

Course Descriptions



Department of Christian Theology

Mark H. Soto, Professor of Theological Studies
David R. Plaster, Adjunct Professor of Theology

The purpose of the theological courses in this department is to equip students to ascertain by inductive study, to formulate, and to present in systematic form the fundamental truths of the Christian faith as revealed in the Word of God. The general theological method is both exegetical and systematic. The main textbook and final authority is the Bible itself.

TH 501 Systematic Theology I

An introduction to theology and its sources. Foundations will be laid in the areas of prolegomena, bibliology, theology proper, Christology, pneumatology, and angelology. Three hours.

TH 502 Systematic Theology II

A survey of the following basic areas of theology: anthropology, hamartiology, soteriology, ecclesiology, and eschatology. Three hours.

TH 505 Defining Doctrines of the Christian Faith

Students will identify the central affirmations of Christianity that distinguish orthodoxy from heresy, heterodoxy, liberalism, and neo-orthodoxy. Students will appreciate the diversity within Christian orthodoxy, while the central affirmations are preserved. The major doctrines will be systematically reviewed. Three hours.

TH 506 Theological Systems

Students will explore the theological methods and presuppositions practiced by the diversity of theological systems. Students will seek answers to questions such as, how is prepositional apologetics different from evidential apologetics. How is systematic theology different from biblical theology? How is dispensational theology different from covenant theology? How is reformed theology different from Armenian theology? How is progressive dispensationalism different from classic dispensationalism? Students will study the methods and presuppositions of leading theologians, from the Apostle Paul to the present. Three hours.

TH 507 Apologetics in a Postmodern World

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introductory survey to the defense of the Christian worldview in its contemporary postmodern context. The course will cover areas such as: the biblical and theological justification for the apologetic task; issues surrounding apologetic methodology; strategies for effective presentation and argumentation; the development of a positive case for Christianity; common objections against the Christian worldview; and a critique of prevalent ideologies and worldviews. This course will address philosophical, historical, scientific, and cultural issues surrounding the defense of Christianity in the contemporary world. Three hours.

TH 509 Hermeneutics (GTS Audio)

Designed to present the history of and to acquaint the student with the main principles of biblical interpretation, and to introduce background material about the historical, cultural and linguistic milieu out of which the Bible came. Three hours.

TH 511 Hermeneutics

Designed to present the history of and to acquaint the student with the main principles of biblical interpretation, and to introduce background material about the historical, cultural and linguistic milieu out of which the Bible came. It includes case studies in order to practice developing biblical insights for confronting today's problems. Three hours.

TH 523 The History of Christianity

Students will seek to discover what transpired in Christianity from the 1st century to modern times in order to understand what Christianity is in the present. Identifying the major events, personalities, and theological issues, both Western and non-Western, that shaped the development of Christianity, they will appreciate the challenges that the church faced as it matured in history and gain perspective on the challenges still facing the church today. Three hours.

TH 528 History of Doctrine and the Church

An overview of the development of doctrine in the church from the Apostolic Fathers through the 20th century. The focus will be on church confessions, major theological movements and controversies, and important theologians. Three hours.

TH 603 Bible Exposition I

Foundational principles of effective Bible study will be applied for personal study and small group Bible study leadership. Observational skills of the English text will be developed through hands-on activities and assignments. Hermeneutical principles will be applied to various biblical genres with the goal to equip the learner to interpret the text based on its historical/cultural and literary context. Application of the meaning of the text for spiritual formation will be emphasized as well. Three hours.

TH 610 New Testament Theology

An overview of the history, methodology and content of New Testament theology as a foundation for understanding how the Old and New Testaments relate to one another in the context of the church and the Christian life. Special attention is given to the development of New Testament theology and major New Testament themes. Three hours.

TH 681–83 Readings in Theology

From one to three credit hours may be earned for guided independent reading. A focused area of study within the disciplines of this department is chosen with the approval of a faculty member. Generally, a minimum of 800–1,000 pages per credit hour, an annotated bibliography, and one book review will be the final result. All proposals must be submitted in writing to the dean of the seminary after departmental approval has been obtained. One to three hours.

TH 691–93 Independent Study in Theology

From one to three credit hours may be earned for guided independent study. A focused area of study within the disciplines of this department is chosen with the approval of a faculty member. Generally, a reading report and a fully documented research paper will be the final result. All proposals must be submitted in writing to the dean of the seminary after approval has been obtained from the department. One to three hours.

TH 710 Advanced Systematic Theology

Building on a foundation of basic orthodox systematic theology, students will explore the issues that create tensions within a theological system. Particular attention will be focused on contemporary theological questions relating to topics such as inspiration, the nature of God, personal eschatology, etc. Students will be expected to prepare position papers, which are to be defended in class. Prerequisites: TH 505 and TH 506 or their equivalents. Three hours.

Department of Old Testament Studies: Language and Literature

Tiberius Rata, Professor of Old Testament Studies

John J. Davis, Professor Emeritus of Old Testament Studies

Bernon Lee, Assistant Professor of Old Testament

Ronald E. Manahan, Professor of Biblical Studies and President of Grace College and Seminary

Since the Old Testament, like the New, is divinely inspired, it must be given serious attention as an indispensable source for doctrine, correction, and spiritual growth. Its narratives provide hundreds of examples of God's dealings with humankind, and by this we gain important insights into the heart of God and His expectations for His people.

Its poetry exhibits the joys and agonies of those who pursued godliness, and its prophecies reveal God's concern for Israel in ancient times as well as the future. The Old Testament is critical to the work of the pastor or Christian leader in preaching, teaching, discipling, counseling, and dealing with the challenges of administration.

The seminary, therefore, requires all M.Div. and Master of Arts in Exegetical Studies candidates to acquire the ability to translate the Hebrew text of the Old Testament, to gain some practical work in the field of scientific exegesis, and to study the methods and results of biblical archaeology, literary criticism, and ancient near eastern backgrounds.

The ultimate goal of these disciplines is not for mere intellectual entertainment, but to enable the student to present the theological, historical, and practical truths of the Old Testament through expository preaching and teaching.

OT 500 Old Testament Introduction

An introduction to the Old Testament with special reference to background, historical setting, literary composition, theology and message. After successfully completing this course, the student should be able to demonstrate a knowledge of background issues which introduce one to the study of various concepts of the Old Testament, the historical milieu of each Old Testament book studied, the purpose and general content of each Old Testament book studied, the use of the Old Testament in modern ministry, and the foundation the Old Testament provides for the New Testament. Three hours.

OT 502 Cultures and Literature of the Old Testament World

Students will seek to understand how people thought, communicated, and lived in the ancient world at the time of the Old Testament, with special focus on the Canaanites, Philistines, Egyptians, Hittites, Assyrians, Babylonians, and Persians. Students will learn to use insights from geography, cultural anthropology, archaeology, sociology, philosophy, politics, literature, and history for the interpretation of Scripture in light of the history and culture of the people to whom it was addressed. Students will examine literature from the Ancient Near East for background information to the literature in the Old Testament. Three hours.

