

Grace School of Theology

Academic Catalog

2024-2025



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A Word from Our President



Dave Anderson, PhD
President & CEO
Professor of Systematic
Theology & Biblical Languages

Dear New and Current Students,

I want to personally welcome you to Grace School of Theology. The trustees, faculty, and administration of Grace are fully committed to the mission of offering Bible-based higher education in an environment where academic excellence is emphasized with the purpose of preparing students to serve God.

Grace believes that to be effective ministers, students must be well-grounded Biblically and have exceptional qualities of Christian character, integrity, and leadership skills. The academic programs at Grace have been designed with those qualities in mind. Our classroom and online instruction is of the highest quality so that grace and truth might be taught and learned, culminating in a deeper insight into the Christian life and faith. The academic goals of Grace School of Theology identify learner outcomes designed to produce well-trained and Christ-committed practitioners of our faith.

May God bless you in your time at Grace.

Dave Anderson
President and Chief Executive Officer

A Word from Our Provost



Mark Haywood, DMin
Provost & CAO
Professor of Bible Exposition

Dear New and Current Students,

It is a joy to welcome you to Grace School of Theology. Whether you are entering seminary for the first time, transferring from a seminary, or a returning student, we are pleased that you have chosen to continue your academic and personal development here at Grace School of Theology. Our faculty, staff, students, and alumni receive you into our Grace family.

The seminary you are joining believes your potential for growth and constant learning is unlimited. To assist you with your transition, we offer you this Academic Catalog that sets forth critical seminary policies and procedures, important services, and other useful information such as student involvement, technology requirements, and financial considerations.

I encourage you to become an active member of this great institution by taking advantage of our programs, activities, and services. I am certain your effort to be involved will be most rewarding. Remember, however, that these opportunities are coupled with the responsibility to familiarize yourself with our policies and procedures as well.

In closing, I want to reiterate how very excited we are about your presence and how eager we are to serve you.

Please do not hesitate to reach out for our assistance.

Only by His grace,

Mark “Dean” Haywood
Provost and Chief Academic Officer

General Information

History

American Christian higher education has deep religious roots. In the nation's early development, it was churches and denominations that led in establishing the first seminaries. Grace School of Theology, a direct product of that history, is founded on a free grace tradition based upon Biblical principles and the conviction that individuals have freedom of conscience before God and humankind. This freedom, absent from many traditions, affirms each person's ability to read and understand the Scripture without the mediation of other human beings. This emphasis ultimately led Grace School of Theology to challenge any teaching that does not recognize free grace as the only means to eternal salvation. Grace School of Theology is, therefore, founded upon the belief that eternal salvation is received solely as a free gift from God by believing in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior for mankind. Grace is committed to Christian scholarly endeavor in the free grace tradition.

Grace School of Theology is a private, non-denominational, institution of higher learning governed by a dedicated Board of Trustees. The institution had its beginnings in early 2002 when a pastor and laypersons in the Houston area committed themselves to realizing their vision of a local evangelical Christian institution emphasizing free grace. At the encouragement and advice of Dr. Charles Ryrle, Grace School of Theology began as Houston Theological Seminary as the result of the planning and visionary work of seven men who constituted the initial Board of Trustees: Dr. Dave Anderson, Dr. Glenn Darby, Mr. Larry Allbritton, Mr. Mark Rae, Mr. Jeffe Ready, Mr. Bill Diamond, and Mr. Bob Winslow. Of the original seven Trustees, Dr. Dave Anderson now serves as the President of Grace.

Grace School of Theology is a work of God's grace. God placed the burden for this educational ministry upon the heart of Dr. Dave Anderson who, for twelve (12) years planted churches in southern Texas and then, for eighteen (18) years, served as Senior Pastor of Faith Bible Church of The Woodlands, Texas. The discussions between Drs. Anderson and the full Board of Trustees led to the beginning of Houston Theological Seminary. The first seminary classes were held in Faith Bible Church of The Woodlands, Texas, and Cypress Bible Church of Cypress, Texas.

Houston Theological Seminary received its certificate of incorporation from the State of Texas effective May 29, 2001. The first students began classes in the fall of 2002. After Texas enacted a state law prohibiting the use of the term "seminary" in an institution's title without state approval, the name Houston Theological Seminary was changed to Grace School of Theology in a Certificate of Amendment issued by the State of Texas in March 2003. The Texas Supreme Court overruled this unconstitutional law in the fall of 2007, but the seminary elected to retain its current name.

Grace is strategically located in the Houston, Texas metropolitan area. The main administrative offices are located in The Woodlands, Texas and include classrooms, faculty offices, and the main Library.

The purpose of Grace School of Theology is to teach Christ and empower and inspire students for Christian service and lifelong learning. We are praying that God will allow us to train people who have a global vision for reaching out in the name of Christ. From the first few students to our current graduates, God has brought us quality individuals who are serious about the study of the Word of God. The students come from many backgrounds, some with years of experience and some as recent High School and Bible college graduates. Many are current church staff members serving as pastors, youth pastors, and Christian educators. Some are businessmen and laypersons interested in and challenged to utilize their ministry gifts in service for Christ. Every student is important to us at Grace. In the classroom, students are challenged to understand the Word of God as we teach a consistent and uniform system of theology.

In individual, one-on-one conversations the students are pointed to the Word of God by dedicated faculty and staff. All of this interaction, classroom and individual, culminates in the preparation of students to minister in a real world to real people with the love of God, a love that cannot be earned or lost. This is the vision, purpose, and the challenge of Grace School of Theology.

Foundational Standards Preamble

Calling

We are called to glorify God by instilling in our students the Gospel message of Jesus Christ and educating the next generation of Christians. Our calling includes both introduction to and encouragement to remain entirely devoted to Jesus Christ. We are charged with educating, encouraging, equipping, and serving our students and their families, which are an integral part of Grace School of Theology (Grace). We do this by directly instilling our Christian philosophies, values, mission, and goals in our students through offering a Christ-centered education. Overt liturgical religious purpose activities (preaching, worship, Bible instruction, communion, baptism) as well as related non-liturgical religious purpose activities (social service activities, weddings, teaching, ministry, or events) all serve as methods that Grace utilizes to instill our religious values and beliefs. Even non-liturgical ministries are grounded in the *Policies Manual*, *Board Manual*, *Academic Catalog*, *Employee Handbook*, *Faculty Handbook*, *IE Plan*, *Strategic Plan*, *Student Handbook*, *Doctrinal Statement*, *Mission Statement*, *Vision Statement*, *Core Values*, *Purpose and Objectives*, *Philosophy of Education*, and *Ethical Values and Standards of Grace*, and are therefore subject to all of its ministerial, enrollment, discipline, termination and expulsion policies.

Community and Partnership

Our religious activity and education primarily derive meaning from participation in a larger religious community. For this reason, the parents and families of our student body play a significant role in furthering our mission and viewpoint as a school. We exist to foster a Christ-like, educational environment of persons subscribing to our religious beliefs and faith. Grace seeks to instill Christian values in students by having faculty and staff spend time with them, instructing and engaging them in learning. In this way, we transmit our Christian system of values to the next generation.

Associating with like-minded Christian families reinforces Grace's Christian purpose and is vital to our educational mission to perpetuate the faith. We are committed to being and educating disciples who understand what it means to follow Jesus Christ into a life of worship, fellowship, sacrifice, service, and being led by the Spirit. (*Matthew 28:19*, *Acts 1:8*, *John 15:16*, *Mark 16:15*) Our mission as part of the body of Christ is to participate, share, and encourage each other toward spiritual growth. (*1 Thessalonians 5:11*, *Hebrews 10:23-25*, *Colossians 3:16*) For these reasons, participation in our school requires a tangible commitment to our beliefs, purposes, and mission as outlined in Grace's written Foundational Standards, which are incorporated herein by reference, as if fully set forth herein.

Expression of Faith

Grace intends to transmit our system of religious beliefs, traditions, Christian morals, reverence, and values. We do so by engaging in the community and students' lives, performing acts of worship, and participating in all educational and other activities. Likewise, we believe that all behavior of students and staff of Grace is communicative in nature, exemplifying and expressing our faith publicly and privately. Any student or employee who propounds a point of view contrary to our beliefs, as stated in our referenced written Foundational Standards, will impair Grace's integrity and ability to educate in accordance with its religious views and message.

Outreach Ministry

We take Grace's charge to be a Christian presence in a secular world very seriously. Therefore, Grace's activities are intended to further its religious purpose, as stated in our Purpose Statement. As such, all of our programs are considered an outgrowth of the mission of Grace to preach, teach, evangelize, and instill the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

Foundational Standards

Mission Statement

Grace School of Theology is an evangelical Christian institution of higher learning and has as its purpose the offering of programs of study in an environment where academic excellence is emphasized, and a biblically based perspective is maintained. Grace is committed to enriching its students spiritually, intellectually, and professionally, and to preparing students to serve God in a global and culturally diverse society.

Vision Statement

Grace School of Theology's vision is to develop spiritual leaders in every nation who can teach others about the love of Christ, a love that cannot be earned and cannot be lost.

Purpose and Objectives

Grace School of Theology is committed to living, learning, and worshipping as a community of faith based upon the grace of God. Through the faculty, staff, administration, and trustees, Grace strives to lead students to a correct understanding of doctrine with the necessary skills to communicate the Truth. We live by the spirit of God to love one another, to challenge one another for more significant growth in the Lord, and to walk together with integrity in this world. Grace School of Theology seeks to prepare others to proclaim God's Truth courageously to a world that needs hope. We want to glorify God by walking in God's grace, ministering God's Word, and equipping God's people.

As an academic community of faith, Grace seeks to guide students:

- ❖ To develop a personal Christian philosophy of service and an ethical and spiritual commitment based upon and examined in the light of biblical revelation.
- ❖ To grow in understanding the Word of God that is textually based, theologically consistent, and scripturally sound.
- ❖ To develop effectiveness in the use and understanding of written and spoken communications, employing analytical and logical thinking in the process.
- ❖ To contribute to God's kingdom consistent with historical, conservative, and evangelical Christian principles, leading and participating responsibly in local church, community, and world affairs.
- ❖ To accurately handle the Word of God in ministries appropriate to their calling.
- ❖ To grow in understanding, appreciation, and application of biblical exegesis, biblical and systematic theology, biblical interpretation, hermeneutics, history, the church, and global ministry opportunities.
- ❖ To prepare students to make life-long commitments and invest their lives in Christian ministries.
- ❖ To prepare students for continuing study by becoming acquainted with electronic technology resources and scholarly research methods.

Core Values

- ❖ Grace School of Theology is committed to and intentional about our Christian faith.
- ❖ Grace School of Theology will responsibly teach the Truth of the Gospel.
- ❖ Grace School of Theology strives for excellence.
- ❖ Grace School of Theology believes in the importance and cultivation of Christian character.
- ❖ Grace School of Theology believes in impacting and changing the world for Christ.
- ❖ Grace School of Theology believes in and affirms God's free gift of grace for humanity.

Philosophy of Education

We believe that humanity was created in the image of God and was given the responsibility of caring for all things that God has created (*Genesis 1:27*). We believe that all people have many abilities and that we need to help them develop these God-given talents. These principles apply equally to men and women, young and old.

Because of our high calling, we must excel in all educational programs, providing systematic and comprehensive training in the Word of God from a Cristo-centric perspective. Therefore, it is imperative to have professors and staff who are competent in their respective fields, receive evaluations regularly, and constantly seek ways to improve professional skills.

Our Christian philosophy is reflected in the Bible-centered curriculum taught by well-trained and dedicated Christian professors. Our faculty uses textbooks authored by scholarly writers who commit to the Bible as the divinely revealed guide for all people.

The faculty teaches, and students study without fear of their academic freedom being violated and without fear of any discrimination. Students are granted the right to learn, inquire, and explore without restraint. This freedom is guaranteed when a corresponding liberty of instruction is given to instructors. These rights are extended to the student and faculty members within the parameters of sound scholarship and the appropriate framework of Biblical foundations and institutional sphere granted by the Board of Trustees.

Ethical Values and Standards

Grace School of Theology is an institution that emphasizes the importance of the Christian perspective in all of its academic endeavors. At the heart of its mission and purposes is the school's commitment to the values and principles of the Christian faith through grace. By accepting the Christian identity, Grace makes explicit and implicit promises about the relationship between its words and actions. This means that integrity defines the very core of its existence as an institution of higher learning.

Grace recognizes that it must demonstrate integrity in its practices and relationships. The School must be able to show that it has policies and procedures and that those policies and procedures reflect the values and practices of its mission.

Grace demonstrates integrity through its classroom performance, public representations, distribution of information, business practices, contractual arrangements, and relationships with internal and external constituencies. We adhere to the code of ethics accepted by the academic community and its specific standards of Christian behavior.

Academic integrity is inherent in our educational tasks. This is reflected in the unique relationship between faculty and students and how the School represents itself to the public. Grace identifies itself as an evangelical Christian institution of higher learning, which indicates that the academic programs are

developed and implemented from a distinctly Christian perspective. Grace believes this perspective is consistently expressed in its written documents, academic programs, and the conduct of its faculty, staff, administration, and students.

Every faculty, staff, and administrator at Grace must be a Christian in practice and belief and give a statement of faith as part of the overall interview process for employment consideration. Students are informed about the ethics and values of Grace and agree to abide by the code of conduct described in the *Student Handbook*. Grace believes that Christian values and practices form the basis of all academic and administrative departments.

Doctrinal Statement

The Bible

We believe that the words of the Bible, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, are “God-breathed.” They give humankind His authoritative revelation, wholly without error of any kind on every topic discussed in the original writings. We believe that the Bible must be interpreted as language is normally used, recognizing the importance of dispensational distinctions.

(Psalm 12:6; 119:89, 130; 160; Isaiah 40:8; 55:8-11; Luke 24:27, 44-47; John 5:39, 17:17; Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10, 13; Ephesians 1:10; 3:9; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; James 1:21; 1 Peter 1:10-12, 23-25; 2 Peter 1:19-21).

God

We believe in one God eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each of whom possess equally all the attributes of deity and characteristics of personality and with each having specific work to perform. We believe that God is a personal being who is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe.

(Matthew 3:16; John 10:30; 14:10; 14:26; 15:26; Ephesians 1:3-4; 6-7; 13-14)

Jesus Christ

We believe that God the Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh through His miraculous conception in a virgin by the Holy Spirit and His birth. He is, therefore, perfect and complete deity and perfect humanity, these being united without mixture in one person forever. We believe that He lived a sinless life and voluntarily and vicariously paid for the sins of all mankind by dying on the cross. We believe in the resurrection of His crucified body, in His ascension to heaven, in His present ministries in heaven, and in his future literal return to the earth.

(Psalm 2:7; 110; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; Micah 5:2; Matthew 1:18-25; 28:19; Luke 1:26-35; 2:52; John 1:1-3, 14, 18; 3:16; 8:58; 10:30; 17:5; 20:28; 1 Corinthians 15:1-20; Galatians 4:4; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:14, 15-17; 2:9; 1 Timothy 2:5; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 1:1-3, 6, 8-12; 4:15; 13:8; 1 Peter 1:1; 2:22; 1 John 2:1-2; 3:16; 4:10, 5:20; Revelation 1:17-18; 19-20)

The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is God and that He has come to reveal and glorify Christ, to convict sinners of sin, righteousness, and judgment, to regenerate, indwell, seal, and baptize believers into the body of Christ, impart gifts to believers, and to enable them to live holy lives.

(Genesis 1:2; Psalm 139:7; Isaiah 40:13-14; Matthew 1:18-20; 28:19; Luke 1:35; John 1:13; 3:3-8; 6:63; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-15, 13; Acts 2:1-4; 5:3-4; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 2:9, 10, 12; 6:19; 12:13; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 1:13-14; 2:22; 4:30; 5:18; 2 Thessalonians 2:7; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 9:14; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 1 John 2:20, 27)

Creation

We believe that the Genesis account of creation is to be understood historically and literally and not allegorically or figuratively. We believe that man was created in the image of God and that the first man, Adam, sinned, bringing spiritual death to all, who, therefore, stand condemned and in need of Christ's salvation.

(Genesis 1; Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:15-20; Romans 5:12; Romans 7)

Salvation

We believe that God saves by grace alone, apart from works (whether past or future), those who put their faith in Christ alone as God and Savior from sin. Initial faith resulting in justification and regeneration is not a gift of God. That is, fallen humanity when persuaded by the illuminating and convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit and the drawing ministry of the Father still possesses the capacity to believe in Christ. Such faith precedes regeneration. At the moment of belief, Christ imputes His righteousness to believers and keeps them secure eternally. Based on the promises of God (not works), we believe a person can and should have complete assurance of his or her Eternal Life the moment he or she believes in Christ.

(Isaiah 55:8-11; Matthew 4:4; 26:28; John 1:4, 9, 12; 3:5, 16, 18, 36; 5:24; 6:29; 14:6; 16:8; 17:17; Acts 4:12; 13:38-39; 16:31; Romans 1:7, 16-17; 3:22, 26; 4:4-5; 5:1, 6-9; 6:11-13, 23; 8:2-4, 9, 12-13, 29-30, 32; 10:4, 17; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 8; 6:11; 12:13; 15:1-4; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 5:21; 7:1; Galatians 2:16; 5:13-26; 6:15; Ephesians 1:3, 7; 2:8-9; 4:22-24; Philippians 3:4-9; Colossians 1:22; 2:6, 10; 3:1-7, 16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 4:3-4; 5:23; Titus 3:5-7; Hebrews 4:12, 10:10, 14; 12:14; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:18-19, 23; 2:2, 11; 1 John 1:5-7; 3:2, 5-9; 5:13; Jude 24)

The Christian Walk

We believe that although sinless perfection is not possible in this life, all believers are called to live holy lives in the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

(John 17:17; Romans 8:1-17; Galatians 5:13-25; Ephesians 5:26-27; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; Hebrews 10:10, 14; 1 John 3:2)

Marriage and Human Sexuality

We believe that all matters of faith and conduct must be evaluated on the basis of Holy Scripture, which is our infallible guide. *(2 Timothy 3:16-17)* Since the Holy Bible does speak to the nature of human beings and their sexuality, it is imperative that we correctly understand and articulate what the Bible teaches on these matters.

We are committed to the home and family as set forth in Holy Scripture. We believe God has ordained and created marriage to exist between one man and one woman, with absolute marital fidelity. The Bible sets forth specific home and family values, which include the distinct roles of husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, and children. It is our firm conviction that we uphold the dignity of each individual as we embrace the unchanging and longstanding principles of scriptural truth.

Based on Holy Scripture and the constant moral teaching of the universal Church, we believe:

Marriage

We define marriage as the legal permanent, exclusive, comprehensive, and conjugal "one flesh" union of one man and one woman, intrinsically ordered to procreation and biological family, and in furtherance of the moral, spiritual, and public good of binding father, mother, and child.

