

What We Believe

Western Reformed Seminary adheres to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, [as adopted and amended by the Bible Presbyterian Church in 1938](#). These Standards are the fullest expression of the Seminary's doctrinal position. The basic beliefs of WRS are summarized in the fundamental statement of faith:

1. The plenary divine inspiration of the Scriptures in the original languages, their consequent inerrancy and infallibility, and, as the Word of God, the supreme and final authority in faith and life;
2. The Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
3. The essential, absolute, eternal deity, and the real and proper, but sinless, humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ;
4. His birth of the Virgin Mary;
5. His substitutionary, expiatory death, in that He gave His life "a ransom for many;"
6. His resurrection from among the dead in the same body in which He was crucified, and the second coming of this same Jesus in power and great glory;
7. The total depravity of man through the Fall;
8. Salvation, the effect of regeneration by the Spirit and the Word, not by works, but by grace through faith;
9. The everlasting bliss of the saved and the everlasting suffering of the lost;
10. The real spiritual unity in Christ of all redeemed by His precious blood;
11. The necessity of maintaining, according to the Word of God, the purity of the Church in doctrine and life.

The seminary holds to the doctrine of biblical ecclesiastical separation—that is, Christians are to be associated with churches that are loyal to the Bible and the historic Christian faith. WRS's eschatological perspective is premillennial within a covenantal framework. The seminary curriculum itself is designed around the Reformed theology espoused by Western Reformed Seminary. The five-semester systematic theology course presents this theology in detail. Required reading for this course includes Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, the three-volume Systematic Theology of Charles Hodge, and *The Confession of Faith* by A. A. Hodge. An additional course on the Westminster Standards is required for all MDiv/BDiv students. One assignment in that course is memorizing the Westminster Shorter Catechism. All the other seminary courses are taught from the perspective of Reformed theology.