

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## INTERPRETIVE AIDS

ACADEMIC DIVISIONS are represented by the first three letters within the course number:

- BBL Exegetical/Biblical Theology
- THE Systematic/Historical/Philosophical Theology
- MIN Ministry Theology
- COU Counseling

COURSE LEVEL is represented by the first digit in the course number:

- 5 Junior
- 6 Middler
- 7 Senior
- 8 Master of Theology

COURSE DEPARTMENT and discipline are represented by the second digit in the course number:

### **Bible**

- 0-1 Foundations to Biblical Exegesis
- 2-4 Old Testament
- 5-7 New Testament
- 8-9 Special Enrollments in Bible

### **Theology**

- 0 Foundations to Theological Inquiry
- 1-3 Historical Theology
- 4-6 Systematic Theology
- 7 Moral and Philosophical Theology
- 8-9 Special Enrollments in Theology

### **Ministry**

- 0-1 Foundations to Ministry Leadership
- 2-3 Pastoral Ministries
- 4-5 Christian Formation
- 6-7 Intercultural Ministries
- 8-9 Special Enrollments in Ministry

### **Counseling**

- 0 Foundations of Counseling
- 1-7 Counseling
- 8-9 Special Enrollments in Counseling

## EXEGETICAL/BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

The Bible Division of Grand Rapids Theological Seminary is committed to the fundamental importance of Scripture in ministry. Pastors, missionaries, educators and other Christian workers must be able to interpret and apply Scripture for effective ministry in the modern world.

The Old Testament and New Testament departments offer courses in the background, languages, books and themes of the Bible. The objective of these courses is to develop a methodology for lifelong biblical study. Seminary studies are an introduction to the disciplines that are necessary for exegetically accurate and culturally relevant Bible exposition.

Therefore, the exegetical/biblical theology courses provide the formative tools and skills students will need for ministry. The student must sharpen these tools and skills through continued study and ministry beyond seminary.

### FACULTY

JOHN HILBER  
*Professor of Old Testament*

TIMOTHY GOMBIS  
*Professor of New Testament*

JONATHAN GREER  
*Associate Professor of Old Testament*

MAX BOTNER  
*Assistant Professor of New Testament*

LINDA BELLEVILLE  
*Adjunct Professor of New Testament*

JENNIFER GREER  
*Adjunct Professor of Bible*

DAVID KENNEDY  
*Associate Professor of Old Testament (Emeritus)*

JOHN LAWLOR  
*Professor of Old Testament (Emeritus)*

GARY MEADORS  
*Professor of New Testament (Emeritus)*

DAVID TURNER  
*Adjunct Professor of New Testament*

JILL ZWYGHUIZEN  
*Adjunct Professor of Old Testament*

### OLD TESTAMENT

The Old Testament department seeks to equip students with foundational knowledge and skill in interpreting and applying the Hebrew Scriptures. Depending upon the specific program of studies, courses focus upon learning biblical Hebrew, the primary language of the Old Testament, developing skills in exegeting biblical texts, understanding the historical and cultural worldview of the Old Testament and tracing the historical development of key concepts of Old Testament biblical theology.

Specific studies are offered in the various parts of the Old Testament in the context of God's completed revelation.

### NEW TESTAMENT

New Testament studies seek the fundamental skill of enabling the student to make reasoned judgments about the meaning of the New Testament text. Such skill includes the knowledge of biblical languages, the historical background of the text, the principles for interpreting the text and the skills to apply these tools. The key theological ideas of the New Testament are traced through their historical development in the text.

### COURSES

**BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics 3**  
An introduction to the process of determining the original meaning and contemporary significance of biblical texts. The course includes lecture, discussion and individual research. This course is available both on campus and by distance education, and must be completed within the first 15 credits of enrollment.

**BBL-505 Ancient World of the Old Testament 3**  
A detailed study of the history, culture, and geography of Israel in its ancient Near Eastern context with an emphasis on illuminating the world of the Old Testament. The course will include interaction with maps, archaeological resources, and ancient Near Eastern comparative literature. This course is only available by distance education.

**BBL-506 The Ancient World of the Bible 3**  
A detailed study of the history, culture, and geography of ancient Israel, the ancient Near East, and the Mediterranean basin from the Late Bronze Age through the Roman period with an emphasis on illuminating the world of the Bible. The course will include interaction with maps, archaeological resources, and ancient Near Eastern and Second Temple period comparative literature. This course is the on-campus alternative to BBL-601.

**BBL-507 Ancient World of the New Testament 3**  
A detailed study of the historical period from the Persian period through the Bar Kokhba's revolt as an aid in interpreting the New Testament within its historical and cultural setting. This course is only available by distance education.

**BBL-508 Biblical Theology 3**  
An integrated study of the central themes from the Old and New Testaments that comprise the grand narrative of Scripture. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics

**BBL-510 Greek I 3**  
A study of the elements of Koine Greek.

- BBL-511 Greek II** **3**  
A continuation of Greek I with exercises in reading the Greek New Testament, introduction to NT Textual Criticism, and the use of basic lexical and syntactical tools. Prerequisite: BBL-510 Greek I
- BBL-512 Greek Reading and Review** **2**  
A remedial course which reviews the basics of Greek grammar and improves translation skills. Prerequisites: BBL-510 Greek I and BBL-511 Greek II, or equivalent
- BBL-516 Hebrew I** **3**  
An introduction to the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew.
- BBL-517 Hebrew II** **3**  
A continuation of Hebrew I with emphasis on grammar, syntax and expansion of vocabulary by means of translating simple texts. Prerequisite: BBL-516 Hebrew I
- BBL-520 Genesis** **3**  
A study of the message of Genesis (English text), with emphasis on interpretive method as well as the foundational theology of this book for understanding the place of humanity in God's created order and the call on those of faith to be a blessing to all nations. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-523 Psalms** **3**  
A study of the Book of Psalms (English text), with emphasis on interpretive method as well as the continued relevance of psalms for individual spirituality, corporate worship, and the cry for God's coming kingdom and its King, Jesus the Messiah. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-529 Gospel of Mark** **3**  
A literary and theological study of Mark with a focus on how the narrative configures the identity and mission of Jesus Christ in relation to the God of Israel and what it means to be disciples of Jesus. Special attention will be given to the Gospel's narrative devices, its use of the Scriptures, and its relevance for discipleship and ministry.
- BBL-550 The Gospel of Matthew** **3**  
Exposition of this Gospel with emphasis on its themes of Christology, kingdom and church. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-552 The Gospel of Luke** **3**  
An examination of the Gospel of Luke with concentration on its message and preparation of narrative material for preaching and teaching. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-553 The Acts of the Apostles** **3**  
An exegetical examination of the Acts of the Apostles with concentration on the biblical theology of the Book of the Acts, the historical background of events and the theological emphasis of the speeches. Special attention is given to the relationship between the church and Israel in the early church era. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-554 Romans** **3**  
An exposition of this letter in terms of its significance for biblical and systematic theology. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-555 Galatians** **3**  
The course engages students in readings, critical reflection, online discussion, and in reflective and exegetical writing related to the Book of Galatians. Consideration is given to the history of interpretation, exegetical method for interpretation, difficult issues related to interpretation, and to theological development. The course culminates for the student in the development of a written exegetical research commentary on one section of the Book of Galatians. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-556 Pastoral Epistles** **3**  
Interpretation of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus in relationship to ministry and church life. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-557 Hebrews** **3**  
A verse-by-verse interpretation of the epistle with special attention to the literary structure, the use of the Old Testament, the Christology and the problem of apostasy. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-558 James** **3**  
The text of James will be studied with special emphasis on its connections to the Old Testament, the Gospels, Second Temple Judaism, and its contribution to wisdom and ethical literature in the New Testament. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-559 Revelation** **3**  
An exposition of the Apocalypse in view of genre, history of interpretation, structure and theological significance. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-584 Thesis Readings: Bible (O.T. or N.T.) 1-3**  
An independent readings course in preparation for writing a master's thesis that focuses on the Old Testament or the New Testament. The student will read approximately 2,000 pages and structure a thesis proposal under the guidance of a thesis advisor and in accordance with seminary standards for form

and style. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**BBL-600 Biblical Archaeology 3**

