PREPARING MINISTRY LEADERS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.

2018-2019 CATALOG VOLUME XXVIII
Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond (BTSR) welcomes campus visits from prospective students and other interested individuals. Arrangements for visits can be made by contacting the Admissions Office.

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond complies with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act and Virginia’s Disability Act.

The regulations, requirements, and general information in this document are official for the 2018-2019 academic school year and are subject to revision at any time by vote of the faculty. The provisions in this catalog do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond and any applicant, student, student's family, faculty, or staff member. This catalog serves as a guidebook to help students navigate their academic program of study.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond trains staff, faculty, and student employees in compliance with FERPA regulations.

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond complies with Public Law 101-542, The Student Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1991. This law requires BTSR to collect and report certain information related to campus security matters. The annual campus security report is available upon request after September 1.

Because of the religious nomenclature of its degree programs, the seminary is exempt from certification by the Virginia Council on Higher Education.
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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the seminary is to provide advanced theological education and training for effective leadership in the various ministries of the church for those men and women who are called and committed to Christian ministry.

As a community of learners committed to God as revealed in Jesus Christ, the seminary is dedicated to the following principles:

1. The seminary seeks to maintain excellence in scholarship and to provide for and encourage the spiritual growth of its faculty, staff, students, and constituents.

2. The seminary stresses classical theological disciplines and pursues new avenues of education, encouraging practical application and hands-on practice in ministry.

3. The seminary is distinctively Baptist in terms of heritage with an ecumenical commitment, a global perspective, and participation in the world-wide Christian mission.

4. The seminary is committed to gender and racial inclusion, and in the development of faculty and staff, pledges to seek to achieve balance in gender and race.

Revision adopted unanimously October 2000
**SUMMER TERM 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>Summer language course (Hebrew) at Union Presbyterian Seminary begins (registration through UPSem)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 13</td>
<td>Exploring Ministerial Identity Course begins online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>D.Min. seminar begins (DM5013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>D.Min. Residency Week for DM5013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Tuition due or $50 late fee applies; last day to add a class; last day to drop a class with 100% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17-19</td>
<td>Exploring Ministerial Identity Course-Residency days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Last day to drop without possible financial aid penalty; last day to drop with a partial refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>D.Min. Residency Week for DM5013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Last day of D.Min. seminars</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### FALL TERM 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>Orientation for new students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Convocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Last day to add a class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class with 100% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tuition due or a $50 late fee applies; last day to set up a payment plan ($25 fee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Last day to drop without academic penalty; last day to drop with partial refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-16</td>
<td>Meeting of the Board of Trustees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-23</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Last day of classes, last day to request Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>Week of Exams; Fall Term ends on Friday, December 14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WINTER TERM 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2</td>
<td>Classes begin (all programs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Last day to add a class; last day to drop with 100% tuition refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tuition due or $50 late fee applies; last day to drop courses without academic penalty; last day to drop with partial refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Classes end</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SPRING TERM 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Last day to add a class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Last day to drop a class with 100% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tuition due or a $50 late fee applies; last day to set up a payment plan ($25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Last day to drop without academic penalty; last day to drop with partial refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11-15</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>Meeting of the Board of Trustees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1 - May 14</td>
<td>Registration for 2019-20 Academic Year opens on Populi. A $50 late fee applies after May 14.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Classes end; last day to request Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 29-May 3</td>
<td>Week of Exams; Spring Term ends on Friday, May 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MAY TERM 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Last day to add a class; last day to drop with 100% tuition refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tuition due or $50 late fee applies; last day to drop without academic penalty; last day to drop with partial refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Classes end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Graduation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Photo Credit: Matthew R.O. Brown Photography LLC
TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

Tuition at BTSR is kept as low as possible through the support of many individuals, churches, and other Baptist organizations. In particular, generous support from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Baptist General Association of Virginia provide a significant amount of scholarship funds for our students. The following information provides an overview of the cost for the academic programs at BTSR.

Tuition for 2018-2019

Cost per three semester hour course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Masters</th>
<th>Doctorate</th>
<th>Audit fee*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1650</td>
<td>$1650</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Full-time students, their spouses, or dependents may audit one course per term for $35. Alumni may audit one course per year for $35.

In addition to tuition the seminary may assess other fees. Below is a schedule of fees, with an indication of which students must pay particular fees.

Schedule of Fees 2018-2019

Unless otherwise noted, the amounts below are per year. For fees that are not one-time fees, students will be charged either Summer/Winter (D.Min.) or Fall/Spring (all others.)

- Advanced Placement Test Fee $45
- Application Fee $40
- Commitment Fee $100
  
  Paid upon commitment to seminary. Applied toward student’s tuition.

- D.Min. Program Fee $60
- ESQ and GSQ Fee for all degree-seeking students $40
- Graduation Fee $250
- Housing Application Fee (non-refundable) $100 per applicant
- Institutional Services Fee $250
  
  Applies to all degree seeking students. Non-refundable

Late Fees:

- Late Registration $50 per year
- Late Tuition payment $50 per month
- Late Rent payment $25 per month
- Late e-Portfolio after established deadline $50 per occurrence
Library Fee $350

Applies to all degree students. Non-refundable.

Good Standing Fee - D.Min. $100

Students will pay $100 per semester of approved leave.

Good Standing Fee - M.Div., M.T.S., M.C.M $35

Students who choose not to register for classes in any given semester or subsequent semester may remain on active status for up to two semesters by paying a $35 fee (per semester). If the student does not register for the third semester he/she must apply for readmission to the seminary. In case of extreme circumstances the student may request an exception from the Dean and if granted would not have to reapply.

Profiles of Ministry Fee $120

Payment Plan Fee $25

Student Activities Fee $80

Applies to all students except D.Min. Non-refundable.

The Work Place Big Five Profile Personality Assessment $40

(PTSP103 Ministers as Spiritual Guides and Leaders enrollees)

Transcripts $10 per request

Transfer of credit fee $150 per course

**Student Refund Checks**

Refunds from financial aid sources may be issued by check from the Business Office after the third week of each term. The amount of the refund cannot exceed the credit balance once all expenses are deducted, including tuition, all fees, and housing. Students should fill out the Student Refund Request Form to receive a refund. Funds from BTSR Aid cannot be refunded.

**Books & Academic Supplies**

It is estimated that books and academic supplies for students will cost approximately $1,000-$1,500 per year for full time students. See the BTSR website and Populi for a complete listing of textbooks and prices.

**Additional D.Min. Financial Information**

In addition to the tuition and fees, students in the Doctor of Ministry program are responsible for all costs for travel, lodging, etc., to attend seminars or to engage in any other aspect of the program. Clinical Pastoral Education costs must be paid to the institutions where the work is taken and if recognized can be accepted as transfer of credits. A transfer of credit fee of $150 is applied.
Students should review the Academic Calendar at the beginning of the catalog for this year’s tuition due dates. The seminary offers limited financial aid for D.Min. study. Please consult with the D.Min. Director or the Director of Financial Aid for information.

**Personal Living Expenses**

In addition to expenses for tuition, housing, meals, books, and health insurance, the student should consider the costs of operating a car, car insurance, health care, charitable contributions, clothing, laundry, recreation, and incidental expenses.

To help students estimate these costs realistically, a table of estimated expenses is listed below. The amounts listed are ordinarily used to determine a student’s financial aid eligibility. For purposes of personal budgeting, remember that the figures provided are only estimates; expenses are likely to vary considerably from individual to individual.

**Estimate of Housing and Personal Expenses**

The housing table shows typical expenses for students for **twelve months**. These are estimates; actual expenses may vary. All costs are subject to change (including meals, automobile expenses, health insurance costs, and personal expenses).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSING: Kraemer Hall (includes utilities, but not phone, cable and internet)¹ (twelve months)¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kraemer Hall (includes utilities, but not phone, cable and internet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single, No dependents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studio:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bedroom:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bedroom w Study:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Bedrooms:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSING: Off-campus²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Bedroom:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Bedrooms:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**OTHER EXPENSES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$6,300</td>
<td>$6,300</td>
<td>$7,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>$4,866</td>
<td>$9,480</td>
<td>$9,480</td>
<td>$13,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other health expenses</td>
<td>$753</td>
<td>$1,130</td>
<td>$1,130</td>
<td>$1,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto fuel expenses</td>
<td>$2,800</td>
<td>$3,067</td>
<td>$3,067</td>
<td>$3,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing, etc.</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
<td>$3,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child care</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$3,300</td>
<td>$3,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are estimates. Costs will vary depending on the living arrangement that you choose.

**Housing costs at BTSR** (minimum 12 month lease)

Kraemer Hall (utilities included)
- Studio apartments................. $775/month
- 1 BR apartments .................. $785/month
- 1 BR apartments w study .... $815/month
- 2 BR apartments ................... $890/month

*Kraemer Hall residents are allowed to have a cat. The pet security deposit fee is a one-time payment of $100. The monthly pet fee is $25.00.*

**Off-campus housing costs** (approximately, without utilities)
- Efficiency/Studio $525/month and up
- 1 BR apartment $710/month and up
- 2 BR apartment $790/month and up
- 2-3 BR/house with bath $900/month and up

must take the following actio

*Downtown Richmond, VA*
FINANCIAL AID

BTSR Institutional Aid

BTSR Institutional Aid is comprised of endowed and restricted funds generously given to the seminary by churches and individuals. Additionally, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Baptist General Association of Virginia provide generous funding used to offset the cost of tuition. These funds are intended to make a contribution towards a student’s tuition based on need and the student’s academic load. Once eligibility has been determined, the student will receive a financial aid package listing the total tuition discount that will be available. Refunds are not granted on BTSR Institutional Aid and will be applied to tuition before all other types of financial aid.

There are two types of BTSR Institutional Aid:

• Need-Based Aid: Any returning degree seeking student enrolled in three or more semester hours is eligible for Need-Based Aid. Students applying for Need-Based Aid must complete the FAFSA to be considered for aid. Students can find the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for BTSR is G31169. Students should complete the FAFSA by April 30th of each year to qualify for available funds for the following year.

• Enrollment-Based Aid: Returning degree-seeking students enrolled in 18 or more hours per year are eligible for Enrollment-Based Aid.

Satisfactory Academic Progress is required to remain eligible for Institutional Aid. Consult the Academic Regulations section of this Catalog for more information.

External Financial Aid Sources

Aid is available to many students from sources outside the seminary. A list of various scholarship opportunities can be found on the BTSR website. Prospective students may apply for these scholarships before they are admitted to the seminary. Students are expected to apply for all external scholarships available to them prior to requesting Institutional Aid.

Federal Loans

Students should consider carefully their educational financial needs and use loans only as a last resort. As a result of legislation in March 2010, all post-secondary schools are required to participate in the Direct Loan (DL) program. The seminary currently participates in the Direct Loan Program which services the Federal Stafford Student Loans. Students wishing to receive Federal loans must take the following actions:

• Complete the FAFSA for the academic year in which loans are being requested. The school code for BTSR is G31169.

• Sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) at studentloans.gov for unsubsidized loans
• Complete a loan interview to specify terms of enrollment and amount requested at btsr.vfao.com.

Consult the seminary website, or contact the Director of Financial Aid for information and assistance.

Repayment of loans begins six months after graduation, after a student drops below half-time enrollment, drops classes for a semester, or withdraws from school. To receive a loan, students must be enrolled at least half-time in a masters or doctoral level degree program, meet Federal eligibility requirements, and be making satisfactory academic progress.

More information about the Direct Loan Program is available from the Director of Financial Aid.

Veteran Eligibility

BTSR is recognized by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia as an approved educational institution at which students who are veterans may receive veterans’ benefits. Veterans should consult with the Registrar/Director of Financial Aid to be sure they understand and follow the policies governing eligibility for veterans’ educational benefits.

Paying for School

Tuition Payments

If a student’s financial aid does not cover all costs, students are given flexible options for paying the remainder of the balance due. The following list outlines requirements for tuition payment:

1. Students who have not secured a payment plan or paid their tuition balance in full by 5:00 pm on the date indicated in the Academic Calendar will be charged a $50 fee. Partial payments will be subject to the $50 late fee unless the student has applied for a payment plan.

2. Payment plan:
   a. Students may request a monthly payment plan in Fall and Spring Terms for a $25 administrative fee.
   b. Under a payment plan one-fourth of the balance plus the $25 administrative fee is due when the payment plan is signed. The remainder is due in three monthly installments.
   c. Payment plans are not available for Summer, Winter or May terms. Students should speak directly with the Student Accounting and Housing Manager should any financial hardship arise inhibiting their ability to keep his/her account in good standing.

3. A student who has an outstanding balance on his or her account will not be able to receive transcripts, or complete registration for the following term, until the balance is paid. If a student’s account is not settled before the next academic year begins, the student will not be able to register. No balance may be carried over into a new academic year.
4. A default on a payment plan installment will result in voiding the payment plan agreement and the full balance of the student account will become due for the full remaining balance. The payment plan is in default with two missed payments.

5. Past due accounts will be sent to collections if no attempts are made by the student to keep their account in good standing.

**Refunds**

Tuition refunds may be given to students in good standing who drop a course or withdraw from the seminary. Students must follow the appropriate procedures with the Registrar and the Business Office:

1. Students who withdraw or drop a course on or before the designated “last day to add a class” may receive a full refund of tuition only for each class.

2. Students who withdraw or drop a course after the “last day to add a class” and on or before the designated “last day to drop a class with partial financial penalty” may receive up to a 50% refund of tuition.

3. No refunds will be issued to students withdrawing from the seminary or dropping classes after the designated “last day to drop a class with partial refund penalty.” Certain fees are non-refundable, refer to fees list.

4. Students who have been assessed a penalty fee can request a waiver of the imposed fee. The student must complete the Penalty Fee Waiver Form and submit the completed form to the Student Accounting and Housing Manager before any waiver will be considered. Proper completion and submission of the Penalty Fee Waiver Form does not guarantee that any assessed penalties will be waived.

All expenses on the student’s account (tuition, fees, rent, etc.) must be paid before refunds can be made. It is strongly suggested by the seminary Business Office that a calculation of ongoing future expenses, such as monthly rent and additional tuition (Winter/May), should be deducted from the student’s balance before a refund is made to the student. If a student’s financial aid from all sources exceeds the tuition and fees, a refund may be available at the end of the third week of the term.

Please contact the Business Office for refund request procedures.
The mission of BTSR is to prepare men and women who are called and committed to Christian ministry. The seminary fulfills this mission by providing advanced theological education through multiple degree programs: a Master of Divinity with optional concentrations in Biblical Interpretation, Theology, Christian Education Formation, Justice and Peacebuilding, Religious Freedom, and Youth Ministry; a Master of Theological Studies; a Master in Christian Ministry with concentrations in Congregational Leadership, Global Engagement, Justice and Peacebuilding, Religious Freedom, and Non Profit; and a Doctor of Ministry program. BTSR also offers dual degree programs in Social Work and Patient Counseling in conjunction with Virginia Commonwealth University; and an MBA with Averett University. Outlined below are the various programs of study and any regulations specific to the degree. General academic regulations can be found in the next section of the Catalog.
Areas of Emphasis

All programs at BTSR include three basic areas of emphasis that are integral to the preparation of every student, regardless of his or her specific ministry interest.

Spirituality

Academic preparation for ministry is a central reason for the existence of a theological seminary. Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond stresses that academic preparation must be accompanied by attention to spiritual formation.

Theological education is not only to be addressed to the mind, it should also address matters of the heart. To this end all entering students are required to take courses that introduce them to spirituality and the spiritual disciplines, especially prayer, and which aid them in cultivating both private and corporate means for spiritual development. Subsequently, they must also take a course that helps them develop skills for helping those to whom they minister by strengthening their own spiritual lives.

In addition to providing courses in spirituality the seminary community worships and prays together weekly during regular academic terms. Opportunities are available for special workshops and periodic retreats to help students in their spiritual formation and to facilitate their developing spiritual resources necessary for effective practice of ministry.

Global Mission Immersion

Recognizing that the church is global in its composition, the seminary seeks to help students broaden their vision to attain a global perspective.

Students are required to complete at least one course involving work in a cross-cultural mission setting where they are immersed in a culture different from their own. Courses designed to immerse students in the global issues confronting the church are planned for the second year of the M.Div. and M.C.M. curriculum. M.T.S. students are required to take one course for global missions.
The Mission Immersion Experience (MIE) is three semester hours and will be charged accordingly. Because of rising transportation costs and sporadic changes in the value of U.S. currency worldwide, most MIE trips will require additional student-assessed fees for the MIE that are over and above the tuition costs (typically between $1500 and $2000). Extra expenses for the MIE are contingent upon airline ticket prices, in-country expenses, etc. Expenses for each MIE will be determined based on the actual cost for each trip. BTSR will do its best to keep these additional costs to a minimum.

Congregationally-focused Theological Education

BTSR emphasizes theological education that is focused on ministry within a congregation or faith-based organizations. The curriculum is designed to bring students into close contact with congregations and faith-based organizations throughout their academic careers. For most students this will mean the congregation of a local church. For those preparing for other ministries, such as chaplaincy or social ministry, a different form of community of faith will be their “congregation.”