(Genesis 1:27-28, Genesis 2:18-24, Matthew 19:4-9, Mark 10:5-9, Ephesians 5:31-33)

Sexual Immorality

We believe that sexual acts outside marriage are prohibited as sinful. Consequently, GRACE members must resist and refrain from any and all sexual acts outside marriage — including but not limited to adultery, fornication, incest, zoophilia, pornography, prostitution, voyeurism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, sodomy, polygamy, polyamory, sologamy, or same-sex sexual acts. (*Exodus 20:14, Leviticus 18:7-23, Leviticus 20:10-21, Deuteronomy 5:18, Matthew 15:19, Matthew 5:27-28, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-13, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Hebrews 13:4, Galatians 5:19, Ephesians 4:17-19, Colossians 3:5*)

Sexual Identity

We believe that God created mankind in His image: male (man) and female (woman), sexually different but with equal personal dignity. Consequently, GRACE members must affirm their biological sex and refrain from any and all attempts to physically change, alter, or disagree with their predominant biological sex — including but not limited to elective sex-reassignment, transvestite, transgender, or non- binary “genderqueer” acts or conduct. (*Genesis 1:26-28, Romans 1:26-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11*)

Sexual Orientation

We believe that God created and ordered human sexuality to the permanent, exclusive, comprehensive, and conjugal “one flesh” union of man and woman, intrinsically ordered to procreation and biological family, and in furtherance of the moral, spiritual, and public good of binding father, mother, and child. Consequently, GRACE members must affirm the sexual complementarity of man and woman and resist any and all same-sex sexual attractions and refrain from any and all same- sex sexual acts or conduct, which are intrinsically disordered. (*Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:4-6, Mark 10:5-9, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 5:25-27, Revelation 19:7-9, Revelation 21:2*)

Sexual Redemption

We believe that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and should seek redemption and harmonious relationship with God through confession, repentance, baptism, and faith in Jesus Christ. Consequently, GRACE members must welcome and treat with respect, compassion, and sensitivity all who experience same-sex attractions or confess sexually immoral acts but are committed to resisting sexual temptation, refraining from sexual immorality, and conforming their behavior to GRACE’s Statement of Faith.

(*Matthew 11:28-30, Romans 3:23, Ephesians 2:1-10, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 4:14-16*)

Celibacy

We believe that Holy Scripture grants two life-enhancing options for human sexual behavior: (1) the conjugal “one flesh” marital union of one man and one woman, and (2) celibacy. Either is a gift from God, given as He wills for His glory and the good of those who receive and rejoice in His gift to them. Celibacy and faithful singleness is to be celebrated and affirmed within Grace School of Theology.

(*Genesis 1:27-28; 2:18, 21-24; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:5-8; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 7:1-8; Matthew 19:12; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Romans 12:10; 1 Timothy 5:1-2*)

The Church

We believe that the church, the body of Christ, began on the day of Pentecost and is composed of all who receive Christ through faith. We believe God's program for the Church is distinguished from His program for Israel described in Daniel 9. We believe that all believers should assemble regularly in local churches for worship, for observing the ordinances of water baptism and the Lord's Supper, for mutual encouragement and discipline, and for carrying out God's purposes in this world.

(Acts 2:41-42; 10:44-47; 11:15-17; Romans 6:4-5; 12:3-8; 16:1, 5; 1 Corinthians 11:23-31; 12:12-13, 27; 16:19; Galatians 3:27-28; 6:2; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:16-22; 5:24-25, 30; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 5:11; Hebrews 10:24-25)

The Future

We believe that the personal and imminent return of Christ to rapture His church will be followed by a period of tribulation on this earth. At the conclusion of this period, Christ will return triumphantly and inaugurate His millennial reign over this earth. We believe in the everlasting conscious blessedness of the saved in the New Jerusalem and the everlasting conscious punishment of the unsaved in the lake of fire.

(Matthew 24:21, 29-30; 25:31, 46; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 4:13-18; 5:4-10; Titus 2:13; Revelation 3:10; 20:1-6, 11-15)

Satan

We believe that at some time in the past Satan led a rebellion, including a host of angels, against God and was expelled from the heavenly kingdom. Satan, also called other names including the Devil, is a real being who has tremendous, but limited power, and is the true adversary to God's people. Satan is destined to be judged and will endure eternal punishment in the lake of fire.

(Ephesians 6:12; 1 John 3:8; Revelation 20: 1-3)

Accreditation

Standards

Accreditation is based upon well-defined Foundational Standards and Operational Standards. The Grace School of Theology Mission Statement serves as the guide in the Seminary's strategic planning process. Grace School of Theology is working to join a number of evangelical institutions of higher learning across the United States and the world that have already demonstrated high standards of operations including administrative services, academic excellence, financial stability, excellent student services, and institutional effectiveness. The Seminary has demonstrated a commitment to provide quality post-secondary education within the context of Christian values.



TRACS

Grace School of Theology is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) (15935 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551; Telephone: (434) 525-9539; e-mail: info@tracs.org], having

been awarded Reaffirmation I of its Accredited Status as a Category IV institution by the TRACS Accreditation Commission on April 25, 2017. This status is effective for a period of ten years. TRACS is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDOE), the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE).



ATS

Grace School of Theology is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools. [10 Summit Park Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15275; Telephone 412-788-6510] The Commission granted

accreditation on June 2, 2017 for a period of seven years. The following degree programs are approved by the Commission on Accrediting: Doctor of Ministry, Master of Theology, Master of Divinity, Master of Arts (Biblical Studies), and Master of Ministry. Complete information for the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada can be found at the ATS website: www.ats.edu.

Program Level	TRACS Accredited	ATS Accredited
Undergraduate	Certificate in Black Church Studies Biblical Studies Certificate Diploma in Biblical Studies Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies	
Graduate	Master of Ministry Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Divinity Master of Theology	Master of Ministry Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) Master of Divinity Master of Theology
Doctoral	Doctor of Ministry	Doctor of Ministry

Academic Calendar

Academic Year 2024 – 2025

Academic Year

Module	Self-Registration via Populi	*Assisted-Registration Only	Syllabi Available	Class Dates	Drop Date	Withdrawal Deadline	Grades Posted
Fall Semester 2024 (August 05, 2024 – December 14, 2024)							
1	6/3-7/21/24	7/22-8/12/24	5/28/24	8/12-10/7/24	8/24/24	9/16/24	10/28/24
2	6/3-7/21/24	7/22-8/12/24	5/28/24	10/15-12/14/24	10/28/24	11/18/24	1/4/25
1-2	6/3-7/21/24	7/22-8/12/24	5/28/24	8/12-12/14/24	8/24/24	10/7/24	1/4/25
Spring Semester 2025 (January 06, 2025 – May 16, 2025)							
3	11/5-12/23/24	12/24/24-1/14/25	10/28/24	1/13-3/10/25	1/27/25	2/17/25	4/1/25
4	11/5-12/23/24	12/24/24-1/14/25	10/28/24	3/18-5/16/25	3/31/25	4/25/25	6/6/25
3-4	11/5-12/23/24	12/24/24-1/14/25	10/28/24	1/13-5/16/25	1/27/25	3/10/25	6/6/25
Summer Semester 2025 (May 19, 2025 – July 25, 2025)							
5	3/18-5/5/25	5/6-5/27/25	3/11/2025	5/27-7/25/25	6/09/25	6/30/25	8/16/25

*During these dates, registration can only be completed by contacting the Registrar's Office at registrar@gsot.edu.

Application and Payment Calendar

Module	Application Deadline	Payment in Full	1 st Payment Date	2 nd Payment Date	3 rd Payment Date	4 th Payment Date	5 th Payment Date
1	7/5/24	8/09/24	8/09/24	9/09/24	10/09/24	11/09/24	12/09/24
2	9/20/24	10/11/24	10/11/24	11/11/24	12/11/24	-	-
3	12/6/24	1/10/25	1/10/25	2/10/25	3/10/25	4/10/25	5/10/25
4	2/21/25	3/14/25	3/14/25	4/14/25	5/14/25	-	-
5	4/18/25	5/23/25	5/23/25	6/23/25	7/23/25	-	-

Important Dates

Event	Dates
Fall Semester 2024	
Labor Day, no classes	September 2, 2024
Fall Break, no classes	October 8-14, 2024 (Tue-Mon)
Thanksgiving, no classes	November 27-30, 2024 (Wed-Sat)
Christmas Break, no classes	December 15, 2024- January 5, 2025
Spring Semester 2025	
Martin Luther King Day, no classes	January 20, 2025
Spring Break, no classes	March 11-17, 2025 (Tue-Mon)
Good Friday, no classes	April 18, 2025
Commencement	May 17, 2025
Summer Semester 2025	
Memorial Day (observed), no classes	May 26, 2025
Independence Day, no classes	July 4, 2025

Institutional Policies

Students are responsible for reading and being familiar with current policies and procedures contained in the Academic Catalog and Student Handbook. There will be no retroactive application of any changes in policies. However, future change may supersede policies and procedures published herein. Policies and procedures included herein apply to Grace School of Theology.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Grace School of Theology strongly believes that it exists to prepare men and women to share the true Gospel of Free Grace to those from “every tribe and tongue and people and nation” (Revelation 5:9). Grace desires to admit and enroll potential and current students who have a thirst for the Word and meditate in it (Psalm 1:1-3), who “fear the Lord” knowing it is “the beginning of knowledge” (Proverbs 1:7), and who are faithful, teachable, and desire to teach others (2 Timothy 2:2), irrespective of their various backgrounds. Grace also understands that those who it employs must agree with its Foundational Statements above all other criteria (2 Corinthians 6:14-15), knowing that God looks on the heart.

Therefore, guided by the Scriptures, Grace provides equal treatment and opportunity to all persons without regard to race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status except where such distinction is required by law. This statement reflects compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of Educational Amendments of 1972, and Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Furthermore, Grace School of Theology, in compliance with the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Executive Orders 11246 and 11375 and Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974, does not discriminate against any employees or applicants for employment on the basis of age or because they are disabled veterans or veterans of the Vietnam era.

This non-discrimination policy covers admission, access, and treatment in programs and activities, and application for and treatment in employment that includes the selection, retention, and advancement of staff, faculty, and administrators. Ultimate responsibility for achievement of equal employment and educational opportunity at Grace School of Theology rests with the President. The President, Provost, and Vice Presidents delegate the responsibility and authority to direct these activities.

Honest Communications

Grace School of Theology strives to communicate its programs and policies honestly in all of its publications and in its website. Every effort has been made to ensure that this publication contains only clear, accurate and current information. Readers are invited to bring errors and suggestions for improving this publication to the attention of the Academic Dean. To the extent an inconsistency is found to exist between the information in this publication and the actual policy or procedure, the actual policy or procedure governs.

Nonbinding Communications

No oral or written communication made by any employee of Grace, including faculty, shall be binding on Grace without the express approval of the Board of Trustees or the Executive Leadership Team, as appropriate, and no contract is expressed or implied by this publication or any other Grace informational publication or its website.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy

Grace School of Theology will reasonably accommodate otherwise qualified individuals with a disability unless such accommodation would pose an undue hardship or would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of its services, programs or activities, or in undue financial or administrative burdens. Changes in teaching techniques occur continually as instructors discover new ways to aid handicapped students. The term “reasonable accommodation” is used in its general sense in this policy to apply to employees, students, and visitors.

Student requests for reasonable accommodation should be addressed to the Dean of Students. A student must self-identify as an individual with a disability and provide appropriate diagnostic information that substantiates the disability. The Student Services Division will then assess the impact of the disability on the student’s academic program and record the required academic accommodations. The Disability Accommodation Request form is found on the Student References form on the Grace website. Individuals who have complaints alleging discriminations based upon a disability may file them with the Dean of Students.

Facilities for the Physically Handicapped

The Grace School of Theology facilities in The Woodlands, Texas are accessible to the disabled using the ramp in the front of the school. All classrooms, offices, and restrooms meet the state requirements for disabled accessibility and are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Disability Access Policy

The Disability Access Policy aims to remove administrative, procedural, and physical barriers that prevent equal access to services for people with disabilities. It is designed to reflect the Seminary's commitment to independent access for all staff, faculty, students, board members, donors, and members of the community. The policy aims to integrate an awareness of disability issues into policies, practices, and procedures in all areas of service provision. It also gives some guidance as to how this might be achieved and links to other policies and strategies where appropriate. It aims to improve access, prevent discriminatory practices, and ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

This policy supports a social model view of disability where disability is defined as the loss or limitation of opportunity to take part in society on an equal level due to barriers in society and/or the environment.

General Principles

It is the Seminary's policy to:

- ❖ Actively promote disability awareness and equality ensuring that it continues to be an integral part of our strategy, service delivery and future developments.
- ❖ Continue to audit current provision to ensure that the best opportunities are taken to improve physical access to premises, the built, transport and rural environments, and prioritize future works and refurbishments.
- ❖ Be aware that any change in services might have an effect on service delivery for disabled people.
- ❖ Ensure that current information is accessible and available in appropriate formats.
- ❖ Use all available guidance, examples of good practice and of best value to ensure a corporate response to disability access issues.
- ❖ Involve our staff and customers in the process of developing and delivering the policy and procedures.
- ❖ Develop ongoing training opportunities, monitor, and share examples of good practice.

Contact and Further Information

If you require any further information, advice or guidance please contact the Student Services Division.

Changes to Operations Policy

Grace School of Theology reserves the right to change at any time and without notice any aspect of its operations, including changes to personnel, programs, costs, policies, and procedures. Changes may affect faculty, staff, enrolled or prospective students, or some combination thereof, as the administration determines, and will be published as soon as practicable.

Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness

Grace School of Theology is constantly working to improve our academic programs, student services, and operations. From time to time students are asked to help by completing course evaluations, surveys, and similar questionnaires. These provide rich data on student learning and student satisfaction. Departments also conduct SWOT analyses in order to improve quality, efficiency, and effectiveness. Assessment results and summaries are available on the website.

Student ID and Email Requirement

When communicating via telephone, students will be required to identify themselves with their student ID number, GSOT email, or (birthdate and mailing address) that can be found in their Student Profile in Populi.

Students are required to communicate with faculty and staff using only their official GSOT student email address when communicating via email.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Grace School of Theology maintains a variety of records relating to students. The Registrar's Office retains the official file, which includes the student's original application for admission, recommendation forms, transcripts and other pertinent information. These records are available to faculty and staff who have legitimate educational interests.

FERPA is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records, both financial and academic. For the student's protection, FERPA limits the release of certain student record information without the student's explicit consent. However, the law also considers some student information to be Directory Information and is considered public. A student is covered by FERPA at the time of his/her enrollment in courses at the seminary.

Directory Information includes: name, address, e-mail address, phone number, dates of enrollment, enrollment status, major, program, academic awards and honors, and degrees received. This means Grace School of Theology can release this information to anyone who requests it.

Educational records are released to outside individuals or agencies only with the student's written permission. The only exceptions are those specifically required in Section 438 of the General Provision Acts. The Student Handbook contains more detailed information about FERPA.

General Academic Policies

Governing Catalog

Governing Catalog means the catalog in effect at the time of first enrollment that states the graduation requirements to which a student is subject. If the graduation requirements change, the student will automatically remain subject to the original governing catalog but may petition to continue studies subject to the new one. In no case may a student revert to an earlier catalog. Students who have not been enrolled for three semesters or more and return will be subject to the catalog at the time of readmission. Students are automatically subject to other revisions such as policies, procedures, etc. Students are encouraged to communicate regularly with their Academic Advisor regarding their degree plan.

Academic Advising

If you have ministry, personal, or spiritual issues you wish to discuss, please feel free to contact the Student Services Division. All information shared with staff in such cases will be held in the strictest confidence.

Initial academic advisement for new students' first semester is available through the Student Services' personnel who will guide the student toward course registration. Once admitted, the Registrar assigns a faculty-qualified Academic Advisor to each student based on his or her enrolled program, language of study, and location. The name and contact information for the Academic Advisor is communicated to the student in the Registrar's initial acceptance email. All students are encouraged to seek out their Academic Advisor in planning their educational program.

Academic Advisors counsel students on the best sequencing of their course selections based on each student's unique personal needs and help them prepare to complete their chosen academic program within the stated time limit. Each student is responsible for being familiar with and following (as much as is possible) the recommended course sequence for their academic program. Course Progression Charts are found below in this Catalog and are available from the assigned Academic Advisor, appropriate Dean, and/or Registrar.

Academic Advisors have access to students' files that display contact information, current degree plan and degree audit, a history of documents archived, and comments made to the student since they first applied. Because advisors have years of ministerial experience and are expected to demonstrate a servant's heart, Academic Advisors are encouraged to offer prayer and counsel as the Holy Spirit leads.

Academic Appeal Process

Other than contesting a final grade (see separate policy below), students may appeal academic decisions such as the evaluation of transfer credit and academic dismissal, based on extenuating circumstances, by following the proper steps:

1. Submit a detailed letter, with supporting documentation, to the Academic Dean within ten (10) business days of the decision.
2. The Academic Dean will convene the Academic Committee no later than two weeks after receiving the student's appeal in writing.
3. The Academic Committee will notify all concerned of its decision no later than two weeks after convening. The judgment of the Academic Committee is final.

Classification of Students

The academic year runs from the beginning of the fall semester through the end of the summer semester in the following year.

Graduate Students

- ❖ Full-time graduate students are those enrolled in nine (9) or more credits per semester, at least 18 credits per school year.
- ❖ Half-time graduate students are those enrolled in four (4) credits per semester, at least 8 credits per school year.

Undergraduate Students

- ❖ Full-time undergraduate students are those enrolled in twelve (12) or more credits per semester, 24 or more credits per school year.
- ❖ Half-time undergraduate students are those enrolled in six (6) credits per semester, at least 12 credits per school year.

Definition of Credit Hour

A credit hour is one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction with a minimum of two hours of out-of-class work each week of a semester. Grace offers classes in 8-week modules and 16-week semesters. Most courses are 8 weeks in length while courses such as biblical languages and internship are 16 weeks long. These classes may be offered completely in the classroom (depending on teaching location), completely online, or a combination of both (hybrid) using asynchronous and/or synchronous video streaming. Faculty members are responsible for developing their course so that it meets the following course-hour equivalency.

Irrespective of the location, mode of delivery, or length of course, for the purposes of calculating an institutionally established course-hour equivalency,

- ❖ A 1-unit course would reasonably approximate a minimum of 45 course hours.
- ❖ A 2-unit course would reasonably approximate a minimum of 90 course hours.
- ❖ A 3-unit course would reasonably approximate a minimum of 135 course hours.

Eight-week, 3-Unit, Module Class Example:

A typical unit of credit equates to approximately 5.6 hours of student work per week (1 hour lecture plus 4.6 hours of homework). For this class with 24 hours of in-class time, another 111 hours of assignments such as reading, research and writing, exam preparation, and online discussion boards would be needed to complete the minimum requirement of 135 course hours. Lecture time may be adjusted accordingly depending on the assignments given in addition to the lectures.

Sixteen-week, 3-Unit, Semester Class Example:

A typical unit of credit equates to 3 hours of student work per week (1 hour lecture plus 2 hours of homework assignments). For this class with 48 hours of in-class time, another 87 hours of assignments such as reading, research and writing, exam preparation and online discussion boards would be needed to complete the minimum requirement of 135 course hours. Lecture time may be adjusted accordingly depending on the assignments given in addition to the lectures.

Admissions

General Admission Requirements

Personal Enrichment

There are no degree requirements for those wishing to take classes only for enrichment. Anyone can apply to become a non-credit/audit student in an undergraduate or graduate class. Applicants must complete the non-credit application for admission before his/her acceptance is considered.

Undergraduate Program

Anyone with a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent education can apply for the Undergraduate Program offered at Grace for credit. Applicants must complete the Undergraduate application for admission before his/her acceptance is considered.

Undergraduate applicants who cannot provide a valid High School transcript or proof of passing the General Education Development Test (GED) will be required to successfully pass the Ability to Benefit Test (ATB) that is administered by a third party.