OT 509 Biblical Archaeology and Physical Geography of the Ancient Near East

A course providing a survey of archaeology as it pertains to the Old Testament. The course includes a study of the major findings of archaeology, both the written texts and the cultural remains. The student will also develop a geographical, ecological, cultural, and historical framework from which to examine the biblical text. Three hours.

OT 601 Old Testament Theology

An overview of the content, history, and theology of the Old Testament as it serves as a foundation for understanding the New Testament, for the church and the Christian life. Special attention is given to the development of Old Testament theology and major Old Testament themes. Students with no prior background in Old Testament studies may be required to complete assignments that will provide a survey of the Old Testament. Three hours.

OT 604 Biblical Hebrew I

This course introduces the student to the essentials of biblical Hebrew with emphasis on phonology, morphology, syntax, and vocabulary. The student will learn how to pronounce and read biblical Hebrew, the form and function of the noun and verb, the basic syntax of Hebrew words, phrases, and clauses. Three hours.

OT 605 Biblical Hebrew II

This course further considers Hebrew grammar and vocabulary at the intermediate level with a focus on the remaining stems and the Hebrew weak verb. Designed to prepare the advancing Hebrew student for exegetical study by a detailed consideration of Hebrew syntax and the reading and translating of selected texts. Prerequisite: OT 604. Three hours.

OT 691–693 Independent Study in Old Testament

From one to three credit hours may be earned for guided independent study. A focused area of study within the disciplines of this department is chosen with the approval of a faculty member. Generally, a reading report and a fully documented research paper will be the final result. All proposals must be submitted in writing to the dean of the seminary after approval has been obtained from the department. Three hours.

OT 702 Old Testament Research Project

Careful exegetical research into an issue or problem relating to the Old Testament text or its interpretation or application. The research is to be written up in a 25 page formal paper. For topic approval and writing guidelines, the student must contact the chair of the Department of Old Testament Language and Literature. Three hours.

OT 704 Hebrew Exegesis I

This course is a practical study of the procedures for doing sound exegesis in the various portions of the Old Testament. The method will include the study of syntax, words, poetics, textual criticism, biblical theology, and practical exegetical exposition in the different genres of the Hebrew Bible. The student will be introduced to the electronic tools available to aid in the preparation of sound, biblically-based sermons/lessons. The course is designed to help the student prepare for the future use of the skills in the ministry of the Word. Prerequisite: OT 605. Three hours.

OT 705 Hebrew Exegesis II

An exegetical study of selected portions of the Hebrew Old Testament in the original language designed to show its theological, expository, and practical values. Prerequisite: OT 704. Three hours.

OT 742 Advanced Hebrew Exegesis

Further exegetical study of selected portions of the Hebrew Old Testament including wisdom literature and poetry, designed to show their theological, expository, and practical values. Prerequisite: OT 705. Three hours.

OT 751–753 Independent Study in Hebrew

Three hours of credit may be earned for guided independent study in Hebrew. The course must be approved in writing by an Old Testament professor and the dean of the seminary. Prerequisite: OT 705. Three hours.

Department of New Testament Studies: Language and Literature

Matthew S. Harmon, Associate Professor of New Testament Studies

D. Brent Sandy, Professor of Biblical Studies

The purpose of the New Testament Studies Department is to equip students to work in the Greek New Testament—exegetically and theologically—in order that they might accurately interpret and apply the New Testament. Special emphasis is devoted to developing proficiency in the art of exegesis. Students receive instruction in culture, literature and history of the New Testament world, New Testament Greek grammar and syntax, textual criticism and literary analysis, resolving historical/grammatical/lexical/theological issues, and biblical theology, all of which enables students to move from exegesis to biblical exposition and culturally relevant application.

NT 500 Cultures and Literature of the New Testament World

While surveying the Babylonian, Persian, Grecian, and Roman periods of the second temple period, this course surfaces the subsequent political, cultural, theological, and literary developments that resulted in Second Temple Judaism. The purpose is to master significant Second Temple events and apocrypha writings, to be conversant in the numerous cultural and theological developments of the period, and to read selected writings from Josephus and the Dead Sea Scrolls in order to better understand the New Testament world of Judaism. Three hours.

NT 502 New Testament Introduction

This course introduces the New Testament with special reference to background, historical setting, literary composition, theology and message. After successfully completing this course, the student should be able to demonstrate a knowledge of background issues which introduce one to the study of various concepts of the New Testament, the historical milieu of each New Testament book studied, the purpose and general content of each New Testament book studied, the relationship between the New and Old Testaments, and the use of the New Testament in modern ministry. Three hours.

NT 511 New Testament Greek I

This course introduces the student to the essentials of biblical Greek with emphasis on phonology, morphology, syntax, and vocabulary. The student will learn how to pronounce and read biblical Greek, the form and function of the noun and verb, the basic syntax of Greek words, phrases, and clauses. Three hours.

NT 512 New Testament Greek II

This course further considers Greek grammar and vocabulary at the intermediate level. It is designed to prepare the advancing Greek student for exegetical study by a detailed consideration of Greek syntax and the reading and translating of selected texts. Prerequisite: NT 511. Three hours.

NT 602–604 Independent Study in Greek

Two to four hours of credit may be earned for guided independent study in biblical Greek. The course must be approved in writing by a New Testament professor and the dean of the seminary. Prerequisite: NT 705. One to three Hours.

NT 681–83 Independent Study in New Testament

Independent studies are designed for advanced New Testament Greek students who wish to do independent research on some aspect of New Testament studies not treated in other courses. Evaluations are based upon reading reports and a fully documented research project proportionate to the number of credit hours desired to be earned. One to three credit hours may be earned in any one subject of study. All proposals must be submitted in writing to the dean of the seminary after approval has been obtained from the chair of the Department of New Testament Studies. Prerequisite: NT 704 or equivalent. One to three hours.

NT 702 New Testament Research Project

Careful exegetical research into an issue or problem relating to the New Testament text or its interpretation and application. The research is to be articulated in a 25 page formal paper. For topic approval and writing guidelines, the student must contact the chair of the Department of New Testament Studies. Three hours.

NT 704 Greek Exegesis I

This course is a practical study of the procedures for doing sound exegesis in the various portions of the New Testament. The method will include the study of syntax, words, poetics, textual criticism, biblical theology, and practical exegetical exposition in the different genres of the Greek New Testament. The student will be introduced to the electronic tools available to aid in the preparation of sound, biblically-based sermons/lessons. The course is designed to help the student prepare for the future use of the skills in the ministry of the Word. Prerequisite: NT 512. Three hours.

NT 705 Greek Exegesis II

An exegetical study of selected portions of the Greek New Testament in the original language designed to show its theological, expository, and practical values. Prerequisite: NT 704. Three hours.

NT 742 Advanced Greek Exegesis

This course examines further the exegetical study of selected portions of the Greek New Testament including gospels, epistles, and apocalyptic, designed to show their theological, expository, and practical values. Prerequisite: NT 705. Three hours.