This congregational emphasis is borne out in three ways:

First, the curriculum of the seminary is so designed that each course is meant to relate in some fashion to the life of the church. All that is taught is in dialogue with the congregation or faith-based organization. The needs of the church become the focus of teaching as ministerial students are introduced not only to the best scholarship but also to the life of congregations.

Second, a focus on congregations means that laity is invited to participate in the student’s field-based experience to help guide, evaluate, critique, and train the student. Lay persons draw on their areas of expertise and their own faith journeys in guiding students as they serve as liaisons between the student and the ministry setting.

Third, a focus on congregations means that the faculty is committed to sharing the resources of the seminary with local churches and other faith based organizations.

The curriculum is designed to bring students into close contact with congregations and ministries throughout their academic careers. The year-long field-based internship experience draws the student into close contact with one particular congregation or faith based organization. Students both learn from and contribute to the life and ministry of these organizations.

In all that it does, BTSR equips ministers to lead the congregations and ministries of the church in the twenty-first century. Giving ministers a thorough acquaintance with church life and knowledge of the skills of congregational leadership are central to the seminary’s task.
MASTER OF DIVINITY

The Master of Divinity is an academic professional degree that prepares students for a variety of ministries. From the beginning of their studies, students are led to reflect on their Christian experience and call to ministry, to consider the nature of ministry in the Church and world, and to strengthen their lives in preparation for Christian vocation. In required courses, students are acquainted with the biblical, historical, and theological foundations of the Christian faith as the basis for the practice of ministry. Through electives, students are encouraged to focus their preparation to match their own interests and gifts, including the option to complete one of six concentrations. Throughout the process, students engage in theological reflection on all they have experienced and learned as preparation for their own unique ministry in the Christian community.

Goals of the Master of Divinity Program

1. Students will be able to articulate a call to ministry, understood as a process of discernment within the framework of spiritual and ministerial formation.
2. Students will become competent in basic ministerial skills: biblical, historical, theological interpretation, pastoral care, preaching, worship, leadership, and general written and oral communication.
3. Students will be able to integrate the aforementioned skills and apply them to specific ministerial settings.

Guidance for Students

BTSR uses the Profiles of Ministry (POM) inventory to help M.Div. students examine attitudes, sensitivities, and skills that may be either helpful or detrimental to them in the practice of ministry. Students complete a case book and a personal interview as part of the Exploring Ministerial Identity course, results of which are reviewed and interpreted with the student. Students complete a similar process as they near graduation as part of the Supervised Ministry course, allowing them to see changes and growth during their seminary careers.

Degree Requirements

All students enrolled in the M.Div. program must complete 72 required hours, as listed below; plus an additional nine hours in free electives to complete the 81 hours required for graduation. Students declaring a concentration require 9-15 elective hours depending on the concentration. The free electives may be taken in a variety of areas to provide broad background for ministry, or focused on an area of particular interest. Completion of the M.Div. degree requires a “C” (2.0)
average. A BTSR full credit course is three semester hours, or, five quarter hours of graduate level-work. Requirements for each concentration are listed on the following pages.

**Sequence of Study**

The Master of Divinity is intended to be a three-year program; however, many students choose to take four years to complete it. Students should consult with their advisor, in addition to the course catalog, to determine the best sequence of courses.

**Required Courses in the Master of Divinity Program of Study**

**Biblical Studies (21 semester hours)**

- BLOT 101 Interpreting Torah and Former Prophets
- BLOT 102 Interpreting Prophets and Writings
- BLNT 101 Interpreting Jesus and the Gospels
- BLNT 102 Interpreting Acts, Letters, and the Apocalypse
- BLGH/GG 101 Biblical Language I
- BLGH/GG 201 Biblical Language II
- BIIC 202 Biblical Interpretation in the Church

**Historical/Theological Studies (24 semester hours)**

- HTTE 101 Christian Theology & Ethics I
- HTTE 102 Christian Theology & Ethics II
- HTTE 103 Theology of the Church
- HTCT 101 History of Global Christianity I
- HTCT 102 History of Global Christianity II
- HTCW 101 God’s Mission in the World
- HTCW 201 Mission Immersion Experience (prep course & trip)
- HTCW 102 Jesus in a Pluralistic Age OR
- HTCW 301 Christian Response to Terrorism OR
- HTCW 303 World Religions

**Practical Theology Studies (27 semester hours)**

- PTSP 101 Exploring Ministerial Identity
- PTSP 102 Christian Spirituality
- PTSP 103 Ministers as Spiritual Guides/Leaders
- PTCL 201 The Ministry of Preaching
PTPC 101 Basic Pastoral Care  
PTWH 101 Christian Worship OR PTWH 102 Hymnology  
PTCL 102 Leadership in Context OR PTCE 101 Christian Education Formation  
PTCM 201 Supervised Ministry I  
PTCM 202 Supervised Ministry II

**Total Hours in Required Courses 72**

M.DIV. DEGREE CONCENTRATIONS

The M.Div. degree offers the student an option to complete a recognized concentration in one of six areas: Biblical Interpretation, Christian Education Formation, Justice and Peacebuilding, Religious Freedom, Theology/Ethics, and Youth Ministry.

In addition to the specific concentrations, the M.Div. degree structure allows students to create their own personalized emphasis within the electives. Students may tailor their program of study to meet their interests or calling beyond the general divinity studies. For example, students may choose to create a course of elective study concentrating in spirituality, preaching, missions, age group ministries, etc. Courses offered through the Richmond Theological Consortium (RTC) schools can enrich the options available.

**The Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Biblical Interpretation**

The Master of Divinity with a concentration in Biblical Interpretation is designed to equip seminarians with advanced skills in the use of biblical languages and in the application of the methods and tools of biblical hermeneutics. Students
will gain greater depth of familiarity with biblical literature, the themes of biblical theology, and the issues confronting contemporary biblical studies. With its congregational focus, the concentration seeks to respond to the church’s need for ministers whose faith is formed and informed by a profound relationship with scripture and who excel in the ministry of biblical preaching and teaching.

In addition to the 72 semester hours required in the M.Div. curriculum, students seeking the concentration in Biblical Interpretation will fulfill the following additional 15 semester hours in concentrated electives for a total of 87 semester hours:

- BLGH/GG101-201 Additional Biblical Language I & II
- BIIC 301 Readings in Biblical Texts
- BIIC 302 Topics in Biblical Interpretation
- BLOT/NT 490 Thesis: OT/NT

The Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Christian Education Formation

The Master of Divinity with a concentration in Christian Education Formation is designed to equip leaders to become effective pastoral educators in congregations. With its congregational focus, the degree provides a theological grounding that emphasizes a holistic ministry of educational practice, and faith and spiritual formation in the local church. Students are challenged to connect theory to practice through critical reflection on both their own personal development and the practice of educational ministry.

In addition to the 72 semester hours required in the M.Div. curriculum, students seeking the concentration in Christian Education Formation will fulfill the following additional nine hours in concentrated electives, for a total of 81 semester hours:

- PTCE 301 Educating in Faith
- PTCE 302 Models of Educational Ministry
- PTCE 303 Developing Lay Leadership

The Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Justice and Peacebuilding

The M.Div. with a concentration in Justice and Peacebuilding helps meet the ethos and values of the seminary in issues of justice and peacebuilding. This degree is in partnership with the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding (CJP) at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia (www.emu.edu/cjp), an accredited program with a world-class reputation and an established record
of leadership in the field of justice and peacebuilding. The program includes students from more than 50 countries representing many cultures. Students enrolled in the M.Div./JP concentration will take required courses at BTSR that satisfy the M.Div. degree program goal and standards. The concentration components in Justice and Peacebuilding will primarily be attained through CJP’s Summer Peacebuilding Institute (SPI) and related curricular coursework, with additional integrative program components attained at BTSR. The CJP describes its program as, “intended for people active in peacebuilding and related fields. SPI offers four 7-day sessions, each with a number of courses running concurrently.”

Students need to apply directly to the CJP to take courses for graduate credit and comply with the program requirements of the CJP in order to satisfy the concentration requirements. Students should take their CJP courses during the summers prior to their second and third years to ensure an on-time graduation.

In addition to the 72 semester hours required in the M.Div. curriculum, students seeking the concentration in Justice and Peacebuilding will fulfill the following additional 15 semester hours in concentrated electives for a total of 87 semester hours:

- HTJP 301 Restorative Justice & Conflict Transformation
- PAX 533 Analysis: Understanding Conflict (EMU SPI)
- PAX 503 Practice Skills for Peacebuilding (EMU SPI)
- PAX __ Elective at EMU SPI
- HTJP 490/491 Thesis or Project

**The Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Religious Freedom**

The Master of Divinity with a concentration in Religious Freedom is a course of study in partnership with Newseum Institute’s Religious Freedom Center (RFC) in Washington, D.C. Courses at the RFC are designed to equip civic and religious leaders to navigate the intersection of religion and public life. As unprecedented challenges arise from the nation’s rapidly expanding pluralism, civic and religious leaders require a thorough understanding of the guiding principles of the First Amendment. In this blended-learning course of study, students will master the constitutional and human rights principles necessary to lead people of any religion or none and to negotiate religious and philosophical differences with civility and respect.

In addition to the 72 semester hours required in the M.Div. curriculum, students seeking the concentration in Religious Freedom will fulfill the following additional 15 semester hours of concentration electives with the Religious Freedom Center, for a total of 87 semester hours:
REL 100  Foundations of Religious Freedom in the United States
REL 200  Religious Liberty and Contemporary American Public Life
REL 300  Religion and News Media
REL 400  The Human Right to Freedom of Religion
REL 500  Independent Study and Capstone Project

The Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Theology/Ethics

The Master of Divinity with a concentration in Theology/Ethics will allow students the opportunity for an in depth engagement with theological themes and texts. Such a concentration presupposes that this understanding of Theology/Ethics as an academic discipline—knowing God—cannot be separated from loving God. The challenge for the student will be to determine how the study of theology best serves the church, both local and universal.

In addition to the 72 semester hours required in the M.Div. curriculum, students seeking the concentration in Theology/Ethics will fulfill the following additional 9 semester hours in concentrated electives for a total of 81 semester hours:

- HTTE 301  Christology
- HTTE 302  Classics in Christian Theology
- HTTE 490  Thesis: Theology/Ethics

The Master of Divinity with a Concentration in Youth Ministry

This concentration equips an individual to serve a local congregation as a pastoral associate who focuses on the needs of youth and their families. Students take coursework in teaching models of youth ministry and the role of the pastoral associate. In addition, the student may take an elective of choice from several courses including Christian Education Formation, or Congregational Program Design for Youth, or Pastoral Care with Children and Youth.

In addition to the 72 semester hours required in the M.Div. curriculum, students seeking the concentration in Youth Ministry will fulfill the following additional 9 semester hours in concentrated electives for a total of 81 semester hours:

- PTYM 301  Models of Youth Ministry
- PTYM 302  Thriving and Succeeding as a Congregational Associate
- PTCE  Elective

Clinical Pastoral Education

The seminary has a number of resources to offer students interested in pastoral care and counseling. Within the M.Div. curriculum, the required courses Basic Pastoral Care and Ministers as Leaders/Spiritual Guides provide a foundation for the care of people on the journey of life. Elective pastoral care courses build on
these basic courses to broaden students’ ministry skills in specific areas.

Students may also receive credit for Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) units, which are offered by a number of institutions in the region, including the Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center and Caring Community Ministry Education. In effect, CPE units offer double credit: elective credits at BTSR in Pastoral Care, and required hours toward post-M.Div. professional certification. One unit of CPE (6 semester hours) may be applied toward the M.Div. The Virginia Institute of Pastoral Care (VIPCare) also offers electives in pastoral counseling.

Upon approval of the BTSR Professor of Pastoral Care, students may apply up to 6 semester hours in VIPCare electives toward the M.Div. Students may take up to 9 semester hours in credits in VIPCare and/or CPE credits combined, but no more than six semester hours from either area. A transfer of credit fee will apply.

After completing the M.Div., students may complete additional clinical study for certification from the American Association of Pastoral Counselors (AAPC) and/or the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE).

**MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES**

The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) provides a survey of knowledge of theological disciplines. This degree is intended for students interested in their own general education, preparation for teaching or theological research, or preparing for non-ordained ministry service. The degree program provides exposure to a broad range of theological disciplines, including required courses in Christian history, ethics, biblical studies, and theology. This program integrates biblical, historical, and theological studies with cultural and social concerns. One of the biblical languages is required: Greek or Hebrew. Students can select electives to tailor the program to their own academic goals. The degree program requires 51 semester hours for completion.

**Goals of the Master of Theological Studies Program**

1. Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of biblical exegesis, ethics, Christian tradition and theology, and communicate this understanding in a meaningful way today.

2. Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of research and theological reflection in a specialized area of concentration.

3. Students will be able to demonstrate integration of learning related to the biblical, theological, and historical perspectives reflective of the program
course of study through a thesis or a comprehensive examination.

**Degree Requirements**

The Master of Theological Studies degree requires successful completion of the 51 semester hours detailed below:

**Biblical Studies (18 semester hours)**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLOT 101</td>
<td>Interpreting Torah and Former Prophets</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLOT 102</td>
<td>Interpreting Prophets and Writings</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLNT 101</td>
<td>Interpreting Jesus and the Gospels</td>
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<td>BLNT 102</td>
<td>Interpreting Acts, Letters, and the Apocalypse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLGH/GG 101</td>
<td>Biblical Language I</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLGH/GG 201</td>
<td>Biblical Language II</td>
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**Historical/Theological Studies (18 semester hours)**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HTTE 101</td>
<td>Christian Theology &amp; Ethics I</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 102</td>
<td>Christian Theology &amp; Ethics II</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 103</td>
<td>Theology of the Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTCT 101</td>
<td>History of Global Christianity I</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTCT 102</td>
<td>History of Global Christianity II</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTCW 102</td>
<td>Jesus in a Pluralistic Age OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTCW 301</td>
<td>Christian Response to Terrorism OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTCW 303</td>
<td>World Religions</td>
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**Biblical or Historical/Theological Studies (3 semester hours)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIIC 202</td>
<td>Biblical Interpretation in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIIC 302</td>
<td>Topics of Biblical Interpretation</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 301</td>
<td>Christology</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 302</td>
<td>Classics in Christian Theology</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 304</td>
<td>Christianity and Culture</td>
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</table>

**Three elective or specialization courses from the M.T.S. program options: (9 semester hours)**

BI, BL, or HT area Electives

**Thesis or Comprehensive Exam (3 semester hours)**

Thesis/Exam

**Integrative Seminar (non-credit, required)**
Total Semester Hours Required for M.T.S.: 51
Graduation Requirements for the M.T.S.

Candidates for the M.T.S. degree must meet the following requirements to be eligible for graduation:

- Satisfactorily complete 51 semester hours as outlined in the curriculum program of study.
- Participate in an integrative seminar (meets 4-6 times during the academic year).
- Submit an acceptable thesis, or at the option of the Program Director, the successful completion of a comprehensive examination.
- Take at least 24 semester hours in the M.T.S. at BTSR.
- Obtain a 3.0 grade point average with no grade below a “C” in all courses to be credited toward graduation.
- Complete the entire program in no more than five years.
- Satisfy the conditions for graduation including completion of the GSQ and closing all accounts with the Business Office and library.

Final Requirement Thesis or Comprehensive Examination

Upon completion of all coursework, or upon qualification and approval of the advisor, the M.T.S. candidate may choose either of the following options:

1) Master’s Thesis, OR 2) Comprehensive Examination. For the examination option, students are to select 2 of the 3 fields (Biblical Interpretation, History, or Theology) and demonstrate a general competence in those areas.

All course work must be completed, all grades reported to the Registrar, and all financial obligations to the seminary must be met before the final requirement (the thesis or comprehensive examinations) may be submitted. Students planning to schedule their comprehensive examination must contact the Registrar at least four weeks prior to the proposed exam date and must complete all requirements before the exam may be scheduled.

The M.T.S. Thesis. The requirements for a master’s degree may include a master’s thesis. Researching and writing a thesis is an academic adventure that enables a student to explore in depth a theological topic of interest. The process of research and writing is part of the discipline required for effective communication of knowledge and scholarly attainment. The thesis allows the student to share research with the wider academic community and mark his or her entry into the tradition of scholarly attainment.

The M.T.S. Thesis Committee. The M.T.S. Thesis Committee consists of a Thesis
Supervisor and the Second Reader, both of whom are faculty members. The M.T.S. student is responsible for initiating discussion with faculty about serving on his or her committee. See the M.T.S. Thesis Guidelines for further information.

*The Comprehensive Examination.* The requirements for master’s degrees may include a final comprehensive examination which, at the discretion of the director, may be written or oral or both. Such an examination will not duplicate course examinations. An examining committee will evaluate the examination as satisfactory or unsatisfactory, with two unsatisfactory votes making the committee report unsatisfactory. The report of the final examination is due to the Registrar no later than 48 hours after the examination and by the deadline date established by the *Catalog.*

A candidate who fails the examination may present himself or herself for reexamination, but not sooner than the following term. The examination may be repeated only once.

