

BACHELOR-LEVEL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Unless otherwise noted, all courses are calculated at three (3) credit hours.

AP: Apologetics

AP 3904—Principles of Apologetics

This course introduces the student to the intellectual underpinnings for the defense of the Christian worldview. It provides the student with the necessary categories for developing a personal apologetic, and tools for responding to common objections to the Christian faith.

AP 3905—Survey of Apologetic Methods

This course provides a survey of the principles of apologetic methods. Students will examine various Christian apologetic methods including classical, evidential, presuppositional, reformed, and cumulative case.

AP 4900—Apologetics and God's Existence

This course introduces the student to the various arguments for God's existence including transcendental, cosmological, teleological, moral, and ontological arguments for God's existence. In addition, the student will respond to common objections to God's existence.

AP 4903—Apologetics and the Resurrection

This course introduces the student to the historical evidences surrounding the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. The course addresses worldview issues such as a priori basis and the use of abductive argumentation to demonstrate truth of the resurrection.

AP 4905—Cultural Apologetics

This course serves as an introduction to the relationship between the Christian worldview and contemporary society, with a primary emphasis on providing students the theoretical foundation for integrating their faith into every sphere of their lives, with a view toward exploring the various apologetic implications.

BI: Biblical Interpretation

BI 1200—Survey of Biblical Interpretation

This course examines the basic principles and specific guidelines of biblical interpretation with a focus on the historical-grammatical interpretation and application of the Scriptures. General principles, such as reliance on the Holy Spirit; paying attention to context; knowing the ancient culture; and recognizing the different types of literary genre, are covered. Specific rules regarding the interpretation of types, symbols, poetry, proverbs, parables, and prophecy are also given.

CO: Counseling

CO 2700—Principles of Counseling

This course introduces students to basic concepts and premises of counseling including (1) the role, identity, and character of the counselor; (2) possible professions in the counseling field (3) the relationship of counseling to the local church; and (4) provides foundational knowledge for lay counseling.

CO 2701—Theories of Counseling

This course consists of a study of the key concepts that form a basis for a counseling model applicable to a ministry setting along with an exploration of basic human motivations. Students will learn to understand the relationship between essential human needs and the common problems that clients will bring to counseling.

CO 3702—Methodology in Counseling

This course outlines a counseling process model. Course distinctive include: (1) initiating a counseling relationship; (2) gathering and interpreting data; (3) exploring how life change occurs; and (4) maintaining lasting life change.

CO 4703—Marriage and Family Counseling

This course examines the relationship dynamics inherent in the premarital couple, the married couple, and the functioning family unit. Course distinctions include: premarital counseling, the biblical basis of marriage, the roles of husband and wife, parent and child relationships, and communication and conflict resolution in marriage.

CO 4704—Vocational Counseling

This course provides an overview of common counseling issues that arise when working with children, adolescents, and adults. Specific skills and techniques essential to helping individuals and families in the context of church, community, and society will be evaluated. This course is designed to provide practical information for the counselor working with people in a variety of age groups in a church or community ministry setting.

EN: English

EN 1101—English Composition I

Required in first semester for all incoming bachelor students who have no transfer credit. This course involves the use of English for written communication, including exposition, analysis, and argumentation. Topics include grammar, proper sentence structure, paragraph development, word usage, and essay preparation.

EN 1102—English Composition II

Prerequisite: EN 1101

Required in second semester for all incoming bachelor students who have no transfer credit. This course emphasizes effective writing in a variety of contexts with attention to critical analysis, interpretation, evaluation, and research. Literature such as novels, short stories, and poetry will be used.

EN 2103—Public Speech

This course is a study of the requirements for effective oral communication. Topics will include selecting a speech topic, researching the topic, outlining, and organizing the speech, use of visual aids, persuasion, analyzing the audience, and critiquing the speech.

EN 2104—World Literature

This course is a study of the foundations of world literature.

EN 2105—British Literature

This course introduces the major periods, genres, and works of British literature, and initiates students in literary interpretation and scholarship. This course will also encourage students to consider the overlap of literature and faith, specifically the ways that Church history and the Christian worldview have shaped English literature.

EV: Evangelism

EV 3402—Personal Evangelism

This course introduces students to theological and practical issues related to the Great Commission. Special attention is given in this course to understanding: 1) the nature of the gospel and the Great Commission; 2) effective means of sharing the gospel in contemporary cultural contexts; and 3) effective responses to challenges to the gospel.

HI: History

HI 1101—World Civilizations I

This course is a study of the development of civilization from the beginning of recorded history to the Reformation. Emphasis will be placed on the historical contributions from Egypt, Babylonia, China, India, Persia, Palestine, Greece, and Rome.

HI 1102—World Civilizations II

This course is a study of the economic, cultural, and political developments of world civilization from the Renaissance to the present day. Secondary emphasis is placed upon the role of belief systems and their effects on civilization.

HI 2300—Survey of Church History

This course consists of an overview of the history of the Church from the first century AD to the present.

MA: Mathematics

MA 1600—College Algebra

This course is an introductory course in algebra. The course introduces fundamental topics in algebra such as linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, polynomials, and functions.

MI: Missions

MI 2400—Survey of Christian Missions

This course is an introductory study dealing with the philosophy of world evangelism. Special emphasis is given to introducing the biblical, theological, historical, and methodological issues related to Christian missions.

MP: Ministry Preparation

MP 1401—Preparing for Christian Ministry

All bachelor students are required to take MP 1401 in their first year. This course helps students identify where their area of interest in Christian service intersects with their area of giftedness. Special emphasis is given to the practical and biblical study of the theology of life in the image of Christ. This course will include biblical directions for faithful Christian living and service. Active involvement in a ministry setting, whether paid or volunteer, is expected.