Graduate Program

Applicants for the Graduate Program must have earned a baccalaureate degree from an USDE accredited college or university, or its equivalent. The student's undergraduate overall grade point average must be 2.0 or higher for admittance.

Applicants for the Master of Theology must have completed the Master of Divinity (a minimum of 90 credit hours, including one year each of biblical Greek and Hebrew), or equivalent, with a minimum 3.0 GPA, prior to enrollment. Those who have not completed the biblical language requirement may still enroll but must complete the first-year language requirements before proceeding to subsequent years of language study. This may be accomplished concurrently while enrolled.

Applicants who have recently graduated from the bachelor's program at Grace only need to complete a new admissions essay (stating their rationale for entering graduate studies) and an updated pastoral or church recommendation.

Doctorate Program

Acknowledgment and Respect of Grace's Doctrinal Statement

It is expected that a student who applies to the Doctor of Ministry Program at Grace School of Theology has carefully read its Doctrinal Statement and has prayerfully decided that further doctoral education and training at Grace is a benefit to one's ministry.

Grace admits students into all of its academic programs who may not be in total agreement with its theological position on the condition that they acknowledge Grace's beliefs, respect them, and respect fellow students, faculty and staff who hold to the Grace position.

During the learning experience, it is expected that there will be collegial respect for each other's positions within the framework of the authority of Scripture.

Grace welcomes robust critical thinking and discussion as part of its educational philosophy but reserves the right to dismiss any student who causes division or dissention in the classroom, through online discussion boards, or in social media communications.

Academic Preparation

Admission to the Doctor of Ministry program requires a TRACS, Regional, or ATS-accredited Master of Divinity degree (a minimum of 90 semester credit hours), or its equivalent, including at least one year (2 semesters) of Greek, with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) from an accredited or equivalent institution. The Master of Divinity degree must be of comparable educational content (biblical, theological, ministerial) to that of Grace. Applicants who do not meet these requirements may petition the Admissions Committee for consideration.

Ministry Experience

Applicants to the Doctor of Ministry program must normally have at least three years of ministry experience completed after receiving the Master of Divinity and evidence of capacity for an advanced level of competence and reflection. Ongoing engagement in ministry in a specific ministry context is required for continuance in the program. Evidence of mature Christian character and significant ministry achievement must be demonstrated in the application.

Evidence of Research and Writing Ability

Applicants must submit a ten-page research paper (excluding title page, table of contents, and bibliography) that exegetically and theologically explains the biblical position on one of the following topics: openness theology, prosperity theology, homosexuality, and philosophy of leadership. The paper must interact with different Christian viewpoints and must utilize at least ten different resources. The paper must be footnoted and follow the *Turabian* (Chicago 9th Edition) style manual.

Students who have completed a graduate thesis (Master's level or higher) in a theological discipline requiring competent exegesis and theological reflection may submit it in lieu of the research paper for consideration in meeting this requirement. This paper will be utilized to assess student proficiency in written English, critical thinking skills, exegetical ability, and theological competence. If upon review this paper does not demonstrate an appropriate level of these abilities, the student may be admitted into the program but will not be allowed to begin work on their final project until improvement has been shown through the papers that will be written in the three Core courses. If the student still has not shown improvement after the three required courses, it will be incumbent upon the student to obtain outside training in these areas and demonstrate proficiency to the Dean of DMin Studies. Only after this recourse will the student be allowed to register for their final project.

The Application Process

Academic Programs for Credit

Applications for Grace School of Theology may be obtained on its website (www.gsot.edu). Once the Admissions Office has received the application and all necessary information, the Admissions Committee will review the application and notify the applicant in writing regarding admission status. Application fees are listed in the financial information.

Anyone who wishes to enroll in an Academic Program for credit at Grace School of Theology must follow the steps in the Admissions Process outlined below.

Visit the Grace School of Theology website (www.gsot.edu) and click on the Apply button at the top right corner of the page.

The Application for the **Undergraduate Program** includes the following:

- a. Admissions Essay
- b. Official transcripts from where an applicant received a High School Diploma or GED is required. Official transcripts are also required from any Undergraduate work completed higher than High School.
- c. One Personal Recommendation form (can be completed online)
- d. One Pastoral or Church Recommendation form (can be completed online)
- e. Copy of a government-issued ID with photo
- f. Spousal Statement (if applicable) (can be completed online)

The Application for the **Graduate Program** includes the following:

- a. Admissions Essay
- b. Official transcripts from where an applicant has completed his/her Undergraduate Studies. Official transcripts from any institution post High School are necessary for applications to be considered.
- c. One Personal Recommendation form (can be completed online)
- d. One Pastoral or Church Recommendation form (can be completed online)
- e. Copy of a government-issued ID with photo
- f. Spousal Statement (if applicable) (can be completed online)

The Application for the **Doctorate Program** includes the following:

- a. Admissions Essay
- b. Official transcripts from where an applicant has completed his/her Undergraduate Studies and Graduate Studies. Official transcripts from any institution post High School are necessary for applications to be considered.
- c. One Personal Recommendation form (can be completed online)
- d. One Pastoral or Church Recommendation form (can be completed online)
- e. Copy of a government-issued ID with photo

- f. Spousal Statement (if applicable) (can be completed online)
- g. Statement of Ministry Experience
- h. Evidence of research and writing ability (For further details see General Admission Requirements for Doctorate Program.)

Once the Admissions Department receives all application components (including transcripts and recommendation forms), the completed application is sent to the Admissions Committee.

Academic Courses for Enrichment (Auditing a Course)

Anyone who wishes to enroll in courses for enrichment purposes (auditing) at Grace School of Theology must follow the steps in the Admissions Process outlined below.

1. Visit the Grace School of Theology website (www.gsot.edu) and click on the Apply button at the top right corner of the page.
2. Choose the program titled Non-Credit Enrichment Applicants (Audit/Enrichment). Applicants applying to audit courses must only complete the online components of the application for admission.

Special Admissions

Ability to Benefit and Undergraduate Probationary Admittance

Grace accepts students into the Undergraduate Program, on a limited basis, who have not earned a high school diploma or do not possess a GED. Applicants who are eligible for Title-IV Financial Aid based on their status as a citizen of the United States and do not possess a GED or valid high school diploma must take and successfully pass the Ability to Benefit (ATB) test in order to qualify for those Title-IV benefits. Once a student has completed all the other admissions requirements, they will be accepted on Probationary Status. Applicants who wish to be admitted into the Ability to Benefit (ATB) program must first take the ATB test. Requests to take the test must be made with the Director of Admissions and Enrollment in Student Services. There is an additional fee for this service that is determined by the test administrator.

Certain exceptions may be made for applicants who are not eligible for Title-IV Financial Aid (based on their status as a US citizen) to be admitted on Probationary Status without taking the ATB test. These applicants will not qualify for Title-IV benefits.

Undergraduate students admitted on Probationary Status must complete 12 undergraduate credits of satisfactory work with a minimum overall grade point average of 2.0 in order to be changed from Probationary status to Full Admission status. The Registrar's Office will monitor student's progress in the student information system (grades and progress) and keep the student's Academic Advisor informed of the status.

Through various ministries, facilitated by Student Services, students in the ATB program may obtain tutorial assistance in areas such as academics, ministry and life matters. The aim of the seminary is to provide learning helps in order to develop a wide range of life skills that will prove beneficial to the student's personal and professional purposes and goals. Writing tutors are available for all students through the Writing Center.

Graduate Probationary Admittance

If a graduate student's undergraduate grade point average is below 2.0, then the student may be admitted on a limited Probationary Status. Graduate students admitted on probation must complete 9 graduate credits of satisfactory work with a minimum overall grade point average of 2.0 in order to be changed from Probationary status to Full Admission status. However, a graduate student admitted on probation to the ThM program must complete 9 graduate credits of satisfactory work with a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0, in order to be changed from Probationary Status to Full Admission status. The Registrar's Office will monitor all students' progress in the student information system (grades and progress) and keep the student's Academic Advisor informed of the status. The student's status will be stated in the acceptance letter.

Provisional Entrance

If an applicant wishes to take classes within a semester BEFORE the student has been officially accepted, the applicant will need to submit an Admissions and Exception Petition explaining the reason why the applicant wishes to be considered for entrance without all necessary documents.

Provisional entrance is only for students applying for either the undergraduate or graduate programs. The Admissions and Exception Committee will vote on provisional entrance and notify the applicant of the decision.

If an applicant is approved for provisional entrance, then all application documents must be received within one semester. Students may not register for subsequent semesters until their application is complete. The Admissions Department will monitor and collect the appropriate application documentation for students who are accepted provisionally.

Special Status

If an applicant does not intend to earn a degree or enroll in an academic program but would like to earn credit, he may be admitted as a special status student. These students must meet the same entrance requirements as degree-seeking applicants. Course grades are based on the same criteria applied to students in degree programs. Students may later apply to enter a degree program based on the entrance requirements in this publication. If the application into a degree program is approved, credits earned under special status will be evaluated for transfer based on the rules for transfer credit.

English Language Proficiency

All applicants and enrolled students whose primary language is not English and who desire to take courses taught in English must demonstrate English language proficiency, regardless of citizenship. Such students must complete an English language assessment before enrolling in Grace or registering for courses taught in English.

Grace has access to the International Test of English Proficiency (iTEP) at a reasonable price. This exam measures listening, reading comprehension and grammar. All students must have a comprehensive overall score of 3.5 or above in order to enroll at Grace.

Official score reports for alternative language tests approved by Grace, such as TOEFL, TOEIC, PTE, IELTS, FCE, CAE, and CPE may be submitted to the Student Success Division for further evaluation. A prospective student with an alternative test score equivalent to the overall iTEP level of 3.5 is eligible for full admission in graduate programs.

Applicants to Grace with a satisfactory assessment score may continue the matriculation process and take courses as soon as enrollment is completed. Grace requires a passing score as a condition for full admission status and/or continuation and reserves the right to make the final determination in such cases. Students who fail to show sufficient mastery of English (or other subjects) will be required to do further preparatory work until registering for additional courses.

Applicants to Grace with an unsatisfactory assessment score have two options:

1. They may take English language courses or undergo ESL/EFL training in their own country. The courses may be from adult or continuing education programs, or equivalent courses for credit at an internationally recognized college or university. *The programs of these ESL training centers must have a CEFR-based curriculum.* They may also take classes and/or tutorials in an internationally accredited language school and must present the following documents:
 - ❖ Proof of taking the course or training and passing it, such as transcript, certificate, or letter from the tutor/teacher with the dates of participation and completion, along with their overall CEFR score
 - ❖ Certification of ESL training center/tutor/instructor as an accredited center of CEFR-based curriculum

Upon submission of pertinent documents, they may take the iTEP exam again, free of charge.

2. They may complete prescribed courses in the Grace English Language Program (GELP) and pass post-program assessment. For more information, please contact the Student Success Division at studentsuccess@gsot.edu.

Applicants may be exempt from English language proficiency assessment if any of the following criteria (or conditions) is true:

- ❖ The applicant holds an undergraduate or graduate degree from an American college or university deemed acceptable by Grace.
- ❖ The applicant has worked for three or more years in an American company, ministry, and/or agency that has used state requirements for foreign workers, or in any similar agency from United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, or Canada.
- ❖ The applicant speaks English as a first language and was raised in an English-speaking country like the United States, Ireland, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, or Canada.
- ❖ The applicant is only enrolling in a non-English degree program such as Spanish or Korean.

Dual Enrollment

Students who desire to enroll in a graduate program and who have up to six credits to complete before they receive their undergraduate degree may concurrently enroll in a graduate degree program and register to take up to six credits per semester for a maximum of two semesters.

Students must meet (no exceptions) the cumulative GPA requirement for admission in good standing into a graduate program to be eligible to register under dual enrollment for that program. Students must meet all other admissions requirements as stated herein.

Students must provide, along with their application, a current official undergraduate transcript (sent directly from their school to the Registrar's Office), a letter from their current Registrar's Office indicating their current Grade Point Average (GPA), the specific degree they are pursuing, the estimated date of undergraduate graduation, and the number of remaining credit hours for degree completion. Students must complete the *General Petition Form* requesting Dual Enrollment and submit it to the Registrar's Office for final approval. Once all documents are received by the Registrar's Office a decision will be made by the Academic Dean.

Exceptions to General Admissions Requirements

Applicants for the degree programs may apply for an exception to the General Admissions Requirements by submitting a detailed explanation in the Admissions and Exception Petition Form to the Admissions Office for approval from the Admissions and Exceptions Committee. Details must contain:

1. What exception is requested
2. Rationale why Grace should grant the request

Transfer of Credit

Grace School of Theology makes all attempts to be just, equitable, and apply the guidelines for transfer equally. The school generally accepts transfer credit from institutions of higher education that have accredited or pre-accredited status through an accrediting agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education, or its equivalent, such as qualified foreign institutions of higher education. The accredited status of the institution is important when considering the transfer of credit, but it is not the sole determining factor.

The passage of time is not a factor when determining the transferability of credits. However, students desiring to transfer in biblical languages may do so if the courses completed are within ten years of applying to Grace. Students who have completed biblical language credits more than 10 years ago may take a challenge exam and thus enable Grace to accept those credits previously completed if the exam is passed.

Transfer from unaccredited institutions is typically difficult unless Grace has already verified comparability. The Provost's Department has a list of such schools that have been verified. Students should be aware that there are limits to the number of transfer credits. In general, up to 50% of any given graduate program and 75% of any undergraduate program can be transferred. For the maximum allowable transfer credit for each program, please refer to the appropriate academic program description. Any undergraduate credit awarded by examination, on the bases of certificates, or by assessment of prior learning, must be within the guidelines of the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL). Results will be added to the student's permanent file. Grace does not award any credit for prior experiential learning at the graduate level.

Students are responsible for ensuring that official transcripts of their credit are sent directly from the institution to the Registrar. Unofficial transcripts will not be officially evaluated. Students should be aware that reasons for the refusal of transfer credit are course-to-course incompatibility, the institution's accredited status, course description and requirements, final grade, etc. No credit will be awarded until official transcripts have been received and evaluated. Current students who desire guidance on transferring Grace credit to another institution are encouraged to contact the appropriate Dean or the Registrar's Office. The acceptance of the transfer of credit from Grace is determined by the receiving institution and not by Grace.

Transfer of credit will be determined based on an evaluation of the course description and/or course syllabus and its comparability and equivalency with coursework and/or the purpose of the program at Grace. Coursework must be validated through an official transcript and must be for work of "C" grade (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher for graduate (MM, MA(BS), and MDiv) and undergraduate credit and a "B" grade (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher for ThM and DMin credit.

Exceptions to these guidelines may be granted. Questions regarding the transfer of credit should be addressed to the Academic Dean. Students may appeal the evaluation of transfer of credit. Please see the section in this Catalog entitled *Academic Appeals Process*.

Articulation Agreements

Grace School of Theology has articulation agreements with the following institutions:

- ❖ Chafer Theological Seminary
- ❖ Escola de Pastores da Primeira Igreja Batista de Atibaia, Brazil
- ❖ Grace Biblical Seminary
- ❖ Instituto Ministerial Rios de Aceite
- ❖ Maryland Bible College –Seminary
- ❖ New Brunswick Bible Institute, Canada
- ❖ New Tribes Bible Institute
- ❖ New Tribes Mission Missionary Training Center
- ❖ Ohio Theological Institute
- ❖ Seminario Evangélico de Caracas, Venezuela
- ❖ Woodlands Seminary

Diploma and Transcript Verification

As a direct response to the increase in the number of online high school and college diploma-issuing companies (diploma mills), the federal government has suggested that each Title IV-issuing educational institution develop a standard policy to better identify valid high school and secondary education transcripts. While we are fully aware that a traditional high school degree may not be obtainable for all, we strongly suggest completing a state-issued GED as an alternative if the traditional high school completion option is not realistic.

If we suspect that a transcript submitted is not from a legitimate school (such as a diploma mill/degree mill), we will proceed in the following manner:

1. If the applicant is applying to be a part of the Graduate Program, the Registrar's Office will look up on the Council for Higher Education Accreditation site (www.chea.org) for the name of the school where the Applicant received his/her bachelor's degree. If the name of the school does not appear on the list, then the Registrar will research further to verify accreditation and then supply the official transcript to the Graduate Dean for further evaluation.
2. If the applicant is applying to be a part of the Undergraduate Program, the Registrar's Office will supply the Applicant's official transcript to the Undergraduate Dean for further evaluation.
 - ❖ Below are some key items that must be listed on the high school transcript for Grace to certify it as valid:
 - Name, address and phone number of the high school from which the applicant graduated
 - Four (4) years of high school credits
 - Graduation date
 - School seal and/or signature of school official
 - High school diplomas may only be used for verification of high school completion if special circumstances prevent the submission of the official high school transcript.
 - ❖ There are also some key items that Grace will look for in determining the validity of an online diploma:
 - Was the diploma obtained from an online high school that does not operate in the state of the applicant's primary residency?
 - Did the student pay a sum of money (other than standard transcript request fee) in order to obtain the diploma?
 - Was any work required in obtaining the diploma and can the student show proof of the work that was completed?
 - Is the high school accredited by an agency approved by the U.S. Department of Education or another equivalent accrediting body?
 - Is the diploma recognized or approved in the state from which it was granted?

If it has been determined that an applicant's transcript is submitted from a school that is not legitimate, then the Admissions Committee Representative will contact the applicant and let him/her know about the discovery. Grace reserves the right to be cautious in accepting high school transcripts that may not meet the requirements as put forth by the federal government in helping to determine eligibility for Title IV funding. The applicant may be instructed to submit a petition to be accepted under the Ability to Benefit status.

Advanced Standing

Applicants who have graduated from a Bible college with a degree in Bible or biblical studies, or possess an equivalent biblical studies degree, and who enroll in the Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (MA(BS)) program may be eligible for up to 12 units of advanced standing, and students who enroll in the Master of Divinity (MDiv) program may be eligible for a maximum of 24 units of advanced standing, based on courses taken at the undergraduate level. Successfully completed courses comparable to the 500-level courses in the MA(BS) or MDiv programs at Grace may receive advanced standing. Courses for which advanced standing is sought must be equivalent in both content and theological viewpoint to courses taught at Grace, and been earned with a grade of C+ (2.5 on a 4.0 scale) or better.

Transfer of General Education (GENED) Credit

Students may transfer an appropriate number of General Education credits into the AABS and BABS Degree Programs. The AABS requires that students complete 18 credits, and the BABS requires that students complete 30 credits of GENED. The general education core includes a minimum of three semester hours in each of the humanities/fine arts, behavioral/ social sciences, communications, and natural sciences/math.

Core Components	Sample courses that qualify	Minimum Number
Humanities/Fine Arts	Humanities, Music, Art, Philosophy, Foreign Languages	3
Behavioral/Social Sciences	Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Government, Psychology, Sociology, History	3
Communications	English, English Composition, Speech, Communications	3
Natural Sciences/Math	Any Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Environmental Studies, Physics	3
Other acceptable GENED transfer credit	Accounting, Computer Technology, Literature	

Registration and Enrollment

Enrollment Deadlines

The **self-registration period** normally begins nine weeks before the first day of the coming semester and lasts seven weeks.

The **assisted-registration period** begins two weeks before the first day of the coming semester. Once this begins, registration can only be completed by contacting the Registrar's Office at registrar@gsot.edu.