*The Examining Committee.* The examining committee for the master’s degree consists of at least three members of the faculty appointed by the dean upon recommendation of the student’s advisor or program director. The advisor may request the dean’s permission to replace one of the three members of the examination committee by a recognized scholar of professorial rank from another academic institution, or a vetted and qualified adjunctive professor.

**MASTER IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY**

The Master in Christian Ministry (M.C.M.) is a professional-academic degree program designed to prepare women and men for competent leadership in specialized ministries in their faith communities. This program provides students with practical ministry training shaped by a firm grounding in rigorous theological studies. The M.C.M. program meets the need for ministerial leadership training for a range of possibilities such as associate staff ministers (children, youth, educators, and musicians), collegiate leaders, second career students, non-profit managers and leaders, and religious and civic leaders. The various concentrations include Congregational Leadership, Global Engagement, Justice and Peacebuilding, Religious Freedom, and Non-Profit. The M.C.M program is expressly not designed to prepare students academically for doctoral studies or for ordination in those churches that require the M.Div. degree.
Goals of the Master in Christian Ministry Program

1. The student shall demonstrate competence in understanding, interpreting, and applying basic knowledge of biblical, historical, and theological religious heritage.

2. The student shall demonstrate knowledge of and appreciation for the importance of culture to the ministry of the Church.

3. The student shall demonstrate growth in personal and spiritual formation and provide evidence of readiness for ministry.

4. The student shall demonstrate understanding and competence in critical ministry leadership skills applied to contextual ministry development.

Degree Requirements

Biblical Studies (12 semester hours)

BLOT 101 Interpreting Torah and Former Prophets
BLOT 102 Interpreting Prophets and Writings
BLNT 101 Interpreting Jesus and the Gospels
BLNT 102 Interpreting Acts, Letters, and the Apocalypse

Historical/Theological Studies (12 semester hours)

HTTE 101 Christian Theology & Ethics I OR
HTTE 102 Christian Theology & Ethics II
HTCT 101 History of Global Christianity I OR
HTCT 102 History of Global Christianity II
HTCW 101 God’s Mission in the World
HTCW 201 Mission Immersion Experience (prep course & trip)

**Practical Theology Studies (9 semester hours)**

PTSP 101 Exploring Ministerial Identity
PTSP 102 Christian Spirituality
PTPC 101 Basic Pastoral Care

**M.C.M. DEGREE CONCENTRATIONS:**
*(Select one required concentration)*

**M.C.M. with a Concentration in Congregational Leadership**
*(Choose 15 semester hours from the following electives or thesis/project)*

PTCE 101 Christian Education Formation
PTCE 301 Educating in Faith
PTCE 303 Developing Lay Leadership in the Church
PTCL 102 Leadership in Context
PTPC 306 Pastoral Care with Children and Youth
PTWH 101 Christian Worship
PTCL 102 Leadership in Context
HTTE 103 Theology of the Church
PTYM 301-303 Student Ministries
PTCM 201 Supervised Ministry I
PTCM 202 Supervised Ministry II
PTSP103 Ministers as Leaders & Guides
PTXX___ Elective choice
PT__ 490 Project
**M.C.M. with a Concentration in Global Engagement Concentration**

HTCT 101 or 102 History of Global Christianity I or II
HTCW 102 Jesus in a Pluralistic Age
HTCW303 World Religions
HTJP301 Restorative Justice & Conflict Transformation
HTTE304 Christianity and Culture

**M.C.M. with a Concentration in Justice and Peacebuilding (EMU Center for Justice & Peacebuilding)**

HTJP 301 Restorative Justice & Conflict Transformation
PAX533 Analysis: Understanding Conflict (EMU SPI)
PAX503 Practice Skills for Peacebuilding (EMU SPI)
PAX___ Elective at EMU SPI_____
HTJP490/491 Thesis or Project Proposal

**M.C.M. with a Concentration in Religious Freedom (Newseum Institute’s Religious Freedom Center)**

REL 100 Foundations of Religious Freedom
REL 200 Religious Freedom and Contemporary American Public Life
REL 300 Religion and News Media
REL 400 The Human Right to Freedom of Religion or Belief
REL 500 Independent Study and Capstone Project

**M.C.M. with a Concentration in Non Profit (University of Richmond Certificate, 18 semester hours)**

NPS501U Understanding the Nonprofit Sector
NPS520U Financial Management and Budget Development
NPS530U Law, Ethics, and Governance
NPS540U Resource Development Promotion
NPS550U Strategic Human Resource Management
NPS590U Integrative Seminar

**Total Semester Hours required for M.C.M.: 48**
DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

Business Administration: M.Div. & M.B.A

In partnership with Averett University, BTSR students take a shortened (60 hours) format to complete their M.Div. in order to apply to enter into Averett’s Graduate & Professional Studies MBA program. The degree path will equip future ministers, especially those at smaller churches, to handle accounting, finances and marketing for the church. Students with this dual degree will have the necessary business background to go and instantly lead a church directly out of school.

To participate in the program, a student must be admitted to both the M.Div. program at BTSR and the M.B.A. program at Averett University. Admission to BTSR does not assure admission to the Averett M.B.A. program. Students considering this degree option should contact Averett as early as possible to obtain information about that program and its admission policies, financial aid, and other information. Visit the Graduate & Professional Studies website at gps.averett.edu for more information. BTSR students should follow the M.Div. curriculum outline closely if they wish to complete the M.Div requirements in two years.

Dual Degree: M.Div./Master of Business Administration Degree Requirements

Students must complete 60 semester hours at BTSR, including the following required courses:

Biblical Studies (18 semester hours)

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>BLOT 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLOT 102</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLNT 101</td>
<td>Interpreting Jesus and the Gospels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLGH/GG 101</td>
<td>Language I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLNT 102</td>
<td>Interpreting Acts, Letters, and the Apocalypse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLGH/GG 201</td>
<td>Language II</td>
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</table>

Historical/Theological Studies (18 semester hours)

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<td>HTCT 101</td>
<td>History of Global Christianity I</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTCT 102</td>
<td>History of Global Christianity II</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 101</td>
<td>Christian Theology &amp; Ethics I</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 102</td>
<td>Christian Theology &amp; Ethics II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTCW 101</td>
<td>God’s Mission in the World</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTE 103</td>
<td>Theology of the Church</td>
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</table>
**Practical Theology**  
*(12 semester hours)*

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTSP 102</td>
<td>Christian Spirituality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTPC 101</td>
<td>Basic Pastoral Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTCL 201</td>
<td>Ministry of Preaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTSP 101</td>
<td>Exploring Ministerial Identity</td>
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**Elective courses (12 semester hours)**

Upon completion of all requirements for both degrees, the student will be awarded the M.B.A. by Averett University and the M.Div. by BTSR.

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**Social Work: M.Div. & M.S.W.**

The School of Social Work of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) has an agreement with BTSR that allows a student to earn an M.Div. from BTSR and a Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) from VCU.

To participate in the program, a student must be admitted to both the M.Div. program at BTSR and the Master of Social Work program at VCU. Admission to BTSR does not assure admission to the VCU School of Social Work. Students considering this option should contact VCU as early as possible to obtain information about School of Social Work admission policies, financial aid, and other information. The VCU program is extremely competitive, and its application deadline is May 1 of the year preceding enrollment. Admission to VCU may be deferred for one year. Students engage in a prescribed program of theological study at BTSR and then complete the two-year M.S.W. program at the School of Social Work. Upon completion of the social work program, students will receive the M.S.W. degree from VCU and the M.Div. degree from BTSR. The seminary recommends that study at BTSR come first in the sequence, but it is also possible to spend the first year at VCU, the middle two years at BTSR, and then the final year at VCU.

BTSR does not require students to go through additional steps for admission to the dual degree; any admitted M.Div. student who gains admission to the VCU program may follow the curriculum outlined below for the dual credentials in theology and social work. Students planning to pursue the dual degree in social work should follow this curriculum outline closely if they wish to complete the requirements within two years.
Although there is an increasing emphasis on spirituality and a holistic approach in social work programs, the seminary will take responsibility to aid the student in integrating theology and social work. In the final semester of the M.S.W. program, the student concurrently takes an integrative seminar conducted by BTSR.

Students deal with the two schools separately for purposes of admission, tuition payment, financial aid and the like. For information about VCU or to sign up for a campus tour, call (804) 828-1030, or visit the VCU School of Social Work website at [www.socialwork.vcu.edu/msw](http://www.socialwork.vcu.edu/msw).

**Dual Degree: M.Div./Master of Social Work Degree Requirements**

Students must complete 60 semester hours at BTSR, including the following required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biblical Studies (18 semester hours)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLOT 101 Interpreting Torah and the Former Prophets</td>
<td>BLOT 102 Interpreting Prophets and Writings</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLGH/GG 101 Language I</td>
<td>BLGH/GG 201 Language II</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical/Theological Studies (18 semester hours)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HTCT 101 History of Global Christianity I</td>
<td>HTCT 102 History of Global Christianity II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTTE 101 Christian Theology &amp; Ethics I</td>
<td>HTTE 102 Christian Theology &amp; Ethics II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTCW 101 God’s Mission in the World</td>
<td>HTTE T103 Theology of the Church</td>
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<th>Practical Theology (12 semester hours)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTSP 102 Christian Spirituality</td>
<td>PTPC 101 Basic Pastoral Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTCL 201 Ministry of Preaching</td>
<td>PTSP 101 Exploring Ministerial Identity</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PTPC 312 Integrative Seminar (CR only)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Elective courses (12 semester hours)</th>
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Upon completion of all requirements for both degrees, the student will be awarded the M.S.W. by VCU and the M.Div. by BTSR.

**Patient Counseling: M.Div. & M.S.**

This dual degree is offered in cooperation with the School of Allied Health Professions at VCU and is designed to equip chaplains and pastoral counselors for the practice of ministry in their fields.
To participate in the program, a student must be admitted to both the M.Div. program at BTSR and the Master of Science degree in Patient Counseling at VCU. Admission to BTSR does not assure admission to VCU. The deadline for applying to VCU is February 1 of the first year at BTSR.

The program is designed for completion in four full years. Upon completion of all study the student receives a Master of Divinity degree from BTSR and a Master of Science degree in Patient Counseling from VCU.

The student spends the first two years of study in theological class work at BTSR, with summers devoted to Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) programs at VCU. During the third year of the program, the focus of learning is at the Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center, where specifically designed advanced CPE work will join interdisciplinary seminars taught in tandem by university and seminary faculty, on a rotating basis. The list of required courses at BTSR follows below.

For more information about this program, contact the BTSR Director of Admissions and Recruitment. For specific questions about VCU, visit [http://www.sahp.vcu.edu/ptc/programs/ms](http://www.sahp.vcu.edu/ptc/programs/ms), or call the Department of Patient Counseling at (804) 828-0928.

**Dual Degree: M.Div./M.S. in Patient Counseling Degree Requirements**

Students must complete 60 semester hours at BTSR, including the following required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biblical Studies (18 semester hours)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLOT 101 Interpreting Torah and Former Prophets</td>
<td>BLOT 102 Interpreting Prophets and Writings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLNT 101 Interpreting Jesus and the Gospels</td>
<td>BLNT 102 Interpreting Acts, Letters and the Apocalypse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLGH/BLGG 101 Language I</td>
<td>BLGH/BLGG 201 Language II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical/Theological Studies (18 semester hours)</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HTCT 101 History of Global Christianity I</td>
<td>HTCT 101 History of Global Christianity II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTTE 101 Christian Theology &amp; Ethics I</td>
<td>HTTE 102 Christian Theology &amp; Ethics II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTCW 101 God’s Mission in the World</td>
<td>HTTE 103 Theology of the Church</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practical Theology (12 semester hours)</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTSP 102 Christian Spirituality</td>
<td>PTPC 101 Basic Pastoral Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTCL 201 Ministry of Preaching</td>
<td>PTSP 101 Exploring Ministerial Identity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective courses (12 semester hours)</th>
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</table>

Upon completion of all requirements for both degrees, the student will be awarded the M.S. in Patient Counseling by VCU and the M.Div. by BTSR.
DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

A graduate of the Doctor of Ministry program will:

1. Minister with an increased understanding of his or her personal calling and giftedness in ministerial leadership, demonstrating a high level of self-awareness about his or her spiritual growth and personal development.

2. Approach ministry practices with a more accurate understanding of the nature of the congregational context. Students will acquire an explicit theory of the congregation as an authentic and viable expression of Church and gain clarity about the congregation’s purpose and mission.

3. Understand the function of ministerial leadership related to his or her calling and position in the congregational setting. This will require that the student will assess the effectiveness of his or her practice of leadership as a critical dimension of the practice of ministry.

The student is required to be engaged in ministry during the program, which requires a minimum of three years to complete. During the first two years, the student devotes three week terms (two weeks online and one week in residence) in August and January to required D.Min. seminars, which meet on campus in Richmond. Fall and Spring terms in the first two years are used for elective work and field-based studies. The third year is devoted to the D.Min. project. In the summer, the student refines project plans, with implementation of the project in the Fall. The written project report is developed during the Winter term, and the student submits and defends the project in the Spring.

The student may utilize elective courses to tailor the program to individual needs. However, the four required seminars and the project must be taken in the sequence indicated and preferably at the times indicated. Up to two elective courses may be transferred into the twelve-course program. Work must be completed within a maximum of six years. Students may petition the Academic Committee once for an extension; the petition must be in writing and must explain the extraordinary circumstances that necessitate the request.

**Program of Study: D. Min.**

1. **Required D. Min. Seminars ..................12 semester hours**
   (Taken in sequence with the same peer group)

   - DM5011 Theological Reflection on the Minister and the Ministry Context
   - DM5012 Biblical, Historical, and Theological Issues and the Practice of Ministry
   - DM5013 Theological Reflection on the Practice of Ministry
   - DM5014 Project Design, Implementation, and Report Writing
2. Field-based Study .................................6 semester hours
Each credit will include an element of application to or analysis of the student’s congregational setting. One Field-based Study will be based on DM5011 and the other on DM5013.

3. Elective Credits ........................................9 semester hours
May include transfer credits, CPE credits, and/or additional work attached to a M.Div. course, seminars, advanced electives, or directed studies. Each credit will include an element of application to or analysis of the student’s congregational setting.

4. Literature Review .................................3 semester hours
A survey of the literature informing the theoretical, theological, and philosophical basis for the D.Min. project. Must be completed prior to taking DM5014.

5. Project ......................................................6 semester hours
Student-developed ministry project, based on relevant theology and theory, and implemented in a ministry setting in consultation with a D.Min. faculty committee.

**Total Semester Hours required for D.Min.: 36**

**D.Min. with an Emphasis in Justice and Peacebuilding**

The Doctor of Ministry with an emphasis in Justice and Peacebuilding is designed to equip ministers with advanced skills in the areas of restorative justice, trauma healing, social movements, or humanitarian organizational development. Combined with the D.Min. focus on contextual leadership, this concentration will enable pastors, prison chaplains, para-church non-profit directors, and other ministers to lead their organizations effectively in justice issues.

**Justice & Peacebuilding Concentration Requirements:**

D.Min. candidates will take a minimum of two graduate level courses at the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding (CJP) at Eastern Mennonite University to fulfill six of the required elective or field-based study hours using the following procedure:

1. Candidates must register at the CJP and take the emphasis-specific courses (a grade of B is required to qualify for transfer of credit).
2. Candidates must complete the doctoral level equivalency work as prescribed. For electives this could be an annotated bibliography, an additional academic paper, a project, additional reading, etc. For a Field Based Study a congregational (or contextual) component is required showing application of the course material to the ministerial context.
3. Candidates must submit the standard Transfer of Credit petition to the Registrar at BTSR. The course syllabus and the equivalency work must accompany the petition. There is no transfer of credit fee for courses that meet emphasis requirements.
Candidates will also be required to focus their two Field Based studies and their final D.Min. project on an area related to justice and peacebuilding in order to demonstrate application of acquired knowledge and skills in their ministry contexts.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

The Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (GCTS) is for persons who seek basic theological training to enhance their participation in their congregation or profession. The Certificate can also serve as a gateway to formal application to a degree program for those exploring their calling, or, who desire to begin formal theological studies but are not ready to commit to a program of study. Courses completed within the GCTS program may be transferred into a Masters level degree program, however, the GCTS is not an Association of Theological Schools approved degree and is not eligible for financial aid.

The Course of Study

The BTSR Graduate Certificate Program in Theological Studies requires 18 semester hours for completion (equivalent to six full credit courses). One course from each discipline of study listed below is required. You may choose from the following course options from the checklist to match your interests and needs.

