps the course of the project, and evaluate its conformity to biblical principles and effectiveness in reaching its goals.

## **Evangelism and Missions Concentration**

The purpose of the Evangelism and Missions Concentration is twofold:

First, it aims to further develop and enrich both the biblical-theological framework and practical skills of pastors and other practitioners in evangelism and missions. This is accomplished through rigorous studies, biblically, theologically, and historically, in evangelism and missions from a reformed perspective, as well as related disciplines such as apologetics, with an emphasis on the practical application of these disciplines and the ability to equip and encourage the broader church in these labors.

Second, this concentration aims to enable the student to make a genuine scholarly contribution to the field of evangelism and missions through the DMin project. The project is intended to build upon and sharpen the student's practice of evangelism and missions by drawing upon biblical-theological and historical research. The student is expected to demonstrate mastery of the field in both theory and practice in such a way that other church leaders and practitioners can benefit from the student's work.

## **Pastoral Ministry Concentration in Korean**

The purpose of the Pastoral Ministry Concentration in Korean (KDMin) is twofold:

First, the concentration aims to strengthen Korean-speaking pastors' preaching and expository skills. For this, half of the courses in the program delve into the rich tradition of Reformed homiletics based on Westminster's biblical and systematic theology as they explore various aspects of biblical genres. Students will also craft a personal philosophy and practicum for expository preaching. Also, the concentration seeks to sharpen shepherding skills and competencies in ministry. For this, the second half of the coursework in this concentration seeks to enable students to take biblical truths and apply them to specific ministry areas, such as conflict resolution and pastoral counseling.

Second, the concentration strives to enable the students to make a significant contribution to the field of pastoral ministry or homiletics through an Applied Research Project. The program culminates in the completion of this project, through which the student is expected to demonstrate mastery in a particular area of pastoral ministry and theology. This work is accomplished in the student's Korean-speaking ministry context. Identifying a problem, challenge or question, proposing and applying a ministry model, and evaluating this model are essential aspects of the project. This work must be built upon a biblical foundation, taking into account both historical precedents and contemporary influences on the area in view.

## **DMin Student Learning Goals**

Upon graduation, the student will:

1. Exhibit a deep love for the Triune God, his word, his truth, and his church; and a Christ-like humility in relation with others.
2. Demonstrate the ability to be a reflective practitioner in ministry through interrelating theory and practice.
3. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the integration of ministry with the various theological disciplines.
4. Have made a contribution to the understanding and practice of ministry through the completion of a doctoral-level project.

## **DMin International Students**

DMin students will not be able to obtain a full-time student visa through this program since the Doctor of Ministry does not require full-time residency and is intended to be a part-time program concurrent with a student's ongoing ministry. For KDMin students, an F-1 visa must be obtained after admission in order to attend residential modular courses.

## **DMin Non-Native English Speakers**

The policies pertaining to all non-native English speakers are the same for all degree concentrations, except for the KDMin. (See Chapter 5.)

## **DMin Registration**

Students can view details about the DMin program, course offerings, and scheduling in the [info center](#).

Registration opens late March/early April for summer modules and mid-November for January modules. Students are encouraged to register as early as possible to ensure that all pre-module assignments are completed by the first day of the module. Students must register for DMin modules no later than three weeks prior to the start of the first DMin module. After the registration deadline, late registrations must be approved by the DMin program director. Registration deadlines are stated in the Academic Calendar. No student in the DMin program is permitted to register after the first day of the module.

## **DMin Drops, Withdrawals and Related Issues**

All requests to drop or withdraw from a module, withdraw from the program, or any other request that may affect a student's academic record or enrollment status must be communicated in writing either to the Academic Affairs Office or to the DMin Director of Programming for consideration of approval. If Academic Affairs does not receive written communication, that request will not be recognized by the administration. Written communication may be in the form of email, fax, or letter.

## **DMin Incomplete Requests (Assignment Extensions)**

If extenuating (unusual and unavoidable) circumstances prohibit students from submitting post-modular assignments by the deadline, a grade of incomplete may be requested.

**Extension Requests:** In order to request an extension for modular coursework, the student must submit a written petition to the DMin Director of Programming. The petition must include the extenuating circumstances which the student believes warrant an incomplete and written approval from the professor. Approvals emailed by the professor to the DMin Director of Programming are acceptable. If approved, the Academic Affairs office will then assign the student an interim grade of "I" and a new deadline (up to 4 weeks maximum from the original deadline) to submit all post-modular assignment work. At the professor's discretion the grade will or will not be reduced. The final grade assigned by the professor will replace the "I" grade on the student's transcript. If the assignment is not submitted by the new deadline, the student will receive a failing grade for that module. If the request for an incomplete is not granted, Academic Affairs will automatically assign a grade of "W" (withdrawn) for the module.

Extension requests must be submitted no later than one week prior to the modular coursework submission deadline of October 15th (for June KDMin modules), November 15th (for July and August modules and PRK1), or April 15 (for January modules). For ThM modules approved for DMin credit, the extension requests must be submitted no later than seven weeks after the last day of the term in which the module is offered.

If the petition is denied and work is not submitted by the post-modular coursework submission deadline, a failing grade for that module will be assigned.

# DMin Degree Requirements

## DMin Course Work

DMin modules are designed to accommodate the schedules of active practitioners in ministry and Christian service. Eight modular courses are required for the DMin degree. Therefore, the program requires no more than eight weeks of residence in total.

Each module contains the following elements: theoretical issues, skills, and practicum. Students will typically be required to complete an assignment **before** attending the module, as well as **after** the module. Post-modular work must be uploaded electronically to [Canvas](#) by the following deadlines:

- DMin Modules offered in July/August term: November 15
- DMin Modules offered in Winter term: April 15
- ThM Modules approved for DMin credit: Eight weeks following the last day of the term in which the course is offered. (Dates are listed in the academic calendar.)

No credit will be given until all assignments are completed successfully. All work will be graded by the course instructor.

The student must successfully complete eight modules including the following:

### Three Core Modules:

- Core 1: Biblical Theology for the Practice of Ministry
- Core 2: The Westminster Assembly and Pastoral Ministry
- Core 3: Covenantal Apologetics for the Practice of Ministry

Core 1 and 3 are offered in July, alternating years. Core 2 is offered every other January, beginning in 2021. New students should ordinarily begin the program during the summer term with either Core 1 or Core 3, depending on which is being offered in the year of matriculation.

**Two Foundation Modules:** Take the two DMin modules offered by Westminster in your area of concentration.

**One Elective Foundation Module:** Choose one DMin Foundation module offered by Westminster in a concentration track other than your own. This requirement is designed to provide flexibility while giving students exposure to fields outside of their concentration area.

**Two Elective Modules:** These options are designed to allow the student flexibility in supporting their choice of concentration.

1. Choose any module not already taken, including Foundation modules from other concentration tracks.
2. Take a module at another institution and receive transfer credit. (See Chapter 6.)
3. Take a module through independent study.
4. Choose a PhD or ThM course adjusted to the DMin requirements.

Foundation and Elective Modules are offered in July, August, and January. Students in the DMin program may take a ThM/PhD course offered in January or during the summer for elective credit with the approval of the Dean of Pastoral Theology and the professor of the course. A maximum of two “non-classroom” modules (via transfer credit and/or independent studies) is allowed, regardless of concentration.

In addition to these modular courses, students will be required to complete the Project Preparation Pathway, a structured, self-paced series of tutorials and activities designed to orient students to the program, provide them with the tools and research resources they will need, and prepare them to successfully complete the Applied Research Project Proposal and the degree-culminating Applied Research Project.

Students who matriculated before the 2020-2021 academic year should consult the Director of Programming for Pastoral Theology to understand how their catalog year's requirements can be fulfilled by the current course offerings.

### KDMin Course Work

KDMin Modules are designed to accommodate Korean-speaking pastors from around the world who are actively engaged in full-time ministry in a Korean-speaking church. Eight modular courses are required for the DMin degree and require no more than eight weeks of residence in total. Students are expected to take six modules at the Philadelphia campus in the June term, and two modules in the winter term either at the Philadelphia campus or in Korea. Course work requires no more than three years, and for two subsequent years students are expected to complete an Applied Research Project in their home country. The procedure and format of the Applied Research proposal and completion is the same as Westminster's other DMin concentrations except that students will complete their project in Korean and it will be translated into English for faculty review.

Students will be required to complete assignments before attending the module, as well as after the module. Post-modular work must be uploaded electronically to Canvas by the following deadlines:

- KDMin Modules offered in June term: October 15
- PRK1 Core Module: November 15
- KDMin Modules offered in Winter term: April 15

No credit will be given until all assignments are completed successfully. Students' work will be graded by Korean adjunct professors. Students may not enroll in new modules until work in the previous course has been completed.

**Core Modules:** Four Required Modules, offered in June on the Philadelphia campus:

PRK1	Introduction and Orientation to Graduate Work, Westminster Hermeneutics and Theology
PRK2	Pastoral Theology
PPK1	Foundations for a Lifetime of Fruitful Preaching
PMK 1	Pastoral Ministry and Leadership in the Korean Church Context

**Elective Modules:** Choose four of the elective modules listed below, which are offered either in the June or Winter terms. Students may take up to two modules through independent study upon the approval of the Dean of Pastoral Theology and the professor of the course.

June Elective Modules

PPK6	Preaching Christ from the Old Testament
PPK 7	Preaching Christ from the New Testament

## Winter Elective Modules

PMK 6	Biblical Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution
PMK 7	Jonathan Edwards' Theology and Ministry
PCK 6	Biblical Counseling and Crisis Intervention

## Applied Research Project

Each student will complete the Applied Research Project in his or her area of concentration. The Applied Research Project is the culmination of the DMin program. It enables the student to conduct thorough research and develop expertise in a specific area of interest. It is designed to focus on a particular problem and to make a contribution to the student's understanding in that area. For the KDMin, the PRK1 module will introduce the student to project design.

The project proposal describes the project's intended research, ministry model, and timetable. More detailed guidelines and elements of the project proposal can be found in the Applied Research Project and Proposal Guide, available in the [information center](#).

The Applied Research Project must conform to the format and bibliographic style requirements found in the *Format Guidelines and Submission Requirements for WTS Theses, Dissertations and Projects*, available from the Center for Theological Writing and [online](#).

Projects and the associated project fee are due on **November 15** of the academic year in which the student intends to graduate. For the KDMin, the completed applied research project must be submitted no later than **August 15**, and its English translation must be submitted to the Academic Affairs office no later than **January 15**. The project will be reviewed by the student's academic advisor, a second reader from within the Westminster faculty, and by an individual unaffiliated with Westminster who is actively engaged in ministry related to the topic of the research project.

A project defense will be scheduled on campus usually before **April 15**. The student's advisor and second faculty reader, taking into consideration the recommendation of the external reader, will make the final determination on the project and the successful completion of the degree program as a whole. This determination will ordinarily be communicated to the student at the conclusion of the project defense. The student will incorporate feedback from the reviewers into the final version of the project, which is due by **May 1st**.

## DMin Enrollment Status, Program Length and Time Limit

The DMin degree program commences in July (June for the KDMin) and requires at least three years to complete. The program is designed to meet the needs of ministry professionals. As such, students enrolled in the DMin program, whether in the coursework or post-coursework phase, are considered to be engaged in part-time study, with a "less than half-time" enrollment status.

The DMin program time limit is six years. All eight modules should be completed in the first four years, and the research project in the remaining two years. Students who do not expect to graduate within the program time limit must petition for a single program extension by completing the online [program extension petition form](#). The proposed completion plan and deadline for this extension is agreed upon between the student, advisor, and the Dean of Pastoral Ministry. Students who are unable to graduate by the revised deadline will be notified of their withdrawal from the program. In extreme circumstances, one additional petition for an extension may be made at the approval of the Pastoral Theology field committee. After this deadline, the student will be administratively withdrawn, without opportunity for



re-entry. The deadline for students to submit their extension petition is the Add/Drop deadline in the spring semester (mid-February) prior to their originally anticipated graduation year.

### DMin Program Length

	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
Length	Sum	Jan	Sum	Jan	Sum	Jan	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
4 yrs	3	1	3	1, PA	PR	PR	PR	Grad	-	-	-	-
5 yrs	2	1	2	1	2	PA	PR	PR	PR	Grad	-	-
6 yrs	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	PA	PR	PR	PR	Grad

Sum: July/August

PA: Project Proposal Approved

PR: Project Work

Grad: Graduation term

## Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program

A student who holds a baccalaureate degree and a first theological degree from approved institutions receives the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) on the completion of the prescribed program of study. A minimum of two years of full-time study and a dissertation are required.

To satisfy the biblical language requirement for the PhD programs, the applicant must have the equivalent of the Greek and Hebrew requirements for the MDiv or MAR programs at Westminster.

The purpose of the program is to develop the capacity for independent inquiry and criticism required for doing original research in a particular area of theological study, teaching in a theological seminary or college, or providing specialized leadership in the church.

The degree of PhD is offered in two fields: (1) historical and theological studies and (2) hermeneutics and biblical interpretation. Faculty field committees bear general responsibility for the direction of the program, admitting students, supervising the curriculum, setting area examinations, and recommending candidates for the degree.

### PhD Student Learning Goals

Upon graduation, the student will:

1. Demonstrate a breadth of knowledge in the student's chosen field of study and cognate fields.
2. Demonstrate the ability to produce a scholarly work which makes an original contribution to the student's chosen discipline.
3. Demonstrate a sense of and commitment to the vocation of theological education.
4. Demonstrate, in addition to Greek and Hebrew, a working knowledge of two languages for scholarly research.

### PhD International Students

For policies pertaining to international students, including the full-time status and program time limit requirement, see chapter 5. International students must maintain full-time status.

## PhD Advising and Registration

The field committee will assign the doctoral student an academic advisor who will advise the student regarding the program of study. Since the entire program must achieve an appropriate balance between specialization and breadth, the student may need the academic advisor's approval for courses taken each semester.

## PhD Degree Requirements

### 1. Language Competency Examinations in Biblical Languages

Admitted PhD students in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation must demonstrate knowledge of grammar and reading proficiency at an advanced MDiv level in *both* Biblical Hebrew and New Testament Greek prior to matriculation. Such expertise will be demonstrated by means of a competency exam in each language. Failure to demonstrate competence on the required examination will necessitate remedial language study and evaluation which must be completed during the first semester of enrollment.

The competency exams are similar to the placement exams described under the MDiv, MAR and Certificate General Requirements, except that they test translation in significantly greater depth than the MDiv/MAR placement exams.

### 2. Preliminary Exams and Supplementary Readings

Preliminary exams are intended to gauge awareness and competency in the biblical and theological framework that is embodied in Westminster's distinct school of thought by focusing on select texts that are representative of the corpus. These examinations must be completed within one year after initial registration in the PhD program. Sustaining these examinations admits the student to the status of *prospective candidacy*. The preliminary exam requirement may be waived for students who have obtained an MDiv degree from Westminster.

### 3. Language Exams

The student must demonstrate a reading knowledge of two languages designated by the field committee in consultation with the student. All PhD students are strongly encouraged to enter the program with reading proficiency in one research language, normally either German or French. The first research language examination should be sustained by fall of the second academic year. The second research language examination should be sustained by fall of the third academic year. Both exams must be sustained prior to comprehensive exams. Examinations are administered by the [Academic Affairs](#) Office.

### 4. Coursework

In addition to the coursework indicated for either field, a student must complete PT 421P Theological Bibliography and Research Methods (on a pass/fail basis and without tuition charge) in the year that he or she matriculates.

Students who wish to receive credit for courses taken at another institution should see chapter 6, Transfer of Credit/Shared Credit.

### 5. Residency

PhD students are required to live in close-enough proximity to the Glenside campus to allow for frequent engagement with faculty and peers. Such students are considered 'in residence'.

### 6. Comprehensive Examinations

Comprehensive examinations are set by the field committees and are to be sustained within four years after initial registration in the PhD program for both fields. An oral examination on the basis of earlier written examinations shall complete the series of comprehensive examinations.

The comprehensive exams may only be taken after all other requirements are fulfilled (see 1 through 4 above).

7. **Dissertation Proposal**

The academic advisor shall encourage the student to give thought to the choice of a dissertation topic from the very beginning of his or her program. Approval of the dissertation proposal can only be granted when the student has successfully completed both written and oral comprehensive examinations. The dissertation proposal must be approved within one semester of sustaining comprehensive exams. Sustaining these examinations and approval of the dissertation proposal admits the student to the status of *full candidacy*.

8. **Dissertation**

The student must submit a dissertation. After approval of the dissertation proposal, the student has three years to write the dissertation. Upon admission to full candidacy, the field committee will appoint a dissertation advisor and one additional member of the Dissertation Committee. In making their plans, students should be aware that faculty will not ordinarily supervise dissertations while on professional advancement leave. A schedule of faculty leaves can be obtained from the Academic Affairs Office. At least one member of a graduate school faculty other than Westminster will be added later as an external reader upon the recommendation of the Dissertation Committee. International students on F-1 or J-1 visas should consult the regulations concerning full-time status for international students and the deadline for submitting dissertations (see Chapter 5).

One copy of the completed dissertation is to be submitted for the advisor's approval by the December 15 deadline that follows this three-year period. If the advisor approves, the student inserts any small changes recommended by the advisor and presents four copies of the reviewed and completed dissertation to the Academic Affairs Office by the January 30 deadline (see below for the January 30 procedure for submission).

Explanation: The copy submitted on December 15 should include all appropriate grammatical and typographical editing and should be checked for clarity of expression and conformity to *Format Guidelines and Submission Requirements for WTS Theses, Dissertations, and Projects*. As an aid for formatting, students are required to complete the [online Format Guidelines Check-In form](#) prior to the January 30 submission. Dissertations that still have problems in any of these areas will not be approved but will be returned to the student for further work. (Students who are less skillful in written expression in English should consider employing a professional editor in preparing this copy.) For students aiming to submit their projects by the December 15th deadline, editorial assistance from the CTW should be arranged a minimum of six weeks in advance. The CTW recommends that you begin considering your editorial options at the beginning of the semester you expect to submit your thesis, and they cannot guarantee that editorial requests placed after November 1st will be fulfilled.

The dissertation must be a contribution to the knowledge of the subject worthy of publication and must show the candidate's ability to conduct independent research, to deal constructively with theological problems, and to communicate clearly and effectively in written English. The PhD dissertation specific word limit is 100,000 (excluding bibliography).

The dissertation must conform to the format and bibliographic style requirements in the *Format Guidelines and Submission Requirements for WTS Theses, Dissertations, and Projects*, available from the Library and [online](#). Four copies of the completed dissertation, four copies of an abstract of 350 words or less, and the external reader fee must be submitted to the Academic Affairs Office by January 30 for the following May graduation.

The dissertation will be submitted for review to an individual who is unaffiliated with Westminster but who is an expert in the field addressed in the dissertation and, in most circumstances, presently teaches in a PhD program. Taking into account the evaluation provided by this individual, the appropriate field committee will make a final decision regarding approval of the dissertation by April 1 for May graduation. If approved, some minor corrections may be required.

The student must submit two copies of the approved dissertation, including the abstract, to the Academic Affairs Office by May 1. Both copies of the dissertation will be bound and shelved with the bound periodicals in the Montgomery Library. The publication requirement will not be satisfied by any other form of publication, although microfilming does not preclude later publication by other methods, such as the mandatory publication of the abstract in the Westminster Theological Journal. By May 1 a digital copy of the dissertation must be submitted for publication by ProQuest and the Survey of Earned Doctorates must be completed. [Academic Affairs](#) assists in coordinating both the survey and digital publication.

#### 9. Dissertation Defense

Upon approving the dissertation, the student's field committee will set the time for a final examination both on the dissertation and on areas of knowledge cognate with it. This defense shall be conducted by faculty members of the relevant field committee, and the external reader may be invited to participate. To be sustained, this examination must be approved by a majority of the faculty members present.

### PhD Program Timeline

This timeline lists the number of courses and other requirements.

	Pre*	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7
		F	W/S	F	W/S	F	W/S	F	W/S	F	W/S	F	W/S	
FT:	H/G	3	3, PE, LE1	3, LE2	1, CES	DPA	DR	DR	DISS	(DR)	(DR)			
HT:	H/G	2	2, PE	2, LE1	2	2, LE2	CEP	CES	DPA	DR	DR	DR	DR	DISS

F: Fall

W/S: Winter & Spring

FT: Full-time enrollment

HT: Half-time enrollment

H/G: Hebrew/Greek Comp Exam sustained

\*biblical studies only

PE: Prelim Exams sustained

LE: Language Research Exam sustained

CES: Comprehensive Exam Sustained

DPA: Dissertation Proposal Approved

DR: Dissertation Research

DISS: Dissertation Submission/Defense

### PhD Program Time Limit

The program time limit for the PhD is seven years. All coursework for the PhD must be completed within three years after admission. International students on F1 or J1 visa must be full-time each semester and must complete all PhD requirements in five years or less. For all other students, the program time limit to complete all work for the PhD degree is seven years from the date of matriculation (including any leave of absence or withdrawal period). For a comparison of the number of semesters required to complete the degree based on enrollment status, please refer to the program length table.

Students who do not expect to graduate within the program time limit must petition for one program extension by submitting an extension request ([online form](#)) to the Academic Affairs Office, which will bring the petition before the student's advisor and field committee for review. For International students

on an F1 or J1 visa, the International Student Advisor will provide initial review of the petition for approval of a program extension and their extension is limited to one year only. The proposed deadline for this single extension is agreed upon in conversation between the student, his or her advisor and the field committee chair. If the student is unable to graduate by the revised deadline, he or she is notified of their withdrawal from the program. In extreme circumstances, exceptions can be made for one additional extension at the approval of the field committee and, in the case of international students, the International Student Advisor. After this deadline, the student will be administratively withdrawn, without opportunity for re-entry. The deadline for students to submit their extension petition is the Add/Drop deadline in the spring semester (mid-February) prior to their originally anticipated graduation year.

The PhD degree shall be granted only to persons enrolled at Westminster at the time of the completion of their program of study.

## **Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation**

Students in the field of Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation (New Testament or Old Testament concentration) must also demonstrate competence in Biblical Aramaic in one of two ways: (1) passing an examination or (2) passing OT 461 or OT 761 with a grade of B- or better no more than three years prior to initial matriculation into the PhD or ThM

## **Preliminary Exams**

Students must fulfill the preliminary exam requirements in apologetics, church history and systematic theology.

## **Course Work**

A total of ten graduate-level courses is required, plus PT 421P. This includes the following:

1. Four seminars: NT 941 New Testament Use of the Old Testament; NT 981 History of Interpretation; NT 993 Hermeneutical Foundations; and OT 903 Critical Methodologies. NT 941 and NT 981 are offered in the fall semester in alternating years. NT 993 and OT 903 are offered in the spring semester in alternating years. A full-time student should plan to take each of these four courses the first time it is offered during the student's time of residence.
2. Three directed reading courses: OT 981 Readings in Old Testament Introduction and Theology, NT 921 Readings in New Testament Introduction and Theology, and NT 791 Readings in the Literature of Post-Biblical Judaism (Part 1: Early Judaism). Either OT 981 or NT 921 must be completed by the end of the second semester of full-time study. A second reading course, either OT 981 or NT 921, must be completed by the end of the third semester of full-time study. The third reading course, NT 791, may be taken at any time during a student's coursework.
3. Three elective courses: May require approval by the student's academic advisor. These electives must be NT or OT courses or courses in other concentrations (AP, CH and ST) that are on the approved list to count as an NT or OT course. Only with written permission of the advisor may a student take a course in another concentration that is not on the approved list. A maximum of two elective courses may be independent studies. See chapter 6 for the seminary's transfer of credit policy.

## **Comprehensive Examinations**

The written comprehensive examinations in hermeneutics and biblical interpretation will be administered three times a year: the last full week in September, February, and April. The chairman of the field committee should be notified in writing one month in advance of the student's intention to take the

comprehensive examinations (neither earlier nor later). The two written examinations may have no more than a day between them. The first written examination covers the area seminars; the second written examination covers the student's area of concentration in the canon. Each written examination will be five hours long.

All students in the PhD Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation program will be tested on both the written and oral comprehensive examinations and on the original language of that corpus of material which they have declared as their concentration. Students will be expected to translate and parse passages selected at random. It is strongly suggested that students decide early in their coursework what their concentration will be and begin serious work on mastering that corpus in the original language. An oral examination of approximately two hours normally will be given two weeks after the written examinations.

### **Historical and Theological Studies**

This is a single degree program, within which are offered the following three concentrations: church history, systematic theology, and apologetics.

Each student chooses one of these concentrations at the time of application.

### **Preliminary Exams**

Students must fulfill the preliminary exam requirements in all five departments (apologetics, church history, New Testament, Old Testament and systematic theology).

### **Coursework**

Ten doctoral-level courses are required. Five must be in the student's concentration (the concentration within which the dissertation will be written), one must be in each of the other two historical and theological studies concentrations, and three may be electives from any concentration. Students may also take up to two "external" courses, taken at the doctoral level at another accredited university or seminary. It is expected that students will maintain a balance between classroom/seminar courses and independent/directed reading courses. Up to five of the twelve courses may be directed reading or independent studies. Courses may require approval from the student's academic advisor.

Because of their interdisciplinary nature, many courses count toward more than one concentration. A full listing of courses that may count toward one of the historical and theological studies concentrations is given in chapter 10.

All coursework must be completed within three years of the student's initial registration in the PhD program. Only students who already have reading knowledge of French and German, who are able to waive the preliminary exams, and who are able to devote full time to their studies will actually be able to complete all the necessary requirements within a two-year period. If students need to complete preliminary studies or work to finance their education, they should plan to spend a longer period of time in coursework.

Students who have attained the first theological degree at Westminster may, upon petition to the field committee, be granted permission to take up to two additional courses of their twelve courses at another accredited, doctoral-level institution, for a total of four 'external' courses. The additional external course(s) would count toward the three-elective course requirement.

The maximum number of courses taken at another institution ('external' and transfer credit combined) is four. The maximum number of off-campus courses ('external,' transfer credit, independent study and directed reading combined) is seven. Please see Transfer Credit/Shared Credit in Chapter 6.

For any required 'external' courses at another school, the student should consult his or her academic advisor, make arrangements for enrollment at the other school, and submit to the Westminster Academic Affairs Office a Request for External Course form before enrolling at the other school. Failure to conform to these stipulations may result in withdrawal of the student from the program and in the refusal of Westminster to count these courses toward degree requirements. If no Westminster course is taken in the semester a student is enrolled in a required 'external' course, the student will not pay a continuation fee to Westminster.

### **Comprehensive Examinations**

The written comprehensive examinations test the student's knowledge of each of the three concentrations within the field. In the student's chosen concentration, extensive and in-depth knowledge is expected. The student will be required both to analyze and evaluate the central documents and ideas within that concentration and demonstrate ability to contribute creatively to discussion of the fundamental problems in the concentration. In each of the other two concentrations in the field, the student is expected to show a general familiarity with basic issues and trends and to be aware of the contributions of specific individuals. In all three concentrations, the student must reflect on the Seminary's own heritage and perspective, although no student is ever required to agree with the Seminary's position on any issue. Detailed descriptions of the requirements for all of the examinations, including recommended reading lists for the examinations, are available to matriculated students from the Academic Affairs Office.

The written comprehensive examinations in Historical and Theological Studies will be administered only three times a year: the last full week of October, the second full week of February, and the first full week of April. A written request should be sent to the Coordinator of the Field Committee one month in advance of the student's intention to take the comprehensive examinations. This means that requests to schedule an examination may come only in the last week of September, the second week of January, and the first week of March. Once the examinations are scheduled, the student may not change the date or time. The written examinations are on two days—eight hours for the students' concentration on the first day and six hours for the other two concentrations within the field (three hours each) on the second day. There may not be more than one day between the two written examinations. The oral portion of the comprehensive examination will be scheduled as soon as possible after the written comprehensive examinations have been accepted.

## 9. Recommended Course Schedule Charts

Students are advised to follow the Recommended Course Schedule for their degree and emphasis to gain maximum benefit from the curriculum. A student who follows the schedule should not encounter course scheduling conflicts or course prerequisite issues. However, for all schedules, students are not required to take elective credits in the semester or term indicated. Students may take elective credits during any semester or term, as long as prerequisite requirements are met and no scheduling conflict with a required course exists.

Greek/Hebrew: The Recommended Course Schedule lists the recommended Greek and Hebrew sequences and combinations. Due to the sequencing of courses with language prerequisites and, as shown on the Recommended Course Schedule, students who hope to complete the MDiv degree in three years (three year plan) or the MAR degree in two years (2 year plan) must complete both the Greek and Hebrew language requirements in their first academic year. Students who hope to complete the MDiv degree in four years (four-year plan) or MAR degree in three years (three year plan) must complete both the Greek and Hebrew language requirements in their first and second academic year.

Students intending to complete the MDiv or MAR degree online should consult with the Academic Support team to discuss their degree plan.