MP 4403—Christian Ministry Practicum

Prerequisites for the Counseling Minor: MP 1401; CO 2700; CO 2701; CO 3702; CO 4703; CO 4704
Prerequisites for the Worldview Minor: MP 1401; AP 3904; AP 3905; AP 4900; AP 4903; AP 4905

Prerequisites for the Ministry Minor: MP 1401; PM 3400; MI 2400; PM 3401; PM 4402; PM 4403

This ministry practicum involves the practical application of ministry goals and skills through ministry assignments overseen by a field supervisor. Please note: Students are encouraged to begin their research for a practicum location prior to enrolling in this course, so that, when the semester begins, they will be able to start their practicum/internship immediately.

NT: New Testament

NT 1200—Survey of the New Testament

This course provides an introductory survey of the historical setting and contents of the New Testament.

NT 2201—Life of Christ

This course is an examination of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ as presented in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

NT 2204—Gospel of John

This course is a careful examination of the contents of the New Testament Gospel of John. John presents Jesus as Son of God and describes God's plan of salvation.

NT 2205—Acts of the Apostles

This course is a careful examination of the contents of the New Testament book of Acts. Acts records the formation and expansion of the early church.

NT 3206—Romans

This course is a careful examination of the contents of the New Testament epistle to the Romans. Romans comprises Paul's fullest theological treatment of the salvation-historical implications of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

NT 3207—Corinthian Epistles

This is a careful examination of the contents of the New Testament epistles of Paul to the Corinthians and the problems faced by the first century church.

NT 3215—Pastoral Epistles

This course is a careful examination of the contents of the New Testament epistles to Timothy and Titus. First and Second Timothy and Titus address doctrinal issues concerning church leadership, administration, and ministry.

NT 4219—Hebrews

This is a careful examination of the contents of the New Testament epistle of Hebrews. Hebrews presents Jesus Christ as the believer's high priest who is superior to angels, Moses, the Levitical priesthood, and the sacrificial system of the Old Testament.

NT 4227—Revelation

This is a careful examination of the contents of the New Testament book of Revelation. Revelation unveils Jesus Christ as the central figure in the culmination of God's redemptive program.

OT: Old Testament

OT 1200—Survey of the Old Testament

This is an examination of the contents of the Old Testament with attention given to background, general analysis, and brief exposition of each book. Each book will be examined in its relation to the other canonical writings.

OT 2201—Genesis

This course is a study of the first book of the Bible, giving attention to introductory matters, teaching, and development of the book. Special emphasis is given to Genesis 1-11 and the Abrahamic Covenant.

OT 2206—Joshua-Judges

This course examines the backgrounds of and interprets selected passages in the Old Testament books of Joshua and Judges. Special attention is given to the development of themes within the books.

OT 3228—Minor Prophets (Hosea-Malachi)

This course provides the background and analysis of the twelve Minor Prophets.

OT 4214—Chronicles

This course is a study of selected passages from First and Second Chronicles. As the last word of the entire Hebrew Bible, attention will be devoted to the historical, theological, and literary aspects of the books.

PH: Philosophy

PH 1900—Philosophy and Critical Thinking

It is recommended that all incoming bachelor students without transfer credit enroll in PH 1900 in their first year. This course is an introduction to the principles of good reasoning and effective argumentation, with an emphasis on their relationship to the Christian faith and their relevance for higher education. Specific attention will also be given to the historical and cultural trends that discourage the use of critical thinking skills today, with a view to equipping the student to resist those trends.

PH 1901—Principles of Philosophy

This course is a study of the contribution, from antiquity to the 21st Century, from writers in philosophy. Topics include reality, knowledge, science, ethics, politics, art, and the mind.

PH 2901—Contemporary Moral Philosophy

This is a study of the complex moral issues faced by contemporary society with emphasis on relevant theories and their application to ethical dilemmas. Topics include war, euthanasia, divorce, capital punishment, ethical decision-making by leaders, and civil disobedience.

PM: Pastoral Ministry

PM 3400—Principles of Ministerial Leadership

This is a study of the leadership and service of the minister with emphasis on the personal, family, and professional life of the pastor.

PM 3401—Foundations of Pastoral Ministry

This course is an introduction to the theological and practical foundations of Christian ministry. Special attention is given in this course to discussing the servant-like nature of Christian ministry, the qualifications of a Christian minister, and the various services and ordinances performed by a Christian minister.

PM 4402—Principles of Biblical Exposition

This is a study of the nature of biblical exposition and principles of message construction. Attention is given to the basic materials of the message, methods of preparation, and delivery, and problems of exposition.

PM 4403—Principles of Administration in Ministry

This course is an introduction to the processes by which a pastor should utilize the human, physical, and financial resources of a local church in order to meet the church's specific objectives and goals. Attention is given to how a pastor should steward a local church's: 1) staff and lay leaders; 2) property, plan, and equipment; and 3) financial holdings and investments towards the successful accomplishment of its mission.

PY: Psychology

PY 1701—Social Psychology

This branch of psychology deals with social interactions, including their origins and their effects on the individual. Students will examine how people's thoughts, feelings, beliefs, intentions, and goals are constructed within a social context.

PY 1702—Lifespan Development

This course offers a general survey of human growth and developmental theory and science from physiological, cognitive, and social perspectives. Each stage of human life-cycle development is considered from birth and infancy to adulthood and the end of life.

PY 2700—Theories of Personality

The content of this course involves a study of the concepts that constitute the major theories of personality and how they explain human behavior. Theories that address personality development and implications for normal and abnormal development will be considered.

PY 2701—The Integration of Christianity and Psychology

This course examines the interface between the Christian faith and the academic discipline of psychology. Topics include levels-of-explanation, the integration of faith and praxis, and Christian psychology and biblical counseling viewpoints. A focus on the relationship between Christian theology and the science of psychology is foundational.

PY 2702—Introduction to Psychological Theories and Therapies

This course is designed to acquaint students with a basic knowledge of the major theoretical systems of counseling and psychotherapy. Therapies are analyzed and discussed for appropriateness in working with culturally diverse groups.