**ONE course in Old Testament Bible:**
BLOT 101 Interpreting Torah and Former Prophets
BLOT 102 Interpreting Prophets and Writings

**ONE course in New Testament Bible:**
BLNT 101 Interpreting Jesus and the Gospels
BLNT 102 Interpreting Acts, Letters, and the Apocalypse

**ONE course in Historical Studies:**
HTCT 101 Hist. of Global Christianity I
HTCT 102 Hist. of Global Christianity II
HTCW 101 God’s Mission in the World
HTCW 303 World Religions

**ONE course in Theology:**
HTTE 101 Christian Theology & Ethics I
HTTE 102 Christian Theology & Ethics II
HTTE 103 Theology of the Church
**ONE course in Spirituality:**
PTSP 102 Introduction to Christian Spirituality
PTSP 103 Ministers as Spiritual Leaders/Guides
PTSP 101 Exploring Ministerial Identity

**ONE course in Practical Theology:**
PTCL 201 The Ministry of Preaching
PTPC 101 Basic Pastoral Care
PTYM___ (Any Youth Ministry Course)
PTCE ___ (Any Christian Education Course)
PTWH 101 Christian Worship

**Total Semester Hours required for Certificate of Theological Studies: 18**

**Non-degree Study**

Any person wishing to take courses apart from a specific degree program may apply for admission as a non-degree student. This status is open to persons who wish to take occasional courses as a form of continuing education or to explore theological studies. Non-degree students are not eligible to receive financial aid and may enroll in courses on a space-available basis. While non-degree status does not constitute a commitment to future admission to a degree program, work completed while a non-degree student may be applied to a degree program.
ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Class Schedules

The seminary calendar is based on a 3-12-3-12-3 sequence; Fall and Spring terms are each twelve weeks in duration, and the Summer, Winter, and May terms each last three weeks.

During Fall and Spring terms the majority of classes are scheduled in three hour blocks on Monday through Thursday. At least seven to nine online courses are offered during the Fall and Spring terms. Please consult each degree program’s requirements to determine how many online hours may be taken per program.

Classes meet during the following block periods:
- 8:15 - 11:15 a.m.
- 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. (excludes Wednesdays)

During short terms (Summer, Winter and May), classes typically meet each day, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Mission Immersion Experience trips are scheduled during Winter and May terms.

Hybrid courses may be offered in each of the five terms. Length and frequency of meetings will depend on the course. Check Populi for specific class schedules each term.

Student Status

The following designates student status in the programs of study:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Number of semester hours enrolled in per year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full time:</td>
<td>18 to 30 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half time:</td>
<td>9 to 15 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than half time:</td>
<td>Less than 9 semester hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading System

Providing proper assessment and evaluation of the quality of work is an important part of the learning process. Below are the grading symbols used at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond.
A  The student has exhibited exceptional performance.
B  The student has demonstrated more than required mastery.
C  The student has demonstrated a mastery of the required essentials.
D  The student has given evidence of minimal performance.
F  The student has failed to master the required essentials.
IP In Progress. Used in a course which has a sequential course following it and in which the work is not given a final evaluation until the completion of the last course in the sequence. When the final course is completed, the “IP” is changed to the letter grade reflecting the overall evaluation; thus, the same grade is given for each course in the sequence. No credit is awarded until completion of the final course.
I  Due to extraordinary circumstances the student may petition the Academic Committee for an extension of time to complete the work for the course. The petition must be submitted to the Academic Committee before its last meeting in the term. Work must be finished and the appropriate grade entered by the end of the eighth week following the last day of Exam Week, or the “I” automatically becomes “F.”
P  Passing.
W  The student received authorization to withdraw.

Quality Points

A student receives quality points for each course credit on the following basis: four quality points for a grade of “A,” three for a grade of “B,” two for a grade of “C,” and one for a grade of “D.” No quality points are received for a grade of “F,” and the grade point average is negatively affected. A student may re-take a course in which an “F” was assigned, however, grades are not removed from the student’s transcript for courses retaken. For a grade of “P,” credit is received but no quality points are awarded and the GPA is unaffected. No quality points and no penalty are received for grades of “W.”

Attendance

Class attendance is an important part of the learning process and is expected of all students. Students missing more than 25 percent of class sessions cannot expect to pass the course. For online courses, weekly participation is equal to attendance. Requirements for participation in each online course are posted in the course syllabus. Failure to meet participation requirements in online courses is considered failure to attend the course. Faculty is responsible for maintaining this policy.

Attendance via Zoom Platform

Zoom is cloud based conferencing that offers real-time video/audio conferencing for a classroom course using your laptop or computer. Students living one hundred or more miles from the BTSR Villa Park campus are eligible to apply for Zoom access for coursework. First priority will be given to students with ADA accommodations. Exceptions to this policy, such as a mid-semester injury or illness that keeps a student homebound, will be evaluated on a case-by-
case basis by the Academic Dean. Students may only participate in two courses via Zoom per semester. Students must request and receive permission from the course professor to use Zoom technology for class attendance at least two weeks before the first day of class. The request form, computer requirements and policy details are located on the BTSR website under the Student Tools menu.

**Satisfactory Academic Progress**

In compliance with Federal regulations, the Director of Financial Aid conducts regular audits of SAP (Satisfactory Academic Progress) for students receiving Federal Stafford loans. Satisfactory Academic Progress is assessed at the end of each Fall/Winter and Spring/May term.

To maintain satisfactory academic progress, M.Div., M.C.M., and G.C.T.S. students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 (a C average). M.T.S. students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (a B average). D.Min. students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Courses in which a student withdraws and receives a grade of W, or in which an F is received, will not count as having been successfully completed. If the appropriate GPA is not maintained, the student may lose and/or not be eligible to apply for a Federal Student Loan.

Courses in which an Incomplete grade is given will count as completed work if the Incomplete is removed within the time frame provided in the academic regulations, which is eight weeks from the last day of the Exam Week, or if, in extraordinary circumstances, the Dean grants a further extension. However, no more than three Incomplete grades can be carried at one time.

**Academic Probation**

A student who fails to maintain the appropriate GPA in any individual term must have a conference with the Dean to discuss methods for improving performance. Students whose cumulative GPA is less than the appropriate level for their program of study after nine semester hours are placed on academic probation.

Academic probation will be imposed only after the student has attempted a minimum of nine semester hours. While on academic probation, the student, with the approval of the Dean, will be allowed to register only for nine semester hours or less per term. Academic probation does not apply to non-degree students.

If still unable to maintain the appropriate cumulative GPA, the student may be administratively withdrawn (see below).

Should a student who has been placed on academic probation not reach the minimum required GPA by the end of the term following being placed on probationary status, the student will be in jeopardy of administrative withdrawal.

**Administrative Withdrawal**

The Dean and the faculty members of the Academic Committee reserve the
right to withdraw a student from classes and/or the seminary for non-disciplinary academic reasons if such action is deemed in the best interest of the student and/or the seminary. A student who is placed on Administrative Withdrawal may apply for reinstatement after no less than one twelve (12) week term. Decisions on reinstatement are made by the Academic Committee in consultation with the Dean.

**Academic Grievance Policy**

Academic grades for work submitted as requirements in coursework are assigned at the full discretion of the Faculty, including affiliate and adjunct. Syllabi identify clearly the expectations of work, standards of performance and assessment rubrics. In the event a student has a dispute about grades for assigned work or for a course the student should consult with the Professor and seek to resolve the matter one-on-one. In the event a resolution is not reached, the following procedure may be pursued:

The student may present a grievance about assigned grades to the Dean. The Dean will, as a matter of course, encourage the student to continue to seek resolution with the Professor. Should no resolution be reached the Dean will request that the student submit a letter describing the grievance related to the grade and/or academic work to the Academic Committee faculty through the Dean's Office.

The letter should accompany a copy of the academic work for which the grade is being challenged. The student shall submit any assessment rubrics and/or a description of the assignment received from the professor.

The Dean will solicit documentation from the professor related to the particular case and will submit all documentation to the Academic Committee faculty with a formal call to begin the grievance resolution process.

The Academic Committee faculty shall consider the merit of the case and will determine if the grievance is legitimate or affirm the original grade from the faculty member. The decision of the Academic Committee faculty will be final.

Student members of the Academic Committee shall not participate in grievance review. A sitting faculty member on the Academic Committee who is involved in the grievance case shall recuse him/herself from the process and the Dean will recruit a faculty member to serve ad hoc in the process. The scope of the Academic Committee’s review shall not extend to personnel matters or personal issues.

**Academic Load**

The minimal academic load for full-time status is 18 semester hours per year; nine semester hours per Fall and Spring term. The maximum academic load is 30 semester hours per year; 15 semester hours per Fall and Spring term. The maximum load for each Summer, Winter, or May term is 3 semester hours. The Dean must approve any exceptions to the maximum load.
Adding, Dropping, & Withdrawing from a Class

Students can register themselves for classes and make changes to their schedule on Populi (btsr.populiweb.com) until the last day to drop courses each semester, as listed in the Academic Calendar in this Catalog. Students are encouraged to contact the Registrar if they are having difficulty navigating Populi.

A student may drop a class in any term according to the dates published in the Academic Calendar. A charge may be incurred when dropping courses. See refund policies and published deadlines.

Students may withdraw from a course until the designated date in the Academic Calendar. This process must be completed through the Registrar’s Office. A student wishing to withdraw from a course after the financial aid penalty deadline for dropping a course must complete and submit a withdrawal form to the Registrar.

Withdrawing from the Seminary

A student wishing to withdraw from the seminary must obtain a “Withdrawal from School” form from the Registrar and complete the following withdrawal process:

• Student must sign the form, indicating reasons for withdrawal.
• Confer with and secure the Registrar’s signature on the form, ensuring that the student has no outstanding academic obligations.
• Confer with and secure signature from Student Accounting Manager in the Business Office, ensuring that the student has no outstanding financial obligations.
• Return all materials to the Library and settle account with Library.
• Return form to Registrar.
• Registrar secures signature from the Dean to complete official withdrawal process.

Students who withdraw from Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond with outstanding balances due to the institution for tuition, fees, rent, or an outstanding balance at William Smith Morton Library, will not be entitled to academic transcripts from the Registrar’s office until all financial obligations are settled through the Business Office. No student account will be cleared by the seminary Business Office until all bills are paid by the respective student.

Leave of Absence

Students who find it necessary to interrupt their planned program of study due to serious life difficulties (medical, family, employment, etc.) may request a leave of absence by requesting a leave of absence petition form through the
Registrar. The form should be returned to the Registrar for submission to the Academic Committee. This petition should include reasons for seeking a leave of absence and a schedule for resuming study. When the Committee has made a decision, the student will receive a letter informing her or him of the decision. During their academic career, students will not be granted more than two leaves of absence. A student must maintain good standing during a leave of absence. (See below for definition of Good Standing.)

Students who have not received an approved leave of absence, registered for courses or paid a good standing fee for two consecutive academic terms will be removed from the program with notification. A student who has not registered for courses within two weeks of the start date of a semester will be contacted by the Registrar’s office.

**Maintaining Good Standing**

Students who choose not to register for classes in any given semester or subsequent semester may remain on active status for up to two semesters by paying a $35 fee (per semester). If the student does not register for the third semester he/she must apply for readmission to the seminary. In case of extreme circumstances the student may request an exception from the Dean and if granted would not have to reapply. Good standing means there are no outstanding fees or library books and that the student has made satisfactory progress in coursework.

**Readmission to the Seminary**

Withdrawal terminates a student’s relationship with the school. Having withdrawn, a student will be readmitted only through the normal procedures of application required of all incoming students. A written notice of withdrawal from the school must be submitted to the office of the Registrar. Failure to do so may result in the withholding of an honorable dismissal from the student’s record and may affect any future readmission to the school. A leave of absence is a temporary discontinuation of academic work at the school, with the permission and approval of the Academic Committee and the Dean. Leaves may not exceed one academic year. At the end of a leave of absence, a student is readmitted, subject to the terms under which the leave was approved and without going through the process of reapplication.

**Catalog Governing Program of Study**

Students follow the program of study indicated in the Catalog year under which they entered a degree program as long as they maintain continuous enrollment or remain on “Good Standing” for no more than one year. Students who withdraw for more than one year may choose to follow either the Catalog in effect when
they originally enrolled or the program outlined in the Catalog in effect when they return. Students may petition the Academic Committee to change their degree program of study as appropriate, but in such cases the student must qualify for the admissions requirement of the new degree program. Students must complete the degree based on the program requirements listed in the Catalog that they have chosen.

**Graduation**

The faculty approves all students for graduation upon their meeting all requirements of the program of study and all financial and administrative obligations. It is the student’s responsibility to monitor progress toward meeting requirements for graduation. It is advisable to check with the Registrar a year before the planned date of graduation to assure that all requirements are being and will be met.

Any student desiring to graduate in absentia must have written permission from the Dean.

**Academic Advising**

Each student is assigned to a faculty member for academic advising. Meeting once each term, the advisor will offer academic guidance to the student in the development of a course of study that is most suitable for the gifts, needs, and goals of the student. In addition, the advisor will help students in their development of a sense of calling and will monitor development of personal and spiritual growth as well as development of professional ministerial skills.

**Course Evaluations and Curriculum Assessment**

Students are requested to submit a course evaluation as part of the course requirement for all classes at BTSR. Course evaluations will be submitted via electronic survey on Populi.
Academic Exemptions

All requests for academic exemptions must be submitted to the Academic Committee for consideration and approval. The student should check the Seminary Calendar for Academic Committee meeting dates during the academic year. Exemption request forms are available from the Registrar. See below for procedures for each particular exemption request:

**Independent studies**

Students who have demonstrated an aptitude for independent work may, after their first year, request of a professor that they be allowed to work independently on a special study with that professor. Such study would be in an area not provided for in the curriculum but is an area of the professor's expertise. The student develops a proposal according to the Independent Study Guide and submits it to the professor, who, upon approval, forwards it to the Dean and the Academic Committee. Independent studies shall be reviewed for approval by the Academic Committee. The proposal must be approved no later than one week prior to the beginning of the term. Upon approval by the Academic Committee the student registers for the course through the Registrar/Director of Financial Aid.

A student may normally take no more than two independent studies in any academic year and no more than one in any term. A professor may supervise no more than two independent studies in any term. Vetted adjunctive faculty may direct independent studies.

**Tutorials**

A tutorial course allows a student full credit for an elective or certain concentration courses not currently offered in the regularly scheduled course offerings. With permission of the Academic Committee, students may take required (core) courses as a tutorial when there is a conflict in scheduling or for other legitimate reasons related to the completion of the degree concentration. No more than two students can be enrolled in the tutorial course.

**Incompletes**

Incomplete petitions are available for students who experience emergency or life-changing events near the end of a term. Students should follow the procedures listed below to request an Incomplete:

The student should speak with each individual professor of each class the Incomplete will be requested for to determine what coursework is necessary to complete the course and the timeline required. The student and the professor should write out the terms of completion and submit it with the petition obtained from the Registrar's Office (see below). Students have up to 8 weeks from the last day of final exam week to submit the work to the professor.
After speaking with the professor(s), the student should submit a petition for an Incomplete to the Registrar, along with written documentation from the appropriate professors with coursework agreements and timelines specified. This form will be submitted to the Dean and the Academic Committee for approval.

If coursework is not submitted by the eight week deadline, the Incomplete grade will automatically be submitted as an “F.” Petitions must be submitted by the last of week of classes. Students must be up to date in all coursework at the time of the request to be eligible. Incompletes are not meant to replace a formal withdrawal, but rather, *should be used only in extreme circumstances*. Examples include, but are not limited to: emergency health issues, death in the family, job loss, etc.

**Living in Community**

Students are expected to contribute to Christian community by exhibiting Christian moral character, giving evidence of potential for Christian ministry, and demonstrating skills in relating to others necessary for building Christian community.

As members of the seminary community, students are expected to adhere to the seminary’s *Code of Ethics* and *Harassment and Discrimination Policy*. These documents are based on the premises of mutual trust and fairness while expecting a high standard of moral conduct and individual honor in all aspects of student life. Each document describes a process for dealing with breaches, including disciplinary measures. Copies of the two policies are published and distributed to all students annually through the *Student Handbook* and can also be found in the appendices of this Catalog.

**Changes to Programs of Study**

BTSR reserves the right to make changes of any nature in its academic programs of study, policies, calendar, fees, or academic schedule whenever necessary or desirable. This includes changing course content, rescheduling of classes with or without extending the usual academic term, canceling scheduled classes or other academic activities, and requiring or affording alternatives for scheduled classes or other academic activities. The seminary will give notice as practical under the circumstance to students and faculty.

**Institutional and Curricular Assessment**

Students are expected to participate in the seminary’s institutional assessment activities related to accreditation and curriculum assessment as a way to help improve the effectiveness of the programs of study and advance the mission of the seminary. In addition to the Profiles of Ministry (POM) inventory, Entering Student Questionnaire (ESQ), and Graduating Student Questionnaire (GSQ), students are to participate in curricular assessment through course evaluations and
in ongoing formative curriculum assessment activities. Every entering student in a degree program will compile a student e-portfolio that a faculty committee will review for advising and assessment purposes. Portfolios are a requirement of completing degree programs at BTSR. M.Div. students will submit a portfolio for review twice during the program: Middler Review at the mid-point of the program and a Final Review during the final semester before becoming eligible to graduate. DMin., M.T.S. and M.C.M. students will need to submit an e-portfolio in the final semester before becoming eligible to graduate. A non-refundable $50 late fee will be charged to the student’s BTSR account if the required elements are not uploaded to the e-Portfolio by the established deadline. BTSR also values and encourages input from students via regular channels such as the Student Life Committee (SLC), and conferences with administration, staff, faculty, and trustees.