During fall registration, students register for Modules 1 and 2 classes. During spring registration, students register for Modules 3 and 4. During summer registration, students register for Module 5.

Enrollment Process

A student is enrolled in a course when he/she has registered and has final approval from the Registrar. The registration process includes the following steps:

1. Self-register in Populi during the self-registration period or email the Registrar once the assisted-registration period has begun.
2. Once enrolled, the Registrar will verify that the courses selected are within the student's academic program and still needed. If there are questions regarding the student's choices, the Registrar will notify the student's Academic Advisor for advice, clarification, and approval.
3. Once final approval is given by the Registrar, the student is billed and notified by the Bursar. Registration is not complete until all invoices are paid (current) unless acceptable arrangements with the Bursar have been made.

Adding and Dropping Courses

The processes are important for enrolling and withdrawing (adding and dropping) students from a course according to rules formulated to maintain orderliness and academic quality, with lawful refunds of tuition and fees when applicable. No late fees will be charged against a student during the self-registration period.

Adding a Course

A student may add a course according to the deadlines stated in the Academic Calendar and upon approval by their Academic Advisor. This is to ensure that students have enough time to order and receive textbooks and to prepare for the first class session. To add a course after the Registrar has confirmed a student's registration, the student must contact the Registrar's Office.

Dropping a Course

Students are not considered as 'dropped' from a course if they:

- ❖ No longer attend the course; or
- ❖ Communicate their desire to drop the course to their professor, faculty member, or other employee; or
- ❖ Communicate their desire to drop the course other than submitting the Drop/Withdrawal Form.

If a student does not attend an 8-week course for the first 2 weeks or a 16-week course for the first 3 weeks, he/she will automatically be dropped from the course (Administration Drop for non-start) and the Bursar will adjust his/her invoice. The student is still responsible for paying 25% of the course's tuition, plus the technology fee and administration fee.

If a student stops attending, then the Attendance Policy will be used to determine the last date of attendance and the F/A (Failure to Attend) notation will be added to the student's record. Students who do not use the Drop/Withdrawal Form are not eligible to receive any refunds.

Officially Dropping a Course

Official drop means that the approved procedure to withdraw from a course was followed by the student. During the Self-Registration via Populi, students can simply add and drop courses in Populi themselves. However, once a student has received registration confirmation from the Registrar or the Assisted-Registration period has begun, the student must contact his/her Academic Advisor to drop a course. The advisor will initiate the Drop/Withdrawal Form in Populi, a link to the form will be sent to the student's email for completion, and then once the student submits the form it will be processed by the Registrar's Office. This applies to all courses, irrespective of delivery mode or course length. If the student would like to change courses during the Assisted-Registration Period, the student must contact the Registrar at registrar@gsot.edu.

Student Course Overload

The maximum course load per semester in graduate programs is 14 credits. The maximum course load per semester in undergraduate programs is 15 credits. Any student who desires to enroll beyond this maximum course load must first gain the approval of their Academic Advisor and final approval from the student's Dean.

Frequency of Required Course Offerings

Grace makes every attempt to offer a wide range of courses at its locations, online (synchronously), and via archived video (asynchronously). Some courses are offered multiple times per year, but the majority are offered one time per academic year. Following the appropriate Course Progression Chart is important in order to complete the desired academic program in a timely manner.

Course Sequencing

Some courses within programs contain prerequisite requirements. Students are responsible for reading the course descriptions carefully, determining which courses have prerequisites, and are responsible to register for courses in their required sequence. Course Progression Charts are found below in this Catalog and are available from the assigned Academic Advisor, appropriate Dean, and/or Registrar. Students should become familiar with and follow (as much as possible) the recommended course sequence for their academic program.

Undergraduate Programs' Foundational Courses

The foundational courses of the school's undergraduate programs are designed to equip the students with:

- ❖ the knowledge and skills necessary for undergraduate studies;
- ❖ an understanding of the doctrine of salvation; and
- ❖ an understanding of the importance of Christian character development.

These courses are the following:

RS-210: Research Writing and Technology

A course designed to teach the serious student of the Word proper research methodology, review of college-level writing skills, and the effective use of technology for conducting research, following *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate L. Turabian. Methods for using technology to discover information appropriate for college-level research through the use of electronic databases, Internet resources, library collections, and information literacy are addressed. *This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.*

TH-310: Principles of Biblical Interpretation

A directed study of the principles of the literal-grammatical-historical (L-G-H) system of biblical interpretation, with guided practice in using those principles in interpreting representative passages. *This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.*

TH-330 The Doctrine of Salvation

A study of the doctrine of salvation. Topics include election, faith, regeneration, justification, adoption, sanctification, assurance of salvation, eternal security and glorification. *Prerequisites: RS-210 and TH-310*
Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within their first academic year in the school. The other options would be for the student to either take this before enrolling in any Systematic Theology and Bible course or take this simultaneously with any Systematic Theology and Bible course.

TH-300: The Life of the Believer

This course is a practical study of the biblical principles and practices that develop Christian character and service, with emphasis on the primacy of the Scriptures and the building of a devotional life, as well as challenges in the Spiritual Life. The goal is a personal devotional method which can be used throughout your life. *Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within their first academic year in the school. The other options would be for the student to either take this before enrolling in any Systematic Theology and Bible course or take this simultaneously with any Systematic Theology and Bible course.*

Graduate Programs' Foundational Courses

The foundational courses of the school's graduate programs are designed to equip the students with:

- ❖ the knowledge and skills necessary for graduate studies;
- ❖ an understanding of free grace theology; and
- ❖ an understanding of the importance of Christian character development.

These courses are the following:

RS-503: Research Methods, Writing, and Technology

A course designed to introduce the student to the skills necessary to produce graduate level research papers and projects. This includes the proper formatting of papers (Turabian), source documentation, and thesis formation. How to read effectively for comprehension and how to express oneself properly is explored. Methods for using technology to discover information appropriate to graduate work through the use of electronic databases, internet resources, library collections, and information literacy are addressed. Students will be introduced to the Zoom video conferencing system used at Grace for all its courses. *This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.*

TH-560: Hermeneutics

A directed study of the principles of the literal-grammatical-historical(L-G-H) system of biblical interpretation, with guided practice in using those principles in interpreting representative passages. *This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.*

TH-568: Soteriology

A study of the doctrine of salvation with special attention given to the work of Christ, the nature and extent of the atonement, the terms of salvation, election and human responsibility, and the eternal security of the believer. *Prerequisites: TH-560, TH-565, and RS-503*

Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within the first half of their program.

SF-550: Spiritual Life

This course is a practical study of the biblical principles and practices that develop Christian character and service, with emphasis on the primacy of the Scriptures and the building of a devotional life, as well as challenges in the Spiritual Life. The goal is a personal devotional method which can be used throughout your life.

Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within their first academic year in the school. The other options would be for the student to either take this before enrolling in any Systematic Theology and Bible course or take this simultaneously with any Systematic Theology and Bible course.

Independent Study

An Independent Study is an education option for a student who needs to finish his/her required course(s) before the graduation date of the same academic year. It is an exclusive class designed only for one or up to three students.

For an Independent Study offering to be considered, a student must initiate a request before the self-registration period ends and the assisted-registration period begins for that said semester. The student in this case will lose the benefit of classroom interaction with the professor and other students. The request should be submitted to the Registrar's Office via the General Petition form which can be found at www.gsot.edu/student-references/#studentforms.

This option is granted only in extenuating circumstances. It is not to be undertaken solely for personal convenience, because an appropriate faculty member must be willing to teach an Independent Study before approval is given by the appropriate Dean. Grace cannot guarantee that a suitable faculty member will be willing and/or available at the time a student desires to take the course.

Matriculation

Degree Completion Limits

Grace recognizes that the majority of its students are adult learners with very busy schedules. Students, therefore, are encouraged to take courses and complete programs at a reasonable, but constant pace in light of family, work, and ministry responsibilities. Maintaining a constant and continuous pace toward the completion of any program will create better success as the student grows spiritually, becomes more solidly grounded in the Scriptures, and becomes more and more effective in ministry. With this in mind, certain limits are in place to program completion.

From the initial semester of acceptance into Grace:

- ❖ All work leading to a Certificate must be completed within three years.
- ❖ All work leading to the DBS, AABS or MA(BS) degree must be completed within six years.
- ❖ All work leading to the MM degree must be completed within five years.
- ❖ All work leading to the MDiv degree must be completed within eight years.
- ❖ All work leading to the ThM degree must be completed within five years, non-inclusive of MDiv work.
- ❖ All work leading to the BABS, ThM, DMin degree must be completed within ten years.

Periods when students have petitioned and received a 'Leave of Absence' will not count toward the limit. Extension of any of these limits requires a recommendation from the student's Academic Advisor and approval from the Academic Dean, in consultation with Student Services, as appropriate.

Change of Degree Program

The process of changing to/from a certificate or degree is a formal procedure requiring official approval and documentation. Students must submit a Degree Program Change Request Form to the Registrar's office which can be found at

www.gsot.edu/student-references/#studentforms. Approval from the Program Dean is required. Students should consult with their Academic Advisor first of their intention to change for help with this process.

Students changing degrees within the seminary shall meet the same entrance requirements as students seeking admission to Grace from outside the seminary who have completed the same number of semester credits. When students change to a different academic program, they come under the Catalog that is in effect when that change is made.

Withdrawing from the School

Any student desiring to permanently withdraw from Grace School of Theology must complete the online General Petition Form. Under the section Matriculation-Related Request, check the box labeled withdraw entirely from the school, and include the starting date of the withdrawal. This is not the procedure for dropping an individual course. In order to drop a course please refer to the section titled *Dropping a Course*.

Readmission

General Readmission Process

Readmission of returning students is subject to review by the administration. A student who withdrew from Grace, has graduated, has been dismissed for academic or disciplinary reasons from Grace, or has been absent for 6 or more consecutive semesters (without an approved leave of absence), and desires to be readmitted, must reapply.

Students who did not apply and are not approved for a leave of absence but have been absent for 3-5 consecutive semesters do not need to reapply for admission to the seminary. However, they will be subject to the current catalog at the time of their return.

- ❖ Absent: 6+ semesters **without** approved leave of absence = Readmission required and subject to latest catalog program requirements
- ❖ Absent: 3-5 semesters **without** approved leave of absence = No readmission required but subject to latest catalog program requirements
- ❖ Absent: 3-6 semesters **with** approved leave of absence = No readmission required and subject to original catalog program requirements

If a student withdraws from all courses during the first two weeks of a semester, the semester is included in the withdrawal or absent period.

The Readmission Application requires a student to provide transcripts from all schools attended subsequent to withdrawal from Grace, a recommendation from the applicant's pastor or church, and a brief essay by the applicant on his/her activities and spiritual growth since withdrawal from Grace School of Theology. The Readmission Application must be completed (required documents included) by the application deadline.

For questions regarding the readmission application, please contact the Admissions Office at admissions@gsot.edu.

From Leave of Absence

A leave of absence may be permitted for a period of up to 6 consecutive semesters. Students desiring a leave of absence must file a General Petition Form with the Registrar. When students on an approved leave of absence desire to return to Grace, they need to complete another General Petition Form and submit it to the Registrar for registration materials. They do not need to reapply for admission to the seminary if they enroll before the 7th semester registration period ends.

Students, when they return, will register for classes in the same manner as a continuing student and continue under the Catalog that was in force when they left. Students who take a leave of absence are encouraged to discuss plans for their leave with their Academic Advisor prior to leaving the seminary.

If a student withdraws from all courses during the first two weeks of a semester, the semester is included in the leave of absence period.

After Academic or Disciplinary Dismissal

A student who has been academically dismissed may apply for readmission only after a full academic year (three semesters). He then must submit the General Readmission requirements (as stated above), give evidence of potential for academic success,

and receive approval from the Academic Dean. The student returnee will be on probationary status and should pass all the courses while on probation. His GPA after three semesters should be 2.0 or above.

A student who has been dismissed for disciplinary reasons may apply for readmission after three semesters. He then must submit the General Readmission requirements (as stated above) and receive approval from the Academic Dean.

“50% Rule” – Limitation of Courses Taken at Teaching Sites

Students enrolled in any program must take less than 50% of their program’s courses (from a live professor) at an extension site or any combination of extension sites. Conversely, students enrolled in any program must take 50% or more of their program’s courses at the main campus, online, streaming video (synchronous or asynchronous/archived), or any combination thereof. The Registrar monitors these numbers and will notify students accordingly.

Coursework

Distance Education

Distance Education courses deliver instruction synchronously and/or asynchronously through varied technologies. Our policy is to regularly and substantively offer interaction among the students and the instructor. To this end, students are expected and required throughout the course, regardless of modality, to participate in one or more of the following: discussion board assignments, group projects, collaboration pages, assignment feedback from students and/or instructors, or student conferences with instructors via telephone, chat, or video conference.

LOGOS Bible Software Requirement

The Logos Bible Software is required for students in the MABS, MDiv, ThM, and DMin programs. Through a special partnership developed between Grace School Theology and Faithlife, all Grace students have the option to purchase the software at a discounted price, and students in the programs requiring it will also have the option to lease it.

If you do not have the Logos Bible Software or you do not have a license yet, we recommend that you avail of the exclusive Grace School of Theology Logos package for only \$205. This package is tailored to guide you through your courses. Students in the programs requiring it can make payments each year to utilize the software and have the option of converting that to a permanent license upon graduation.

For students enrolled in degree programs not requiring the software, you are also welcome to take advantage of the special package offering.

For more information, please see the Grace website at www.gsot.edu/logos-exclusive/ or contact the Dean of Students, Willie Gaines, at wgaines@gsot.edu.

Attendance

Grace School of Theology believes that interaction between the professor and students is a vital part of training. This interaction may occur in the classroom and/or online. All classes utilize Canvas as the online Learning Management System (LMS), whether the student is attending in the classroom, only online, or a blend of both. All students are expected to participate in/attend the course weekly. Faculty prepare assignments that are typically due on a weekly basis. Attendance at Grace is defined as academic participation in coursework such as:

1. discussion board assignments
2. submission of other assignments as required in the course syllabus
3. completing tests and quizzes

Clarifications:

1. Student communication (email or texting) to the professor does not in itself constitute attendance.
2. Watching videos synchronously or asynchronously will not be used as a basis for attendance unless the class requires its students to report their watching to Canvas in a verifiable manner.

If a student needs to plan an absence for personal reasons, he/she should notify the professor as soon as the specific date(s) is known so that the student can work ahead and not fall behind. Professors will take into account personal, family emergencies, but it is the student's responsibility to notify the professor as soon as possible of any potential disruption in their studies. Informing the professor does not, however, guarantee a present mark on their attendance.

If a student does not attend an 8-week course for the first 2 weeks or a 16-week course for the first 3 weeks, he/she will automatically be dropped from the course (Administration Drop for non-start) and the Bursar will adjust his/her invoice. The student is still responsible for paying 25% of the course's tuition, plus the technology fee and administration fee.

If a student stops attending, then the Attendance Policy will be used to determine the last date of attendance and the F/A (Failure to Attend) notation will be added to the student's record. Students who do not use the Drop/Withdrawal Form are not eligible to receive any refunds.

Module Classes (8-weeks)

Students enrolled in modular classes (8-weeks) who do not attend (as defined above) for 14 days in succession will receive a final grade of F/A (Failure to Attend) for the class.

Semester Classes (16 weeks)

Those students enrolled in semester-long classes who do not attend for 21 days in succession will receive the same final grade of F/A.

Note: A student's GPA and financial aid benefits (if applicable) will be affected when a student receives the F/A grade. The professor determines attendance and is responsible for reporting attendance to the Registrar on a weekly basis.

Intensive Classes (3-5 days)

Intensives are defined as the presentation of lectures with appropriate assignments within an 8-week Module, condensed for 3-5 days. Professors who teach intensive courses determine attendance and are responsible for reporting attendance to the Registrar on a regular basis. Student communication (email or texting) to the professor does not in itself constitute attendance.

Students enrolled in an intensive class who do not attend (as defined above) for 14 days in succession will receive a final grade of F/A (Failure to Attend). A student's GPA and financial aid benefits (if applicable) will be affected when a student receives the F/A grade.

Doctor of Ministry (DMin) courses include pre-residency, residency, and post-residency time frames. For DMin courses, intensive classes are referred to as "residency period." This period lasts for 4 to 5 days where the professors conduct live classes and facilitate engaging discussions. While professors may or may not assign additional coursework during this time, it serves as a focused period of instruction. The residency period is then followed by a post-residency phase which lasts for approximately 2 months.

It is important to note that due to the distinct and advanced nature of DMin courses, student attendance is not reported to the Registrar.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism

According to the *American Heritage Dictionary, 2nd College Edition*, plagiarism is defined as "taking and using as one's own the writings or ideas of another." Plagiarism includes failure to use quotation marks or other conventional markings around material quoted from another source, paraphrasing a specific passage from a source without indicating accurately what that source is, and/or letting another person compose or rewrite a student's written assignment.

Falsifying Information

Falsifying information includes submitting another's work as one's own, or otherwise providing false or misleading documentation.

Usage of Generative AI and LLM

Students must act in the usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Large Language Models (LLM) products to support the values of Grace School of Theology (GSOT) and the communities we serve.

Generative AI and LLMs (ChatGPT, Bard, Dall-E, Codex, GPT-3, etc) must not be the primary and sole basis of students in researching and completing coursework deliverables. Students must not claim contents created by AI as their own and must not generate and submit any coursework deliverables using generative AI or LLM products without providing references and citing the source.

Anti-Plagiarism & Anti-AI-Generated Content Software

Grace utilizes anti-plagiarism software within the Canvas LMS. Assignments submitted by students will be checked by the *Turnitin* software to look for content that is copied from other primary sources or other students' work. Professors will then look for proper footnoted citations in Turabian format.

Turnitin also already has a feature that can detect contents that are generated by AI or LLM products.

Other Forms of Academic Dishonesty

During examinations, academic dishonesty includes referring to written information not specifically permitted by the instructor or syllabus, receiving unauthorized written or oral information from a fellow student or proctor and/or stealing, buying, selling, or transmitting a copy of any examination.

Any student proven to have committed a type of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, cheating, or falsifying information will result in disciplinary action depending on its severity and pattern. First infraction of academic integrity will result either an automatic zero for the assignment or, at the discretion of the faculty member, resubmission of the assignment with a grade reduction. Second infraction will result in automatic failure of the course. Third infraction will result in academic dismissal. After one year from the dismissal, the student may be readmitted to his or her program on the condition that any further infraction results immediate and permanent expulsion from school.

Copyright Policy

Grace School of Theology waives its right to all copyright in papers, theses, and dissertations written by a student to earn credit in Grace courses or otherwise to satisfy the degree, certificate, or program requirements.

DISCLAIMER / WARNING for STUDENTS regarding Internet Archive

Internet Archive (<https://archive.org/>) offers an Open Library Collection of web pages and digital content, including movies, audiobooks & poetry, ebooks, podcasts, and music. This site offers a wealth of information that can be of use for your research requirements. However, it's important to note that the content in the Collections is not strictly academic; it originates from diverse global sources and sectors. Some materials may include information that could be considered offensive, disturbing, pornographic, racist, sexist, bizarre, misleading, fraudulent, or otherwise objectionable. Please exercise utmost caution and discretion when using this website.