# MDiv, Pastoral Ministry

## Recommended Course Schedule, Three-Year Plan

**Total semester hours required:**

92 (excluding Languages)

111 (including Languages)

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year		
Summer	OT 011	Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs						
	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs						
	<b>Total: 6 hrs</b>								
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs	NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs
	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	PC 111	Intro to Pastoral Counseling	2 hrs	OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs
	PT 111	Intro to Pastoral Theology & Ministry	2 hrs	PT 121	Theology & Practice of Preaching	2 hrs	PT 021P	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs
	ST 101	Prolegomena to Theology <sup>2</sup>		ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs	PC 251	Marriage Counseling	2 hrs
	or	or		ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs	PT 231	Expository Preaching from the OT	2 hrs
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup>	2 hrs						
	<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 16 hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	PT 311	Foundations for Leadership	2 hrs	PT 352	Evangelism and Missions in Local Church	2 hrs
	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 2 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 2 hrs</b>		
Spring	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hrs	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	PC 323	Peacemaking Pastor	2 hrs
	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs	PT 333	Practices of Leadership	2 hrs
	OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs	PT 353	Exposition and Sermon Delivery	2 hrs
	PT 343	Theology of Evangelism & Missions	2 hrs	PT 021P-2	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	ST 101	Prolegomena to Theology <sup>2</sup>		PT 221	Expository Preaching from the NT	2 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	or	or		ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs			
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup> Mentored Ministry Field Experience <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs						
	<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>		

## Recommended Course Schedule, Four-Year Plan

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year			Fourth Year		
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	OT 011	Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs	NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	PC 111	Intro to Pastoral Counseling	2 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs	OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs
	PT 111	Intro to Pastoral Theology & Ministry	2 hrs	PT 121	Theology & Practice of Preaching	2 hrs	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs	PT 021P	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs
	ST 101	Prolegomena to Theology <sup>2</sup>		ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs		<i>Elective<sup>4</sup></i>	2 hrs	PC 251	Marriage Counseling	2 hrs
	or	or			<i>Elective<sup>4</sup></i>	1 hr				PT 231	Expository Preaching from the OT	2 hrs
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup>	2 hrs									
	<b>Total: 13 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 14 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 13 hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs	PT 311	Foundations for Leadership	2 hr	PT 352	Evangelism & Missions in Local Church	2 hrs
	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 2 hr</b>			<b>Total: 2 hrs</b>		
Spring	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs	PC 323	Peacemaking Pastor	2 hrs
	PT 343	Theology of Evangelism & Missions	2 hrs	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	PT 012P-2	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs	PT 353	Exposition & Sermon Delivery	2 hrs
	ST 101	Prolegomena to Theology <sup>2</sup>		OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	PT 221	Expository Preaching from the NT	2 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	or	or		OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs	PT 333	Practices of Leadership	2 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup> Mentored Ministry Field Experience <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs				ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs			
	<b>Total: 9 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 14 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 14 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>		

# MDiv, Pastoral Ministry

Recommended Course Schedule, Spring Start (3.5 years)

**Total semester hours required:**

92 (excluding Languages)

111 (including Languages)

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year
Summer		NT 002 Greek 2 3 hrs NT 003 Greek 3 3 hrs <b>Total: 6 hrs</b>		
Fall		CH 211 Ancient Church 2 hrs NT 101 New Testament Introduction I 2 hrs OT 011 Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup> 3 hrs PC 111 Introduction to Pastoral Counseling 2 hrs PT 111 Introduction to Pastoral Theology & Ministry 2 hrs PT 121 Theology and Practice of Preaching 2 hrs ST 101 Prolegomena to Theology <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs or ST 113 Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs <b>Total: 15 hrs</b>	NT 211 The Gospels 4 hrs OT 211 OT History and Theology I 3 hrs PC 251 Marriage Counseling 2 hrs ST 211 Doctrine of Man 2 hrs ST 231 Christian Ethics 2 hrs <b>Total: 13 hrs</b>	CH 311 The Reformation 3 hrs CH 321 Church in the Modern Age 4 hrs NT 311 Hebrews to Revelation 2 hrs OT 311 Prophetic Books 3 hrs PT 021P Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup> 0 hrs PT 231 Expository Preaching from the OT 2 hrs <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>
Winter		OT 012 Hebrew 2 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	PT 311 Foundations of Leadership 2 hr <b>Total: 2 hr</b>	PT 352 Evangelism & Missions in Local Church 2 hrs <b>Total: 2 hrs</b>
Spring	AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics 3 hrs CH 223 Medieval Church 2 hrs NT 001 Greek 1 <sup>1</sup> 3 hrs PT 343 Theology of Evangelism & Missions 2 hrs ST 101 Prolegomena to Theology <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs or ST 113 Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs <b>Total: 13 hrs</b>	AP 213 Christian Apologetics 3 hrs NT 103 New Testament Introduction 1 hr NT 123 Hermeneutics 4 hrs OT 013 Hebrew 3 3 hrs OT 113 Old Testament Introduction 3 hrs CPT Field Experience <sup>3</sup> <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>	NT 223 Acts and Pauline Epistles 4 hrs OT 223 OT History and Theology II 3 hrs PT 012P-2 Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup> 0 hrs PT 221 Expository Preaching from the NT 2 hrs PT 333 Practices of Leadership 2 hrs ST 223 Doctrine of Christ 3 hrs <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>	OT 323 Poetry and Wisdom 2 hrs PC 323 Peacemaking Pastor 2 hrs PT 353 Exposition & Sermon Delivery 2 hrs ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation 4 hrs ST 343 Doctrine of the Church 2 hrs Elective <sup>4</sup> 3 hrs <b>Total: 15 hrs</b>

Footnotes for MDiv-Pastoral Ministry track:

<sup>1</sup>Greek/Hebrew 3 yr plan: Greek/Hebrew Combination 1 shown. 3.5 yr plan: Greek/Hebrew Combination 5 shown. 4 yr plan: Greek Fall track and Hebrew sequence B shown. Students may take Hebrew sequence A (beginning in the summer) or Greek Spring track (beginning in the spring), but should be advised that these options may mean dropping below full-time status. (For language sequence information, see Greek/Hebrew Combination Table in Section 9b.) In the 20-21 academic year, the credit values of the Greek courses decreased by a total of one credit. Students who are completing Greek in the 20-21 academic year should contact the Academic Support team to discuss how that credit shift will impact their recommended course schedule.

<sup>2</sup>ST 101 and ST 113 are offered in both the fall and spring semesters. Space permitting, the student can choose which semester to take each course.

<sup>3</sup>Curricular Practical Training requirements: After completion of PT 111, students should begin their field experience. Two Case Study Seminars (PT 021P, PT 021P-2) are required, which can be taken any semester after completing PT 111.

<sup>4</sup>The 3 elective credit hours in the Pastoral Ministry emphasis can be from any department (AP, CH, NT, OT, PT or ST).

# MDiv, General Ministries

## Recommended Course Schedule, Three-Year Plan

**Total semester hours required:**

92 (excluding Languages)

111 (including Languages)

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year		
Summer	OT 011	Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs						
	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs						
	<b>Total: 6 hrs</b>								
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs	NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs
	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	PC 111	Intro to Pastoral Counseling	2 hrs	OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs
	PT 111	Intro to Pastoral Theology & Ministry	2 hrs	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs	PC 251	Marriage Counseling	2 hrs
	ST 101	Introduction to Systematic Theology <sup>2</sup>	2 hrs	ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs	PT 021P	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs
	or	or	2 hrs		Elective <sup>4</sup>	2 hrs		Elective <sup>4</sup>	3 hrs
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup>							
	<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs		Elective <sup>4</sup>	2 hrs	PT 352	Evangelism & Missions in Local Church	2 hrs
	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 2 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 2 hrs</b>		
Spring	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	AP 213	Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	PC 323	Peacemaking Pastor	2 hrs
	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs	PT 123	Gospel Communication	2 hrs
	OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs	PT 333	Practices of Leadership	2 hrs
	PT 343	Theology of Evangelism & Missions	2 hrs	PT 012P-2	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>2</sup>	2 hrs	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	or	or	2 hrs		Elective <sup>4</sup>	2 hrs		Elective <sup>4</sup>	2 hrs
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup>							
	Mentored Ministry Field Experience <sup>3</sup>								
	<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 16 hrs</b>		

## Recommended Course Schedule, Four-Year Plan

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year			Fourth Year		
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	OT 011	Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs	NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	PC 111	Intro to Pastoral Counseling	2 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs	OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs
	PT 111	Intro to Pastoral Theology & Ministry	2 hrs	ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs	PC 251	Marriage Counseling	2 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>2</sup>	2 hrs		Elective <sup>4</sup>	3 hrs				PT 021P	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs
	or	or									Elective <sup>4</sup>	2 hrs
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup>	2 hrs									
	<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 13 hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs		Elective <sup>4</sup>	2 hr	PT 352	Evangelism & Missions in Local Church	2 hrs
	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 2 hr</b>			<b>Total: 2 hrs</b>		
Spring	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
	NT 003	Greek 3	3hrs	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs	PC 323	Peacemaking Pastor	2 hrs
	PT 343	Theology of Evangelism & Missions	2 hrs	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	PT 021P-2	Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup>	0 hrs	PT 123	Gospel Communication	2 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>2</sup>	2 hrs	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	PT 333	Practices of Leadership	2 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	or	or	2 hrs	OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup>						Elective <sup>4</sup>	2 hrs			
	Elective <sup>4</sup>											
	Mentored Ministry Field Experience <sup>3</sup>											
	<b>Total: 11 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 14 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 14 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>		

# MDiv, General Ministries

Recommended Course Schedule, Spring Start (3.5 years)

**Total semester hours required:**

92 (excluding Languages)

111 (including Languages)

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year
Summer		NT 002 Greek 2 3 hrs NT 003 Greek 3 3 hrs <b>Total: 6 hrs</b>		
Fall		CH 211 Ancient Church 2 hrs NT 101 New Testament Introduction I 2 hrs OT 011 Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup> 3 hrs PC 111 Intro to Pastoral Counseling 2 hrs PT 111 Intro to Pastoral Theology & Ministry 2 hrs ST 101 Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs or ST 113 Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs <b>Total: 15 hrs</b>	NT 211 The Gospels 4 hrs OT 211 OT History and Theology I 3 hrs ST 211 Doctrine of Man 2 hrs ST 231 Christian Ethics 2 hrs Elective 3 hrs <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>	CH 311 The Reformation 3 hrs CH 321 Church in the Modern Age 4 hrs NT 311 Hebrews to Revelation 2 hrs OT 311 Prophetical Books 3 hrs PC 251 Marriage Counseling 2 hrs PT 021P Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup> 0 hrs <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>
Winter		OT 012 Hebrew 2 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	Elective 2 hrs <b>Total: 2 hrs</b>	PT 352 Evangelism & Missions in Local Church 2 hrs <b>Total: 2 hrs</b>
Spring	AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics 3 hrs CH 223 Medieval Church 2 hrs NT 001 Greek 1 <sup>1</sup> 3 hrs PT 343 Theology of Evangelism & Missions 2 hrs ST 101 Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs or ST 113 Doctrine of God <sup>2</sup> 2 hrs <b>Total: 12 hrs</b>	AP 213 Principles of Christian Apologetics 3 hrs NT 103 New Testament Introduction II 1 hr NT 123 Hermeneutics 4 hrs OT 113 Old Testament Introduction 3 hrs OT 013 Hebrew 3 3 hrs Mentored Ministry Field Experience <sup>3</sup>	NT 223 Acts and Pauline Epistles 4 hrs OT 223 OT History and Theology II 3 hrs PT 021P-2 Case Study Seminar <sup>3</sup> 0 hrs PT 333 Practices of Leadership 2 hrs ST 223 Doctrine of Christ 3 hrs Elective 2 hrs <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>	OT 323 Poetry and Wisdom 2 hrs PC 323 Peacemaking Pastor 2 hrs PT 123 Gospel Communication 2 hrs ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation 4 hrs ST 343 Doctrine of the Church 2 hrs Elective 2 hrs <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>

Footnotes for MDiv, General Studies emphasis:

<sup>1</sup> Greek/Hebrew 3 yr plan: Greek/Hebrew Combination 1 shown. 3.5 yr plan: Greek/Hebrew Combination 5 shown. 4 yr plan: Greek Fall track and Hebrew sequence B shown. Students may take Hebrew sequence A (beginning in the summer) or Greek Spring track (beginning in the spring), but should be advised that these options may mean dropping below full-time status. (For language sequence information, see Greek/Hebrew Combination Table in Section 9b.) In the 20-21 academic year, the credit values of the Greek courses decreased by a total of one credit. Students who are completing Greek in the 20-21 academic year should contact the Academic Support team to discuss how that credit shift will impact their recommended course schedule.

<sup>2</sup>ST 101 and ST 113 are offered in both the fall and spring semesters. Space permitting, the student can choose which semester to take each course.

<sup>3</sup>Curricular Practical Training requirements: After completion of PT 111, students should begin their field experience. Two Case Study Seminars (PT 021P, PT 021P-2) are required, which can be taken any semester after completing PT 111.

# MDiv, Counseling Emphasis

## Recommended Course Schedule, Three-Year Plan

**Total semester hours required:**

92 (excluding Languages)

111 (including Languages)

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year		
Summer	OT 011	Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs						
	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs						
	<b>Total: 6 hrs</b>								
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs	NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs
	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	PC 111	Intro to Pastoral Counseling	2 hrs	OT 311	Prophetic Books	3 hrs
	PTC 151	Dynamics of Biblical Change <sup>2</sup>	3 hrs	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs	PT 021P	Case Study Seminar <sup>4</sup>	0 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs	ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs	PTC 251	Marriage Counseling <sup>6</sup>	3 hrs
	or								
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs						
	<b>Total: 16 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	PTC 178	Helping Relationships <sup>2</sup>	3 hrs	PTC 222	Counseling and Physiology <sup>2</sup>	3 hr
	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>		
Spring	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	PTC 372a	Counseling Observation <sup>2</sup>	3 hrs
	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	PT 123	Gospel Communication	2 hrs	PT 021P-2	Case Study Seminar <sup>4</sup>	0 hrs	<i>PTC Elective<sup>2,5</sup></i>		6 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs			
	or				<i>Elective<sup>3</sup></i>	2 hrs			
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs						
	<i>Mentored Ministry Field Experience<sup>4</sup></i>								
	<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 17 hrs</b>		

## Recommended Course Schedule, Four-Year Plan

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year			Fourth Year		
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs	NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	OT 011	Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup>	3 hrs	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs	OT 311	Prophetic Books	3 hrs
	PTC 151	Dynamics of Biblical Change <sup>2</sup>	3 hrs	ST 231	Christian Ethics	2 hrs	PC 111	Intro to Pastoral Counseling	2 hrs	PT 021P	Case Study Seminar <sup>4</sup>	0 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs	<i>PTC Elective<sup>2,5</sup></i>		3 hrs	<i>Elective<sup>5</sup></i>		2 hrs	PTC 251	Marriage Counseling <sup>6</sup>	3 hrs
	or											
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs									
	<b>Total: 13 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 13 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 13 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs	PTC 178	Helping Relationships <sup>2</sup>	3 hr	PTC 222	Counseling and Physiology <sup>2</sup>	3 hrs
	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hr</b>			<b>Total: 3 hr</b>		
Spring	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs	PTC 372a	Counseling Observation <sup>2</sup>	3 hrs
	PT 123	Gospel Communication	2 hrs	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	PT 021P-2	Case Study Seminar <sup>4</sup>	0 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	or			OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs						
	ST 113	Doctrine of God <sup>3</sup>	2 hrs									
	<i>Mentored Ministry Field Experience<sup>4</sup></i>											
	<i>PTC Elective<sup>2,5</sup></i>											
	<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 14 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 10 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 11 hrs</b>		

# MDiv, Counseling Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, Spring Start (3.5 years)

**Total semester hours required:**

**92** (excluding Languages)

**111** (including Languages)

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year
Summer		NT 002 Greek 2 3 hrs NT 003 Greek 3 3 hrs <b>Total: 6 hrs</b>		
Fall		CH 211 Ancient Church 2 hrs NT 101 New Testament Introduction I 2 hrs NT 103 New Testament Introduction II 1 hr OT 011 Hebrew 1 <sup>1</sup> 3 hrs PTC 151 Dynamics of Biblical Change <sup>2</sup> 3 hrs ST 101 Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>3</sup> 2 hrs or ST 113 Doctrine of God <sup>3</sup> 2 hrs <b>Total: 13 hrs</b>	NT 211 The Gospels 4 hrs OT 211 OT History and Theology I 3 hrs PC 111 Intro to Pastoral Counseling 2 hrs ST 211 Doctrine of Man 2 hrs ST 231 Christian Ethics 2 hrs <b>Total: 13 hrs</b>	CH 311 The Reformation 3 hrs CH 321 Church in the Modern Age 4 hrs NT 311 Hebrews to Revelation 2 hrs OT 311 Prophetical Books 3 hrs PT 021P Case Study, Seminar <sup>4</sup> 0 hrs PTC 251 Marriage Counseling <sup>6</sup> 3 hrs <b>Total: 15 hrs</b>
Winter		OT 012 Hebrew 2 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	PTC 178 Helping Relationships <sup>2</sup> 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	PTC 222 Counseling and Physiology <sup>2</sup> 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>
Spring	AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics 3 hrs CH 223 Medieval Church 2 hrs NT 001 Greek 1 <sup>1</sup> 3 hrs PT 123 Gospel Communication 2 hrs ST 101 Intro to Systematic Theology <sup>3</sup> 2 hrs or ST 113 Doctrine of God <sup>3</sup> 2 hrs <b>Total: 12 hrs</b>	AP 213 Principles of Christian Apologetics 3 hrs NT 123 Hermeneutics 4 hrs OT 113 Old Testament Introduction 3 hrs OT 013 Hebrew 3 3 hrs Elective <sup>5</sup> 2 hrs Mentored Ministry Field Experience <sup>4</sup> 2 hrs <b>Total: 15 hrs</b>	NT 223 Acts and Pauline Epistles 4 hrs OT 223 OT History and Theology II 3 hrs PT 021P-2 Case Study Seminar <sup>4</sup> 0 hrs ST 223 Doctrine of Christ 3 hrs PTC elective <sup>2,5</sup> 3 hrs <b>Total: 13 hrs</b>	OT 323 Poetry and Wisdom 2 hrs PTC 372a Counseling Observation <sup>2</sup> 3 hrs ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation 4 hrs ST 343 Doctrine of the Church 2 hrs PTC Elective <sup>2,5</sup> 3 hrs <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>

Footnotes for MDiv-Counseling emphasis:

<sup>1</sup>Greek/Hebrew 3 yr plan: Greek/Hebrew Combination 1 shown. 3.5 yr plan: Greek/Hebrew Combination 5 shown. 4 yr plan: Greek Fall track and Hebrew sequence B shown. Students may take Hebrew sequence A (beginning in the summer) or take Greek Spring track (beginning in the spring), but should be advised that these options may mean dropping below full-time status. (For language sequence information, see Greek/Hebrew Combination Table in Section 9b.) In the 20-21 academic year, the credit values of the Greek courses decreased by a total of one credit. Students who are completing Greek in the 20-21 academic year should contact the Academic Support team to discuss how that credit shift will impact their recommended course schedule.

<sup>2</sup>Online course.

<sup>3</sup>ST 101 and ST 113 are offered in both the fall and spring semesters. Space permitting, the student can choose which semester to take each course.

<sup>4</sup>Curricular Practical Training requirements: After completion of PTC 151, students should begin their field experience. Two Case Study Seminars (PT 021P, PT 021P-2) are required, which can be taken any semester after completing PTC 151.

<sup>5</sup>Student must take a total of 8 elective credits, 6 of which must be from PTC courses.

<sup>6</sup>Online course shown. Students may substitute the residential Marriage Counseling course (PC 251) and one elective credit hour.

# Master of Arts (Religion)

## Biblical Studies Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, 2-Year Plan

**Total semester hours required:**

55 (excluding Languages)

74 (including Languages)

	First Year			Second Year		
Summer	OT 011	Hebrew 1*	3 hrs			
	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs			
			<b>Total: 6 hrs</b>			
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1*	3 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	NT 311	Hebrews to Revelation	2 hrs
	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology	2 hrs	OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs
			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>
			<b>Total: 13+ hrs</b>	<b>Total: 16+ hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	<i>Elective</i>		
			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>		
Spring	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs
	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
	OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>	SUM EVAL	Summative Evaluation	1 hr
			<b>Total: 11+ hrs</b>	<b>Total: 14+ hrs</b>		

\*Greek/Hebrew Combination 1 shown.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

## Biblical Studies Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, 3-Year Plan

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year		
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1*	3 hrs	OT 011	Hebrew 1*	3 hrs	NT 311	Hebrew to Revelation	2 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs			5 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology	2 hrs				OT 311	Prophetical Books	3 hrs
			<b>Total: 10 hrs**</b>	<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs			
			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>					
Spring	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs
			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>	OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs	OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs
							ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
			<b>Total: 9 hrs</b>	<b>Total: 10 hrs</b>			SUM EVAL	Summative Evaluation	1 hr
							<b>Total: 14 hrs</b>		

\*Greek Fall track and Hebrew sequence B shown.

\*\*Note that students' enrollment in this semester will be less than full-time unless they choose to take electives in excess of the total degree credit hour requirement.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

# Master of Arts (Religion)

## Biblical Studies Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, 2.5-Year Plan  
(Spring Start)

**Total semester hours required:**

55 (excluding Languages)

74 (including Languages)

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Summer		NT 002 Greek 2 3 hrs NT 003 Greek 3 3 hrs <b>Total: 6 hrs</b>	
Fall		NT 101 New Testament Introduction I 2 hrs NT 103 New Testament Introduction II 1 hr OT 011 Hebrew 1* 3 hrs ST 101 Intro to Systematic Theology 2 hrs <i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 8+ hrs</b>	CH 321 Church in the Modern Age 4 hrs NT 211 The Gospels 4 hrs NT 311 Hebrews to Revelation 2 hrs OT 211 OT History and Theology I 3 hrs OT 311 Prophetic Books 3 hrs <b>Total: 16 hrs</b>
Winter		OT 012 Hebrew 2 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	
Spring	AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics 3 hrs NT 001 Greek 1* 3 hrs <i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 6+ hrs</b>	NT 123 Hermeneutics 4 hrs OT 013 Hebrew 3 3 hrs OT 113 Old Testament Introduction 3 hrs <b>Total: 10 hrs</b>	NT 223 Acts and Pauline Epistles 4 hrs OT 223 OT History and Theology II 3 hrs OT 323 Poetry and Wisdom 2 hrs ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation 4 hrs SUM EVAL Summative Evaluation 1 hr <b>Total: 14 hrs</b>
<sup>1</sup> Greek/Hebrew Combination 5 shown. <sup>2</sup> Refer to the Department Course table below.			

Department Courses (select one course in each group)			
	<b>Church History<sup>2</sup></b> CH 211 Ancient Church 2 hrs CH 223 Medieval Church 2 hrs CH 311 The Reformation 3 hrs	<b>Systematic Theology &amp; Apologetics<sup>2</sup></b> AP 213 Principles of Christian Apologetics 3 hrs ST 113 Doctrine of God 2 hrs ST 211 Doctrine of Man 2 hrs ST 223 Doctrine of Christ 3 hrs ST 231 Christian Ethics 2 hrs ST 343 Doctrine of the Church 2 hrs	
<sup>1</sup> The total number of department and elective credits needed for the Biblical Studies emphasis is 10. <sup>2</sup> Students are advised to note semesters in which courses are offered and the prerequisites for each course in order to properly plan their course of study.			



# Master of Arts (Religion)

## Theological Studies Emphasis

### Recommended Course Schedule, 2-Year Plan

**Total semester hours required:**

55 (excluding Languages)

74 (including Languages)

	First Year			Second Year		
Summer	OT 011	Hebrew 1*	3 hrs			
	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs			
			<b>Total: 6 hrs</b>			
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs
	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1*	3 hrs	OT 211	Old Testament History and Theology I	3 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs
	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs		Department courses or electives <sup>1</sup>	
	ST 101/113	Intro to ST or Doctrine of God**	2 hrs			
			<b>Total: 15 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 12+ hrs</b>
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs		Elective	3 hrs
			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>
Spring	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs
	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	ST 101/113	Intro to ST or Doctrine of God**	2 hrs	SUM EVAL	Summative Evaluation	1 hr
		Department courses or electives <sup>1</sup>			Department courses or electives <sup>1</sup>	
			<b>Total: 12+ hrs</b>			<b>Total: 13+ hrs</b>

\*Greek/Hebrew Combination 1 shown.

\*\*ST 101 and ST 113 are offered both in the fall and in the spring. Space permitting, the student can choose the semester in which to take each course.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

## Theological Studies Emphasis

### Recommended Course Schedule, 3-Year Plan

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year		
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 311	The Reformation	3 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	CH 211	Ancient Church	2 hrs	OT 011	Hebrew 1*	3 hrs	OT 211	OT History and Theology I	3 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1*	3 hrs		Electives <sup>1</sup>		ST 211	Doctrine of Man	2 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs					Department courses <sup>1</sup>	
	ST 101/113	Intro to ST or Doctrine of God**	2 hrs						
			<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 6+ hrs</b>			<b>Total: 9+ hrs</b>
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs			
			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 3 hrs</b>			
Spring***	CH 223	Medieval Church	2 hrs	AP 213	Principles of Christian Apologetics	3 hrs	ST 223	Doctrine of Christ	3 hrs
	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	ST 343	Doctrine of the Church	2 hrs
	ST 101/113	Intro to ST or Doctrine of God**	2 hrs				SUM EVAL	Summative Evaluation	1 hr
			<b>Total: 8 hrs</b>			<b>Total: 10 hrs</b>		Department courses <sup>1</sup>	<b>Total: 10+ hrs</b>

\*Greek Fall track and Hebrew sequence B shown.

\*\*ST 101 and ST 113 are offered both in the fall and in the spring. Space permitting, the student can choose the semester in which to take each course.

\*\*\*For the Winter/Spring semester of the student's first year, enrollment status is part time at 11 total credits (1 credit less than required for full-time status). Students who are on visa or who receive financial aid should contact the appropriate offices to discuss their status during this term.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

# Master of Arts (Religion)

## Theological Studies Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, 2.5-Year Plan  
(Spring Start)

**Total semester hours required:**

55 (excluding Languages)

74 (including Languages)

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Summer		NT 002 Greek 2 3 hrs NT 003 Greek 3 3 hrs <b>Total: 6 hrs</b>	
Fall		CH 211 Ancient Church 2 hrs NT 101 New Testament Introduction I 2 hrs NT 103 New Testament Introduction II 1 hrs OT 011 Hebrew 1* 3 hrs ST 101/113 Intro to Systematic Theology or Doctrine of God* 2 hrs <i>Electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 10+ hrs</b>	CH 311 The Reformation 3 hrs CH 321 Church in the Modern Age 4 hrs OT 211 OT History and Theology I 3 hrs ST 211 Doctrine of Man 2 hrs <i>Department courses<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 12+ hrs</b>
Winter		OT 012 Hebrew 2 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	
Spring	AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics 3 hrs CH 223 Medieval Church 2 hrs NT 011 Greek 1* 3 hrs Intro to Systematic Theology or Doctrine of God** 2 hrs <i>Electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 10+ hrs</b>	AP 213 Principles of Christian Apologetics 3 hrs NT 123 Hermeneutics 4 hrs OT 013 Hebrew 3 3 hrs <b>Total: 10 hrs</b>	ST 223 Doctrine of Christ 3 hrs ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation 4 hrs ST 343 Doctrine of the Church 2 hrs SUM EVAL Summative Evaluation 1 hrs <i>Department courses<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 10+ hrs</b>

<sup>1</sup>Greek/Hebrew Combination 5 shown.

<sup>2</sup>ST 101 and ST 113 are offered both in the fall and in the spring. Space permitting, the student can choose the semester in which to take each course.

<sup>3</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

Department Courses (select one course in each group)						
	New Testament <sup>2</sup>			Old Testament <sup>2</sup>		
	NT 211	The Gospels	4 hrs	OT 113	Old Testament Introduction	3 hrs
	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles	4 hrs	OT 223	OT History and Theology II	3 hrs
				OT 311	Prophetic Books	3 hrs
				OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom	2 hrs

<sup>1</sup>The total number of department and elective credits needed for the Theological Studies emphasis is 12.

<sup>2</sup>Students are advised to note semesters in which courses are offered and the prerequisites for each course in order to properly plan their course of study.

# Master of Arts (Religion)

## General Studies Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, 2-Year Plan

**Total semester hours required:**

55 (excluding Languages)

74 (including Languages)

	First Year			Second Year			
Summer	OT 011	Hebrew 1*	3 hrs				
	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs				
	Total: 6 hrs						
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs	
	NT 001	Greek 1*	3 hrs	OT 211	Old Testament History and Theology 1	3 hrs	
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs	Department courses or electives <sup>1</sup>			
	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs				
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology	2 hrs				
	Department courses or electives <sup>1</sup>						
	Total: 13+ hrs			Total: 7+ hrs			
Winter	NT 002a	Greek 2	3 hrs	Elective			3 hrs
	Total: 3 hrs			Total: 3 hrs			
Spring	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs	
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	SUM EVAL	Summative Evaluation	1 hrs	
	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	Department courses or electives <sup>1</sup>			
Department courses or electives <sup>1</sup>							
	Total: 8+ hrs			Total: 5+ hrs			

\*Greek/Hebrew Combination 1 shown.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

## General Studies Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, 3-Year Plan

	First Year			Second Year			Third Year		
Fall	AP 101	Introduction to Apologetics	3 hrs	OT 011	Hebrew 1*	3 hrs	CH 321	Church in the Modern Age	4 hrs
	NT 001	Greek 1*	3 hrs	<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>			OT 211	OT History and Theology 1	3 hrs
	NT 101	New Testament Introduction I	2 hrs				<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>		
	ST 101	Intro to Systematic Theology	2 hrs						
	<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>		
	Total: 10+ hrs			Total: 3+ hrs			Total: 7+ hrs		
Winter	NT 002	Greek 2	3 hrs	OT 012	Hebrew 2	3 hrs			
	Total: 3 hrs			Total: 3 hrs					
Spring	NT 003	Greek 3	3 hrs	NT 123	Hermeneutics	4 hrs	ST 313	Doctrine of Salvation	4 hrs
	NT 103	New Testament Introduction II	1 hr	OT 013	Hebrew 3	3 hrs	SUM EVAL	Summative Evaluation	1 hr
	<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>			<i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i>		
	Total: 4+ hrs			Total: 7+ hrs			Total: 5+ hrs		

\*Greek Fall track and Hebrew sequence B shown.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

# Master of Arts (Religion)

## General Studies Emphasis

Recommended Course Schedule, 2.5-Year Plan  
(Spring Start)

**Total semester hours required:**

55 (excluding Languages)

74 (including Languages)

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Summer		NT 002 Greek 2 3 hrs NT 002 Greek 3 3 hrs <b>Total: 6 hrs</b>	
Fall		NT 101 New Testament Introduction I 2 hrs NT 103 New Testament Introduction II 1 hrs OT 011 Hebrew 1* 3 hrs ST 101 Intro to Systematic Theology 2 hrs <i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 8+ hrs</b>	CH 321 Church in the Modern Age 4 hrs OT 211 OT History and Theology I 3 hrs <i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 7+ hrs</b>
Winter		OT 012 Hebrew 2 3 hrs <b>Total: 3 hrs</b>	
Spring	AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics 3 hrs NT 001 Greek 1* 3 hrs <i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 6+ hrs</b>	NT 123 Hermeneutics 4 hrs OT 013 Hebrew 3 3 hrs <i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 7+ hrs</b>	ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation 4 hrs SUM EVAL Summative Evaluation 1 hrs <i>Department courses or electives<sup>1</sup></i> <b>Total: 5+ hrs</b>

<sup>1</sup>Greek/Hebrew Combination 5 shown.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the Department Course table below.