COMMUNITY LIFE

The Campus

BTSR is located near the historic St. Joseph’s Villa in Richmond. The facilities include faculty and staff offices, classrooms, lounge areas, and a chapel. We also have an apartment building for student housing located five miles south of the current campus. BTSR is a short five mile drive from the William Smith Morton Library on Union Presbyterian Seminary’s campus.

Library

Baptist Theological Seminary shares the use of the William Smith Morton Library on the Union Presbyterian Seminary campus. The library is one of the
best equipped resource centers in American theological education. Its current collection numbers more than 400,000 print volumes and over 950 periodical subscriptions. The Reigner Recording Library, containing one of the world’s foremost collections of recordings of sermons, lectures, worship services, and religious programming, also is housed in the library.

In addition to the volumes contained in the seminary library, students have access to 2,000,000 volumes from institutions in the Richmond Academic Library Cooperative. The library also participates in the Online Computer Library Center, giving even further scope to the library’s resources through interlibrary loan.

**Richmond Theological Consortium**

As a member of the Richmond Theological Consortium (RTC), BTSR works in cooperation with Union Presbyterian Seminary and the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology of Virginia Union University (STVU). The Consortium, established in 1969, provides students and faculty of each of the member schools access to the resources of the other institutions. The RTC schools are in proximity, making cooperation and fellowship natural and easy to facilitate.

The RTC offers many benefits. A student enrolled in an RTC school may cross-register in courses for which he or she qualifies at any of the RTC institutions or may elect to participate in special RTC courses jointly sponsored by all the schools. The students also have the opportunity to participate in RTC campus life, intramural sports, and academic and chapel programs. The work of the RTC is coordinated by the presidents, academic deans, and student life sub-committees.

**Virtual Bookstore**

Textbooks for BTSR’s classes can be ordered online through various outlets, including but not limited to Cokesbury.com and Amazon.com.

**Housing**

BTSR offers one bedroom studios and large one- and two-bedroom unfurnished apartments in the Kraemer apartment building, located at 1207 Palmyra Avenue, 5 miles south of BTSR’s campus. Consult the schedule of tuition and fees for rent amounts.

Residents are encouraged to obtain renter’s insurance. For information about on-campus housing, contact the Student Accounting and Housing Manager.

The Student Accounting and Housing Manager can also assist with information about off-campus housing. A variety of housing is available, some within the immediate campus vicinity.
Student Life Committee

Every student who enrolls for six or more semester hours per term is eligible to be a member of the Student Life Committee (SLC). The purpose of the SLC is threefold: to promote the general welfare of students; to determine the process for involvement of students in governance of student affairs; and to provide the structure for representing and giving a voice to students in matters affecting the seminary community. The work of the SLC is carried out by the elected officers, representatives, and committee chairpersons. Funding is provided through the student activity fee.

Student Activities

A number of regularly scheduled activities are sponsored by the school, the Social Committee of the Student Life Committee, or the Community Life Committee. Most activities are open to students, faculty, staff, and their families.

There are many opportunities to extend and deepen the community experience of BTSR. Extracurricular activities are oriented toward social fellowship, personal growth, and mission or ministry opportunities. Opportunities consist of community lunches, topical discussions or programs, and outings in or around Richmond.

BTSR provides students with opportunities to find support and explore special interests. Although BTSR does not officially sanction any group, students are encouraged to be involved in initiating needed groups and participating in organized programs and discussions. Several areas are provided on campus for students to gather or relax.

Ministry Opportunities and Referral Services

BTSR is in partnership with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia in their Leader Connect program. This is a free internet-based reference and referral service which matches, as closely as possible, the needs of churches and other ministry sites with the skills, gifts, and preferences of candidates.

The Leader Connect resource contacts are:

**Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global**
Craig Janney, Congregational Reference and Referral Manager
cjanney@cbf.net

**Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia**
Terry Maples, Field Coordinator			
tmaples@cbfva.org
In addition to the referral partnerships, opportunities for ministerial positions, including short-term ministry situations, and secular work are posted on a bulletin board near the student mailboxes and sent out via e-mail.

Students interested in supply preaching are asked to obtain a recommendation from a faculty member.

**Counseling Resources**

Counseling resources are available through the Registrar. The Registrar provides assessment for community referral and approval for partial reimbursement of the cost of such services. A limited amount of financial assistance is available for the cost of counseling for students whose insurance does not include such coverage. Faculty also may be available, if the student desires.

**Worship**

The seminary values corporate worship as a vital aspect of its community of faith. The community gathers for worship in the seminary’s chapel weekly during the Fall and Spring terms. Chapel services are led by students, alumni, faculty, staff, and guests. Chapel is coordinated by the BTSR Community Life Committee, composed of students, faculty, and staff. Students also are encouraged to participate regularly in area churches.

**Conferences and Lectures**

*Hampton Baptist Church Coffee & Conversation Series.* Throughout the year, BTSR hosts a Coffee & Conversation Series funded by a generous gift from Hampton Baptist Church in honor of Chester Brown. Visiting experts share in conversation with the seminary community on a topic related to their area of expertise. Recent topics have included religious liberty and the changing nature of the church. Previous lecturers have included Holly Hollman of the Baptist Joint Committee and Amy Butler, pastor of Riverside Baptist Church.

**Student Handbook**

More information on student services can be found in the Student Handbook. Electronic copies are available from the Registrar and on the seminary’s website. Hard copies will be printed upon request.
**ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS**

The Admissions Office is available to assist prospective students with information regarding the application process, degree programs, the distinguishing characteristics of the school and the various aspects of student life. The seminary encourages and invites all prospective students to visit the Richmond campus. Opportunities to observe classes, tour the facilities, meet with faculty and students, worship in chapel, and pursue other interests are available during the visit. Prospective students who desire to visit the campus should contact the Admissions Office (admissions@btsr.edu) regarding opportunities to visit.

Admission processes and requirements vary for the seminary’s different degree programs and options for study.

**Application for Admission Deadlines**

The following are the application deadlines for the BTSR programs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 15</td>
<td>Application for admission deadline for Winter term master’s degree programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Application for admission deadline for Spring term master’s degree programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Priority admission deadline. The early admissions deadline provides optimal scholarship opportunities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Application for admission deadline for Summer/Fall D.Min. Program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Application for admission deadline for Summer/Fall master’s programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Admission deadline for Fall Non-Degree and G.C.T.S. applicants.</td>
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</table>

NOTE: The BTSR Application for Admission can be submitted for any of our terms (Fall, Winter, Spring, May, Summer).

**Admission to the Master of Divinity Program (M.Div.)**

A Master of Divinity Application at BTSR requires the following:

1. A completed Master of Divinity Application for Admission form online.
2. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited undergraduate institution with an overall G.P.A. of 2.5 based on a 4.0 scale is required for
admission to the M.Div. Program. (The baccalaureate requirement may be waived in unique circumstances for a limited number of applicants under A.T.S. regulations.) Official academic transcripts from all post-secondary educational experiences must be submitted.

3. A resume of work and education history.
4. The names and contact information for two references: a minister and a close personal acquaintance. References must be someone who has known the applicant for at least two years.
5. Personal statement including the student’s: a) seminary or other activities, where applicable, b) church activities, c) leisure time activities, d) life plans and purposes and how seminary will help advance these goals.
6. A personal interview with Admissions Office personnel.
7. A $40 application fee.

Admission to the Master of Theological Studies Program (M.T.S.)

A Master of Theological Studies Application at BTSR requires the following:

1. A completed Master of Theological Studies Application for Admission form online.
2. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited undergraduate institution with a cumulative G.P.A. of at least a 3.0 based on a 4.0 scale is required for admission to the Master of Theological Studies Program. Official academic transcripts from all post-secondary educational experiences must be submitted.
3. A resume of work and education history.
4. Submit two references: one from a professor or employer and one personal reference, who are in a position to evaluate the applicant’s ability and promise.
5. Submit a research writing sample (approximately 800-1,000 words written within the last five years).
6. Personal statement explaining your desire to pursue a Master of Theological Studies degree with special attention to your understanding of vocation (approximately 500 words).
7. A personal interview with Admissions Office personnel.
8. A $40 application fee.

Transfer of Credits and Advanced Standing in the M.T.S.

Students transferring to the M.T.S. from accredited theological schools may be
allowed full credit for acceptable work done in those institutions. Courses, when accepted, carry the credit value established by the institution at which the work was done. Only grades of B and above earned for that coursework are acceptable for transfer. Academic work at the graduate level in non-theological schools may be accepted for credit at the discretion of the faculty, if the work is applicable to the desired degree. No more than 50% (24 semester hours) of coursework can be transferred. Contact the Director of Recruitment and Admissions for more information about transfer credit requirements specific to this program. Undergraduate credit may not apply toward the fulfillment of the M.T.S. degree program requirements at BTSR except those allowed under Advanced Standing. A fee of $150 applies for each course transfer except for courses earned at BTSR.

Non-degree students may transfer into the M.T.S. degree program with advanced standing if they were eligible for admission into the program at the time they became non-degree students. A maximum of 24 semester hours taken as a non-degree student are transferable. Credit eligibility is assessed by the Program Director and the Registrar on application by the student and is applied toward the program coursework requirement. Students seeking to apply for Advanced Standing credit should obtain the appropriate form from the Registrar.

Students enrolled in the M.Div. program at BTSR may transfer to the M.T.S. program with the following conditions: (1) submission of a degree program transfer application and approval by the Dean; (2) only courses with a grade of B or above will be transferred and apply to the M.T.S. requirements; (3) the student must satisfy the program GPA requirement; (4) the student must be in good standing. The process for this degree program transfer begins with the Registrar.

**Admission to the Master in Christian Ministry Program (M.C.M.)**

A Master in Christian Ministry Application requires the following:

1. A completed Master in Christian Ministry Application for Admission form online.
2. A baccalaureate degree from and accredited undergraduate institution with an overall G.P.A. of 2.5 based on a 4.0 scale. (The baccalaureate requirement may be waived in unique circumstances for a limited numbers of applicants under A.T.S. regulations.) Official academic transcripts from all post-secondary educational experiences must be submitted.
3. A resume of work and education history
4. Submit two references: one from a ministerial employer and one ministerial personal reference, who are in a position to evaluate the applicant’s ability and promise.
5. Personal statement explaining the student’s:
a. seminary or other activities, where applicable,
b. church activities,
c. leisure time activities,
d. life plans and purposes and how seminary will help advance these goals.

6. A personal interview with Admissions Office personnel.
7. A $40 application fee.

**Admission to the Doctor of Ministry Program (D.Min.)**

In order to benefit from a Doctor of Ministry program, applicants must have the necessary background both in academics and in ministry. This background is essential to facilitate effective peer learning. The following requirements for admission to the Doctor of Ministry Program have been formulated with these concepts in mind. A Doctor of Ministry Application at BTSR requires the following prerequisites:

1. A completed Doctor of Ministry Application for Admission form online.
2. Transcripts of all work demonstrating the completion of a M.Div. or its equivalent at an ATS accredited seminary with a GPA of at least 2.75 (A=4.0). Students who show competency in all other areas of the application but fail to meet the GPA requirement are encouraged to take the Miller Analogies Test for admissions consideration.
3. A resume demonstrating evidence of at least two years in full-time ministry after completion of the Master of Divinity.
4. Evidence of current involvement in ministry.
5. Recommendations from three persons acquainted with the applicant’s skills: a seminary teacher, a ministry or denominational colleague, and a layperson.
6. A statement giving reasons for applying, goals for ministry, goals for the program, and thoughts regarding a possible ministry project, which demonstrate interests compatible with a graduate program in practical ministry.
7. Submit a writing sample: a master's level academic paper (15-20 double spaced typed pages) or a published article that we may use to assess your ability to integrate information from various sources, analyze material, draw appropriate conclusions, and write at a doctoral level.

D.Min. students are admitted and enroll in courses every year. In the cohort years, registration for the August seminar occurs during the first week in June (see the Academic Calendar). Applications to the Doctor of Ministry program will be accepted throughout the academic year.

Candidates accepted into the D.Min. program may defer starting the program up to two years after acceptance. Deferment after that time will require re-application into the program.
Admission to the Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies Program (G.C.T.S.)

The Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (GCTS) is for persons who seek basic theological training to enhance their participation in their congregation or profession. The certificate can also serve as a gateway to a formal application to a degree program for those exploring their calling or who desire to begin formal theological studies but are not ready to commit to a program of study.

The applicant must submit the following:

1. Complete a GCTS online application.
2. Provide official academic transcripts of all undergraduate studies or its equivalent (with minimum GPA of 2.0).
3. A resume of work and education history.
4. Provide a 500 word Personal Statement explaining your goals and how this certificate will benefit your ministry.
5. A $40 application fee.

Non-Degree Study

Non-Degree study is for persons who want to take courses with no immediate desire to pursue a degree; however, the completed courses may transfer into a degree seeking program if the person desires to later pursue a degree.

The applicant must submit the following:

1. Complete a BTSR Non-Degree Application online.
2. Submit a transcript or transcripts of credit courses from a community college, trade school, or an undergraduate equivalent or from another seminary; preferably 12 hours or above. The grade point average must be 2.0 or above based on a 4.0 scale.
3. A resume of work and education history.
4. A $40 application fee.

Admission as a non-degree seeking student does not constitute admission to a degree program. However, if a student later applies for entry into the M.Div. program, up to 27 semester hours completed as a non-degree student can be applied to the M.Div. degree. For the M.T.S. and M.C.M. programs, up to 24 semester hours may be transferred. The application fee will be waived in these cases. Non-Degree students may take up to 6 credit hours in a semester and 9 total in an academic year. Persons within twelve semester hours of the completion of their baccalaureate degree may take up to a maximum of 12 semester hours. Non-degree seeking students must re-matriculate with the Registrar each academic year of their study.
International Students

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond is currently closed to resident international masters level students; however, Doctor of Ministry students wishing to remain in their country and begin study are welcome.

International students are required to follow the standard admissions requirements. In addition, students for whom English is not a first language must submit a score from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). The TOEFL score of at least 213 (computer-based) or 550 (paper-based) is required. The IELTS score of at least 5.5 is required. For information contact: TOEFL, P.O. Box 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151 or visit www.toefl.org. Telephone: (609) 921-9000. Contact IELTS at www.ielts.org. International students who have spent at least four years studying in an English-speaking institution earning a bachelor’s degree or above may be exempt from taking TOEFL or IELTS.

Upon acceptance as a student to BTSR, the Registrar will assist student with the visa process.

The Non-resident international student who lives at home and takes only online courses:

• must pay tuition, fees and books in U.S. currency, through wire transfer, credit card, or check. The student is responsible for all costs related to currency conversion.
• must pay full tuition, fees, and books for online courses before the course begins.
• F-1 students cannot take more than one online course (3 semester hours) per term/semester as per federal restrictions (USA Patriot Act 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6)(G): § Sec. 214.2(f)).

The seminary follows the directive of the USA Patriot Act regulation pertaining to the limit on online courses (8 CFR 214.2(f)(6)(G): “For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken online or through distance education and does not require the student’s physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An online or distance course is a course that is offered principally through the use of computer, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student’s course of study is a language study program, no online or distance classes may be considered to count toward a student’s full course of study requirement. (Revised effective 1/1/03; 67 FR 76256)” For additional information, contact the Registrar.

Advanced Standing

Masters level applicants who have completed work in Old Testament, New
Testament, church history, or biblical Hebrew or Greek at the college level which is equivalent to seminary course requirements may petition for consideration for advanced standing in these subject areas. A request must be made at least three weeks before the student begins study at the seminary. There are two vehicles for petitioning advanced standing: a course syllabus and transcript audit, and an online proficiency exam. Upon approval, a student may bypass the required course(s) and satisfy the BTSR course requirement(s) by taking advanced level course(s).

Transfer of Credit

Work completed at the graduate level at another accredited school with a grade of at least “C” (for which a degree has not been granted) may be applied toward the M.Div. degree at BTSR if it is judged to be appropriate to the student’s program of studies. No more than 54 semester hours of such work can be applied to the M.Div. program. In any case, the last full year of work and a minimum of 27 semester hours in course credits must be completed through BTSR. Transfer of credits will appear on the student’s transcript but the grade will not be included in the cumulative GPA. For the M.T.S. transfer courses must have a grade of B or higher. No more than 24 semester hours may be transferred to the M.T.S. Credit cannot be applied for courses completed beyond seven (7) years past. A transfer of credit fee of $150 applies for each course approved for transfer except for those awarded by BTSR.

Audit Study

Persons wishing to take a course for their own enrichment or as continuing education may apply for audit study. There is a $150 administrative audit fee per course. Persons are welcomed to audit courses with the understanding that no papers or examinations will be required or graded, and they should defer to members of the class who are taking the course for credit. A completed online audit application is required for persons who plan to audit classes. After matriculation is completed the applicant may enroll in a course through the Registrar’s office. Current BTSR students and alumni need not fill out an application but do need to contact the Registrar to enroll and pay a $35 audit fee. Auditing of online courses is at the discretion of the professor; not all courses are eligible for audit.