A study of the application of archaeological method and theory to excavation in the lands and times of the Bible, the history of so-called “Biblical Archaeology,” and important archaeological findings that illuminate the world of the Bible. The course may include a “field study” component consisting of on-site training and excavation.

**BBL-601-Jterm Experiencing the Ancient World of the Bible 2**

Through extensive travel and on-site study, a detailed study of the history, culture and geography of ancient Israel, the ancient Near East, and the Mediterranean basin from the Late Bronze Age through the Roman period with an emphasis on illuminating the world of the Bible. In cooperation with overseas partner GTI Tours, this intensive study trip includes interaction with maps, archaeological resources and ancient Near Eastern and Second Temple period comparative literature. This course is limited to approved Master of Divinity students and each enrolled student will be charged an additional \$1025 course fee (\$1125 after May 25, 2018) to cover a portion of the travel and accommodations costs associated with the study tour. The fee is due upon approval of participation and must be paid directly to the accounting office.

**BBL-601-Jter2 Experiencing the Ancient World of the Bible 3**

An additional section of the study tour BBL-601-01. This course is limited to approved Master of Arts or non-degree seeking students and each enrolled student will be charged an additional \$3505 course fee (\$3605 after May 25, 2018) to cover a portion of the travel and accommodations costs associated with the study tour. The fee is due upon approval of participation and must be paid directly to the accounting office.

**BBL-603 Methods and Practice in Biblical Archaeology 1-3**

An independent study focused on the hands-on application of archaeological method and theory as part of an organized field excavation and/or laboratory analysis project. This course may be taken multiple semesters.

**BBL-620 Deuteronomy 3**

A study of the message of Deuteronomy (English text), with emphasis on the Book’s call to covenant love for God and relevance to ethical issues in their ancient and contemporary contexts. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics

**BBL-627 Ephesians 3**

A literary and theological study of the letter with special attention to its structure, the character of its argument, its theological orientation within its ancient ideological and cultural setting, and its vision for the church. The course is available in both on-campus and online formats.

**BBL-630 Wisdom Literature 3**

A study of the Old Testament wisdom literature (English text of Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Songs, and wisdom psalms), with emphasis on the theology of wise living and the relevance of these books to biblical theology and contemporary culture. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics

**BBL-632 Isaiah 3**

A study of the message of Isaiah (English text), with emphasis on the prophet’s vital contribution to the unfolding message of God’s kingdom—the role of his royal, suffering Servant. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics

**BBL-633 Jeremiah 3**

A study of the message of the book of Jeremiah (English text) in its context, with emphasis on interpretive method as well as the importance of the book for understanding the message of the Hebrew prophets and the trajectory of the biblical story of redemption. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics

**BBL-637 Minor Prophets 3**

A study of the message of selected Minor Prophets in their original contexts (English text), with emphasis on interpretive method as well as relevance for spiritual formation and engagement with contemporary culture. For students with Hebrew, the course involves exegesis of selected portions of Hebrew text. The following two groupings are offered regularly. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics

***Amos and Hosea***

A study of the message of two prophets who ministered as judgment dawned on the northern kingdom, calling Israel back to its covenantal obligation to social justice and loving devotion to God.

***Micah, Zephaniah, Habakkuk***

A study of the message of three prophets who served at crisis points in the history of the southern kingdom, calling the nation’s leadership to account and offering hope to the faithful remnant who suffered in the face of national calamity.

**BBL-640 Old Testament Studies I: Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis 3**

An introduction to the methods of Hebrew exegesis, including textual criticism, syntactical and discourse

analysis, and lexical studies, with further development of skills in translating and understanding Hebrew narrative. Prerequisite: BBL-516 Hebrew I and BBL-517 Hebrew II (with grade of "C" or better)

- BBL-641 Old Testament Studies II: Exegesis in the Pentateuch** **3**  
A study of the content and biblical theology of Genesis through Deuteronomy, including exegesis of selected texts from various literary genres. This course engages questions of composition, ancient history and culture, New Testament correlation, contemporary challenges to religion and ethics in the Old Testament, as well as the relevance and communication of the canonical message of these texts to contemporary culture. Prerequisite: BBL-640 Old Testament Studies I
- BBL-642 Old Testament Studies III: Exegesis in the Prophets and Writings** **3**  
A study of the content and biblical theology of Joshua through Malachi, including exegesis of selected texts from the Prophets, Psalms, and wisdom literature. This course engages questions of composition, ancient history and culture, New Testament correlation, as well as the relevance and communication of the canonical message of these texts to contemporary culture. Emphasis is placed on the message of Isaiah, Psalms, and selected wisdom themes. Prerequisite: BBL-640 Old Testament Studies I
- BBL-650 Gospel of John** **3**  
Study and analysis of the purpose, structure, emphases and significance of the English text of the fourth Gospel. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-651 1 Corinthians** **3**  
A detailed study of the text of 1 Corinthians with emphasis on the relevance of this epistle for the contemporary church. This course is available both on campus and by distance education. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-672 New Testament Studies I: Introduction to Exegesis** **3**  
An introduction to the theory of translation and practice of exegesis. Selections in the Pauline epistles are used to apply grammatical and hermeneutical principles of Greek exegesis. The life and writings of Paul are introduced. Prerequisite: BBL-510 Greek I and BBL-511 Greek II (with grade of "C" or better)
- BBL-677 New Testament Studies II: The Gospels** **3**  
An introduction to the study of the Gospels, emphasizing exegetical method. Students will become aware of the rudiments of historical, source, form, redaction and literary critical methods. They will also develop their own skills in the exegesis of Gospel texts with a view to biblical theology and the ministry of the word. Prerequisites: BBL-510 Greek I, BBL-511

Greek II and BBL-672 New Testament Studies I: Introduction to Exegesis or permission of the instructor

