



Western Reformed Seminary

PUYALLUP • WASHINGTON

ACADEMIC CATALOG

2026-2027

Compliance

Western Reformed Seminary admits students to its programs without regard to sex, race, nationality, or ethnic origin. Under the religious exemption provided by the U.S. Department of Education, female students are offered alternative courses for a limited number of pastoral classes since WRS does not prepare women for ordination.

“The Washington Student Achievement Council has determined that Western Reformed Seminary qualifies for religious exempt status from the Degree-Granting Institutions Act for the following programs: Bachelor of Divinity (BDiv); Master of Christian Ministry (MCM); Master of Divinity (MDiv). The Council makes no evaluation of the administration, faculty, business practices, financial condition, or quality of the offerings by this institution. Any person desiring information about the requirements of the act or the applicability of those requirements to the institution may contact the Council at P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA 98504-3430 or by email at degreeauthorization@wsac.wa.gov.

“This institution does not provide any commission, bonus, or other incentive payment based directly or indirectly on success in securing enrollments or financial aid to any persons or entities engaged in any student recruiting or admission activities or in making decisions regarding the award of student financial assistance.

“The information contained in this publication is true and correct in content and policy, and I am aware that the institution must comply with applicable statutes and regulations and that failure to comply may lead to suspension or withdrawal of programs by the WSAC/SAA and/or D.V.A.”

This catalog is certified to be true and correct in content and policy as of the publication date.



W. Scott Hollander III, PhD
Registrar

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A Word from the President

Dear Student of the Word,

Today more than ever, you need accurate, balanced, and thorough knowledge of the Bible to help lead people to the Lord and strengthen believers in the church. Not only are cults and other groups with false teachings multiplying, but even in evangelical churches the Gospel and the requirements of the Christian life are being watered down. Leading others in the truth is not primarily about being aware of false ways, but about knowing the true teachings of the Bible thoroughly and deeply, with both mind and heart. This is the point of our seminary motto, “In Spirit and in Truth.”

If the Lord is calling you to serve him as a minister, a missionary, or a local church teacher or leader, then you must prepare yourself with a theological education. There is no easy way to do this. It will require months and years of sacrifice and study. But be assured that God will uphold you, provide for you, and bless you richly as you follow his will.

As you peruse this catalog, you will see the various programs of study. We are praying that one of them will be right for you. Open your heart to God’s leading. David asked, “Is there not a cause?” Certainly, the cause for Christ is as great today as it was for him.

Yours in Christ’s service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tito Lyro".

Tito Lyro
President

The Mission of Western Reformed Seminary

“The mission of Western Reformed Seminary is to produce spiritually grounded, knowledgeable, capable servants to pastor and counsel the flock of Christ.”

This institution is grounded in the rich heritage of the Bible Presbyterian Church and embodies its rich distinctives

- Bible saturated
- Hands-on pastoral care
- Guided by the Confession

Academic Calendar 2026-2027



Fall Semester 2026

Registration	August 27
Classes Commence	August 31
Labor Day (No Classes)	September 7
Add Courses Deadline	September 11
Course Drop Deadline	September 21
Midterm Exams	October 19-23
Deadline to Drop Without Academic Penalty	November 6
Veterans Day (No Classes)	November 11
Thanksgiving Recess (Office Closed)	November 26-27
Final Exams	December 14-18
Christmas Break (Office Closed)	December 24–January 3

Spring Semester 2027

Registration	January 14
Classes Commence	January 18
Add Courses Deadline	January 29
Drop Courses Deadline	February 5
Presidents' Day (Office Closed)	February 15
Midterm Exams	March 8-11
Spring Recess	March 15-19
Good Friday Recess (Office Closed)	March 26
Deadline to Drop Without Academic Penalty	April 5
Final Exams	May 3-7
Graduation	May 17

General Information

- Design and Purpose
- History
- Library
- Location
- Recognition

Design and Purpose

Western Reformed Seminary trains Christian leaders in an atmosphere of devotion and scholarship. Established to serve the Bible Presbyterian Church in particular, WRS welcomes the opportunity to assist students from other denominations in their preparation for fruitful Christian lives and ministries. With this in mind, the seminary has developed three basic degree programs: the Master of Divinity; a Bachelor of Divinity degree identical to the MDiv program in curriculum and policy; and the Master of Christian Ministry with an emphasis in Biblical Counseling or Church Ministry.

Programs

The three-year degree programs offer a thorough study of biblical content, biblical languages, exegesis, systematic theology, and church history, together with appropriate practical or professional studies:

The ***Master of Divinity*** is the standard three-year preparation for gospel ministry.

The ***Bachelor of Divinity*** is identical to the MDiv except that it is offered for students holding an Associate of Arts or its academic equivalent.

The two-year master's programs are designed for students seeking solid theological and biblical training. These three programs are adapted to the student's interest and calling:

The ***Master of Christian Ministry*** will provide foundational training for ministry, with a specialization in either Church Ministry or Biblical Counseling.

These three-year and two-year master's degree programs may be taken as a preparatory step for another graduate or post-graduate work.

In any of WRS's programs, missionaries, educators, and Christian workers may wish to specialize in a particular area of study without completing the entire program. Those who choose not to pursue a degree but are seeking academic stimulation in spiritual matters are welcome to register as special students or auditors.

The seminary will admit capable students into its programs who have not completed the required prerequisite degrees but demonstrate the ability to study at the seminary level. Such a student who completes one of the programs will be awarded a certificate of completion for that program.

Spiritual Life

Several features provide enhanced spiritual direction at the seminary for day students. First, faculty and students participate in a weekly chapel service of prayer, praise, and preaching. Students often organize other informal meetings for prayer, Bible study, and fellowship.

Practical courses address the needs of the student's daily Christian life. Classes in Discipleship and Evangelism equip each student with the tools and encouragement needed to share their Christian faith with both believers and unbelievers.

Doctrinal Position

All studies at the seminary are within the guiding doctrinal system of the Westminster Standards [as adopted by the Bible Presbyterian Church in 1938](#); the eschatological perspective is premillennial. A fuller expression of the seminary's doctrinal position is found on its website under [What We Believe](#).

WRS seeks to strengthen all Bible-believing churches to stand for the historic Christian faith in days when many churches have fallen into compromise and apostasy. We believe that the Reformed faith, lived out in obedience to God, is the fullest expression of biblical Christianity and therefore is the best antidote to Satan's attacks against the Church of Christ.

Through its seminary personnel, programs of study, and operations, Western Reformed Seminary seeks to be faithful to the Christ of the Scriptures in developing Christian leaders. In doing so, the seminary prays that its students and graduates will go forth with the life purpose of serving the Savior "Anchored in the Word, A Lighthouse to the World."

History

Western Reformed Seminary was founded in 1983, and this year marked the anniversaries of many significant events on the religious calendar.

Foremost is the 500th anniversary of Luther's birth. WRS inherits and communicates the Reformation spirit of *sola fidei* and *sola scriptura*. Thorough training and submission to God's inerrant Word in precept and practice were ingredients in the ministries of reformers like Luther and Calvin, and reformation today requires no less of its leaders.

Three hundred years earlier than the founding of the seminary, organized Presbyterianism came to America. Francis Makemie arrived from Ireland in 1683 to plant churches based on the biblical pattern of the church as refined by the reformers in Scotland. American Presbyterianism, evangelical and reformed, is the heritage emphasized at WRS.

Another significant date in church history is worth noting. 1983 was the golden anniversary of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions. J. Gresham Machen founded it in 1933 in response to growing, controlling unbelief within mainline Northern Presbyterianism. Dr. Machen's action to preserve true biblical missions became the rallying point for separating from apostasy and carrying on the spiritual succession of American Presbyterianism.

In the same era, Dr. Machen and other conservative scholars defended historic Christianity against the modernistic onslaught. They did not rely upon empty rhetoric or carnal weapons. Quite the contrary, these godly men wielded the truth in a scholarly manner that was irrefutable.

Desiring to promote in the northwestern United States the full-orbed Reformed theology that Dr. Machen and other Princeton scholars had bequeathed to Presbyterians standing on the Fundamentals, several Bible Presbyterian men took steps to establish an independently

controlled Reformed seminary in Tacoma, Washington. The Northwest Presbytery of the Bible Presbyterian Church approved the plan in 1982, and in 1983 the school was incorporated in the state of Washington. In 1985, the Bible Presbyterian General Synod unanimously recognized WRS as an approved independent agency deserving its support and confidence.

Western Reformed Seminary has grown from a part-time evening school to a full-time graduate institution offering a full slate of courses in several master's programs. Not only have Bible Presbyterian students profited from training at the seminary, but those from other evangelical denominations have also joined our student body because of our bond of fellowship in the inerrant Scriptures and the common salvation once delivered to the saints.

Library



Western Reformed Seminary has a highly specialized library containing the essential tools for personal development and biblical and theological research. Classic theological works are available, as well as many of the most recent studies in related fields. These standard references are supplemented by scholarly journals and Christian periodicals that keep students and faculty up to date on biblical research and ecclesiastical developments. WRS also offers links to a significant number of online libraries and resources at [library resources](#).