Computer Research and Writing Skills

Students beginning theological studies at BTSR should have elementary computer skills and strong writing skills. Classes may require Internet research, writing and research in digital format, computer-based applications, computer-based acquisition of class materials and/or sharing class-related questions and opinions via the Internet and the seminary’s online learning platform. Students should plan on starting their classes with competency in writing and with a working knowledge of the school’s writing style guides: Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, Eighth edition; and Wayne C. Booth, et al., *The SBL Handbook of Style*. 
BIIC 201 Models of Biblical Interpretation
This course will familiarize students with the theory and practice of the major tools and techniques of biblical interpretation. Particular attention will be devoted equally to the techniques employed in conventional historical criticism (textual, source, form and redaction criticisms) and to more recent approaches such as narrative criticism, and the various ideological criticisms (Marxist, feminist, post-colonial, etc.). Student projects will demonstrate facility in utilizing major tools in interpreting specific biblical texts. Prerequisites: Completion of one language sequence (either BLGH 101-102 or BLGG 101-102) plus six semester hours from a biblical area (drawn from BLOT 101, BLOT 102, BLNT 101, BLNT 102).

BIIC 202 Biblical Interpretation in the Church
Taught by professors in Old or New Testament, this course gives students experience doing close readings of biblical texts as preparation for preaching or church-based Bible teaching. Prerequisites: One biblical language sequence (either BLGH 101-201 or BLGG 101-201) and six semester hours from a biblical area (drawn from BLOT 101, BLOT 102, BLNT 101, BLNT 102).

BIIC 301 Readings in Biblical Texts
This course provides a concentrated study of a biblical book, set of books, or selected texts, with primary attention to literary structure, social-historical contexts, theological emphases, and importance for the community of faith. Attention will be given both to (a) analysis of texts in English and to (b) translation and interpretation of primary Hebrew and/or Greek texts. If students have not yet taken the appropriate language for the course, they must still engage with critical commentaries and translation issues as much as possible. The course will be conducted as a seminar, stimulated by creative individual research and guided class discussion.

A sample of recent Readings courses includes:
The course may be repeated for credit with different texts. Prerequisites: Six semester hours from biblical area core courses (drawn from BLOT 101, BLOT 102, BLNT 101, BLNT 102).

BIIC 302 Topics of Biblical Interpretation
This course provides a concentrated study of a theme, genre, or theological issue of special interest within current biblical scholarship and the life of the church. Interpretation will be based on both primary (Hebrew/Greek) and English texts. If students have not yet taken the appropriate language for the course, they must still engage with critical commentaries and translation issues as much as possible. The course will be conducted as a seminar, stimulated by creative individual research and guided class discussion.

A sample of recent Topics courses includes:
Judaism, Heaven, Hell, and the Afterlife
   The course may be repeated for credit with different topics. Prerequisites: Six semester hours from biblical area core courses (drawn from BLOT 101, BLOT 102, BLNT 101, BLNT 102).

**Biblical Literature**

**BLNT 101 Interpreting Jesus and the Gospels**
   This course provides a literary, historical, critical, and theological orientation to the four gospels in the New Testament, with special attention to comparative analysis and appreciation of each gospel's distinctive portrait of the life and mission of Jesus. BLNT 101 and BLNT 102 are not sequential.

**BLNT 102 Interpreting Acts, Letters, and the Apocalypse**
   This course provides a literary, historical, critical, and theological orientation to the book of Acts, Pauline and non-Pauline letters, and the book of Revelation in the New Testament, with special attention to issues of genre, theology, and the practice of ministry in the early church. BLNT 101 and BLNT 102 are not sequential.

**BLOT 101 Interpreting Torah and Former Prophets**
   This course provides an orientation to historical, critical, and theological study of the literature of the Old Testament. Lectures and assigned readings cover the major issues of interpretation. Seminar sections of the course introduce procedures for exegesis through hands-on work on selected texts. The Pentateuch, Historical Books, and the Hebrew Psalter are considered. BLOT 101 and BLOT 102 are not sequential.

**BLOT 102 Interpreting Prophets and Writings**
   This course provides an orientation to historical, critical, and theological study of the literature of the Old Testament. Lectures and assigned readings cover the major issues of interpretation. Seminar sections of the course introduce procedures for exegesis through hands-on work on selected texts. The Prophets and Wisdom Literature are considered. BLOT 101 and BLOT 102 are not sequential.

**Biblical Languages**

**BLGG 101 New Testament Greek I**
   This course introduces the basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of the Greek New Testament.

**BLGG 201 New Testament Greek II**
   This course is a continuation of BLGG101 that completes the introduction to the basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of the Greek New Testament. Exegetical and interpretive skills will be applied to reading selected texts from the Greek New Testament, such as portions of 1 John, Mark, and Philippians. Prerequisite: New Testament Greek I (BLGG 101).

**BLGH 101 Biblical Hebrew I**
   This course introduces the basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of the Hebrew of the Old Testament.
BLGH 201 Biblical Hebrew II
This course is a continuation of BLGH 101 that completes the study of Hebrew grammar with selected readings from the Hebrew text and an introduction to methods and resources of Hebrew exegesis. Prerequisite: Biblical Hebrew I (BLGH 101).

Students who wish to undertake a rigorous study in New Testament studies may choose to pursue a master’s thesis. This option may be appropriate for those considering doctoral work or academic specialization. If approved, the thesis option is used for up to six semester hours and is done during the last two semesters of the student’s final year.

BLOT 490 Thesis: Old Testament
Students who wish to undertake a rigorous study in Old Testament studies may choose to pursue a master’s thesis. This option may be appropriate for those considering doctoral work or academic specialization. If approved the thesis option is used for up to six semester hours and is done during the last two semesters of the student’s final year.

HISTORICAL/THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Global Christianity

HTBH 101 Baptist History: Religious Liberty
Baptists are feisty folks who have always been deeply involved in the quest for religious liberty for all. With religious liberty issues at the forefront of the news, pastors and other faith leaders must be able to address these issues and empower members of their faith communities. This course offers students a rare opportunity to be immersed in issues of religious liberty through historical and contemporary site visits, readings, and engagement with acclaimed scholars.

HTCT 101 History of Global Christianity I
This introductory course is designed to offer students an opportunity to explore some of the significant individuals, ideas and movements that have shaped the Christian story within specific cultural contexts. HTCT 101 covers the history of Christianity from the first through the fifteenth century.

HTCT 102 History of Global Christianity II
This introductory course is designed to offer students an opportunity to explore some of the significant individuals, ideas and movements that have shaped the Christian story within specific cultural contexts. HTCT 102 covers the history of Christianity from the sixteenth to the twenty first century.

HTCT 490 Thesis: Global Christianity
Students who wish to undertake a rigorous study in Global Christianity studies may be allowed to pursue a master’s thesis. This option may be appropriate for those considering doctoral work or academic specialization. If approved the thesis option is used for up to six semester hours and is done during the last two semesters of the student’s final year.
HTCW 101 God’s Mission in the World
This course is an introductory survey of the Biblical basis for mission, the history of Christian mission, and the Church’s dynamic and contextual relationship with the world and God in light of the gospel. Special attention is paid to: (1) the relationship between culture and mission, (2) contemporary thought and practice of mission, (3) the pastor’s role in developing local and global mission consciousness, and (4) the local congregation as a foundation for mission support and involvement.

HTCW 102 Jesus in a Pluralistic Age
This course provides contemporary interpretations of Jesus in a non-Christian religious context and how followers of other living faiths interpret him from their particular spiritual experiences. The course will explore the various ways of understanding Jesus Christ in Asian, African, and Latin American cultures, and how non-Christians relate to Jesus in the non-canonical religious traditions. The MIE course is offered both abroad and domestically to different locations each year.

HTCW 201 Mission Immersion Experience & Program Content
The course introduces students to different forms of Christian experience in the world and gives them the opportunity to enhance their worldview and cross-cultural perspectives. Special attention is paid to the unique challenges of Christian ministry in the non-western settings, and the global issues affecting the Christian vocation. The MIE course is offered both abroad and domestically to different locations each year. Students taking the course abroad participate in home-stays, share in leadership roles, and take part in small mission projects as directed by the host institutions and their personnel. Prerequisites: God’s Mission in the World (HTCW 101) and completion of at least 24 semester hours.

HTCW 202 Perspectives on Global Christian Movements
This course examines the expansion of the Christian faith in view of its non-western appeal and direction in the modern world. Special attention is given to the historical, cultural, and theological origins of such expansion in view of the nature of Christianity. Prerequisite: God’s Mission in the World (HTCW 101).

HTCW 301 Christian Responses to Terrorism
This course examines religious fundamentalism in the contemporary world and the relationship between religion and politics in selected countries in the Middle East and North Africa. The primary focus of the course is the religious mindset precipitating terrorism and a reasoned response to violence from Christian perspectives. Special attention will be paid to: (1) definition of terrorism, (2) causes of terrorism, (3) the terrorist organizations in the United States and overseas, and (4) the roles of religions in challenging terrorism.

HTCW 303 World Religions
This is an introductory course on the major living world religions. The course gives considerations to the Christian encounter with non-Christian religions. The approach of study is phenomenological, and the course focuses on the following religions: (1) Judaism, (2) Christianity, (3) Islam, (4) Hinduism, (5) Buddhism, (6) African Traditional Religions, (7) Confucianism, (8) Jainism, (9) Shinto religion, (10) Taoism, and (11) Shamanism.
HTCW 490 Thesis: Church in the World
Students who wish to undertake a rigorous study in Mission and World Religions Studies may be allowed to pursue a master’s thesis. This option may be appropriate for those considering doctoral work or academic specialization. If approved the thesis option is used for up to six semester hours and is done during the last two semesters of the student’s final year.

Justice & Peacebuilding

HTJP 301 Restorative Justice & Conflict Transformation
This course explores the issues of restorative justice and conflict transformation. The topic of conflict transformation includes a study of the nature and responses to congregational conflict.

HTJP 490/491 Thesis or Project: Justice & Peacebuilding
Students who wish to undertake a rigorous study in Justice & Peacebuilding studies may be allowed to pursue a master’s thesis. This option may be appropriate for those considering doctoral work or academic specialization. If approved the thesis option is used for up to six semester hours and is done during the last two semesters of the student’s final year.

Philosophy of Religion

HTPH 303 Philosophy of Religion
An introductory study of the basic traditional problems in the area of philosophy of religion: the nature of religion, the relation of philosophy to theology, the existence of God, faith and reason, the nature of religious language, the problem of evil, and the nature of immortality.

HTPH 304 Religious Authority
This course is a study of the principle of authority in the Christian religion as practiced by the Christian community.

HTPH 305 The Problem of Evil
This course is an historical study of the problem of evil, with particular reference to its significance for the Christian community.

HTPH 306 Critics of Christianity
This course is a dialogical investigation of persons and schools of thought that reject the validity of the ministry of the Christian church.

HTPH 490 Thesis: Philosophy of Religion
Students who wish to undertake a rigorous study in Philosophy of Religion studies may be allowed to pursue a master’s thesis. This option may be appropriate for those considering doctoral work or academic specialization. If approved the thesis option is used for up to six semester hours and is done during the last two semesters of the student’s final year.
HTTE 101 Christian Theology & Ethics I
A study of the church’s doctrinal teaching emphasizing historical development and contemporary perspectives. This course gives particular attention 1) to examining how theology and ethics are deeply connected and 2) to forming students to be theologians-in-residence in their congregation or ministerial contexts.

HTTE 102 Christian Theology & Ethics II
This course is part two of a two-semester sequence. A study of the church’s doctrinal teaching emphasizing historical development and contemporary perspectives. This course gives particular attention 1) to examining how theology and ethics are deeply connected and 2) to forming students to be theologians-in-residence in their congregation or ministerial contexts.

HTTE 103 Theology of the Church
This course is an exploration into the theology and purpose of the church. This course examines such questions as: Why does God “need” the church? What is the relation between church and world? What key convictions and practices sustain a vibrant understanding of the church in our context?

HTTE 301 Christology
This course is an examination of the person and work of Jesus Christ through key theological texts. This course will give particular attention to how Christology shapes the understanding of the church and Christian life today.

HTTE 302 Classics in Christian Theology
This course is a study and analysis of major theological texts, and their significance across the history of Christian life, thought and ministry. Possible authors may include Irenaeus, Thomas Aquinas, Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, John Bunyan, Søren Kierkegaard, Karl Barth, C.S. Lewis, Flannery O’Connor, and Alexander Schmemann.

HTTE 303 Theology and Science
Tertullian’s question—“What does Athens have to do with Jerusalem?”—lies at the heart of this course of study. What is the relation between faith and modern reason, between theology and science? This course will provide a framework for ministers to engage theologically such topics as creation and evolution, miracles, cosmology, and care for creation.

HTTE 304 Christianity and Culture
This course involves an analysis of competing definitions of “culture” and of how the church understands its identity and calling in light of these claims. This course examines the promises and perils of various cultural formations with an eye to developing a rich theology of culture.

HTTE 306 Going Green: Creation Care in Theology and Practice
This is an introductory course that wrestles with biblical theologies of Creation, earth-keeping, and the role of humanity in the created order. Students will reflect on the wonder of Creation and the immanence of God. Students will engage such issues as climate change, agrarianism, and the relationship between science and faith. Students will have the opportunity to explore practical ways to build simple
living into their daily lives by exploring how faith communities can “green” their local worship and ministry. Students will investigate “green teams,” community gardens, educational programs, and advocacy for God’s Creation.

**HTTE 490 Thesis: Theology/Ethics**  
Students who wish to undertake a rigorous study in Christian Theology and Ethics studies may be allowed to pursue a master’s thesis. This option may be appropriate for those considering doctoral work or academic specialization. If approved the thesis option is used for up to six semester hours and is done during the last two semesters of the student’s final year.

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

#### Christian Education

**PTCE 101 Christian Education Formation**  
Examines selected approaches to psycho-social development, personality theory, and faith development theory with an emphasis on how faith is formed through the lifespan.

**PTCE 301 Educating in Faith**  
An examination and exploration of selected theories concerning the ways people are educated in faith in various contexts. A bibliographic overview of Christian education will be constructed from the perspectives of Protestant, Catholic, Evangelical and Baptist sources. The function of the Pastoral Educator as educational theorist in faith development will be explored.

**PTCE 302 Models of Educational Ministry**  
This course is an analysis and evaluation of contemporary congregational models of Christian education. Dialogue with practitioners engaged in representative models of educational ministries will be pursued with a concern for exploring their functional images. The role of the Pastoral Educator as educational manager, supervisor, visionary, and practitioner will be emphasized.

**PTCE 303 Developing Lay Leadership in the Church**  
This course explores effective ways to develop persons within congregations for leadership roles and functions. Issues of vocational Christian calling, spiritual gifts, the mission of the church, and the role of laypersons in ministry will be examined. Practical implications for developing effective lay ministries will be explored. The role of the Pastoral Educator as organizational leader, supervisor, change agent, and facilitator will be emphasized.

**PTCE 304 History and Philosophy of Christian Education**  
A disciplined and reflective introduction to the perennial questions that have given expression to classic philosophies of Christian education: What is Real? What is Truth? What is Good? Through a survey of the history of Christian education, the classic philosophical schools of thought and a review of Postmodern thought, students will be challenged to shape and articulate their own visions of Christian education for the education of the contemporary believer.
PTCE 306 Introduction to Teaching
This course is an introduction to instructional and learning theories appropriate for varied approaches to congregational Christian education. Emphasis is given to learning how to select, apply and use instructional methodologies. Through in-class practice, the student will develop skills in the use and application of instructional skills. The role of the Pastoral Educator as teacher and instructor is emphasized.

PTCE 307 Reading Tutorial in Contemporary Approaches to Christian Education
The student reviews current books, journals and papers on contemporary approaches to Christian education and leadership development and interviews practitioners in various settings of organizational education. The student will prepare a critical review for each book read and discussed. In lieu of critical reviews the student will have the option of preparing a publishable journal article on the subject of contemporary approaches to Christian education and related issues.

Christian Leadership

PTCL 102 Leadership in Context
Examines the role and function of the leader through an exploration of various perspectives on leadership and Bowen Family Systems Theory with an emphasis on leadership in various ministry contexts.

PTCL 201 The Ministry of Preaching
In this basic course, students learn the fundamentals of developing, designing and delivering a sermon, with attention to the connection between the exegesis of the biblical text and the exegesis of the congregational context. Pre-requisite: Six semester hours in the Biblical Literature area.

PTCL 301 Managing Congregations
This course is a basic introduction to organizational management with emphasis on analysis of theory, organizational structure and managerial functions. It is designed to introduce students to the application of management theory to ministry in the local church.

PTCL 303 Human Sexuality and the Church
This course is designed to help students understand contemporary issues in human sexuality from theological, physiological, psychological, and socio-political perspectives. Participants will also discuss ways to facilitate conversations about sexuality in their ministry contexts.

PTCL 304 Managing, Building, and Funding Your Congregation or Nonprofit
This course provides a concise summary of key ingredients and processes needed for managing, building and funding a local church or non-profit.

Christian Ministry

PTCM 201 Supervised Ministry I
This is the first course in a two-semester sequence. Students serve in a teaching congregation or other teaching ministry setting that the seminary faculty has approved and trained. Students serve fifteen hours per week of ministry under supervision and participate in peer learning groups on campus. Ministry sites must be approved by the professor by July 1 before enrollment in the course. Students should complete
the following courses prior to enrollment: Introduction to Spirituality, Basic Pastoral Care, the Ministry of Preaching, Exploring Ministerial Identity and Ministers as Spiritual Guides and Practical Leaders. Credit is contingent upon completion of the two-course sequence.