- BBL-678 New Testament Studies III: The General Epistles** **3**  
An introduction to the study of the general Epistles (Hebrews-Revelation), emphasizing Greek exegesis and biblical theology. Students will consider the historical setting of these books and develop their exegetical skills by working with selected texts. Growth in doing biblical theology and expository ministry is also targeted. Prerequisites: BBL-510 Greek I, BBL-511 Greek II and BBL-672 New Testament Studies I: Introduction to Exegesis or permission of the instructor
- BBL-742 Biblical Aramaic** **3**  
An introduction to the grammar, vocabulary, and syntax of biblical Aramaic. The course will focus on reading selections from Daniel and Ezra, but will also include readings in extra-biblical Aramaic texts. Prerequisite: BBL-516 Hebrew I and BBL-517 Hebrew II
- BBL-762 The Parables of Jesus** **3**  
Methods of interpreting Jesus' parables are surveyed and then an eclectic model drawing on the best insights of each is applied to each of the major narrative parables in the Gospels. Conclusions are drawn concerning the theology and significance of this portion of Jesus' teaching. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics
- BBL-770 Intermediate Greek Grammar** **3**  
A more advanced study of Greek Grammar than Greek I and II with emphasis on learning grammatical labels and applying them to the Greek text. Prerequisite: BBL-510 Greek I and BBL-511 Greek II, or equivalent
- BBL-772 Greek Exegesis of Ephesians** **3**  
This course is an exegetical and theological study of the Greek text of the New Testament epistle to the Ephesians. The text will be translated and grammatically and structurally analyzed in relation to selected commentary and journal literature on the epistle. Prerequisite: BBL-510 Greek I and BBL-511 Greek II
- BBL-782 Thesis Readings and Proposal: M.Div.** **1**  
This guided course will equip the student to survey relevant scholarship and prepare a thesis proposal and outline.
- BBL-783 Independent Study in Old Testament** **1-3**  
Individual research in a particular area under the direction of a member of the Old Testament faculty. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.
- BBL-784 Independent Study in New Testament** **1-3**  
Supervised independent study for advanced students in New Testament. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.
- BBL-789 Advanced Topics: Bible** **3**  
A formal class which addresses the interests of students and faculty. Courses may include current

issues, biblical and theological areas and other subjects which call for special analysis.

**BBL-792 Master's Thesis 3**

The student will write a 50-75 page thesis under the supervision of a faculty thesis advisor on a significant approved topic in the major field. The thesis format should be governed by A Manual for Writers of Papers, Theses and Dissertations (current edition) by Kate L. Turabian, along with any supplemental materials and/or instructions provided by the seminary. Registration for this course requires advisor approval. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$100.00 for thesis review and binding. Prerequisite: BBL-584 Thesis Readings: Bible

## MASTER OF THEOLOGY COURSES

Master of Theology courses are research-based, involving regular meetings with the professor for guidance and evaluation. The guided research and reading is particularized to the specific goals of each student.

**BBL-840 Advanced Language Study 4**

Guided study in Aramaic, or if competency already is demonstrated for Aramaic, then Ugaritic, Akkadian, or Middle Egyptian may be substituted.

**BBL-841 Advanced Study in the History and Culture of Israel and the Ancient Near East 4**

Guided study of critical issues in the history and culture of ancient Israel within the context of the ancient Near East. In addition to extensive reading in biblical and ancient Near Eastern literature, archaeology, and historical geography, students will present a final paper before the faculty of Old Testament.

**BBL-846 Advanced Study in Critical Issues and Methods in the Study of the Old Testament 4**

Guided study of critical issues and contemporary methods in the study of the Old Testament. In addition to extensive reading in the various subfields of biblical criticism, students will present a final paper before the faculty of the Old Testament.

**BBL-848 Advanced Old Testament Exegesis 4**

Guided exegesis in selected texts in a variety of genres. The student will incorporate a variety of constructive approaches to biblical criticism and demonstrate competency using the advanced search capabilities of electronic tools. The final paper will be an exegetical commentary on a selected text.

**BBL-870 Grammar and Translation 4**

The student will be expected to have a working knowledge of Greek grammar and to have translated the entire Greek New Testament.

**BBL-872 New Testament Introduction and Historical Background 4**

The student will be expected to know the basis, history and methodology of textual criticism. The student must have a general awareness of those significant historical developments from the Persian period through the Bar Kokhba's revolt which form the backdrop for the New Testament.

**BBL-874 Exegesis of the Gospels and Acts 4**

The student will sight-read the Greek text and discuss the exegetical issues with the major professor. He/she will also prepare a list of major exegetical problems for each book.

**BBL-876 Exegesis of the Pauline Epistles 4**

The student will sight-read the Greek text and discuss the exegetical issues with the major professor. He/she will also prepare a list of major exegetical problems for each book.

**BBL-877 Exegesis of the General Epistles and Revelation 4**

The student will sight-read the Greek text and discuss the exegetical issues with the major professor. He/she will also prepare a list of major exegetical problems for each book.

**BBL-880 Enrichment 4**

The student will select, with the guidance of the academic advisor, an enrichment module outside the program major.

**BBL-884 Advanced Study in Old Testament Biblical Theology 4**

Guided study of classic and contemporary Old Testament theologies, engaging as well at the interface with Israelite religions. In addition to written review of the primary literature, the student will present a final paper before the faculty of the Old Testament on a topic that demonstrates his/her own method.

**BBL-890 Th.M. Thesis 6**

The student will write a 60-100 page thesis on a significant and approved topic in the major field. The thesis format should be governed by A Manual For Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations (current edition) by Kate Turabian, along with supplemental materials and/or instructions provided by the seminary. The thesis will be supervised by a thesis advisor and defended before a faculty committee. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$125.00 for thesis review and binding.

## HISTORICAL/SYSTEMATIC/ PHILOSOPHICAL/MORAL THEOLOGY

Building on the foundation of exegesis and biblical theology on the one hand and the context of the proclamation of the Gospel to the whole world on the other, the courses in this department aim at integration and wholeness. This division serves the other divisions by reminding them of the total context of the Bible as developed by God's people in the history of the church and in contemporary cultures. This task is accomplished in historical, systematic, moral and philosophical theology.

### **Historical Theology**

This department emphasizes the history of Christian thought rather than institutional history. The focus is upon the church struggling with the meaning of Scripture and defending itself against attack by means of an increasingly full and accurate statement of theological truth as it proclaims the Gospel in worship, prayer and witness. These courses address post-canonical Christian thought. The leading thinkers, documents, ideas and movements are examined in their historical context. Students gain an understanding of their Christian heritage and evaluate examples of theology in historical and cultural contexts.

### **Systematic Theology**

Building upon exegetical theology, biblical theology and historical theology, systematic theology aims at a logical synthesis of the major themes of the Bible in the context and language of contemporary cultures. The systematic theology sequence confronts the student with theological methodology and the content and interrelationships of the individual doctrines. It is fundamental to the rest of the theological curriculum. Ideally, students who have not previously taken formal biblical courses should take BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics and BBL-508 Biblical Theology before taking the systematic theology sequence. Students who have completed upper level systematic theology in college may, with the approval of the departmental chairman, be permitted to move directly into the theology seminars.

### **Moral and Philosophical Theology**

Moral Theology is a logical and coherent synthesis of the imperative statements of the Bible on the foundation of systematic theology. These courses aim to present a biblical alternative to legalism, antinomianism and natural theology.

Philosophy has a significant contribution to make to the Christian thinker. It tests and challenges confused and inconsistent theological thought, and it forces theology toward precision and consistency. It provides language to express theology. It drives

theology toward the wholeness of a Christian worldview.