Department of Pastoral Studies

Kenneth E. Bickel, Professor of Pastoral Studies

Thomas J. Edgington, Professor of Counseling

Jeffrey A. Gill, Professor of Pastoral Studies

Tammy Schultz, Professor of Counseling

Christine M. Morr, Associate Professor of Spiritual Formation and Women's Ministries

The Department of Pastoral Studies seeks to channel the student's academic training received in the other departments of the seminary into effective pastoral ministry—whether demonstrated in the pulpit, in the pastor's study, in board meetings, or in the educational programs of the church.

In all areas, the Word of God must be applied to the lives of those to whom God has graciously given it. It must be delivered to the lost through the work of evangelism; it must be given to God's redeemed people through educational programs designed for nurture and equipping; it must be applied to special personal needs in the counselor's office.

This department, therefore, is a part of the "how to" segment of the seminary program, instructing the student in appropriate perspectives and attitudes for ministry. This department also seeks to provide instruction in the needed skills and methods for applying God's Word to life with wisdom and effectiveness.

Believing firmly that the local church is the center of God's operations in the world, we focus every part of the instructional program on the ministry of the local church. Experienced pastors are used in the classroom and as mentors in order to enhance ministry skills and effectiveness.

PM 504 Interpersonal Communication and Conflict Management

Theoretical principles of interpersonal communication and conflict management skills will be applied to ministry settings in order to equip the learner to work more effectively with a variety of people in diverse settings. Through course material, individual reflection, and small group experiences, learners will explore the biblical foundations of relationships, personal relating style, small group dynamics and roles and conflict management skills. The focus of this course contains principles for evaluating relational maturity, elements that help and hinder spiritual community and skills for dealing with conflict in healthy ways utilizing effective communication skills necessary for personal and ministerial development. Three hours.

PM 513 Philosophy of Ministry

This course seeks to promote appropriate ministry perspectives especially as applied to the local church in North America. Two main areas will receive attention: 1) the attitudes and responsibilities of a servant leader of the local church, and 2) a philosophy of local church ministry. In addition, a variety of specific applications of New Testament ecclesiology are discussed and applied to contemporary life and ministry. Three hours.

PM 535 Counseling Skills

Skill development is the emphasis of this course. The student will learn about and practice implementing counseling skills, and group supervision will be employed. Strengths and weaknesses (based on student's personality, background, social skills, etc.) will be explored as well. Fall semester, three hours.

PM 540 Theological Foundations of Counseling

This course will examine the theoretical basis of counseling, specifically as it pertains to personality, godly functioning, what goes wrong, and possible solutions. Contextual dimensions will be emphasized the latter half of the semester. Fall semester, three hours.

PM 542 Gender and Sexuality

A biblical psychology of men and women will be addressed. God's design for gender differences and how men and women commonly deviate from this design will be explored. Summer term, three hours.

PM 601 Spiritual Formation

This course investigates the biblical and personal foundations of spiritual growth known theologically as sanctification. It is designed to help the learner understand the impact of family history, personal development

and life experiences on one's theological outlook, emotional maturity, relational patterns, moral decisions and ministry effectiveness. Through personal prayer projects, experiential learning and small group interaction, learners will gain a richer sense of self-awareness in order to open more deeply to the love and truth of God. This integrative course attempts to connect theological truth to life in order to explore God's design for growth and how the individual might cooperate within the context of a developing relational Christian spirituality. Three hours.

PM 605 Seminar in Worship

The course presents the theology, theory, and practice of worship as it is commonly conducted, both personally and corporately, in the evangelical church of the United States. Discussions related to worship will include certain leadership issues and perspectives that are needed in order to implement change into the local church's worship practices with the least amount of damage to the various people involved. Professionals dedicated to this vital ministry will be used as adjuncts to provide practical and relevant guidance. Three hours.

PM 610 Seminar on North American Church-Planting

This seminar introduces the student to the basic understanding and skills necessary to start a congregation in any North American cultural context. It takes the student from call through self-assessment to reaching and bringing together a group of 25–75 individuals committed to being a church. A separate training track is planned to train developmental pastors to take a congregation beyond the 75 barrier through developmental pastoral ministry. Informed by David Garrison's concepts of church multiplication, it seeks to train church-planters to form new congregations aggressively and rapidly with a dependence upon follow-on pastoral church developers. Some attention is given to participants who desire to pursue a founding pastor model as well. Students will be expected to engage the experience both intellectually and spiritually with significant encouragement given to building spiritual community within the class and work groups. Three hours.

PM 621 Expository Preaching and Teaching

This course combines both theory and practice. It introduces a functional methodology of organizing and developing the elements of a sermon. It examines issues of bridging exegesis and exposition as well as the application of biblical truth and the effective delivery to listeners. Approximately one-third of the course is devoted to a lab setting where lessons and sermons are videotaped and critiqued. Note that students not having previously taken a public speaking course may be required to take such a class as a prerequisite of the course. Prerequisite: TH 511 or TH 603. Three hours.

PM 622 Advanced Preaching Seminar

This course addresses an array of sermonic issues—content, form, delivery—with a view toward creativity and variety in preaching styles. Pursuing sermon forms that appeal to younger generations of listeners receives prominent attention. A great deal of class collaboration shapes the nature of this course. Student preaching will be required. Prerequisite: PM 621. Three hours.

PM 623 Ethical and Legal Issues

The legal, ethical, and professional issues in the delivery of mental health services are examined. Topics include ethical standards, privacy, confidentiality, and credentialing. Mental health codes and legislation are also discussed. Fall semester, three hours.

PM 640 Marriage and Family Counseling

This course will examine the theoretical constructs inherent in godly functioning for both the marital relationship and for the family. For marriage, topics include the analysis of roles, a proper understanding of love/commitment, principles for effective communication, gender differences, sexuality, and the stages of marriage. For the family, topics include parenting skills, and analysis of family systems, roles, rules, and power structure. This course will also examine theories regarding the causative elements of marital breakup and family problems, and how the counselor can implement knowledge and skills necessary to aid in the mending of marriages and the restoration of proper family functioning. A major focus will be conflict resolution. Lecture, vignettes, and role-play will be employed to facilitate the acquisition of knowledge and skill development. Fall semester, three hours.

PM 644 Counseling Common Problems

This course will examine the nature and dynamics of common problems encountered in counseling, along with the actual process of conducting counseling. The common problems, which will be explored, include depression, anxiety, panic, obsessive-compulsive disorders, and addictions. Summer term, three hours.

PM 655 Directed Study in Pastoral Counseling

Students may receive credit for work done at Faith Baptist Counseling Ministries in Lafayette, Indiana. Registration in this course is limited to M.Div. students who have been accepted into the study program in Lafayette. No credit will be given to persons in that program unless they also register for this course with the seminary for the semester in which the work will be completed. Three hours.