Department Courses (select one course in each group)			
<b>Church History<sup>2</sup></b>		<b>New Testament<sup>2</sup></b>	
CH 211	Ancient Church 2 hrs	NT 211	The Gospels 4 hrs
CH 223	Medieval Church 2 hrs	NT 223	Acts and Pauline Epistles 4 hrs
CH 311	The Reformation 3 hrs		
		<b>Old Testament<sup>2</sup></b>	
		OT 113	Old Testament Introduction 3 hrs
		OT 223	OT History and Theology II 3 hrs
		OT 311	Prophetic Books 3 hrs
		OT 323	Poetry and Wisdom 2 hrs
		<b>Systematic Theology &amp; Apologetics<sup>2</sup></b>	
		AP 213	Christian Apologetics 3 hrs
		ST 113	Doctrine of God 2 hrs
		ST 211	Doctrine of Man 2 hrs
		ST 223	Doctrine of Christ 3 hrs
		ST 231	Christian Ethics 2 hrs
		ST 343	Doctrine of the Church 2 hrs

<sup>1</sup>The total number of department and elective credits needed for the General Studies emphasis is 31.

<sup>2</sup>Students are advised to note semesters in which courses are offered and the prerequisites for each course in order to properly plan their course of study.

## Master of Arts in Counseling

Total semester hours required: 60

## Master of Arts (Theological Studies)

Total semester hours required: 36

Students in the Master of Arts in Counseling or the Master of Arts in Theological Studies should use the following two charts as a reference for the sequence of their degree. For a full list of requirements for each program, please see Chapter 8 - Degree Programs. The following course offering chart is for the 2020-2021 year. Course offerings can be expected to change each academic year; however, all required courses for the programs will be offered at least one time in a given academic year.

	May	June	September	October	January	March
<b>Counseling Courses*</b>	No counseling courses offered in May Term	Counseling Observation B  Counseling in the Local Church	No counseling courses offered in Sept Term	Dynamics of Biblical Change  Human Personality  Marriage Counseling	Helping Relationships  Counseling and Physiology  Counseling Elective	Counseling Problems and Procedures  Theology and Secular Psychology  Counseling Children and Adolescents  Counseling Observation A**
<b>Theology Courses</b>	Bible Survey  New Testament Theology for Application  History of Christianity II  Survey of Reformed Theology	Introduction to Apologetics  Old Testament Theology for Application  Principles of Biblical Interpretation  Christianity and Culture	Bible Survey  Old Testament Theology for Application  History of Christianity I  Introduction to Systematic Theology  Biblical Theology of Worship	Bible Survey  Union with Christ  Introduction to Apologetics  New Testament Theology for Application	Bible Survey  Principles of Biblical Interpretation  Introduction to Apologetics  New Testament Theology for Application  Science and Faith	Introduction to Systematic Theology  Doctrine of God  Union with Christ  History of Christianity II  Old Testament Theology for Application  Christianity and Culture
<p>*Not all counseling courses are available to MATS students.</p> <p>**Requires completion of Dynamics of Biblical Change and Helping Relationships before enrolling.</p>						

## Master of Arts in Counseling

Total semester hours required: 60

## Master of Arts (Theological Studies)

Total semester hours required: 36

When viewing the course level chart below, please note that all courses are equivalent in workload; students can expect to spend about 10 hours per week per course. This chart serves as a guide for students in choosing the order of course completion, as advanced level courses will assume prior knowledge learned in entry level courses.

	Entry Level Courses	Mid-level Courses	Advanced Level Courses
<b>Counseling Courses*</b>	Dynamics of Biblical Change  Helping Relationships  Human Personality	Marriage Counseling  Counseling Problems and Procedures  Counseling and Physiology	Theology and Secular Psychology  Counseling Children and Adolescents  Counseling in the Local Church  Counseling Observation**  Counseling Electives
<b>Theology Courses</b>	Bible Survey  Introduction to Systematic Theology  Introduction to Apologetics  History of Christianity I  History of Christianity II	Principles of Biblical Interpretation  Doctrine of God  Old Testament Theology for Application  New Testament Theology for Application	Union with Christ  Theology Electives
*Not all counseling courses are available to MATS students. **Requires completion of Dynamics of Biblical Change and Helping Relationships before enrolling.			

## Greek/Hebrew Combination Table

Summer Matriculation					Fall Matriculation <sup>3</sup>				Spring Matriculation <sup>4</sup>					
Semester or Term	Combination 1 <sup>1</sup>		Combination 2 <sup>2</sup>		Combination 3 <sup>2</sup>		Combination 4 <sup>1</sup>							
	Fall Greek	Hebrew A	Spring Greek	Hebrew A	Spring Greek	Hebrew B	Fall Greek	Hebrew C						
Summer	---	OT 011 (3) OT 012 (3)	---	OT 011 (3) OT 012 (3)	---	---	---	---	Semester or Term	Combination 5		Combination 6		
Fall	NT 011 (3)	OT 013 (3)	---	OT 013 (3)	---	OT 011 (3)	NT 001a (3)	OT 011 (3)		Spring Greek	Hebrew B	Spring Greek	Hebrew C	
Winter	NT 002 (3)	---	---	---	---	OT 012 (3)	NT 002 (3)	---						
Spring	NT 003 (3)	---	NT 001 (3)	---	NT 001a (3)	OT 013 (3)	NT 003 (3)	OT 012 (3)		Spring	NT 001 (3)	---	NT001 (3)	
Summer			NT 002 (3) NT 003 (3)	---	NT 002 (3) NT 003 (3)	---	---	OT 013 (3)		Summer	NT 002 (3) NT 003 (3)	---	NT 002 (3) NT 003 (3)	---
<p>Course credit hours in parentheses.</p> <p><sup>1</sup>Combination 1 is specified in the recommended course schedules for the MDiv 3-year plan and the MAR 2-year plan. Combination 4 is an alternative for students matriculating in the fall who wish to follow the MDiv 3-year plan or MAR 2-yr plan.</p> <p><sup>2</sup>Combinations 2 and 3 are not specified in any of the recommended course schedules.</p> <p>Students following the MDiv 3-year plan or MAR 2-year plan cannot choose these combinations because of the language prerequisite requirements for other courses listed in the plan. Students following the MDiv 4-year plan or the MAR 3-year plan should be aware that they might drop below full-time status if they choose these combinations.</p> <p><sup>3</sup>Students matriculating in the Fall semester could choose to take both Fall Greek and Hebrew B. This combination is not recommended, however, as it requires taking both Greek and Hebrew in the Winter term. Students interested in pursuing this combination should first consult their Greek and Hebrew professors.</p> <p><sup>4</sup>Combination 5 is specified in the recommended course schedules for the MDiv 3.5-year plan and MAR 2.5-year plan but Combination 6 is not. Students should be aware that they might drop below full-time status if they choose this combination.</p>									Fall	---	OT 011 (3)	---	OT 011 (3)	
									Winter	---	OT 012 (3)	---	---	
									Spring	---	OT 013 (3)	---	OT 012 (3)	
									Summer					

## 10. Course Descriptions

Course codes are to be interpreted as follows: The letters indicate the department, division within the department, or major: Old Testament (OT), New Testament (NT), Biblical Theology (BT), Church History (CH), Systematic Theology (ST), Apologetics (AP), Pastoral Theology (PT), Theological English (TE). Courses indicated as 'PC' are master's level counseling courses; 'PTC' designates online counseling courses; and 'PTM' are primarily Urban Mission courses. Courses beginning with the letter "D" are DMin modules.

Except for DMin modules, the first digit indicates the level of the course:

- 0 Propaedeutic and non-credit courses
- 1-6 MAC, MATS, MAR, or MDiv courses
- 7-9 ThM and PhD courses

All MAC, MATS, ThM, PhD, and DMin courses are three credit hours each. All other course credit hours vary. The letter "p" following a course number indicates that the course is graded on a pass-fail basis. A hyphenated number is appended to the course number for courses that can or must be taken more than once.

The Seminary reserves the right to add, withdraw, or change courses without prior notice.



# Apologetics

Apologetics is a theological discipline that seeks to defend and commend the Christian faith. The apologetic tradition of Westminster attempts to apply Reformed theology to the challenges that confront Christianity and the church. Apologetics is an indispensable preparation for gospel ministry and for evangelism.

To that end, the Apologetics curriculum enables students:

- To understand biblical religion as a world-and-life view, rather than a set of isolated truths
- To develop arguments which address the deepest levels of various worldviews
- To articulate biblical principles for the defense and commendation of the gospel of Jesus Christ in evangelism
- To understand the patterns and cultural trends of our times
- To develop answers to some of the most frequent challenges raised against Christian faith
- To know something of the history of thought, Western and non-Western
- To be familiar with some of the most significant apologists throughout history
- To articulate the relationship between faith and reason

## Apologetics Master's Level Courses

### AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics

Purpose:

- To introduce students to Christian apologetics
- To learn the art of Christian persuasion
- To learn how to lift up Christ and give reasons for the hope that we have (1 Peter 3:15)
- To develop tools to understand the surrounding culture

Topics covered include the biblical basis for apologetics, developing a world-and-life view, the issue of meaning, covenantal apologetics, engaging contemporary culture, and highlights in the history of apologetics. We will give special attention to the problem of meaning, the problem of evil, world religions (including Islam), science and faith, reason and revelation, and aesthetics.

**Residential:** Fall and Spring semesters, three hours. Dr. Edgar, Dr. Oliphint.

**Online Learning:** June, October, and January terms, three hours. Dr. Edgar. These sections available only to online students.

### AP 213 Principles of Christian Apologetics

Purpose:

- To build on the principles established in AP 101
- To establish the Scriptural warrant for the Christian faith
- To understand the place and importance of evidences in apologetics
- To establish biblical principles necessary for a defense of Christianity

Topics covered include the nature and structure of arguments, an in-depth analysis and critique of some of the traditional proofs for the existence of God, and the necessity of a Reformed doctrine of revelation for apologetics.

Spring semester, three hours. Dr. Oliphint.

**Prerequisites:** AP 101 and NT 013 (or equivalent), completed or in progress.

### AP 403 Reformed Objection to Natural Theology

See AP 703. Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Oliphint.

### AP 413 Christianity in Conflict I

See AP 713. Winter term, three hours. Dr. Edgar.

### AP 433 Christianity and the Arts

See AP 733. Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Edgar.

### AP 441 The Apologetics of Cornelius Van Til

See AP 721. Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Oliphint.

### AP 444 Christianity in Conflict II

See AP 743. Winter term, two hours. Dr. Edgar.

### AP 453 Christianity in Conflict III

See AP 753. Winter term, two hours. Dr. Edgar.

**AP 463 Christianity in Conflict IV**

See AP 763. *Winter term, two hours. Dr. Edgar.*

**AP 473 Christianity in Conflict V**

See AP 773. *Winter term, two hours. Dr. Edgar*

**AP 511 Christianity and Film**

See AP 711. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Edgar.*

**AP 522 Music and Worship in the Changing Church**

Purpose:

- To acquaint students with several issues surrounding music and worship in today's church
- To arrive at certain solutions for the challenges involved
- To look at these issues from the point of view of the pastor, worshipers, and musicians
- To understand the balance between preaching, music, and liturgy

Topics covered include Bible study, the history of music in worship, comparative evaluations of church worship styles, field work in several churches, and discussions of hymns and other worship music.

*Winter term, two hours. Mr. Ward.*

**AP 541 Secularization Theory**

See AP 841. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Edgar.*

**AP 543 Intercultural Apologetics**

See AP 843. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Park.*

**AP 562 Christianity and Culture**

Purpose:

- To define culture and articulate the various aspects that make up culture and why it is a significant topic for believers to study
- To outline the biblical foundations and insights for culture and cultural engagement, giving special attention to the cultural mandate and its reiteration throughout Scripture and culmination in the Great Commission
- To describe various models for cultural engagement held by the church throughout the centuries and articulate one's own understanding of cultural engagement and the various ways God has called them to engage with culture
- To demonstrate the importance of wisdom and some general guidelines to consider when approaching current trends, issues, and the toughest questions presented to believers in the modern age

The course will begin by introducing students to the topic of culture, providing a preliminary definition and some examples of the way we engage with culture on a daily basis. From here, the course will lay out the biblical foundations for cultural engagement using the cultural mandate as the basis for our understanding of Scripture's call to cultural engagement. Next, we will briefly assess different models for cultural engagement held among Christians, and look to Scripture for an appropriate model to adopt for engaging and analyzing culture. In the final section of the course, we will spend some time thinking through the issues, covering topics like art, secularization, race, and focus on how God's word is a reliable resource for the answers to the toughest questions thrown at us as believers in the 21st century.

*June and March terms, three hours. Dr. Edgar. Only available to online students.*

**AP 566 Theodicy**

See AP 861. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Edgar.*

**Prerequisites:** AP 101.

**AP 583 The Problem of Knowledge and Christianity**

See AP 883. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Oliphint.*

**Prerequisites:** AP 101.

**AP 591 Jacques Ellul as an Apologist**

See AP 891. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Edgar.*

**AP 603 Cultural Analysis**

See AP 903. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Edgar.*

**Prerequisites:** AP 101.

**AP 623 The Apologetics of C. S. Lewis**

See AP 923. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Park.*

**AP 631 Philosophy for Theologians**

See AP 931. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Oliphint.*

**AP 641 Theology of Religions**

See AP 941. *Summer term, two hours. Dr. Shannon.*

**AP 653 The Challenge of Islam**

See AP 953. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Edgar.*

**AP 663 Warrant and Christian Epistemology**

See AP 963. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Oliphint.*

**AP 671 Science and Faith**

*January term, three hours. Dr. Poythress. Only available to online students.*

**AP 681 Theology of Science**

See AP 981. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** ST 113 and AP 101, completed or in progress.

**AP 693 Topics in Science and Apologetics**

Purpose:

- To introduce principles of apologetics of science
- To enhance skills in analysis and research in apologetics and theology of science
- To enhance skills in communicating issues in science and apologetics to a broader public

Topics covered may include both perennial issues (miracle, providence, "natural law," general revelation) and issues of current interest, such as cosmology, Darwinism, human origin, days of creation, Noah's flood, environmentalism, science education, and the "new atheism." Topics may vary depending on student interest. The course will be conducted mostly as a discussion and seminar, interacting with student research. This course may be taken more than once.

*Spring semester, one hour. Dr. Poythress.*

## **Apologetics ThM/PhD Level Courses**

### **AP 703 Reformed Objection to Natural Theology**

Purpose:

- To focus on the discussion of natural theology from a Reformed theological perspective
- To interact with various analyses of Reformed objections to natural theology
- To analyze and work toward the development of a Reformed approach to natural theology.

Topics covered include twentieth century philosophical analyses of the Reformed objection to natural theology, objections of natural theology from within the Reformed theological context, as well as the apologetic dimension of natural theology.

*Fall semester. Dr. Oliphint.*

### **AP 711 Christianity and Film**

Purpose:

- To learn how to “read” a film (in general)
- To explore the role of film in contemporary culture (i.e., how film reflects and shapes culture)
- To develop a Christian framework for looking at film

Topics covered include film and culture, and the idea of “story” and representation in film. A key question: What do we learn through film of other human beings, of our own hearts, and even of God himself? Students will watch and journal about one film per week. The weekly film will be watched outside of class time.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 713 Christianity in Conflict I**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the first thousand years of its history
- To compare the methods and arguments used in those texts
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Justin Martyr, Tertullian, Irenaeus, Origen, Augustine, and Boethius. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Winter term. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 721 The Apologetics of Cornelius Van Til**

Purpose:

- To study in-depth the principles, method, and content of Van Til’s apologetic
- To develop and critique Van Til’s apologetic approach
- To apply the insights of Van Til’s apologetic to current challenges to the Christian faith

Topics covered include the impact of Van Til’s apologetic in the context of its development. There will be some attention given to critical analyses of Van Til’s position. Seminar discussions will focus on the content of Van Til’s thought.

*Fall semester. Dr. Oliphint.*

### **AP 733 Christianity and the Arts**

Purpose:

- To understand the dynamics of art
- To arrive at a Reformed view of aesthetics
- To learn how Scripture speaks about the arts
- To develop convictions about the proper role of the arts in daily life
- To explore the role of the arts in worship

Topics covered include the present state of the arts, the character of beauty, art as a vocation, the arts in the Bible, and the special dynamic of evil and redemption in the arts. Sessions will integrate guest artists; a museum visit; and discussions of music, poems, novels, and paintings.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 743 Christianity in Conflict II**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the Medieval period
- To compare the methods and arguments used in those texts
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Anselm, Thomas Aquinas, Peter Abelard, John Duns Scotus, Ockham, and Buridan. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Winter term. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 753 Christianity in Conflict III**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the early modern period
- To compare the methods and arguments used in those texts
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Luther, Calvin, Descartes, Pascal, Butler, Hume, Kant, Schleiermacher, Groen, and Kuyper. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Winter term. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 763 Christianity in Conflict IV**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the last two centuries
- To compare the methods and arguments used in those texts
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Machen, Chesterton, Küng, von Balthasar, Schaeffer, Carnell, the Talbot School, Tillich, Clark, and Pannenberg. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Winter term. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 773 Christianity in Conflict V**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the contemporary period
- To compare the methods and arguments used in those texts
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs of apologetics today

We will study the apologists from the contemporary period. The seminar will combine introductory lectures with guided discussions of the primary texts in the anthology. There will be a research paper.

*Winter term. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 771 Apologetics in a Global Setting**

Purpose:

- To understand the phenomenon of globalization
- To examine the application of Reformed apologetics in a global context
- To study the major issues raised for the church because of globalization
- To relate globalization to Christian missions

Topics covered include comparative sociology, the clash of civilization, the issue of religion and violence, the phenomenon of de-secularization, traditionalism versus modernizing, contextualization, and postmodernism.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 791 Cultural Engagement**

Purpose:

- To recognize the key personalities, controversies, and theological developments which have marked discussion of Christianity in relation to culture.
- To articulate the way in which the Christian Faith relates to the concept and development of culture.
- To gain skills in spiritual and theological perception of cultural contexts and dynamics that bear upon the proclamation and application of the Gospel.

Topics include human creativity, freedom, social identity, vocation in relation to “installation” and gender, time, patience, anxiety/distrust, and the concept of place.

*Summer Term. Dr. Garcia.*

### **AP 841 Secularization Theory**

Purpose:

- To examine the story of secularization theory.

Topics covered include the “standard model,” in which secularization was both described and prescribed. The three highlights then to be underscored are (1) the accounts of “desecularization” beginning in the 1990s, (2) Charles Taylor’s *A Secular Age*, and (3) a biblical theology of secularization.

*Fall Semester. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 843 Intercultural Apologetics**

Purpose:

- To understand the contemporary task of apologetics in the context of global interchanges and clashes of cultures
- To establish a proper understanding of the relationship between Christian world-and life-views and various cultural contexts in which apologists must function
- To develop a Reformed theology of religions as well as strategies to deal with other religious challenges to Christian claims
- To become sensitized to various non-Western expressions of Christian faith in a rapidly emerging post-European and post-North-American era of Christendom
- To give a focused attention to the contributions of Harvie M. Conn as a model of the intercultural apologist

Topics covered include justification for cultural and intercultural apologetics, the definition of culture, religion and culture, towards a Reformed theology of religions, responding to the challenges of other religions to Christian faith, and unity and diversity in Christian witness to the world.

*Spring semester. Dr. Park.*

### **AP 861 Theodicy**

Purpose:

- To understand the problem of evil from a biblical point of view
- To be familiar with the major options as expressed through the ages
- To develop apologetic answers for the problem of evil

Topics covered include key biblical texts; the doctrines of God's power, goodness, and justice; examinations of the classical writings on the subject by Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Leibnitz, Moltmann, Plantinga, Blocher, and others.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 883 The Problem of Knowledge and Christianity**

Purpose:

- To focus on various problems of epistemology
- To seek to demonstrate the necessity of a consistent Christian epistemology
- To develop principles necessary if one wants an adequate account of knowledge

Topics covered include foundationalism, coherentism, and the justification of knowledge.

*Fall semester. Dr. Oliphint.*

### **AP 891 Jacques Ellul as an Apologist**

Purpose:

- To be thoroughly acquainted with the work of the French sociologist Jacques Ellul
- To interact with his views on power, ethics, Scripture, politics, economics, and technique

Topics covered include the study of several of Ellul's books, using an inductive approach. Special emphasis will be on the major themes in his writings, such as technique, propaganda, economics, and power.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*



**AP 903 Cultural Analysis**

Purpose:

- To develop proper tools for the study of culture
- To interact with various theologies of culture
- To understand the relation between Christian faith and the public square
- To find culturally aware ways to do evangelism

Topics covered include an in-depth look at two cultures, American and one other; H. Richard Niebuhr's *Christ and Culture* and his critics; methodology for a biblical approach to understanding cultural dynamics; demographics; and popular culture.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*

**AP 923 The Apologetics of C. S. Lewis**

Purpose:

- To become familiar with the theological and apologetic writings of C. S. Lewis
- To understand Lewis in the context of his time
- To understand and critically evaluate the major features of Lewis's theology and apologetic strategies

Topics covered include the context of C. S. Lewis; his idea of pre-evangelism; and his understanding of the key theological themes, religious psychology, and literary imagination.

*Spring semester. Dr. Park.*

**AP 931 Philosophy for Theologians**

Purpose:

- To understand past and current discussions in the philosophy of religion
- To develop a Reformed response to various aspects of natural philosophy
- To critically analyze the traditional approach to religious philosophy

Topics covered include theistic proofs, arguments from religious experience, the problem of evil, miracles, the relationship of faith and reason, religious pluralism, and other subjects that interface with theology and philosophy. Seminar discussions.

*Fall semester. Dr. Oliphint.*

**AP 941 Theology of Religions**

This course seeks to develop a theological account of religious consciousness, religious behavior, and the religious impulse of culture. We will examine several themes of Reformed thought—including Christian-theistic worldview, the nature of theological reason, and apologetic method—leading to a theology of religions, or a view of 'religions' in its theological relations, and an accompanying biblical theological approach to culture. Advanced reflection upon the biblical and theological foundations of worldview, religions, and culture are key components of the course.

*Summer term. Dr. Shannon.*

### **AP 953 The Challenge of Islam**

Purpose:

- To study the history and presence of Islam in the world
- To understand the major tenets of Muslim belief and practice
- To develop effective apologetics strategies toward Muslim people
- To investigate strategies for statecraft in the face of the presence of Islam
- To explore ways to welcome Muslim converts to Christian faith in the church

Topics covered include the origins of Islam, its major caliphates, Wahhabism, the text and character of the Qur'an, religion and violence, a visit to a local mosque, and special presentations from scholars called to respond to various facets of Islam.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*

### **AP 963 Warrant and Christian Epistemology**

Purpose:

- To understand the epistemology of Alvin Plantinga
- To critically evaluate and analyze Plantinga's epistemology as a Christian epistemology
- To develop principles for a Reformed epistemology in light of current discussions

Seminar discussions will include foundationalism, coherentism, and reliabilism, as well as proper function epistemology. Special attention will be given to the development of a Reformed approach to a theory of knowledge.

*Spring semester. Dr. Oliphint.*

### **AP 981 Theology of Science**

Purpose:

- To develop a framework for understanding and evaluating science within a biblically-based worldview, utilizing resources from systematic theology, presuppositional apologetics, and biblical theology
- To interpret Genesis 1-3, weigh rival views of its meaning and implications, and consider its bearing on modern science
- To interact critically with modern approaches to the relation of science and Christianity, and with treatments of particular issues such as the age of the earth, uniformitarianism, evolutionary theories, intelligent design, the origin of man, and Noah's flood

Topics covered include theology of creation and providence; the word of God in providence; interpretation of Genesis 1-3; the relation of general and special revelation; the bearing of presuppositional apologetics on analysis of science; the influence of Christianity on the rise of science; and inductivist, instrumentalist, materialist, and relativist influences on thinking within and about science.

*Spring semester. Dr. Poythress.*

Courses listed for other concentrations which may be counted as concentration courses in Apologetics: CH 733, OT 903, NT 931, NT 951, ST 701, ST 733, ST 761, ST 773, ST 791, ST 803, ST 901, ST 944.

# Biblical Theology

## BT 101 Bible Survey

Purpose:

- To articulate the importance of recognizing the unified nature and identity of God's Word as it relates to biblical theology
- To explain the significance of a redemptive-historical approach to the bible and of biblical theology as the basis for understanding Scripture and its application
- To trace various themes from the Old Testament into the New Testament, especially the themes of kingdom and covenant
- To summarize the OT and how it connects to its fulfillment in the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ
- To situate any passage of Scripture within the larger context of the history of redemption as it climaxes in the person and work of Jesus Christ
- To explain the relationship between the NT and the OT, especially the relationship between Israel, Christ, and the Church
- To articulate how the theology of the NT is an organic unfolding of the themes and categories of the OT

This course will provide an overview of biblical theology as the organizing structure for understanding and valuing the unity and diversity of Scripture as God's revelation of Himself to us. Attention will be given to Scripture as God's Word as it is mediated through the various writers of the Old and New Testaments in various genres, times, and locations all the while contributing to the unified redemptive plot that unfolds throughout history and climaxes in the person and work of Jesus Christ and the gospel.

*May, September, October, and January terms, three hours. Drs. Duguid, Gibson, Poythress, Crowe, Gaffin, and Beale. Only available to online students.*

## BT 173 Principles of Biblical Interpretation

Purpose:

- To demonstrate the importance of understanding God's communication in Scripture as the foundation for biblical interpretation.
- To explain the significance of context in meaning, and will be able to demonstrate proficiency in evaluating the essential contextual features in a given passage as a necessary entry point to accessing a text's meaning
- To enter into an analysis of a text of Scripture and wisely engage with various tools that contribute to an informed understanding of the meaning and application of that passage.
- To elaborate upon any text's relationship to Jesus Christ and the gospel, and be able to situate the meaning of any passage within the redemptive-historical plot line of Scripture and make initial connections to present-day application.

Topics covered include the problem of meaning, historical and contemporary models for the interpretation and application of Scripture, Bible translations, resources for Bible study, genre, and contemporary challenges in interpretation (including the role of the reader and the impact of culture in the process of interpretation).

*June and January terms, three hours. Dr. Poythress. Only available to online students.*

## Church History

It has been well said that people make history, but they do not make the history that they choose. All human beings act in particular times, in particular places, and for a variety of different reasons. The aim of the Church History department is to teach students to understand the way in which human action is shaped by historical, social, economic, cultural, and theological concerns; and by so doing to allow the students to understand better their own positions as those who act in context. Though we live in an anti-historical age, the Church History department is committed to helping students realize the liberating importance of having a solid grasp of those historical trajectories which shape, often in hidden ways, the life of the church in the present.

To that end, the Church History curriculum enables students:

- To recognize the ambiguities and complexities of human history
- To examine themselves in the light of the past
- To engage with an epistemologically self-conscious historical methodology
- To see how the church's testimony to Christ has been preserved and articulated through the ages
- To recognize turning points in the history of the church
- To identify major types and paradigms of Christian vision in societies past and present
- To be well acquainted with the Reformed heritage
- To recognize global patterns in the spread of the gospel through missions
- To cultivate modesty with regard to their own times and cultures by setting these within the perspective of the great sweep of church history
- To be inspired by what they learn to proclaim God's grace to today's world

## Church History Master's Level Courses

### CH 141 History of Christianity I

Purpose:

- To identify key personalities, events, and doctrines within their particular cultural, social, and political contexts of the Ancient and Medieval Church.
- To summarize major movements and ideas of the Ancient and Medieval church, with special attention on the development of the Reformed tradition.
- To distinguish between varying theological traditions as formed in the Ancient church and developing into the Medieval period.
- To demonstrate contemporary applications of Ancient and Medieval church history, such as deepening our developing the creeds and councils in an effort to understand Scripture more faithfully and embolden believers by testimonies of God's faithfulness.

Topics covered will be drawn from the early Ancient church through the Medieval church. Students will be introduced to major movements and personalities of church history while gaining first hand exposure to primary source material to help articulate historical developments of theology.