## FACULTY

MICHAEL WITTMER

*Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology*

KENNETH REID

*Assistant Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology*

JOHN DUFF

*Associate Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology*

JONATHAN MARKO

*Assistant Professor of Philosophical and Systematic Theology*

BYARD BENNETT

*Adjunct Professor of Historical and Philosophical Theology*

NATHAN ARCHER

*Adjunct Professor of Systematic & Historical Theology*

STEPHEN GRABILL

*Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology*

STAN GUNDRY

*Adjunct Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology*

## COURSES

### **THE-501 Program Introduction Seminar 2**

This course serves as an introduction to graduate theological education at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary. It prepares students for the rigors of graduate scholarship by honing the skills of graduate research, reading and writing. This course is generally required for resident students within the first semester and must be completed by all students, with the exception of Master of Arts in Counseling students, within the first 15 credits of enrollment.

### **THE-515 Historical Theology I: The Early Church 3**

The church from the close of the New Testament canon through Augustine in the West and the council of Chalcedon in the East.

### **THE-516 Historical Theology II: The Medieval Church 3**

The medieval church, primarily in the West, from Augustine through the forerunners of the Reformation.

### **THE-517 Historical Theology III: The Reformation Church 3**

The reformation and post-reformation church from Martin Luther through the Puritans.

### **THE-518 Historical Theology IV: The Modern Church 3**

The modern church from the first Great Awakening to the present.

### **THE-540 Systematic Theology I: Invitation to Theology 3**

This course introduces and practices a metanarrative for doing theology. The biblical narratives and propositions are heard in the context of the story that begins with creation, is centered in Jesus' first coming and reaches its culmination in the new heavens and earth. The doctrines of the Scriptures and God are studied, and

the foundation laid for THE-640 Systematic Theology II and THE-641 Systematic Theology III.

**THE-550 Theology for Counseling I: Christian Worldview 3**

This course examines the fundamental concepts of the Christian worldview and demonstrates how to integrate them into counseling situations. The doctrines of Scripture, God, and humanity are covered, and the foundation laid for Theology for Counseling II.

**THE-551 Theology for Counseling II: Kingdom of God 3**

This course completes the survey of the Christian worldview by examining and applying to counseling scenarios the following doctrines: sin, the person and work of Jesus, the person and work of the Holy Spirit, the church, salvation, and last things. Prerequisite: THE-550 Theology for Counseling I

**THE-572 Christian Worldview 3**

An elaboration of the Christian perspective upon all of life and reality with emphasis on basic matters such as method, being, knowing and doing. This course is available both on campus and online.

**THE-584 Thesis Readings: Theology 1-3**

An independent readings course in preparation for writing a master's thesis in a focused area of theological study. The student will read approximately 2,000 pages and structure a thesis proposal under the guidance of a thesis advisor and in accordance with seminary standards for form and style. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**THE-640 Systematic Theology II: Christian Worldview 3**

This course continues our metanarrative theology by examining the Christian story of creation, fall, redemption and consummation, with special attention given to the nature and task of humanity, the distortion of the world through sin and the redemptive work and person of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Prerequisite: THE-540 Systematic Theology I

**THE-641 Systematic Theology III: Kingdom of God 3**

This course will examine in detail the doctrine of salvation (soteriology), the church (ecclesiology), the basic elements of pastoral theology (internal and external call to the ministry, ordination, ministry of the word and sacraments, church discipline and pastoral spiritual formation) and the four last things (death, judgment, heaven and hell). Prerequisites: THE-540 Systematic Theology I

**THE-670 Christian Social Ethics 3**

This course engages a number of contemporary social issues from a biblical and theological perspective. Through guest presentations, lectures, readings, and interactive discussion, students consider such issues in Christian social ethics as work and economics, racism and affirmative action, marriage and homosexuality, domestic and international poverty, personal and corporate stewardship, differing roles of government,

church, private initiative, entrepreneurship, power relations within the church, and leadership integrity.

**THE-673 Moral Issues in Christian Life and Ministry 3**

This course will help students apply the processes of critical moral reasoning to various problems commonly encountered in pastoral care, spiritual direction and Christian counseling. Prerequisites: THE-540 Systematic Theology I and THE-640 Systematic Theology II

**THE-710 Seminar in the History of Christian Thought 3**

An investigation and evaluation of the thought and influence of great theologians and theological movements. The following are offered regularly:

**Augustine**

A study of his life and teachings in the context of his historical, ecclesiastical, philosophical and theological environment. Focus on the Confessions, the City of God, or the Pelagian controversy. Prerequisite: THE-515 Historical Theology I or THE-516 Historical Theology II

**Barth**

A study of his life and teachings in the context of German liberalism, Kierkegaard and the world wars. Focus upon the contributions and dangers of either Volume I, II or IV of the Church Dogmatics.

**Calvin**

A study of his Institutes of the Christian Religion in the context of his commentaries, sermons and late medieval and reformation theology.

**Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church**

This course will examine the development of spiritual disciplines (prayer, fasting, meditation on Scripture, corporate worship and right use of the sacraments) in the church from the New Testament to 600 A.D. Early Christian understandings of the psychology of temptation, habituation to evil, personal conversion and spiritual discernment will also be investigated and their relevance to the contemporary practice of spiritual direction will be discussed. Prerequisite: THE-515 Historical Theology I or THE-516 Historical Theology II

**Contemporary Issues in Theology and Ministry**

This course examines various contemporary doctrinal and practical controversies from biblical, historical, philosophical, systematic, and ministerial perspectives.

**THE-770 Apologetics 3**

An investigation of the methodology to be used in the defense of Christianity. Attention will be given to various alternative methods as well as crucial aspects of the issue.

**THE-782 Thesis Readings and Proposal: M.Div. 1**

This guided course will equip the student to survey relevant scholarship and prepare a thesis proposal and outline.

**THE-784 Independent Study: Historical Theology 1-3**

Individualized research and writing for the superior student, building upon a concentration in historical theology. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**THE-785 Independent Study:  
Systematic Theology 1-3**

Individualized research and writing for the superior student, building upon a concentration in systematic theology. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**THE-786 Independent Study: Moral and  
Philosophical Theology 1-3**

Individualized research and writing for the superior student, building upon a concentration in moral and philosophical theology. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**THE-788 Advanced Topics: Theology 3**

A formal class that addresses the interests of students and faculty. Courses may include current issues, biblical and theological areas, and other subjects which call for special analysis.

**THE-792 Master's Thesis 3**

The student will write a 50-75 page thesis under the supervision of a faculty thesis advisor on a significant approved topic in the major field. The thesis format should be governed by A Manual for Writers of Papers, Theses and Dissertations (current edition) by Kate L. Turabian, along with any supplemental materials and/or instructions provided by the seminary. Registration for this course requires advisor approval. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$100.00 for thesis review and binding. Prerequisite: THE-584 Thesis Readings: Theology

## MINISTRY THEOLOGY

The courses in Ministry Theology enable the student to integrate biblical and theological studies into a philosophy of ministry for Christian service in the multifaceted cultures of our contemporary world. Ministry Theology encourages the student to bring all other biblical and theological study to bear on doing theology through the proclamation of Scripture, the spiritual formation of believers and the extension of biblical witness to the cultures of our world.