Other easily accessible libraries include those at Faith International University, the University of Puget Sound, Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, and the University of Washington in Seattle.

Location

Western Reformed Seminary is in Puyallup, Washington, amid the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest. The region's picturesque Puget Sound and Cascade and Olympic ranges are complemented by the conveniences of the Tacoma-Seattle metropolitan area, with all its opportunities for employment, education, and ministry. WRS classes are offered at 8329 Woodland Ave E, Puyallup, WA 98371. Our office phone number is (253) 272-0417.

Recognition and Affiliation

Western Reformed Seminary is an approved agency of the Great Western Presbytery and General Synod of the Bible Presbyterian Church for the training of its ministers and laymen.

Academic Accountability



Western Reformed Seminary is a full member of the Association of Reformed Theological Seminaries (ARTS). Full membership in this organization is limited to those seminaries that have undergone a thorough peer review by the other members of the Association and its Commission on Accreditation. While ARTS has not

sought recognition from the federal Department of Education, it judges its members by standards as those required by accrediting agencies that are so recognized. ARTS certifies that its member seminaries meet high academic standards and align with the biblical, Reformed faith. Since the Department of Education does not recognize ARTS, the transfer of WRS credits to other institutions is at the receiving institution's discretion. Furthermore, ARTS has recently been endorsed by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) following thorough reviews and inspections, thereby validating the quality of education at its member schools. Likewise, CHEA now recognizes WRS as one of its certified institutions (<https://www.chea.org/western-reformed-seminary>).

Government Agencies



Veterans eligible for the G.I. Bill® may study and receive government benefits for selected academic programs taken at WRS. “GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.). More information about education benefits offered by V.A. is available at the official U.S. government website at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>.”



(WSAC/SAA) for enrollment of persons eligible to receive educational benefits under Title 38 and Title 10, U. S. Code.

Western Reformed Seminary’s academic programs of study are approved by the Washington Student Achievement Council’s State Approving Agency



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

WRS is also recognized by the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement as an academic institution approved to issue F-1 student visa applications. The Federal I.R.S. has also granted the non-profit status, making all contributions to the seminary tax-deductible.

Religious Organizations



WRS is recognized by the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors for preparing candidates for certification through ACBC.



WRS is also recognized by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Courses taken at WRS may be used to satisfy the biblical studies requirement to gain or maintain ACSI certification for Christian teachers.

Academic Information

Academic information includes WRS entrance requirements, enrollment status, academic status, degree programs, and the required curricula for each.

Entrance Requirements

The degree programs of Western Reformed Seminary are designed for students who have completed a standard undergraduate program culminating in a Bachelor of Arts degree or its equivalent. Admission to the Seminary is open to qualified students of all denominations and affiliations without regard to race, color, or national origin. Above all, students are welcome who have shown evidence of the new birth and its attending fruit of the Spirit and who have the desire to develop their gifts for Christian service.

Women students seeking advanced theological training are welcome in all programs not intended for preparation for the ordained ministry or church office. Since it is the conviction of the seminary that women should not be ordained to the ministry (1 Tim. 2:11-12; 1 Cor. 14:34-35), professional degree programs (MDiv, BDiv, MCM [Church Ministry Emphasis]) and corresponding courses in the professional training department (#521, #522, #531, #532, #533, and #534) are open to men students only. Men and women students are eligible for the MCM (Biblical Counseling).

Inquiries for admission should be directed to the Registrar of the Seminary. To enroll as a student in WRS, you will need to first submit an Admissions Inquiry. Upon receipt of the admissions inquiry, the registrar will connect with you and will invite you to fill out an Application and/or Registration form. Besides submitting the application form, applicants must submit the following materials:

- A non-refundable application fee of \$30.00 (there is no application fee for auditors, who need only to submit an admissions inquiry and a registration form).
- Degree Students Only
 - A typewritten statement concerning your personal salvation.
 - Official transcripts from schools beyond high school; proof that a bachelor's degree or its equivalent has been granted must be included in the transcript if the candidate intends to receive his master's degree; B.Div. candidates must submit proof of an A.A. or its equivalent.
 - Letters of reference from a
 - Pastor or Elder (This prospective student has the endorsement of his church)
 - Professor, Employer, or family member (This prospective student has the work ethic and character to be a successful seminary student)

MDiv/BDiv Students Only

- Essay on reasons for seminary training
- Plans for future ministry

Generally, all applications and credentials should be submitted at least 8 weeks before the registration date. Late registrations will not be accepted after the second week of classes.

Preliminary Tests

MDiv/BDiv candidates are encouraged to receive training in the appropriate biblical languages before entering seminary, so they can launch directly into biblical studies. For those desiring exemption from certain language courses, preliminary tests may be taken at registration to display the student's level of proficiency.

Enrollment Status

Full-time Students

A full-time student is one who carries a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester in the day programs.

Transfer Students

Students transferring from other recognized graduate institutions may schedule an appointment with the Academic Office to transfer credit for courses that parallel those prescribed by WRS. The administration will make the final determination in consultation with the relevant Department Chairmen, based on the student's transcript, the catalog of his previous institution, and the caliber of his work after one semester at WRS.

MDiv/BDiv candidates must spend no less than two full semesters (32 credit hours) in residence, and MCM candidates no less than 24 credit hours in residence.

Special Students

A special student is one not seeking a seminary degree. This category of students includes auditors and those taking a few select courses for personal enrichment.

Auditors

Students not seeking academic credit may enroll in any number of courses with few exceptions: language classes may not be audited, and degree students may not audit propaedeutic classes required for their programs. If an auditor attends at least 75% of the class sessions, a transcript will be kept for the auditor indicating that regular class attendance was maintained. Privileges of auditors include class attendance, participation in discussions, access to class materials, and full use of the library. Auditors are not permitted to submit homework for review or grading.

Foreign Students

Western Reformed Seminary is recognized by the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement as an academic school approved for issuing F-1 student visa applications.

By law, a non-resident foreign student seeking admission to WRS must be able to document proof of his personal financial support (and his or her immediate family's support if family members accompany him or her) while in the U.S. This documentation will be submitted to the student's American consulate when applying for a student visa. Forms to apply for a student visa will be supplied by WRS after the enrollment application and fee are received.

Foreign students applying from countries where English is not the mother tongue must demonstrate their fluency in English. This may be done through submitting the results of a TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) examination to the Registrar or by a letter of commendation from an English-speaking acquaintance whom the seminary would recognize as being capable of evaluating the student's level of proficiency. Some foreign students may be admitted to WRS on a one-year probationary basis, depending on their level of achievement and progress in English.

Academic Status

Academic Records, Grades, and Transcripts

Western Reformed Seminary maintains complete and accurate academic records for all students in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations and institutional policies. Faculty members submit final course grades to the Registrar at the conclusion of each academic term. Grades are recorded as part of the student's permanent academic record and are used to determine academic standing, degree progress, graduation eligibility, and the awarding of honors.

The Seminary maintains official academic records, including transcripts, for all current and former students. Official transcripts provide a permanent record of courses attempted, grades earned, credits awarded, academic credentials conferred, and other relevant academic information. Students may review their academic records and request official transcripts through the Office of the Registrar in accordance with Seminary procedures.

Academic records, including grade records and official transcripts, are retained for a minimum of three (3) years as required by the U.S. Department of Education. The Seminary maintains permanent transcript records documenting academic achievement and degrees awarded indefinitely. Student records are stored securely, whether in electronic or physical form, with access limited to authorized personnel. The Seminary safeguards the confidentiality of student education records and complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws governing the privacy and disclosure of student information.

Grading

The school uses a letter system to record grades. An A, B, C, or D is a passing grade, while an F represents failure and necessitates repeating the course. For purposes of averaging, percentage equivalents and grade points are as follows:

A	= 95-100	= 4.0
A-	= 93-94	= 3.7
B+	= 91-92	= 3.3
B	= 85-90	= 3.0
B-	= 83-84	= 2.7
C+	= 81-82	= 2.3
C	= 75-80	= 2.0
C-	= 73-74	= 1.7
D	= 68-72	= 1.0
F	= 67-0	= 0.0

A course grade may be listed temporarily as “Incomplete.” All students are to complete the work for their course by the end of the month during which final exams are held. If the course is incomplete after this point, the student will be charged a 30-day course extension fee, assessed at 20% of the course tuition. A maximum of two extensions is allowed; if the course is still incomplete after this time, the course will be finalized, and any incomplete assignments will receive a failing grade.

A course average of 65-67 will allow the failing student to raise his grade average to 68 by successfully completing a make-up examination or assignment. The make-up must be arranged by the student at the professor’s convenience and taken no later than two weeks after the start of the next semester.

Semester grades will be supplied within 30 days after the end of the semester. A transcript (“progress report”) of all coursework is kept up to date and made available to all students with current accounts.

Drop-Add Deadline

No course may be added or dropped by a student except upon notification to the Registrar. A “drop-add” form from the Registrar should be completed by the student immediately upon making any course change; the date of completion makes the change official and may affect possible refunds due to the student. When adding a course, written consent from the professor involved must be obtained.

Courses may be added up through the second week of classes, and any courses dropped at this time will not be shown on the transcript.