PY 2703—Principles of Psychology

This is a study of the major elements of psychology, including theories and applications. Topics include human development, emotions, learning, perception, memory, personality, and behavior. The course also considers the integration of biblical counseling and psychology.

PY 2704—Human Sexuality

An overview of the physiological, psychological, and sociological aspects of human sexuality encountered in counseling. Topics covered include sexual relationships, sexual behaviors, sexual orientation, contraception, abortion, sexual consent, and pornography. All subjects will be addressed from a biblical worldview.

PY 3700—Introduction to Multicultural Counseling and Diverse Populations

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an overview of multiculturalism in psychology and how counselor and client identities impact the therapeutic process. Topics include culture, race, gender, sexual orientation, physical disability, and religious preference.

PY 3701—Research Methods and Statistics

Students in this course will be introduced to research methodology and statistical techniques for psychological research. Topics include basic statistical skills and practices, descriptive research, predictive research, experimental research, and ethics in research.

PY 3702—The Physiological Bases of Behavior

This course includes an explanation of the anatomical structures and physiological processes that determine behavior. Topics include neural conduction, the role of neurotransmitters, cortical functioning, the cellular bases of neuronal activities, and brain disorders.

PY 4700—The History and Systems of Psychology

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the history and systems of psychology. From its origins in philosophy and the natural sciences through the early schools of psychology into its current forms, the lives and work of the men and women who created psychology's foundation will be explored.

PY 4701—Learning and Cognition

The student will be provided with a framework of cognitive psychology in this course. Topics include perception, attention, consciousness, memory, knowledge representation, language, problem-solving, and decision making. The relationship between learning and the brain will be emphasized.

PY 4702—Abnormal Psychology

This course will introduce the student to the scientific study of mental illness. Students will explore such topics as basic definitions and concepts of psychopathy, historical perspectives, theoretical models of psychopathology, assessments and diagnoses of mental illness, and research methods for studying mental disorders.

PY 4703—Ethics in the Helping Professions

This course is designed to introduce the psychology student to the study of the values and principles of ethical decision-making. Topics include ethical dilemmas, critical thinking, professional codes of ethics, and common morality. All topics are evaluated from a Christian worldview.

SC: Science

SC 1501—Physical Science

This course entails the study of the inorganic world, which includes chemistry and other related subjects such as atoms and periodic properties, chemical bonds and reactions, water and solutions, and nuclear reactions.

TH: Theology

TH 3301—Survey of Theology I

This is a general survey of Bible doctrine dealing with five of the ten major areas of systematic theology including bibliology, theology proper, christology, pneumatology, and angelology. The course also includes an introduction to and the value of the study of systematic theology.

TH 3302—Survey of Theology II

This is a general survey of Bible doctrine dealing with five of the ten major areas of systematic theology including anthropology, hamartiology, soteriology, ecclesiology, and eschatology. This course, although a logical extension of TH 3301, does not require TH 3301 as a prerequisite.

TH 4303—Christology

This is a study concentrating on the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Particular consideration is given to the deity and the humanity of Christ, messianic prophecy, His work in the Old Testament, His salvific work on the cross, His literal resurrection, His ascension and present work in Heaven, and His future coming again. Attention also is given to modern assaults on the biblical portrayal of Christ.

TH 4305—The Doctrine of Creation

This course critically examines different models and aspects of the Christian doctrine of creation. This includes study of biblical texts such as Genesis 1-3, other Old Testament texts, the Letter to the Ephesians and Colossians, the Prologue of John's Gospel, and Revelation. Specific topics addressed will include creation ex-nihilo, the goodness of creation and the problem of evil, the image of God, and the idea of stewardship.



"I simply love Luther Rice College and Seminary! President Flanagan, the professors and the entire staff are very caring, encouraging and supportive of students. While rigorous and intensive, the courses were so very insightful, educational, inspiring and rewarding.

When the Holy Spirit led me to this wonderful seminary, I had no idea what immense blessings God had in store for me! Luther Rice provided so many tools to equip me in the ministry of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Working with my husband in our busy restaurants, as well as my freelance writing, the seminary helped me understand what is expected of me as a Christian in my daily walk with Him."

***Leslie E. Royal, Master of Arts in Christian Studies and
Master of Divinity Graduate***

MASTER-LEVEL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Unless otherwise noted, all courses are calculated at three (3) credit hours.

AP: Apologetics

AP 5901—Foundations of Apologetics

This course consists of laying a foundation for a systematic and rational defense of the Christian faith. Various strategies, tactics, and issues are surveyed with the goal of providing an overall argument for the basic elements of the Christian Faith.

AP 5904—Apologetic Methods

This course examines, in detail, a variety of Christian apologetic methods used to provide a defense of the Christian faith. Each method will be evaluated and the student will analyze, synthesize, and apply a personalized apologetic method.

AP 5905—Biblical Apologetics

This course provides a study and defense of the veracity of the Bible. Archaeological, historical, geographical, linguistic, and cultural issues are examined with the goal of answering specific claims of critics and skeptics of the Bible.

AP 5906—Theological Apologetics

This course focuses on specific challenges to traditional conservative theology from within and outside of Christianity. The nature of the triune God, the dual nature of Christ, and the relation of God to the world are some of the topics explored in defense of classic orthodoxy.

AP 6907—Apologetics and Miracles

This course examines the Christian claims of the reality of miracles through the lens of apologetics. Arguments for and against miracles will be examined, with special emphasis on the reported resurrection of Jesus.

AP 6908—Apologetics and the Problem of Evil

This course provides an in-depth analysis of the challenges posed by evil, pain, and suffering, including responses, both classic and contemporary.

AP 6909—Apologetics and Worldviews

This course examines the origins, practices, and teachings of the major world religions including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism.

AP 6911—Apologetics Capstone

This course serves as the culminating academic, intellectual, and ministerial experience for students in the graduate apologetics program. Students shall create a product demonstrating their learning acquisition of the program outcomes during their final semester of their degree program. Capstone projects are generally the result of activity performed in a ministry setting. Students should contact the program coordinator to discuss options prior to the final semester of study. The capstone course should not be taken with more than two additional courses.