### **Pastoral Ministries**

The Pastoral Ministries concentration is intended to develop the skills of preaching, governance and counseling. Organizational Leadership (MIN-510) is basic to the concentration with added skills developed in preaching, administration and relational skills. Electives in this concentration enable the student to pursue breadth for ministry.

### **Christian Formation**

The Christian Formation curriculum is intended to develop the basic competencies necessary to engage effectively in the church's formational mission of making disciples. Course work is designed to enable the student to develop a distinctly biblical philosophy of education. Attention is given in each course to the understanding and application of contemporary educational theory in light of sound biblical exegesis and theology. A special effort is made to develop the competencies necessary to enact the formational ministries of the church in a manner relevant to contemporary multicultural and social contexts.

## COURSES

### **MIN-500 Christian Spiritual Formation 3**

An investigation into the meaning of biblical Christianity and its relationship to faith and practice within contemporary cultural contexts. Special attention is given to the corporate dimensions of spirituality and spiritual formation. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional \$150.00 for specialized course materials. The fee will be automatically charged to the student's account upon registration. This course is available both on campus and by distance education, and must be completed within the first 15 credits of enrollment.

### **MIN-510 Organizational Leadership 3**

This course sets a foundational framework of knowledge and critical thinking skills needed to develop intercultural and international organizational leaders. Students examine theories, issues and skills of leadership, motivation, decision-making and communication from a transcultural biblical values perspective using case studies and texts.

## FACULTY

PETER G. OSBORN  
*Associate Professor of Christian Ministries*

ROYCE EVANS  
*Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministries*

SHARON BROWN  
*Adjunct Professor of Christian Formation*

DON DENYES  
*Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Ministries*

LISA HEIM  
*Adjunct Professor of Christian Formation*

JEFF LASH  
*Adjunct Professor of Theological Research*

DAVID LIVERMORE  
*Adjunct Professor of Intercultural Ministries*

GRAHAM MCKEAGUE  
*Adjunct Professor of Intercultural Ministries*

BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN  
*Adjunct Professor of Christian Ministries*

TOM OLSSON  
*Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Ministries*

REGGIE SMITH  
*Adjunct Professor of Intercultural Ministries*

DARRELL YODER  
*Adjunct Professor of Christian Formation*

Class exercises apply skills in specific problem-solving situations that help identify requisite thinking processes and abilities necessary for transitioning ministries and organizations from leader to leader consistent with cultural norms and expectations.

**MIN-515 Leading Community Based Ministry 6**

This course is designed to facilitate the student's understanding and competency to lead theologically informed community based ministry. Through readings, standardized assessments, reflective writing, and other assigned projects, the student will explore a systems approach to community based ministry. Consideration will be given to theological foundations, theories of leadership, and theories of change. The course will culminate in the development of a Ministry Transition Plan.

**MIN-516 Urban Youth Ministry Leadership 9**

This course is designed to facilitate the student's understanding and competency to lead theologically informed urban youth ministry. Through readings, standardized assessments, reflective writing, and other assigned projects, the student will explore a systems approach to urban youth ministry. Consideration will be given to theological foundations, theories of leadership, and theories of change. The course will culminate in the development of a Ministry Transition Plan.

**MIN-518 Foundations of Student Development 3**

This course is designed to provide a foundation for understanding the administrative and educational functions of student development while giving particular emphasis to the spiritually formative opportunities available during the season of post-secondary education. Topics include ethical and legal issues in higher education, student development theories and practices, program development and assessment, moral and faith development in college students, campus diversity, and supporting, developing, and implementing institutional priorities and vision.

**MIN-525 Introduction to Chaplaincy 3**

A foundational study of the chaplain ministry. This course is available on an individual basis and by special arrangement.

**MIN-526 Basic Clinical Pastoral Education 3**

One unit of basic clinical pastoral education accredited by the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education may be credited for three hours of field ministry or three hours in the pastoral concentration. Students wishing to take this unit must be approved by one of the area training centers. Information concerning application is available in the Academic Office.

**MIN-528 Introduction to African American Church History 3**

This course is designed as an introduction to the history of the African-American Church. As a social institution, the Black Church has served the African American community in numerous ways; as a social, political, musical and recreational component to Black life in America. The course will serve as a survey of the origins of the African American church from the introduction to the European slave trade through the first 200 years of chattel slavery in the United States (1600's-1800's). The goal of the course is to add to and correct what Professor Manning Marable has dubbed the enduring "Master Narrative of American History." The course will also consider the effects of the "Negative Socialization" of Blacks in North America and the role it played in the need for the development of the Black Church and its enduring theological perspectives.

**MIN-529 Administration and Care of the Church 3**

This course is designed to develop both knowledge and skill in administration and pastoral care of persons. Administrative principles are developed and applied to ministry. A second focus develops the pastor's ability to care for people in both individual and group settings. This course is available only by distance education.

**MIN-530 Pastoral Competencies 3**

This course provides for the pastoral specialization an introduction to the broad range of skills that a pastor must develop in the everyday work of the ministry. This includes the administration of ordinances, conducting weddings and funerals, caring for the sick and grief stricken, ministerial ethics, church service development, a preaching calendar, knowledge of the annual liturgical calendar and church life, financial integrity in one's personal life, church staff and officers development, cultivating life habits of professional development and song leading capacity, along with numerous timeless items that contribute to the science and art of pastoral ministry. The student will have contact with regional pastors in the acquisition of these skills and attitudes.

**MIN-534 Evangelism/Discipleship Ministries 3**

This class is designed to develop the ministry leader's knowledge and skill in evangelism and discipleship ministries. The course will examine personal as well as corporate models of evangelism and discipleship.

**MIN-543 Christian Formation in the Church 3**

This course develops and serves as an introduction to understanding the nature and mission of formational ministry for the Church. Biblical, theological, historical, and developmental foundations allow students to form a coherent strategy for nurturing the whole faith community.

**MIN-545 Teaching & Learning for Christian Formation 3**

A consideration of the various factors which influence the teaching and learning process. Students will engage in a critical analysis of how faith is formed through the teaching ministry of the church. This highly interactive skills course allows opportunity to practice various methods of creatively teaching the Bible.

**MIN-553 Sociology of Youth and Emerging Adulthood 3**

This course provides an understanding of the development and characteristics of the three phases of adolescence: early (junior high), middle (senior high), and emerging adulthood (college age). Students will evaluate contemporary research on each phase and consider how to apply it towards effective church/campus ministries and counseling situations. Special attention will be given to exploring how faith is nurtured throughout each phase of adolescence.

**MIN-554 Theology of Women in Ministry 3**

This course provides an in-depth opportunity for critical reflection about the roles of women in the church, home and community, informed and governed by the text of scripture. Substantial attention is given to examining and defining issues related to gender, understanding the impact of culture on identity development and seeking what God intends for women in ministry. Further emphasis is placed on understanding a historical context that reflects the experiences of women throughout the ages beginning with studying the women of the Bible.

**MIN-560 Global Impact: Biblical Theology of Mission 3**

This course is designed to help students develop a biblical theology of mission that shapes how the church intersects with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century world. Students will consider the essence of missio Dei (the sending of God) and of missio ecclesia (the sending of the church) as rooted in the biblical narrative. Simultaneously, students will consider global trends and the implications of those trends for life and ministry. Students will examine the validity of traditional and emerging models for global missions in light of the above.