PM 660 Principles and Practice of Prayer

Recognizing that prayer is a primary activity of every Christian, the basic biblical principles of prayer are carefully studied. The prayer life of the pastor/missionary, along with the responsibility of leading a congregation in its prayer ministry, will receive special attention. Three hours.

PM 671 Foundations and Philosophy of Youth Ministries

This course will help present a biblical philosophy and modern history of youth ministry. Strategies will be developed for identifying the role of youth ministries and integrating them into the local church. Students will gain an understanding of contemporary adolescent issues and the essential ingredients needed to make an effective youth ministry. Areas of discussion will involve the role of discipleship, evangelism, women, and parenting ministries in the church, as well as methods of building a volunteer staff and youth team. Three hours.

PM 673 Strategizing for Church and Campus Youth Programming

Strategies will be developed for establishing a strong ministry team effectively ministering to junior and senior high students as well as recent graduates. This class will establish the role of the Christian school, home schooling, and the role of the public school in youth ministries. Pertinent legal issues will be discussed in relation to the church and Christians in public schools. Methods of evangelizing, discipling, and mentoring future leaders will be assessed, and various curricula will be explored and analyzed. Strategies for meeting the needs of your church in complex family and societal structures will be developed. Prerequisite: PM 671. Three hours.

PM 674 Personal and Professional Orientation to Youth Ministries

A description of the call and qualifications of an effective youth leader will be discussed. Plans will be developed for recruiting, leading, and building a volunteer staff and how to establish and maintain staff relations with a chain of command. A description of a disciplined student will be presented. Methods of networking youth ministries and creating a long-range planning strategy will be developed. The student will create and maintain his or her own personal ministry résumé and written strategy for youth ministry. Prerequisite: PM 671. Three hours.

PM 676 Counseling and Communication with Contemporary Youth

This course will explore methods of communicating biblical and spiritual truth to the youth culture. Students will be equipped to prepare and deliver effective oral communication, and training will be given in such areas as how to incorporate music as part of a youth ministry. Counseling tools and techniques will be presented for working with families and crisis youth counseling situations. Students will also be apprised of legal issues connected with counseling. Prerequisite: PM 671. Three hours.

PM 677 Cross-Cultural Youth Ministries

The student will learn how to assess relevant issues related to specific cultures and how to target the needs of youth within various socio-economic groups. This class will develop strategies for meeting the needs of youth in a cross-cultural context and how to church plant using youth as a target group. The student will be taught how to train youth leadership to accomplish church planting and development. The class will be held in a cross-cultural setting offering hands-on training. Prerequisite: PM 671. Three hours.

PM 680 Youth Ministry Internship

This 12-week internship provides hands-on experience in working with youth in a supervised field experience at an approved site under a seasoned mentor. The student will be able to identify and explain the seven laws of the learner. The student will learn how to program and develop leadership aspects of youth ministry in real life. Prerequisites: PM 671, 673, 674, and middler/senior status. Six hours.

PM 691–94 Independent Study in Pastoral Ministries

A limited number of credit hours (a maximum of four) may be given for independent study done outside the context of a classroom course. Special outside seminars with additional reading and reporting as assigned by the supervising professor can be used in this regard. One to four hours.

PM 700 Leadership in the Local Church

Through the use of reading, written assignments, and interviews, the following leadership issues will be examined: servant leadership, visionary leadership, mentoring, being a student of culture and change agent, and leading and developing leaders. A one-week, on-campus module applying leadership studies as well as integrating elements of self-assessment is required. Three hours.

PM 712 Local Church Ministry in the 21st Century

This course will seek to explore some of the dominant ministry styles of contemporary North American churches, including seeker ministries, post-modern ministries, house-churches ministries and so forth. A substantial component of the course will include involvement in an off-campus conference entitled "Change Without Compromise" sponsored by NorthRidge Church in Plymouth, MI, a conference dedicated to church revitalization. Three hours

PM 721 Counseling in the Local Church

Pre-course requirements will engage the student in reading assignments and reviewing audio/video presentations of selected issues related to counseling theory and methodology. During the one-week on-campus module, issues related to counseling expectations and practice, anthropological considerations, and specific personal problems will be addressed. Three hours.

PM 727 Group Counseling

The history, theory, methods, and applications of group psychotherapy are examined, discussed, and demonstrated. The development of competency in-group methods is enhanced through didactic presentation, role playing, and participation in an ongoing group. Fall semester, three hours.

PM 728 Assimilation and Building Community in the Local Church

This course examines biblical principles and contemporary procedures for successfully welcoming newcomers into the local church and for successfully integrating them fully into the life of the church body. The class will also develop a biblical basis for local church community and present practical means and models that churches are using to cultivate and advance the Christian community within a local church. Three hours.

PM 736 Practicum (M.Div. in Counseling Program)

Forty hours of face-to-face counseling will be required as part of this 100-hour practicum. Observation and group supervision will also be included. Prerequisite: PM 535, PM 540, and 49 hours of successfully completed course work. Spring semester, three hours.

PM 744 Psychotherapy and Trauma

This course will examine the nature and practice of psychotherapy as it pertains to the topic of trauma. The nature of trauma, trauma resolution, and the standard of care in responding to trauma survivors will be explored. Spring semester, three hours.

PM 750 Human Growth and Development

The course in human development emphasizes psychological development from childhood to adulthood, birth through aging. Attention is given to the relationship between developmental processes and socialization,

including the psychosocial aspects of aging, coping, and adaptation. The latter part of the course will emphasize counseling with children and younger adolescents. Spring semester, three hours.

PM 755 Social and Cultural Issues in Counseling

Presented are counseling issues pertinent to the counseling of diversity: racial, cultural, ethnic, class, and religious. The effects of history, values, childbearing practices, male-female relationships, and more are covered. Culturally specific theory is introduced. Spring semester, three hours.

PM 761–763 Degree Project

By means of this special course, the student will complete work designed to inaugurate or substantially revise an area of ministry in which he or she is personally interested. A prospectus must be submitted to the project coordinator prior to the beginning of the semester during which the project will be studied and completed. It must provide the information required in the "Guidelines for Degree Projects" available from the seminary professors of pastoral ministry. One to three hours.

PM 765 Addictions Counseling

This course will examine drug and alcohol counseling, other addictions, DSM/IV/TR criteria, the addictive process, and treatment issues. Lecture and role-play will be used. Fall semester, three hours.

Department of Intercultural Studies and World Mission

Thomas M. Stallter, Professor of Intercultural Studies and World Mission

Roger D. Peugh, Professor of World Mission

Thomas T. Julien, Adjunct Professor

James H. Nesbitt, Scholar in Residence, Adjunct Professor

The Department of Intercultural Studies and World Mission is aimed at instilling in the heart of every student, a world vision and a passion for reaching that world. The curriculum is prepared to meet the needs of both experienced missionaries desiring graduate study as well as eager recruits preparing for cross-cultural ministry.

Four things characterize this program: vision for global ministry, prayer and the recognition of dependence on God's strength, skill development for effective intercultural ministry, and teamwork to multiply spiritual energies.