*September term, three hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn. Only available to MAC and MATS students.*

### CH 151 History of Christianity II

Purpose:

- To identify key personalities, events, and doctrines within their particular cultural, social, and political contexts of the Reformation and Modern Church.
- To summarize major movements and ideas of the Reformation and modern church, with special attention on the development of the Reformed tradition.
- To distinguish between varying theological traditions as formed in the Reformation and developing into the modern period.
- To demonstrate contemporary applications of Reformation and Modern church history, such as deepening our understanding of Scripture and emboldening believers by testimonies of God's faithfulness.

Topics covered will be drawn from the Reformation through the modern world. Students will be introduced to major movements and personalities of church history while gaining first hand exposure to primary source material to help articulate historical developments of theology.

*May and March terms, three hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn. Only available to MAC and MATS students.*

### CH 211 The Ancient Church

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, personalities, and ideas which shaped the life and thought of the early church
- To encourage students to think historically about the church's past
- To enable students to read the major texts of the early Church Fathers for themselves

Topics and personalities covered include the first-century background, the Apostolic Fathers, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Origen, Trinitarian and Christological debates, Augustine, the rise of monasticism, and martyrdom.

*Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Rester.*

### **CH 223 The Medieval Church**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, individuals, and ideas which shaped the medieval church
- To help students understand the historical context which shaped the development of medieval theology
- To enable students to read the major texts of the medieval theologians for themselves

Topics covered include the influence of Aristotelian philosophy on medieval theology, Thomas Aquinas, Anselm, Abelard, the pastoral theology of Gregory the Great, the rise of the monastic orders, John Duns Scotus, William Ockham, medieval mysticism, and the rise of Islam.

*Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Rester.*

### **CH 311 The Reformation**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, personalities, and ideas which shaped the Reformation of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries
- To encourage students to think historically about the church's past
- To enable students to read major theological texts from the Reformation for themselves

Topics and personalities covered include the late medieval context, Martin Luther, John Calvin, justification by faith, anabaptism, the Catholic Reformation, the Anglican settlements, and the rise of Puritanism.

*Fall semester, three hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **CH 321 The Church in the Modern Age**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, individuals, and ideas that influenced the development of the church from the late seventeenth century to the present
- To help students examine the historical context out of which theological distinctions within the modern church emerged
- To encourage students to reflect upon the globalization of Christianity

Topics covered include Colonial North American Puritanism, the First and Second Great Awakenings, the history of American Presbyterianism, Old Princeton Theology, the Enlightenment and German Liberal Theology, the modern missionary movement, Fundamentalism, Evangelicalism, global Christianity, and the post-modern church.

*Fall semester, four hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **CH 401 Prolegomena in the Early-Modern Period**

See CH 701. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Rester.*

### **CH 403 Asian American History and Theology**

Purpose:

- To examine the historical-theological development of the Asian church in America
- To equip students to understand the place of the Asian American church within the broader history of Christianity in America
- To expose students to the most recent scholarship in ethnic studies and Asian American theology
- To encourage students to reflect upon the usefulness of Reformed theology for an Asian American context

Topics covered include the history of the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean American churches; theological contextualization; patterns of assimilation; racial discourse in cross-cultural ministries; single ethnic, multiethnic, and postethnic models of ministry; and a Pan-Asian Reformed theology.

*Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

### **CH 411 Nineteenth-Century Global Protestantism**

See CH 711. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Aubert.*

**Prerequisites:** Completion of 24 credit hours.

### **CH 413 Sixteenth Century Lutheranism**

*Winter term, Dr. Lillback.*

### **CH 423 Readings in the History of American Evangelicalism**

See CH 723. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **CH 432 English Puritan Thought**

See CH 732. *Spring term, two hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **CH 433 Readings in Pre-Reformation Theology: Augustine, Anselm and Aquinas**

See CH 733. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

### **CH 463 The Life and Thought of John Calvin**

See CH 763. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Lillback.*

### **CH 483 God and Scripture in the Era of Reformed Orthodoxy (ca. 1560-ca. 1680)**

See CH 783. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

### **CH 500 Latin I: Foundational Latin**

See CH 800. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Rester.*

### **CH 501 Latin II: Reading for Researchers**

See CH 801. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Rester.*

**Prerequisite:** CH 500

### **CH 531 The Doctrine of the Church in Reformed Theology**

See CH 831. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Troxel.*

### **CH 541 The Westminster Assembly and Pastoral Ministry**

See CH 841. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

**CH 563 Scottish Presbyterianism**

See CH 863. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**CH 572 The Life and Thought of John Owen**

See CH 872. *Winter term, two hours. Faculty.*

**CH 583 The Life and Thought of Francis Turretin**

See CH 883. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**CH 591 Reformed Confessions and Catechisms**

See CH 891. *Winter Semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**CH 643 Studies in Old Princeton Theology**

See CH 943. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Aubert.*

**Prerequisites:** Completion of 24 credit hours.

**CH 651 Old Religion in the New World: Transatlantic Puritan Theology**

See CH 951. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**CH 661 Readings in the History of Reformed Thought**

See CH 961. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**CH 671 The Life and Thought of Martin Luther**

See CH 972. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**CH 691 History of the Korean Church from Korea to North America**

See CH 992. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Park.*



## Church History Th.M/PhD Level Courses

### CH 701 Prolegomena in the Early-Modern Period

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with formulations and debates surrounding theological prolegomena and metatheology in Reformed traditions in comparison with Lutheran and Roman Catholic developments as well as relevant philosophical developments through readings in primary and secondary literature.
- To acquaint students with the theological foundations, principles, and practices that developed between the late medieval and Enlightenment periods.
- To acquaint students with philosophical shifts and educational changes that influenced the development of theological prolegomena.
- To train students to articulate in a winsomely thoughtful and historically critical way the relationships between theological prolegomena and educational methods, theological convictions, and philosophical contexts in the early modern period.

This course surveys approaches and models of theological prolegomena across confessional lines from the period of the Reformation through the Enlightenment. Topics include late medieval models of prolegomena received in the early modern period, the nature of theology as science, wisdom, or practice, developments and controversies among Roman Catholics and Protestants on prolegomena between 1500 and 1780, models of Reformed prolegomena and the development of confessional standards, the discipline of theology and the habitus of faith, Cartesian and Socinian debates on the nature of theology, Spinoza on philosophy in theology, and Deist and Enlightenment critiques of theological prolegomena.  
*Fall semester, Dr. Rester.*

### CH 711 Nineteenth-Century Global Protestantism

Purpose:

- To acquaint students with the historiography of the revisionist literature of the secularization thesis and other historiographical topics such as global church history
- To introduce students to the global dimension of nineteenth-century Protestantism
- To familiarize students with major texts and leading theologians of nineteenth-century Protestantism

Topics covered include global history, theological methodology, secularization, historicization, scientific theology, dogmatics, Kulturprotestantism, revivalism, neo-Pietism, neo-Calvinism, and neo-confessionalism.

*Spring semester, Dr. Aubert.*

### CH 713 Sixteenth Century Lutheranism

This course will focus on the development of Luther's theology beginning in his life and after his death on through the Formula of Concord. The distinctive theological debates that began in Luther's life and continued up through this confessional document will be considered in light of original sources, confessional documents, as well as reformed theological critiques. Special attention will be given to the streams of theology that represent Gnesio-Lutheranism and the Philippist stream emerging from Melancthon theology. The course will be conducted in a seminar fashion with lectures by the professor and the students with substantial opportunity for discussion and evaluation.

*Winter term, Dr. Lillback.*

### **CH 723 Readings in the History of American Evangelicalism**

Purpose:

- To understand the major philosophical and theological currents that shaped American Evangelicalism
- To examine the writings of American Evangelicals within the historical contexts of the eighteenth through twenty-first centuries
- To highlight ways in which the history of American Evangelicalism influences the development of global Christianity

Topics covered include post-puritanism, revivalism, Fundamentalism, the battle for the Bible, missions, the prophecy movement, Pentecostalism, and neo-Evangelicalism.

*Spring semester. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **CH 732 English Puritan Thought**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to reading English Puritan texts in historical context
- To give students an understanding of how English Puritan thought connected both to previous medieval and Patristic discussions, and also to the theology of the European Reformation
- To facilitate critical discussion of the historical events (political, cultural, intellectual) which helped to shape and inform the thought of the English Puritans

Topics covered include the impact of William Perkins; issues in Puritan ecclesiology and pastoral theory; the growing radicalism of the 1640s; the relationship between Reformed Orthodoxy and Puritan thought; and the impact of the Great Ejection of 1662 on English Reformed theology.

*Spring term. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **CH 733 Readings in Pre-Reformation Theology: Augustine, Anselm and Aquinas**

Purpose:

- To enable students to read primary texts in historical context.

This is a reading course in which students will read and discuss important texts in pre-Reformation theology. Texts may include Augustine's *City of God*, Anselm's *Cur Deus Homo* and *Proslogion*, and extended selections from Aquinas's *Summa contra Gentiles* and *Summa Theologiae*.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **CH 763 The Life and Thought of John Calvin**

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with the life and writings of John Calvin through intensive study and discussion of his writings
- To help students to read and appropriate the theology of the past for theological reflection today
- To encourage students to read John Calvin for themselves

Topics covered include the significant life events that impacted Calvin's theology, his view of apologetics, his doctrine of Scripture and doctrine of the covenant, his view of the extent of atonement, and his view of the Lord's supper in the context of Luther, Bucer, Zwingli, and Bullinger.

*Spring term. Dr. Lillback.*

### **CH 783 God and Scripture in the Era of Reformed Orthodoxy (ca. 1560-ca. 1680)**

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with debates concerning the doctrine of God and the doctrine of Scripture in the era of Reformed Orthodoxy
- To encourage students to explore the relationship between God, revelation, and Scripture within an historical context
- To facilitate critical discussion of significant issues in the relevant primary and secondary sources

Topics covered include the medieval background; the essence and attributes of God; Trinitarianism in the seventeenth century; the formalization of the Scripture principle; the attributes of Scripture; principles of interpretation; and the crisis in biblical authority in the late seventeenth century.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **CH 800 Latin I: Foundational Latin**

*Fall semester, Dr. Rester.*

### **CH 801 Latin II: Reading for Researchers**

*Spring semester, Dr. Rester.*

**Prerequisite:** CH 800

### **CH 831 The Doctrine of the Church in Reformed Theology**

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with ecclesiology (the doctrine of the church) in the Reformed tradition through readings in historical, biblical, and systematic theology
- To acquaint students with the theological foundations, principles, and practices that support, guide, and embody Reformed ecclesiology
- To provide students with resources to answer the ancient and modern challenges of sacramental, ecumenical, consumeristic, and post-modern views of the church
- To train students to articulate and defend more thoughtfully and winsomely the conviction that the church is “the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ”

Topics covered include the relationship between ecclesiology and biblical and systematic theology; church power, church and state, and church and the Kingdom of God; as well as readings in James Bannerman, John Calvin, William Cunningham, Herman Bavinck, G.C. Berkouwer, Charles Hodge, John Murray, Thomas Peck, John Owen, Herman Ridderbos, Stuart Robinson, James Thornwell, Geerhardus Vos, and Thomas Witherow.

*Fall semester. Dr. Troxel.*

### **CH 841 The Westminster Assembly and Pastoral Ministry**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to an important chapter in the history of pastoral care.
- To consider the practical challenges facing would-be architects of a remodelled church.
- To examine the ideals and realities of the Puritan experiment and consider how lessons from the past can impact our ministries today.

Topics covered include debates over preaching, pastoral care, worship, and church government. Texts will be drawn from the Westminster Assembly and its many members.

*Fall semester. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **CH 863 Scottish Presbyterianism**

Purpose:

- To enable students to understand how and why Presbyterianism developed in the manner in that it did
- To enable students to read for themselves some of the great foundational writings of the early Scottish Presbyterians
- To encourage students to reflect upon the relationship of historic Presbyterianism to the contemporary world

Theologians covered include John Knox, David Calderwood, Samuel Rutherford, and George Gillespie.  
*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **CH 872 The Life and Thought of John Owen**

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with the life and writings of John Owen through intensive study and discussion of his writings
- To help students to read and appropriate the theology of the past for theological reflection today
- To encourage students to read the Puritans for themselves

Topics covered include the social and political background, Arminianism, Socinianism, Trinitarianism, Christology, church and state issues, and Owen's significance in the ongoing development of Reformed theology.

*Winter term. Faculty.*

### **CH 883 The Life and Thought of Francis Turretin**

Purpose:

- To examine the history and theology of Francis Turretin (1623-1687) through a careful reading of Turretin's *Institutes of Elenctic Theology* (the primary systematic theology textbook of Old Princeton)
- To introduce the historical and theological context of seventeenth-century Protestant Scholasticism and its relation to the sixteenth-century Reformers
- To enable students to reflect upon the Reformed theological tradition and its value for the contemporary church

Topics covered include the background of Post-Reformation Scholasticism, theological prolegomena, the doctrine of God, the decrees of God, man's free will, justification, covenant theology, ecclesiology, and eschatology.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### **CH 891 Reformed Confessions and Catechisms**

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with the confessional and pedagogical literature of the Reformed tradition
- To facilitate students' understanding of these documents in their historical context
- To encourage students to interact with these documents as items of perennial interest

Topics covered include the nature and function of confessions and catechisms, the various historical backgrounds and contexts for the documents, early Reformed confessions, the Three Forms of Unity, and the Westminster Standards.

*Winter semester. Faculty.*

### **CH 943 Studies in Old Princeton Theology**

Purpose:

- To deepen students' knowledge of Old Princeton's theological contribution
- To explore the writings of the Princeton theologians in the context of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries
- To investigate the theology of Old Princeton within the wider history of the Reformed tradition

Topics covered include theological method, the influence of Common Sense Philosophy, doctrine of Scripture, Calvinism in North America, confessionalism, Presbyterian polity, and Reformed biblical theology.

*Fall semester. Dr. Aubert.*

### **CH 951 Old Religion in the New World: Transatlantic Puritan Theology**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the British context out of which colonial Puritanism emerged
- To explore the transatlantic dimension of colonial Puritanism through the cross-fertilization of theological ideas
- To examine how colonial Puritan theology distinguished itself in a North American context

Topics covered include the social and political background of the seventeenth century, covenant theology, soteriology, ecclesiology, sacraments, and eschatology.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **CH 961 Readings in the History of Reformed Thought**

Purpose:

- To deepen students' knowledge of Reformed theological writing in historical context
- To familiarize students with significant documents and theologians of the Reformed tradition
- To help students think historically about theology and their own tradition

Topics covered include the doctrine of God, salvation, the sacraments, church and state, and eschatology. Texts will be drawn from Calvin, the Puritans, the Reformed Orthodox, the Dutch Reformed tradition, and various other Reformed traditions.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **CH 972 The Life and Thought of Martin Luther**

Purpose:

- To examine the life and teaching of Martin Luther through studying texts written by Luther and his contemporaries which illuminate the intellectual development and theological contribution of the German Reformer

Topics include the controversy over indulgences, the nature of justification, the dispute with Erasmus, the Marburg Colloquy, and the development of Lutheran theology in the 1530s and 1540s.

*Fall term. Faculty.*

## **CH 992 History of the Korean Church from Korea to North America**

Purpose:

- To provide an overview of the development of the Korean Church from its early days of Protestant missions until today, focusing on various challenges the church faced, including Shinto crisis, communist persecution, and the side-effects of rapid industrialization
- To provide a brief introduction to the Korean-American church as an important outgrowth of the Korean church movement in the twentieth century
- To stimulate both academic and ministerial interest in the study of the Korean Church

*Fall semester, Dr. Park.*

Courses listed for other concentrations which may be counted as concentration courses in Church History:  
AP 721, AP 841, AP 903, NT 981, ST 733, ST 773, ST 791, ST 803, ST 811, ST 901, ST 932, ST 972.

# Old Testament

Nothing is more foundational to Christian ministry than a full-orbed knowledge and embrace of the gospel. The Old Testament department is committed to teaching the first thirty-nine books of the Bible, with all the aspects entailed, as the anticipation of the glorious climactic fulfillment of redemption in Jesus Christ.

To this end, the Old Testament curriculum enables students:

- To acquire a reading knowledge of biblical Hebrew
- To acquire a knowledge of the content of the Old Testament
- To grapple with the challenges of biblical interpretation
- To evaluate the ways in which the Old Testament has been interpreted in the past
- To perceive the unity of the Old and New Testaments and the hermeneutical significance of their unity
- To understand and value the historical context in which God gave his redemptive revelation, how it began in the Old Testament period and then culminated in the glorious and extraordinary climax to that history in Christ and his work in Christ as interpreted in the New Testament
- To identify the major biblical-theological themes of the Old Testament and to recognize their importance for understanding the gospel
- To develop skill in understanding and applying each of the books of the Old Testament
- To learn to communicate the gospel through the Old Testament
- To be encouraged to embrace the gospel in continuing and vital ways through the glory of God's self-disclosure and to fear the Lord and love him with the whole heart

## Holy Land Studies

For courses at the Jerusalem University College, see Chapter 7.

## Old Testament Master's Level Courses

### OT 011, 012, 013 Biblical Hebrew

Purpose:

- To teach students elements of the Hebrew language
- To expose the student to a significant amount of biblical Hebrew through extensive translation of portions of the Hebrew Bible
- To prepare the student for further exegetical work in Old Testament courses

Topics covered include orthography, phonemics, morphology, and syntax. The third semester is devoted to extensive reading and translation of narrative and poetic materials from the Hebrew Bible. OT 011 students should note that required videos, practice materials, and quizzes will be provided before the course begins and in some cases may be due in the two weeks before the term starts. The student should log into Canvas to see the assignments and due dates, which will vary based on the term in which the course is taken.

*See Chapter 8 for possible sequences and Chapter 6 for auditing restrictions. Faculty.*

### OT 113 Old Testament Introduction

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the complex hermeneutical, theological, and doctrinal issues surrounding Old Testament interpretation

Topics covered include the history of the Hebrew text; the use of the Old Testament in the Pseudepigrapha, Apocrypha, and New Testament; the major critical methods and postmodern interpretation; and biblical theology.

*Fall and Spring semesters, three hours. Dr. Coleman.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 012 (or equivalent), completed or in progress.

### OT 141 Old Testament Theology for Application

Purpose:

- To expose the student to specific interpretive issues in Old Testament historical, prophetic and wisdom books
- To demonstrate how Old Testament historical, prophetic and wisdom books are to be interpreted and applied in light of the gospel
- To engage in close reading and apply to specific books the principles of biblical-theological interpretation learned in Biblical Theology I and Biblical Theology II [Bible Survey, Online]

Topics covered include redemptive-historical interpretation and the question of application; critique of various popular methods of application of biblical material; the nature of biblical history-writing; the office, function, and theology of the prophet in the Old Testament; understanding wisdom literature in light of the gospel; the specific theologies and redemptive-historical trajectories of several specific biblical books; and the use of the Old Testament in ministry.

*June, September, and March terms, three hours. Dr. Duguid. Only available to online students.*



### **OT 211 Old Testament History and Theology I**

Purpose:

- To provide an introduction to the theology of the Pentateuch
- To engage in the exegesis of selected passages from the Pentateuch with particular attention to their relationship to ancient Near Eastern literature, the theology of the Pentateuch as a whole, and to the history of redemption as it reaches its climax in the gospel

Topics covered include the narrative structure of the Bible, the Pentateuch and the history of redemption, Genesis 1-3 as an entry point to biblical theology, and the book of Exodus.

*Fall semester, three hours. Dr. Gibson.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

### **OT 223 Old Testament History and Theology II**

Purpose:

- To explore the relationship among literature, history, and theology in the books of Deuteronomy through Ezra/Nehemiah
- To provide a knowledge of the content of this section of canon
- To give a biblical-theological framework for applying these books in life and ministry

In addition to the theology and content of each of these books, topics include the relationship of Deuteronomy to the other books; Old Testament historiography; Old Testament theology; the relationship between revelation, history, and theology; and covenant.

*Spring semester, three hours. Dr. Gibson.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent), OT 211, and NT 123.

### **OT 311 Prophetic Books**

Purpose:

- To provide knowledge of the content of this portion of the canon
- To study the role of the Hebrew prophets in Israelite society and the nature of Israelite prophecy
- To give a biblical-theological framework to understand the prophetic books in life and ministry

Topics covered include the structure, content, and theology of the prophetic books and Daniel; the ancient Near Eastern setting of prophecy; the history of interpretation of the prophetic literature; and the role of the prophets in redemptive history. A portion of the course involves seminar discussions with the professor.

*Fall and Spring semesters, three hours. Dr. Duguid.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

### **OT 323 Poetry and Wisdom**

Purpose:

- To gain a strong familiarity with the nature of Hebrew poetry
- To explore the theological context of the wisdom books (Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes), Psalms, and Song of Songs
- To discuss the theology of Old Testament wisdom vis-à-vis the gospel

Topics covered include the nature and diversity of Old Testament wisdom books; characteristics of Hebrew poetry; exegetical studies of various psalms, Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs; and wisdom and the New Testament.

*Fall and Spring semesters, two hours. Dr. Duguid.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

**OT 431 The Book of Psalms**

See OT 731. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

**OT 461 Biblical and Inscriptional Aramaic**

See OT 761. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisite:** OT 013 (or equivalent).

**OT 462 Aramaic 2**

See OT 762. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Coleman.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and OT 461.

**OT 473 Advanced Biblical Exegesis and Discourse Analysis of Hebrew Poetry**

See OT 773. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Gibson.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 123, OT 013, and OT 223.

**OT 503 Bible Translation**

See OT 803. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Putnam.*

**Prerequisite:** OT 012 (or equivalent).

**OT 521 Science and Genesis 1-3 in the Light of Hermeneutical Principles**

See OT 821. *Fall semester, three hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisite:** AP 101, completed or in progress, and NT 123, recommended.

**OT 540 Old Testament Use of the Old Testament**

See OT 840. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Gibson.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent), NT 123, and OT 223.

**OT 613 The Book of Proverbs**

See OT 913. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Putnam.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

**OT 623 Lamentations**

See OT 923. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

**OT 631 The Book of Isaiah**

See OT 931. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

**OT 640 Biblical Theology of Worship**

See OT 940. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Duguid.*

**OT 641 Biblical Theology of Worship**

Purpose:

- To articulate a biblical-theological foundation for worship as it finds its inception in the book of Genesis and its climax in the book of Revelation
- To trace lines of continuity and discontinuity in Biblical worship practices over the course of redemptive history and articulate how these practices find their center in Christ
- To compare and contrast various worship practices of contemporary churches and evaluate them in light of a biblical-theological perspective of worship

Topics covered include worship as the people of the King, living in the presence of the King, living in harmony with the King's people, worship across redemptive history involving a sacred place, community, and time, and the various worship practices of God's people.

*September term, three hours. Dr. Duguid. Only available to online students.*

**OT 644 Metaphor in Scripture**

See OT 944. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Putnam.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

**OT 651 Ugaritic I**

See OT 751. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent).

**OT 653 Ugaritic II**

See OT 753. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 651.

**OT 663 Judges**

See OT 963. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Duguid.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 123.

## Old Testament Th.M/PhD Level Courses

### OT 703 The Minor Prophets

Purpose:

- To investigate the unique content, form, and theology of each of the twelve Minor Prophets
- To review recent contributions regarding the unity of the Minor Prophets
- To engage in original research on unifying motifs and themes through the Minor Prophets

Topics covered include the contribution of the Minor Prophets to the canon and to redemptive historical hermeneutics, the history of scholarship on the unity of the Minor Prophets, and evaluation of purported redactional activity in the Minor Prophets.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### OT 720 The Book of Zechariah

The purpose of this course is to learn the content, themes, and theology of the book of Zechariah with a view toward understanding their fulfillment in the person of Jesus Christ and communicating their message in the context of the church. The class will include a close grammatical-historical reading of selected passages from the book of Zechariah and special attention will be given to the book's genre(s), motifs, and structure. Topics covered will include a study of critical and contemporary approaches to Zechariah, the history of post-exilic Israel, and the characteristics of apocalyptic literature.

*Summer Term. Dr. Coleman.*

### OT 731 The Book of Psalms

Purpose:

- To read the Psalms with attention to poetic language, literary forms, and in the context of the thought world of the ancient Near East
- To read the Psalter in the context of Israel's covenantal relationship with God
- To reflect on the Psalter's function as Scripture
- To develop a Christian interpretation of the Psalms

Topics covered include the history of interpretation of the Psalms including recent research on the shape and shaping of the Psalter, theological themes in the Psalms, the Psalms and redemptive history, kingship and the psalms, and messianic interpretation.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### OT 743 Hebrew Text-Linguistic Seminar

Purpose:

- To introduce Hebrew syntax and macro-linguistic structuring of the Hebrew texts of the Bible (that is, structuring beyond the level of the clause)

Topics covered include the study of the relationship between formal and functional linguistic approaches. While extensive use of computerized databases and electronic tools will be part of the course, only general familiarity with the computer is needful. Prior experience with the databases and programs is not required. The necessary computing facilities are available on campus. This seminar is sponsored in cooperation with the J. Alan Groves Center for Advanced Biblical Research.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### **OT 751 Ugaritic I**

Purpose:

- To obtain basic reading competence in Ugaritic
- To compare Ugaritic to Hebrew and other Semitic languages to better understand Hebrew as a West Semitic language
- To enter the thought world of an ancient Near Eastern culture
- To show how the study of Ugaritic enriches Old Testament interpretation

Topics covered include the place of Ugaritic among Semitic languages; introduction to Ugaritic grammar and syntax; translation of selections from Ugaritic mythological texts.

*Fall semester. Dr. Coleman.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent).

### **OT 753 Ugaritic II**

Purpose:

- Advanced study of the Ugaritic language
- Further study and in-depth analysis of Ugaritic mythological texts

*Spring semester. Dr. Coleman.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 751.

### **OT 761 Biblical and Inscriptional Aramaic**

Purpose:

- To gain a competence in reading biblical Aramaic texts
- To provide linguistic background to the study of biblical Aramaic with an introduction to inscriptional Aramaic

Topics covered include a survey of biblical Aramaic grammar, with an emphasis upon translation of the Aramaic portions of the Old Testament, and a brief introduction to inscriptional Aramaic, including translation of two or three texts from Syria-Palestine and Mesopotamia dating from the ninth and eighth centuries B.C.

*Fall semester. Dr. Coleman.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent). Students enrolled in the PhD program in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation will need to obtain a final grade of B- or better in this course to satisfy the requirement of demonstrating competence in biblical Aramaic.

### **OT 762 Aramaic 2**

*Spring semester. Dr. Coleman.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and OT 761.

### **OT 773 Advanced Biblical Exegesis and Discourse Analysis of Hebrew Poetry**

The course is designed to help students become competent in advanced exegesis and discourse analysis of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament scriptures, so that they rightly handle God's Word as they proclaim it to God's people.

*Fall semester. Dr. Gibson.*

### **OT 803 Bible Translation**

Purpose:

- To reflect on issues involved in translating biblical texts
- To evaluate modern translations
- To develop skills in the art of translation

Topics include a discussion of the possibility of translation given linguistic non-isomorphism, the nature of translational decision, and the role of precedent in translation. In addition to lectures and discussion, students will work together to produce three translations of the biblical book of Jonah: "inter-linear", "essentially literal", and "fluid."

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 012 (or equivalent).

### **OT 821 Science and Genesis 1-3 in the Light of Hermeneutical Principles**

Purpose:

- To understand Genesis 1-3
- To evaluate major positions in secondary literature, especially with regard to what they do with the relation of Genesis 1-3 to modern science
- To evaluate suggested harmonizations with modern science
- To discern what major interpretive principles influence interpretation
- To discern the theological implications of interpretive stances
- To evaluate interpretations on the basis of biblical and theological foundations

Topics covered include exegesis of Genesis 1-3; special attention to correlations with providence; the role of hermeneutics; the key position of the doctrine of God; the possible pertinence of ancient Near Eastern myths; the genre of Genesis and of Genesis 1-4; critical principles for sifting scientific claims; days of creation; Adam; the fall; and the firmament.

*Fall semester. Dr. Poythress.*

### **OT 840 Old Testament Use of the Old Testament**

The course is designed to help students understand inner-biblical interpretation in the Old Testament. The course will begin with an overview of current scholarship in relation to the general area of "intertextuality" and "inner-biblical allusion and exegesis," before presenting a methodological approach that remains sensitive to inner-biblical connections within the OT, while at the same time avoiding parallelomania. Having established sound criteria for an intended inner-biblical connection, students will look at examples of inner-biblical interpretation in the book of Malachi.

*Summer term. Dr. Gibson.*

### **OT 843 Advanced Hebrew Exegesis and Discourse Analysis**

Purpose:

- To develop skills of deep exegesis and discourse analysis of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament.

The course will aim to teach the functional value of the grammatical form of Hebrew words and their accents. The functionality of Hebrew words will lead into a discussion of syntax and semantics at the level of clauses and paragraphs. The course will help students to read the Hebrew text with greater precision, and with an eye to the narrative contours of the text. In conversation with Alverio Niccacci's theory of the Hebrew verb, a system for understanding the Hebrew verb in prose and poetry will be presented.

*Spring semester. Dr. Gibson.*

### **OT 850 The Book of Ezekiel**

Purpose:

- To engage in a grammatical-historical reading of selected passages from the book of Ezekiel
- To explore its structure, themes, and theology
- To develop a distinctly Christian interpretation of this book, with a view to teaching and preaching its message in a contemporary context

Topics covered include a study of the history of the critical approaches, the structure and content of the book, motifs in the prophecy, and an orientation to Old Testament prophetic literature. Special attention will be given to the book's role in redemptive history.