Grade Reports

Faculty members are required to submit final grades to the Office of the Registrar within two weeks of the completion of modular and semester courses. Grades will be processed and recorded in the student's electronic file. All grades will be available for the student's viewing through their student profile on the Populi system.

Grading System

The grade point average (GPA) is a numerical representation of a student's overall academic achievement. It is obtained by assigning point values to specific grades and multiplying these values by the number of semester hours received in that course. The total number of grade points earned for one semester or for all semesters at Grace School of Theology is divided by the total number of semester hours.

Grades of I and WP are not assigned grade point values and are not used in the computation of the grade point average. A grade of WF is assigned a grade point value of zero (0). At the graduate level (not including ThM), no points are given for a grade lower than a C- (1.7 grade points) and at the undergraduate level, no points are given for a grade lower than a D- (0.7 grade points). At the doctorate level and in the ThM graduate program, no points are given for a grade lower than a B (3.0) grade points). Any required failed course must be retaken until passed. The retaken grade will automatically replace the original failed grade.

The grade point values are as shown in the following chart. The F/A grade (Failure to Attend) is assigned when students have not participated in the course for 14 days in succession in an 8-week course and 21 days in succession in a 16-week course. A grade of F/A is assigned a grade point value of zero (0).

A+ 99-100	B+ 91-93	C+ 83-85	D+ 75-77	F 0-69 Undergraduate	AUD Audit	I Incomplete
A 96-98	B 88-90***	C 80-82	D 72-74	F 0-77 Graduate	WP****	IP Class in Progress
A- 94-95	B- 86-87	C- 78-79**	D- 70-71*	F 0-85 Doctoral	WF*****	F/A Failure to Attend

* D- is the lowest passing grade at the undergraduate level.

** C- is the lowest passing grade at the graduate level (not including ThM).

*** B is the lowest passing grade at the doctorate level and in the ThM graduate program.

****Withdrawal during the first eight weeks of a 16-week course or first five weeks of an 8-week course.

*****Withdrawal after the first eight weeks of a 16-week course or first five weeks of an 8-week course.

Honors by Program

Graduate Honors	Required GPA*
Highest Honor	4.00
High Honors	3.85-3.99
Honors	3.70-3.84

Undergraduate Honors	Required GPA*
Highest Honor	3.80-4.00
High Honors	3.65-3.79
Honors	3.50-3.64

*The required GPA is calculated using grade points earned from Grace School of Theology courses only. It is not calculated using transfer credits from other institutions.

Coursework Extensions/Incompletes

In the case of serious illness, family emergency or other extenuating circumstances, students may request for an extension that will allow them to complete their coursework beyond the end of the course. The request for extension must be approved in advance by the instructor for the course and may be granted for up to 30 days beyond the end of the course. Instructors are not obligated to approve any petition of extension. If an extension is approved, the student will be given a temporary incomplete grade for the course. If the student fails to complete the work by the end of the extension, the incomplete will be changed to a failing grade, unless the professor provides a different final grade. A student may not enroll for the following semester with more than two incompletes.

Academic Warning, Probation and Dismissal

The student's academic record is reviewed each semester. Graduate students in MM, MA(BS), and MDiv programs and undergraduate students are considered "in good standing" when they maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average and when ThM students maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

Once a student falls below the minimum GPA, he/she will be placed on **Academic Warning** the following semester. If after one semester the student has not achieved the minimum but has improved their GPA, he/she may continue on Academic Warning.

If a student has not improved his/her GPA, he/she will then be put on **Academic Probation** for one semester and the student's respective Dean must approve his/her course registration.

If no academic progress is made after 2 semesters of probation, then the student will be dismissed. Once a student is dismissed for not meeting academic standards, he/she may appeal by using the Academic Appeals Process. A student who has been academically dismissed may apply for readmission only after a full academic year (three semesters). For further details, see the section in this catalog on **Readmission**.

Contesting a Final Grade

Students are given up to 30 days to contest a grade after its issuance. To contest a grade, the student must take the following steps:

1. Meet with the professor and ask to reconsider the grade based on the possibility that, in light of the course requirements as defined in the syllabus, a mistake may have been made, or to reconsider the grade based on other facts that the student believes to be relevant.
2. If the professor changes the grade, the professor will notify the Registrar who will update the grade in Populi. If the professor does not change the grade, the student may appeal the decision to the Academic Committee.
3. Appeal the decision to the Academic Committee no later than two weeks after the professor's decision by stating the case in writing and submitting it together with any supporting documentation to the Academic Dean.
4. The Academic Dean convenes the Academic Committee no later than two weeks after receiving the student's appeal in writing.
5. The Academic Committee notifies all concerned of its decision no later than two weeks after convening. The judgment of the Academic Committee is final.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Quantitative Academic Progress

- ❖ Students must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 67% of the cumulative number of credit hours attempted each term.
- ❖ Transfer credits on the student's record are included as attempted/completed hours when computing the student's completion rate. Remedial credits are also included in the calculation of the cumulative completion rate.
- ❖ Course and/or program withdrawals during the drop/add period will not be counted in the calculation of academic progress.
- ❖ Grades of F, WF, and I are not considered as satisfactory completion and will count against the student in calculating the completion percentage.

Qualitative Academic Progress

In order to meet satisfactory academic progress requirements for Federal Aid, Veteran Benefits, and Institutional Scholarships, a student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) as outlined below:

1. Graduate degree students enrolled in the Master of Ministry, Master of Arts (Biblical Studies), and Master of Divinity must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 for all credits attempted. Graduate degree students enrolled in the Master of Theology must maintain a 3.0 for all credits attempted.
2. Undergraduate students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 for all credits completed.

If a coursework extension is approved, an Incomplete will be given for 30 days and will not be considered in the GPA. If the Incomplete is changed to Failing, it will be calculated into the GPA.

Withdrawal during the first five weeks of an 8-week course or first eight weeks of a 16-week course will be marked as WP and will not be calculated into the GPA. Withdrawal after five weeks of an 8-week course or eight weeks of a 16-week course will be marked as WF and will be calculated into the GPA.

If a course is repeated resulting in an improved grade, it will replace the previous grade and be calculated in the GPA.

Taking Courses for Audit/Personal Enrichment

Most of our courses may be taken for personal enrichment rather than for credit. Taking a course for "enrichment" is the same as "auditing a course." The enrichment student does not complete any of the assignments for the course.

Audit/personal enrichment students do not have access to course materials within the Canvas LMS. Courses taken for enrichment do not count towards any degree or certificate program.

If the student wishes to convert an enrichment course to a credit course, he/she must request to do so during the first two weeks of the course. The student must make up any previously assigned material, pay the difference in tuition and fees due for credit enrollment, and comply with all applicable requirements of the seminary and the professor. Further, conversion of a course taken for enrichment to a credit course is ultimately up to the discretion of the professor teaching the course and the student's Dean.

If a student wishes to convert a credit course to an enrichment course, he/she must request to do so before the withdrawal date for that particular course by submitting the Course Status Change Form. There is no refund of tuition or fees for this change.

Graduation

Graduation Requirements

To qualify for degree conferral, students must:

1. Give evidence of biblical understanding, godly character, and readiness for ministry.
2. Complete the prescribed course of study and achieve a minimum GPA of 2.0 for undergraduates and graduates (MM, MA(BS), and MDiv), and 3.0 for the ThM and DMin.
3. Settle all financial obligations, including payment of the graduation fee.
4. Receive the recommendation of the Faculty and approval by the Board of Trustees for graduation.
5. Submit an official Intent to Graduate Form to the Registrar's Office prior to enrolling for the final semester.
6. Attend commencement exercises. Permission to graduate in absentia may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Such request should be submitted in writing to the Academic Dean at least two months prior to commencement.

Students who have not completed all academic requirements may petition to participate in commencement if the remaining requirements will be completed by the end of summer semester and if 6 credit hours or less remain for completion. Students must enroll in and pay in advance for any such pending classes. The diploma and transcript will not be issued until all pending academic requirements are completed. Commencement exercises are held only at the end of the spring semester.

Transcripts

Grace School of Theology students and alumni may receive transcripts of their completed coursework. Upon the receipt of a written request from the student via the signed Transcript Request Form, the Registrar's Office will issue an official transcript to appropriate institutions, places of employment, or individuals. Transcripts will not be issued for students who have not met their financial obligations. A transcript fee is charged.

Financial Considerations

Grace School of Theology seeks to offer a high quality of training in a cost-effective way. A significant portion of the cost of training is paid for through the generous gifts of God's people. This allows us to keep students' cost to a minimum.

Tuition and Fees

The schedule of charges reflects tuition as determined by credit status. The Seminary reserves the right to change tuition and other charges without notice as necessitated by Seminary or Board action. Incidental fees, and cost of books and supplies are examples of additional fees other than the mandatory fees listed.

Tuition and Fees Refund Policy

If a student drops a course before the start of a scheduled course, he will be refunded 100% of his tuition plus the technology fee. If a student drops a course after the first class-session has begun but before the Drop Date for the module/semester, the student is still responsible for 25% of his tuition plus all the fees. After the Drop Date there will be no refunds. All refunds must be requested from the Registrar's Office. Refunds are based on the amount billed, not on what has been paid.

Graduate and Undergraduate Programs

TUITION AND FEES		
Non-Credit/Audit Tuition	\$70	Per credit hour (for 15 weeks, or a 1-week intensive accelerated course)
Non-Credit/Audit Tuition	\$35	Per credit hour (for 8-week course)
Credit Tuition	\$300	Per credit hour
Application Fee	\$55	One-time charge, any program (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
Administration Fee	\$40	Per course (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
Technology Fee	\$100	Per semester (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
Graduation Fee	\$145	Per Program
Transcript Fee	\$20	Per Transcript Request
Late Registration Fee	\$35	Per Semester (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
Challenge Exam		\$250 per credit hour, no Administration Fee or Technology Fee
Ability to Benefit Test		Set by the test administrator
TUITION REFUND POLICY		
Before Scheduled Course Begins		100% tuition and \$100 technology fee
After First Class Session Begins but Before the Drop Date		75% tuition, no fees
After Drop Date		0% tuition, no fees

Doctorate Program

TUITION AND FEES		
Credit Tuition	\$400	Per credit hour
Application Fee	\$55	One-time charge (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
Administration Fee	\$40	Per course (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
Technology Fee	\$100	Per semester (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
Binding Fee	\$150	Charge for binding of the Applied Research Project
Extension Fee	\$300	Flat fee charge to re-take DM-990 or DM-991
Graduation Fee	\$145	Per Program
Transcript Fee	\$20	Per Transcript Request
Late Registration Fee	\$35	Per Semester (Credit and Non-Credit/Audit Students)
TUITION REFUND POLICY		
Before Scheduled Course Begins		100% tuition and \$100 technology fee
After First Class Session Begins but Before the Drop Date		75% tuition, no fees
After Drop Date		0% tuition, no fees

Billing, Payment Plans, and Collections

Billing

The Bursar's Office is responsible for maintaining financial records for all students through the use of a centralized billing system. This department is also responsible for processing refunds and providing payment plans to any student who wishes to utilize this method of payment. If you need to speak with someone about your account, please contact the Bursar's Office.

Enrolled students' statement of account is available in the Bursar's Office. The Seminary cannot accept responsibility for the non-notification of student bills to students, both current and former, due to incorrect address or e-mail. Each student is therefore required to have a current e-mailing address on file in the Bursar's Office. The Bursar's Office will not remove late fees from a student's account in cases where a student claims not to have seen a statement. It is the student's responsibility to know the due dates for all payments.

Payment Plans

The Seminary requires that all students must complete their arrangement to pay for the semester prior to the first day of classes. This means that the student must either pay 100% of all tuition and fees due or enter into the payment plan for that semester. In no case will the payment plan cover prior semester charges. Any prior charges must be paid in full.

Collections

Failure to legitimize payment within the time allotted will result in financial disenrollment. Failure to pay within the time allotted will also result in a hold on the student's record, and the student may not register until all fees are paid.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid Program

Grace School of Theology is offering Title IV Financial Aid for Undergraduate and Graduate degree programs. We do not extend Title IV benefits to our Biblical Studies Certificate, Diploma in Biblical Studies, Certificate in Black Church Studies or Doctor of Ministry programs.

Financial Aid Application Process

1. Apply for an FSA ID: <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>
2. Complete FAFSA and sign with FSA ID: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
3. For Direct Loans: Complete Entrance Counseling at <https://studentloans.gov>
4. For Direct Loans: Sign the Federal Direct Loan MPN at <https://studentloans.gov>
5. Complete [Voluntary Consent](#) to Participate in Electronic Transactions form.

Grace works with Campus Ivy, a third-party processor. After you have completed the steps above, and are enrolled as a student at Grace, you will be added to the CORE system. This will generate your login information for your student portal with Campus Ivy. There you will receive additional items and verification that need to be completed before packaging.

Other Tuition Assistance Opportunities

GRACE Tuition Assistance Program

Students can apply for tuition assistance by completing the application for tuition assistance form online. Students may be asked for an interview at the end of this process. Please contact the Student Success Division for details.

The awarding of tuition assistance, if any, is for the academic year (Fall and Spring semesters only). Students only need to complete the application once per academic year, but it will be evaluated each semester. *Please note:* Tuition assistance is not guaranteed. If you have any questions, contact the Student Success Division for details.

Veteran's Benefits for Credit-Seeking Students

Veteran's benefits are available for eligible Grace students. Veterans who have not applied for VA benefits need to go to www.gibill.va.gov and fill out the requested information. Once the student receives the certificate of eligibility, the Seminary can proceed with certifying the student under one of our programs. For more information, contact Alyssa Himebaugh, ahimebaugh@gsot.edu or 713.897.8295.

The student will need to provide Grace School of Theology with the following:

1. Certificate of Eligibility (go to <http://www.gibill.va.gov/> to obtain)
2. DD-214 (go to <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>)
3. Military Transcripts (go to <https://jst.doded.mil/smart/signIn.do> to obtain)
4. Transcripts from all post-secondary schools (anything above high school)

Texas Hazelwood Act

The Hazelwood Act is a State of Texas benefit that provides qualified Veterans, spouses, and dependent children with an education benefit at public institutions of higher education in Texas. Because the Hazelwood Act is available only for use at a Texas public college or university, it is **not available** and does not apply to Grace School of Theology students and programs.

Military Tuition Assistance

Students' Semester Responsibility

Students using Military Tuition Assistance must do the following each semester prior to the due date for tuition and fee payment:

- ❖ Read and complete the Sponsor/Third-Party Payment Authorization Form found at www.gsot.edu/student-forms
- ❖ Submit a copy of the Tuition Assistance Voucher or letter to our Bursar – must specify what the military will pay and how Grace should invoice the military to receive funds

Once our Bursar has the Tuition Assistance Voucher and Third-Party Agreement on file, we will place an estimated payment placeholder on the student's account based on the approved level of benefits. It is the student's responsibility to notify the military and the Bursar of schedule changes in circumstances where the military pays based on the student's class schedule. Military students must pay any charges not covered by tuition assistance or set up a payment plan by Grace's established due date to avoid late fees and holds for balances due.

Student Recruitment

Grace School of Theology student recruiters and advisors do not participate in any high-pressure recruitment tactics such as making multiple unsolicited contacts, including contacts by phone, email, or in-person, and engaging in same-day recruitment and registration for the purpose of securing Service Members enrollments.

When speaking to an interested Service Member, student recruiters and advisors, need to instruct the Service Member to contact their Educational Services Officer (ESO) or counselor within the Military Service to receive approval prior to enrollment at Grace School of Theology.

Return of Tuition Assistance

Military Tuition Assistance (TA) is awarded to a student under the assumption that the student will attend school for the entire period for which the assistance is awarded.

When a student withdraws, the student may no longer be eligible for the full amount of TA funds originally awarded. To comply with the new Department of Defense policy, Grace School of Theology will return any unearned TA funds on a proportional basis through at least the 60% portion of the period for which the funds were provided. TA funds are earned proportionally during an enrollment period, with unearned funds returned based upon when a student stops attending.

If a service member stops attending due to a military service obligation, and the service member notifies the school of their obligation, Grace School of Theology will work with the affected service member to identify solutions that will not result in a student debt for the returned portion.

Calculation

When a student "officially" withdraws from a course, the date of withdrawal will be used as the last date of attendance (LDA).

If a student receives a "F/A" (failure to attend) or a "WF" grade for a course, that is considered an "unofficial" withdrawal. For unofficial withdrawals, Grace School of Theology will determine the last date of attendance (LDA) by reviewing the last date of activity within a course. For online courses, Grace School of Theology will determine LDA based on the last date a student made a contribution to the class or submitted an assignment. For face to face courses, Grace School of Theology will reach out to the professor to determine the LDA.

Once LDA has been determined, Grace School of Theology will recalculate your TA eligibility based on the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Number of days completed}}{\text{Total days of the period (start to end date)}} = \text{percent earned}$$

Return of funds

Determining eligibility for TA is class specific. The start and end date will be used for each class to determine eligibility. Using the formula above, Grace School of Theology will be required to return some or all of the TA awarded to service members that did not complete at least 60% of each course; possibly creating a balance on your Grace School of Theology student account.

8 Week Course Withdraw Submitted

Before classes begin	100% return
During weeks 1-2	75% return
During weeks 3-4	50% return
During week 5	40% return (60% of course is completed)
During weeks 6-8	0% return

16 Week Course Withdraw Submitted

Before classes begin	100% return
During weeks 1-2	75% return
During weeks 3-4	60% return
During weeks 5-8	50% return
During week 9	40% return (60% of course is completed)
During weeks 10-16	0% return

Readmission Policy

If a Service Member has been activated for deployment and has been out for more than a year, he/she will be required to apply for readmission to Grace School of Theology through the Admissions Department. He/she can complete the readmission application by going to www.gsot.edu and clicking on the “Apply Today” button.

Raising Support

Students can ask their church/ministry leaders as well as family and friends to support them financially to continue their theological training.

Tuition Benefits for Spouses

In order to encourage spouses to participate in training, Grace School of Theology offers a special tuition benefit. Spouses of credit students taking 6 or more credit hours in a semester may take courses for non-credit/audit in that semester with no charge for tuition (fees still apply).

Student Resources

Student Success Division

The Student Success Division seeks to enhance the lives of our students, strives to ensure their overall health, walk with them to the completion of their program, and connect them to our Alumni Association. In addition, we want to know how we can be praying for you on your journey at Grace.

Anyone who needs help with academic research and writing and wishes to avail of English language training at GSOT please contact our staff at studentsuccess@gsot.edu.

Success Program offerings include the following:

- ❖ Grace English Language Program
- ❖ Grace Coaching Services
- ❖ New Student Orientation
- ❖ Student Technology Efficiency Program
- ❖ Counseling Services
- ❖ Special Training/Webinars
- ❖ Financial Aid

There are several videos and documents available inside of Canvas to assist you on your journey!

Grace English Language Program (GELP)

Formerly known as the Grace ESL Program, GELP offers customized and remote one-on-one English language coaching and group classes to international students. This program is designed for international students taking courses in the English programs and whose native language is not English. GELP offers English language training to both graduate and undergraduate students, as well as to international GSOT staff and community members. For inquiries, send an email to Fatima B. Villanueva at fvillanueva@gsot.edu.

Grace Coaching Services (GCS)

GCS is an on-demand academic coaching program that is open to international and US-based students. It offers synchronous and asynchronous coaching for Grace students in the undergraduate level. Academic coaching is adapted to students' individual needs and focuses on academic research and writing only. Coaching may be in person or remote via Zoom and offered in one-on-one or group sessions. Students seeking academic coaching assistance may also opt to join GELP courses for self-enrichment. For more information on available coaching services, they may send an email to GCS at gracecoaching@gsot.edu.