BE: Biblical Exposition

BE 7404—Preparing an Expository Message

This is a study of the nature of biblical exposition and principles of message construction. Attention is given to the basic materials of the message, methods of preparation, effective delivery, and problems of exposition. Emphasis is upon the accurate interpretation of the text and its relevant application to a contemporary audience.

BE 7405—Delivering an Expository Message

Prerequisite: BE 7404

This course examines the basic principles of voice, articulation, oral interpretation of Scripture, and expositional delivery. Opportunity for practice is given in each of these areas and constitutes the basis for additional study in content, structure, and delivery. The online version of this course requires the student to have access to a digital recording device and a high-speed internet connection to submit preaching videos via the Internet.

BI: Biblical Interpretation

BI 5201—Introduction to Biblical Interpretation

This course introduces students to interpretive philosophies and systematic methods of analysis for the study of the Bible. Students will consider the different aims and assumptions of biblical interpretation, familiarize themselves with the most significant scholarly resources in the field, and demonstrate proficiency in interpreting various biblical texts from both testaments while paying close attention to the social, cultural, and theological contexts of the biblical world and the contemporary reader.

CM: Church Ministry

CM 7402—The Work of Ministry

This course examines the various administrative, pastoral, and ministerial roles of those who provide spiritual leadership to a local congregation. Practical methodologies of those serving in such roles, whether as senior pastors or staff ministers, will be explored. This study also looks at practical matters of the servant's day-to-day personal, social, and professional life, how a declining moral culture can adversely affect these, and how such negative influence can be countered.

CM 7406—Church Administration

This course examines the specific duties of the officers of the church—both staff and lay personnel. The concept of team ministries is studied along with a view of the role of individual responsibilities within the team. The role of the pastor in relationship to other members of the staff as well as to lay workers in the church is examined. The place of church doctrine within the church administration and ministry is also emphasized.

CM 7407—Ministry Practicum

The Intern Practicum is a practical application of ministry goals and skills through ministry assignments overseen by a field supervisor.

CO: Counseling

CO 5701—Introduction to Counseling Theories

This course introduces the student to commonly accepted principles of psychology and counseling. Topics include the biology of the mind, life-span development, learning, memory, personality, and psychological disorders.

CO 5702—Foundations in Counseling

This course introduces the student to the foundational principles and goals of counseling. The counseling models studied will be applicable to church or ministry settings.

CO 5703—Helping Skills

This course equips students with the interpersonal skills necessary for effectiveness in the counseling process. Student interactions actively apply people helping skills to real-life situations.

CO 5704—Marriage and Family Counseling

In this course, students investigate the critical dynamics of marriage and family counseling from a Christ-Centered perspective. Roles in marriage and family are applied from a complementarian viewpoint.

CO 6705—Issues, Ethics, and Legal Concerns for Counselors

This course trains students in professional, ethical, and legal issues related to the practice of individual, marital, and family counseling. Topics covered include ethical decision making, multiculturalism, informed consent, confidentiality, multiple relationships, boundaries, and codes of ethics.

CO 6706—Crisis Counseling

Counselors need to be prepared for crisis situations that significantly impact individuals and families. This course empowers students with intervention techniques that will assist recovery from trauma.

CO 6707—Methodology for Counseling

The stages of the counseling process are the subject of this course. Students learn to assess the counselee's presenting problem, how to take a personal history, how to identify and diagram living patterns, how to conduct active counseling, and how to facilitate a forgiveness exercise.

CO 6708—Counseling Practicum

The practicum is designed to be the capstone experience for the Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling degree program. Students should consult with the program coordinator one year prior to their anticipated graduation date for information regarding practicum requirements. Students must obtain approval of the practicum site before the semester officially starts.

EV: Evangelism

EV 7401—Personal and Church Evangelism

This course studies the supreme task of evangelism. The theology of evangelism, methods of evangelism for personal witnessing and for church outreach, and contemporary challenges to evangelism are discussed. A practical component of the course contributes to the cultivation of an evangelistic mindset and lifestyle, moving the study from theology to praxis.

GR: Greek

GR 5201—New Testament Greek Grammar I

This course introduces the student to basic Greek grammar, vocabulary, and translation. GR 5201 and GR 5202 together provide a full introduction to the elements of New Testament Greek grammar.

GR 5202—New Testament Greek Grammar II

Prerequisite: GR 5201

This course builds upon Greek Grammar I (GR 5201) as an introduction to basic Greek grammar, vocabulary, and translation. GR 5201 and GR 5202 together provide a full introduction to the elements of New Testament Greek grammar.

GR 6203—Intermediate New Testament Greek

Prerequisite: GR 5202

This course introduces the student to Greek syntax and exegesis by analyzing selected passages from the Greek New Testament.

GR 6204—New Testament Greek Exegesis

Prerequisite: GR 6203

This course trains the student to apply a complete cycle of exegetical procedures to selected portions of the Greek New Testament.

HE: Hebrew

HE 5201—Old Testament Hebrew Grammar I

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of Hebrew grammar and syntax. In this course, the student will develop basic skills in translation and will assimilate a vocabulary of the most common biblical Hebrew words.

HE 5202—Old Testament Hebrew Grammar II

Prerequisite: HE 5201

This course is a continuation of Hebrew Grammar I with an increased emphasis upon efficiency in the use of lexical and exegetical tools.

HE 6203—Intermediate Old Testament Hebrew

Prerequisite: HE 5202

This course studies advanced grammar and syntax in order to increase the student's ability in the translation and analysis of the Old Testament Hebrew text.

HE 6204—Old Testament Hebrew Exegesis

Prerequisite: HE 6203

This course trains the student to apply a complete cycle of exegetical procedures to selected portions of the Hebrew Old Testament.

HI: History

HI 5311—Church History I: Early church era through the Renaissance Era

This course provides an overview of church history from the Apostolic Age through the Renaissance (1517), noting doctrinal developments, major movements, and key figures in the history of the church.