Courses dropped during the fourth to tenth weeks of the semester will be shown on the transcript as withdrawn passing (W/P) or withdrawn failing (W/F). Any course dropped after the tenth week will be recorded with a letter grade based on the relevant course and attendance requirements.

Attendance Policy

Attendance and Participation

Because theological education centers on the faithful study of Scripture, meaningful interaction with faculty and fellow students, and preparation for Christian ministry, all students are expected to attend regularly and participate actively in every class meeting. Students are responsible for all material presented in class, including lectures, discussions, assignments, quizzes, and examinations, regardless of the reason for any absence.

General Attendance Requirements

Recognizing that illness, family emergencies, military obligations, or other unforeseen circumstances may occasionally prevent attendance, each student is permitted one (1) class-hour absence for each semester credit hour of the course without academic penalty. For example:

1-credit course: up to 1 class-hour absence

2-credit course: up to 2 class-hour absences

3-credit course: up to 3 class-hour absences

Absences beyond this allowance may result in a reduction of the final course grade at the discretion of the instructor. Students are expected to notify the instructor as soon as reasonably possible when an unavoidable absence occurs.

Students remain responsible for completing all assignments and coordinating with the instructor regarding any missed coursework. Faculty members are not required to repeat lectures, provide alternative instruction, or permit make-up work except as required by institutional policy or applicable law.

Excessive Absences

Students whose absences substantially hinder their ability to achieve a course's learning objectives may receive additional grade penalties, be required to withdraw from the course, or receive a failing grade, regardless of their academic performance on completed assignments.

Repeated tardiness or leaving class early may be counted as partial absences at the instructor's discretion.

In-Person Attendance

Courses designated as residential, or in-person, require physical attendance at the scheduled class meetings. Unless specifically approved as part of the course design, remote participation, livestream viewing, or recorded lectures do not constitute attendance.

Attendance is determined by the student's physical presence and participation in scheduled instructional activities.

Attendance Requirements for Students Receiving VA Education Benefits

Students receiving educational benefits administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) are expected to maintain regular attendance and satisfactory academic progress in accordance with institutional policies and all applicable federal regulations.

The Seminary must maintain accurate records of class attendance, enrollment status, course withdrawals, and changes affecting certification of VA educational benefits. Students receiving VA benefits should understand that:

Failure to begin attending a certified course may result in the Seminary reporting the student as a "no-show."

Withdrawal, unofficial withdrawal, excessive absences resulting in administrative action, or termination of attendance may require the Seminary to report changes in enrollment to the VA.

Such changes may affect eligibility for current or future VA educational benefits and may result in adjustments or repayment obligations determined by the VA.

Students receiving VA educational benefits are encouraged to promptly communicate with both their instructor and the School Certifying Official whenever their attendance may be affected by illness, military obligations, or other significant circumstances.

Attendance Requirements for F-1 International Students

International students on F-1 visas are required by United States immigration regulations to maintain full-time enrollment and satisfy all attendance and academic engagement requirements established by the Seminary.

Failure to maintain regular attendance may constitute a failure to maintain status if it results in:

- administrative withdrawal from a course,
- enrollment below the required full-time course load without prior authorization,
- failure to begin attendance in a registered course, or
- other violations of institutional or federal requirements.

The Seminary is required to maintain accurate enrollment records through the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). Students are responsible for promptly communicating any attendance concerns, medical issues, or exceptional circumstances to both the instructor and the Designated School Official (DSO). Failure to do so may jeopardize the student's F-1 immigration status.

Excused Absences

The Seminary recognizes that legitimate circumstances may occasionally prevent attendance. These may include: personal illness, serious illness or death in the immediate family, military service or reserve obligations, jury duty, approved Seminary activities, or other circumstances approved by the Registrar.

Whenever possible, students should notify the instructor before the absence occurs. Excused absences do not automatically relieve the student of the responsibility to complete missed assignments or satisfy course requirements.

Auditors

Students auditing a course are expected to attend regularly and participate appropriately. To receive transcript notation indicating successful completion of an audit, auditors must meet the minimum attendance required for credit students in that course. Excessive absences may result in the audit designation not being recorded on the transcript.

Faculty Responsibilities

Faculty members shall maintain accurate attendance records for each class meeting throughout the academic term. Attendance records constitute part of the Seminary's official academic record and may be required for institutional accreditation, financial aid compliance, veterans' educational benefits, immigration reporting, or other legal and regulatory purposes.

Academic Probation and Dismissal

Students must maintain a cumulative grade average of at least a C (2.0 GPA). Those with averages below this minimum will be automatically placed on academic probation until their cumulative grade average rises above the probationary level. The faculty will exercise special oversight of probationary students. Any student on academic probation whose semester average falls below a C (2.0 GPA) will be suspended from the seminary for a minimum period of one full semester. Thereafter, he may seek re-entry by submitting a written appeal to the Academic Office. A student dismissed a second time shall not be readmitted.

These basic standards take for granted that a student will conduct himself maturely and professionally and will demonstrate Christian conduct. The seminary reserves the right, by the action of the faculty, to dismiss any student whose behavior is not in harmony with the biblical standards accepted by the seminary.

Student Conduct and Conditions for Dismissal

Student Conduct

Western Reformed Seminary is committed to providing a Christ-centered academic community that promotes spiritual growth, academic excellence, and personal integrity. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with biblical principles, the Seminary's Statement of Faith, and all institutional policies. Enrollment at the Seminary is a privilege that entails the responsibility to uphold standards of Christian character, honesty, respect, and accountability.

Students are expected to:

1. Demonstrate integrity in academic work and personal conduct.
2. Treat fellow students, faculty, staff, and visitors with dignity, respect, and Christian charity.
3. Comply with all Seminary policies, procedures, and applicable laws.
4. Maintain conduct that reflects the values and mission of the Seminary.
5. Refrain from behavior that disrupts the educational process or damages the reputation or ministry of the Seminary.

Unsatisfactory Conduct

Conduct that may be considered unsatisfactory includes, but is not limited to:

1. Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, cheating, falsification of records, or unauthorized use of another person's work.
2. Knowingly providing false or misleading information to the Seminary.
3. Disruptive, abusive, threatening, harassing, or discriminatory behavior.
4. Theft, vandalism, destruction, or misuse of Seminary property or the property of others.
5. Failure to comply with Seminary policies, directives, or disciplinary actions.
6. Criminal conduct or other behavior that materially affects the student's ability to fulfill the Seminary's standards of Christian conduct.
7. Any conduct that is inconsistent with the Seminary's doctrinal commitments, mission, or expectations for Christian character.

Disciplinary Action

When concerns regarding student conduct arise, the Seminary seeks to address them in a manner that is biblical, fair, and, whenever possible, restorative. Depending upon the nature and severity of the conduct, disciplinary action may include:

1. Verbal or written warning.
2. Required counseling or corrective action.
3. Disciplinary probation.
4. Suspension for a specified period.
5. Dismissal from the Seminary.

The Seminary reserves the right to impose immediate suspension or dismissal when student conduct presents a serious threat to the safety, welfare, mission, or orderly operation of the institution or involves serious violations of Seminary policy.

Conditions for Dismissal

A student may be dismissed from the Seminary for reasons including, but not limited to:

1. Repeated or serious violations of the Student Conduct Policy.
2. Academic dishonesty or fraud.
3. Failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions.
4. Conduct that demonstrates an unwillingness to abide by the Seminary's standards of Christian behavior.
5. Criminal conduct or actions that materially interfere with the Seminary's educational mission.
6. Any behavior that, in the judgment of the Seminary administration, is incompatible with continued enrollment.

Due Process

Before dismissal, the student will ordinarily be notified of the concerns and given an opportunity to respond. The Seminary may conduct an appropriate review of the circumstances before rendering a decision. Decisions regarding suspension or dismissal are made by the appropriate Seminary administrator or committee and may be appealed according to the Seminary's established grievance or appeals procedures.

Nothing in this policy limits the Seminary's authority to take immediate action when necessary to protect students, employees, institutional property, or the integrity of the Seminary's educational mission.

Academic Requirements for Graduation

Students shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in their program to be considered a candidate for graduation.

Degree Programs and Curricula

Western Reformed Seminary offers four different degrees. A Bachelor of Arts degree or its academic equivalent is required to receive a master's degree in any of the three master's programs; an Associate of Arts degree or its academic equivalent is required to receive the BDiv degree.

Three-Year Degree Programs

MDiv (Master of Divinity)

- Standard program..... 100 hrs.
- Basic Greek included..... 106 hrs.

BDiv (Bachelor of Divinity)

- Standard program..... 100 hrs.
- Basic Greek included..... 106 hrs.

Two-Year Degree Programs

MCM (Master of Christian Ministry)

- Church Ministry emphasis..... 66 hrs.
- Biblical Counseling emphasis..... 67 hrs.

Three-Year Program Descriptions

Master of Divinity

The Master of Divinity program is the standard course of preparation for gospel ministry or related callings. This professional degree provides the tools necessary for the exposition and application of the Scriptures and prepares the pastoral candidate for the ecclesiastical requirements for ordination.