PTCM 202 Supervised Ministry II
This course is a continuation of Supervised Christian Ministry I in the same place of ministry in same academic year. Credit is contingent upon completion of the two-course sequence.

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**Pastoral Care**

**PTPC 101 Basic Pastoral Care**
This course is an introduction to pastoral care. Attention is given to developmental and emergency crises and to basic pastoral care theory and skills. The student will be required to develop pastoral skills outside of the classroom in an assigned practicum setting.

**PTPC 302 Pastoral Care in Worship**
This course examines the major themes, issues and approaches to the pastoral care of the local congregation in worship, and reviews some of the major contributors to “pulpit care” in history.

**PTPC 303 Identity, Personal Development and Self-Care**
Reflection on vocational identity, personal development in ministry and self-care issues related to pastoral caregiving.

**PTPC 304 The Bible and Pastoral Care**
This course is a study of events, persons, and teachings in the Bible that offer insight and understanding in the pastoral care of persons and families from birth to death.

**PTPC 305 Marriage and Family Counseling**
This course focuses on development of skills in premarital and marriage counseling, a survey of family counseling approaches, acquaintance with dynamics of family living and family systems, and the development of pastoral skills in individual and family counseling in the local church.

**PTPC 306 Pastoral Care with Children and Youth**
This course focuses on ministry with children, youth and families, with emphasis on developmental and spiritual aspects of care during early childhood, childhood, and adolescence. Attention will be given to developing a theology of pastoral care for children and youth, and becoming acquainted with community resources.

**PTPC 307 The Minister and Crisis Counseling**
Attention to the various crises in the lives of human beings and the development of pastoral sensitivity and initiative in crises of individuals and churches.

**PTPC 308 Ministering in Grief, Loss and Difficult Death**
A study of change, transition, loss and complex dimensions of bereavement, with special attention to the pastoral care of persons and families experiencing anticipated, arrested, delayed and traumatic loss.
PTPC 309 Pastoral Care of Difficult Relationships
A review of the pastoral care of challenging human relationships: The arrogant, angry, authoritarian, dependent, despairing, detached, delusional, hyper-critical, manipulative, suspicious, and the shy.

PTPC 310 Clinical Pastoral Education I
A minimum of 200 hours of intensive training in pastoral care under supervision approved by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education in an off-campus setting. Application must be made to an accredited training center. Prerequisite: Basic Pastoral Care (PTPC 101).

PTPC 311 Clinical Pastoral Education II
A continuation of PTPC 310 for an additional minimum of 200 hours under ACPE-approved supervision. Prerequisite: Clinical Pastoral Education I (PTPC 310).

PTPC 312 M.S.W./M.Div. Integrative Seminar
This course seeks to enable students to integrate what they have learned and experienced from the M.Div. and M.S.W. programs. It is taken during the last semester of the M.S.W. program, which has been preceded by two years of M. Div. study. Required for completion of the joint M.Div./M.S.W. degree. For credit only.

**Spirituality**

PTSP 101 Exploring Ministerial Identity
In this entry level course, students gain a deeper understanding of the purpose of theological education, learn and practice basic models of theological reflection, engage in self-assessment as they examine their calling and gifts for ministry, formulate their own functional theology for ministry, and develop a personalized growth plan to further their ministerial development. This course should be taken during the first year of study.

PTSP 102 Christian Spirituality
This course defines spirituality, introduces various spiritual disciplines, especially prayer, and considers private and corporate means for spiritual development that have formed Christians spiritually throughout the history of the church.

PTSP 103 Ministers as Leaders and Spiritual Guides
This course provides ways to nurture spiritual awareness and sensitivity in the practice of Christian ministry and includes a focus on learning practical skills necessary to carry out the work of vocational ministry. Prerequisite: Exploring Ministerial Identity (PTSP101)

PTSP 301 Longing for God: Classics in Christian Spirituality
The class will explore selections from classic texts in the history of Christian spirituality, from Francis of Assisi and Julian of Norwich to the more recent works of Evelyn Underhill and Thomas Merton. The study will engage students in conversation with rich and diverse expressions of Christian spirituality. Prerequisite: Christian Spirituality (PTSP 102).

PTSP 302 Spiritual Autobiographies
A study of several significant spiritual autobiographies in the history of Christianity, from Augustine's Confessions to a variety of modern writers. Students will seek to
understand and articulate more fully their own spiritual journey in light of these classic texts.

PTSP 303 Wilderness Retreat: A Week of Silence
Reflection and Prayer in the Desert Tradition of Christian Spirituality. Designed as a spiritual retreat for seminarians at the close of the academic year. Drawing on the storehouse of wisdom found in the “Sayings” of fourth-century Egyptian monasticism, the retreat will offer participants open, unpressured time and space in which to reflect prayerfully on our life in God and with others. Located at CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center. Additional cost for meals and lodging. Pass/Fail course.

PTSP 304 Sabbath Keeping
An off-campus weekly retreat designed to offer participants the opportunity to observe Sabbath time. This course is designed to provide a structure that grants students permission to experience this ancient, Judeo-Christian rhythm of the week.

PTSP 305 Creation and Connection: An Introduction to Celtic Christian Spirituality
This course offers students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the rich traditions of Celtic Christian spirituality throughout the ages, to see how they led people to encounter God in their historical contexts, and to explore what they might offer us as people of faith today. Prerequisite: Christian Spirituality (PTSP 102)

Worship

PTWH 101 Christian Worship
This course provides a broad introduction to Christian worship including the biblical, theological, and historical foundations of Christian worship, a survey of the history of Christian worship, a discussion of modern expressions of Christian Worship, and practical guidance for developing worship services for local congregations.

PTWH 102 Hymnology
A study of the church’s hymns and hymn writers, past and present, with examination of their historical and ecclesiological setting. Attention will be given to the use of hymns in worship, education, and private devotion.

Youth and Student Ministries

PTYM 301 Models of Youth Ministry
An introduction to the developmental and cultural issues of adolescents living in the United States and to different models for ministry to youth within this context.

PTYM 302 Thriving and Succeeding as a Congregational Ministry Associate
This course will focus on the role and function of the pastoral staff in the congregational context. Being an effective children’s and/or youth minister requires more than just expertise in one’s ministry specialization. Since most children’s and/or youth ministers work in the congregational setting as associates, they must understand staff relationships, staff functions, teamwork, personal professional skills, and relating intelligence in dealing with pastors, staff, and congregational members.
PTYM 303 Congregational Program Design: Youth & Student Ministry
This course focuses on the practical and proven principles and processes for designing effective programs for youth and students in the congregational setting. Using the Church Life as Curriculum approach, students will design a comprehensive youth and student program for a congregation.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY Seminars

DM 5010 Literature Review
A directed independent study to be done between the third and fourth core seminars. In this study students will survey scholarly works that will form the theoretical and/or philosophical basis for the D.Min. final project. The student will submit an annotated bibliography.

DM 5011 Theological Reflection on the Minister and the Ministry Context
An analysis of the ministry context and of the student as minister in that context, through the lens of Bowen Family Systems Theory.

DM 5011A Field Based Study: The Ministry Context
This first field based study (FBS) is begun during the first seminar. The proposal for the FBS: The Ministry Context is prepared as part of the requirements of the first seminar. The student will submit the proposal to a supervising professor for approval and completion of the FBS.

DM 5012 Biblical, Historical, and Theological Issues and the Practice of Ministry
A review of classical theological disciplines with a consideration of their application to contextual leadership.

DM 5013 Theological Reflection on the Practice of Ministry
A comprehensive review and update of the practical ministry disciplines and their application to contextual leadership.

DM 5013A Field Based Study: Theological Reflection on the Practice of Ministry
The second Field-based Study (FBS) is begun during the third seminar. The proposal for the FBS: Theological Reflection on the Practice of Ministry is prepared as part of the requirements of the third seminar. The student will submit the proposal to a supervising professor for approval and completion of the FBS.

DM 5014 Project Design, Implementation, and Report Writing
Attention is given to project design and evaluation. The student will prepare a ministry project proposal.

DM 5015 Final Research Project I
Concluding written research project under supervision of a faculty supervisor and D.Min. project committee. Prerequisite: DM 5014.

DM 5016 Final Research Project II
A continuation of DM 5015. The concluding project and credit for the Doctor of Ministry program. Taken upon approval of faculty supervisor. Includes delivery of the final project, an oral defense of the same and completion of all changes and corrections recommended by the student's project committee.
GENERAL INFORMATION

History

Throughout their history many Virginia Baptists desired a theological seminary related to the Baptist General Association of Virginia to provide ministers for their churches. In the late 1980s, as the situation began to change in Southern Baptist life, others in the region joined them in seeing the need for alternative options for theological education among Baptists.

Among those were members of the Southern Baptist Alliance (now the Alliance of Baptists). In order to bring this vision to fruition, they established a theological education committee which held numerous dialogue sessions with interested Baptists, and talked with universities about the possibility of divinity schools and houses of Baptist studies. But they also felt there was a need for a theological seminary for Baptists that was different from anything else available.

In March of 1989 in Greenville, South Carolina, the Alliance voted to establish a theological seminary in Richmond, Virginia. They authorized the establishment of a provisional board of directors with the understanding that the school would be operated under the control of a self-perpetuating board of trustees. The Alliance gave the school birth; it would support the school, but would not control it.

The board developed a mission statement, named the school Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, asked to participate in the Richmond Theological Consortium (RTC), and elected as acting president Morris Ashcraft, who then spent more than a year raising funds and laying the groundwork for the new school.

In March of 1991, the board named Thomas H. Graves the seminary’s first president and elected Linda McKinnish Bridges and G. Thomas Halbrooks as the first two faculty members, authorized hiring of adjunctive faculty, and approved the opening of the school for classes in the Fall of 1991.

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond officially opened on Tuesday evening, September 10, 1991, with a stirring opening convocation attended by some 500 people at Northminster Baptist Church. The next day 32 students
began their studies at BTSR in space leased from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

During the next three years the school tripled the size of its faculty, and the student body grew to more than 130 students. The Board of Trustees established a Long Range Planning Committee to consider future space needs.

After affirming BTSR and providing financial support soon after it began, in 1992 the Baptist General Association of Virginia approved the school as a Shared Ministry and in 1993 began the process of nominating three trustees to the Board. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship also placed the school in its budget, and both the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the District of Columbia Baptist Convention began providing scholarships. The seminary was now supported by several larger Baptist bodies in addition to numerous Baptist churches.

BTSR graduated its first class in May 1993. In May 1994, the first class of students who completed the entire three-year program at the school graduated. The vision of many Baptists throughout the region had finally become a reality.

After President Graves’ retirement in 2007, Dr. Ronald W. Crawford was selected to serve as the second president of BTSR. The seminary observed its 25th anniversary in 2016. With the retirement of Dr. Crawford in June 2017, Dr. Linda McKinnish Bridges was selected to serve as the third president at the start of the of the 2017-18 academic year.

**Denominational Relationships**

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond seeks to provide theological education for all Baptists and to relate constructively with Baptist churches to offer resources for ministerial leadership by preparing men and women for the Christian ministry who are committed to our Baptist heritage. Governed by a self-perpetuating board of trustees, the seminary is free to relate to all Baptists without fear of being controlled by a single group.

The seminary maintains constructive working relationships with state conventions, with other Baptist bodies, and with individual local Baptist churches. The Baptist General Association of Virginia has named BTSR a Shared Ministry, supports the seminary financially through its budget, and nominates three members to the Board of Trustees. BTSR also works closely with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, which provides financial support through its budget, along with a number of leadership scholarships to BTSR students annually.

**Location**

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond began the Fall 2013 semester in a newly refurbished facility designed specifically for the seminary’s purposes. The BTSR campus is in Villa Park, a strategically located venue named for the nearby historic St. Joseph’s Villa, and is one-half mile from Interstate 95 and
Brook Road. The capital city is rich in heritage and cultural opportunities, offering museums, parks, art galleries, educational institutions, a thriving business community, excellent health care facilities, theaters, concerts, and professional sports. In less than two hours one can be in Washington, D.C., on the beaches of the Atlantic Ocean, or in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

In Virginia and the neighboring states of North Carolina and Maryland, more than 5,500 Baptist churches provide our students opportunities for service. The offices of the Baptist General Association of Virginia and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia also are located in Richmond. It is appropriate that in Virginia, the cradle of religious freedom, Baptists have established a seminary where historic Baptist principles are cherished and taught.

**Seminary Compliance with Federal Americans with Disabilities Act and Virginia's Disability Act**

The seminary provides equal access to all educational programs of the seminary to every qualified student without regard to educationally-unrelated disabilities. Students requiring special individual services or equipment will be responsible for the expenses thereof, including the expense of providing tutors, personal attendants, medical technicians, aides, certified signers and so forth. The faculty and administration of the school will do all within reason to assist such students in communicating with the proper community or government agency to secure available assistance to meet the student's need. More information on the procedure for establishing accommodations can be found under the Student Tools menu on the BTSR website.

**Accreditation**

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond is fully accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada.

**Association of Theological Schools**

10 Summit Park Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA  15275-1110  
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Daniel G. Bagby, Theodore F. Adams  
Professor Emeritus of Pastoral Care

B.A., M.S., Baylor University; M.Div., Ph.D., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Additional study: University of Edinburgh

Professor Bagby has pastored for almost thirty years, served in two pastoral counseling centers, and as chaplain to a juvenile detention center and a women’s prison. He is a frequent national speaker on pastoral care issues and has authored numerous articles and eight books including, Transition and Newness (1982); Understanding Anger in the Church, Healing Our Hurts: Coping with Difficult Emotions; Crisis Ministry: A Handbook; Beyond The Myths: The Journey To Adulthood (2007); and Seeing Through Our Tears: Why We Cry, How We Heal (199). Dr. Bagby has also edited books on addiction and sexual abuse. He has taught at Baylor University, Purdue University, and Southern Seminary, as well as for the International Mission Board’s Journeyman Training Program. He is the 2005 recipient of the Wayne Oates Award.

Mark Edward Biddle, Russell T. Cherry  
Professor of Old Testament

B.A., Samford University; M.Div., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.M., Rüschlikon Baptist Theological Seminary; Dr. Theol., University of Zürich

Professor Biddle is author of several books including Missing the Mark: Sin and Its Consequences in Biblical Theology (Abingdon, 2005) and Deuteronomy in the Smyth & Helwys Bible Commentary Series, as well as the Old Testament Area Editor for that series. Reading Judges (Smyth & Helwys, 2012) and A Time to Laugh: Humor in the Bible (Smyth & Helwys, 2013) are his most recent works. He has written numerous articles and more than 100 book reviews. He has translated several works from German, including (but not limited to) the Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament, H. Gunkel’s Genesis, and H. Spieckermann and R. Feldmeier’s God of the Living (Baylor, 2011). Dr. Biddle is the managing editor of Review & Expositor and is the general editor of the Reading the Old Testament commentary series (Smyth & Helwys). He has lectured and presented papers throughout the U.S., Germany, and at the Polish Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as pastor and interim pastor in Indiana, Germany, Switzerland and Tennessee.
Linda McKinnish Bridges, President
B.A., Meredith College; M.Div., Ph.D., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; M.B.A., Wake Forest University.

Dr. McKinnish Bridges was a founding professor of Biblical Interpretation, Ancient Greek and New Testament Interpretation at BTSR from 1991-2001. From 2001-2014 she served Wake Forest University as Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Associate Dean of International Admissions, as well as faculty and administrator in the School of Divinity. McKinnish Bridges recently served as Managing Director of The International University Alliance, Shorelight Education, helping international students and U.S. universities reach international education goals. Author of *The Church’s Portraits of Jesus* (1997) and *1&2 Thessalonians: Smyth and Helwys Bible Commentary* (2008) and a strong social media presence, Bridges comingles her passions of research, writing, and administration. At the beginning of the 2017-18 academic year, Dr. McKinnish Bridges returned to BTSR as the third president, shaping the future of the seminary with her innovative and visionary leadership.

Tracy L. Hartman, Acting Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean

Daniel O. Aleshire Professor of Homiletics and Practical Theology

B.A., Carson-Newman College; M.Div., Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond; Ph.D., Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education

Professor Hartman was a member of the first class of M.Div. students at BTSR and won the Miller Award for Academic Achievement upon her graduation in 1995. Her graduate work at Union Theological Seminary included ground-breaking research into the relationship between parish setting and preaching style for women pastors. Dr. Hartman is the author of *Letting the Other Speak: Proclaiming the Stories of Biblical Women,* and co-author of *New Proclamation, Year B 2012.* Her forthcoming book, co-authored with BTSR alum Aaron Brittain, will help churches think theologically about change and risk. She is also a contributor to the *Feasting on the Word* and *Feasting on the Gospel* commentary series and a variety of other lectionary and homiletic resources. Dr. Hartman has directed the seminary’s Supervised Ministry and Doctor of Ministry programs. She has also served as a professor at Pastor’s Conferences and Women’s Seminars at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Zimbabwe. Dr. Hartman is a certified intentional interim minister and a trained coach. She is active in Baptist life and has served as a staff member and interim pastor to several Virginia churches. She enjoys preaching and teaching throughout the region.
Elizabeth Newman, *Eula Mae and John Baugh Professor of Theology and Ethics*

B.A., Wake Forest University; M.Div., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Duke University

Professor Newman joined the faculty of BTSR in 2002 after serving on the faculty at Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, IN for twelve years. She is the author of *Untamed Hospitality: Welcoming God and Other Strangers* (Brazos Press, 2007), and *Attending the Wounds on Christ’s Body: Teresa’s Scriptural Vision* (Cascade Books, 2012) and *Divine Abundance: Leisure, the Basis of Academic Culture* (Cascade Books, 2018).