**MIN-565 Perspectives on the World Christian Movement 3**

A comprehensive presentation of the tasks of world mission and evangelization through a development of the biblical, historical, strategic and cultural perspectives of Christianity in the world. The lectures are delivered by a variety of individuals with reputation in academic and ministry settings. The course is offered to students through a cooperative agreement, and the location rotates year to year between several venues in Grand Rapids.

**MIN-567 The Church's Relationship to a Post-Christian Culture 3**

This course explores the transition from Christendom to a Post-Christian society and considers how the church should appropriately respond to live out her mission. Students will critically evaluate various proposals for understanding the gospel, the church, and the culture and how these relate to one another. This course culminates for the student in the development of a written philosophy of cultural engagement that might be applied to a church or para-church setting.

**MIN-584 Thesis Readings: Ministry 1-3**

An independent readings course in preparation for writing a master's thesis in a focused area of ministry. The student will read approximately 2,000 pages and structure a thesis proposal under the guidance of a thesis advisor and in accordance with seminary standards for form and style. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**MIN-610 Organizational Assessment, Planning and Change 3**

The course is designed to advance the student's knowledge and competency in the area of organizational leadership with particular emphasis upon organizational and environmental analysis, systems thinking, strategic planning and change management. In addition to the required readings and discussions, the student will develop a substantive strategic plan through a three-draft process.

**MIN-625 Theology and Practice of Christian Worship 3**

This course will examine the biblical basis for Christian worship and the major patterns of corporate worship and related devotional practices (public prayer and fasting) found in the early church, medieval period, Protestant Reformation, Puritan tradition, evangelical revival and contemporary Pentecostal and charismatic movements. Through critical reflection upon this historical material, students will develop an account of Christian worship, its structures and leadership, which is relevant to their own church context and integrates theological and practical components.

**MIN-630 Small Group Ministries 3**

The design of this class is to give the pastor an understanding of group dynamics, to develop small groups in church ministry and to develop leadership skills in the congregation.

**MIN-636 Homiletics I 3**

An introduction to homiletics with attention to philosophy and purpose. Emphasis is given to study of available methods for gathering the biblical and non-biblical materials needed for sermons. The course includes a laboratory that allows basic instruction and evaluation regarding the student's communication style in the homiletical situation. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics

**MIN-637 Homiletics II 3**

A concentrated study of the organization of sermonic material with emphasis given to its application in expository preaching. Various types of expository sermons are examined and attention is given to responsibilities related to the pulpit ministry. The laboratory allows instruction in and application of a variety of delivery techniques. Prerequisite: BBL-501 Biblical Hermeneutics and MIN-636 Homiletics I

**MIN-640 Educational Ministries for Children 3**

An investigation of the developmental aspects of children and societal influences on childhood. Special attention will be given to the church's and parent's task in nurturing Christian faith for this important age group. Students will also gain a foundational overview of leading and programming effective ministries for children.

**MIN-641 Foundations for Ministry to Youth and Emerging Adults 3**

This course explores the ministry to emerging generations ranging from junior high through college age. Students will examine the context of adolescence in North America, consider the theological foundations for ministry, and evaluate various contemporary proposals. This course culminates in the development of a written philosophy of ministry to youth and emerging adults.

**MIN-643 Educational Ministries for Adults 3**

The course engages students in readings, critical reflection, on-line discussion, and reflective and critical writing in areas foundational to adult religious education. Consideration is given to the nature of knowing, adult learning theory, learner-centered teaching, diverse learning styles, and methods of instruction that facilitate adult learning. The course culminates for the student in the development of a written philosophy of adult religious education.

**MIN-644 Curriculum Planning 3**

Analysis of the concept of curriculum planning with special focus on the local church context. The various curriculum models that have shaped contemporary thought are investigated with a view towards their suitability to Christian Education. A paradigm for producing a curriculum design at any level will be developed and the student will be expected to draft a curriculum design for a particular ministry application.

**MIN-557 Introduction to Women's Studies 3**

This course provides an understanding of the essential aspects of developing various ministries for women within the church and culture. An emphasis is placed on learning the process of building a ministry that is geared towards the specific needs of the women in the community being served. Administrative and leadership skills are addressed from a systems perspective. The student will learn how to assimilate, integrate and apply the organizational skills necessary for cultivating an innovative and successful ministry.

**MIN-660 Cultural Intelligence: Multicultural Understanding 3**

This course is designed to give leaders an introductory grasp of cultural intelligence, a person's ability to adapt successfully to different national, organizational, and professional cultures. Literature from the fields of anthropology and sociology are used as well as studying cultural engagement in light of the biblical narrative, as a way to develop missional communities of incarnational ministry.

**MIN-667 Urban and Local Development: Exegeting Our Own Communities 3**

This course studies the brokenness in our own neighborhoods and explores practical ways for the church to embody the gospel in response to social inequities like racism, inequitable distribution of wealth, illiteracy, abuse, etc. It considers the literature of urban transformation and the use of measures like casework, education, microlending/microenterprise development, etc.

**MIN-685 Ministry Residency I 2**

The first course of four designed for Ministry Residency. The student will get acquainted with their specific ministry culture. Through the student's ministry, interaction with their mentor, contact with other ministry residency students, and their own personal reflection, the student will lay a foundation for their journey in a ministry context while gaining feedback that will help them in preparation for ministry. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to articulate goals for personal growth and ministry competency; track and evaluate their time management; establish the discipline of journaling and reflection; apply regular feedback from their mentor; and be relationally connected with their ministry context as they invest time and energy in establishing relationships and support. Prerequisite: Approval from the Ministry Residency Executive Director

**MIN-686 Ministry Residency II 2**

As the second course in the ministry residency sequence, ministry residency two continues to build on the student's residency experience. In addition, students will explore the importance of one's personal spiritual formation in ministry (e.g., discipline of confession, dealing with grief, ministry burnout, ministry leader self-care, the discipline of simplification, etc.). Students will engage their ministry mentor on the following topics: leading board/committee meetings, strategic planning, and facilitating staff meetings. Prerequisites: MIN-685 Ministry Residency I. If Ministry Residency site for MIN-686 is different than your previous site for MIN-685, you will need approval from the Ministry Residency Executive Director.

**MIN-694 Advanced Topics: Ministry 3**

A formal class which addresses the interests of students and faculty. Courses may include current

issues related to ministry practice and other subjects which call for special analysis.

**MIN-711 Program Completion Seminar 1**

This course serves to aid students in the transition from student life in the seminary to practice in vocational ministry. Particular focus is given to ministerial identity formation, resume development, ministry search process and resources, and ordination and licensure. Embedded within the course are the administration of several exiting student assessments. The course is required for most resident degree programs during the final year of enrollment.

**MIN-720 Advanced Clinical Pastoral Education 3-9**

Up to nine hours of elective credit may be given for any of these three units. No more than a total of 12 hours will be given for basic and advanced units including hours of field ministry. Students wishing to take advanced units must have completed the basic unit and must be approved by one of the area training centers. Information concerning application is available in the Academic Office.