MI 501 Biblical Theology of Mission

A course on the biblical basis and theological framework for world mission showing how that endeavor is the appropriate and necessary response to God's will for this age. An introduction to the issues in missiology today is covered and various errant theologies of mission are critiqued. Included is a discussion of God's will in the life of the believer and a survey of the spiritual and cultural challenges that confront Christians in cross-cultural mission. Three hours.

MI 505 Intercultural Ministry

This course is intended to provide students who are not in an intercultural ministry program with an understanding of the elements of culture and how they affect biblical ministry in intercultural and multicultural contexts. It is designed to help Christian workers become more effective in those contexts as their understanding permits them to shape their ministry to penetrate other cultures more deeply and, therefore, apply God's Word more accurately. Three hours.

MI 511 Understanding World Religions

In this course the belief systems of major religions are studied with a view to understanding why the tenets make sense and drive behavior for the adherents. How each religion affects the host culture and how the culture affects the religion will be explored. The inadequacies of each belief system will be discussed in light of the adequacy of Christianity, but an introductory understanding of biblical theology is assumed. Three hours.

MI 530 Encountering Islam

This course will cover the origins of Islam as well as its beliefs and practices from both the Qur'an and the Hadith literature and traditions. The life of Muhammad and the Qur'an itself will be studied from the standpoint of original Muslim sources. Faith and practice in modern-day Islam in its various forms, Islam's response to Christianity, and Christianity's response to Islam will be explored. Students will research and present findings on issues in Islam. Practical ways to reach out to Muslims will be discussed. Three hours.

MI 603 Intercultural Communication

A study of the principles and processes of communicating effectively with people from a second cultural context. The course focuses on functional perception and how cultural worldview, beliefs, and values affect that through the personal perception of each individual. The shaping of the message, style of communication, and communication networks for each cultural context are explored with a view to penetrating each culture as deeply as possible with the Gospel. The dangers of ethnocentrism and some current methods of contextualization are discussed. Three hours.

MI 605 New Testament Church Planting Principles

An intensive study of the biblical definition of a local church and how that becomes the goal in church planting. New Testament early church forms and methods of expansion are investigated. An examination of the spiritual foundation and the principles and methods of evangelism and discipleship is undertaken with a special emphasis given to the training of nationals and the transfer of leadership to them. Three hours.

MI 606 Applied Cultural Anthropology

The nature of man and how his culture affects him are explored with a view to how this, in turn, affects ministry in intercultural contexts. Worldview assumptions and resulting values, beliefs, behavior, and attitudes are studied

as to how they affect the person in his perception and understanding of the physical and spiritual world around him and, ultimately, his understanding of the Gospel. Social organization is examined as to how it affects ministry strategy and the nature of culture change is investigated with a view to evangelism. Three hours.

MI 608 Teamwork and Leadership Training in Missions

The student will study the biblical principles that mandate teamwork in the world mission task concentrating on God's approach to man in general and the models and teachings of the Gospels and the Book of Acts. The biblical perspectives on training leadership, as well as the cultural aspects involved in doing that in a second culture, are studied. Various leadership-training models are presented and evaluated. Three hours.

MI 609 Principles of Contextualization

This course prepares the student to fit evangelism, church planting, church development, and relief ministries into the social and cultural context of the receiving people. It majors on preparing missionaries to plant Christianity in the soil of the targeted people group so it will grow up within their context rather than to spread a veneer of Christian values over that culture. The contextualization of methodology, theology, and forms and expressions in the local church is discussed. The danger of Western values being expressed in Bible interpretation and the importance of taking into consideration the religious worldview and the definitions used in the receiving culture are discussed. Emphasis is given, as well, to the differences of the cultural context within which the biblical text was written. Prerequisite: MI 606. Three hours.

MI 610 History of World Missions

The backgrounds and development of the mission enterprise from the apostolic period until the present are analyzed in view of their benefit to the intercultural task before us today. A proper understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit in this endeavor is emphasized. To give the student a good grasp of present-day major movements, significant current trends in missiological thought and practice will be examined. Three hours.

MI 660 Principles and Practice of Prayer

This course will take an in-depth look at prayer as God's means of leading and strengthening faithful servants for His work of reconciliation among the cultures of today's world. Intercultural ministry depends on prayer for the strategic planning necessary to enter other cultures with the Gospel, for effectiveness in its presentation, and for relevancy in its application. Various strategies for mission will be evaluated as to their effectiveness in diverse situations and studied for their application in varied cultural contexts. Three hours.

MI 702 Cross-Cultural Morality and Conflict Management

All Christians hold values derived from their culture. Many, if not most of these values, shape the expression of Christianity in their culture. Much of this is good as it reflects how Christianity is relevant in their context. In many cases, cultural norms define what obedience to God's Word should look like in that particular context in regard to expressions of God's will such as "honor your father and your mother," and "husbands love your wives," or yet "steal no longer..." These culturally defined behaviors seek to respect God's will and honor His name, but they depend on cultural definitions and therefore change from culture to culture. Obedience to God's will is, to some extent, relative to the context in which it is practiced. It is not a question of whether a man should love his wife or not, but rather a question of how he should do that. Issues of ethics and morality often cause conflict between people of different cultures. This course seeks to reveal and discuss God's Word on these vital issues. Three hours.

MI 706 Reuniting the Church with Her Mission

The Great Commission is not merely an external command to be obeyed, but an expression of the church's fundamental law of existence. Yet, throughout the centuries, a profound divorce has been perpetuated between the church and her mission. Mission is seen as something added on to the church, rather than emanating from it. This course addresses the organic union between the church and her mission in the world. It offers practical ways of reuniting what God never intended to be separated, getting churches out of the maintenance mode and into the mission mode. The church rediscovers her glory when her essential nature finds expression in her mission to a dark world. Three hours.

MI 709 Discerning God's Will

The purpose of this course is to expose the student to traditional ways of "finding" God's will for one's life and then to explore and explain the biblical data on the subject. Biblical teaching and examples in Old and New Testaments will be explored. Various authors will be examined to determine their approach and models for decision making and the will of God. At the end of the course the student will be able to discuss the normally

illusive subject of God's will with clarity, speak to the subjective nature of popular theories on the subject, and own a personal theology of God's will for the believer. Three hours.

MI 710 Discipleship and Mentoring

Our Lord's final command was that all of His followers (no exceptions) "make disciples." The New Testament concept and practice of discipleship will be carefully studied seeking to lead the student toward a biblical theology of discipleship. The application of this study in the home and church will involve a review of various practices of discipleship in different cultural and ministry settings. The concept and practice of mentoring in leadership training as a facet of the overall discipleship process will conclude the course. Three hours.

MI 711–714 Area Studies

Area studies are an examination of the secular and ecclesiastical history, the present social, economical, political, educational, and religious situation, and the cultural themes of a country that are of import to the student. A research paper and a reading report with bibliography are required. Prerequisite: MI 606. One to four hours.