The MDiv curriculum involves a balanced study of the two testaments in the original languages, complemented by an intensive study of systematic theology broken down into its various sub-branches. The curriculum also includes studies of modern ecclesiastical events and issues, as well as a survey of church history. The curriculum is rounded out by practical training from the Christian Ministry department.

Bachelor of Divinity

The Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Divinity programs share the same curriculum and requirements. Therefore, the BDiv is a professional degree program designed to prepare mature students for various types of Christian service.

Upgrade from Bachelor of Divinity to Master of Divinity

Because the Bachelor of Divinity (BDiv) and Master of Divinity (MDiv) programs at Western Reformed Seminary share identical curricular and graduation requirements, a graduate who was awarded the Bachelor of Divinity solely because he did not possess a previously earned bachelor's degree may petition the Board of Directors for an upgrade to the Master of Divinity. The petition must include official documentation demonstrating completion of a bachelor's degree or its recognized equivalent from an accredited institution of higher education. The Board of Directors shall determine whether the documentation satisfies Seminary policy. If approved, the Seminary will update the graduate's official transcript and institutional records and issue a Master of Divinity diploma reflecting the Board's action. Approval of such petitions is at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

MDiv/BDiv 3-Year Course Schedule (with Basic Greek already taken)

Junior Year

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
111	Basic Hebrew 1	4	112	Basic Hebrew 2	4
221	Intermediate Greek	2	116	OT Hist. Narratives	3
311	Theology 1	3	222	Advanced Greek	2
415	The American Church	2	312	Theology 2	3
511	Discipleship	1	4350	Presbyterian Church	2
611	Intro. to Bib. Couns.	2	514	Pub. Speak. in Church	2
911	Biblical Introduction	2	912	Biblical Interpretation	2
Total		16	Total		18

Middler Year

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
117	OT Prophetic Lit.	3	118	OT Hymn./Wisd. Lit.	3
121	Advanced Hebrew	3	122	Hebrew Exegesis	2
215	Christ in the Gospels	3	216	Life & Epistles of Paul	3
223	Greek Exegesis	2	314	Theology 4	3
313	Theology 3	3	412	Medieval Church	2
411	Early Church	2	512	Evangelism	1
521	Homiletics 1	1	522	Homiletics 2	1
			612	Marr. & Fam. Couns.	2
Total		18	Total		17

Senior Year

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
115	Pentateuch	3	218	Johannine Writings	3
217	General Epistles	3	351	Westminster Standards	2
331	Theology 5	3	414	The Modern Church	2
413	Reformation and Post-Reformation Church	2	532	Homiletics 4	1
531	Homiletics 3	1	534	Survey of Ministry	2
533	Church Org/Admin.	2	932	Intertestamental Survey	2
631	Cont. Issues in Couns.	2	632	Method. of Counseling	2
Total		16	Total		16

MDiv/BDiv 3-Year Course Schedule (with Basic Greek included)

Junior Year

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
115	Pentateuch	3	116	OT Hist. Narratives	3
201	Basic Greek 1	4	202	Basic Greek 2	4
311	Theology 1	3	312	Theology 2	3
411	Early Church	2	412	Medieval Church	2
611	Intro. to Bib. Couns.	2	514	Pub. Speak. in Church	2
911	Biblical Introduction	2	912	Biblical Interpretation	2
Total		17	Total		17

Middler Year

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
111	Basic Hebrew 1	4	112	Basic Hebrew 2	4
117	OT Prophetic Lit.	3	118	OT Hymnic/Wisd. Lit.	3
215	Christ in the Gospels	3	216	Life & Epistles of Paul	3
221	Intermediate Greek	2	314	Theology 4	3
313	Theology 3	3	414	The Modern Church	2
413	Reformation and Post-Reformation Church	2	512	Evangelism	1
521	Homiletics 1	1	522	Homiletics 2	1
			612	Marr. & Fam. Couns.	2
Total		18	Total		18

Senior Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
121	Advanced Hebrew 3	122	Hebrew Exegesis 2
217	General Epistles 3	218	Johannine Writings 3
223	Greek Exegesis 2	222	Advanced Greek 2
331	Theology 5 3	351	Westminster Standards 2
415	The American Church 2	4350	Presbyterian Church 2
511	Discipleship 1	532	Homiletics 4 1
531	Homiletics 3 1	534	Survey of Ministry 2
533	Church Org/Admin. 2	632	Method. of Counseling 2
631	Cont. Issues in Couns. 2	932	Intertestamental Survey 2
Total 19		Total 18	

MDiv/BDiv 4-Year Course Schedule (with Basic Greek included)

Junior Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
115	Pentateuch 3	116	OT Historical Narratives 3
201	Basic Greek 1 4	202	Basic Greek 2 4
411	Early Church 2	412	Medieval Church 2
511	Discipleship 1	512	Evangelism 1
611	Intro. to Bib. Couns. 2	514	Public Speak. in Church 2
911	Biblical Introduction 2	912	Biblical Interpretation 2
Total 14		Total 14	

Middler Year #1

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
111	Basic Hebrew 1 4	112	Basic Hebrew 2 4
117	OT Prophetic Lit. 3	118	OT Hymnic/Wisd. Lit. 3
221	Intermediate Greek 2	222	Advanced Greek 2
311	Theology 1 3	312	Theology 2 3
413	Reformation and Post-Reformation Church 2	414	The Modern Church 2
Total 14		Total 15	

Middler Year #2

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
121	Advanced Hebrew	3	122	Hebrew Exegesis	2
217	General Epistles	3	218	Johannine Writings	3
223	Greek Exegesis	2	314	Theology 4	3
313	Theology 3	3	522	Homiletics 2	1
415	The American Church	2	612	Marr. & Fam. Couns.	2
521	Homiletics 1	1	932	Intertestamental Survey	2
Total		14	Total		13

Senior Year

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
215	Christ in the Gospels	3	216	Life & Epistles of Paul	3
331	Theology 5	3	351	Westminster Standards	2
531	Homiletics 3	1	4350	Presbyterian Church	2
533	Church Org/Admin.	2	532	Homiletics 4	1
631	Cont. Issues in Couns.	2	534	Survey of Ministry	2
			632	Method. of Counseling	2
Total		11	Total		12

Two-Year Master Program Description

MCM (Master of Christian Ministry)

- ✓ Church Ministry Emphasis
- ✓ Biblical Counseling Emphasis

The two-year master's programs involve two years of full-time study, including a student project. The two-year master's program provides the elements necessary for Christian service or further graduate study without requiring an extra year of professional MDiv studies for full preparation for gospel ministry.

The *Master of Christian Ministry* trains students for Christian service. It does not provide all the standard ministry tools that the MDiv does. Rather, it focuses on professional training without the full complement of theological and language studies. The Church Ministry emphasis offers training in the challenges and opportunities of church leadership. On the other hand, the Biblical Counseling emphasis offers a battery of courses in counseling philosophy and methodology with a distinctly biblical approach.

Summary of Requirements

53 hours	Core Courses
6-10 hours	Electives/Emphasis Courses
2 hours	Thesis/Project
66-67 hours	Total

Core Courses (required in all programs*)

Fall Semester			Spring Semester		
115	Pentateuchal Studies	3	116	OT Historical Narratives	3
117	OT Prophetic Literature	3	118	OT Hymnic/Wisd. Lit.	3
215	Christ in the Gospels	3	216	Life & Epistles of Paul	3
217	General Epistles	3	218	Johannine Writings	3
311	Theology 1	3	312	Theology 2	3
313	Theology 3	3	314	Theology 4	3
411	Early Church	2	412	Medieval Church	2
413	Reformation and Post-Reformation Church	2	414	The Modern Church	2
415	The American Church	2	4350	Presbyterian Church	2
511	Discipleship	1	512	Evangelism	1
611	Intro. to Bib. Couns.	2	912	Biblical Interpretation	2
911	Biblical Introduction*	2	331	Theology 5*	3

Master's students whose emphasis does not require a biblical language may substitute Advanced Hebrew for one required O.T. course (#115-118) or Intermediate Greek and Advanced Greek for one required N.T. course (#215-218). These substitutions must be approved by the department faculty before registration. They usually will result in an increase in the total number of hours for the program.

*Biblical Counseling students take Theology 5: Apologetics and Ethics (#331) as a core requirement in place of Biblical Introduction (#911).

MCM Course Requirements

Church Ministry Emphasis

Core Courses	54
514 Public Speaking in the Church	2
521 Homiletics 1	1
522 Homiletics 2	1
533 Church Org/Admin.	2
534 Survey of Ministry	2
590 Thesis/Project	2
911 Biblical Introduction*	2
Total	66

Biblical Counseling Emphasis

Core Courses*	54
331 Theology 5*	3
611 Introduction to Biblical Counseling	2
612 Marriage and Family Counseling	2
631 Contemporary Issues in Counseling	2
632 Methodologies of Counseling	2
591 Thesis/Project	2
Total	67

*Biblical Counseling students take Theology 5: Apologetics and Ethics (#331) as a core requirement in place of Biblical Introduction (#911).