**MIN-781 Ministry Residency III 2**

As the third course in the ministry residency sequence, ministry residency three continues to build on your residency experience. In addition to further developing the competencies you began in Ministry Residency 1 and 2, you will explore ministry areas including classroom teaching; pastoral duties (e.g., funerals, pre-marital counseling, weddings, etc.); implementing a ministry initiative; cross-cultural immersion/engagement; and focusing on specificity of ministerial call.

Prerequisites: MIN-685 and MIN-686. If Ministry Residency site for MIN-781 is different than your previous site for MIN-686, you will need approval from the Ministry Residency Executive Director.

**MIN-782 Ministry Residency IV 2**

As the fourth course in the ministry residency sequence, ministry residency four is designed to foster collaborative partnerships and to enhance the curriculum by the inclusion of ministry practitioners and contextual learning. It is intended to nurture learning; skill development; ministry practice; identity formation conducive to excellence in ministry; significantly improve the readiness for excellence in vocational ministry leadership; and provide students with authentic ministry experiences. Prerequisites: MIN-685, MIN-686, and MIN-781. If Ministry Residency site for MIN-782 is different than your previous site for MIN-781, you will need approval from the Ministry Residency Executive Director.

**MIN-792 Independent Study: Pastoral Ministries 1-3**

Supervised independent study for advanced students in Pastoral Ministries. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**MIN-793 Independent Study: Educational Ministries 1-3**

Supervised independent study for advanced students in Educational Ministries. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**MIN-794 Independent Study: Intercultural Ministries 1-3**

Supervised independent study for advanced students in Intercultural Ministries. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**MIN-795 Independent Study: Chaplaincy 1-3**

Supervised independent study for advanced students in the Chaplaincy ministry. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**MIN-797 Master's Thesis 3**

The student will write a 50-75 page thesis under the supervision of a faculty thesis advisor on a significant approved topic in the major field. The thesis format should be governed by A Manual for Writers of Papers, Theses, and Dissertations (current edition) by Kate L. Turabian, along with supplemental materials and/or instructions provided by the seminary. Registration for this course requires advisor approval. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$100.00 for thesis review and binding. Prerequisite: MIN-584 Thesis Readings: Ministry

**TESOL Program Option**

The Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) program of Cornerstone University is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to teach English in local and international settings. The emphasis of courses in the TESOL program is on the practical aspects of teaching and ministry opportunities at home and abroad. Most courses in the program are offered on-line, with module courses offered on campus each summer. Courses from the TESOL program can be included within the Master of Arts in Christian Studies, the Master of Divinity, or the Master of Arts in Ministry Leadership degree program.

# COUNSELING

Courses offered through the Counseling Division provide the content necessary for students to develop as competent clinical mental health counselors. Counseling skills are developed through increasing knowledge of clinical mental health and implementation of that knowledge through practice. Counseling competency is engaged holistically through the span of the course progression required for the MA Counseling degree. Additional courses offer specialization in topic areas that supplement the clinical mental health competency required for licensure. Counseling courses incorporate a Christian worldview within the context of clinical mental health to promote the integration of a faith-based practice and understanding of the profession.

## FACULTY

ROBERT LEHMAN

*Professor of Counseling*

JENNY CHIEN

*Assistant Professor of Counseling*

KENDRA JACKSON

*Assistant Professor of Counseling*

PETER OSBORN

*Associate Professor of Christian Ministries*

KELLY BONEWELL

*Adjunct Professor of Counseling*

MATTHEW CARLSON

*Adjunct Professor of Counseling*

EMILIE DEYOUNG

*Adjunct Professor of Counseling*

JUDITH KUIPER

*Adjunct Professor of Counseling*

GREGORY STEWART

*Adjunct Professor of Counseling*

## COURSES

### **COU-500 Counseling Philosophy**

**3**

The course aids the student in developing an integrated and comprehensive philosophy of counseling informed by a Christian Worldview. Personal beliefs that impact the delivery of counseling services are identified and critiqued. Discussions will include the roles of the counselor and client.

### **COU-501 Counseling Theories**

**3**

This course provides a survey of various theoretical approaches to counseling. Students engage in research and offer a class presentation of a significant counseling theorist. Through study and interaction with the diverse theoretical models, students are given the opportunity to evaluate the models and refine their personal approach to counseling.

### **COU-502 Counseling Ethics and Issues**

**3**

The course is a study of the legal requirements and ethical codes for the professional counselor. Discussions include problems commonly encountered within the counseling profession. Consideration is given to the challenges associated with the set-up and supervision of counseling practices and programs. This course also provides foundations for graduate level research and writing in the social sciences and theological disciplines, and it must be taken within the first 15 credits of enrollment in the Master of Arts in Counseling.

### **COU-510 Consulting**

**3**

This course is designed to focus on the theories and strategies of working with individuals, groups, and organizations in a psychoeducational consultation context. Emphasis is on students learning consultation skills to promote relationship-building, communication, and collaboration with individuals, groups, and organizations.

### **COU-520 Child and Adolescent Counseling**

**3**

This course is designed to provide an understanding of the unique developmental issues of the child and adolescent years. Included are strategies necessary to successfully counsel these important groups.

### **COU-521 Marriage and Family Counseling**

**3**

The course is focused on issues currently impacting marriage and family, including divorce and single parent situations. Consideration will be given to the subject matter from a theological, sociological, and psychological perspective. Students will perform basic research in this important area, and they will participate in learning activities that foster skill development and strategy formation.

### **COU-525 Multicultural Counseling**

**3**

This course will examine substantive and theoretical constructs concerning the inherently complex dynamics involved in counseling people from diverse cultural contexts. An emphasis will be placed on expanding awareness about diverse cultures and personal bias in the effort to enhance cultural sensitivity and diffuse potential barriers in the counseling relationship and process. Current research about specific cultural issues will be addressed including race, ethnicity, socioeconomic class, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation and disability.

### **COU-532 Counseling Women Through the Life Cycle**

**3**

This course is designed to help students learn the concepts and skills necessary to counsel women of all ages effectively. Counseling philosophy, theory and ethical standards are studied. The content includes a developmental framework exploring the various dimensions of a woman involving her cognitive, emotional, physical and spiritual health. Students will learn to be equipped to intervene with issues related to life adjustment and crisis situations.

**COU-584 Thesis Readings: Counseling 3**

The course is a guided readings and research course and serves as the foundation for writing a literature based master's thesis in the discipline of counseling. Under the guidance of a thesis advisor, the student will identify and justify a topic for study within the discipline, read approximately 2,000 pages related to the topic, and outline and draft a thesis proposal. The proposal must conform to the American Psychological Association (APA) format and must be approved by the thesis advisor to complete the course and before the student can proceed into COU-792. Registration for the course requires advisor approval and submission of the "special enrollments" form.

**COU-601 Testing Procedures 3**

An introduction to group and individual psychometric instruments. Commonly used personality tests are reviewed with suggested applications for counseling purposes. Principles of test assessment are highlighted. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$75 for specialized course materials. The fee will be automatically charged to the student's account upon registration.

**COU-610 Counseling Techniques 3**

An exploration of various methods useful during the counseling process. Included is an introduction to and evaluation of counseling approaches, techniques of rapport-building, problem assessment and diagnosis, and treatment plans.

