

Certificate of Christian Ministries

Purpose

The Certificate of Pastoral Studies program is designed for those who are not able to pursue a standard seminary degree program due to lack of necessary undergraduate preparation or because of personal circumstances. Qualified students may count certificate credits toward bachelor's equivalency.

Objectives

To enable the student to demonstrate:

- A general knowledge of Biblical interpretation
- A general knowledge of conservative Christian theology
- Biblical bases for the local church, evangelism, and missions

Admission

The applicant must have two years of college education or the equivalent and two years of ministry experience. Special consideration is given to those over 30 years of age with extensive ministry experience.

Curriculum

Core Sem. Hours (15 hours)

Biblical Studies

BIBL-5723 Biblical Hermeneutics (3 hours)

Or BIBL-7713 Computer Assisted Biblical Hermeneutics/Exegesis

Theology Choice

THEO-5003 Survey of Christian Theology* (3 hours)

OR THEO-Substitute

Missions/Evangelism Choice

CHMN-5013 Christian Life and Evangelism* (3 hours)

OR ICST-5013 Global Focus of the Local Church (3 hours)

Discipleship/Christian Education Choice

CHMN-5613 Introduction to Discipleship (3 hours)

OR PAST-6013 Spiritual Discipline and Development (3 hours)

CHMN-5613 Discipleship and C.E. In the Local Church

Focus Hours

Discipleship (Incl. Christian Education, Missions-Evangelism), Pastoral Theology, Women's Ministries (9 hours total)

CERTIFICATE TOTAL 24

* Required for students without undergraduate equivalence

Core Courses—minimum passing grade is C.

Graduation Requirements: The completion of 24 hours of approved courses with a GPA of 2.00.

Course Descriptions

BIBL 5723 Biblical Hermeneutics 3 credit hours A study of the principles of Biblical interpretation in all of its basic aspects such as theological, historical, cultural, grammatical, and literary. This includes particular topics such as typology, symbolism, prophecy, figures of speech, and parables.

BIBL 7713 Computer-Assisted Biblical Exegesis 3 credit hours Recognizing the strategic stewardship of time, depth of study, and breadth of accuracy computer technology offers for academic pursuits in Biblical studies, this course maximizes the same for the benefit of the busy professor, seminarian, or college student. The course is designed to train the participant in the optimum use of one of a number of leading Bible Software programs, including BibleWorks, Logos, PC Study Bible (Bible Soft), Pradis (Zondervan), Quick Verse, or WordSearch. The course implements and optimizes the use of computer Bible software for Biblical exegesis consistent with sound hermeneutical principles as communicated in BIBL-5723 *Biblical Hermeneutics* and BIBL-5733 *Introduction to Exposition*.

THEO 5003 Survey of Christian Theology 3 credit hours An introductory survey of basic, systematic theology, including the Biblical doctrines of Scripture, God, God, the Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, angels, man, sin, salvation, the Christian life, the church, and last things. The course is designed primarily for those who have not attended or graduated from a Bible or Christian college and for those who need, or simply desire, a good, basic review of and refresher in essential these areas of Christian theology.

CHMN 5013 Christian Life and Evangelism 3 credit hours Examines the terms of salvation and applies them to the personal approach, discussion, and appeal in personal evangelism. Consideration is given to various specialty groups.

ICST 5013 Global Focus of the Local Church 3 credit hours A course introducing the world missions ministry of the local church grounded in the OT and re-commissioned in the NT. In addition to presenting the Biblical basis for missions, the course identifies Biblical strategies for developing local church missions ministries that motivate and maximize individual and corporate participation.

CHMN 5113 Discipleship I - Introduction to Disciplines in Discipleship 3 credit hours Discipleship I introduces the student to a Biblically, grammatically correct understanding of the Great Commission and initiates the student in the discipling process and practice. The course also serves as the first of five courses in a possible concentration in discipleship for those students seeking such a concentration. Discipleship I covers the relationship of the believer to the Great Commission, issues of personal and spiritual management, evangelism, and basic Christian living. The student is initiated to being both personally discipled and prepared to disciple others through this course.

PAST 6013 Spiritual Discipline and Development 3 credit hours A consideration of the Biblical principles for cultivating a balanced spiritual life. This embraces the emotional, physical, and practical, and includes personality development.

CHMN 5613 Discipleship and Christian Education in the Local Church *3 credit hours* A survey of all the major Christian education ministries in the local church with basic tips on how to organize and operate these. Emphasis is given to resources and effective ministry organizations.