HI 5312—Church History II: Reformation through the Contemporary Era

This course provides an overview of church history from the Reformation Period to the present, noting doctrinal developments, major movements, and key figures in the history of the church.

LD: Leadership

LD 5801—Theories of Organizational Leadership

This course examines various definitions of leadership and the historical development of leadership theories from the early 1900's to the present. Understanding leadership as a process between leaders and followers, the course highlights how these definitions and theories apply within church organizations, as well as, how Christians might influence others within business organizations.

LD 5802—Organizational Communication

A major cause of conflict within churches and businesses is the breakdown of communication within the organization. This course explores the theoretical concepts of organizational communication and how applying them creates open lines of communication within various organizational contexts.

LD 5803—Foundations of Leadership

The foundation of Christian leadership is the person of Jesus Christ. This course examines the foundational underpinnings of the processes of leading within an organization. Guided by a biblical worldview, the course investigates the biblical, ethical, and practical dimensions of leadership that must be present in churches and can influence others in various organizational contexts.

LD 5804—Organizational Culture

All organizations, including the church, have an organizational culture. Understanding how organizational cultures develop and how to embed a new organizational culture enables the leader to facilitate change with minimal conflict.

LD 5805—Leadership Development

This course examines the various developmental processes available for those who wish to lead within an organizational context. The course emphasizes developing an organizational structure that encourages human resource development and lifelong learning in the church and values-based businesses.

LD 5806—Assessing Organizations

One mean by which church organizations, and others, can facilitate change is by assessing the current state of the organization. By developing a research design and understanding the processes of collecting quantitative and qualitative data and then analyzing that data with basic statistical analysis, organizations can discover their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

LD 6807—Organizational Strategic Planning

Once the organization has been assessed, (It is recommended that LD 5806 be taken prior to this course.) it can begin the process of creating a strategic plan. Unfortunately, this process is rarely implemented in the church. By understanding strategic thinking and the critical elements of planning, particularly as they relate to the mission of the organization, leaders will be able to develop specific processes that will help achieve the organizational mission.

LD 6808—Conflict Resolution for Organizational Leaders

Leaders need to be prepared to handle conflict. This course equips students with biblical principles to resolve personal, group, and organizational conflict. Attention is given to identifying the sources of conflict, the stages of conflict, and applying the biblically based processes necessary to resolve conflict.

LD 6809—Leadership Team Development

The Bible refers to the church as a body with individual parts functioning together as a whole. By understanding the theory of team development and the processes of team work, churches and other organizations can create a synergy that accomplishes more as a whole than as individual members.

LD 6810—Leadership Coaching and Mentoring

The Great Commission states that Christians should “make disciples.” This process can be accomplished by understanding how to coach or mentor others. This course focuses on equipping ministers in specific coaching and mentoring skills in order to be able to influence others.

LD 6811—Leading in Global Contexts

The church has a global responsibility. This course investigates the process and personal development necessary to lead in both cross-cultural and global environments. Addressing the complexity of leading within these dynamic contexts will enable the student to gain an understanding of and build their capacities for leading in cross-cultural and global contexts.

LD 6812—Leadership Practicum

This is the capstone learning experience for the Master of Arts in Leadership program. Employing the knowledge and skills acquired in previous courses, students will investigate and analyze leadership processes within the context of selected church and/or work environments. Students will also conduct research within an organization and develop creative, practical, processes that address the needs uncovered through the research to help develop processes and persons within the organization. For a detailed explanation view the Practicum Preview video and syllabus on the Luther Rice website: <https://www.lutherrice.edu/degree-programs/ma-in-leadership.cms>.

MI: Missions

MI 7403—Christian Missions

This course surveys the theology, history, challenges, and strategies of the Christian missionary movement.

NT: New Testament

NT 5200—Introduction to the New Testament

This course is a comprehensive overview of the historical background, introductory issues (author, provenance, date, destination, and purpose), literary structures, major themes, and select critical issues relevant to the study of New Testament documents.

NT 6202—Gospel of Mark

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of the contents of the Gospel of Mark. This course also offers a critique of contemporary Jesus studies.

NT 6204—Gospel of John

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of the contents of the Gospel of John. John presents God's plan of salvation and demonstrates the identity of Jesus as Son of God.

NT 6205—Acts of the Apostles

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of the contents of the New Testament book of Acts. Acts records the formation and expansion of the early church.

NT 6206—Romans

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of the contents of the New Testament epistle to the Romans. Romans comprises Paul's fullest theological treatment of the salvation-historical implications of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

NT 6207—1 Corinthians

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of the contents of the New Testament epistle of 1 Corinthians. First Corinthians identifies the kinds of problems faced by the first century church and the Apostle Paul's solutions to them.

NT 6227—Revelation

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of the contents of the prophetic and apocalyptic epistle of Revelation. Revelation unveils Jesus Christ as the central figure in the culmination of God's redemptive program.

NT 6300—New Testament Theology

This course is a study of the theological perspectives of each of the New Testament authors through the analysis of their writings. The complementary contributions of each author contribute to a unified theology of the New Testament canon.

OT: Old Testament

OT 5200—Introduction to the Old Testament

This course is a comprehensive overview of the historical background, introductory issues, literary structures, major themes, and select critical issues relevant to the study of the Old Testament. The course also offers an assessment of various critical approaches to Old Testament studies and how the Old Testament relates to the New Testament.

OT 6201—Genesis

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of selected texts from the book of Genesis. The book of Genesis provides foundational material for understanding the character of God and his direction for humanity.

OT 6218—Job

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of selected texts from the book of Job. The book of Job explores how God governs the world and how one should rely on his wisdom in the midst of life's difficulties.

OT 6219—Psalms

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of selected texts from the book of Psalms. The book of Psalms offers a theological perspective on the history of the Davidic Covenant and the kingship of the Lord.