*Summer term. Dr. Duguid.*

### **OT 903 Critical Methodologies**

Purpose:

- To explore various methods and approaches of biblical criticism and study
- To learn to be critical about the nature of one's assumptions concerning the nature of the Bible, its coherence, and its study

Topics covered include the traditional critical methods (source, form, redaction) as well as more contemporary approaches ( literary, canonical, reader-response, ideological, etc.)

*Spring semester. Dr. Duguid.*

### **OT 913 The Book of Proverbs**

Purpose:

- To provide an inductive and exegetical orientation to the book of Proverbs

Topics covered include Proverbs' purpose, organization, provenance and interpretation; emphasizing the translation, interpretation and use of the individual wisdom sayings found in Proverbs 10:1-30:9.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **OT 923 Lamentations**

Purpose:

- To engage in a close reading of the Hebrew of Lamentations, its poetic features and acrostic form, literary and rhetorical structures, theological content and reception

Topics covered include Lamentations' theology of sin and suffering, its explanation of why the fall of Jerusalem occurred, and its portrayal of disillusionment with Yahweh's willingness to intervene for his people's deliverance. In light of God's sovereignty, justice, and ultimate mercy in Christ, students will reflect on the role of prayer, meditation, complaint, and repentance in Lamentations as a way of handling catastrophe.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **OT 931 The Book of Isaiah**

Purpose:

- To engage in a grammatical-historical reading of the book of Isaiah
- To explore its structure, themes, and theology
- To develop a distinctly Christian interpretation of this book

Topics covered include the history of critical approaches to Isaiah, the structure and content of the book, motifs in the prophecy, and an orientation to Old Testament prophetic literature. Special attention will be given to the issue of the book's unity and its role in redemptive history.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### **OT 940 Biblical Theology of Worship**

Purpose:

- To discuss the sacred places, people, offerings and festivals of the Old Testament
- To trace the redemptive-historical development of forms of worship from the Garden of Eden to the exilic period and beyond into the New Testament

Topics covered are primarily exegetical, interacting with the Biblical materials rather than with historical-critical approaches. The goal of the course is to form a solid Biblical basis from which to address the issues of worship which face the contemporary church.

*Spring semester. Dr. Duguid.*

### **OT 944 Metaphor in Scripture**

Purpose:

- To understand and be able to explain various theories of metaphor, from Aristotle to cognitive science
- To apply the cognitive theory of metaphor to literary texts and to Scripture
- To identify, describe, and explore the theological and ministerial implications of a biblical metaphoric world
- To provide an inductive exploration of metaphoric “worlds” in Scripture

Topics covered include the identification of textual metaphors and their underlying root metaphors in Scripture, the alignment of those metaphors with others that belong to the same metaphoric “world”, and discerning the theological and pastoral implications of those different “worlds.”

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### **OT 963 Judges**

Purpose:

- To engage in a close reading of the Hebrew text of the book of Judges
- To understand the book of Judges in the broader context of the Deuteronomistic History
- To explore redemptive-historical interpretation of the book of Judges and the proper application of its message in the contemporary church through preaching and counseling

Topics covered include the history of interpretation of the book of Judges; matters of special introduction to the book; the use of literary methods in reading the book of Judges; the relationship between literature, history and theology, in service of Christ-centered application.

*Spring semester. Dr. Duguid.*

### **OT 981 Directed Readings in Old Testament Introduction and Theology**

Purpose:

- To introduce the broad spectrum of Old Testament introduction and theology

Topics covered include general introduction (canon, text, historical background, and language), special introduction (background to the individual books), critical methodologies, and Old Testament theology. Required of all PhD candidates in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation. As a directed readings course, it has no class meetings.

*Fall and spring semesters. Faculty.*

**Restrictions:** Students may take only one semester for credit.

Courses listed for other majors which may be counted as major courses for the ThM or PhD degree in Old Testament: NT 793, NT 941, NT 981, NT 993.



## New Testament

The New Testament department serves the mission of WTS to train specialists in the Bible by teaching the entirety of the New Testament, in its original language, as the full revelation of the covenant of God's grace in Jesus Christ, providing foundational training and tools for a lifetime of learning and ministry.

To this end, the New Testament curriculum enables students:

- To acquire facility in reading and rigorous exegesis of the New Testament in Greek
- To understand and value the historical context in which God accomplished his work in Christ, and through which he gave us the New Testament
- To perceive the unity of the Old and New Testaments and the hermeneutical significance thereof, with attention to our Confessional Standards
- To grapple with the challenges of biblical interpretation
- To recognize major biblical-theological themes of the New Testament and their importance for understanding the biblical message
- To develop skill in understanding and applying each of the books of the New Testament
- To encourage growth in godliness and spiritual maturity
- To evaluate the ways in which the New Testament has been interpreted in the past

## New Testament Master's Level Courses

### NT 001, NT 002, NT 003 New Testament Greek

Purpose:

- To prepare students for further work in the New Testament by giving them a reading knowledge of Koiné Greek

The course is designed for beginners; no prior knowledge of Greek is assumed. Students will cover the basics of grammar and acquire a core vocabulary. During the last semester students will do recitations from the Greek New Testament and be introduced to the issues of syntax.

*See Chapter 8 for possible sequences and Chapter 6 for auditing restrictions. Three hours each, Faculty.*

### NT 101 General Introduction to the New Testament I

Purpose:

- To provide students with the historical and literary framework requisite for responsible New Testament interpretation.

Topics covered include introductory matters that apply to the New Testament as a whole, especially inscripturation, canon formation, textual transmission, and textual criticism. The general approach to these issues is historical, but with an underlying concern for the theological dimensions of each.

*Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Crowe.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 011 (or equivalent), completed or in progress.

### NT 103 General Introduction to the New Testament II

Purpose:

- To continue to provide students with the historical and literary framework requisite for responsible New Testament interpretation.

Topics covered include some introductory matters that apply to the New Testament as a whole: historical background in Judaism and the Greco-Roman world, and especially how the Old Testament forms the most important background for the New Testament. Some attention will also be paid to linguistic background. The general approach to these issues is historical, but with an underlying concern for the theological dimensions of each.

*Fall and Spring semesters, one hour. Dr. Beale, Dr. Briones.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent) completed or in progress.

### NT 123 Biblical Hermeneutics: Old and New Testaments

Purpose:

- To grow in skill in understanding, interpreting, and applying the Bible

Topics covered include prolegomena to biblical interpretation, principles and practice of biblical interpretation, and the question of hermeneutics in the historical-critical tradition.

*Fall and Spring semesters, four hours. Dr. Beale, Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent) completed or in progress, OT 012 (or equivalent) completed or in progress, NT 101 completed or in progress, NT 103 completed or in progress, and ST 101 completed or in progress. It is recommended that OT 012 be completed rather than in progress.

### **NT 143 New Testament Theology for Application**

Purpose:

- To understand better the content and theology of the New Testament, with particular focus on how the Gospels, Acts, Epistles, and Revelation apply to life and counseling contexts.
- To describe how believers can meaningfully move from the text of Scripture to a wise, gospel-centered application of its truths
- To gain experience in seeing the Christological/Gospel-centered implications of any text as a prerequisite for meaningful personal application.
- To grow in their ability to rivet Scriptural truth to real-life ministry situations.

This course is aimed at students seeking to engage in the text of the New Testament for the purpose of engaging a wise and thoughtful application of the content and theology of the New Testament to our present world. Students will learn how the truths of the New Testament give meaning to and guidance for the various facets of a believers' life including a believer's world and life view, relationships, career, counseling, and ministry.

*May and January terms, three hours. Drs. Crowe and Keene. Only available to online students.*

### **NT 211 New Testament Interpretation: The Gospels**

Purpose:

- To develop a framework of understanding for interpreting and applying the canonical Gospels
- To familiarize students with the Gospels' description of the earthly ministry and teaching of Jesus Christ, and to enable them to understand and apply the theology of the Gospels in ministry

Topics covered include a selective survey and critique of historical-critical investigation of the Gospels, questions of special introduction, an overview of the content and theology of Jesus' actions and teaching, and an examination of the character and special emphases of each canonical Gospel.

*Fall semester, four hours. Dr. Crowe.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent), OT 013 (or equivalent) completed or in progress, NT 101, NT 103, and NT 123.

### **NT 223 New Testament Interpretation: Acts and the Pauline Epistles**

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of Acts and the letters of Paul and apply them to students' lives and ministry

Topics covered include questions of special introduction, exegetical method, exegesis of selected texts, and basic themes in the theology of Acts and the letters of Paul.

*Spring semester, four hours. Dr. Briones.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent), OT 013 (or equivalent), NT 101, NT 103, and NT 123.

### **NT 311 New Testament Interpretation: Hebrews to Revelation**

Purpose:

- To introduce the particular character of Hebrews through Revelation
- To enable students to understand these books so that they can apply their teaching to their own lives and in their ministry

The course will deal with questions of special introduction, and will include the exegesis of selected passages in order to establish the structure and distinctive themes of these books.

*Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Crowe, Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent), NT 101, NT 103, NT 123.

**NT 403 Theology and the Exegesis of the Gospel of John**

See NT 703. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Crowe.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 211

**NT 412 The Gospel of Matthew**

See NT 712. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Crowe.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 211

**NT 421 Parables and Miracles of Christ**

See NT 721. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**NT 433 The Exegesis of Revelation**

See NT 733. *Fall semester, three hours. Dr. Beale.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent) completed or in progress.

**NT 463 The Acts of the Apostles**

See NT 763. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Crowe.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 223.

**NT 471 I Peter**

See NT 771. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Keene.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent).

**NT 522 Biblical Imagery**

See NT 822. *Winter term, two hours. Dr. Keene.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 123.

**NT 543 The Epistle of James**

See NT 843. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Keene.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 123.

**NT 553 Miracles and Miraculous Gifts**

See NT 853. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 223 completed or in progress.

**NT 581 Theology of Hebrews**

See NT 881. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 123.

**NT 612 New Testament Theology**

See NT 912. *Winter term, two hours. Dr. Beale.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent).

**Restrictions:** Limited enrollment.

**NT 631 Theology of Language and Interpretation**

See NT 931. *Fall Semester, two hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**NT 641 New Testament Use of the Old Testament**

See NT 941. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Beale.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 013 (or equivalent), OT 013 (or equivalent) recommended.

**Restrictions:** Limited enrollment.

**NT 651 Theological Models and Exegesis**

See NT 951. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 123.

**NT 663 Issues in Pauline Theology**

See NT 963. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 123.

**NT 681 History of Interpretation**

See NT 981. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Crowe.*

**Prerequisites:** CH 211, NT 123.

## **New Testament ThM/PhD Level Courses**

### **NT 703 Theology and Exegesis of the Gospel of John**

Purpose:

- To understand better the contours of John's theology and Christology
- To gain skill in exegesis of the Greek text of John's gospel
- To become familiar with some of the main lines of critical thought in relation to John's gospel

Topics covered include the background to John's thought, the content and literary structure of the gospel, and interaction with the history of Johannine studies.

*Spring semester. Dr. Crowe.*

### **NT 712 The Gospel of Matthew**

Purpose:

- To become better interpreters of the Gospel of Matthew
- To develop skill in exegesis
- To understand the biblical theology of Matthew

Topics covered include prolegomena to Matthew, exegesis of key passages, theological distinctives of the Gospel, and its role in biblical theology.

*Spring semester. Dr. Crowe.*

### **NT 721 Parables and Miracles of Christ**

Purpose:

- To develop skill in interpreting the parables and miracles within their context in the Gospels

Topics covered include genre, the nature of metaphor, the relations of the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, and preaching from the Gospels.

*Fall semester. Dr. Poythress.*

### **NT 733 The Exegesis of Revelation**

Purpose:

- To interpret Revelation on the basis of the Greek text

Topics covered include the Old Testament background of its imagery, tracing the argument of the book, interpreting the various visions of the book, and the contemporary relevance of its message.

*Fall semester. Dr. Beale.*

### **NT 763 The Acts of the Apostles**

Purpose:

- To understand better the book of Acts in its redemptive-historical, theological, canonical, and historical setting.
- To gain skill in exegesis of the Greek text of Acts.
- To become familiar with some of the major interpretive issues in Acts.

Topics covered include the relationship of Acts to the Gospels and to Paul, the early Christian community, theology of Acts, and literary and structural features of Acts.

*Summer module. Dr. Crowe.*

### **NT 771 I Peter**

Purpose:

- To interpret Peter in its original, redemptive-historical, and canonical context
- To read (and understand) the Greek of 1 Peter
- To apply Peter's ecclesiological and ethical concerns to contemporary issues

Topics covered include prolegomena, eschatology and redemptive-history, ecclesiology and ethics, the nature of Christian suffering, and the relationship between 1 Peter, the Gospels, and Paul.

*Fall semester. Dr. Keene.*

### **NT 791 Directed Readings in the Literature of Post-Biblical Judaism (Part 1: Early Judaism)**

Purpose:

- To instill a firsthand familiarity with the major literary texts of early post-biblical Judaism as a background for better understanding the New Testament.

This is a directed readings course required for PhD students in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation. Most of the readings cover the Old Testament Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha, but there will also be select readings in Qumran, Josephus, and Philo. In addition, there will be some secondary readings surveying the field. Required for new and readmitted students matriculating in the 2012-2013 academic year or later. As a directed readings course, it has no class meetings.

*Fall and Spring semesters. Faculty.*

### **NT 793 Directed Readings in the Literature of Post-Biblical Judaism (Part 2: Early and Later Judaism)**

Purpose:

- To instill a firsthand familiarity with the major literary texts of early and later post-biblical Judaism as a background for better understanding the New Testament.

This is a directed readings course required for PhD students in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation. Readings cover Qumran, Josephus, Philo, (i.e., portions of these works not covered in NT 798), the Mishna, and some of the earlier Midrashic works. In addition, there will be some secondary readings surveying the field. As a directed readings course, it has no class meetings.

*Fall and Spring semesters. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 791.

### **NT 822 Biblical Imagery**

The bible is full of every kind of figurative language--from simple similes and metaphors, to puns, irony, idiom, dreams, parables, and of course typology. Figurative language is more than just artistic ornamentation; it's at the heart of divine revelation and language itself. This class will analyze various hermeneutical approaches, both ancient and modern, to interpreting figurative language. It will then explore the unique character of biblical figuration, paying special attention to the way in which figures are fulfilled in the revelation of Christ.

*Winter term, two hours. Dr. Keene.*

**NT 843 The Epistle of James**

Purpose:

- To examine the exegetical and theological problems in the letter of James
- To enable students to understand the relation between faith and works, suffering, and the believer's relation to material wealth so that they can address these issues in their personal lives and in their ministry to others

This course will include an exegetical study of the Greek text of the book of James.

*Fall semester. Dr. Keene.*

**NT 853 Miracles and Miraculous Gifts**

Purpose:

- To understand biblical teaching on miracle and prophecy in order to evaluate the modern charismatic movement

Topics covered include the theology of miracle and word revelation in the New Testament, with special attention to redemptive-historical interpretation of the book of Acts, and the evaluation of contemporary charismatic phenomena in the light of Scripture.

*Spring semester. Dr. Poythress.*

**NT 881 Theology of Hebrews**

Purpose:

- To examine prominent themes in the teaching of Hebrews

Topics covered include eschatological structure; eschatology and ethics; the issue of apostasy; and aspects of the heavenly, high priestly ministry of Jesus.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

**NT 891 Greek Discourse Analysis**

Purpose:

- To perform linguistic analysis of New Testament Greek discourse in order to improve exegesis

Topics covered include the introduction to various linguistic theories of sentence and discourse, elements of tagmemic theory, the relation of grammar to reference and meaning, paragraph and discourse, regularities and stylistic deviations, and exegesis of selected New Testament texts.

*Spring semester. Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** NT 123.

**NT 912 New Testament Theology**

Purpose:

- To grow in understanding of how to do biblical theology in the New Testament and to better understand the theological unity of the New Testament amidst its diversity

Topics covered include: (1) important literature in the field; (2) the relationship of exegetical method to a method of doing biblical theology; (3) the theological relationship of the Old Testament to the New Testament; (4) the integral relationship of New Testament theology to the ideas of the kingdom, inaugurated eschatology and the new creation in comparison to other proposed "centers" for the New Testament. Limited enrollment.

*Winter term. Dr. Beale.*



### **NT 921 Directed Readings in New Testament Introduction and Theology**

Purpose:

- To instill a general knowledge of the entire field of New Testament study

This is a reading course required of PhD students in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation. Readings cover general introduction (canon, text, history of criticism), special introduction, and biblical theology.

As a directed readings course, it has no class meetings.

*Fall and spring semesters. Dr. Crowe.*

**Restrictions:** Students may only take one semester for credit. Limited to candidates for the PhD.

### **NT 931 Theology of Language and Interpretation**

Purpose:

- To build a theology of language in order to draw implications for biblical interpretation

Topics covered include major biblical teachings about God, the Word of God, verbal communication, and human language, with implications for the process of biblical interpretation, interpretive goals, and the appropriate qualifications of interpreters.

*Fall semester. Dr. Poythress.*

### **NT 941 New Testament Use of the Old Testament**

Purpose:

- To examine the apostolic use of the Old Testament in its first century hermeneutical context
- To enable students to discern whether, and in what respects, this apostolic usage may be regarded as determinative for exegesis today

Topics covered include New Testament use of the Old Testament in the light of its Old Testament context, and the New Testament context and its environment.

*Fall semester. Dr. Beale.*

**Restrictions:** Area seminar for PhD students specializing in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation; others admitted only by special permission of the instructor. Limited enrollment.

### **NT 951 Theological Models and Exegesis**

Purpose:

- To understand the role of interpretive frameworks in order to deepen interpretation

Topics covered include the interrelations of systematic theology and exegesis, with special attention to the covenant concept, theological concept formation, and key metaphors of theology; and the bearing of philosophy of science on theological method.

*Fall semester. Dr. Poythress.*

### **NT 961 The Structure of Pauline Theology**

Purpose:

- To understand relations among major themes in Paul

Topics covered include the organic unity of justification, sanctification, union with Christ, covenant, and eschatology in Pauline theology.

*Fall semester. Dr. Poythress.*

### **NT 963 Issues in Pauline Theology**

Purpose:

- To understand better both the overall contours of Paul's theology and historical context, as well as specific elements of his message
- To gain familiarity with some of the major issues and contours in Pauline interpretation today
- To gain skill in exegeting portions of Paul's epistles in Greek

Topics covered may include current issues in Pauline studies, tracing key features of Pauline thought, Paul's use of Scripture, Paul's understanding of the law, Pauline soteriology, and the contextual nature of Paul's theology.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **NT 981 History of Interpretation**

Purpose:

- To enable students to learn the history of biblical interpretation through the study of primary documents from the Patristic period through the Reformation

The course will focus on those biblical interpreters whose work provoked significant developments in hermeneutical theory or practice in the church. Particular focus will be given to the Patristic period.

*Fall semester. Dr. Crowe.*

### **NT 993 Hermeneutical Foundations**

Purpose:

- To evaluate and reform views on foundational issues in hermeneutics

Topics covered include the role of hermeneutics; the nature of meaning; divine authorship; grammatical-historical method; the problem of historical relativity; problems of circularity, incompleteness, and probability; and the work of the Holy Spirit in hermeneutics.

*Spring semester. Dr. Poythress.*

**Restrictions:** Area seminar for PhD students specializing in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation; others admitted only by special permission of the instructor.

Courses listed for other majors which may be counted as major courses for the ThM or PhD degree in New Testament: OT 761, ST 781.

# Theological English

The Department of Theological English exists to prepare and support students to use advanced academic English in their courses at Westminster.

To that end, the Theological English curriculum enables students:

- To develop students' ability to read, listen, speak, and write English to the high level required for success in WTS courses
- To familiarize students with theological concepts and styles of theological English used at Westminster
- To strengthen cross-cultural communication and global mission at Westminster

## TE 1 Mastering Theological English I

Purpose:

- To understand theological lectures and seminar discussions
- To utilize advanced reading skills in order to comprehend a variety of theological texts
- To engage with ease in formal and informal conversations about theological topics
- To analyze arguments presented in a text and pose critical questions

*Fall semester. Non-credit course (19 instructional hours).*

**Restrictions:** For students admitted to MTE. Auditing not permitted.

## TE 2 Mastering Theological English II

Purpose:

- To understand and express complex arguments on theological topics
- To comprehend, accurately and fluently, exegetical, systematic, and church history texts
- To recognize the theological genres and employ them in speaking and writing
- To respond spontaneously and in-depth within theological discussions

*Spring Semester. Non-credit course (24 instructional hours).*

**Restrictions:** For students admitted to MTE. Auditing not permitted.

## TE 3 Advanced Theological Writing I

Purpose:

- To use advanced English grammar as it applies to theological English
- To write clear and effectively organized essays
- To become familiar with various theological genres
- To cite sources properly and avoid plagiarism
- To build theological vocabulary

Topics covered include writing in apologetics, systematics, biblical studies, pastoral theology, and church history. ATW students receive correction of all written assignments for Westminster courses while enrolled in ATW.

*Fall and Spring Semesters. Non-credit (two instructional hours). Mr. Hibbs.*

**Restrictions:** For students required to take ATW. Auditing not permitted.

#### **TE 4 Advanced Theological Writing II**

Purpose:

- To master the most problematic areas of advanced grammar
- To build theological vocabulary

Topics covered include analysis of advanced grammar and use of complex grammar in theological writing. ATW students receive correction of all written assignments for Westminster courses while enrolled in ATW.

*Fall and Spring Semesters, two hours. Non-credit (two instructional hours). Mr. Haselton.*

**Restrictions:** For students required to take ATW. Auditing not permitted.

#### **TE 5 Advanced Theological Writing III: Paper Correction**

Purpose:

- To apply knowledge of grammar and writing in Westminster course assignments
- To achieve accuracy, fluency, and complexity in theological writing
- To build theological vocabulary

Topics covered include how to transfer English grammar and writing skills to a wide range of Westminster course assignments. ATW students receive correction of all written assignments for Westminster courses while enrolled in ATW.

*Fall and Spring Semesters. Non-credit (one instructional hour). Dr. Altena.*

**Restrictions:** For students required to take ATW. Auditing not permitted.

#### **TE 6 Excellence in Theological Writing**

Purpose:

- To learn writing within the theological genres (apologetics, systematic theology, biblical studies, church history, and pastoral theology);
- To use different types of arguments at the paragraph and essay level;
- To improve elements of style, grammar, punctuation, citation, and mechanics;
- To develop a writing process that leads to excellence.

Topics covered include writing presuppositional apologetics papers, systematic theology digests, and arguments in the context of church history. Students learn from examples of theological writing and practice the skills they have learned in their Westminster course papers.

*Spring Semester. Two credits. Mr. Hibbs.*

## Pastoral Theology

The Department of Pastoral Theology exists to apply biblical exegesis and theology in the formation of godly and competent practitioners who can minister God's unchanging Word to our changing world.

To that end, the Pastoral Theology curriculum enables students:

- To be faithful and effective preachers of God's Word to the present generation
- To shepherd the flock to which they have been called
- To minister the Word through biblical counseling
- To spread the good news of the kingdom of God in word and in deed in the task of evangelism and world missions
- To develop the realm of Christian education both within and outside of the church context
- To exercise gifts of leadership in various ministries
- To understand the church of Jesus Christ, its functions, its needs, and the variety of ministries into which leaders are called

## Pastoral Theology Master's Level Courses

### **PC 111 Introduction to Pastoral Counseling** (*formerly PT 361/PTC 363*)

This course is an introduction to the pastor's unique role as a physician of souls (*iatroi psychoi*) counselor of God's Word from a theologically Reformed perspective within the context of the local church. The course covers a brief history of pastoral counseling, the necessity of equipping the laity of the local church for effective change, the dynamics of biblical change, issues concerning the relationship between body and soul, counseling methodology, and the application of biblical and theological truth to people's common problems in living, such as guilt, fear/worry, anger, depression, and habitual sin.

*Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Poirier.*

### **PC 251 Marriage Counseling in the Local Church**

This course introduces marriage counseling within the context of pastoral ministry in the local church. It sets forth a Reformed, biblical, and confessional understanding of marriage, divorce and remarriage vis-à-vis contemporary culture. Then, it provides a basic biblical methodology for counseling married couples, including: pre/re-marriage counseling, relational dynamics (conflict, communication, roles, intimacy, family worship), as well as address special issues like headship/submission, sexual intimacy, abuse and adultery, and the appeal to church courts.

*Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Poirier.*

**Prerequisites:** PC 111.

### **PC 323 Peacemaking Pastor: Ministry of Reconciliation**

This course will present a Reformed and biblical theology of conflict and reconciliation in the context of pastoral ministry. The God of reconciliation through Christ's reconciling work grounds the course as it addresses common conflicts in the local church and the path of peace dealing with repentance, confession of sin, forgiveness, conflict counseling, negotiation, mediation, and church discipline and restoration—all with the goal to equip pastors and church members to lay a foundation of biblical peacemaking in their local churches.

*Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Poirier.*

**Prerequisites:** PC 111.

### **PT 021P, 021P-2 Case Study Seminar**

Purpose:

- To discuss the integration of biblical and theological principles to ministry situations
- To provide a workshop in which each student will present one case from an actual ministry experience
- To learn to analyze problems, apply biblical principles, and propose appropriate solutions in the context of lively class discussions

Students in the MDiv program are required to take this seminar.

*Fall and spring semesters. Non-credit (class meets one hour per week). Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** PT 111 (MDiv Pastoral/General) or PTC 151 (MDiv Counseling).

**Restrictions:** Auditing not permitted.

**PT 111 Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Ministry** (formerly "Orientation to Ministerial Formation")

This course introduces the student to the character and calling of the pastor and Christians in positions of ministry, the theology that underlies ministry, and core competencies for pastoral ministry, especially prayer and preaching.

*Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Carson.*

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry) and MDiv (General Ministries).

**PT 121 Theology and Practice of Preaching**

This course builds on Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Ministry by developing students' theology of preaching, applying hermeneutical foundations to the disciplines of preaching, and providing a "lab" experience for students to practice the disciplines of expository preaching by preaching one sermon.

*Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Currie.*

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry).

**PT 123 Gospel Communication** (formerly "Homiletic Foundations")

Whether you are called to preach or not, elders, deacons, catechetical and Sunday school teachers, small group leaders, and counselors are called to teach. This course, specifically designed for non-ordained ministry contexts, will set forth the foundational principles and practices for effectively communicating biblical and theological context in various teaching venues inside and outside the local church with a Christ-centered focus.

*Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Currie.*

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Counseling) and MDiv (General Ministries).

**PT 141 Preaching and Apologetics**

Purpose:

- To help students to "give a defense for the hope within them" through preaching
- To know when and how to engage apologetics in the context of a preaching ministry
- To discuss the implications of presuppositional apologetics in preaching

The course is a practicum which will include student sermons applying principles presented in lectures.

*Spring semester, one hour. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** AP 101 and PT 123.

**PT 221 Expository Preaching from the New Testament** (formerly "Expository Skills and Evaluation")

This course builds on the Theology and Practice of Preaching by focusing on the hermeneutics and disciplines of preaching expository sermons from various genres in the literature of the New Testament and providing students with a "lab" experience to practice preaching two sermons from the New Testament.

*Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** PT 121, NT 123 (completed or in progress), NT 013 (completed or in progress).

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry).

**PT 231 Expository Preaching from the Old Testament**

This course builds on the Theology and Practice of Preaching by focusing on the hermeneutics and disciplines of preaching expository sermons from various genres in the literature of the Old Testament and providing students with a “lab” experience to practice preaching two sermons from the Old Testament.

*Fall Semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** PT 121, NT 123 (completed or in progress), OT 013 (completed or in progress)

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry).

**PT 243 Preparing for Licensure and Ordination**

Purpose:

- To prepare men for licensure and ordination in the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), and other theologically-similar denominations

Topics covered include theology, church government, Bible knowledge, and church history within the context of a denomination’s examination process.

*Spring Semester, one hour. Faculty.*

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry).

**PT 311 Foundations for Leadership in the Local Church**(formerly "Church Dynamics and Pastoral Practice" and "Church Leadership and Pastoral Practice")

This course builds on Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Ministry by developing a biblical theology of leadership and offices in the church, deepening the students understanding of the character required of church leaders, and exploring the practice of shepherd-leadership in the context of Presbyterian church polity.

*Winter term, two hours. Dr. Currie.*

**PT 333 Practices of Leadership in the Local Church**

This course builds on Foundations for Leadership in the Local Church by providing students with a biblical and historically Reformed orientation for leading in worship and the administration of the sacraments, and equipping them for the practices of leadership in the body of Christ, such establishing biblical vision, developing biblical strategy, and mobilizing the body for ministry and mission.

*Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Currie.*

**PT 343 Theology of Evangelism and Missions** (formerly "Mission of the Church" and "The Church and Missions")

This course builds on Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Ministry by introducing students to the biblical and theological foundation and vision for evangelism and missions, surveying the missionary activity of the church, identifying and addressing historic and contemporary challenges to faithful evangelistic and missionary endeavors, and exploring the biblical and theological principles and practice of contextualization.

*Spring semester, two hours. Rev. Edwards.*

**PT 352 Evangelism and Missions in the Local Church**

This course builds on Theology of Evangelism and Missions by instructing students in the habits and practice of personal evangelism, the range of approaches for mobilizing missions through the church, and exploring the relationship between evangelism and apologetics in various ministry contexts.

*Winter term, two hours. Rev. Edwards.*

**Prerequisites:** PT 343.



**PT 353 Exposition and Sermon Delivery in Pastoral Ministry** (formerly “Sermon Delivery”)

This course builds on PT 111, PT 221, and AP 213 by focusing on the delivery of expository sermons in pastoral context, with particular emphasis on evangelistic and apologetic preaching, and providing students with “lab” experience to practice two sermons designed for delivery in a particular pastoral context.

*Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** PT 121, NT 123, AP 213 (completed or in progress), NT 013 (completed or in progress), OT 013 (completed or in progress)

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry).

**PT 372 Worship**

Purpose:

- To deepen students' biblical and theological understanding of public worship
- To familiarize students with historic patterns of Christian worship
- To help students develop a vision for a worshiping congregation
- To encourage students to be thoughtful, joyful worshipers of the triune God
- To provide students with resources as they plan and lead public worship

Topics covered include biblical-theological foundations of worship, the directive principle of worship as outlined in the Westminster Standards, the role of the means of grace in worship, contextualization and worship, music and worship, and contemporary issues with regard to worship.

*Winter term, one hour. Faculty.*

**PT 403 Pastoralia: Pastoral Duties and Practice**

This course consists of lectures and discussions of liturgies for celebrating the Lord's table, congregational prayers, creeds for worship, Lord's day liturgies, prayers of confessions, seasonal services, weddings and funerals, and the preparation of homilies in these liturgical contexts. Students will be required to create liturgies and homilies for their own use in pastoral ministry based on their research and classroom interaction, and present samples of such to the class for discussion and evaluation.

*Fall and Spring terms, one hour. Dr. Hughes.*

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry).

**PT 421/PT 421P Theological Bibliography and Research Methods**

Purpose:

- To provide instruction on how to formulate a strategy for research
- To identify resources that will aid in the composition of a research project
- To explain the principles for solid research methods
- To create a workable outline and prepare the foundation of a research project
- To develop a sense of competency in the movement from planned research to a completed project
- To appreciate the importance of using each type of research tool effectively and properly
- To develop skills in using the Westminster library and other libraries
- To develop skills in using information resources on the internet

Topics covered include developing a research strategy; building bibliographies; using library catalogs, reference resources, periodical resources, and electronic resources on the internet; and critical thinking and writing.

*PT 421: Fall semester, one credit, regular tuition charge (M.Div/MAR students only).*

*PT 421P: Fall semester, pass/fail, non-credit, no tuition charge (ThM/PhD students only).*

*Mr. Finlayson.*

**PT 430 Classics of Pastoral Theology**

*Fall semester, one hour. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

**PT 431 Classics of Christian Devotion**

Purpose:

- To consider and critique different approaches to spiritual discipline and spiritual growth.
- To establish or confirm life-long habits of holiness in thought, word, and deed.
- To grow in faithfulness as disciples of Jesus Christ.

This course exposes students to some of the most famous books in the Christian tradition authored by people on a quest for holiness. By discussing a cluster of classic and popular texts and authors on the subject of godliness, this reading course helps students to read with discernment and to set our own devotion to God on a firm foundation.

*Fall semester, one hour. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

**PT 463 Preaching from the New Testament**

Purpose:

- To encourage students to preach confidently from the New Testament

This is part of a series of collaborative courses, bringing together faculty from both the Practical Theology and New Testament departments. Each course focuses on preaching from a particular genre of the New Testament. This is a practicum course designed to introduce students to important homiletical principles while providing each student with the opportunity to preach in class.

*Spring semester, one hour. Pastoral Theology and New Testament Faculty.*

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry). MDiv students in the General and Counseling emphases who are under care of a NAPARC presbytery must request permission from the Academic Affairs Office to register for the class.

**PT 471 Illustrating Biblical Truth**

Purpose:

- To introduce the art of finding and using appropriate illustrative materials for preaching and teaching
- To make the biblical case for the importance of using illustrations in preaching and teaching
- To discuss the various sources of illustrative material
- To practice seeing life through the lens of Scripture
- To study and seek to apply the concept of sense appeal in the sermons of C. H. Spurgeon
- To study and seek to apply the art of storytelling according to Jay Adams

As a practicum, students will practice finding and presenting illustrations in class.

*Fall semester, one hour. Dr. Hughes.*

### **PT 481 Preaching from the Old Testament**

Purpose:

- To encourage students to preach confidently from the Old Testament
- To help students preach from a particular genre of Old Testament revelation
- To have students prepare and present one sermon based on an Old Testament text

Topics covered include the particular hermeneutical and homiletical challenges facing the preacher working through the particular genre selected.

*Spring semester, one hour. Practical Theology and Old Testament Faculty.*

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry). MDiv students in the General and Counseling emphases who are under care of a NAPARC presbytery must request permission from the Academic Affairs Office to register for the class.

### **PT 491 Preaching Christ from the Pentateuch**

Purpose:

- To understand different approaches to interpreting the Old Testament (in particular the Pentateuch)
- To establish the benefits of the redemptive-historical approach to preaching Christ from the Old Testament
- To analyze examples of preaching Christ from the Pentateuch
- To analyze a text from the Pentateuch and preach a sermon from it.

The course is designed to help students understand how to preach Christ from the Pentateuch, by employing a redemptive-historical hermeneutic. The course will aim to provide students with a clear interpretative lens for preaching Christ-centered sermons from the OT, and in particular from the Pentateuch.

*Fall Semester, two hours. Dr. Gibson.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013, OT 211, OT 223 (completed or in progress)

**Restrictions:** Limited to candidates for the MDiv (Pastoral Ministry).

### **PT 612 Church Revitalization**

See PM6. *Winter term, two hours. Dr. Reeder, Dr. Currie.*

### **PTM 163 Church Growth and Church Planting**

Purpose:

- To provide the student with various aspects of church growth methods, principles, and practices
- To review a brief history of the School of Church Growth
- To evaluate church growth principles and practices in order to become better equipped in the area of church growth ministries
- To develop skills in relationship to growing a church

Topics covered include church growth philosophy, history of church growth, organic church growth, theological presuppositions, critique of church growth, review of various urban models of church growth, and signs and wonders as a means to growth.

*Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Finn.*

## Practical Theology Counseling Courses

PTC courses are offered online through the Online Learning department. Online courses are available only for online students. Residential MAC and MDiv Counseling students may, however, take online courses that are required as part of the degree emphasis.

### PTC 112 Topics in Biblical Counseling

Purpose:

- To understand and effectively interact with current counseling issues from a Christ-centered biblical perspective

Topics will vary, but there will be a continuing and specific focus on methodology.

*Residential, Winter term, one hour. Faculty.*

### PTC 151 Dynamics of Biblical Change

Purpose:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the biblical view of progressive sanctification.
- Describe and apply the Biblical Counseling model of change to your own life as well as to other situations presented in case study format.
- Analyze the ways that the Biblical Counseling model of change might affect a church's worship, preaching, evangelism, missions, offices, youth ministry, fellowship, children's programs, and equipping.

This course is a foundational counseling course that introduces the key framework and themes related to the wisdom and practice of biblical counseling. The way that you counsel other people is determined by how you understand God, yourself, other people, life's pressures, and change. This course addresses the depth, breadth, and balance of your understanding. How does Christ's past grace, present grace, and future grace speak to our hearts and change how we live our daily lives? This course is about people. It is about how we face the troubles of life. It is about how we deal with our inner struggles. It is about how we change into Jesus' image. Through case studies, class lectures, assigned readings, and Scripture, you'll explore these practical questions. Self-counseling projects will help you to make first-hand, practical application of the concepts learned in class.

*October term, three hours. Dr. Powlison. Only available to online students and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

### PTC 178 Helping Relationships

Purpose:

- To help students develop a functional biblical counseling worldview
- To help students understand the importance of heart change as a methodological goal
- To develop an understanding of the role of Scripture in biblical counseling
- To highlight and practice the critical skills for effectiveness in biblical counseling

Part 1: Essential Skills for Everyday Conversations

- You need help and give help
- We are embodied souls with strengths and weaknesses
- All ministry of change is grounded in prayer

Part 2: More Skills for Longer Walks (Extended Conversations)

Know People

- Listening well
- Drawing people out
- Pursuing the past

- Helping people see God (the vertical) in normal life (the horizontal)
- Know Scripture
- Retelling the person's story
- Using Scripture in conversation
- Learning how to speak well to strugglers

*January term, three hours. Dr. Welch. Only available to online students and residential MDiv Counseling.*

### **PTC 222 Counseling and Physiology**

Purpose:

- To equip with a nuanced and practical biblical anthropology that will help distinguish between spiritual and physical issues in the lives of counselees
- To deepen understanding of a select group of acute and chronic problems having physiological manifestations, particularly those that affect intellect and mood
- To develop biblical strategies for pursuing counselees with such problems
- To sharpen abilities to critique the reigning presuppositions of biological psychiatry that serve to undermine Scripture's authority in the counseling process

Topics covered include biblical anthropology and its counseling implications on neuropsychology, psychopharmacology, dementia, traumatic brain injury, psychiatry, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic attacks and hallucinations, attention deficit disorder, addiction, homosexuality, and autism.

*January term, three hours. Dr. Emlet. Only available to online MAC and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

### **PTC 243 Theology and Secular Psychology**

Purpose:

- To teach students how to understand psychologists' observations, theories, and practices, and how to engage them critically, humbly, and lovingly
- To reinterpret through a redemptive gaze the things that psychologists see most clearly and care about most deeply
- To understand where biblical counseling fits in our cultural context, both within the evangelical church and within the surrounding mental health system

Topics covered include the skills of reinterpretation and redemptive interaction; historical overview of the biblical counseling and evangelical psychotherapy movements; the lay of the land in contemporary counseling; assessment of motivation theories and self-esteem theory; and primary source readings from a half dozen representative psychologists, ranging from high culture to self-help.

*March term, three hours. Dr. Powlison. Only available to online students and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

### **PTC 251 Marriage Counseling**

Purpose:

- To help students develop a rich, biblical-theological view of marriage and relationships that challenges popular goals for marriage/relationship counseling and provides powerful hope and direction
- To provide students with conceptual and methodological tools for marriage counseling that are rooted in a biblical worldview of marriage and that recognize the unique challenges of marriage counseling
- To interact with prevailing secular models of marriage counseling within a biblical worldview
- To begin to develop the ability to offer relational skills within a larger context of heart change
- To consider current marriage problem areas impacting the church

Topics covered include a biblical theological review of marriage and relationships; and an introduction to systems theory, gender differences, communication, and conflict. Counseling videos will be used to help the student gain a sense of the counseling process.

*October term, three hours. Dr. Smith. Only available to online MAC and MDiv Counseling students.*

### **PTC 261 Human Personality**

Purpose:

- To deepen students' understanding of biblical doctrine as it applies to the person
- To examine what doctrines are especially important to apply in this generation
- To understand how to apply biblical doctrine in personal ministry
- To be able to uncover the implicit theology in other models of personal ministry and dialogue effectively about these issues

This course aims to draw out answers about who we are and how we care for others from Scripture in such a way that we know God better, know ourselves better, and are led into faith and love. The course will consider non-Christian counseling case studies as a way to demonstrate careful engagement as well as Scripture's breadth and depth.

*October term, three hours. Dr. Welch. Only available to online MAC and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

### **PTC 303 Counseling Problems and Procedures**

Purpose:

- To identify the essential features of biblical counseling
- To identify current counseling issues that are apparent in the church
- To appreciate Scripture's depth as it addresses common problems such as suffering, anger, and anxiety
- To prepare students to move toward people with any type of struggle in a way that is helpful and Christ-centered

Topics covered include abuse, guilt and legalism, fear, anger, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, anorexia and bulimia, and addictions.

*October term, three hours. Dr. Welch. Only available to online MAC and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

### **PTC 358 Counseling Children and Adolescents**

In this course, students will examine and develop an understanding of:

- Parenting philosophies and strategies from a biblical worldview
- Developmental stages of children and teens and how these may affect the counseling approach
- The value of family counseling and how to involve the parents in the process

Through course activities and a personal case study with a child or adolescent, students will also:

- Discuss and learn “entry gates” to building relationship with children and teens
- Gain knowledge of creative methods and tools for counseling children and adolescents

This course will focus on counseling with children and adolescents. It will provide students with a broader focus on evaluating children’s behavioral and emotional issues in the context of family functioning. The course will give special attention to counseling method and relevant legal issues.

*October term, three hours. Professor Lowe. Only available to online MAC students and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

### **PTC 372a and PTC372b Counseling Observation**

Purpose:

- Develop an effective counseling relationship by establishing trust, honesty, and using effective listening skills
- Continue to grow in the understanding of the complexity of human problems, the experience of sin and suffering, and how change happens
- Learn how to document a counseling session
- Learn how to employ an effective use of Scripture, prayer, and other spiritual resources in counseling
- Developmental stages of children and teens and how these may affect the counseling approach
- Learn how to conceptualize problems, develop an agenda for change, set goals, and implement particular strategies

Counseling Observation provides students with a “real-life” demonstration of how the biblical counseling methodologies explored in other counseling classes are actually applied in the counseling room. Each observation class is unique, as the observation experience will vary based upon the particular counselor and the counselee’s particular problem and circumstances. Students will quickly see that biblical counseling is highly relational, not wooden or formulaic – there is no “one size fits all” approach.

*PTC 372a, March term, three hours. Dr. Emlet.*

*PTC 372b, June term, three hours. Dr. Welch.*

*Only available to online MAC and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

**Pre-requisites:** *PTC 151 Dynamics of Biblical Change and PTC 178 Helping Relationships.*

### **PTC 523 Counseling in the Local Church**

Purpose:

- Understand the spectrum of interpersonal ministry that exists in the local church, recognizing both public and private ministries of the Word for the whole church as a ministering community
- Avoid pitfalls (e.g., issues of child safety, suicide) and to leverage opportunities (e.g., hospital visitation) in pastoral counseling
- Navigate counseling ministry within the broader structures of the church setting (e.g., church discipline, small groups, lay counseling)
- Examine and strengthen current pastoral care provision in local church settings

Counseling in the Local Church provides an introduction, biblical foundation, and historical context for pastoral care and counseling. Key issues that will be discussed include pastoral care, such as hospital visitation, crisis response, and church discipline are surveyed with practical instruction.

*June term, three hours. Professor Gembola. Only available to online MAC students.*

### **PTC 533 Counseling Abusive Marriages**

Purpose:

- Describe and apply a model for counseling abusive marriages that is rooted in the Gospel and provides the essential conceptual elements for organizing and understanding oppressive, abusive, and manipulative persons in marriage as well as the relational dynamics and damages that result.
- Identify the elements of an abusive marriage/relationship counseling method, including how it differs from marriage counseling.
- Interact critically and constructively with current secular models, appreciating their strengths and weaknesses.
- Implement tools, resources and church support in order to identify and address these destructive relational patterns.

This course addresses marital dynamics where one partner (or both) is (are) perpetually sinning against the other in a way that causes physical, spiritual, sexual, or emotional suffering, oppression or enslavement. These dynamics require a different counseling process than typical marriage counseling. We will work to identify when and which dynamics are present, as well as understand them both theologically and practically. We will also explore methodology that will address individual's hearts, motives, desires, and relationships with the Lord with the hopes of providing pathways to rescue and redemption.

*January term, three hours. Professor Strickland. Only available to online MAC and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

### **PTC 674 Case Study Seminar**

Purpose:

- To gain experience moving self-consciously from biblical counseling theory to practice
- To deepen ability to assess the dynamics of a counseling relationship and to enter relationally into the counselee's world
- To expand flexibility in biblical counseling methods
- To utilize case review in community

In this course students will be given the opportunity to practice biblical counseling and apply the concepts they have been learning in the MAC program to real-life situations and case studies.

Throughout the course, students will engage in a counseling relationship while receiving support and feedback from fellow students and CCEF faculty. It is assumed that students will be implementing and building upon some of the core concepts they have learned throughout their time in the MAC program.

*Note: This course replaces PTC 433 Essential Qualities of a Biblical Counselor.*

*January term, three hours. Professor Bernhardt. Only available to online MAC and residential MDiv Counseling students.*

**Pre-requisites:** PTC 151 Dynamics of Biblical Change and PTC 178 Helping Relationships.



# Systematic Theology

Systematic theology seeks rightly to divide the Word of truth. It aims at formulations which correctly understand the Scriptures through proper exegesis, and applies those formulations to the needs of the church and the issues of the day. To that end, the Systematic Theology curriculum enables students:

- To understand and be able to articulate “the whole counsel of God” in the form of the system of doctrine taught in Scripture
- To grasp the way this system of doctrine derives from sound interpretation that does justice to the unity of Scripture in its historical and authorial diversity
- To understand the history of doctrine, primarily the theological heritage of the Reformed Churches and their confessional documents, especially the Westminster Standards
- To recognize within the theological heritage of the Reformed Churches what is perennial and undoubted and what is not yet settled
- To value the Westminster Standards as a summary of the system of doctrine taught in Scripture and, where appropriate, be prepared *ex animo* to subscribe to them as such
- To embrace the system of doctrine taught in Scripture in a way that enhances devotion to God and service to the church and the world, and so, in all, “to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge”

## Systematic Theology Master's Level Courses

### ST 101 Introduction to Systematic Theology

Purpose:

- To provide foundations for the study of theology, particularly for deepening understanding of the teaching of Scripture as a whole and in its unity

This course sets the foundation for the study of theology by examining how and why theology is made possible and is necessary for us to properly know and understand who God is, how he makes himself known, and, in light of that, understand ourselves and the world around us.

*Fall and spring semesters, two hours. September and March terms online, three hours. Dr. Garner.*

### ST 113 Doctrine of God

Purpose:

- To grasp that we can know nothing of God except he first revealed himself to us
- To recognize that the doctrine of God (theology proper) seeks to unpack the teaching of Scripture and not directly the problems set by philosophy
- To value those ecumenical creeds of the church which give classic expression to vital elements of the doctrine of God, and whose doctrine is evident in the Westminster Standards
- To embrace the doctrine of God not as a bare set of propositions but as the very personal knowledge of God so essential to worship and service and so characteristic of a Reformed world and life view

Topics covered include revelation, names and attributes of God, and God as Trinity.

*Fall and spring semesters, two hours. March term online, three hours. Faculty.*

### ST 211 Doctrine of Man

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of biblical anthropology in its redemptive-historical and Reformed context

Topics covered include the theology of creation days; the nature of man, particularly as a psycho-somatic unity created in the image of God; the covenant of creation; the epistemological implications of Reformed anthropology; the fall and its implications; the imputation of Adam's sin; the intermediate state; the nature of free moral agency; and total depravity and inability. Special attention will be given from an exegetical perspective to the redemptive-historical character and systematic theological implications of Reformed anthropology.

*Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 011 (or equivalent), completed or in progress, and NT 013 (or equivalent).

### ST 223 Doctrine of Christ

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of the salvation accomplished by the triune God in Christ in both its central focus and comprehensive scope

Topics covered include the plan of salvation, the covenant of grace, and the person and work of Christ.

*Spring semester, three hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 012 (or equivalent) and NT 013 (or equivalent).

### **ST 231 Christian Ethics**

Purpose:

- To study the redemptive-historical, covenantal, confessional, and biblical-theological foundations for Christian life and ethics
- To arrive at certain convictions about key moral issues facing the church today
- To grow in wisdom, the ability to discern good and evil in every situation

Topics covered include the biblical foundation for ethics, an introduction to different types of ethical systems, hermeneutical questions, Christians and the public square, sanctification, the clash of obligations, calling, stewardship, and selected ethical subjects.

*Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 011 (or equivalent), completed or in progress, and NT 011 (or equivalent), completed or in progress.

### **ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation**

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of the application of the salvation applied by the triune God in Christ in both its central focus and comprehensive scope

Topics covered include the relationship between eschatology and soteriology; the meaning of, and relationship between, *historia salutis* and *ordo salutis*; the function of union with Christ in Reformed soteriology; the distinct-yet-inseparable benefits of union with Christ (e.g., justification, sanctification, and adoption); a survey of biblical eschatology; and theology of the sacraments. Special attention will be given from an exegetical perspective to the redemptive-historical character and systematic theological implications of Reformed soteriology and eschatology.

*Spring semester, four hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 013 (or equivalent).

### **ST 343 Doctrine of the Church**

Purpose:

- To explain the Reformed doctrine of the church, the sacraments, and the means of grace
- To appreciate the biblical priority of the church, its structure and its spiritual vitality
- To discern the meaning of the spirituality of the church for ministry in the twenty-first century
- To strengthen the student's commitment to and service in the visible church

Topics covered include a biblical theology of the church; the relationship between church, the covenant of grace, and the kingdom of God; the marks, attributes, and mission of the church; the form of government; church office; and church discipline.

*Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Garner, Dr. Ferguson.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent), completed or in progress, NT 013 (or equivalent), completed or in progress, and ST 101.

### **ST 402 Law and Gospel in Reformed Theology**

See ST 702. *Winter term, three hours. Dr. Garcia.*

**Prerequisites:** OT 013 (or equivalent) and NT 013 (or equivalent).

### **ST 433 Trinitarian Theology Ancient and Modern**

See ST 733. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**ST 461 Topics in the Doctrine of Man**

See ST 761. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** ST 211, completed or in progress.

**ST 473 Studies in Historical Theology II**

See ST 773. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**ST 481 The Theology of Romans**

See ST 781. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**ST 491 Issues in Theology Proper**

See ST 791. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Oliphint.*

**Prerequisites:** ST 113.

**ST 503 The Theology of Karl Barth**

See ST 803. *Spring semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**ST 522 The Majesty of God**

See ST 822. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Poythress.*

**Prerequisites:** ST 101 and ST 113

**ST 532 The Westminster Standards**

See ST 932. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

**ST 601 The Trinitarian Theology of Cornelius Van Til**

See ST 901. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**ST 611 Union with Christ**

In *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, John Murray writes, “Nothing is more central or basic than union and communion with Christ.” This course will provide an in-depth study of the work of Christ and the Spirit in the life of the believer, covering the doctrine of the believer’s union with Christ and each of the benefits that flow from that personal relationship (including Calling, Regeneration, Faith, Repentance, Justification, Adoption, Sanctification, Perseverance, and Assurance).

*October and March terms, three hours. Only available to MAC and MATS students.*

**ST 613 The Theology of Jonathan Edwards**

See ST 913. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Filson.*

**ST 621 The Theology of Adoption**

See ST 921. *Spring semester, two hours. Dr. Garner.*

**ST 623 The Theology of Wolfhart Pannenberg**

See ST 923. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**ST 644 The Philosophical Theology of Thomas Aquinas**

See ST 944. *Fall semester, two hours. Dr. Oliphint.*

**ST 661 Calvin's *Institutes***

See ST 961. *Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

**Prerequisites:** ST 113, AP 101.

**ST 671 Calvin's Doctrine of the Holy Spirit**

See ST 972. *Winter term, two hours. Dr. Garcia.*

**ST 672 Reformed Spirituality**

Purpose:

- To acquaint students with the distinctives of Reformed spirituality
- To encourage students toward greater communion with God in faith and life
- To highlight the relationship between Reformed spirituality and the piety that dominates much of the evangelical world and popular religion

Topics covered include the doctrine of the church, sanctification, worship, the Lord's Day and its observance, the means of grace (preaching, prayer, the sacraments of baptism and communion), family worship, Christian liberty, the doctrines of vocation and providence, the Reformed world and life view, and the Christian in society.

*Winter term, two hours. Dr. Troxel.*

**ST 690 Reformed Ecclesiology**

See ST 990. *Winter term, two hours. Dr. Troxel.*

## Systematic Theology ThM/PhD Level Courses

### ST 700 New Modernity

Purpose:

- To exhibit a deeper love for the absolute and personal triune God, his word, and his church.
- To become acquainted with a significant strand of post-Enlightenment doctrinal development concerning God and his self-revelation.
- To grow in theological discernment by engaging a variety of contemporary forms of contemporary theological prolegomena.

This ThM course explores the philosophical and theological foundations of select post-Enlightenment figures whose thought has influenced the contemporary Christian church. After surveying the rise of theological liberalism as represented by Friedrich Schleiermacher, the course focuses on Karl Barth's response to liberalism, as well as Barth's own influence upon the post-liberal theologies of Hans Frei and George Lindbeck, as well as the theology of John Webster. Special attention is paid to the ways prolegomena bears on the nature and task of theology, with implications for philosophy of ministry and preaching.

*Spring and Summer term. Faculty*

### ST 701 Topics in Medical Ethics

Topics covered include bioethics, medicine as a Christian calling, in vitro fertilization, AIDS, genetic engineering, and euthanasia.

*Fall semester. Dr. Edgar.*

**Prerequisites:** ST 231.

### ST 702 Law and Gospel in Reformed Theology

Purpose:

- To deepen the understanding of a biblical, theological, and historical study of the Law in relation to covenant and the Gospel

Topics covered include the historical-theological development of the Law within the Canon; covenant and Law; the relationship of law to justice; merit, conditionality, and unconditionality; and the Law in the Christian life and ethics. A theme throughout the course is the relationship of Law and Gospel in history and theology.

*Winter term. Dr. Garcia.*

### ST 733 Trinitarian Theology Ancient and Modern

Purpose:

- To exhibit a deeper love for the absolute and personal triune God, his word, and his church
- To become acquainted with key primary sources from church history on the doctrine of the Trinity
- To grasp the key theological terms, debates and doctrinal developments related to the doctrine of the Trinity

This seminar surveys primary sources from church history on the doctrine of the Trinity. Students will sharpen their own understanding of Trinitarian dogma as they trace the history of Trinitarian reflection from the Patristic era to fourth century debates up through Aquinas and the Reformers, to the Puritans and Old Princeton, to Van Til, concluding with the modern Trinitarian theologies of Karl Barth and Wolfhart Pannenberg.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **ST 761 Topics in the Doctrine of Man**

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of man and our theological method through use of biblical theology and linguistics

Topics covered include the relation of classical theological anthropology to biblical-theological method, including theology of sonship in Paul and John; special attention to the image of God; dichotomy and trichotomy; the covenant with Adam; and the nature of sin.

*Fall semester. Dr. Poythress.*

### **ST 773 Studies in Historical Theology II**

Purpose:

- To provide opportunity for reading and seminar reflection on important theologians from the Reformation to the early twentieth century

Topics covered include representative writings of Luther, Calvin, Turretin, Schleiermacher, and Barth. Seminar presentation is required.

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **ST 781 The Theology of Romans**

Purpose:

- To examine aspects of the teaching of Romans for their bearing on systematic theological issues

Topics covered include some prolegomena for systematic theology and for studying the theology of Romans, and exegetical-theological comments on selected passages.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### **ST 791 Issues in Theology Proper**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to current discussions in theology proper
- To develop a response to challenges to a Reformed doctrine of God

Students will be expected to analyze and critique both classical and contemporary essays that look at language about God, God and evil, and God and morality; as well as God's necessity, omnipotence, omniscience, eternity, providence, foreknowledge, and simplicity. Seminar discussions will be held in these and related areas.

*Fall semester. Dr. Oliphint.*

### **ST 803 The Theology of Karl Barth**

Purpose:

- To understand the place of Barth in his western-European post-Enlightenment context
- To evaluate the foundations of Barth's theological approach
- To gain exposure to some of Barth's theological writings
- To reflect on the critique of Barth offered by Cornelius Van Til

*Spring semester. Faculty.*

### **ST 811 Covenant Theology**

Purpose:

- To provide a thorough understanding of critical issues in the development of Reformed covenant theology

Topics covered include Trinity and covenant, the pactum salutis, the covenant of works, the covenant of grace, covenant theology and justification, and covenant theology and epistemology. Special attention will be given from an exegetical perspective to the development of Reformed covenant theology.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### **ST 822 The Majesty of God**

A study of the attributes of God through the Trinity.

Purpose:

- To understand key aspects of the doctrine of God in classical Christian theism, especially infinity, eternality, immutability, and simplicity
- to analyze critically Aristotle's metaphysics and its influence on formulations of classical Christian theism
- To deepen our understanding of the attributes of God, using trinitarian doctrine and the biblical teaching on the resurrection of Christ.

Topics covered include: absoluteness; infinity; eternality; immutability; simplicity; transcendence in relation to immanence; theological method; the use of the Trinity as a perspective on attributes; the resurrection of Christ as a manifestation of attributes; historical theology on attributes, especially classical Christian theism in Aquinas, Calvin, Turretin, and Charnock; the influence of Aristotle; the use of biblical theology with respect to attributes; the controversy over classical Christian theism and innovators; exegesis of selected texts.

*Fall semester. Dr. Poythress.*

### **ST 901 The Trinitarian Theology of Cornelius Van Til**

Purpose:

- To investigate the context, structure, and significance of Cornelius Van Til's Trinitarian theology
- To encourage the student to engage critically central issues in Trinitarian theology from a Van Tillian perspective

Topics covered include the architectonic significance of the Trinity, both in Van Til's theology and apologetics. Special attention will be given to Van Til's historical and theological context; his theology of triune personhood; the structure and function of the representational principle; the distinctively Trinitarian character of the transcendental method; and Van Til's place in contemporary discussions of Trinitarian theology, ranging from the theological function of perichoresis to the notions of relationality and temporality within the Godhead.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*



### **ST 913 The Theology of Jonathan Edwards**

Purpose:

- To survey the life and theology of Jonathan Edwards
- To introduce Edwards' vast and variegated literary corpus and engage critical secondary materials

This course will pay particular attention to his trans-Atlantic philosophical and theological context, the apologetic and polemical trajectories of his homiletics, revival writings, personal correspondence, and treaties and discourses on both biblical and systematic theology. Lectures will interact with the most significant critical secondary material about Edwards' theological contribution. While covering the traditional loci, special consideration will be given to the programmatic nature of Edwards' views of the Trinity, covenant theology, the role of the beatific vision, his eschatological view of history, and his place in the history of Reformed theological thought.