MI 716–719 Missiological Research

Missiological research is in-depth study in an area in the field of missiology. It is reserved for upper-level students upon approval of the department chair and is pursued under his supervision. A research paper, accounting of time, and a reading report with annotated bibliography are required. Prerequisite: MI 606. One to four hours.

MI 721–723 Readings in World Religions and Ideologies

This is a guided independent study course designed to give the student an overall knowledge of the religious contexts of the world that the Gospel must penetrate. As a major part of most cultural worldviews, religions and religious themes will be studied by the student in detail with a view to their function in the society where they are found. Students will search for bridges for communication of the true Gospel in each religious context. Attention will be given to Animism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and their variant forms, as well as many smaller religious systems. One to three hours.

MI 792–794 Cross-Cultural Internship

The mission internship is a guided experience and study program in a cross-cultural setting. It involves a culture discovery program for gaining insights into the target culture and understanding the people in their actual situation. It provides experience in various levels of evangelism, discipleship, and church development within this new environment giving the student practical, intercultural encounters for the exercise of the student's theoretical learning. Prerequisite: MI 606. Two to four hours.

Note: The following ITS courses are available to intercultural ministry students and may be found with the courses that are available through the Institute of Theological Studies.

- IS 563 ITS Urban Mission and Ministry
- IS 564 ITS An Introduction to Muslim Evangelism
- IS 566 ITS Urban Missiology in the Postmodern Metropolis
- IS 567 ITS African Theology and Religions
- IS 568 ITS Theologies of Liberation
- IS 571 ITS Introduction to World Missions
- IS 573 ITS The History of Missions

Institute of Theological Studies

Grace Theological Seminary is a charter member of the Institute of Theological Studies, cooperating with other evangelical seminaries offering lecture courses by biblical scholars on CDs and DVDs. Each course must be taken under the supervision of a resident faculty member, who will make appropriate assignments, evaluate the work, and assign grades.

Students who register for ITS courses must observe the regular semester deadlines and are required to purchase their own course materials (CDs or DVDs and printed syllabus). Tuition charges are the same as for the other courses.

A maximum of two ITS courses may be credited toward an M.Div. program or the M.A. in Theological Studies program.

IS 502 Conquest and Settlement

A study of the conquest and settlement period in Israel's history from the standpoint of archaeology, theology, and history. The books included in this study are Joshua, Judges, and Ruth. Special consideration is given to Late Bronze Age materials from Palestine which provide the cultural background for this era. (24-lecture series by John J. Davis.) Three hours.

IS 503 The United Monarchy

A historical, archaeological, and theological analysis of the period of the United Monarchy in Israel. Archaeological discoveries from the Iron Age I period are used to illustrate the important cultural trends of the era. The books of 1 and 2 Samuel, the first ten chapters of 1 Kings, and parallel passages in Chronicles and Psalms are studied. (24-lecture series by John J. Davis.) Three hours.

IS 505 The Book of Psalms

An introduction to the Psalms with emphasis on the principles involved in exegesis of the hymnic literature and application of these principles to selected portions. (24-lecture series by Bruce K. Waltke.) Three hours.

IS 506 Understanding the Old Testament

A survey of the history of salvation in the Old Testament especially as it relates to the unifying concept of Old Testament theology, i.e., the rule of God or the establishment of God's kingdom upon the earth. A working knowledge of Hebrew is helpful but not required. (24-lecture series by Bruce K. Waltke.) Three hours.

IS 507 New Testament Survey: Gospels/Life of Christ

A chronological, synthetic study of the four Gospel records, emphasizing the time, place, circumstances, and persons involved in our Lord's ministry with a view to a fuller understanding of the significance of His words and works. (24-lecture series by Terry Hulbert.) Three hours.

IS 515 Survey of Church History

A basic introduction to the development of the Christian church from its founding at Pentecost to the present day. (24-lecture series by Garth M. Rosell.) Three hours.

IS 519 The Christian and O.T. Theology

A biblical study of the foundational theology applied by the Old Testament for the New Testament and the Christian church. This study identifies and inductively derives the center or focal point for the theology of both the Old and New Testaments. It also deals with the amount of continuity and discontinuity between the Old and New Testaments. Included are the topics of saving faith, the people of God, the role of the law of God, the worship of God, the doctrine of atonement, the relationship between the Law and wisdom theology, the kingdom of God, the Messiah, the inclusion of the Gentiles, the theology of the Holy Spirit, and the preparation of the New Covenant. (24-lecture series by Walter C. Kaiser, Jr.) Three hours.

IS 522 The Christian and N.T. Theology

Just as the Old Testament gives purpose to the New, so the New Testament sheds light on the Old. In this study, learners study the discipline and task of New Testament theology by confronting the issues of biblical theology within Old and New Testament contexts. The lectures discuss the overarching issues of New Testament theology

itself: the origin and nature of sin and the Fall, God's sovereignty and human freedom, the Law/Gospel contrast, the need for and contours of the New Covenant, and the significance of Christ within the history of Israel. The course is designed to assist the student in formulating a biblical theology of the New Testament that is essential for the life of the Church. (24-lecture series by Scott J. Hafemann.) Three hours.

IS 563 Urban Mission and Ministry

A course focused on Christian missions and ministry in the world's growing cities. The biblical basis for urban ministry is presented and case studies of effective urban strategies worldwide are examined. Attention is given to urban issues: ministry to the poor and homeless, pastoring and raising a family in the city, and planning urban churches. (20-lecture series by Roger S. Greenway.) Three hours.

IS 564 An Introduction to Muslim Evangelism

A laboratory course in understanding the Muslim mind and sharing the Savior within it. The course will take steps in understanding Islam from within as Muslims understand Islam – and from without as Christians understand Islam. *Expanded Reader* is included with the course materials. (24-lecture series by Patrick Cate.) Three hours.

IS 566 Urban Missiology in the Postmodern Metropolis

The purpose of this course is to develop a relevant evangelical praxis for the church within the urban context—a contextual theology. This course will expose the student to various dimensions of post modernity as examined by several contemporary authors. This will lead the student to develop pertinent theological, missiological, and strategic initiatives that a local church can pursue in the evolving metropolitan ethos. (24-lecture series by Glen Smith.) Three hours.

IS 567 African Theology and Religions

This course is an introduction to Christian theology in Africa against the background of African cultures and religions. It stresses the importance of developing an authentic Christian theology with the contemporary context of the continent. After a brief examination of how to study and understand Africa, the course focuses on factors that led to the debate on Christian theology in Africa. Descriptions and an analysis of African religions are provided. (24-lecture series by Tite Tienou.) Three hours.

IS 568 Theologies of Liberation

This is a survey of liberation theologies with particular attention to their historical development and thematic elaboration in the social and religious context of Latin America. (24-lecture series by Kenneth Mulholland.) Three hours.