Course Descriptions

Division of Biblical Studies

- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Interdepartmental Studies

Division of Theological and Historical Studies

- Systematic Theology
- Historical Theology

Division of Christian Ministry

- Church Ministry
- Biblical Counseling

Division of Biblical Studies

Department of Old Testament

111 Basic Hebrew 1

Essentials of biblical Hebrew grammar: orthography, morphophonemics, vocabulary; historical developments; readings and exercises. 4 hrs.

112 Basic Hebrew 2

Essentials of biblical Hebrew grammar: morphophonemics, syntax, vocabulary, text readings, and exercises. 4 hrs.

115 Pentateuchal Studies

Genesis through Deuteronomy. Historical and hermeneutical issues of Gen. 1-11; the Abrahamic Covenant; patriarchal narratives; the Exodus, the Mosaic Covenant; sacrifices, atonement, and forgiveness of sin in Leviticus; the wilderness wanderings; the covenant structure and Deuteronomy. 3 hrs.

116 Old Testament Historical Narratives

Joshua through Nehemiah. Period of the conquest, the judges, monarchy, exile, and restoration; geography of Eretz-Israel; the covenantal-contextual relationship to the socio-political milieu. 3 hrs.

117 Old Testament Prophetic Literature

Isaiah through Malachi. The prophetic office; prophetic themes in the pre-exilic, exilic, and post-exilic periods; prophetic proclamation in the covenant and legal context; Messianic prophecies; judgment, restoration, and eschatology. 3 hrs.

118 Old Testament Hymnic and Wisdom Writings

Job through Song of Songs. Special attention is given to the structure and interpretation of Hebrew poetry, with an introduction to the individual books and a doctrinal and practical emphasis. 3 hrs.

121 Advanced Hebrew

Vocabulary mastery of words occurring 50 or more times in the Old Testament. An inductive approach to, and review of, grammatical, syntactical, and semantic features through detailed analysis of the Hebrew text. 3 hrs.

122 Hebrew Exegesis

Exegesis of a selected OT book(s) with special attention given to Hebrew grammar and syntax of the text; prerequisite: Advanced Hebrew. 2 hrs.

143 Survey of the Old Testament

Chronological survey of the O.T. canon; attention given to content, authorship, and dates of individual OT books; relevant archaeological discoveries and historicity of events examined. 3 hrs.

191 Advanced Research Project in Old Testament

The student will engage in advanced research in a particular area of Old Testament study under the guidance of the professor, with class reporting and discussion. A minimum of 180 clock hours of research must be documented. The student will present a final evaluation and report of this research to the faculty. Under special circumstances, with faculty approval, this project may be substituted for #190. 2 hrs.

1315 Deuteronomy

Study of the historical background and interpretation of the Hebrew text of Deuteronomy. Attention is given to the Pentateuchal and Old Testament contexts of the book and to its influence on later biblical theology. 2 hrs.

1321 Introduction to Biblical Aramaic

Essentials of biblical Aramaic grammar: vocabulary, morphophonemics, syntax; exercises and text readings. Prerequisite: Basic Hebrew 2. 2 hrs.

1337 Daniel

Survey of the history of interpretation of the book of Daniel; attention given to the critical attack upon the book; interpretation of the text with selected translations from Hebrew and introduction to the Aramaic portions. 2 hrs.

1348 Zechariah

Study of the historical background and interpretation of Zechariah. Attention is given to Zechariah's prophecies and visions in their context of the Mosaic covenant; translation from the Hebrew of select passages. 2 hrs.

1371 OT Theology

Survey of the modern history of OT theology; the nature and method of OT theology; major OT themes examined, especially from within the context of covenantal promise. 2 hrs.

Department of New Testament

201 Basic Greek 1

Prescribed for students without knowledge of Greek. Rudiments of NT Greek and basic vocabulary are learned; reading practice. 4 hrs.

202 Basic Greek 2

Prescribed for students with a cursory knowledge of NT Greek. Review of basic elements of Greek; vocabulary mastery of words occurring 100 or more times in the NT; introduction to additional grammar with emphasis on reading. 4 hrs.

203 Basic Greek Review

Prescribed for students who have learned the elements of Greek but need review; rapid review of NT grammar; vocabulary work; reading practice. 3 hrs.

215 Christ in the Gospels

Sources for the study of the life of Christ; special introduction to the gospels; survey of the history of the study of Jesus' life; outline of Christ's life as recorded in the gospels; analysis of difficulties and supposed contradictions in the gospels. 3 hrs.

216 Life and Epistles of Paul

Special introduction to the Acts of the Apostles and the Pauline epistles; survey of the history of the critical study of Paul; outline and chronology of Paul's life and ministry; historical and theological relation of Acts to various passages of the Pauline epistles. 3 hrs.

217 General Epistles

Special introduction to the epistles of Peter, James, and Jude, and the Epistle to the Hebrews; outline and the general teaching of each book. 3 hrs.

218 Johannine Writings

Special introduction to the epistles of John and the book of Revelation; survey of themes emphasized in John's Gospel and epistles; outline and content of John's epistles; methods of interpretation of Revelation; outline and teaching of Revelation. 3 hrs.

221 Intermediate Greek

Review of basic Greek; vocabulary mastery of words occurring 50 or more times in the NT; principles of textual criticism and use of the critical apparatus; use of intermediate-level Greek tools; practice in reading easier portions of the NT with an application of syntactical principles. 2 hrs.

222 Advanced Greek

Vocabulary mastery of words occurring 25 or more times in the NT; systematic study of Greek syntax; use of advanced-level Greek tools; Greek synonyms; survey of the science of linguistics as it relates to NT Greek; continued application of textual criticism and the critical apparatus; reading of moderately difficult NT portions, with an application of syntactical principles. 2 hrs.

223 Greek Exegesis

Exegesis of a selected NT book(s) with special attention given to Greek grammar and syntax of the text; prerequisite: Advanced Greek. 2 hrs.

243 Survey of the New Testament

Historical background of the Intertestamental period through the Apostolic era. Survey of the lives and ministries of Christ and of Paul. Contents and general character of the NT books. 3 hrs.

291 Advanced Research Project in New Testament

The student will conduct advanced research in a specific area of New Testament study under the professor's guidance, with class reporting and discussion. A minimum of 180 clock hours of research must be documented. The student will present a final evaluation and report of this research to the faculty. Under special circumstances, with faculty approval, this project may be substituted for #290. 2 hrs.

2316 Romans

Study of the introduction, structure, and argument of Paul's epistle to the Romans; translation and exegesis of selected portions; special attention given to Romans' teaching on major topics such as original sin, justification, sanctification, predestination, Israel and the church, civil authority, and Christian liberty. 2 hrs.

2319 Galatians

Study of the epistle's background, audience, and occasion; translation and exegesis of the Greek text; special attention to Paul's doctrine of justification and its relation to good works. 2 hrs.

2320 Ephesians

Special introduction to the Greek text of Ephesians; translation and exegesis with special attention to word usage, quotations and allusions to the OT, and thematic structures. 2 hrs.

2321 Philippians

Study of the history and background of the Macedonian churches; special introduction to Philippians; translation and exegesis of the Greek text; special attention given to Paul's doctrine of Christology and his attitude toward God's providence in his life. 2 hrs.

2322 Colossians and Philemon

Paul's relation to the Colossian church; special introduction to these two books; translation and exegesis of the Greek text; Paul's teachings concerning the "Colossian heresy" concerning Christology; and concerning slavery. 2 hrs.

2328 Hebrews

Study the authorship, audience, and intent of the epistle to the Hebrews; translate and exegete selected portions; pay special attention to the epistle's teaching on the use of the OT, the comparison of the old and new covenants, faith, and perseverance. 2 hrs.

2331 Jude and 2 Peter

Special introduction to the Greek text of Jude and of 2 Peter; study of the relation of the two books; translation and exegesis with special attention to word usage, quotations and allusions to the OT, and thematic structures. 2 hrs.

2336 Thessalonian Epistles

Background and history of the Thessalonian church; special introduction to these epistles; translation and exegesis of the Greek text; special attention paid to Paul's teachings regarding his own ministry and the second coming of Christ. 2 hrs.

2340 Romans 1-4

Special introduction of the epistle; translation and careful exegesis of Romans 1-4; special attention paid to Paul's doctrines of natural Revelation, sin and depravity, and justification by faith; Greek prerequisite. 2 hrs.

2341 Romans 5-8

Translation and exegetical study of the Greek of Romans 5-8; special attention to the Pauline doctrines of original sin, union with Christ, sanctification, adoption, and assurance of salvation; Greek prerequisite. 2 hrs.

2342 Romans 9-11

Translation and exegesis of Romans 9-11; special attention is given to Paul's use of the OT and Paul's teaching concerning divine sovereignty and election, eschatology, and the relation of the church to Israel; Greek prerequisite. 2 hrs.

2343 Romans 12-16

Translation and careful exegesis of Romans 12-16; study of Paul's teaching concerning practical issues of the Christian life, including Christian fellowship, the civil magistrate, the Christian and the law; debatable issues of conscience; Paul's view of his own life and ministry; and data concerning the early church in Rome. 2 hrs.