New Student Orientation (NSO)

All incoming students are required to participate in the New Student Orientation (NSO) at least once and are encouraged to attend as many times as possible in order to remain informed regarding important matters. NSO will cover major student topics from the Student Handbook as well as from the Academic Catalog (e.g., student life and conduct, staff and faculty, academic policies and advisors, financial information and student record, library services, and other information). Recorded archives of the sessions are available to students who are unable to attend or those who desire to review the contents. Additional tutorials related to systems and operations are available to help students understand the information systems utilized by the seminary. These archived videos will be available through the student information system, as well as through other avenues of communication to students, as needed.

Student Technology Efficiency Program (STEP)

STEP is a technology training with the purpose to:

- ❖ Assess the technological readiness of Grace students
- ❖ Arm students with the needed knowledge and skills to be technologically successful at Grace
- ❖ Address common technological struggles early to ensure student retention

Those who will participate in STEP will be:

- ❖ New Students
- ❖ Returning Students (withdrawn from Grace for more than 2 years)
- ❖ Students identified as having technical concerns by faculty in the Provost's Department

Library Resources

The mission of the library is to support the academic curriculum and mission of Grace School of Theology by providing the opportunity and facility for auxiliary study and personal research of students and faculty through its collection of essential resources to meet the needs of, and to extend beyond classroom instruction.

The Grace School of Theology main library is located at The World Headquarters in The Woodlands, Texas. No matter the location, all currently enrolled Grace students have access to library resources and services. To foster a conducive learning environment, the library has outlined the following goals:

1. Provide a collection of books, journals, and audio-visual materials typically needed by students and faculty in our academic programs.
2. Provide a network that enables patrons to use or borrow materials held by other libraries.
3. Provide an online catalog that lists all holdings in the collection and conforms to professional standards.
4. Provide a staff to accomplish library objectives and ensure patron service.
5. Assist patrons to locate, interpret, and evaluate materials and information.

6. Provide a facility that offers a safe, comfortable, and inviting environment while ensuring secure accessible storage for the collection.
7. Provide an operation that meets or exceeds accrediting standards and makes a favorable impression on students, faculty, and the community.

Our library staff are eager to help you achieve your educational goals and are available to help with research for papers or course projects. Librarians can help you understand your assignments, limit your topic, and find research materials in physical and electronic libraries. Never wait until the last minute to get the library information and the help you need!

Library Contact Information

Phone: 713-897-8025

Email: Library@gsot.edu

Library Catalog

The Grace Library contains thousands of books, eBooks, videos, and audio resources that are appropriate to biblical and theological study.

The library catalog can be located on the school's website and through Canvas, the school's Learning Management System.

- ❖ Located at the bottom of the GSOT.edu website there is a STUDENT LOGIN where you can choose the [Library Login](#).
- ❖ Located in Canvas there is a link to [Library Resources](#) in the left-hand column of every course's homepage.

Checking out Books in Person

Materials may be checked out, put on reserve, held, or renewed by emailing the library staff. Books checked-out in person are due in two weeks but may be renewed for additional weeks by emailing or calling the library staff.

To check-out a library book in person, simply email library staff and provide the following information:

1. Name
2. Phone Number
3. Book Title
4. Book Author

Checking out Books by Mail

Students who are not near the physical library may also check out books found in the online Library Catalog. Books will be mailed to you. Resources checked out by mail, may be checked out for three weeks or more to make sure transit time does not cut into the students' research time. Up to five resources may be checked out at a time. When a student returns one or more books, more resources may be checked out. All books must be returned at the end of each module.

To request or check out a library book by mail, simply email the library staff and provide the following information:

1. Name
2. Mailing Address
3. Phone Number
4. Book Title
5. Book Author

Library Databases

Grace School of Theology students have access to many electronic databases that offer full-text online books, scholarly articles, and citations from academic journals. Main electronic catalogs do not necessitate logging in. However, for electronic databases that do require login credentials, users are provided with pertinent details, including passwords, which are provided on the Library Resources page in Canvas. Use is restricted to current Grace students, staff, and faculty.

It is unethical and illegal to allow anyone who is not a student, faculty member, or staff member at Grace to use the usernames and passwords. Please do not share login and password information with anyone outside of Grace School of Theology.

Library Training Videos

There are training videos located in Canvas on the [Library Resources](#) page. Look for the tab [How To Videos](#) to learn how to use the library catalog and how to use the library databases.

The Writing Center

Grace School of Theology offers an online Writing Center that can be found in every Canvas Course. This Writing Center shows examples of Turabian format for footnotes and bibliography. There are also excellent samples of research papers that can be used as examples for writing your papers at Grace. The school also provides a coaching service whose staff will be happy to assist you with the technical details of composing and documenting your college research papers. To make an appointment for live coaching with a Writing Coach, please email gracecoaching@gsot.edu.

Technology Services

The Grace School of Theology (Grace) Technology Services (TS) department plays an integral role in a student's education process. TS facilitates the use of current and emerging information and educational technology resources that promote excellence in teaching, learning, research, and the administrative operations of the institution. Additionally, the TS department provides the necessary support for Grace systems utilized by students (i.e. Email, LMS, Video Conferencing platform and SIS).

Grace maximizes a blended learning environment where students can participate in the class face-to-face (in the physical classroom) or online through video conferencing. The video conferencing platform enables students to (1) interact with the class real-time by joining the live session and/or (2) watch the recorded interactive session.

Grace uses cloud-based (SaaS) platforms; therefore a reliable **internet connection is necessary in order to seamlessly access Grace's technological systems**. Even for on-site courses with students participating in the physical classroom, professors will provide course work and assignments via the online Learning Management System (LMS). All students are expected to check their email regularly and turn in assignments within the LMS.

More information on Technology Services and Resources may be found in the Student Handbook.

Student Conduct, Due Process, & Grievances

Student Code of Conduct

For the testimony of the Lord and the Seminary, we ask you to walk worthy of the vocation for which you are preparing. There are certain things expected of those in the Lord's work that may not be expected of the average believer (1 Timothy 3:1-8 and Titus 1:6-9). We trust your Christian maturity has allowed you to accept that responsibility and rejoice in it. It is our desire that your life on and off campus radiate Jesus Christ, demonstrate commitment and dedication to spiritual things, and be characterized by the heartbeat of the apostle Paul when he said, "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). In light of our commitment to biblical living, the Seminary asks that students conduct themselves according to the highest standards of Christ-like behavior. Students whose testimony becomes a hindrance to the work of the Gospel and the reputation of the Seminary may face disciplinary action according to the guidelines stated in the Student Handbook.

Be Respectful: Respect the learning/classroom environment and the dignity and rights of all persons. Be tolerant of differing opinions.

Be Courteous/Considerate: Extend courtesy in discourse. Please do not interrupt speakers. Avoid distractions such as cell phones, beepers, and irrelevant discussions. Do not eat or drink in class without permission.

Be Supportive/Caring: Exhibit concern for others and promote a caring environment. Think about how your behavior affects others. Help distressed peers find appropriate resources/assistance.

Be Informed: Familiarize yourself with the course and instructor expectations. Read the course syllabus.

Be Honest and Fair: Grades should reflect individual work, unless group work is authorized. Maintain the code of academic honesty.

Be Attentive: Mentally prepare yourself for listening. Resist distractions, emotional reactions, or boredom.

Be Punctual: Attend classes regularly and on time. Instead of closing your notebook early, listen carefully to information given near the end of class; summary statements and instructions may be important. Moreover, leaving class early distracts from a lecture.

Be Organized/Prepared: Prepare for class by completing readings and assignments. Avoid procrastinating and set realistic goals.

Be Participatory/Curious: Contribute and participate in class discussions. Display interest during class by raising thoughtful and relevant questions that enrich discourse.

Be Communicative: Interact with the instructor and discuss assignments, grading and subject matter. Express complaints and concerns in a calm and respectful manner.

Be Enthusiastic: Enjoy the educational experience. Seek ways to make your coursework meaningful and relevant. Give your best effort.

Be Dedicated/Committed: Show initiative and desire to excel and make your studies a priority. Avoid over-committing your time to activities that do not support your goals.

Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures

Grace School of Theology, as an educational institution, has a special set of interests and purposes essential to its effective functioning. These include (a) the opportunity for students to attain their educational objectives, (b) the creation and maintenance of an intellectual and educational atmosphere throughout the Seminary, and (c) the protection of the health, safety, welfare, property, and the property of the seminary itself. The Seminary has a clear responsibility in the area of student conduct to protect and promote the pursuit of its goals. The Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures emphasize the Seminary's obligation to promote the personal freedom, maturity, and responsibility of students.

The Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures set forth those acts that constitute unacceptable conduct for students of the Seminary. All alleged violations of the Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures might result in referral to the Dean of Students. The Seminary does, in addition, reserve the right, for educational purposes, to review any action taken by civil authorities regarding students. It also has the obligation to introduce counseling and/or disciplinary action if the student's conduct has interfered with the Seminary's exercise of its educational objectives or responsibilities to its members. Disciplinary action taken on this basis shall conform to the terms of the Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures.

Grace School of Theology supports the concept of educational discipline. When a student is not a danger to the seminary community, or when a repetition of misconduct is unlikely, the Seminary will make an effort to educate the student through a sanction; but should the student demonstrate unwillingness to obey the rules governing conduct, he/she will be treated in the same manner as one who has failed academically. Students are expected to adhere, and will be held accountable for adhering, to all federal, state, and local laws in addition to all seminary policies and regulations not mentioned herein.

A student admitted to Grace School of Theology accepts the responsibility to conform to all Grace School of Theology rules and regulations. Proven failure to meet this obligation will justify appropriate disciplinary actions including, but not limited to, expulsion, suspension, disciplinary probation, or reprimand. Although the Seminary will make every reasonable effort to make the rules and regulations available, students are responsible for becoming familiar with them.

Grace School of Theology Judicial System is the responsibility of the Provost and the Dean of Students.

For further details, see Articles 1-19 in the Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures sub-section of the Student Conduct and Due Process section of the Grace School of Theology Student Handbook.

Student Grievance & Complaint Procedures

A *grievance* is a just or supposed basis for complaint arising out of any alleged unauthorized or unjustified act or decision made by a member of the Grace community that in any way adversely affects the status, rights, or privileges of a student. An aggrieved student may complain to the administration to correct the problem. The burden of proof is on the individual who submits a complaint. The grievance process is *not* the correct means for appealing disciplinary actions, for contesting a grade, or appealing an academic decision. (see separate policies within the Catalog and/or Student Handbook: Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures; Article 16, Contesting a Final Grade, or Academic Appeal Process).

Step 1. Informal Action

Seek resolution first through direct, informal communication with the responsible person (Matthew 18:15). Discussion between those involved is encouraged at all stages but is essential in the early stages of resolution. Following an unsuccessful attempt to resolve the conflict one-on-one, students are encouraged to discuss the matter with the Dean of Students. After the student has made every available effort to resolve the conflict in an informal manner, formal action may be taken.

Step 2. Formal Action

The following procedure is used to resolve a formal complaint:

1. State the grievance in writing (write a complaint) within 60 days of the alleged event and submit the complaint to the Dean of Students. No special form is needed, but the complaint must include:
 - ❖ The date you submit the complaint;
 - ❖ A description of the grievance that includes all relevant information such as date(s) when the problem was evident, evidence substantiating the grievance, and witnesses; and
 - ❖ A proposed resolution, that is, what you want to happen to resolve the grievance.
2. The Dean of Students has two working days from the date of receipt to forward the grievance to the administrator who will serve as mediator to resolve the matter. Care will be taken to ensure that the mediator has the expertise necessary to resolve the grievance.
3. The mediator has two working days from the date of receipt to:
 - ❖ Send to the student an acknowledgement that briefly summarizes the grievance and informs the student that a resolution will be sent within ten working days; and
 - ❖ Forward to the Provost and President a copy of the grievance and acknowledgement.
4. The mediator has ten working days from the date of receipt to:
 - ❖ Investigate the alleged basis for the complaint;
 - ❖ Investigate previous efforts taken to resolve the grievance;
 - ❖ Investigate any contingencies and take such action that may help resolve the grievance;
 - ❖ Send to the aggrieved student a *formal response* (a statement describing what was or will be done to resolve the grievance); and
 - ❖ Forward to the Provost and President a copy of the formal response.
5. If the student is satisfied with the formal response, the grievance is resolved.
6. If the student is not satisfied with the formal response, a request for a hearing may be made to the Grievance Committee, which:
 - ❖ Shall be given a copy of the case to date;
 - ❖ Shall schedule a hearing date and time within seven working days of the request and notify all concerned (but not necessarily invite them to attend);
 - ❖ May invite the student and any witnesses to attend the hearing—the student does not have a right to attend;
 - ❖ Shall conduct the hearing as informally as possible while reviewing and evaluating the case;
 - ❖ Shall keep its deliberations confidential; and
 - ❖ Shall, by majority vote, recommend to the Dean of Students, Provost, and President a course of action to finally resolve the grievance.
7. The President will issue a decision, which shall be final, in writing to the student within three working days of the hearing.

The Dean of Students is tasked with the overall responsibility for collecting and securing documentation, and for ensuring confidentiality of all matters related to any filed grievance or complaint. Formal grievances and complaints are retained in the Dean of Students' office. The Dean of Students may delegate these responsibilities.

In accordance with requirements issued by the U.S. Department of Education, any student who has already followed the Grievance/Complaint Procedures as noted above, and feels the issue is not resolved, may contact our accrediting agency:

Transnational Association of Christian Colleges & Schools (TRACS)

15935 Forest Road, Forest, Virginia 24551

Phone: 434-525-9539

FAX: 434-525-9538

E-Mail: info@tracs.org

Website: www.tracs.org

OR may make a complaint to the State of Texas by contacting:

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

P.O. Box 12788

Austin, TX 78711

Phone: 512-427-6101

For states and territories other than Texas, please go to <http://www.gsot.edu/grievance-policy> to obtain the correct contact for your location. A printed copy of the complete grievance policy with all locations is available free of charge upon request by contacting info@gsot.edu.

Undergraduate Bible Program

Certificate in Black Church Studies (CBCS)

In our rapidly changing culture, pastors and leaders have a unique opportunity to be a voice for hope, healing, justice, wisdom, redemption, and reconciliation within the body of Christ. The Black Church has incredible potential to facilitate a transformative impact in the area of revitalizing, rebuilding, and restructuring communities and relationships.

Grace School of Theology's Black Church Studies Program strives to maintain biblical accuracy along with cultural relevancy. When one enrolls into our program, we introduce our students to sound biblical instruction, cogent church history as well as practical guidance to contextualize ministry skills and tools. Students enjoy mentoring and training from seasoned pastors, church leaders, and professors in our classroom.

Required Courses in the CBCS Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
	FOUNDATIONAL CORE	
TH-310	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3
BC-442	Introduction to Black Church Studies in America	2
BC-444	Introduction Black Church History 1	2
BC-446	Introduction Black Church History 2	2
	Total Non-Credit Courses	9

Black Church Studies Learning Outcomes

1. Educating everyone on knowing Christ and growing in Christ.
2. Eradicating biblical illiteracy
3. Celebrating the history, culture, and contributions of the Black Church and its leaders.

Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)

The certificate program at Grace School of Theology is designed for the Christian layperson who desires a flexible and less demanding course of study that will provide a general knowledge of the Bible and basic hermeneutical skills. This certificate is ideal for those volunteering in the local church or other ministry who want to be further equipped but do not wish to enter a formal undergraduate level degree program at this time. Nine credit hours of this program are transferable from another accredited institution.

Required Courses in the BSC Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
	FOUNDATIONAL CORE	
RS-210	Research Writing and Technology	3
TH-300	The Life of the Believer	3
TH-310	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3
TH-330	Doctrine of Salvation	3
	BIBLE EXPOSITION	
BI-201	Old Testament Survey	3
BI-203	New Testament Survey	3
	SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY	
TH-250	Survey of Bible Doctrine	3
TH-407	Doctrine 1 – The Bible and God	3
	MINISTRY SKILLS	
MS-425	Living the Great Commission	2
	ELECTIVES	
	* Must be MS courses.	4*
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	30

BSC Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the BSC Program, the student will be able to:

1. Express a general knowledge of key books of the Bible, including individuals, major events, and historical settings.
2. Explain key doctrines of the Bible in basic terms.
3. Understand the grace principles of progressive sanctification in their personal life.

Diploma in Biblical Studies (DBS)

The Diploma in Biblical Studies is a 61-credit course of instruction that focuses on the exposition of each book of the Bible, an overview of systematic theology, and selected ministry skills. The diploma is primarily designed for those who live in locations where the completion of General Education credits is difficult for various reasons such as cost or accessibility, but would still like to be trained for practical ministry. Therefore, to receive this diploma, students are not required to complete General Education courses.

The DBS is designed for students who do not intend to continue on to a degree program. Students planning to work toward a degree should pursue the Associate or Bachelor programs as listed in this Catalog. However, students who complete the DBS and then later decide to continue on to an undergraduate degree may do so by transferring in the required General Education credits and open electives, and/or by taking these courses through Grace; ministry electives may also be completed at Grace. DBS credits will transfer into the undergraduate degree programs.

Required Courses in the DBS Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FOUNDATIONAL CORE		
RS-210	Research Writing and Technology	3
TH-300	The Life of the Believer	3
TH-310	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3
TH-330	Doctrine of Salvation	3
BIBLE EXPOSITION		
BI-303	Pentateuch	3
BI-305	The History of Israel	3
BI-307	Prophetic Books	3
BI-309	Poetic Books	3
BI-340	The Life of Christ	3
BI-342	Pauline Epistles (less Romans)	3
BI-343	Acts	3
BI-344	Romans	3
BI-346	General Epistles and Revelation	3
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY		
TH-407	Doctrine 1 – The Bible and God	3
TH-412	Doctrine 2 – Man, Sin and Spirit Beings	3
TH-415	Doctrine 3 – Christ and the Holy Spirit	3
TH-420	Doctrine 4 – The Church and Last Things	3
MINISTRY SKILLS		
CO-310	Conflict Resolution	2
MS-402	Homiletics	2
MS-452	Spiritual Leadership	2
MS-425	Living the Great Commission	2
MS-430	Internship	2
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		61

DBS Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the DBS Program, the student will be able to:

1. Express a general knowledge of the books of the Bible, including key individuals, major events, and historical settings.
2. Articulate a synthesis of every major category of systematic theology.
3. Understand and articulate the grace principles of progressive sanctification in life and ministry.

Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies (AABS)

The curriculum leading to the AABS degree is normally a two-year, 61-unit course of instruction designed to give students a basic biblical and theological foundation in preparation for a wide variety of Christian ministries. Students who successfully complete the AABS are encouraged to continue on to the BABS at Grace. Black Church Studies courses may be taken as electives in this program.