*Spring semester. Dr. Filson.*

### **ST 921 The Theology of Adoption**

Purpose:

- To investigate in detail the importance of adoption in Pauline, biblical, and historical theology

Topics covered include the historical neglect of the doctrine, its renewed treatment in contemporary theology, and its place in pastoral theology. Coursework includes the preparation and presentation of detailed investigative papers.

*Summer module. Dr. Garner.*

### **ST 923 The Theology of Wolfhart Pannenberg**

Purpose:

- To critically examine the systematic theology of Wolfhart Pannenberg from a historically Reformed perspective

Pannenberg has been called one of the most important theologians since Karl Barth. His thought has not only influenced disciplines as diverse as anthropology and cosmology, but also helped to propel the Open Theism movement within the evangelical world. This seminar explores a variety of epistemological, hermeneutical, and theological challenges related to Pannenberg's post-Enlightenment theology in a way that underscores the significance of orthodox biblical theology.

*Fall semester, two hours. Faculty.*

### **ST 930 Union with Christ**

Purpose:

- To explore predestinarian, past-historical and present personal union with Christ

Topics covered include the distinction between the *historia salutis* and *ordo salutis*, the resurrection structure of the *ordo salutis*, and the bearing of Christ's own death and resurrection on those united to him by faith. The course will also examine the context, nature, pattern and benefits of present personal union with Christ in historical, theological and exegetical perspective. Special attention will be given to exegetical concerns in an attempt to develop a theology of union with Christ that is sensitive to pneumatology and eschatology as the broader context in terms of which we situate the church's union with Christ.

*Summer term. Faculty.*

### **ST 932 The Westminster Standards**

Purpose:

- To exposit the theology of the Westminster Assembly by means of a study of the Westminster Confession of Faith

Topics covered include the origin, convening, and theology of the Westminster Assembly.

*Spring semester. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **ST 944 The Philosophical Theology of Thomas Aquinas**

Purpose:

- To begin to understand some of the basic elements of Thomas' philosophical theology
- To evaluate Thomas' philosophical theological view of knowledge and cognition
- To critically assess Thomas in light of historic, Reformed orthodoxy
- To appreciate those elements in Thomas' philosophical theology that have their basis in Scripture

Topics covered include, primarily, the doctrine of God, but also Thomas' view of knowledge, the metaphysics of the Incarnation, and the doctrine of providence and suffering.

*Fall semester. Dr. Oliphint.*

### **ST 961 Calvin's *Institutes***

This PhD/ThM course is devoted to reading and analyzing the 1559 edition of John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Students will note the historical context, purpose, and structure of this theological masterpiece as they engage in a weekly investigation of the work's dogmatic loci.

*Fall semester. Faculty.*

### **ST 972 Calvin's Doctrine of the Holy Spirit**

Purpose:

- To research Calvin's teaching on the person and work of the Spirit, with attention to his expositions in the Institutes, Commentaries, and Treatises

Seminar presentation required.

*Winter term. Dr. Garcia.*

### **ST 990 Reformed Ecclesiology**

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with the theological foundations, principles, and practices that embody the Reformed tradition's understanding of the doctrine of the church through its contributions in biblical, systematic, and historical theology, by acquainting the student with a variety of the best expressions of ecclesiology in the wider Reformed family
- To consider the relationship between the church and the state, the world, and the kingdom of God
- To provide the student with resources to answer the ancient and modern challenges of sacramental, ecumenical, consumeristic and postmodern views of the church

*Winter term. Dr. Troxel.*

Courses listed for other concentrations which may be counted as concentration courses in Systematic Theology: CH 863, CH 883, CH 891, CH 901, CH 943, CH 951, CH 961, NT 853, NT 881, NT 931, NT 951, NT 961, NT 993, AP 713, AP 743, AP 753, AP 763, AP 773, AP 861, AP 931, AP 963, AP 981.

## DMin Modules

With the exception of the Korean DMin, course codes for DMin modules can be interpreted following the example and table below:

**Example — DFP 1: Foundations for Preaching: Theology and Practice**

<i>Program</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Concentration (Not used for Core Modules)</i>	<i>Course Number</i>
<b>DMin (D)</b>	Core (C)	<b>Preaching (P)</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Foundation (F)</b>	Leadership (L)	<b>2</b>
	Elective (E)	Counseling (C)	<b>3</b>
		Evangelism (E)	...

## Core Modules

### DC 1: Biblical Theology for the Practice of Ministry

Purpose:

- To grasp the fundamental structures of biblical theology, the typology, and the Christ-centered hermeneutical approach arising from the Scriptures, in the tradition of Geerhardus Vos.
- To develop the implications of biblical theology for a vision that undergirds ministry, including pastoral expectations and experience in the present age.
- To more deeply appreciate how biblical theology informs preaching, together with examination of past and recent controversies and concerns over redemptive-historical preaching.
- To apply biblical theology to the mission of the church, with an examination of recent developments in “missional hermeneutics.”

Description:

A redemptive-historical hermeneutic is not only necessary for faithfully preaching and teaching Christ in and from all of Scripture, but also for fulfilling the full range of a minister’s calling in the context of the local church. Though the canon of Scripture concludes with the apostolic testimony to Christ, redemptive-history continues as the resurrected and reigning Lord fulfills his plans throughout the world in his promise to build his church. This course will explore how biblical-theology, sensitive to redemptive-history, is essential for a truly biblical vision of ministry, and must be the motivation for the pastor in all of his labors until Christ’s return.

*Summer module. Dr. Wynne.*

### DC 2: The Westminster Assembly and Pastoral Ministry

Purpose:

This course will explore how the Westminster Assembly’s debates and writings about preaching, pastoral care and discipline can inform pastoral ministry today.

*January module. Dr. Van Dixhoorn.*

### **DC 3: Covenantal Apologetics for Ministry**

Purpose:

This course will explore how a covenantal apologetic—grounded in Scripture and arising from the structure of Reformed theology—is integral to pastoral ministry, both public and private.

*Summer Module. Faculty.*

## **Preaching Concentration**

### **DFP 1 Foundations for Preaching: Theology and Practice**

Purpose:

- To make good preachers better
- To aid experienced pastors in evaluating their preaching
- To revisit the foundations of biblical exposition
- To craft a personal philosophy and practicum for expository preaching

This seminar is designed to offer maximally fruitful and holistic critique of the students' preaching as well as advance the students' ability to preach expositively through an in-depth exploration of the foundations of biblical exposition. PP 1 can count as a Pastoral Ministry concentration course.

*Summer module, Dr. Hughes.*

### **DEP 1: Preaching Christ from the Psalms and Proverbs**

Upon completion of this course each student should be able to:

- Demonstrate competence in the interpretation in selected passages from the Psalms and Proverbs in their historical, theological, and literary context with a view to expounding its meaning in the context of the local church.
- Summarize the history of critical scholarship on the Psalms and wisdom books.
- Describe some of the major themes found in the Psalms and wisdom books (and developed elsewhere in Scripture).

*Summer module, Dr. Duguid*

### **PP 790: Foundations for Christian Public Witness**

This course aims to identify and understand biblical and Reformed theological resources to aid Christians in their public witness (i.e., extra-ecclesial cultural witness in the public square) in a variety of global contexts (e.g., secularist indifference in the West, open persecution in the East, etc.). We will engage in the ongoing conversation between different “models” of Christian public engagement, and explore foundational concepts like nature and grace, creation and re-creation, common grace and divine providence, and the nature and extent of Christ's Lordship.

*Summer module, Dr. Mattson.*

## **Leadership Concentration**

### **DFL1: Foundations for Leadership: Theology and Practice**

This course seeks to equip Christian leaders, particularly pastors, to intentionally reflect on the theology and practice of leadership and how these reflections might be applied to their own ministry. Students will grow in their appreciation of the identity of the leader, the stewardship of leadership, and in their ability to deploy the ministry transforming leadership practices prescribed in God's Word. Students will also be equipped to engage and discern best practices in leadership from common grace sources in leadership and organizational theory.

*Summer module, Dr. Currie*

## **DEL 1: Church Revitalization**

Purpose:

- To address the contemporary church profile and the pressing need of church revitalization in North America along with related issues
- To acquaint the student with specific quality literature that deals with the issues of church renewal and revitalization
- To determine biblical models and theological principles applicable to church revitalization
- To identify those factors which bring church stagnation and decline
- To develop a plan to initiate church revitalization in the student's ministry that is faithful to the Scripture, relevant to a specific situation, and clearly prioritized for practical application

*Winter module, Dr. Reeder, Dr. Currie*

## **PM 7 Sustainable Ministry: Grace-Paced Ministry in a Burnout Culture**

This pastoral theology course analyzes why pastoral burnout rates are so high and what can be done to prevent and reverse this. A study of the theology and practices of sustainable ministry will help students develop a grace-paced ministry in a burnout culture and also equip them to counsel others in their congregations who are struggling with similar issues. This course may also count toward the counseling (PC) concentration.

*January module, Dr. Murray.*

## **Evangelism and Missions Concentration**

### **DFE 1: Foundations for Evangelism and Missions: Theology and Practice**

This module is dedicated to strengthening and sharpening students with the foundational theological principles and best practices for effective evangelism & missions.

*Summer module, Dr. Garner*

### **PM 8: Reformed Evangelism in the 21st and a Half Century**

This course will discuss evangelism in the context of Reformed identity, Reformed ecclesiology, evangelizing and discipling millennials, and the challenges of an ever-broadening church.

*Summer module, Dr. Watkins.*

## **Counseling Concentration**

### **DFC 1: Foundations for Pastoral Care and Counseling: Theology and Practice**

This doctoral level course gives a general introduction to the pastor's unique role as a "physician of souls" from a theologically Reformed perspective within the context of the local church. The course covers a brief history of pastoral care and counseling, the dynamics of biblical change, issues concerning the relationship between body and soul, counseling methodology, and the application of biblical and theological truth to people's common problems in living, the necessity of equipping the laity of the local church for effective change, such as fear/worry, anger, depression, and habitual sin

*Summer Module, Dr. Poirier*

## **Korean DMin Modules**

### **PMK 1 Pastoral Ministry and Leadership in the Korean Church Context**

*Summer term, Faculty. Only available to students in the Korean Pastoral Ministry Concentration.*

### **PMK 7 Jonathan Edwards' Theology and Ministry**

*Winter term, Faculty. Only available to students in the Korean Pastoral Ministry Concentration.*

### **PPK 1 Foundations for a Lifetime of Fruitful Preaching**

*Summer Term, Faculty. Only available to students in the Korean Pastoral Ministry Concentration.*

### **PPK 6 Preaching Christ from Old Testament Books**

*Summer term, Faculty. Only available to students in the Korean Pastoral Ministry Concentration.*

### **PPK 7 Preaching Christ from the Epistle to the Hebrews**

*Summer term, Faculty. Only available to students in the Korean Pastoral Ministry Concentration.*

# 11. Tuition and Financial Information

## Tuition Policy and Guidelines

### Payment Deadlines

A student's registration is fully finalized upon payment of tuition. Students who are not able to pay tuition and fees by the last day of the Add/Drop period (or when final payment is due) will be dropped from their courses and charged a late fee, unless satisfactory arrangements for payment have been made with the Finance Office.

### Installment Payment Plans

Students may request an installment payment plan for a semester's tuition charges by emailing [support@wts.edu](mailto:support@wts.edu). Students (with the exception of MAC, MATS, and DMin students) should note the following:

- The terms of the payment plan are subject to approval and must be in place by the payment deadline.
- The first payment of the installment plan is due on the due date of the initial invoice and the last payment must be made no later than the last day of the academic term.
- If a student does not comply with the terms of the installment plan, he or she may be charged a late fee for each missed payment and/or not be allowed to request future installment payments.

DMin students should consult the DMin Director of Programming for information about installment payments. MAC and MATS students should contact [support@online.wts.edu](mailto:support@online.wts.edu) to apply for a payment plan.

### Outstanding Financial Obligations

A financial hold shall be placed on the record of any student with a payment to the Seminary outstanding after the due dates contained in the promissory note, or if the student has any other unpaid financial obligations to the Seminary (including the library). That student shall not be permitted to register for a subsequent semester, receive grade reports, have transcripts sent, request future payment plans, or receive a diploma.

If the account balance has not been paid in full by the conclusion of the semester/term, the student will be withdrawn from his or her program and will not be allowed to be reinstated until all outstanding payments have been made.

### Government Loans

If using government loans to pay tuition, please note that the loan must be approved by the Financial Aid Office before the first day of the term. Those students who have applied for a government loan and have not received written approval before the first day of the semester or term will be required to pay their tuition and fees in full or to pay their tuition via an installment payment plan according to the terms outlined above. For more information see [Government Loans](#).

## Westminster Scholarships

Residential students who have been awarded a Westminster scholarship will see their scholarship amounts shown as “expected aid” on their Populi account. If a student loses scholarship eligibility during the semester for any reason, the balance owed for tuition and fees is expected to be repaid in full. Online students are not currently eligible for Westminster scholarships.

## Tuition Payments

### Payment schedule

With the exception of DMin students, tuition payments for residential students taking courses are due by the first day of class for the semester/term. The continuation fee for students in post-coursework phase is due September 1 each year. If the last course is completed in the fall semester or winter term, half of the continuation fee is due February 1. A late fee of \$100.00 will be charged for balances that have not been paid by the due dates.

Tuition for online students is due seven days after registration closes for all terms.

### DMin Payment Policies

1. The matriculation fee must be paid in full by the first day of the student’s first course.
2. Students are required to produce funding for the number of courses they take in a given academic year.
3. Full payment for courses taken is due by the last day of the academic year. If churches or ministry family network partners fail to make their pledged payments, the student is liable for the outstanding balance.
4. If payment is not made by the last day of the academic year, the student will be subject to a \$100 late payment fee.

### Payment methods:

- **In the Student Billing Office:** by checks, cash, or money orders.
- **Online** via [Populi](#): by **e-check** or **credit card** (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express). If paying by credit card, students are responsible for card surcharges of ~2.5%.
- **Bank Wire:** Students should contact the Finance Office for instructions via telephone at 215-572-3848.
- **[Government Loans](#):** The loan must be approved before the first day of the term. If not approved, students are responsible to pay the full rate of tuition to stay enrolled in the course. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for information on receiving a loan.
- **By Mail:** Send a check with student name in the memo line to:

Westminster Theological Seminary  
Attn: Student Billing  
P.O. Box 27009  
Philadelphia PA 19118



## Tuition and Special Fees

The following are tuition and fees for the 2020-2021 academic year, ending May 31, 2021, and are subject to change each academic year.

### Tuition by Program

#### Master of Divinity, Master of Arts (Religion)

Cost per credit hour - residential course	<b>\$615</b>
Cost per credit hour - online course	<b>\$615</b>
Case Study Seminar (PT 021P, PT 021P-2) (per course)	<b>\$310</b>
Taking ThM or PhD courses for shared degree credit - each course	<b>\$3,620</b>

#### Master of Arts in Counseling, Master of Arts (Theological Studies)

Cost per credit hour	<b>\$615</b>
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#### Master of Theology

Matriculation fee due at initial enrollment	<b>\$750</b>
Cost per traditional ThM course	<b>\$3,620</b>
<i>The cost of a 'capstone' course equals the normal ThM course cost.</i>	
Cost per modular ThM per course	<b>\$3,700</b>
<i>Includes meal costs.</i>	
Continuation fee	<b>\$2,000</b>
<i>Due for each year in which no coursework will be taken or any year after the six-year program time limit, until student has been fully approved to graduate — due Sept 1. If the last course is completed in the fall semester or winter term, one half the fee is due the following February 1.</i>	
Thesis fee	<b>\$1,500</b>
<i>ThM Thesis students only. Due when thesis is formally submitted, with a deadline of March 1 prior to commencement.</i>	

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Matriculation fee due at initial enrollment	<b>\$1,200</b>
Cost per course	<b>\$3,620</b>
<i>Students enrolled for three or more courses at Westminster will receive a \$50 discount off total tuition billed each semester if tuition is paid in full by the payment deadline.</i>	
Continuation fee	<b>\$2,000</b>
<i>Due for each year in which no coursework will be taken, until student has been fully approved to graduate- due Sept 1. If the last course is completed in the fall semester or winter term, one half the fee is due the following February 1.</i>	
Dissertation fee	<b>\$3,000</b>
<i>Due when dissertation is formally submitted, with a deadline of Jan 30 prior to commencement.</i>	

## Doctor of Ministry

Matriculation fee due at initial enrollment, prior to first module	<b>\$1,250</b>
Cost per DMin course <i>Includes meal costs.</i>	<b>\$3,500</b>
Continuation fee <i>Due for each year in which no coursework will be taken or any year after the six-year program time limit, until student has been fully approved to graduate — due Sept 1. If the last course is completed in the fall semester or winter term, one half the fee is due the following February 1.</i>	<b>\$1,750</b>
DMin Project Fee <i>Due when the applied research project is formally submitted, with a deadline of November 15 prior to commencement.</i>	<b>\$2,500</b>

## Doctor of Ministry - Pastoral Concentration in Korean

Annual Tuition <i>Due on the first day of the first module.</i>	<b>\$9,540</b>
Continuation Fee <i>Due June 15 in fourth year and any subsequent years in the program.</i>	<b>\$1,750</b>
DMin Project Fee <i>Due when the applied research project is formally submitted, with a deadline of January 15 prior to commencement.</i>	<b>\$2,500</b>
Project Translation <i>Depending on length/quality, the expense may vary.</i>	<b>\$8,500</b>

## Theological English

Advanced Theological Writing Courses (per hour of instruction)	<b>\$615</b>
Mastering Theological English Courses (per hour of instruction)	<b>\$615</b>

## Special Fees (non-refundable)

*Online Students: Only application and CCEF transfer price applies. No other fees required.*

Meal fee for masters-level students in ThM module (optional)	<b>\$80</b>
Enrollment deposit for new students and students entering a new degree program. Applied to tuition upon registration. Non-refundable. Summer Entry - due July 15 Fall Entry, except PhD students - due August 15 Winter Entry - due December 15 Spring Entry - due January 15 PhD students - due April 15 If the applicant is admitted after a due date, the deposit is due immediately upon receipt of the admission letter.	<b>\$500</b>
Application fee	<b>\$100</b>
Auditing fee	
Full-time students & their spouses - up the number of credits taken by the full-time student	<b>Free</b>
All others, including Church Leaders	<b>10% of tuition</b>

CCEF transfer credit fee (courses taken prior to September 1, 2017)	<b>\$100</b>
CCEF transfer credit fee (courses taken after September 1, 2017) is equivalent to the difference in tuition	
Change of program or emphasis	<b>\$100</b>
Commencement fee - due March 15 prior to commencement	<b>\$230</b>
English Bible Exam Fee <i>Charged to students who have not passed the EBE</i>	<b>\$100</b>
Late payment of tuition and continuation fees after the add/drop period of semester/term	<b>\$100</b>
Reinstatement fee - MDiv and MAR students <i>*The reinstatement fee for ThM, PhD, DMin students is equal to the matriculation fee</i>	<b>\$100</b>
Student fee (includes student activity fee and technology fee - required of all students enrolled in at least one residential course)	
	Fall Semester <b>\$275</b>
	Spring Semester <b>\$275</b>
Transcript fee - per transcript (electronic delivery)	<b>\$10</b>
Transcript fee - per transcript (mailed delivery) <i>Additional charges will be assessed for express mailing services.</i>	<b>\$15</b>

## On-Campus Housing

The room rates (per person) for 2020-2021 are as follows:

	<b>Per semester</b>	<b>Per WI/SU term</b>
<b>Single</b>	\$2,100	\$525
<b>Double</b>	\$1,560	\$390

## London Program Tuition

### Master of Theology

#### Citizens of Europe or the United Kingdom

Matriculation fee - due at initial registration	<b>£230</b>
Each course <i>Due prior to the start of each course.</i>	<b>£740</b>
Continuation fee <i>Continuation fee – due September 1 for each academic year in which no new course work will be taken, until student has been fully approved to graduate. If the last course is completed in the fall semester or winter term, one half the fee is due the following February 1.</i>	<b>£465</b>
Capstone fees  <i>Capstone course with external (non-WTS) course component will require an additional fee to support advising. Due on the first day of class.</i>	<b>£240</b>
<i>Thesis: Due when formally submitted, with a deadline of March 1 prior to commencement.</i>	<b>£470</b>

Auditing fee, each course	<b>Free</b>
<i>EU/UK citizens who are current students</i>	
<i>All other EU/UK citizens (not current students)</i>	<b>10% of tuition</b>

Late Registration fee **£25**

Commencement fee **£50**  
*Due March 1 of a student's graduating year.*  
*Note: students wishing to attend Westminster's graduation ceremony will be charged an additional £50 for the cost of regalia.*

### **Non-EU/UK Citizens:**

Refer to Philadelphia campus Tuition and Special Fees

*Schedule for payments is the same as the schedule for Europe/UK students*

## **Refunds**

### **Online Students**

Refund amounts are calculated on the number of calendar days in the term beginning with the first day of the semester and ending with the last day of exams. Students who drop a course on or before the first day of class will be refunded the complete amount of the tuition for the course. Students who withdraw beyond the first day of class will receive a prorated refund calculated based on the time lapsed, from the first day of class to the date the course was withdrawn.

If a refund is given, it will be granted a refund in the form of a credit that will remain on the student's account for future terms of study. Cash refunds will not be granted. Credits will not be given if a student withdraws past the last date listed in the respective schedule. Refunds will not be granted outside of a credit for future terms.

For terms that are ten weeks long (May, June, September, October, March), the following refund schedule will be used to determine a refund:

Up to the first day of the term	100% refund
2nd-13th day of the term	80% refund
14th-27 day of the term	60% refund
After 27th day of the term	No refunds will be issued

For a term that is nine weeks long (January), the following refund schedule will be used to determine a refund:

Up to the first day of the term	100% refund
2nd-12th day of the term	80% refund
13th-24 day of the term	60% refund
After 24th day of the term	No refunds will be issued

### **Residential Students**

A student is responsible for payment of all registered courses whether the course was attended or not.

### **For Dropped or Withdrawn Courses in a Semester or Term**

The refund amount is calculated on the number of calendar days in the semester beginning with the first day of the semester and ending with the last day of exams. Students who drop a course before the add/drop deadline will be refunded the complete amount of the tuition for the course. Students who withdraw from a course on or before 60% of the semester has been completed will receive a prorated

refund calculated based on the time lapsed, from the last day of the Add/Drop period to the date the course was withdrawn. No refunds will be given after 60% of the semester has elapsed.

For traditional residential courses in the fall or spring semester, please see the following refund schedule (weekends and school breaks are calculated in the refund):

During Add/Drop Period	100% refund
End of A/D to 20% of the semester	80% refund
21%-40% of the semester	60% refund
41%-60% of the semester	40% refund
*At 61% of the semester no refunds will be issued	

DMin students will only be refunded tuition for courses which they have not already attended. Contributions from Ministry Family Network partners are non-refundable.

Residential students in online courses must pay for an online course in full prior to the start of the term. The refund policy for residential students in online courses is consistent with the traditional refund policy for all terms.

If an individual is suspended from the Seminary, no refund will be given.

It is the students responsibility to know the Add/Drop deadline and refund policies for the courses they are enrolled in.

#### **Leave of Absence**

A refund will not be given if the student's leave of absence is 60 days or less and is the only leave of absence taken in a twelve-month period.

#### **Students in the post-coursework phase**

A refund of 50% will be given if the student withdraws before the first day of the spring semester. No other refunds will be given for students in the post-coursework phase.

#### **MTE I & II**

The refund policy for MTE courses follows the refund policy for residential courses. As the initial deposit of \$500 is non-refundable, it will be deducted from any refunds calculated.

#### **On-Campus Housing Charges**

On-campus housing residents who move out of on-campus housing before the end of the 4.5-month time frame over which on-campus housing charges are calculated during the academic year (Sept 1-Jan 15, Jan 15-May 31), will not receive a refund of the on-campus housing charges for that time-frame.

#### **Students with a Government loans**

Please see Title IV Refund policy in Chapter 12 or the Financial Aid Office for more details regarding Changes in Eligibility, Direct Loan Refund Policy and Federal Calculation.

#### **Appeals**

Students who believe that individual circumstances warrant exceptions from the refund policy may appeal to the Finance Office.

## 12. Financial Aid

The following list represents options to fund a Westminster education (apart from personal resources):

- Westminster-administered scholarships
- Outside scholarships from churches and organizations
- Funds from family and friends
- VA and Service Member benefits
- Federal student loans
- Private educational loans

### Scholarships - General Information

Westminster maintains a policy of holding the expense of theological education to a minimum for the student and encourages the student to meet this expense from his or her own resources. In order that students might not be prevented from receiving a theological education for financial reasons, the Seminary endeavors to provide scholarships for those whose circumstances require it.

Application for Westminster scholarships can be accessed through the student application status page after the student has secured admittance into a program. Students should use the appropriate online platform to apply or reapply for their scholarship. Online students are not eligible for Westminster administered scholarships.

### Westminster-administered Scholarships

Westminster offers a variety of need-based and merit-based scholarships to residential students after admission. The below list of scholarships reflects our most common scholarships, but the list is not exhaustive. Other merit-based scholarships may be awarded at the sole discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

**Presidential Scholarship:** Merit-based award for students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement in college. Covers 50% of tuition for full-time MDiv and MAR students in residential programs. Students do not apply for this award as it is given at the discretion of the Admissions Office.

**American Minority Scholarship:** Need-based scholarship for full-time US African American, Hispanic American, American Indian, Alaska Native, or women MDiv and MAR residential students being developed for ministry leadership. Up to 50% of tuition.

*Requirements:* Student must be admitted and submit a Financial Aid application, FAFSA, Tax Transcript/Non-Tax Filer worksheet, and Pastoral Letter by application deadline.

**Church Partnership Grant:** Westminster will match the financial support of a student's church or denominational organization up to 33% of tuition for full-time and part-time US and Canadian MDiv and MAR residential students, and US and international ThM students. Church support must be received by the first day of class to receive the award.

*Requirements:* Student must be admitted and submit a Financial Aid application and a Church Statement of Intent Form by application deadline. Church support must be received by the first day of class to receive the award.

**General Master's Grant:** Need-based scholarship for full-time US and Canadian MDiv and MAR residential students. Up to 25% of tuition.

*Requirements:* Student must be admitted and submit a Financial Aid application, FAFSA, and Tax Transcripts/Non-Tax Filer worksheet by application deadline.

**International Master's Grant:** Merit-based award for international MDiv and MAR residential students who plan on returning to their home country following studies at Westminster.

*Requirements:* Student must be admitted and submit a Financial Aid application by application deadline.

**MDiv Ministry Grant:** Need-based scholarship for full-time US and Canadian MDiv residential students who are [under care](#) or equivalent to under-care status in a Reformed confessional church. Up to 50% of tuition. Under care status is defined as "under the care of a [NAPARC](#) presbytery as a candidate for ordained ministry;" mentored status is defined as equivalent to under care (see [OPC under care description](#) for clarification) in a Reformed confessional church/denomination which is not listed among the NAPARC churches. Preference is given to students from the following denominations: Reformed Episcopal, Reformed Baptist, and Sovereign Grace.

*Requirements:* Student must be admitted and submit a Financial Aid application, FAFSA, Tax Transcript/Non-Tax Filer worksheet, and Under Care Letter/Under Care Letter equivalency.

**Spouse Scholarship:** Scholarship for MDiv or MAR residential students whose spouse is a full-time MDiv or MAR residential student. The Spouse Scholarship covers tuition up to the number of credits that the full-time student is paying for in a given term. Scholarship funds awarded must be applied only to classes necessary for the program in which the spouse is enrolled.

Note: If you are planning to get married before the start of the semester, you may still apply for the scholarship. Please submit proof of marriage before the start of the semester; you will then be considered for the scholarship.

*Requirements:* Student must be admitted and submit a Financial Aid application and proof of marriage by specified deadline.

**DMin Scholarship Program:** Westminster is committed to helping DMin students build a financial support portfolio that minimizes the student's personal financial liability for the program. The financial support portfolio consists of four elements:

1. **Church Support:** Established in a Letter of Support from the student's church committing to prayer, time, and financial resources.
2. **Ministry Family Network Support:** Commitments from individuals within the student's circle who will provide prayer, accountability, and financial resources.
3. **Personal Contribution:** The student's own financial contribution to the program
4. **Westminster Scholarship:** Determined by merit and need, after preceding support elements have been determined. Scholarships of up to 100% are available for qualified applicants.

**PhD Grant:** This is a merit-based full tuition grant for PhD students based on exceptional academic merit. This award is given by invitation only and applications will not be considered.

**Korean Church Scholarship:** The Korean Church Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship for Korean DMin students.

## **Awarding of Scholarships**

Awards for the following academic year will be made after the receipt of the Financial Aid application and the necessary materials for the scholarship. All application materials must be received by the specified deadline in order to be considered.

Students will be notified by email whether or not they have been awarded or re-awarded a scholarship. Financial aid recipients will be issued an award notification letter including “passive acceptance” language and disclosures not requiring a student acceptance signature and thereby reducing the turnaround time and expediting issuance of disbursements to the student. Given the sensitive nature of scholarship availability and funding, students will also be required to abide by an agreement of confidentiality.

Before any funds are disbursed to returning students, scholarship recipients are required to evidence that they are matriculated as students in an appropriate program of study. Scholarships will only be applied to cover the cost of courses required for the degree program in which the recipient is enrolled.

All scholarships are calculated and applied based on the residential tuition rate associated with the student's degree program, with the exception of online courses that are required by a student's degree program. Scholarships for required online courses will be calculated based on online rates. Scholarships for online courses taken as electives will be calculated on the residential rate, and thus online electives may have a higher tuition rate.

