

## **MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE (M.Div.)**

### **Purpose**

The Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (M.A.B.S.) program is designed for those who desire to enhance their knowledge of the Scripture. The following are encouraged to consider this program: a. Those with several years of pastoral experience who desire further Biblical and theological study b. Those leading various church-related ministries other than the pulpit ministry c. Those who seek to develop competence in studying and teaching the Bible effectively

### **Objectives**

To enable the students to demonstrate: a. A general knowledge of the Bible, including a basic understanding of Biblical hermeneutics b. A general knowledge of conservative Christian theology c. A commitment to Christian discipleship d. The necessary skills to use the Bible effectively in ministry e. Competence in teaching Biblical truth f. An understanding of the Biblical foundations of the local church and its various ministries g. Necessary skills to lead a local church ministry or a church-related ministry

### **Admission**

The applicant must have a Bachelor of Arts degree, Bachelor of Science degree, or the equivalent from a recognized college, and a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75.

### **Program Curriculum**

#### Biblical Studies

- BIBL-5723 Biblical Hermeneutics  
OR BIBL-7713 Computer-Assisted Biblical Hermeneutics/Exegesis
- BIBL-5113 Old Testament Survey  
OR BIBL-5123 Old Testament Literature
- BIBL-6113 Old Testament Introduction
- BIBL-5413 New Testament Survey  
OR BIBL-5423 New Testament Literature
- BIBL-6413 New Testament Introduction

#### Either Biblical Languages in Hebrew/Greek (18 hours)

- LANG-6123 Hebrew I (Elementary Hebrew)
- LANG-6133 Hebrew II (Intermediate Hebrew)
- LANG-7143 Hebrew III (Intro. to Hebrew Syn./Exeg. & Text. Crit.)

- LANG-5023 Greek I (Elementary Greek)
- LANG-5033 Greek II (Intermediate Greek)
- LANG-6043 Greek III (Intro. to Greek Syn./Exeg. & Text. Crit.)

#### Or Biblical Languages with Computer Tools (18 hours)

- LANG-5103/5113 Hebrew Study Tools
- LANG ENG/HEB Electives (6 hours)

- LANG-5003/5013 Greek Study Tools
- LANG ENG/GRK Electives (6 hours)

Theology

- THEO-5113 Systematic Theology I
- THEO-5123 Systematic Theology II
- Apologetics/Theology Electives (6 hours)

Church History

- HIST-6713 Ancient – Reformation
- HIST-6723 Great Awakening – Present
- HIST-6733 Baptist History and Distinctives

Christian Education/Church Ministry

- CHMN-5613 Discipleship and C.E. in the Local Church
- PAST-7713 Church Administration
- CHMN/PAST Elective

Missions/Evangelism

- CHMN-5013 Christian Life and Evangelism
- OR ICST-7313 Intro Cults and World Religion
- ICST-5013 Global Focus of the Local Church
- OR ICST-5213 Biblical Theology of Missions

Pastoral Theology

- PAST-5723 Leadership
- CHMN 5113 Disciple. I: Intro. to Disciplines of Disciple.
- OR PAST 6013 Spiritual Discipline & Development

Focus Electives (15 hours)

**Total Hours** .....  
**90**

## 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*.

**BIBL 5113 Old Testament Survey** 3 credit hours A course presenting the backgrounds and messages of the Old Testament books. Special attention is given to the first chapters of Genesis and

the national history of Israel. Significant features of each book are pointed out, and timeless, universal truths in each book are emphasized. Required for students without undergraduate equivalence. \$30.00 fee required.

**BIBL 5123 Old Testament Literature** 3 credit hours Selected, representative types of Old Testament literature, such as law, history, poetry, wisdom, and prophecy, will be treated in an expository manner. Concern will be shown for Hebrew thought-patterns and historical/cultural context as important ingredients in to sound exposition.

**BIBL 6113 Old Testament Introduction** 3 credit hours Advanced introduction to the Old Testament, including the literary criticism of the Pentateuch and other sections of the Old Testament.

**BIBL 5413 New Testament Survey** 3 credit hours A course presenting the backgrounds and messages of the New Testament. Special emphasis is given to the significance of the crucifixion and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to certain books such as the Gospel of Matthew and the Acts of the Apostles. Significant features of each book are pointed out, and timeless, universal truths in each book are emphasized. Required for students without undergraduate equivalence. \$25.00 fee required.