2349 New Testament Textual Criticism

Evidence for the NT text, including manuscripts, translations, and lectionaries; types of copying errors; procedures for determining readings; practice in reading papyrus, uncial, and minuscule manuscripts; application of textual criticism to specific texts. Prerequisite: #221 Intermediate Greek. 2 hrs.

2350 NT Theology

Survey of the history of NT theology as a discipline; study of the development of major theological themes in the NT's identification of the apostolic tradition regarding Christian doctrine and the Christian life. 2 hrs.

2351 Kingdom of God in the NT

An examination of every NT reference to the Kingdom of God; definition of this often-misunderstood concept; OT background to the Kingdom concept; current theological issues relating to the Kingdom ideal. 2 hrs.

Interdepartmental Studies**911 Biblical Introduction**

Historical and literary backgrounds of the biblical message; contemporary ancient religious traditions; principles for establishing the canon of the Old and New Testaments; the Apocrypha; a survey of the history of biblical criticism, with an evaluation of higher criticism; transmission of the biblical text. 2 hrs.

912 Biblical Interpretation

Introduction to the science of hermeneutics; the various literary forms in the Bible; use of the OT in the NT; typology; and the various methods and tools of exegesis and exposition. 2 hrs.

932 Intertestamental Survey

History of the Jewish nation in the Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman periods; cultural and religious developments behind N.T. times; the significance of the LXX and the DSS; origins of Jewish rabbinic and apocalyptic literature. 2 hrs.

9111 Bible Difficulties

Alleged contradictions in Scripture and the resolutions of these putative contradictions proposed by orthodox biblical interpreters; relevant interpretation techniques and their significance for the broader enterprise of biblical exegesis. 2 hrs.

Division of Theological and Historical Studies

Department of Systematic Theology

311 Theology 1: Doctrine of the Word of God

Revelation, inspiration, inerrancy, and authority of the Word of God; covenants; methodology in biblical and systematic theology. 3 hrs.

312 Theology 2: Doctrine of God

The existence, knowability, attributes of God; God as Father, Son, and Spirit; Trinity; the deity of Christ and the Spirit; the incarnation of Christ; the work of God, His decrees, creation, preservation, and providence. 3 hrs.

313 Theology 3: Doctrine of Man, Sin, and Salvation

Man, as created (origin, nature, and state); his fall; sin and its effects; the redemptive work of Christ; application of the work of Christ by the Holy Spirit in grace; predestination, election, calling, regeneration, repentance, faith, justification, adoption, union with Christ, sanctification, perseverance. 3 hrs.

314 Theology 4: Doctrine of the Church and Eschatology

Origin, nature, and purpose of the church; biblical covenants; the sacraments; church government; the church's relation to eschatology; the intermediate state, resurrection and judgment, the eternal state; premillennialism compared with amillennialism and postmillennialism; varieties of premillennialism. 3 hrs.

331 Theology 5: Apologetics & Ethics

The Christian life and defense of the faith; discussion of moral and social concerns, worldview, faith and reason, philosophy, and history. 3 hrs.

341 Survey of Theology 1

Prolegomena; Revelation; theology proper, the Trinity, creation, providence; anthropology; hamartiology. 3 hrs.

342 Survey of Theology 2

Christology, soteriology, predestination, the atonement, ecclesiology, and eschatology. 3 hrs.

351 Westminster Standards

Survey of the history of the Westminster Assembly and the development of the Standards; content of the standards and approaches to subscription; memorization of the Shorter Catechism; required for MDiv students. 2 hrs.

352 Seminar in Systematic Theology

A seminar concerning a specific theological issue, tracing both the biblical foundation and theological development of the issue. 2 hrs.

353 Seminar on Biblical Theology

A seminar discussion concerning the theology of either a biblical book, author, or type of literature (e.g., theology of Genesis, Mosaic theology, or the Law). 2 hrs.

380 Independent Study in Systematic Theology

Individual study of issues in theological method and/or systems available to those interested in advanced research. Department permission required. 2 hrs.

382 Independent Study in Biblical Theology

Individual study of issues in biblical theology, available to those interested in advanced research. Department permission is required. 2-3 hrs.

391 Advanced Research Project in Systematic Theology

The student will conduct advanced research in a specific area of Systematic Theology under the professor's guidance, with class reporting and discussion. A minimum of 180 clock hours of research must be documented. The student will present a final evaluation and report of this research to the faculty. Under special circumstances, with faculty approval, this project may be substituted for #390. 2 hrs.

3111 Introduction to Traditional Logic

An introduction to the subject of logic from the traditional standpoint. Includes categories, predicables, propositions, distribution of terms, immediate inferences, syllogisms and related forms, and common fallacies. 2 hrs.

3112 World Religions and Biblical Witness

A survey of the scriptures and distinctive beliefs of major non-Christian religions of the world and the most effective Christian witness to them; includes readings, lectures, and student projects and presentations. 2 hrs.

3113 Theology of the Family

The biblical teaching on the family, including relations within the family compared to relations within the Trinity, individual roles and duties in the family, marriage and divorce, parents and children, extended families, the family in society, and the family's relation to the church; the biblical response to modern challenges to marriage and the family. 2 hrs.

3114 Classic Fundamentalism

This class will study the historical and theological background, as well as the early history, of Christian fundamentalism in America. Topics include the liberal-fundamentalist controversy, with an emphasis on the developing conflict in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.; the early fundamentalist scholars and writers; the mixing of Reformed and dispensational streams of fundamentalism; and the subsequent divergence of fundamentalism and evangelicalism. 2 hrs.

3115 Postmodernism in Church and Culture

Background, history, and development of postmodernism in philosophy and theology. The main features of postmodernism and its critiques of modernism. Effects of postmodernism on various aspects of church doctrine and life, including church government and worship, theologies of paradox, charismaticism, ecumenism, subjectivism, and mysticism, and on various aspects of social and cultural life, such as sexual identity and marriage, individual and collective rights, medical ethics, and the right to life. The biblical response of the individual Christian and the church to postmodernism and its effects. The course will consist of lectures, readings, and student presentations. 2 hrs.

3311 Theological Systems

An introduction to the various theological positions throughout Christendom: Reformed, Arminian, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Pentecostal, Anglican, Baptist, etc. 2 hrs.

3312 The Westminster Doctrine of Scripture

A detailed study of the doctrine of Scripture has been propounded in the Westminster Standards and as explicated by the Westminster divines and their contemporaries; recent debates as to the doctrine of the inerrancy of Scripture as taught by the Westminster Standards; other current controversies related to the Westminster doctrine of Scripture. 2 hrs.

3313 The Westminster Doctrine of God

A careful study of the doctrine of God as propounded in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms and as held by the Westminster divines and their contemporaries, including God's existence, nature, and attributes; comparison and contrast with views of God held by ancient heresies and modern alternative theologies. 2 hrs.

3314 Science and Theology

Survey of different schools of apologetics and the relation of science to the defense of the Christian faith; history of the relation of science and theology; survey of biblical descriptions of creation and the universe; different viewpoints of Christian apologists regarding the creation; confirmation of the Bible from fields of science, including physics, astronomy, cosmology, and biology.

3321 Issues in the Christian Life

An in-depth study of the issues of making theology relevant to the growth of a Christian; a survey of different approaches to sanctification. 2 hrs.

Department of Historical Theology

411 The Early Church

From the New Testament Age to Gregory the Great, AD 30-600; the church in the Roman Empire, the spread of Christianity, the Apostolic Fathers, the Apologists, the period of the Theologians, and the Creeds. 2 hrs.

412 The Medieval Church

From the beginning of the papacy to the precursors of the Reformation, AD 600-1500, the church in the Holy Roman Empire, Carolingian Renaissance, scholasticism, humanism, and monasticism. 2 hrs.

413 The Reformation and Post-Reformation Church

From the beginning of the Reformation to the beginning of the Enlightenment, AD 1500-1650: the evangelical movement, the Reformation, Counter-Reformation, and Reformed Dogmatics. 2 hrs.

414 The Modern Church

From the Enlightenment (ca. 1650) to the present, the church in the modern world, orthodoxy and deism, pietism and revivalism, fundamentalism and liberalism, evangelicalism and radical theologies. 2 hrs.

415 The American Church

The birth of the European church in the New World; various groups and their leaders, and the rise of American cults; awakenings and New England theology, revivalism and the western frontier, the Civil War, the Industrial Revolution and social concerns; the World Wars, the modernist-fundamentalist controversy, the Sixties and the church in American government. 2 hrs.

441 Survey of Church History

From the close of the Apostolic age to the present day, the development of early creeds, Medieval Theology, the impact of the Reformation, the Renaissance, and the Enlightenment. 3 hrs.

480 Independent Study in Historical Theology

Individual study of issues in historical theology, available to those interested in advanced research. Department permission is required. 2-3 hrs.

491 Advanced Research Project in Historical Theology

The student will conduct advanced research in a specific area of historical theology under the professor's guidance, with class reporting and discussion. A minimum of 180 clock hours of research must be documented. The student will present a final evaluation and report of this research to the faculty. Under special circumstances, with faculty approval, this project may be substituted for #490. 2 hrs.

4320 History of Evangelistic Preaching in America

A study of the history, theological content, and method of the preaching of the Gospel in America from Frelinghuysen to the present. 2 hrs.