She currently serves as co-chair for the Baptist World Alliance Commission on Doctrine and Christian Unity and as a representative in Baptist World Alliance Conversations with the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity (2017-2022). She is on the leadership team for *Young Scholars in the Baptist Academy.*

She is active as youth leader, VBS Director, and pianist at Epworth UMC, where her husband pastors. Biking and hiking are favorite pastimes.

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F. Scott Spencer, *Professor of New Testament and Biblical Interpretation*

B.A., University of Texas at San Antonio; M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.M., Westminster Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Department of Theology, University of Durham, England

AFFILIATE FACULTY

**Tim Gilbert,** **Affiliate Professor of Philosophy of Religion**

B.A., Oklahoma Baptist University; M.Div. and Ph.D., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dr. Gilbert concluded his successful Deanship at BTSR in June 2017. He joins BTSR faculty as Affiliate Professor of Philosophy of Religion at the beginning of the 2017-18 academic year. He is a Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Ethics and formerly worked at Tarrant County College, a community college with five campuses and an enrollment of approx. 45,000 students in Fort Worth, Texas. In his thirty years at TCC, Gilbert served in a variety of capacities including adjunct instructor, professor of philosophy and religion, The Cornerstone Honors Program Director on three of the District’s five campuses, Department Chair, Divisional Dean and Associate Vice Chancellor for Teaching and Learning for the Tarrant County College District. He co-authored *Christian Ethics—A Primer* and contributed a chapter on Christian ethics in *Has Our Theology Changed? Southern Baptist Thought Since 1845*.

**Arthur M. Wright, Jr.**, **Affiliate Professor of Spirituality and New Testament, Director of BTSR Connects, Acting Director, Doctor of Ministry Program**

B.A., Averett University; M.Div., Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education; Ph.D., Union Presbyterian Seminary.

Professor Wright comes to BTSR from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, where he completed his Ph.D. in Biblical Studies. He began teaching at BTSR in 2011 and has taught a wide variety of courses in the New Testament, Greek, and Spirituality areas of study.

Dr. Wright has published a number of essays and articles on the Gospels and the Roman imperial context of the New Testament. His book, *The Governor and the King: Irony, Hidden Transcripts, and Negotiating Empire in the Fourth Gospel*, is forthcoming from Wipf and Stock. Dr. Wright is a member of the editorial board of the *Review and Expositor* journal and is also their book review editor. He is also active in the Society of Biblical Literature and has given a number of presentations at professional conferences. He has served as a member of the steering committee for the New Testament section of the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion and is currently the co-chair of the “Jesus Traditions, Gospels, and Negotiating the Roman Imperial World” program unit of the Society of Biblical Literature.

Dr. Wright’s research and teaching interests include the Gospels, Revelation, the Roman Empire in the New Testament, and perspectives on the afterlife in the Bible and early Christianity. In the spirituality area, his interests include spiritual disciplines, centering prayer, and Celtic spirituality. Dr. Wright participated in a Wabash Center workshop for Online Learning and strives to make his online courses as engaging and meaningful for students as traditional face-to-face courses.

Dr. Wright is active in Baptist life in Richmond and is a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church. He and his wife Beth enjoy running, outdoor adventures, and drinking coffee. They have two young sons, both of whom are falling hopelessly in love with all things Star Wars.
Adjunctive Faculty

Stephen Booth, Christian Education Formation
B.S., Campbell University; M.Div., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Min. Andover-Newton Theological School

Stephen Brachlow, Church History
B.S., Moorhead State College; M.Div., Bethel Theological Seminary; Th.M. Rüschlikon Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Phil., Oxford University

K. Jason Coker, New Testament
B.A., William Carey College; M.A.R., Yale Divinity School; M. Phil. and Ph.D., Drew University

Michael Hawn, Christian Worship
BME, Wheaton College; MSM, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Mus.A., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Andrea Klimt, Mission Immersion Experience-Vienna
Magistra of Protestant Theology, Doctor of Protestant Theology, University of Vienna; Professor of Practical Theology, Baptist Theological Seminary, Estal, Germany.
Dan Koger, Christian Education Formation  
B.A., Averett College; Ed.D., M.Div., M.R.E., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

James F. Peak, Jr., Church Management, Choir Director  
B.B.A., Belmont University; M.C.M., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University. Additional study: Medical College of Virginia, Union Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education

Greg Randall, Christian Education Formation, Youth Ministries  
B.A., Virginia Commonwealth University; M.Div. (Christian Education concentration), Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond; D.Min., Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond

Barbara Robbins, Justice and Peacebuilding  
B.A., Baylor University; M.Div. (major in Pastoral Counseling), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; M.A., Center of Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University

S. Greg Smith, Christian Mission  
B.A., Ouachita Baptist University; M.Div. (Missions), M.A. (Christian Education), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.M., (Cross-Cultural Mission) and Ph.D. (Intercultural Studies), Stanley Jones School of World Mission and Evangelism, Asbury Theological Seminary

Megan F. Strollo, Biblical Language-Greek  
B.A., Virginia Commonwealth University; M.Div., Union Presbyterian Seminary; Ph.D. anticipated 2019, Union Presbyterian Seminary

Bill Wilson, Adaptive Leadership  
B.S., Murray State University; M.Div., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Min., Graduate Theological Foundation

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY PRACTICUM LEADERS

Susan Blanchard  
B.S., Radford University; M.A., Presbyterian School of Christian Education; M.Div., Union Theological Seminary

Stephen Booth  
B.S., Campbell University; M.Div., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Min. Andover-Newton Theological School
STAFF

Susan Blanchard, Registrar and Director of Financial Aid
B.S., Radford University; M.A., Presbyterian School of Christian Education; M.Div., Union Theological Seminary

Ivy Haga, Student Accounting and Housing Manager
B.M., Virginia Commonwealth University; M.M., Rutgers the State University of New Jersey; D.M.A. candidate, Rutgers the State University of New Jersey

Penny Jenkins, Supervised Ministry Program Assistant
B.S., Colby Sawyer College; Diploma in Theology, John Leland Center for Theological Studies, G.C.T.S., Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond

George Muricken, Accounting/Payroll Manager
B.S., Kerala University, India

James F. Peak, Jr., Vice President of Administration / CFO
B.B.A., Belmont University; M.C.M., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University. Additional study: Medical College of Virginia, Union Presbyterian Seminary

Jennie Raugh, Admissions Counselor
B.A., St. Andrews Presbyterian College

Michael Strader, Interim Vice President of Advancement
B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Nathanael Blessington Thadikonda, Maintenance Coordinator
B.S., Gulbarga University; M.Div. student, Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond
Scholarships

These scholarships provide both general aid and specific types of aid to BTSR students. Income from these funds will be awarded as part of general BTSR Institutional Aid.

- The Albert and Thelma Bagby Scholarship Fund
- The William Buck and Anne Lather Bagby Brazilian Scholarship Fund
- The Charlotte Ford Barnette Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Bassett Pocahontas Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Lois and A.G. Bullard Scholarship Fund
- The Leroy and Jessie Calder Memorial Scholarship
- The Roy F. Carter Memorial Scholarship
- The R. W. Jack Cansey Scholarship Fund
- The Woodrow W. Colclough Memorial Scholarship
- The T. Rupert and Lucille K. Coleman Scholarship Fund
- The Elizabeth Taylor Cook Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Cyndia Ray Crawford Scholarship Fund for Women
- The W. Perry and Floy H. Crouch Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Jesse E. Davis Scholarship Fund
- The Gaines S. and Mary Riley Dobbins Scholarship Fund for Christian Education
- The Roy N. Ford Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Franklin and Darcas Fowler Scholarship
- The James and Harriett Gilbert Scholarship Fund for International Students
- The Helen Cannan Graves Scholarship Fund
- The William R. and Florence B. Henkle Scholarship Fund
- The Austin S. Herrington Scholarship Fund
- The Sam Houston Scholarship for Texas students
- The Nolan and Marietta Howington Scholarship Fund
- The Huldah Scholarship Fund for Women in Ministry
- The Harold B. and Catherine R. Kuhle Scholarship Fund
- The Edwin T. Langford Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Grace Langley Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Ralph Langley Preaching Scholarship Fund
- The Charles A. Maddry and Kate C. Maddry Crouch Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Marler Scholarship Fund
- The Marie Mason Scholarship Fund
- The William Otis McClung Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The John Allen Moore and Pauline Moore Scholarship Fund for International Students
- The Virginia and Roy Morser Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The North Carolina Baptist Convention Scholarship
The North Carolina Baptist Foundation
The John P. Oliver/First Baptist Church of Front Royal Student Scholarship Fund
The Jesse G. and Irma T. Owen Scholarship
The Peace Scholarship Fund for South Carolina Students
The Edward D. and Kate A. Pierce Scholarship Fund
The Vernelia Wren Smart Puckett Scholarship Fund
The Simmons Scholarship
The Janet Stevenson Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Herbert Stewart Fund for International Students
The Daniel E. Thornhill and Carol Thornhill Williams Memorial Educational Scholarship Fund
The William Peyton Thurman Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Emma W. Tinken Memorial Scholarship
The J. Wash. and Mattie Leila Watts Memorial Fund
The Gene Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Ruth C. Wilson Scholarship Fund
The Robert F. Woodward Memorial Scholarship Fund
Weatherford MBC Scholarship

Scholarship funds designated for specific types of aid include:

The Marjorie and Ed Bratcher International Student Seminary Scholarship Fund
The Brown Missionary Scholarship

Awards

The Stephen & Dixie Brachlow Scholarship Award, creative teachers and practitioners of Christian Spirituality, this award is given to a student engaged in the study of Spirituality.

The Crouch Leadership Award recognizes the graduate who has given excellent leadership to the seminary family during three years of involvement.

The Greater Richmond Area Christian Educators Award is given to the graduate who shows the most promise of exemplary contribution to the profession of the pastoral educator with priority given to the M.Div./Christian Education graduate.

The New Highland Baptist Church Pastoral Ministry Award is given to the graduate who shows the most promise in the area of pastoral ministry.

The Amy and Clyde Hickerson Greek Award is for a returning student exhibiting excellence in the study and use of the Greek language.

The Will Landon Miller Gold Scholarship Medal Award for Academic Achievement is given to the graduating student with the highest grade point average.

The John Grover Scales Preaching Award recognizes a returning student who has demonstrated excellence in the study of homiletics and skill in the presentation of sermons.

The B. Elmo Scoggin Hebrew Award is for a student exhibiting excellence in the study and use of Biblical Hebrew.

The Smyth & Helwys Seminarian Award is given to the graduate who best exemplifies the mission of the seminary, being effective in ministry, gifted in scholarship, and committed to the work of the church in today’s world.

The Barbara Jackson Memorial Book Award is given to a returning female student who demonstrates excellence in scholarship, promise for ministry and articulate in writing. This award is sponsored by the Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry.
APPENDIX B:  
STUDENT BODY INFORMATION
(Cumulative List)

Home States & Countries:

Alabama  Iowa
Arizona  Italy
Arkansas  Jamaica
Brazil  Japan
Burma  Kentucky
California  Kenya
China  Korea
Colorado  Liberia
Columbia  Louisiana
Connecticut  Maine
Delaware  Maryland
Estonia  Mexico
Florida  Michigan
France  Minnesota
Georgia  Mississippi
Ghana  Missouri
Hawaii  Montana
Hungary  Nebraska
Illinois  New Jersey
India  New Mexico
Indiana

Undergraduate Institutions Attended

Adelphi University  Ball State University
Alderson-Broaddus College  Baptist College of Florida
Alexandria University  Baptist Health Center, Little Rock, Arkansas
Alfred State College  Barry University
Alice Lloyd College  Barton College
Alma College  Baylor University
American University  Bellarmine University
Amridge University  Bellevue University
Appalachian Bible College  Belmont University
Appalachian State University  Berea College
Arizona State University  Berry College
Arkansas State University  Bethel College
Asbury University  Beulah Heights University
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute  Bluefield College
Athens State College  Bob Jones University
Auburn University  Boyce Bible College
Augusta State University  Bratislava University of Economics
Averett University  Brevard College
Brewton-Parker College
Briarcliffe College
Bridgewater College
Butler University
California Baptist College
California State University, Northridge
Calvin College
Campbell University
Canyon College
Capella University
Carson-Newman University
Catawba College
Catholic University of America
Cedarville University
Central Michigan University
Charleston Southern University
Chiang Mai University
Chongqing University
Chowan University
Christian Brothers College
Christopher Newport University
Clark Atlanta University
Clark College
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
Colby-Sawyer College/College of Arts & Science, Plattsburgh, NY
College of Biblical Studies
College of Charleston
College of St. Catherine
College of New Jersey
College of William & Mary
College of Wooster
Colorado State University
Columbia Bible College
Columbia College
Columbia University
Concord College
Converse College
Cocoran College of Art and Design
Cornell University
Cornerstone University
Cumberland College
D.C. Teachers College
Dalton College
Davidson College
Dokkyo University, Japan
Drew University
Duke University
East Carolina University
East Carolina University- Greenville
East Tennessee State University
Eastern Connecticut State University
Eastern Kentucky University
Eastern Mennonite University
Eastern Michigan University
Eastern Nazarene College
Elon University
Emmanuel College
Emmanuel College of Victoria University in the Univeristy of Toronto
Emory & Henry College
Emory University
Erskine College
Ewha Woman's University
Excelsion College
Elizabeth City State University
Faith Bible College/Theological Seminary
Ferdowsi University of Mashhad
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida International University
Florida State University
Florida Technical College
Fredericksburg Bible Institute and Seminary
Frostburg State College
Furman University
Gardner-Webb University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown College
Georgetown University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
God's Bible School
Golden Gate University
Goshen College
Goucher College
Greensboro College
Guilford College
Hampden-Sydney College
Hampton University
Hardin-Simmons University
Harvard College
Heidelberg College
Hendrix College
High Point University
Hobe Sound Bible College
Hollins University
Holmes Bible College
Houston Baptist University
Howard Payne University
Howard University
J. Sargeant Reynolds College
Hunan University
University of the Philippines
University of the South
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Virginia Law
University of Wales
University of Wisconsin
University of Wyoming
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia State University
Virginia Tech
Virginia Union University
Virginia Wesleyan College
Wake Forest University
Waseda University
Waldorf College
Washington and Lee University
Washington State University
Washington University
Wayland Baptist University
Webster College
Weimer College
West Texas State University
West Virginia University
Western Carolina University
Western Connecticut State University
Western Kentucky University
Western Maryland College
Westminster Choir College
William Carey College
Williams Baptist College
Williamson Christian College
Wingate University
Winthrop University
Women's Christian College
Xavier University
Yangon University, Myanmar
York St. John University
Zion Bible College
APPENDIX C:
CODE OF ETHICS

We, the members of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond community, abide by a Code of Ethics (“Code”). Under this Code, we accept responsibility for maintaining the highest standard of conduct in the academic as well as personal areas of our life together. We will strive for relationships that exhibit honesty, integrity, and decency which are characterized by honor, respect, and love. Therefore, moral delinquency and a lack of academic integrity are deemed inappropriate.

Examples of conduct which constitute a breach of the Code include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, violence and lawlessness. Sexual promiscuity, whether homosexual or heterosexual, is not an acceptable lifestyle for any member of the seminary community. Falsely accusing any other member of the Seminary community of violating the Code and providing false testimony against any person accused of such a violation are considered to be breaches of the Code as well. Any individual who personally knows a violation of the Code has occurred, but who fails to report such information, breaches the Code; the sole exclusion to this requirement is information obtained in confidential faculty and staff counseling relationships with students. This exclusion is intended to provide a redemptive mechanism to assist students in integrating theology and practice and in no way is designed to excuse behavior that breaches the Code. Those found guilty of violating the Code of Ethics will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for students or termination for faculty and staff.
DIRECTIONS TO THE SEMINARY

Seminary Address:

8040 Villa Park Drive, Suite 250, Henrico, VA 23228

Driving south on Interstate 95
Take Exit 83B (E. Parham Rd/West). Turn left on Villa Park Drive. The seminary is to the right at 8040 Villa Park Dr. Ample visitor parking is available in front of the building and at the side of the building.

Driving north on Interstate 95
Take Exit 83B (E. Parham Rd/West). Turn left on Villa Park Drive. The seminary is to the right at 8040 Villa Park Dr. Ample visitor parking is available in front of the building and at the side of the building.