IS 571 Introduction to Missions

This course is an introductory survey of the theology, history, culture, politics, and methods of Christian missions. Special emphasis is placed on recent developments, crucial issues and future trends, ending with a study of missions in the local church. (24-lecture series by William Taylor, revised by Richard Cotton.) Three hours.

IS 573 The History of Missions

The course traces the historical development of the Christian mission in chronological sequence from Pentecost to William Carey (1793.) The modern period is developed along geographical lines: Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and Europe. The course closes with an attempt to evaluate achievements of the past and the prospects of the future. (24-lecture series by J. Herbert Kane.) Two hours.

IS 583 Missionary Encounter with World Religions

This is an introduction of the theology of religions. A biblical theology of religions is developed against the background of extensive study of current models of approach. Using major religious systems as examples, five characteristics of all religions are sketched. Some practical suggestions for evangelistic approaches are proposed. (24-lecture series by Harvie Conn.) Two or three hours.

Doctor of Ministry

Kenneth E. Bickel, Director

The following are the regular courses provided for the Doctor of Ministry degree program. Each is the equivalent of one full seminar towards the eight necessary to complete the course work in the program. (The ninth seminar equivalent will be the Professional Project.) In addition, special seminars with visiting professors are periodically scheduled. For information on the upcoming schedule of D.Min. seminars, contact the director of the D.Min. program, the seminary Web site (<http://gts.grace.edu>) or the Seminary Administration Office.

The courses have a prefix according to the department and an 800 number that denotes the Doctor of Ministry level:

IM 800–899	Intercultural Studies Concentration
PM 800–899	Pastoral Studies Concentration

Denotations of the four required areas of study follow the course description:

- CR Cultural Relevance
- MS Ministry Skills
- PG Personal Growth
- TA Theological Application

PM 801 The Practice of Ministry Leadership

This course opens with a study of the biblical and theological concepts of ministry of leadership. This is followed by an analysis of administrative and leadership functions and the practical implementation of management principles, the development of leaders, and team-building in the local church. (MS)

PM 805 The Effective Counselor

This course introduces a biblical anthropology that is foundational to Christian counseling. With this foundation, important issues are considered such as: what God intended for godly functioning, what goes wrong, and what possible solutions are in keeping with God's purposes. Specific issues such as depression, anxiety, addictions, and abuse receive attention. (MS)

PM 806 Advanced Pastoral Counseling

This course is a cooperative program with Faith Baptist Counseling Ministries in Lafayette, Indiana, which allows further training for pastors having completed the basic seminar. Students taking the program are asked to contact the director of the D.Min. program in advance in order to make the necessary arrangements. Credit will not be granted unless the student is registered through Grace Theological Seminary at the time the course is being taken. (MS)

PM 807 Marriage and Family Counseling

This course examines God's design for marriage and family life, and how couples and families develop problems when they deviate from His design. Biblical solutions will be presented as a means of restoring God's design. A "Family Systems" approach to relationship problems will be integrated. Relationship issues will also be explored from a systemic viewpoint. (MS)

PM 810 The Effective Communicator

This course focuses on the science and art of homiletics. It is designed to instruct students in the construction of sermons that are true to the biblical text, well-organized, concretely presented, interesting to hear, and relevant to listeners' needs. The course will also seek to enhance students' skills in effective delivery of a dynamic sermon. (MS)

PM 811 Creativity and Freshness in Preaching

This course focuses more on the art of homiletics than the science of exposition. It centers more on innovative and attractive means of sermon delivery while seeking to remain true to the biblical text. While PM 810—The Effective Communicator—is not a prerequisite for this seminar, the assumption will be made that participants understand the appropriate methods for bridging from the exegeted text to the sermon. This seminar should prove to be invaluable for those who feel that they are "stuck in a rut" in their preaching. (CR/MS)

PM 813 Old Testament Preaching and Teaching

This course focuses on some of the basic themes of the Old Testament and how to present them powerfully from the pulpit or in teaching situations. Attention will also be given to the application of these truths to

personal spiritual growth and in counseling situations. Specific Old Testament problems will be analyzed and discussion will be centered on how to use these problems positively in ministry. (MS/TA)

PM 814 Seminar in North American Church Planting

This seminar introduces the student to the basic understanding and skills necessary to start a congregation in any North American cultural context. It takes the student from call through self-assessment to reaching and bringing together a group of 25–75 individuals committed to being a church. A separate training track is planned to train developmental pastors to take a congregation beyond the 75 barrier through developmental pastoral ministry. Informed by David Garrison's concepts of church multiplication, it seeks to train church-planters to form new congregations aggressively and rapidly with a dependence upon follow-on pastoral church developers. Some attention is given to participants who desire to pursue a founding pastor model as well. Students will be expected to engage the experience both intellectually and spiritually with significant encouragement given to building spiritual community within the class and work groups. (CR/MS)

PM 816 Assimilation and Building Community in the Local Church

This course examines biblical principles and contemporary procedures for successfully welcoming newcomers into the local church and for successfully integrating them fully into the life of the church body. The class will also develop a biblical basis for local church community and present practical means and models that churches are using to cultivate and advance the Christian community within a local church. (CR/MS)

PM 817 Reaching America's Culture for Christ

This course provides an overview of the rise of ethnic groups in the United States and the strategies and opportunities for reaching them for Christ. The topics considered include ethnic congregations within traditional churches, international student ministries, training leadership of diverse ethnicity, and the challenge of the inner city. (CR)

PM 819 Evangelism and Discipleship

This course considers such issues as: a) the context of society which we are called to disciple and the need to think cross-culturally in order to impact America for Christ; b) the responsibility of the church and the perspectives she must embrace in order to obey God, as well as continue to exist; c) the responsibilities and priorities of the church, which emphasizes the call for churches to be about the business of evangelism and discipleship; d) different styles for church ministry; and e) strategies for personal and corporate evangelistic and discipleship efforts. (CR/MS)

PM 820 Small Group Ministry in the Local Church

This course establishes the biblical basis for a small group ministry in the local church. It surveys different approaches to small group ministry in local churches, highlighting some of the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches. It considers important components of an effective small group ministry and the variety of objectives that they might accomplish. (CR/MS)

PM 821 Legal Issues for Pastors

This seminar focuses on pertinent legal issues for churches and other non-profit religious institutions. Discussion will include updates on recent legal precedents that affect the work of pastors and churches. As a practical outcome of the seminar, students will be required to prepare a packet of policies designed to protect their church or Christian organization from successful litigation. (CR/MS)

PM 822 Implementing Change and Conflict Resolution

This course provides insights into two difficult, but very necessary dynamics of any ministry organization. Philosophy, principles, and procedures of both initiating changes and handling conflicts in a godly way receive the attention of this course. Some of the instruction will serve to prepare students not only to face these issues more effectively in their own ministry setting, but to be more useful as facilitators for other ministries as well. (MS)

PM 824 Assimilation and Lay Leadership

This course develops a biblical basis for welcoming newcomers to a church so that they stay and then integrating them into the life of a local church, as well as the biblical basis for lay ministry. The course presents practical means and models that churches are using to do both assimilation and lay ministry. On the lay ministry side, discussions will center on ways churches are recruiting, training, and deploying people in ministry. (CR/MS)