OT 6223—Isaiah

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of selected texts from the book of Isaiah. The book of Isaiah demonstrates the trustworthiness of God and the coming restoration of his people through his Messiah.

OT 6227—Daniel

This course is an in-depth analysis of the background and a careful exegesis of selected texts from the book of Daniel. The book of Daniel concerns the work of God in preserving his people throughout the course of human history.

OT 6300—Intertestamental History and Literature

This course is a study of the period between the Old Testament and the New Testament. This history and literature during this period greatly influence and set the stage for the arrival of Jesus Christ. The course will cover the Dead Sea Scroll and related intertestamental literature with a focus on how these writings reflected much of the theology and ideology of the people leading into the New Testament period.

PH: Philosophy

PH 5905—Foundations of Healthcare Ethics

This course lays the foundation for ethical decision-making at the margins of life and death. Ethical issues related to the beginning of life and the end of life are the focus of this course. Some of the issues covered involve the morality of abortion, the moral status of the human embryo, artificial reproduction, defining death, the futility of care, withholding and withdrawing treatment, and euthanasia.

TH: Theology

TH 5300—Applied Theology for Spiritual Development

This course is a practical study of the theology of life in the image of Christ and some biblical principles that guide the development and maintenance of that Christ-like life, in the lives of Christians. The study will include consideration of the biblical directions for appropriating the spirituality and victory that Jesus Christ gives for faithful Christian living.

TH 6301—Systematic Theology I

This course covers theology proper, bibliology, and angelology. Within theology proper, the course addresses the existence of God, His attributes, and the Trinity. Within bibliology, the course encompasses such topics as general and special revelation, inspiration, and inerrancy. The discussion on the Trinity also includes an explanation of the incarnation.

TH 6302—Systematic Theology II

This course covers creation, anthropology (man), hamartiology (sin), soteriology (salvation), and aspects of pneumatology (Holy Spirit). The main focus of the course is on the doctrine of salvation especially what God has done through Christ to provide salvation for humankind.

TH 6303—Systematic Theology III

This course examines ecclesiology (church) and eschatology (last things) within a biblical theology framework. The biblical theology framework will be constructed from Scripture's teaching on the Kingdom of God and covenants. Ecclesiology and eschatology will be subsumed under this framework and be presented as God's unfolding work in His kingdom.



"I chose Luther Rice because I was looking for a seminary that would combine flexibility with a quality education. The ease of the online format allows me to stay on task while the instructors challenge me each week. The greatest asset while studying for my Master of Divinity is that I feel like a part of the campus, even though I am studying online."

Ron E. Barefoot, Master of Divinity Graduate

DOCTORAL-LEVEL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Unless otherwise noted, all courses are calculated at three (3) credit hours.

Doctor of Ministry

Modules (12 hours)

DM 8000 — Research and Writing for Ministry (Offered in August)

This course examines the methods of theological research and academic writing, with special reference to the fields of ministry. Topics include: thinking logically and theologically, writing a problem and purpose statement, researching biblical and theological topics and writing style.

DM 8100—Evangelism in Contemporary Culture (Offered in August)

This course investigates the various methodologies and philosophies being espoused throughout the world by which churches mobilize for evangelistic purposes. Strengths and weaknesses are discussed with a view to developing a church evangelistic methodology within the student's ministry culture and context.

DM 8300—Contemporary Preaching (Offered in January)

This course is an intensive investigation into trends and debates in homiletical theory as it relates to modern views of the church and expressions of worship. Various techniques of exposition and delivery are analyzed. An analysis of historical preaching theory is conducted as a means to assess contemporary approaches to homiletics and modern preaching theory.

DM 9000—Critical Issues in Ministry (Offered in June)

This course examines the theological and ministerial challenges pastors and church leaders face in their contemporary context. Students will research problems and seek solutions for application to the ministry of the church. Emphasis will be placed on how church leaders can articulate a defensible biblical position and how they may lead their congregations into deeper knowledge of biblical truth.

Online Courses (15 hours)

DM 8200—Issues in Counseling (Offered in the Summer Semester)

This course teaches the student advanced principles of biblical counseling. Subjects such as counseling processes, the impact of spiritual identity on sanctification, assessing human sinfulness, achieving victory over defeating behavior patterns, and living in the freedom of spiritual abundance are incorporated into the course.

DM 8400—Contemporary Leadership Development (Offered in the Spring Semester)

This course explores the biblical basis for leadership and the interdependent relationships between leaders and followers in the context of the local church. Emphasis is placed on the leadership challenges ministers face in the contemporary church including new developments in the culture, philosophy, and models of ministry, as well as the student's personal challenges and character development.

DM 9200—Relationships in Ministry (Offered in the Fall Semester)

This course examines the dynamics of building relationships in the church with the goal of precluding conflicts. Leader style, personality traits, and relational skills are given special consideration. Causes of conflict are examined and processes are developed to help moderate the potential harm that conflict poses to the health of the church.

DM 9300—Innovative Pastoral Ministry (Offered in the Spring Semester)

This course is designed to help the twenty-first century church leader navigate the challenges of contemporary pastoral ministry while remaining biblically faithful and culturally relevant. Topics explored include: pastoral care, equipping believers for spiritual growth, stewardship, ministry management, apologetics for diverse faiths, using the media and technology for ministry, and a biblical theology of worship.

Doctoral Ministry Project (6 hours)

DM 8500—Doctoral Ministry Proposal Design (Offered in the Fall and Spring Semesters)

Prerequisite: DM 8000 – Research and Writing for Ministry

This course prepares the student to design an acceptable Doctoral Ministry Project Proposal. The goal for this course is to mentor the student in the development of a Doctoral Ministry Project Proposal that may be approved by a committee of three faculty members.

DM 9500—Doctoral Ministry Project (Offered Every Semester)

Prerequisite: DM 8500 – Doctoral Ministry Project Design

This is a supervised project addressing a specific concern in the student's present ministry context. The project must have measurable objectives, be biblically and theologically informed, be transferable to other ministries in similar contexts, and reflect knowledge and skills gained through the Doctor of Ministry studies. Once approved to register for this course, doctoral students are required to register for this course each subsequent semester. Students will be required to pay tuition and technology fees each semester up to and including their defense.

Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership Courses

LD 8800—A History of Leadership and Introduction to Academic Writing

This orientation course for the PhD in leadership explores the historical development of leadership studies and introduces students to various leadership theories and models. Students will begin to develop a personal philosophy of leadership and how leadership principles, styles, and models may be utilized within organizations. Students are also introduced to the nuances of academic writing at the doctoral level.

LD 8802—Leadership Theory and Research Design

Students examine the theories and concepts of leadership through the filters of sociology, organizational theory, and public service leadership. This course examines the foundational underpinnings of the processes of leading within an organization. Guided by a biblical worldview the course investigates the ethical and practical dimensions of leadership. Additionally, students are introduced to the various aspects of research design when conducting academic research and begin the development of an academic Literature Review.

LD 8804—Organizational Theory and Diagnosis

Students examine current research on organizational models to diagnose and develop steps to help leaders enhance their organizations so that employees grow and advance toward their full potential. Students will explore organizational culture, leader-follower interaction, and develop a model from current research to explain behaviors within an organization.

LD 8806—Leaders and Followers

This course examines the history, as well as the growing body of research regarding the influential role of followers in the leadership process. Studies will focus on the understanding of leaders being followers and how this understanding impacts the leader's decision-making process and interpersonal relationships especially as it relates to a biblical worldview.

LD 8808—Leadership Values and Communication

Using various communication and values audits, students will examine organizations and how a leader's personal values and communication skills impact participants within an organization. These audits will be evaluated and interpreted based upon the literature regarding leader values and communication. Students will further their research skill by writing a research proposal that identifies a problem, the literature relating to the problem, and a possible research design to address the problem.

LD 8810—The Leader as Servant

This course explores the various constructs of Servant Leadership Theory. Students are challenged to incorporate a biblical perspective into the theory and develop a process for teaching this knowledge within an organization.

LD 8812—Research and Data Analysis

This course allows students to evaluate quantitative research data through the use of SPSS (Statistical Software for the Social Sciences). Methods for collecting data and choosing the correct method of analysis are emphasized. Developing precise research questions and hypotheses will be emphasized. In addition, students will be introduced to qualitative data collection and analysis.

LD 8814—Leading in Human Services

This course examines how leaders can develop a culture of problem solving at all levels of the organization. Students will learn how to employ methodologies, critical thinking skills and clear communication, both oral and written, to enhance the work experience of those within the organization.

LD 8816—The Leader as Teacher

Students explore the role of leaders as teachers. By understanding the basics of the social foundations of education and the skills necessary to teach, students gain an understanding of their role as communicators of knowledge within their organizations and possibly their role as doctors within an educational institution. Students will facilitate student dialogues with the guidance of Leadership professors to better understand the role of the doctor as teacher and mentor.

LD8818—Leadership Coaching

This course allows students to review various leadership coaching models and techniques in the literature and how they may be implemented within organizations. Incorporating a biblical worldview into these practices allows the students develop their own preferred leadership coaching model. Students will utilize this model in a ten-week coaching experience.

LD 8820—Leadership Team Building

Building a team is crucial to the accomplishment of organizational goals. This course will allow the student to examine group dynamics and the principles of building a high-performance team and the various aspects required for teams to operate at their highest level.

LD 8822—The Leader and Conflict Resolution

Successfully addressing conflict within organizations requires knowledge, patience, and wisdom. This course explores biblical and sociological processes by which conflict can be addressed and resolved.

LD 9800—Dissertation Problem Statement Identified (1 credit hour)

Beginning in year 2, students will engage a professor as a Dissertation Chair. Working with their Dissertation Chair, students will create a problem statement for their dissertation. This problem statement will guide their research as they collect data and complete a dissertation. The problem statement will be clear, concise, measurable, and practical.

LD 9801—Dissertation Prospectus (1 credit hour)

Working with their Dissertation Chair, students will complete a dissertation prospectus.

LD 9802—Dissertation Literature Review

Students will conduct an exhaustive literature review of the material specific to their dissertation topic and problem statement.

LD 9803—Dissertation Proposal Writing and Defense (1 credit hour)

Students will present and defend their dissertation proposal. Upon successful defense of the proposal and IRB approval, the student may conduct dissertation research. The student will then be considered Ph.D. candidate.

LD 9804—Dissertation Writing and Research

Ph.D. candidates will complete their research and submit chapters of their dissertation to their Dissertation Chair. Students will enroll in this class each semester until a completed dissertation is ready for submission and defense. Subsequent enrollments will be charged 3 credit hours per semester. Once approved for this course, doctoral students are required to register for it each subsequent semester until their chair approves them to register for LD 9805. Students will be required to pay tuition and technology fees each semester up to and including their defense.

LD 9805—Dissertation Defense

Students will defend their dissertation and make their dissertation available for public access.

Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Scripture Courses

OT 8206 – Old Testament Theology

This seminar focuses on the broad field of Old Testament Theology. Attention will be given to the historical and methodological advances in the field. Additionally, students will explore the various theologies found in the Hebrew Old Testament.

OT 8201 – Readings in the Pentateuch

This seminar is a Hebrew exegesis of selected texts from the Pentateuch emphasizing matters such as textual criticism, lexical semantics, syntax, and structural analysis. The original language exegesis considers matters such as the background of selected texts with an aim toward the teaching and theology of the text(s). As appropriate, students will examine and apply critical methodologies normally associated with this genre(s) of literature.

OT 8202 – Readings in Hebrew Poetry

This seminar is a Hebrew exegesis of selected Hebrew poetry texts with consideration given to matters such as textual criticism, lexical semantics, syntax, and structural analysis. The original language exegesis considers matters such as the background of selected texts with an aim toward the teaching and theology of the text(s). As appropriate, students will examine and apply critical methodologies normally associated with this genre(s) of literature.