Unless otherwise noted, the awarding of scholarships is based on financial need. In determining a student's need, items that will not be considered allowable expenses include maternity costs, support of relatives other than the spouse and children of the applicant, and school tuition or other school expenses for spouse or other dependents of the applicant. For U.S. citizens and permanent residents, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) results are considered when determining a student's need. For some named scholarships, merit and academic standing are also under consideration.

Students who are awarded a scholarship and who have had tuition covered through other means will have their Westminster scholarship removed or the awarded amount adjusted. Only aid received by the Finance Office on behalf of the student which is designated solely for non-tuition expenses will not influence the amount of a Westminster scholarship.

Except for rare cases, each recipient is awarded only one scholarship, regardless of the number of scholarships for which he or she applied. The scholarship is awarded once a year for a one-year period only (except for “Spring Semester Only” awards). Students who have been awarded scholarships for a given academic year must reapply for this financial aid each successive academic year they plan to be enrolled.

The academic year extends from the summer term beginning in June through the spring semester ending the following May. The summer term is considered by itself in terms of aid. The winter term and the spring semester are considered together as the spring semester in terms of aid. Any reference to the spring semester assumes that the winter term is included. Scholarships are only awarded for the fall and spring semesters, but summer languages may be covered if the student is eligible.

### **Appeal process**

In certain situations, students may appeal for a re-evaluation of their eligibility for financial assistance. Students must write an appeal letter, stating their situation and reason for the appeal. Appeals will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee and the students will be notified of their decision within a two week period.



# Application of Westminster Scholarships & External Aid

## Westminster Scholarships and External Aid

Westminster scholarships will be applied to the student's account so long as the student remains within the eligibility requirements specified. If a student has been awarded a Westminster scholarship and also has received external aid, the Westminster scholarship will be applied to the student's account last and any excess will not be refunded to the student. Under no circumstances will the Seminary pay out Westminster scholarships in excess of the student's outstanding balance.

## External Aid Designated for Non-Tuition purposes

If external aid is received for a particular student and is designated exclusively for a non-tuition expense such as books or living expenses, then the full amount of the aid will be given to the student and there will be no reduction of his or her Westminster scholarship (if applicable).

## Scholarship Application Submission Requirements

Westminster scholarships are available to admitted students who meet the eligibility requirements. Applications are considered submitted when all application materials have been received, the submission date being the date that the last application material is received. **For new/incoming students, the submission date is the later of 1) receipt of all application materials or 2) full admittance to the Seminary (for US/Canadian citizens/permanent residents) or provisional admittance (international).**

Basic eligibility requirements for **most** scholarships:

- Citizenship or permanent resident status within the US or Canada.
- If applicable, non-defaulted status of government FFEL, Direct, or Perkins loan(s).
- Full-time enrollment status (12 credits minimum for both fall and spring semesters, with the exception of the Spouse Scholarship and Church Partnership Grant).
- Enrollment in the MDiv, MAR, ThM, DMin, PhD or MTE program(s).
- Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as detailed in the SAP for Financial Aid section below.
- Adherence to Westminster's Honor Code Policy.

Additional documents that may be required:

- Westminster's Financial Aid Application. This will be made available to students after they are admitted.
- For US citizens and permanent residents only: a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), submitted online. Note to tax-filers: The application will not be processed unless the student's FAFSA indicates that a tax return was already completed and filed. Tax return transcript information: Electronically transfer to the FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (preferred) or provide a copy of 2 years prior's [Tax Return Transcript](#). Non-tax filers: complete the Non-Tax Filer Worksheet.
- For Canadian students only: a copy of the previous year's T4 Statement of Remuneration.
- Specific documents as required by specific scholarships. Please see specific requirements listed above or contact the Financial Aid Office with questions.

Deadlines to apply for scholarships are listed below:

<b>Matriculation</b>	<b>Financial Aid Application Deadlines</b>
New International students	April 15
Returning students	April 15
ThM and DMin Church Partnership Grant	July 15
New US and Canadian students	August 15*
Spring only scholarships	December 15

\*Scholarships are awarded on a rolling basis for new US and Canadian students and are subject to available funds.

## Veterans and Service Member Benefits

Westminster participates in the GI Bill® Benefits, GoArmyEd Tuition Assistance, other active duty personnel and AmeriCorps programs.

Students who are veterans should refer to the [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website](#) for eligibility requirements. To receive benefit payments, eligible veterans should contact Westminster's Certifying Official in the Financial Aid Office. Students using Ch. 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill® Benefits or Ch. 31 Voc-Rehab benefits must produce the VA's Certificate of Eligibility by the first day of class, as well as provide written request to be certified in a given semester. Westminster will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities because of the student's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to Westminster due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under Chapter 31 or 33.

For those receiving VA Benefits, note that students will only receive full allowance of VA benefits during the time the student is classified as full time, which the VA calculates on a day-to-day basis. If a student is enrolled in overlapping terms, the student may be classified by the VA as full time for the period that the sessions overlap and part time in the time the terms did not overlap. All benefits are applied at the discretion of the VA.

Active Duty and Army Reservists seeking tuition assistance should check the [GoArmyEd website](#) for application information. Helpful information for veterans and service members considering attending Westminster, including degree program details and costs associated with attending, student success, and borrowing, may be gleaned on the [Westminster website](#).

## Government Loans

The Seminary is approved to participate in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program (FDSLP), which is part of the Federal Title IV program for the administration of:

- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans
- Graduate PLUS Loans

The direct loan program is funded and insured by the federal government. The Seminary is also approved to participate in the Canada Student Loans Program. This program provides federally insured loans to students via private banks and is administered by the various Canadian provinces.

The **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan (FSUL)** is not need-based and has a 4.38% interest rate and a 1.059% loan fee for loans disbursed after July 1, 2020. It is available to students who may request up to

the smaller of \$20,500 or the Cost of Attendance (COA), which is determined by the sum of living expenses, tuition, fees (student and loan), and books. The interest due on an unsubsidized loan is paid by the student.

The **Graduate PLUS Loan** is not need-based and has a 5.38% interest rate and a 4.236% loan fee for loans disbursed after July 1, 2020. It is available to students with good credit history who want to borrow funds in excess of their total unsubsidized loan eligibility. The combined total of unsubsidized and GradPLUS loans plus other financial aid per academic year cannot exceed the student's COA. For further information on this loan, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

**Recommended Loan Limits:** Current and prospective students considering loans to finance their Westminster education are advised not to exceed a total student loan (combined undergraduate and graduate) indebtedness in excess of \$26,000 for an MDiv or MAR degree and \$20,000 for other master's degrees. Students requesting loans which will result in them exceeding a total loan debt level of \$26,000 for an MDiv or MAR degrees or \$20,000 for other master's degrees will be emailed a "Notice of Student Debt Management" about loan repayment or be required to meet with the Financial Aid Office for debt counseling.

Financial aid recipients will be issued an award notification letter. Students seeking federal loans will be required to accept their loan electronically through their Populi account before loans may be disbursed.

### Residential Academic Year Definition

Westminster's academic year is defined as a minimum of two Periods of Enrollment (POEs), comprised of the fall and spring semesters—both typically 15 weeks in duration—for a total minimum of 30 weeks. A winter "intercession" term is offered to students, which is typically 4 weeks, and is combined with the spring semester for the sake of enrollment eligibility requirements for Financial Aid. **During the academic year so defined, a full-time MDiv, MAR, or Certificate student is expected to complete a minimum of 24 credits.** If for any reason the academic year is less than 30 weeks and the Seminary can show good cause for the reduction, the Seminary must file for a waiver from the Secretary of Education. In no case will the academic year be less than 28 weeks in duration. The academic year can also include other POEs as defined below. Please contact the Financial Aid Office to discuss your eligibility.

### Online Academic Year Definition

Westminster's academic year for Online learning is defined as six Periods of Enrollment (POEs), May, June, September, October, January, and March terms. Terms are between 9 and 10 weeks in duration for a total maximum of 48 weeks. **Students can retain full-time status by completing a minimum of 30 weeks of class, which would include June, October, and March terms. During the academic year so defined, a full-time student is expected to complete 18 credits.**

### Periods of Enrollment

A student's loan period, or Period of Enrollment (POE), is the term, semester, or academic year in which the student is registered. POE dates begin with the first day of classes (as specified in the Academic Calendar), which may or may not coincide with the first day of individual courses and end with the last day of the exam period. The minimum POE is a single module and the maximum POE is twelve months. If the POE begins with a term or semester comprised of modules (see POE Definitions below), the POE start date will be the first day of the term/semester, which coincides with the beginning of the first module; however, only the module(s) for which the student is registered and attending will be used for COA calculations.

### POE Definitions Used for the Purposes of Determining Loan Limits:

Summer Term: 12 to 13 weeks (3 months), June through the end of August

- Module 1 ("June" Module): 4 weeks (1 month) during the month of June

- Module 2 (“July” Module): 4 weeks (1 month) during the month of July
- Module 3 (“August” Module): 4 weeks (1 month) during the month of August

Note: Modules 1-3 may not be considered individually for loan eligibility

Fall Semester: 15 weeks (4 months)

Spring Semester:

- Module 1 (“Winter” module): 4 weeks (1 month) during the month of January
- Module 2 (“Spring” module): 14 weeks (4 months)

### **POE Online Term Definitions Used for the Purposes of Determining Loan Limits**

May Term: 10 weeks

June Term: 10 weeks

September Term: 10 weeks

October Term: 10 weeks

January Term: 9 weeks

March Term: 10 weeks

### **Student Loan Eligibility**

In order to be eligible for an FDSLPL loan, a student must:

1. Be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.
2. Be enrolled at least half-time (see Enrollment Status Chart in Chapter 6) in one of the following degree programs: MDiv, MAR, MAC, MATS, ThM, or PhD
  - a. DMin, ThM Modular, and Certificate students are not eligible to apply for federal loans.
3. Hold a baccalaureate degree, or have completed with a passing grade classes totaling 72 undergraduate or graduate credits.
4. Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements as listed in the SAP section for Financial Aid below.

If the student does not meet the SAP standards due to the student having undergone undue hardship because of the death of a relative of the student, injury or illness of the student, or another special circumstance, a letter of appeal may be submitted to the Financial Aid Office requesting loan funds for an additional semester. If the appeal is approved, the student will be permitted to receive loan funds for one probationary semester in order to reestablish compliance with SAP requirements. If the student does not achieve SAP compliance after completing the probationary semester, he or she will be ineligible for future loan disbursements.

### **Loan Application Procedure**

To apply for a student loan, students must submit the following loan application materials:

- Westminster Financial Aid Loan Request Form for U.S. and Canadian Students
- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#)
- Tax Return Transcript Information: Electronically transferred to the FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (preferred) or provide a Tax Transcript (available from [the IRS](#)).
- Non-tax filers: Proof of Non-Filing Status, provided by the IRS

Students borrowing through Westminster for the first time must also submit the following online (available through [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov)):

- Master Promissory Note (MPN) for Direct Unsubsidized Loans or Master Promissory Note for Graduate PLUS loans
- Loan Entrance Counseling for graduate students

It is critical that all application materials be completed and submitted as early as possible to ensure processing for timely disbursement.

### **FDSLPL Loan Application Deadlines**

If a student plans to pay for his or her tuition and fees with an FDSLPL loan, the loan must be originated before the enrollment date (first day of classes). Loans take 1-2 weeks to process, so appropriate processing time must be factored in to your request for a loan.

**The student is responsible for paying all tuition and fees when payment is due, regardless of the status of the student's loan.** Failure to submit completed loan application materials by the above deadline(s) may result in delayed enrollment or a student needing to submit payment through other means.

### **Loan Disbursement Dates**

Unless a loan application is certified on a date past the halfway point of the POE, there must be multiple disbursements. The second disbursement should occur no sooner than after one-half of the POE has lapsed, unless the student's second module within the POE begins earlier. In that situation the second disbursement date may be up to 30 days before the beginning of the student's second module. If the loan application is certified beyond the halfway point of the POE, a single disbursement may be requested. [Standard disbursements for each semester may be found on the financial aid loan webpages.](#)

### **Changes in Student Eligibility Status**

If a student is currently receiving an FDSLPL loan or has received a FFELP or FDSLPL loan through Westminster in prior academic years, the following procedures apply:

1. If a student drops or withdraws from a course: this may result in a change in eligibility, in which case the student's loan funds may be adjusted because of the change in his or her cost of attendance.
2. If the student wishes to withdraw from all or some of his or her courses: the student should notify the Academic Affairs Office and the Financial Aid Office in writing of the change in enrollment status.
3. If the student is considering taking a leave of absence (LOA): the student should first contact the Academic Affairs Office and Financial Aid Office for guidance. In addition, the student should be aware of what constitutes an approved Title IV LOA:
  - A LOA is limited to 180 days in any 12-month period.
  - Upon return, the student must be able to complete coursework begun prior to the LOA. This means that the student must be able to return at the exact point in the program where the student interrupted his or her coursework or training.
  - If a student fails to return from a LOA, the starting date of the grace period for repayment of loans is the start date of the LOA.
4. If the student graduates, ceases to be enrolled at least half-time, or withdraws completely: the student must complete the online Loan Exit Counseling (accessible through [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov)). Deadlines to complete Loan Exit Counseling are as follows:
  - For graduating students: the Monday of the last week of spring semester classes
  - For withdrawing student: within two weeks of student's withdrawal date
  - For student enrolled less than half-time: within two weeks of status as less than half-time
  - For student who withdraws without notifying the Academic Affairs Office: the last date of recorded class attendance will be used as the withdrawal date
  - For Leave of Absence (LOA) student: within two weeks of student's LOA date

## Return of Title IV Funds

The Financial Aid Office will return loan proceeds for all FDSLPL students who drop or withdraw from all courses or who take a leave of absence or are administratively withdrawn prior to completing 61 percent of a semester. More information can be found in the Student Aid Handbook at [www.JFAP.ed.gov](http://www.JFAP.ed.gov). Federal regulations are not related to the Seminary's charge adjustments, but rather to the adjustments of funds received through FDSLPL.

When FDSLPL financial aid is returned, the student may owe a balance to Westminster.

If a student withdraws after the 60<sup>th</sup> percent point in the semester or term, no adjustments will be made to his or her FDSLPL loan. He or she is considered to have earned 100 percent of this aid.

Federal regulations require the Seminary to return unearned aid to the lender in the following order:

1. Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan
2. Graduate PLUS Loan

Under the federal refund calculation regulations, all fees must be refunded to the Federal Title IV program, even those specified in the catalog as "non-refundable." The following schedule is applicable to all terms:

## Federal Refund Calculation

Percent of POE Completed	Percent of Refund
Before the first day of classes	100%
1% to 10%	90% to 99%
11% to 20%	80% to 89%
21% to 30%	70% to 79%
31% to 40%	60% to 69%
41% to 50%	50% to 59%
51% to 60%	40% to 49%
61% or more	none

## Loan Disputes

Students and alumni who are seeking help with a Federal loan issue that they were not able to resolved with the appropriate loan servicer, may contact the [Federal Student Aid Ombudsman Group](#).

## Repayment Options

Various payment options are made available for student loans, including income-sensitive and income-based repayment plans. Contact your loan servicer for more information.

## Alternative Education Loans

Students may wish to consider private education loans instead of government loans. Students may apply for private educational loans provided by commercial banks. These loans have variable or fixed interest rates which are competitive with those of government loans. Students wishing to apply for a bank student loan may compare interest rates, eligibility requirements, and application details of loans offered by different banks on [ELMSelect](#). Banks with which Westminster has worked in the past are listed on the ELMSelect site. Once the bank has processed and approved the loan application, the Financial Aid Office at Westminster will be contacted to certify the enrollment status of the loan applicant. Alternative loan

disbursement dates will be aligned with those of government loans whenever possible. Westminster will provide a written or electronic form for a private education loan a self-certification form upon request.

Schools that enter into an agreement with a potential student, student, or parent of a student regarding a Title IV, HEA loan are required to inform the student or parent that the loan will be submitted to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), and will be accessible by guaranty agencies, lenders, and schools determined to be authorized users of the data system.

## Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) measures the qualitative and quantitative aspect of a student's academic work as being adequate to receive financial aid, including student loans, VA Benefits, and/or scholarships. **SAP directly impacts a student's ability to receive and maintain their financial aid package.** Students are able to receive more than one type of financial aid, and should review their award letter to ensure they are in compliance with SAP standards.

Based on the type of financial aid a student receives, please see the requirements as detailed below.

### Scholarships

For MDiv and MAR students receiving the General Master's Grant, the MDiv Ministry Grant, the American Minority Grant, the International Master's Grant, the Spouse Grant, and/or the Church Partnership Grant:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 24 credit hours.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 24 credit hours or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 2.5 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

For MDiv or MAR receiving the Presidential Scholarship:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 24 credit hours.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 24 credit hours or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

For ThM and DMin students receiving scholarships:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 2 courses in the program.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 2 or more courses: the student's cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

For PhD students receiving a PhD Grant:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 3 courses in the program.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 3 courses or more in program: the student's cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit

the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

For any students receiving a "Special Named" Scholarship:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 24 credit hours.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 24 credit hours or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75% unless otherwise stipulated in the award letter. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

### **Federal Direct Loans**

For any students in the MDiv or MAR program:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 24 credit hours.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 24 credit hours or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 2.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.\*

For any students enrolled in the MAC or MATS:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has attempted a minimum of 12 credit hours of study.
2. For students who have attempted 12 credit hours of study or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 2.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary term will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.\*

For any students in the ThM or PhD program:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 3 courses.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 3 courses or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.\*

\*If the student does not meet the SAP standards due to the student having undergone undue hardship because of the death of a relative of the student, injury or illness of the student, or another special circumstance, a letter of appeal may be submitted to the Financial Aid Office requesting loan funds for an additional semester. If the appeal is approved, the student will be permitted to receive loan funds for one probationary semester in order to reestablish compliance with SAP requirements. If the student does not achieve SAP compliance after completing the probationary semester, he or she will be ineligible for future loan disbursements.

### **Veterans and Service Member Benefits**

For any students in the MDiv or MAR program:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 24 credit hours.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 24 credit hours or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 2.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit



the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

For any students enrolled in the MAC or MATS:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has attempted a minimum of 12 credit hours of study
2. For students who have attempted 12 credit hours of study or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 2.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

For any students in the ThM, DMin, or PhD program:

1. SAP will not be assessed until a student has completed or attempted 3 courses.
2. For students who have completed or attempted 3 courses or more: the student's cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher and the student must have a minimum completion rate of 75%. If a student fails to maintain SAP, a probationary semester will be granted to permit the student to re-establish compliance. After the probationary semester, if SAP standards have not been re-established, the student's financial aid will be terminated.

## Residential Academic Calendar 2020-2021

<b>Summer Term 2020</b>		
Online courses: May term begins		May 18
NT 012 Greek 2		June 1-30
Online courses: June term begins		June 22
KDMin Modules		June 23-July 2
OT 011 Hebrew 1		July 1-30
NT 013 Greek 3		July 6-Aug 4
Independence Day Holiday		July 3
Registration Deadline for DMin Modules		July 10
OT 013 Hebrew 3		August 1-29
OT 012 Hebrew 2		August 3-28
DMin & ThM Modules		July 20-Aug 14
Online Courses: May term ends		July 25
Online courses: June term ends		August 29

<b>Fall Semester 2020</b> (12 instructional weeks)		
Online Courses: September term begins		August 31
Mastering Theological English I (MTE I) Welcome		September 2
Placement & Competency Exams: Greek and Hebrew		September 2
English Bible Exam		September 3
New Student Orientation/Library Research & Writing Orientation		September 3
Labor Day Holiday		September 7
First day of residential classes		September 9
MTE I Classes Begin		September 9
Convocation		September 9
Add/Drop Period (for Fall Semester courses)		September 9-18
Herrell Lecture		TBD
Online courses: October term begins		October 5
Summative Evaluation (MAR only)		October 15-16
English Bible Exam		October 16
Preaching Conference (Classes canceled Wednesday)		October 20-21
Online Courses: September term ends		November 7
Registration for Winter Term and Spring Semester, returning students		November 9-20
Completed DMin projects due for 2021 graduation		November 15*
Final date to withdraw from a Fall Semester course		November 19
English Bible Exam		November 20
Thanksgiving Holiday		November 26-27

Last day of residential classes		December 4
Papers in MAR and MDiv courses due		December 4
Reading period		December 7-9
Fall Semester exams		December 10-18
Online Courses: October term ends		December 12
Papers in ThM and PhD courses due		December 14
Last day of MTE I classes		December 14
MTE I Qualifying Exam		December 15
Completed PhD dissertations due to advisor for pre-approval for 2021 graduation		December 15*
Winter vacation begins		December 19

<b>Winter Term 2021</b> (January 4-January 29)		
Online courses: January term begins		December 28
First day of classes		January 4
Final date to register for month-long courses		January 4
Mastering Theological English II (MTE II) Orientation		January 7
MTE II Classes Begin		January 11
Completed PhD dissertations due to the Academic Affairs Office for 2021 graduation		January 15*
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday		January 18
Final date to withdraw from a Winter Term course, month-long courses only		January 19
Last day of classes, month long courses only		January 27
Placement & Competency Exams: Greek and Hebrew		January 27
English Bible Exam		January 28
Reading Period		January 28
Winter Term exams: residential courses		January 29

<b>Spring Semester 2021</b> (12 instructional weeks)		
New Student Orientation		January 28
First day of classes		February 1
Add/Drop Period (for Spring Semester courses)		February 1-10
Convocation		February 3
English Bible Exam		February 12
Online courses: January term ends		February 27
Completed ThM theses due for 2021 graduation		March 1
Online courses: March term begins		March 1
Summative Evaluation (MAR only)		March 11-12
English Bible Exam		March 12
Gaffin Lecture		March 17
Spring vacation; Classes commence Monday, April 5		March 27-April 4

Registration for 2021 Summer Term and Fall Semester, returning students		April 5-16
Final date to withdraw from a Spring Semester course		April 13
English Bible Exam		April 16
Last day of classes		April 30
Papers in MAR, and MDiv courses due		April 30
Approved versions of DMin projects and PhD dissertations due		May 1*
Last day of MTE II Classes		May 3
Reading period		May 3-5
MTE II Qualifying Exam		May 4-5
Spring Semester exams		May 6-14
Online courses: March term ends		May 8
Papers in ThM and PhD courses due		May 10
Placement & Competency Exams: Greek and Hebrew		May 14
Approved versions of ThM theses due		May 17
Ninety-second Commencement		May 20

\*If date falls on a weekend, due date is the following Monday

## Online Learning Academic Calendar 2020-2021

Term	2020/21 Start	2020/21 End	Notes
May Term	May 18	July 25	10 week term
June Term	June 22	August 29	10 week term
September Term	August 31	November 7	10 week term
October Term	October 5	December 12	10 week term
January Term	December 28	February 27	9 week term
March Term	March 1	May 8	10 week term

## Residential Academic Calendar 2021-2022 (subject to change)

<b>Summer Term 2021</b>		
Placement & Competency Exam		May 14
Online courses: May term begins		May 17
OT 013 Hebrew 3		TBD
NT 012 Greek 2		TBD
KDMin Modules		TBD
Online courses: June term begins		June 21
OT 011 Hebrew 1		TBD
NT 013 Greek 3		TBD
Independence Day Holiday		July 4
Registration Deadline for DMin Modules		July 10
OT 012 Hebrew 2		TBD
DMin Modules		TBD
ThM Modules		TBD
Online Courses: May term ends		July 24
Online courses: June term ends		Sept 4

<b>Fall Semester 2021</b> (12 instructional weeks)		
Online Courses: September term begins		September 6
Mastering Theological English I (MTE I) Welcome		September 2
Placement & Competency Exams: Greek and Hebrew		September 2
English Bible Exam		September 2
New Student Orientation		September 3
Labor Day Holiday		September 6
First day of residential classes		September 8
MTE I Classes Begin		September 8
Convocation		September 8
Add/Drop Period (for Fall Semester courses)		September 8-17
Herrell Lecture		TBD
Online courses: October term begins		October 4
Summative Evaluation (MAR only)		October 11-12
English Bible Exam		TBD
Preaching Conference (Classes canceled Wednesday)		TBD
Online Courses: September term ends		November 13
Registration for Winter Term and Spring Semester, returning students		November 8-19
Completed DMin projects due for 2022 graduation		November 15*
Final date to withdraw from a Fall Semester course		November 17
English Bible Exam		TBD

Thanksgiving Holiday		November 25-26
Last day of residential classes		December 3
Papers in MAR and MDiv courses due		December 3
Reading period		December 6-8
Fall Semester exams		December 9-17
Online Courses: October term ends		December 11
Papers in ThM and PhD courses due		December 13
MTE I Classes End		December 13
MTE I Qualifying Exam		December 14
Completed PhD dissertations due to advisor for pre-approval for 2022 graduation		December 15*
Winter vacation begins		December 18

<b>Winter Term 2022</b> (January 3-February 1)		
Online courses: January term begins		January 3
First day of classes		January 4
Last day to register for a month-long course		January 4
Mastering Theological English II (MTE II) Orientation		January 6
Mastering Theological English II Begins		January 10
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday		January 17
Final date to withdraw from a Winter Term course, month-long courses only		January 18
Last day of classes, month long courses only		January 28
Completed PhD dissertations due to the Academic Affairs Office for 2022 graduation		January 30*
Reading Period		January 31
Winter Term exams: residential courses		February 1
Placement & Competency Exams: Greek and Hebrew		February 2
English Bible Exam		February 2

<b>Spring Semester 2022</b> (12 instructional weeks)		
New Student Orientation		February 3
First day of classes		February 7
Add/Drop Period (for Spring Semester courses)		February 7-16
Convocation		February 9
English Bible Exam		TBD
Completed ThM theses due for 2022 graduation		March 1*
Online courses: January term ends		March 5
Online courses: March term begins		March 7
Summative Evaluation (MAR only)		March 17-18
Gaffin Lecture		TBD
English Bible Exam		TBD

Spring vacation; Classes commence Monday, April 5		April 9 -16
Registration for 2022 Summer Term and Fall Semester, returning students		April 11-22
Final date to withdraw from a Spring Semester course		April 13
English Bible Exam		TBD
Approved versions of DMin projects and PhD dissertations due		May 1*
Last day of classes		May 6
Papers in MAR, and MDiv courses due		May 6
Reading period		May 9-11
Last day of MTE II Classes		May 9
MTE II Qualifying Exam		May 10-11
Spring Semester exams		May 12-20
Online courses: March term ends		May 14
Approved versions of ThM theses due		May 15*
Papers in ThM and PhD courses due		May 16
Placement & Competency Exams: Greek and Hebrew		May 20
Ninety-third Commencement		May 26

\*If date falls on a weekend, due date is the following Monday

## Online Learning Academic Calendar 2021-2022

Term	2021/22 Start	2021/22 End	Notes
May Term	May 17	July 24	10 week term
June Term	June 28	September 4	10 week term
September Term	September 6	November 13	10 week term
October Term	October 4	December 11	10 week term
January Term	January 3	March 5	9 week term
March Term	March 7	May 14	10 week term

## Changelog

**Throughout:** Various punctuation, grammatical, and phrasing changes

### Chapter 3

Updated housing information (Aug 7, 2020)

### Chapter 4

Changed “Advanced Theological Writing” to “Theological English” (August 7, 2020)

Added William Haselton as a Lecturer of Theological English (August 7, 2020)

### Chapter 5

Updated MAC and MATS application requirements (August 7, 2020)

Updated policy for English language testing of incoming students (August 7, 2020)

### Chapter 6

Updated the change of program, add/drop, course withdraw, SAP, and program withdraw policies. (August 7, 2020)

Clarified graduation policy (August 7, 2020)

Updated enrollment status chart (August 7, 2020)

### Chapter 8

Updated enrollment information for MDiv and MAR degrees (August 7, 2020)

Updated course codes and credit hours for Greek courses (August 7, 2020)

Changed Mentored Ministry to “Curricular Practical Training” and updated the description of the field experience requirements. (August 7, 2020)

Removed information pertaining to the residential MAC (August 7, 2020)

Updated course requirements for the MDiv, MAR, MAC, and MATS (August 7, 2020)

Updated ThM comprehensive exam information (August 7, 2020)

Add grade requirement of a C to pass the thesis capstone (August 7, 2020)

Removed information about the ThM modular program (August 7, 2020)

Updated DMin module information (August 7, 2020)

Updated program time limit for the PhD program (August 7, 2020)

### Chapter 9

Updated course codes and credit values for Greek courses in MDiv and MAR RCS (August 7, 2020)

Updated course title for ST 101 (August 7, 2020)

Updated course schedule charts for MAC and MATS. (August 7, 2020)

### Chapter 10

Changed course codes for Greek courses to NT 001, NT 002, NT 003 (August 7, 2020)

Changed NT 433 to three hours (August 7, 2020)



Changed TE 6 to two credit hours (August 7, 2020)  
Updated course title, terms, and description for ST 101 (August 7, 2020)  
Update term information for ST 113 (August 7, 2020)  
Removed ST 121, ST 131, PR 1 (August 7, 2020)  
Added ST 611 (August 7, 2020)

### **Chapter 11**

Updated payment plan policy (August 7, 2020)  
Removed the paid-in-full discount (August 7, 2020)

### **Chapter 12**

Clarified Westminster administered scholarship and VA benefit qualifications. (August 7, 2020)  
Updated loan interest rates (August 7, 2020)  
Updated SAP for loans for MAC and MATS students (August 7, 2020)  
Removed information on student fellowships (August 7, 2020)

### **Academic Calendar**

Removed "Research and Writing Orientation" (Aug 7, 2020)