Required Courses in the AABS Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FOUNDATIONAL CORE		
RS-210	Research Writing and Technology	3
TH-300	The Life of the Believer	3
TH-310	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3
TH-330	Doctrine of Salvation	3
BIBLE EXPOSITION		
BI-303	Pentateuch	3
BI-305	The History of Israel	3
BI-340	The Life of Christ	3
BI-342	Pauline Epistles (less Romans)	3
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY		
TH-407	Doctrine 1 – The Bible and God	3
TH-412	Doctrine 2 – Man, Sin and Spirit Beings	3
MINISTRY SKILLS		
CO-310	Conflict Resolution	2
MS-425	Living the Great Commission	2
GENERAL EDUCATION CORE		
EN-103	English Composition 1	3
HI- 203	Early Church History	3
CM-103	Communication Skills	3
PH-201	Introduction to Philosophy	3
PH-202	Introduction to Apologetics	3
NS-103	Physical Science	3
ELECTIVES		
		9
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		61

AABS Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the AABS Program, the student will be able to:

1. Express a general knowledge of the books of the Bible, including key individuals, major events, and historical settings.
2. Articulate a synthesis of every major category of systematic theology.
3. Understand and articulate the grace principles of progressive sanctification in life and ministry.

General Education Core Competencies:

1. Communication: Demonstrate writing and speaking skills using logic to analyze and present argumentation, and to conduct proper research skills and documentation.
2. Information Literacy: Demonstrate basic competency in operating systems and software, use technology to locate information, evaluate its quality and applicability of information, and use that technology and information ethically.
3. Reasoning and Critical Thinking: Demonstrate quantitative and scientific reasoning, and critical thinking skills.
4. Biblical Worldview: Differentiate between biblical and secular approaches and be able to articulate and apply biblical principles in various ethical situations.

Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies (BABS)

The curriculum leading to the BABS degree is a 120-unit course of instruction designed to develop Christian character, a sound knowledge of the English Bible, and the skills appropriate for ministry in a local church, mission field, or other Christian ministry. Students may specialize their BABS by taking Black Church Studies courses as their electives in this program.

Required Courses in the BABS Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FOUNDATIONAL CORE		
RS-210	Research Writing and Technology	3
TH-300	The Life of the Believer	3
TH-310	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3
TH-330	Doctrine of Salvation	3
BIBLE EXPOSITION		
BI-303	Pentateuch	3
BI-305	The History of Israel	3
BI-307	Prophetic Books	3
BI-309	Poetic Books	3
BI-340	The Life of Christ	3
BI-342	Pauline Epistles (less Romans)	3
BI-343	Acts	3
BI-344	Romans	3
BI-346	General Epistles and Revelation	3
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY		
TH-407	Doctrine 1 – The Bible and God	3
TH-412	Doctrine 2 – Man, Sin and Spirit Beings	3
TH-415	Doctrine 3 – Christ and the Holy Spirit	3
TH-420	Doctrine 4 – The Church and Last Things	3
TH-430	Doctrinal Summary 1	4
TH-435	Doctrinal Summary 2	4
MINISTRY SKILLS		
CO-310	Conflict Resolution	2
MS-402	Homiletics	2
MS-452	Spiritual Leadership	2
MS-425	Living the Great Commission	2
MS-430	Internship	2
GENERAL EDUCATION CORE		
EN-103	English Composition 1	3
HI-203	Early Church History	3
CM-103	Communication Skills	3
PH-201	Introduction to Philosophy	3
PH-202	Introduction to Apologetics	3
EN-104	English Composition 2	3
NS-103	Physical Science	3
PY-101	General Psychology and Counseling	3
SS-204	Cultural Anthropology	3
MU-203	Music and Worship	3
ELECTIVES		
		21
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		120

BABS Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the BABS Program, the student will be able to:

1. Express a general knowledge of the books of the Bible, including key individuals, major events, and historical settings.
2. Articulate a synthesis of every major category of systematic theology.
3. Exegete and apply Scripture using inductive methods and principles of literal-grammatical-historical principles of interpretation.
4. Communicate biblical truth clearly and effectively and make application to everyday living.
5. Relate effectively as a servant-leader in a local church or para-church setting.
6. Understand and articulate the grace principles of progressive sanctification in life and ministry.

General Education Core Competencies:

1. Communication: Demonstrate writing and speaking skills using logic to analyze and present argumentation, and to conduct proper research skills and documentation.
2. Information Literacy: Demonstrate basic competency in operating systems and software, use technology to locate information, evaluate its quality and applicability of information, and use that technology and information ethically.
3. Reasoning and Critical Thinking: Demonstrate quantitative and scientific reasoning, and critical thinking skills.
4. Biblical Worldview: Differentiate between biblical and secular approaches and be able to articulate and apply biblical principles in various ethical situations.

Graduate Bible and Ministry Program

Ministry Concentration Overview

MM and MDiv students have an option of selecting a ministry concentration from several areas or remain in the interdisciplinary track that gives them the flexibility of exploring multiple areas of study. In addition to 8 credit hours of ministry core, MM and MDiv students will be able to customize 8 credit hours with one of the concentrations with respect to their interest. While the core courses lay the foundation for a multifaceted ministry, the concentration courses address the students' need for ministry skills unique to the students' concentration. Students who are interested in one of the following concentrations should consult their Academic Advisor to determine their concentration and to map out the courses accordingly. The determination of concentration will vary based on students' academic record, background, and interests.

Concentration in Biblical Counseling

This concentration is designed to equip students with some basic theories and skills for Christian counseling in a non-professional environment.

Concentration in Black Church Studies

This concentration is designed to equip students with the training to be catalysts of transformation and reconciliation in their churches and communities. This concentration aims to educate everyone, eradicate biblical illiteracy, celebrate the history, culture, and contributions of the Black Church. The BCS concentration is only available for the MM degree.

Concentration in Church Planting

This concentration is designed to equip students for planting a church in local and cross-cultural settings. Courses will cover church planting principles and practice including the elements of vision, strategy, and leadership.

Concentration in Ministry Leadership

This concentration is designed to equip students with effective leadership skills necessary for ministering in a local church or parachurch organization.

Concentration in Pastoral Ministry

This concentration is designed to prepare students for the task of effectively leading the congregation of a local church. The student will have opportunity to develop skills necessary in exercising servant leadership.

Biblical Counseling*	
Required	Optional
CO-757 Christian Counseling	CO-767 Counseling Women
CO-863 Advanced Counseling Theory & Integration	CO-856 Conflict Resolution
	CO-864 Crisis Counseling
	CO-865 Marriage Counseling
	CO-868 Foundations of the Christian Home
	CO-869 Issues in Human Sexuality
Total of 4 courses	

*The first 2 courses are required. Choose 2 more courses from the remaining options.

Black Church Studies**	Church Planting	Ministry Leadership	Pastoral Ministry	Interdisciplinary
BC-742 Introduction to Black Church Studies	CO-757 Christian Counseling	MS-854 Pastoral Ministry	MS-756 Expository Preaching	Choose any 4 Ministry Skills courses from this Academic Catalog.
BC-744 Black Church History 1	MS-765 Discipleship Strategies	MS-875 Advanced Leadership & Administration	CO-757 Christian Counseling	
BC-746 Black Church History 2	MS-858 Vision & Strategic Planning	MS-858 Vision and Strategic Planning	MS-854 Pastoral Ministries	
BC-748 Black Church Community Development	MS-870 Planting Churches and Ministries	LD-720 Leading Teams	CO-856 Conflict Resolution	
BC-750 Racism & The Black Church's Kingdom Response				

**The BCS concentration is only available for the MM degree.

Master of Ministry (MM)

This 36-credit program is designed for maximum flexibility for the graduate level student who is primarily interested in acquiring general ministry skills. The student is able to choose from a wide variety of ministry classes that fit their needs and interests. The MM is designed to prepare students to serve in local churches or other forms of Christian work and ministry and can be completed in about one to two years (if attending full time). Seventeen (17) credits may be transferred into the MM from another accredited graduate institution.

Required Courses in the MM Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
	FOUNDATIONAL CORE	
RS-503	Research Methods, Writing, and Tech.	1
TH-560	Hermeneutics	3
TH-568	Soteriology	3
SF-550	Spiritual Life	3
	SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY	
TH-565	Prolegomena, Bibliology and Theology Proper	3
	MINISTRY SKILLS (Required)	
MS-771	Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	2
MS-756 or MS-773	Expository Preaching or Teaching for Impact	2
MS-885	Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	3
MS-892	Servant Leadership	2
	MINISTRY CONCENTRATION	
	Courses listed in chart above.	8
	FIELD PRACTICUM	
MS-890	Field Practicum 1	2
MS-891	Field Practicum 2	2
	ELECTIVES	
		2
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	36

MM Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the MM Program, the student will be able to:

- ✓ Exegete and apply Scripture using inductive methods and principles of literal-grammatical-historical hermeneutics.
- ✓ Serve a local church or para-church ministry by utilizing practical ministry skills and communicating effectively.
- ✓ Articulate the grace principles of the doctrine of soteriology and sanctification.

Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) MA(BS)

The MA(BS) program (60 credits) at Grace offers graduate-level biblical and theological instruction aimed at providing a solid foundation in the Scriptures. It is designed with a particular focus on equipping those within a broad spectrum of Christian service, such as those in supporting roles within the local church, as well as those within para-church ministries and mission agencies.

The degree typically takes a little over two years to complete (if attending full time) and is uniquely structured to provide a comprehensive overview of the majority of the books of the Bible and most categories of systematic theology. This degree program is designed for those seeking ministry opportunities in the local church or in other Christian ministry and is a stair-step degree for those who desire to continue their studies in the Master of Divinity degree. Students may transfer up to 29 credits into the MA(BS) from another accredited graduate institution.

Required Courses in the MA(BS) Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
	FOUNDATIONAL CORE	
RS-503	Research Methods, Writing and Tech.	1
TH-560	Hermeneutics	3
TH-568	Soteriology	3
SF-550	Spiritual Life	3
	BIBLE EXPOSITION	
OT-513	Old Testament History	3
OT-628	Old Testament Prophets	3
NT-513	Gospels	3
NT-515	Acts and Pauline Epistles	3
NT-517	General Epistles and Revelation	3
	SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY	
TH-563	The Basis of Free Grace Theology	3
TH-565	Prolegomena, Bibliology and Theology Proper	3
TH-567	Christology and Pneumatology	3
TH-667	Ecclesiology and Eschatology	3
	MINISTRY SKILLS (Required)	
MS-771	Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	2
MS-756 or MS-773	Expository Preaching or Teaching for Impact	2
MS-885	Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	3
MS-892	Servant Leadership	2
	MINISTRY ELECTIVES	
	Choose from MS courses.	6
	ELECTIVES	
		8
		60

MA(BS) Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the MA(BS) Program, the student will be able to:

- ✓ Exegete and apply Scripture using inductive methods and principles of literal-grammatical-historical hermeneutics.
- ✓ Serve a local church or para-church ministry by utilizing practical ministry skills and communicating effectively.
- ✓ Explain a comprehensive overview of the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testament.
- ✓ Articulate a synthesis of every major category of systematic theology and trace its development throughout church history with special emphasis on grace principles.

Master of Divinity (MDiv)

The Master of Divinity degree (95 credits) is traditionally the most common seminary degree for equipping those whose desire is to serve the Lord in some type of professional ministry capacity. It is especially common among those seeking preparation for pastoral or classroom ministry, or any other ministry where the primary task is expositing the Word of God. However, anyone whose ministry goals will be furthered by obtaining a firm grasp of the Scriptures, including the original languages, will benefit from a Master of Divinity degree from Grace. The MDiv also prepares students to enter directly into a post-graduate (doctoral) professional program such as the Doctor of Ministry degree (see below).

At Grace, the MDiv degree is uniquely structured to balance biblical and theological studies with ministry skills concentrations that will result not only in increased knowledge of God's Word, but also preparation for the common demands of everyday ministry. The 95-credit degree typically takes a little over 3 years to complete (if one attends full time). Students may transfer up to 47 credits from another accredited graduate institution into the MDiv program.

Required Courses in the MDiv Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FOUNDATIONAL CORE		
RS-503	Research Methods, Writing and Tech.	1
TH-560	Hermeneutics	3
TH-568	Soteriology	3
SF-550	Spiritual Life	3
BIBLE EXPOSITION		
OT-513	Old Testament History	3
OT-516	Wisdom Literature	3
OT-628	Old Testament Prophets	3
NT-513	Gospels	3
NT-515	Acts and Pauline Epistles	3
NT-517	General Epistles and Revelation	3
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY		
TH-563	The Basis of Free Grace Theology	3
TH-565	Prolegomena, Bibliology, and Theology Proper	3
TH-567	Christology and Pneumatology	3
TH-663	Angel, Anthro. and Hamartiology	3
TH-667	Ecclesiology and Eschatology	3
TH-767	Church History and Historical Theology 1	2
TH-783	Church History and Historical Theology 2	2
TH-775	Christian Apologetics: Classic and Contemporary	3
BIBLICAL LANGUAGES		
NT-772	Elementary Greek 1	3
NT-774	Elementary Greek 2	3
OT-771	Elementary Hebrew 1	3
OT-773	Elementary Hebrew 2	3
NT-875	Introduction to Greek Exegesis	3
NT-877	Advanced Greek Exegesis	3
MINISTRY SKILLS (Required)		
MS-771	Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	2
MS-756 or MS-773	Expository Preaching or Teaching for Impact	2
MS-885	Theology and Praxis on Evangelism & Discipleship	3
MS-892	Servant Leadership	2
MINISTRY CONCENTRATION		
	Courses listed in chart above.	8
FIELD PRACTICUM		
MS-890	Field Practicum 1	2
MS-891	Field Practicum 2	2
ELECTIVES		
		6
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		95

MDiv Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the MDiv Program, the student will be able to:

- ✓ Exegete and apply Scripture using inductive methods and principles of literal-grammatical-historical hermeneutics.
- ✓ Serve a local church or para-church ministry by utilizing practical ministry skills and communicating effectively.
- ✓ Explain a comprehensive overview of the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testament.
- ✓ Articulate a synthesis of every major category of systematic theology and trace its development throughout church history with special emphasis on grace principles.
- ✓ Demonstrate a working knowledge of biblical Hebrew and Greek.

Graduate Theology Program

Master of Theology (ThM)

The ThM degree is the highest graduate level academic degree available at Grace. The ThM degree is 29 credits beyond the MDiv (for a total of 124 credits). Most coursework is in biblical languages and research, culminating in the thesis, the capstone project. The ThM also prepares students to enter post-graduate (doctoral) research programs such as the PhD or ThD. This degree is also beneficial for those who desire to teach in an academic institution and/or who desire to be more effective in their teaching and preaching ministry. Students may transfer up to 14 credit hours beyond their earned MDiv into the ThM Program from another accredited graduate institution. For a fee, students may extend the length of time to complete the thesis by completing the General Petition Form. Approval must come from the Graduate Dean.

Applicants for the ThM program must have completed the Master of Divinity (a minimum of 90 credit hours, including one year each of biblical Greek and Hebrew), or equivalent, with a minimum 3.0 GPA, prior to enrollment. Those who have not completed the biblical language requirement may still enroll but must complete the first-year language requirements before proceeding to subsequent years of language study. This may be accomplished concurrently while enrolled.

ThM Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the ThM Program, the student will be able to:

- ❖ Demonstrate the ability to exegete the Hebrew and/or Greek texts of the Bible.
- ❖ Conduct research at the advanced graduate level with breadth and depth within a specific field of study.

Required Courses in the ThM Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
	SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY	
TH-778	Advanced Historical Theology	3
TH-780	Advanced Theological Methods	4
	BIBLICAL LANGUAGES	
NT-875	Introduction to Greek Exegesis	3
NT-877	Advanced Greek Exegesis	3
OT-875	Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis	3
OT-877	Advanced Hebrew Exegesis	3
OT / NT	Advanced Exposition in OT or NT	4
	RESEARCH	
RS-890	Thesis Proposal	3
RS-892	Thesis Project	3
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	29

Program Comparison Charts

Undergraduate Bible Program

Code	Course Name	Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)	Diploma in Biblical Studies (DBS)	AA in Biblical Studies (AABS)	BA in Biblical Studies (BABS)
FOUNDATIONAL CORE					
RS-210	Research Writing and Technology	3	3	3	3
TH-300	The Life of the Believer	3	3	3	3
TH-310	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3	3	3	3
TH-330	Doctrine of Salvation	3	3	3	3
BIBLE EXPOSITION					
BI-201	Old Testament Survey	3			
BI-203	New Testament Survey	3			
BI-303	Pentateuch		3	3	3
BI-305	The History of Israel		3	3	3
BI-307	Prophetic Books		3		3
BI-309	Poetic Books		3		3
BI-340	The Life of Christ		3	3	3
BI-342	Pauline Epistles (less Romans)		3	3	3
BI-343	Acts		3		3
BI-344	Romans		3		3
BI-346	General Epistles and Revelation		3		3
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY					
TH-250	Survey of Bible Doctrine	3			
TH-407	Doctrine 1 – The Bible and God	3	3	3	3
TH-412	Doctrine 2 – Man, Sin and Spirit Beings		3	3	3
TH-415	Doctrine 3 – Christ and the Holy Spirit		3		3
TH-420	Doctrine 4 – The Church and Last Things		3		3
TH-430	Doctrinal Summary 1				4
TH-435	Doctrinal Summary 2				4
MINISTRY SKILLS					
CO-310	Conflict Resolution		2	2	2
MS-402	Homiletics		2		2
MS-452	Spiritual Leadership		2		2
MS-425	Living the Great Commission	2	2	2	2
MS-430	Internship		2		2
GENERAL EDUCATION CORE					
EN-103	English Composition 1			3	3
HI- 203	Early Church History			3	3
CM-103	Communication Skills			3	3
PH-201	Introduction to Philosophy			3	3
PH-202	Introduction to Apologetics			3	3
NS-103	Physical Science			3	3
EN-104	English Composition 2				3
PY-101	General Psychology and Counseling				3
SS-204	Cultural Anthropology				3
MU-203	Music and Worship				3
ELECTIVES					
	* Must be MS courses.	4*	0	9	21
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		30	61	61	120

Graduate Bible and Ministry Program

Code	Course Name	Master of Ministry (MM)	Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) MA(BS)	Master of Divinity (MDiv)
	FOUNDATIONAL CORE			
RS-503	Research Methods, Writing and Technology	1	1	1
TH-560	Hermeneutics	3	3	3
TH-568	Soteriology	3	3	3
SF-550	Spiritual Life	3	3	3
	BIBLE EXPOSITION			
OT-513	Old Testament History		3	3
OT-516	Wisdom Literature			3
OT-628	Old Testament Prophets		3	3
NT-513	Gospels		3	3
NT-515	Acts and Pauline Epistles		3	3
NT-517	General Epistles and Revelation		3	3
	SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY			
TH-563	The Basis of Free Grace Theology		3	3
TH-565	Prolegomena, Bibliology, and Theology Proper	3	3	3
TH-567	Christology and Pneumatology		3	3
TH-663	Angel, Anthro. and Hamartiology			3
TH-667	Ecclesiology and Eschatology		3	3
TH-767	Church History and Historical Theology 1			2
TH-783	Church History and Historical Theology 2			2
TH-775	Christian Apologetics: Classic and Contemporary			3
	BIBLICAL LANGUAGES			
NT-772	Elementary Greek 1			3
NT-774	Elementary Greek 2			3
OT-771	Elementary Hebrew 1			3
OT-773	Elementary Hebrew 2			3
NT-875	Introduction to Greek Exegesis			3
NT-877	Advanced Greek Exegesis			3
	MINISTRY SKILLS (Required)			
MS-771	Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	2	2	2
MS-756 or MS-773	Expository Preaching OR Teaching for Impact	2	2	2
MS-885	Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	3	3	3
MS-892	Servant Leadership	2	2	2
	MINISTRY SKILLS (Electives)			
	MM and MDiv students will choose from the MINISTRY CONCENTRATION options.	8	6	8
	INTERNSHIP			
MS-890	Field Practicum 1	2		2
MS-891	Field Practicum 2	2		2
	ELECTIVES			
		2	8	6
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	36	60	95

Course Progression Charts

Undergraduate Bible Program

Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies

The following Progression Chart is the recommended sequence of courses to help students navigate through the advancement of their AABS program in 2 years. All students are expected to seek advisement from their Academic Advisor when planning their educational program and registering for courses.