**BIBL 5423 New Testament Literature** 3 credit hours Selected, representative types of New Testament literature will be treated in an expository fashion. Selections will come from the Johannine, Pauline, and Hebrew Christian material. Attention will be given to the contribution which the historical and cultural context makes to a sound hermeneutical understanding of the Biblical material.

**BIBL 6413 New Testament Introduction** 3 credit hours A study of the books of the New Testament, giving attention to questions of authorship, date, origin, destination, purpose, literary characteristics, content, and problem areas.

**LANG 6123 Hebrew I (Elementary Hebrew)** 3 credit hours A fundamental study of the elements of Biblical Hebrew, vocabulary, word forms, grammar, and reading.

**LANG 6133 Hebrew II (Intermediate Hebrew)** 3 credit hours (Prerequisite: LANG 6123) A continuation of LANG 6123 with preparation for reading the Hebrew of the Old Testament.

**LANG 7143 Hebrew III (Intro. to Hebrew Syntax/Exegesis/Textual Criticism)** 3 credit hours (Prerequisite: LANG 6133) An advanced study of the rules governing the formation of Hebrew sentences, including considerable translation and interpretation of selected Biblical sections.

**LANG 5023 Greek I (Elementary Greek)** 3 credit hours A foundational course in New Testament Greek phonology, morphology, verbal forms, and grammar. A standard elementary grammar is utilized. Upon completion of this course, the student should have a vocabulary of 190–290 Greek words and have a basic knowledge of the Greek verbal and nominal systems.

**LANG 5033 Greek II (Intermediate Greek)** 3 credit hours (Prerequisite: LANG 5023) A continuation of LANG 5023, with emphasis upon the application of the principles of grammar and

syntax for the purpose of interpreting the Biblical text with readings in the Johannine Epistles. Upon completion of this course, the student should have a vocabulary of the words that occur 50 times or more in the Greek New Testament, a working knowledge of the Greek verbal system and nominal systems, and be able to translate from any portion of the Johannine Epistles.

**LANG 6043 Greek III** (Introduction to Greek Syntax/Exegesis/Text. Criticism) 3 credit hours (Prerequisite: LANG 5033) A study of the syntax of New Testament Greek and its application to the interpretation of the Biblical text. A standard intermediate grammar is used. Readings will be done from a variety of New Testament authors. Upon completion of this course, the student should have a vocabulary of words that occur 20 times or more in the Greek New Testament, be able to successfully identify significant syntactical constructions, and apply them in interpretation of the Biblical text.

**LANG 6103 Hebrew Study Tools** 3 credit hours Basic introduction to Hebrew language and grammar and to hard copy resources for those with no or very little Hebrew background.

**LANG 5003 Greek Study Tools** 3 credit hours Basic introduction to Greek language and grammar, and to hard copy resources and tools, for those with no or very little Greek background.

**THEO 5113 Systematic Theology I** 3 credit hours A study of the doctrines of the Bible, God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. \$25.00 fee required.

**THEO 5123 Systematic Theology II** 3 credit hours A study of the Biblical doctrines of angels, mankind, sin, salvation, the church, and future things. \$20.00 fee required.

**HIST 6713 Ancient Church History: Ancient through the Reformation Periods** (100-1648) 3 credit hours A combination of the significant events, movements and figures of the Ancient, Medieval and Reformation periods of Church History.

**HIST 6723 Church History: Modern to the Contemporary Periods** (1648-Present) 3 credit hours A consideration of the significant events, movements and figures in the Modern and Contemporary periods of Church History.

**HIST 6733 Baptist History and Distinctives** 3 credit hours A study of the origin, development, and various expressions of the doctrines and practices of Baptists. Consideration is also given to distinctive doctrines and current issues.

**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 7313 Introduction to Cults and World Religions** 3 credit hours An introductory study of the major cults and religions of the world. Special attention will be given to the Christian's approach to the followers of other faiths.

**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.

**ICST 5213 Biblical Theology of Missions** 3 credit hours Gives the student a Biblical foundation for missions by tracing the missions theme through the Bible. The course works toward a grasp of the theological factors directly impacting missions.

**PAST 5723 Leadership** 3 credit hours A consideration of the Biblical and practical characteristics of the Christian leader as well as a focus upon responsibilities, relationship to others, and problem areas such as power structure, changes, and conflict management in ministry.

**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.