PM 825 Principles and Practice of Prayer

This course will take an in-depth look at prayer as God's means of leading and strengthening faithful servants for His work among Christians and non-Christians of this age. Christian ministry depends on an intimate walk

with God for stability and ongoing effectiveness of the ministerial servant, for spiritual formation in the lives of those to whom we minister, and for the strategic planning necessary for effective missional ministry. Not only will the theology and instructions about prayer be examined, but it will be practiced in meaningful ways throughout the seminar. (PG)

PM 826 Current Theological Issues

This seminar coordinates study and discussion of current theological issues and trends that are impacting the church. Special attention is given to the application of these issues and trends to real life settings. This course is team taught by visiting professors and the faculty of Grace Seminary's Department of Christian Theology. (TA)

PM 828 Biblical Interpretation for Contemporary Preachers

This course focuses on selected current issues in the broad discipline of hermeneutics. Issues receiving attention include the relation of authorial intent and meaning, the relation of historical, doctrinal, and aesthetic aspects of Scripture, the impact of modern linguistics upon biblical studies, the hermeneutics of specific genres, contextualization, and advocacy hermeneutics. (TA)

PM 840 A Theology of Worship

This course pursues the meaning of true worship, both individual and corporate. In-class discussion will include the relational issues surrounding contemporary versus traditional worship. Some effective tools for leading corporate worship will be demonstrated. (MS/TA)

IM 850 Understanding World Religions

In this course the belief systems of major religions are studied with a view to understanding why the tenets make sense and drive behavior for the adherents. How each religion affects the host culture and how the culture affects the religion will be explored. The inadequacies of each belief system will be discussed in light of the adequacy of Christianity, thus, an introductory understanding of biblical theology is assumed. (DR/TA)

PM 851 Foundations for Ministry

Required of all D.Min. students, this course is designed to prompt students to rethink the foundational values that drive them and to gain personal feedback from those closest to them. The instructors will seek to help participants reflect upon needs for personal growth and ministry skill development, as well as issues for appropriate theological investigation and cultural relevancy. Opportunities will be given to assess strengths and weaknesses, including the use of testing tools and the development of a plan for enhancing areas of potential growth. (PG)

PM 853 Strengthening Spiritual Vitality

God's grace is expressed not only in salvation but also in the Christian life-in forgiving, accepting, enabling, sustaining, equipping and empowering the believer. This course examines the true meaning of grace, the need for grace (even for believers), the effectiveness of grace in developing Christ-like character and the relationship of God's grace and the believer's practice of spiritual disciplines in Christian growth. Subjects to be covered include: living by grace, preaching grace-based messages, creating a grace environment in the local church, understanding grace as a motivation for both sanctification and Christian service, and the importance of the practice of spiritual disciplines. (PG/TA)

IM 862 Intercultural Communication

A basic understanding of this foundational element in all intercultural ministries is developed in the class and in assigned reading. Communication itself is discussed in its various facets, and then each facet is considered as to how it creates meaning in other cultures for real communication. Social, cultural, linguistic, and psychological barriers to good communication in a second culture are considered. Other areas covered are intercultural education and leadership training. (CR/MS)

IM 864 Contextualization for Meaningful Ministry

This course prepares the student to fit evangelism, church planting, church development, and relief ministries into the social and cultural context of the receiving people. It majors on preparing missionaries to plant Christianity in the soil of the targeted people group so it will grow up within their context rather than to spread a veneer of Christian values over that culture. The contextualization of methodology, theology, and forms and expressions in the local church is discussed. The danger of Western values being expressed in biblical interpretation and the importance of taking into consideration the religious worldview and the definitions used in the receiving culture are discussed. Consideration is given, as well, to the differences of the cultural context within which the biblical text was written. This course also prepares pastors for multicultural situations in preaching and teaching ministries. (CR/MS)

IM 866 Intentional Multicultural Ministry

The student is taken through the subjects of the selection, matching, and training of missionaries for various contexts, culture shock, culture discovery, bicultural adjustment for meaningful ministry, strategies for ministries with nationals, historical perspectives that give insight for mission today, and mission administration and management. (CR/MS)

PM 870 Ministry in a Postmodern Age

This course explores the contrast between modern and postmodern Christianity, the main streams of current thought within postmodern Christianity and some of the methodologies of postmodern churches. Worship, outreach, spiritual formation, and community-building within postmodern Christianity will receive special focus. (CR/TA)

PM 876 Contemporary Social Trends and Issues

This course surveys contemporary cultural issues and major ethical concerns confronting pastors today. Emphasis is given to the integration of biblical and theological bases with personal faith and social sciences in arriving at solutions. (CR/TA)

PM 877 Help for the Established Church in the 21st Century

This course seeks to help pastors understand the traditional church of the United States and how to turn it in order to connect with today's people in good ways. Further, it introduces some of the changes in services, studies, leadership, and outreach that are necessary. Finally, it considers the process of implementing change in ways that will not destroy the fabric of the church but will promote more effective ministry in the next century. (CR/MS)

PM 880 Reprogramming the Church for Global Impact

This course examines the philosophy of a "world mission church" and the relationship between the cross-cultural missionary and the sending church. This will be viewed from the perspective of both the missionary and the pastor. (CR/TA)

IM 881 Cultural Anthropology for Ministry

This course provides basic understandings in cultural anthropology for effective cross-cultural and multicultural ministries. It shows the importance of knowing anthropological concepts to gain and maintain that effectiveness and gives the student an understanding of culture with its behavior, values, beliefs, and the assumptions that lie behind them. Among other concepts, the course covers social systems, role and status, rites of passage, enculturation, acculturation, and culture shock. Also discussed are cultural values on time, thinking, decision-making, morality, individualism, conflict, logic, and ambiguity. It deals with the complexities of culture change and how worldview affects that change. Students will discover many of their own cultural values through the course, an essential element in understanding and working with a second culture. (CR)

PM 895 Research in Pastoral Ministry

Students in the D.Min. program may receive permission to do independent study relating to a specific pastoral situation. A research paper including related ministry materials will be the final product of the study. Only one independent study of this nature may be considered as meeting the requirements of the D.Min. program.

IM 896 Research in Intercultural Ministry

Students in the D.Min. program may receive permission to do independent study relating to a specific intercultural situation. A research paper including related ministry materials will be the final product of the study. Only one independent study of this nature may be considered as meeting the requirements of the D.Min. program.

PM 899 Doctor of Ministry Professional Project—Pastoral Studies Concentration

or

IM 899 Doctor of Ministry Professional Project—Intercultural Studies Concentration

D.Min. candidates must successfully complete a major ministry project at the conclusion of their course work. This project should involve an actual ministry situation or program need and incorporate significant theological and theoretical research. A project report of 125–200 pages must be submitted. For deadlines, consult the Doctor of Ministry Handbook.