4321 History of Pentecostalism

A study of the historical and theological backgrounds and development of Pentecostalism and the modern charismatic movement. 2 hrs.

4322 History of Reformed Orthodoxy

A survey of Reformed Theology after the death of John Calvin; major figures studied include Theodore Beza, William Perkins, Francois Turretin; major confessions studied include the Heidelberg Catechism, Synod of Dort, Westminster Confession. 2 hrs.

4323 American Reformed History

The roots of the Reformed churches in the European Reformation; various Reformed groups and their leaders; emphasis on the development of American Presbyterianism; the inroads of modernism, and the history of its separatist churches. 2 hrs.

4330 Leading Theologians of the Past

A study of the theological views of selected writers in the history of Christian theology with special attention to their place in the history of doctrine. 2 hrs.

4331 Seminar on a Leading Theologian

A seminar discussion concerning the theology of a leading theologian of either the past or the present; e.g., the theology of Augustine, Aquinas, Luther, Charles Hodge, etc. 2 hrs.

4335 Life & Theology of John Calvin

A study of the life and theology of John Calvin, including an intensive reading of his *Institutes* with special attention to his place in the formulation and development of Reformed Theology. 2 hrs.

4350 Presbyterian Church History

Survey of the origin, history, and distinctive doctrines of the Presbyterian churches; special attention given to the issues facing the separatist Presbyterian churches. Required for BDiv and MDiv students. 2 hrs.

4360 Confronting the Cults

Studies in the history and teachings of major American cults, including a review of the literature and proselytizing methods of each; special emphasis on confronting the cultist with the Gospel in the most effective way. 2 hrs.

Division of Christian Ministry

Department of Church Ministry

511 Discipleship

A study in basic principles of Christian spiritual growth; definition and biblical examples of discipleship; resources available for discipleship; Scripture memory; preparation of a devotional log; field experience in discipling a young believer. 1 hr.

512 Evangelism

A study in basic principles of personal evangelism; definition and biblical examples of evangelism; resources available for evangelism; memorization of key Scripture verses for evangelism; field experience in evangelism. 1 hr.

514 Public Speaking in the Church

Emphasis upon public speaking in church ministries. Training in the mechanics of vocal production and diction, the basics of communication theory, organization, effective Scripture reading, persuasion, and ethics. Brief devotionals with evaluation. 2 hrs.

521 Homiletics 1

Identifying, analyzing, and using the propositional nature of a text in sermon preparation; basic hermeneutics; arrangement and illustration; classroom preaching and evaluation. 1 hr.

522 Homiletics 2

Comprehensive method in preparation and delivery of expository sermons; principles of audience analysis and application; ethics; classroom preaching and evaluation. 1 hr.

531 Homiletics 3

Theology of preaching; practice in all types of sermons; refining of personal style; includes preaching outside of class. 1 hr.

532 Homiletics 4

Continuation of Homiletics 3; preaching for various groups and special occasions. 1 hr.

533 Church Organization and Administration

Biblical basis of the church; its government and discipline; the offices, qualifications, and duties of church leaders; effective church management. 2 hrs.

534 Survey of Ministry

Biblical mandates and principles governing the task of the church in edifying and equipping the saints for service; the church and foreign missions; church planting; home and hospital visitation; religious education; worship; church ceremonies. 2 hrs.

536 Preaching and Teaching the Biblical Covenants

Examines the historical and biblical covenants, their relationship to one another, and their significance to hermeneutics, theology, and living. Provides a methodology of preaching/teaching the essential elements of the biblical covenants, including producing a preaching/teaching planner for a workable survey of the principal covenants. 2 hrs.

537 Bible Teaching Methods 1

Rudiments of Bible interpretation; methods for developing Bible lessons; instruction in organizing and presenting oral lessons; guidelines for teaching different age groups. 2 hrs.

538 Bible Teaching Methods 2

Practice in presenting practical Bible lessons for various ages; emphasis will be on written and presentational skills. 2 hrs.

551/552 Ministry Internships 1 & 2

A field education program requiring at least 60 hours of supervised work in community ministries; may be fulfilled at any time in the last two years of the MDiv program or the second year of another master's program; must be approved in advance by the Director of Field Education. 1 hr.

580 Independent Study in Christian Ministry

Individual study of issues in Christian ministry, available to those interested in advanced research. Department permission required. 2 hrs.

581 Independent Study in Christian Education

Individual study of issues in Christian education, available to those interested in advanced research. Department permission required. 2 hrs.

590 Project in Christian Ministry

A project of approximately 10,000 words, prepared under the direction of the Department of Christian Ministry, developing an original project or proposition related to ministry in a church context. The project is to follow the format described in the latest edition of *The S.B.L. Handbook of Style for Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies*. 2 hrs.

591 Project in Biblical Counseling

Fulfillment of phases 1 and 2 of the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors' certification process. The student is responsible for expenses charged by the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors. 2 hrs.

5211 Church Planting

Biblical and historical origins of Presbyterian church government; starting new churches within the Presbyterian system; steps and procedures for establishing a mission and developing it into an organized church; practical methods and techniques used in church planting. 1 hr.

5221 Music in the Church

Philosophy, resources, and repertoire for effective music ministry, including service planning, choirs, congregational singing, special music, and leading music. 1 hr.

Department of Biblical Counseling**611 Introduction to Biblical Counseling**

The nature and principles of biblical counseling; techniques and theories of counseling; patterns of problem-solving; the counselor-counselee relationship; the sufficiency of Scripture; and biblical conflict resolution. 2 hrs.

612 Marriage and Family Counseling

The systematic survey of the theology of the family: the importance of the Christian home, the covenantal family relationship, courtship versus dating; methods of premarital and marital counseling; divorce issues and rebuilding the marriage relationship after adultery. 2 hrs.

631 Contemporary Issues in Counseling

A systematic application of the principles of biblical counseling to a wide variety of contemporary issues facing counselors. 2 hrs.

632 Methodologies of Counseling

Survey and critique of secular counseling theories and comparison to biblical counseling. 2 hrs.

6111 Survey of Biblical Counseling

Introduction to theory and practice of biblical counseling; contrast with other counseling methods; use of Scripture in counseling. 2 hrs.

6310 Counseling Practicum

Case analyses and case observation (videos); confrontation (self); and conferences (required attendance at an annual local symposium as offered). There is a two-year time limit for completing the practicum once it is begun. Elective course. 4 hrs.

6311 Supervised Counseling Mentorship

Actual counseling experience and evaluation, a practicum individually supervised by a Fellow of the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors. Elective course; required for ACBC certification. 5 hrs.

Financial Information

- Student Expenses
- Student Benefits
- Student Employment
- Student Housing

Student Expenses (2026-2027 School Year)

Tuition and Fees

Tuition (per semester, 16-18 hrs.)	\$3,130
Additional hrs. @ 19 and above	\$180
Tuition (per credit hour)	
1-6 hrs.	\$245
7-9 hrs.	\$210
10-12 hrs.	\$205
13-15 hrs.	\$200
Audit (per credit hour)	\$130
Minimum payment at registration	\$100
Application Fee (auditors are exempt)	\$30
Program Change Fee	\$25
Late Registration Fee	\$25
Course Extension Fee	20% of course tuition
Thesis Filing Fee	\$50
Graduation Fee	\$65
Student Visa Change Fee	\$25
Official Transcript Fee (after the first)	\$10

Costs for class texts and syllabi will vary according to the number of hours in the student's course load.

Payment Arrangements

All expenses are due at registration. For those unable to pay in full at registration, a payment plan is available with a \$100 minimum down payment. There is a monthly finance charge of 1% on unpaid balances, with a minimum charge of \$1. Payment arrangements must be made with the business manager at the time of registration. Degrees will be granted and transcripts issued only to students whose accounts are paid in full.

Refunds

Upon written notification of withdrawal from the seminary, students are entitled to a prorated refund of the full semester's tuition only. The following schedule will be employed in granting refunds before the end of the:

second week	80%
fourth week	60%
sixth week	40%
eighth week	20%

Western Reformed Seminary's Veterans Refund Policy complies with CFR 21.4255. In the event the veteran or eligible person fails to enter the course, withdraws, or is dismissed at any time before completion, any unused portion of tuition, fees, and other charges is refunded. Any amount over \$10 of the application/registration fee is prorated. The amount charged will not exceed the exact pro-rata portion of the total charges. The length of the completed portion of the course will be prorated over its total length, and the exact proration will be determined by the ratio of the number of days of instruction completed by the student to the total number of instructional days in the course. Refunds are made within 40 days of the last date of the student's attendance.

Student Benefits

Anti-inflation Feature

The rate at which a full-time student enrolls in his degree program will remain constant throughout a three- or four-year course, even if regular fees increase after his first year. This guarantee cannot be given to special or part-time students.

Lifelong Academics

WRS graduates may audit one course of their choice per semester at no charge. This opportunity applies to courses in or below their degree level (e.g., MDiv graduates may audit courses in other master's programs but not vice versa, and a graduate may take advantage of this offer for courses within his degree division).