OT 8203 – Readings in the Prophets

This seminar is a Hebrew exegesis of selected texts of the Prophets with consideration given to matters such as textual criticism, lexical semantics, syntax, and structural analysis. The original language exegesis considers matters such as the background of selected texts with an aim toward the teaching and theology of the text(s). As appropriate, students will examine and apply critical methodologies normally associated with this genre(s) of literature.

NT 8200 – New Testament Theology

This seminar examines the nature, history, methods, and issues of the field of New Testament theology. Major theological concepts in the Greek New Testament will be treated and examined.

NT 8201 – Readings in the Gospels and Acts

This seminar is a Greek exegesis of selected texts of the canonical Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles with consideration given to matters such as textual criticism, lexical semantics, syntax, and structural analysis. The original language exegesis considers matters such as the background of selected texts with an aim toward the teaching and theology of the text(s). As appropriate, students will examine and apply the critical methodologies normally associated with this genre(s) of literature.

NT 8202 – Readings in the Pauline Epistles

This seminar Greek exegesis of selected Pauline texts with consideration given to matters such as textual criticism, lexical semantics, syntax, and structural analysis. The original language exegesis considers matters such as the background of selected texts with an aim toward the teaching and theology of the text(s). As appropriate, students will examine and apply the critical methodologies normally associated with this genre(s) of literature.

NT 8203 – Readings in the General Epistles

This seminar Greek exegesis of selected General Epistle texts with consideration given to matters such as textual criticism, lexical semantics, syntax, and structural analysis. The original language exegesis considers matters such as the background of selected texts with an aim toward the teaching and theology of the text(s). As appropriate, students will examine and apply the critical methodologies normally associated with this genre(s) of literature.

BI 8201 – Advanced Biblical Interpretation

This seminar consists of an advanced study of the history, methodologies, philosophies, linguistics, and major figures related to the field of biblical interpretation. Students will critique theoretical works, interpretative methodologies, and philosophical approaches to language.

TH 8601– Methods in Biblical Theology

This seminar analyzes recent methods and definitions of biblical theology. The students will evaluate significant literature and proponents of various methods with an aim in determining the best possible approach to biblical theology, one in which best explains Scripture's internal contours and shape. In doing so, the student will take into account the literary, historical, and theological dimensions of the various corpora in the Christian Scripture.

OT 8204 – Old Testament Backgrounds

In this guided reading colloquium, students will read, examine, and review selected primary sources and seminal studies on the social, political, religious, and literary backgrounds related to the ancient Near East and Old Testament studies. Engagement with these materials is foundational to the area of study as a whole and supplements the student's overall research abilities.

OT 8205 –Old Testament Studies

In this guided reading colloquium, students will read, examine, and review selected seminal works and current literature related to Old Testament studies. Engagement with these materials is foundational to the area of study as a whole and supplements the student's overall research abilities.

NT 8204 – New Testament Backgrounds

In this guided reading colloquium, students will read, examine, and review selected primary sources and seminal studies on the social, political, religious, and literary backgrounds related to New Testament studies. Engagement with these materials is foundational to the area of study as a whole and supplements the student's overall research abilities.

NT 8205 – New Testament Studies

In this guided reading colloquium, students will read, examine, and review selected seminal works and current literature related to New Testament studies. Engagement with these materials is foundational to the area of study as a whole and supplements the student's overall research abilities.

BI 8202 – Biblical Interpretation Studies

In this guided reading colloquium, students will read, examine, and review selected seminal works and current literature related to biblical interpretation studies. Engagement with these materials is foundational to the area of study as a whole and supplements the student's overall research abilities.

RW 8100 – Academic Research and Writing (2 credit hours)

In this course the student will develop research skills necessary for academic research and writing. The student will be guided in proper use of and expectations related to Turabian and the Society of Biblical Literature Style guide. The student will also be guided in the best practices of academic research and writing,

TC 8101 – Teaching in Higher Education

In this seminar, students will be introduced to critical educational topics and research on learning. Upon completion of this course, students will provide analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of a range of teaching styles and learning strategies appropriate for higher education. Particular emphasis will be given to curriculum development, improvement models, and assessment skills that promote learning across various modalities.

CS 8203 – Competency Exams (2 credit hours)

Upon completion of the ten core seminars and five reading colloquia, the student will take six hours of written competency exams. The exam will be administered two hours a day over a three-day period. The first day exam will include questions regarding the Old Testament and Hebrew. The second exam day will include questions regarding the New Testament and Greek. The final exam day will include questions regarding biblical interpretation and biblical theology. Students must pass this element to move to dissertation phase.

CS 8204 – Oral Defense of Competency Exams (1 credit hour)

The student will appear before the professors in the Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Scripture and defend material covered in the competency exams. Students must pass this element to move to dissertation phase.

CS 9200 – Dissertation Prospectus Development (1 credit hour)

Working with their Dissertation Chair, students will develop and complete a dissertation prospectus. The Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Scripture committee will evaluate the prospectus and student may be asked to defend the prospectus. Students must pass this element to move to dissertation research and writing.

CS 9201 – Dissertation Research and Writing

Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Scripture Candidates will initiate, conduct, and complete their research. They will begin to submit chapters to their Dissertation Chair. Students will enroll in this class each semester until a completed dissertation is ready for submission and defense.

CS 9202 – Dissertation Oral Defense (1 credit hour)

Students will successfully defend their dissertation. Pending a successful defense and changes required by the student's committee, the dissertation will be made available for public access.



“The education I received at Luther Rice prepared me for what has been 20 years of effective ministry for the Lord Jesus Christ. As a Senior Pastor, I regularly use what was invested in me at Luther Rice to now invest in other lives by preaching the Word of God, counseling, evangelizing and watching Community Bible Church grow and impact our city for eternity. Thank you Luther Rice for training me to be a Christ-like leader of others. To God be the glory.”

Joe Esarey, Master of Divinity graduate, Lead Pastor