**COU-611 Career Development 3**

This course seeks to prepare the counselor to facilitate client focused employment searches, career development, and professional and life coaching. Emphasis is given to understanding of and support to the unemployed and underemployed, and their families. Occupational and educational informative resources are included. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$20 for specialized course materials. The fee will be automatically charged to the student's account upon registration.

**COU-612 Group Counseling Techniques 3**

This course will focus on techniques of group counseling. A variety of group types and styles will be reviewed. Applications of the material are designed for use in a variety of group counseling settings. Group leadership skills will also be emphasized.

**COU-642 Sociology of Trauma 3**

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the sociological aspects associated with the context of traumatic events from a local and global perspective. Extensive consideration is given to the elements that contribute to natural and human generated disasters from a systemic theoretical construct. Various aspects of society, the existing infrastructure

in an environment and culture will be studied including barriers, challenges, resources, corruption, oppression, poverty, disease, depravity and other factors that impact a community's ability to prevent and respond to traumatic events. This course is offered in a seven week online format.

**COU-643 Trauma Informed Advocacy and Crisis Intervention 3**

This course is designed to prepare students to become aware of diverse critical incidents that are considered to be potentially traumatic, with specific attention given to how to respond and intervene in crisis situations. These circumstances can include situations with homicidal or suicidal clients, school shootings, natural disasters (such as earthquakes or fires), terrorism, war, sex/drug trafficking, and other dangerous instances. The ethical guidelines and professional protocol will be emphasized for the purpose of preparing students for effective immediate response to the psychological impact of life threatening situations from a professional counseling perspective. This course is offered in a seven week online format.

**COU-644 Trauma Counseling and Recovery 3**

This course provides an opportunity to explore the current research about traumatology from a Christian worldview, which includes the most effective counseling theories and techniques for counseling children and adults that are recovering from traumatic events. These include instances of physical, sexual abuse, domestic violence as well as natural disasters that could cause a client to experience the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder or complex trauma. There will be an emphasis on helping clients increase their capacity for emotional/cognitive restoration, coping skills, resiliency and ability to optimize functioning. There will also be considerable attention given to issues associated with vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue, which can promote healthy stress management for the counselor and clients that are served. This course is offered in a seven week online format.

**COU-651 Clinical Diagnostic Assessment of Addictions 3**

This course will provide the clinical knowledge that is necessary to facilitate an initial intake and diagnostic orientation for the client in the counseling process. Students will learn the diagnostic skills necessary to administer a comprehensive and thorough evaluation for the purpose of determining effective treatment plans for clients who are suffering from diverse addictive and compulsive disorders. An emphasis will be placed on integrating and analyzing current research in the field of addictions counseling assessment from a Christian worldview. This course is administered through an online format.

**COU-652 Sociology of Addictions 3**

This course provides an introduction to sociological and systems perspectives of addictions counseling from a Christian worldview. The environmental context of the client will be considered in order to promote cultural competence and an awareness of the sociopolitical and economic aspects of addictions. Special attention will be devoted to expanding awareness about collaboration, consultation, case management, client education, service coordination and how to develop a referral network in the community. This course is administered through an online format.

**COU-653 Addictions Counseling: Treatment and Intervention 3**

This course is designed to help the student become more knowledgeable about counseling philosophy, techniques, theory and professional/ethical standards that are most effective in counseling clients who have been diagnosed with an addictive or compulsive disorder. Current research about the most effective and practical theoretical counseling models that foster personal growth, recovery, healing and change are studied and critiqued from a Biblical perspective. There will be a concentration on documentation/record keeping, crisis intervention, treatment planning and the important aspects of clinical supervision. Students will also have an opportunity to learn and critically examine how their intrapersonal awareness can enhance the counseling process. This course is administered through an online format.

**COU-660 Abnormal Psychology 3**

This course provides an introduction to the study of human psychopathology from a Christian Worldview. A broad array of theoretical perspectives about abnormal behavior as they relate to the definition, etiology, and treatment of mental disorders will be emphasized. Diagnostic classification, behavioral, and biological features of the major syndromes of psychopathology will be an integral part of the curriculum. This course is administered through an online format.

**COU-662 Human Growth and Development 3**

This course is designed to introduce students to a meaningful exploration of human development throughout the lifespan from a Christian Worldview. Core themes from the discipline of developmental psychology will be emphasized with consideration to a multicultural context. Special attention will be devoted to studying broad theoretical perspectives about the various aspects of optimal human development as well as factors that impede or diminish a person's ability to thrive and flourish. This course is administered through an online format.

**COU-670 Diagnostic and Clinical Assessment of Mental Disorders 3**

This course provides an in depth study of the complex nature of the diagnostic process from a clinical and practical perspective with the use of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder (DSM-5). Special attention will be devoted to cultivating the clinical skills necessary for counselors to formulate a multi-axial diagnosis for clients that meet the criteria for mental disorders. Students will have an opportunity to develop a diagnostic framework from a Christian Worldview that will be foundational to learning the professional skills necessary for the treatment planning process. This course is administered through an online format.

**COU-700 Research Methods 3**

This course is a presentation of the basic research designs used by counselors. This course emphasizes the use of current studies and journals with particular emphasis upon critiquing journal articles.

**COU-782 Practicum: Counseling 3**

A supervised field experience for students pursuing counseling careers. This course provides, on a limited basis, some of the activities that licensed professional counselors would be expected to perform. Opportunities in individual and group counseling, along with supportive ministries are included. Prerequisites: COU-500, COU-501, COU-502, COU-510, and COU-610. Registration for this course requires advisor approval and the submission of the GRTS special enrollments form with attached proof of student liability insurance and signed code of professional ethics.

**COU-784 Internship I: Counseling 3**

An extended supervised field experience that allows the counseling student opportunities to practice all activities that a licensed professional counselor performs. Prerequisites: COU-500, COU-501, COU-502, COU-510, COU-610, COU-782. Registration for this course requires advisor approval and the submission of the GRTS special enrollments form with attached proof of student liability insurance and signed code of professional ethics.

**COU-785 Internship II: Counseling 3**

An extended supervised field experience that allows the counseling student opportunities to practice all activities that a licensed professional counselor performs. Prerequisites: COU-500, COU-501, COU-502, COU-510, COU-610, COU-782, prior completion or simultaneous enrollment in COU-784. Registration for this course requires advisor approval and the submission of the GRTS special enrollments form with attached proof of student liability insurance and signed code of professional ethics.

**COU-789 Advanced Topics: Counseling 3**

A formal class which addresses the interests of students and faculty. Courses may include current issues in counseling and other subjects which call for special analysis.

**COU-791 Independent Study: Counseling 1-3**

Supervised independent study for advanced students in counseling. Registration for this course requires advisor approval.

**COU-792 Master's Thesis: Counseling 6**

Under the supervision of a thesis advisor, the student will write a 60-80 page literature-based thesis on an approved topic significant to the discipline and practice of counseling. The thesis should conform to the American Psychological Association (APA) format and must be approved by the thesis advisor and second reader for course completion. Registration for this course requires advisor approval and submission of the "special enrollments" form. Each enrolled student will be charged an additional fee of \$100.00 for thesis review and binding. Prerequisite: COU-584 Thesis Readings: Counseling