Spouse Bonus

The spouses of a student enrolled for credit may sit in the same classes that the student attends at no charge. The spouse of a student enrolled for credit may take the same class for credit at the reduced audit rate. If both spouses audit a class, one will pay the full audit rate and the other half the audit rate.

Financial Aid

Thanks to the generosity of WRS supporters, limited financial assistance is available to worthy students. Regular degree or certificate students may apply for scholarship aid toward tuition and syllabus fees from the General Scholarship Fund by filling out an application form.

Numerous Bible Presbyterian supporters have established the J. Gresham Machen Scholarship Fund for students pursuing ordination in the Bible Presbyterian denomination. This aid is awarded to full-time MDiv or BDiv students who have completed at least one year of studies at WRS and who fill out an application form.

Students seeking any form of financial aid must apply in writing before the term begins. The Financial Assistance Committee will determine whether aid shall be granted, and the amount of aid based on available funds and the student's academic work, needs, and plans for future ministry. Application forms are available online or from the business manager's office.

Veterans Benefits

Veterans and other eligible persons may receive GI Bill® Education Benefits for selected academic programs taken at WRS. Selected programs of study are approved by the Washington State Approving Agency for enrollment of those eligible for benefits under Title 38 and Title 10, U.S. Code. This Agency has approved the following programs for veterans' benefits: MDiv and MCM. The amount of benefits is determined by the veteran's course load. Benefits based on the number of hours enrolled are available according to the following schedule:

12 hours or more	Full time
9-11 hours	$\frac{3}{4}$ time
6-8 hours	$\frac{1}{2}$ time
3-5 hours	$\frac{1}{4}$ time

Student Employment

Full-time day students are encouraged to keep their outside work obligations within reasonable limits so that ample time is available for seminary studies and research. This way, students will better appreciate the value of the seminary course. Students new to the region will find many work opportunities in the metropolitan area. A limited number of part-time jobs are available at the seminary and in local church ministries.

Student Housing

WRS does not offer student housing. Students are responsible for securing their local housing and transportation. As questions arise, the Dean of Students will work with individuals to find suitable lodging.

Student Advising and Counseling

The WRS Registrar offers academic counsel to students, particularly regarding transfer credits, program selection, and course enrollment to ensure compliance with program timetables. Individual faculty members may make recommendations to students regarding courses and coursework.

The Dean of Students is available to counsel students in personal and spiritual matters. The Dean of Students also has resources for local housing and occasionally for job/ministry placement. Faculty also may become involved in student counseling.

Faculty

John A. Battle

Professor of New Testament and Theology

B.A., Highland College, 1967; MDiv, Faith Theological Seminary, 1970; S.T.M., Faith Theological Seminary, 1971; Th.D., Grace Theological Seminary, 1975.

Associate Professor of New Testament, 1983-1998; Professor of New Testament and Theology, 1998-.

Christopher K. Lensch

Associate Professor of Old Testament

B.A., Shelton College, 1975; MDiv, Faith Theological Seminary, 1978; S.T.M., Faith Theological Seminary, 1980.

Assistant Professor of Old Testament, 1983-1998; Associate Professor of Old Testament, 1998-.

Kevin M. Backus

Professor of Biblical Counseling

B.A., Shelton College, 1978; MDiv, Faith Theological Seminary, 1982; S.T.M., Whitefield Theological Seminary, 1995; Ph.D., Whitefield Theological Seminary, 1997.

Instructor of Biblical Counseling, 1995-1997; Adjunct Professor of Biblical Counseling, 1998-2017; Professor of Biblical Counseling, 2017-.

Leonard W. Pine

Professor of Practical Theology

B.A., Bob Jones University, 1984; M.A., Bob Jones University, 1987; MDiv, Western Reformed Seminary, 1993; D.Min., Westminster Seminary California, 2002.

Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, Western Reformed Seminary, 1993-2002; Professor of Practical Theology, 2002-.

Steven Brinegar

Adjunct Instructor of Church History

B.S., Clearwater Christian College, 2002; MDiv, Western Reformed Seminary, 2006.

Adjunct Instructor of Church History, Western Reformed Seminary, 2022-.

Administration and Staff

Tito Lyro

President and Assistant Professor of Biblical Counseling

B.A., University of Washington, 2000; MDiv, Western Reformed Seminary, 2000; M.A. in Biblical Counseling, The Master's University, 2023.

W. Scott Hollander III, PhD

Registrar and Adjunct Professor of Old Testament

B.S., Western Baptist College, 1999; M.A., Webster University, 2003; US Army officer, 1999-2017 (MAJ, RET), joint and multinational operational and strategic plans and personnel management; MBS with OT emphasis and MDiv, Western Reformed Seminary, 2020; MCM in Biblical Counseling, Western Reformed Seminary, 2024; PhD in Biblical Studies, LBC | Capital Seminary and Graduate School, 2024.

Jerry Harr

Librarian

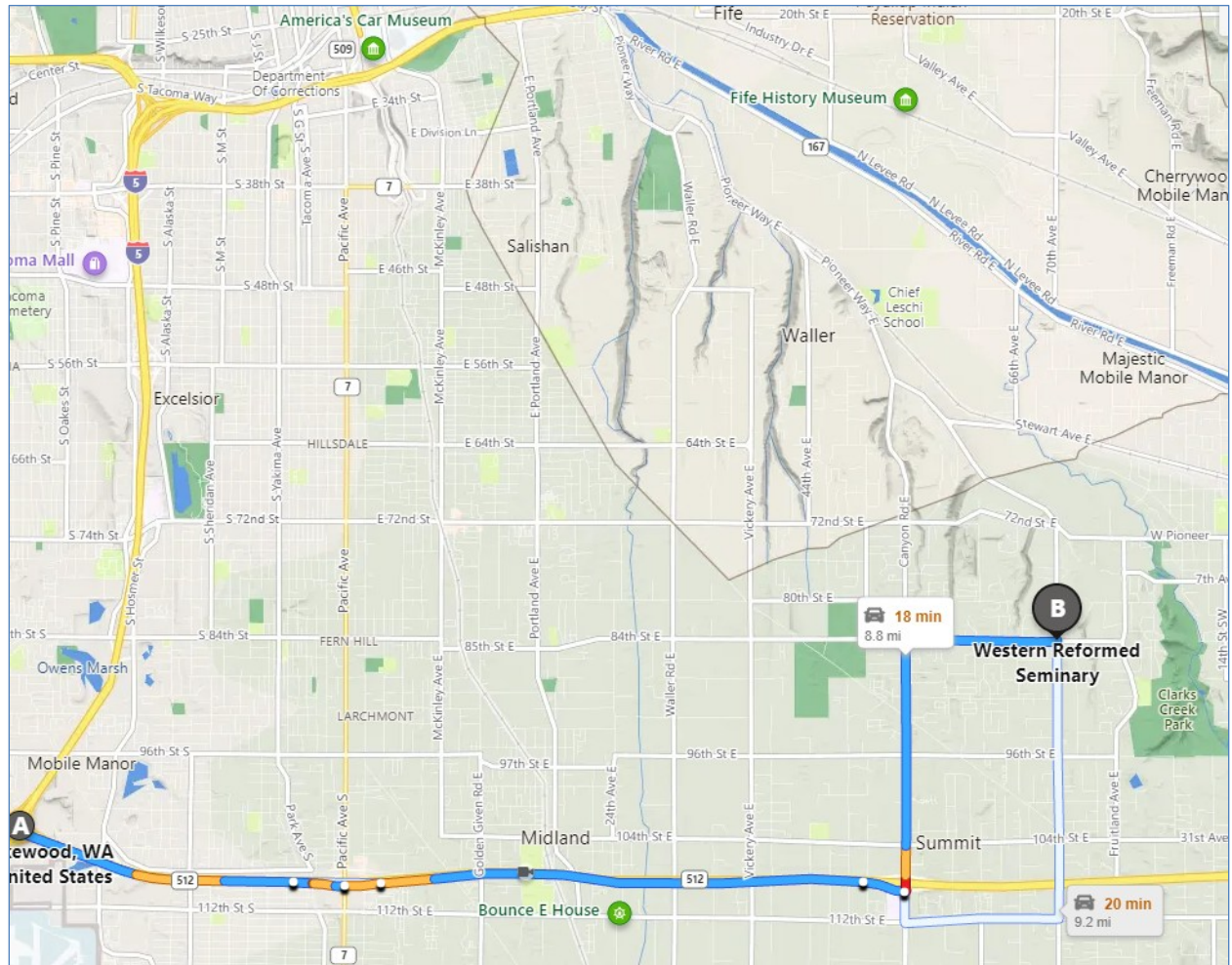
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*B.P.C. stands for the Bible Presbyterian Church, General Synod.

Driving Directions

From Interstate 5, take Route 512 East toward Puyallup. Exit left (north) at Canyon Road. Turn right (east) onto 84th Street. Go east for a mile and a half. WRS is on the N.W. corner of 84th Street and Woodland Ave E.



Western Reformed Seminary

www.WRS.edu

LOCATION:

8326 Woodland Ave E.
Puyallup, WA 98371

OFFICE HOURS:

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9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Pacific Time)

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Email: registrar@wrs.edu