AABS Two-Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 61

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-210 Research Writing & Technology	TH-330 Doctrine of Salvation	TH-300 The Life of the Believer	BI-342 Pauline Epistles (Less Romans)	BI-340 The Life of Christ
	TH-310 Principles of Biblical Interpretation		TH-407 Doctrine 1-The Bible and God		BI-303 Pentateuch
	EN-103 English Composition 1**		EN-104 English Composition 2** OR other Elective*		
	<i>12 Credits</i>		<i>12 Credits</i>		<i>6 Credits</i>
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	TH-412 Doctrine 2-Man, Sin and Spirit Beings	CO-310 Conflict Resolution	BI-305 The History of Israel	TH-415 Doctrine 3-Christ and the Holy Spirit OR other elective*	CM-103 Communication Skills
	PH-201 Introduction to Philosophy	BI-307 Prophetic Books OR other Elective*	PH-202 Introduction to Apologetics		HI-203 Early Church History
	MS-425 Living the Great Commission		NS-103 Physical Science **		
	<i>13 Credits</i>		<i>12 Credits</i>		<i>6 Credits</i>

* Suggested Electives are based on continuation into the BABS Program.

**Course length is 16 weeks.

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies

The following Progression Chart is the recommended sequence of courses to help students navigate through the advancement of their BABS program in 4 years. All students are expected to seek advisement from their Academic Advisor when planning their educational program and registering for courses.

BABS Four-Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 120

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-210 Research Writing & Technology	TH-330 Doctrine of Salvation	TH-300 The Life of the Believer	BI-342 Pauline Epistles (Less Romans)	BI-340 The Life of Christ
	TH-310 Principles of Biblical Interpretation	MS-425 Living the Great Commission	TH-407 Doctrine 1-The Bible and God		BI-303 Pentateuch
	EN-103 English Composition 1**		EN-104 English Composition 2**		
	14 Credits		12 Credits		6 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	TH-412 Doctrine 2-Man, Sin and Spirit Beings	CO-310 Conflict Resolution	BI-305 The History of Israel	TH-415 Doctrine 3-Christ and the Holy Spirit	CM-103 Communication Skills
	PH-201 Introduction to Philosophy	BI-307 Prophetic Books	PH-202 Introduction to Apologetics		HI-203 Early Church History
	MS-452 Spiritual Leadership		NS-103 Physical Science **		
	13 Credits		12 Credits		6 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
3	BI-309 Poetic Books	TH-420 Doctrine 4-The Church and the Last Things	Elective #1	BI-343 Acts	SS-204 Cultural Anthropology
		BI-346 General Epistles & Revelation	Elective #2	BI-344 Romans	PY-101 General Psychology and Counseling
	MS-402 Homiletics				
	11 Credits		12 Credits		6 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
4	Elective #3	MU-203 Music and Worship	Elective #4	Elective #5	Elective #6
	MS-430 Internship				Elective #7
	TH-430 Doctrinal Summary 1		TH-435 Doctrinal Summary 2		
	12 Credits		10 Credits		6 Credits

**Course length is 16 weeks.

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

Graduate Bible and Ministry Program

Master of Ministry

The following Progression Charts are the recommended sequence of courses to help students navigate through the advancement of their MM program in 1 & 1/2 years to 2 years. All students are expected to seek advisement from their Academic Advisor when planning their educational program and registering for courses.

MM Year and Half Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 36

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-503 Research Methods, Writing & Technology	TH-565 Prolegomena, Bibliology & Theology Proper	MS-756 Expository Preaching***	MS- 773 Teaching for Impact***	SF-550 Spiritual Life
	TH-560 Hermeneutics	MS- Ministry Elective	MS-885 Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	MS-771 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	Open Elective*
			MS- Ministry Elective		
	9 Credits		9 Credits		5-6 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	TH-568 Soteriology**		MS- Ministry Elective		
	MS- Ministry Elective		MS-892 Servant Leadership		
	MS-890 Field Practicum 1**		MS-891 Field Practicum 2**		
	7 Credits		6 Credits		

* Open elective can be 2 or 3 credits.

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

**Course length is 16 weeks.

*** Students must take MS-756 or MS-773 to fulfill the program requirement.

MM Two-Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 36

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-503 Research Methods, Writing & Technology	TH-565 Prolegomena, Bibliology & Theology Proper	SF-550 Spiritual Life	MS-771 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	MS- Ministry Elective
	TH-560 Hermeneutics			MS- Ministry Elective	Open Elective*
	7 Credits		7 Credits		4-5 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	TH-568 Soteriology*		MS-756 Expository Preaching***	MS- 773 Teaching for Impact***	MS- Ministry Elective
	MS-892 Servant Leadership		MS-885 Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	MS- Ministry Elective	
	MS-890 Field Practicum 1**		MS-891 Field Practicum 2**		
	7 Credits		9 Credits		2 Credits

* Open electives can be 2 or 3 credits.

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

**Course length is 16 weeks.

*** Students must take MS-756 or MS-773 to fulfill the program requirement

Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)

The following Progression Charts are the recommended sequence of courses to help students navigate through the advancement of their MA(BS) program in 2 years to 3 years. All students are expected to seek advisement from their Academic Advisor when planning their educational program and registering for courses.

MA(BS) Two-Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 60

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-503 Research Methods, Writing & Technology	MS- Ministry Elective	NT-513 Gospels	TH-563 Basis of Free Grace Theology	TH-565 Prolegomena, Bibliology & Theology Proper
	TH-560 Hermeneutics	Open Elective*	SF-550 Spiritual Life	OT-513 Old Testament History	NT-515 Acts & Pauline Epistles
					Open Elective*
	8-9 Credits		12 Credits		8-9 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	TH-568 Soteriology**		MS-885 Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	MS-771 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	NT-517 General Epistles and Revelation
	OT-628 Old Testament Prophets	TH-567 Christology & Pneumatology	MS- Ministry Elective	TH-667 Ecclesiology & Eschatology	MS- Ministry Elective
	MS-892 Servant Leadership		MS-756 Expository Preaching***	MS- 773 Teaching for Impact***	Open Elective*
	11 Credits		12 Credits		7-8 Credits

* Open electives can be 2 or 3 credits each but must total 8 credits.

**Course length is 16 weeks.

*** Students must take MS-756 or MS-773 to fulfill the program requirement

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

MA(BS) Three-Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 60

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-503 Research Methods, Writing & Technology	MS-Ministry Elective	NT-513 Gospels	TH-563 Basis of Free Grace Theology	TH-565 Prolegomena, Bibliology & Theology Proper
	TH-560 Hermeneutics		SF-550 Spiritual Life		
	6 Credits		9 Credits		3 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	TH-568 Soteriology**		MS-885 Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	OT-513 Old Testament History	NT-515 Acts & Pauline Epistles
	OT-628 Old Testament Prophets	Open Elective*	MS-892 Servant Leadership		Open Elective*
	8-9 Credits		8 Credits		5-6 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
3	Open Elective*	TH-567 Christology & Pneumatology	MS-756 Expository Preaching***	MS- 773 Teaching for Impact***	NT-517 General Epistles and Revelation
	MS- Ministry Elective			MS-771 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	
				TH-667 Ecclesiology & Eschatology	MS- Ministry Elective
	7-8 Credits		7 Credits		5 Credits

* Open electives can be 2 or 3 credits each but must total 8 credits.

**Course length is 16 weeks.

*** Students must take MS-756 or MS-773 to fulfill the program requirement

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

Master of Divinity

The following Progression Charts are the recommended sequence of courses to help students navigate through the advancement of their MDiv program in 3 years to 4 years. All students are expected to seek advisement from their Academic Advisor when planning their educational program and registering for courses.

MDiv Three-Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 95

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-503 Research Methods Writing & Technology	TH-565 Prolegomena, Bibliology & Theology Proper	NT-513 Gospels	MS-771 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	MS- Ministry Elective
	TH-560 Hermeneutics	Open Elective*	MS-892 Servant Leadership	OT-516 Wisdom Literature	SF-550 Spiritual Life
	NT-772 Elementary Greek 1**		NT-774 Elementary Greek 2**		
	12-13 Credits		13 Credits		5 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	OT-628 Old Testament Prophets	TH-567 Christology & Pneumatology	MS-885 Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	OT-513 Old Testament History	NT-515 Acts & Pauline Epistles
	TH-568 Soteriology**		TH-663 Angelology Anthropology & Hamartiology	MS- Ministry Elective	TH-775 Christian Apologetics: Classic and Contemporary
	NT-875 Intro to Greek Exegesis**		NT-877 Advanced Greek Exegesis**		
	12 Credits		14 Credits		6 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
3	TH-767 Church History and Historical Theology 1****	TH-783 Church History and Historical Theology 2****	MS-756 Expository Preaching***	MS- 773 Teaching for Impact***	NT-517 General Epistles and Revelation
	Open Elective*	MS- Ministry Elective		TH-563 Basis of Free Grace Theology	MS- Ministry Elective
				TH-667 Ecclesiology & Eschatology	*Open Elective
	OT-771 Elementary Hebrew 1**		OT-773 Elementary Hebrew 2**		
	MS-890 Field Practicum 1**		MS-891 Field Practicum 2**		
	13-14 Credits		13 Credits		7-8 Credits

* Open electives can be 2 or 3 credits each but must total 6 credits

**Course length is 16 weeks.

*** Students must take MS-756 or MS-773 to fulfill the program requirement

****Course is 2 credits.

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

MDiv Four-Year Plan
Total Credit Hours Required: 95

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	RS-503 Research Methods, Writing & Technology	MS- Ministry Elective	NT-513 Gospels	MS-771 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry	SF-550 Spiritual Life
	TH-560 Hermeneutics	TH-565 Prolegomena, Bibliology & Theology Proper	MS-892 Servant Leadership	OT-516 Wisdom Literature	MS- Ministry Elective
	<i>9 Credits</i>		<i>10 Credits</i>		<i>5 Credits</i>
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	OT-628 Old Testament Prophets	MS- Ministry Elective	MS-885 Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship	OT-513 Old Testament History	NT-515 Acts & Pauline Epistles
	NT-772 Elementary Greek 1**		NT-774 Elementary Greek 2**		MS- Ministry Elective
	TH-568 Soteriology**		TH-663 Angelology Anthropology & Hamartiology		
	<i>11 Credits</i>		<i>12 Credits</i>		<i>5 Credits</i>
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
3	TH-767 Church History and Historical Theology 1****	TH-783 Church History and Historical Theology 2****	MS-756 Expository Preaching***	MS- 773 Teaching for Impact***	TH-775 Christian Apologetics: Classic and Contemporary
		TH-567 Christology & Pneumatology		TH-563 Basis of Free Grace Theology	Open Elective*
	NT-875 Intro to Greek Exegesis**		NT-877 Advanced Greek Exegesis**		
	<i>10 Credits</i>		<i>8 Credits</i>		<i>5-6 Credits</i>
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
4	Open Elective*	Open Elective*		TH-667 Ecclesiology & Eschatology	NT-517 General Epistles and Revelation
	OT-771 Elementary Hebrew 1**		OT-773 Elementary Hebrew 2**		
	MS-890 Field Practicum 1**		MS-891 Field Practicum 2**		
	<i>9-11 Credits</i>		<i>8 Credits</i>		<i>3 Credits</i>

* Open electives can be 2 or 3 credits each but must total 6 credits

**Course length is 16 weeks.

*** Students must take MS-756 or MS-773 to fulfill the program requirement

****Course is 2 credits.

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

Graduate Theology Program

Master of Theology

The following Progression Charts are the recommended sequence of courses to help students navigate through the advancement of their ThM program in 2 years to 3 years. All students are expected to seek advisement from their Academic Advisor when planning their educational program and registering for courses.

ThM Two Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 29

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	NT-875 Intro to Greek Exegesis	OT-875 Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis	NT-877 Advanced Greek Exegesis		TH-780 Advanced Theological Methods
	TH-778 Advanced Historical Theology		OT-877 Advanced Hebrew Exegesis		
			NT-890 Advanced Exposition in New Testament*		
			OT-890 Advanced Exposition in Old Testament*		
	9 Credits		10 Credits		4 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	RS-890 Thesis Proposal		RS-892 Thesis Project		
	3 Credits		3 Credits		

*Either NT-890 OR OT-890

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

ThM Three Year Plan

Total Credit Hours Required: 29

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
1	NT-875 Intro to Greek Exegesis	OT-875 Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis	NT-877 Advanced Greek Exegesis		TH-780 Advanced Theological Methods
			NT-890 Advanced Exposition in New Testament*		
	6 Credits		3 or 7 Credits		4 Credits
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
2	TH-778 Advanced Historical Theology		OT-877 Advanced Hebrew Exegesis		
			OT-890 Advanced Exposition in Old Testament*		
	3 Credits		3 or 7 Credits		
	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
3	RS-890 Thesis Proposal		RS-892 Thesis Project		
	3 Credits		3 Credits		

*Either NT-890 OR OT-890

Course Offerings may be subject to change.

Doctorate Program

Doctor of Ministry (DMin)

The Doctor of Ministry program is designed to prepare students currently in vocational ministry with the highest level of expertise in the biblical and theological application of God's truth to their contextual ministry setting in the church and para-church. The Ph.D. degree, by comparison, purposes primarily to equip students to engage in scholarly research and teaching.

The Doctor of Ministry program allows students to remain in the location where they are ministering except for attending intensive courses. Each course builds on ministry experience and endeavors to integrate learning with the student's present ministry as well as his or her future goals.

The Doctor of Ministry is an advanced professional degree designed to broaden the student's vision of ministry, deepen their theological foundation for ministry and enhance one's ministry skills. The program focuses on practical ministry from a biblical and theological perspective. Courses are planned to challenge and enrich the student both personally and professionally. This happens in several ways:

- ❖ Interaction with outstanding resident and adjunct faculty mentors who have proven track records in ministry.
- ❖ Exposure to contemporary resources that are designed to help keep one's ministry both biblically accurate and culturally relevant.
- ❖ Camaraderie with ministry peers that will encourage one's heart and stimulate the mind toward thoughtful enhancement of ministry.
- ❖ Involvement in practical ministry projects that will enhance one's current ministry.

Who Would Benefit from the DMin Program?

Pastors, including "senior", "lead", and associate pastors who are currently involved in Christian ministry would benefit the most from the DMin. In addition, para-church ministry personnel (i.e. Young Life, CRU, missionaries, etc.) will also find that the DMin program would enhance their ministry skills and perspective. Grace, being a global educational institution, anticipates that international students will also benefit from the DMin program as they serve in their own country and prepare to become leaders within their Christian community.

DMin Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the DMin Degree at Grace, students will be able to:

1. Construct biblical solutions that address the student's challenges in his/her specific contextual and cultural ministry.
2. Develop a biblical theology of personal and corporate spiritual formation.
3. Demonstrate advanced ministry and leadership skills in one's particular area of ministry.
4. Communicate biblical and theological truths that result in ministry effectiveness.
5. Contribute to the body of knowledge in Christian ministry.

Required Courses in the DMin Program

Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
	CORE	
DM-901	Contemporary Theological Issues	3
DM-902	Effective Biblical Leadership	4
DM-903	Issues in Grace Theology and Praxis	3
	CONCENTRATION ELECTIVES	
		3
		3
		3
		3
	PROJECT	
DM-990	Ministry Project I	4
DM-991	Ministry Project II	4
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	30

Transfer of Credit

Up to nine hours from a Master of Theology (ThM) and/or Doctor of Ministry credit may be transferred into the DMin program as electives. Students may request consideration for transfer of credit once they have applied for admission. The Dean of the DMin program may also initiate the transfer of credit on a case-to-case basis.

Delivery Method

All courses are offered in an intensive block format, with each course consisting of three parts:

- ❖ **Pre-Residency** (approximately two months)—preliminary reading and other assignments
- ❖ **Residency**—one-week intensive classroom interaction, offered remotely/online
- ❖ **Post-Residency** (approximately two months)—a final course assignment that applies what you have learned to life and ministry

DMin Course Progression (Sample)

Year / Semester	Fall (Aug – Dec)	Spring (Jan-May)	Summer (May - Aug)
First	DM-901 (or any of the 3 core courses being offered)	Elective	DM-902 (or any of the 3 core courses being offered)
Second	Elective	DM-903 (or any of the 3 core courses being offered)	Elective
Third	Elective	Topic Proposal	Applied Research Paper Proposal
Fourth	DM-990	DM-991	Graduation

DMin Course Calendar (Typical 4-Year Rotation)

Year / Semester	Fall (Aug – Dec)	Spring (Jan-May)	Summer (May - Aug)
First	Core Course & DM-990	Elective & DM-991	Core Course
Second	Elective & DM-990	Core Course & DM-991	Elective
Third	Core Course & DM-990	Elective & DM-991	Core Course
Fourth	Elective & DM-990	Core Course & DM-991	Graduation

Calendar Notes:

In one academic year, the DMin Program offers 2 required courses and 1 elective; OR 2 electives and 1 required course. This allows students who are in different phases/stages in the program to have a chance to enroll in at least one core course per academic year.

At this time, the DMin program cannot offer a core course and an elective in the same semester. Consequently, the 3 core courses cannot be offered consecutively in one academic year in order to allow students who need electives to complete them for their program. For the same reason, 3 electives cannot be offered consecutively in one academic year.

DMin Project

The Ministry Project phase of the DMin program begins when coursework is completed. It is designed to synthesize ministry knowledge in a doctoral level practical ministry project. (Complete details on the nature of this requirement are found in the Grace School of Theology *Applied Research Project Handbook*.)

DMin Project Timeline

Typical timeline for the completion of the DMin project.

*See Applied Research Project Handbook and DM-990 and DM-991 Syllabi for additional details.

Year / Semester	Fall	Spring	Summer
First	Consider a topic for your applied research project early in the program.		
Second			
Third		Submit general topic Begin literature review Begin proposal	Submit proposal with literature review Submit HSR (if applicable)
Fourth	Enroll in DM-990 Submit drafts of chapters 1-3, as per the syllabus	Enroll in DM-991 Submit drafts of all chapters Edit based on reviews Oral presentation of project Submit project to library	Graduation (mid-May)

DMin Grading System

Coursework is usually divided between pre-residency, residency, and post-residency assignments. Pre-residency assignments are generally due at the first class session. Post-residency assignments are due up to three months from the last class session, but prior to the end of the semester in which the intensive is offered.

Criteria upon which grades are based include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Requirements of the course syllabus
2. Content appropriate to doctoral research and a sufficient level of integration of biblical and theological concepts with the practice of ministry
3. Meaningful participation in the class sessions and discussion boards.

To remain in good academic standing, a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 must be maintained in the program and is required for graduation. No points are given for a grade lower than a B (3.0). Any required failed course must be retaken until passed. The retaken grade will automatically replace the original failed grade. Doctoral students should refer to other applicable academic policies in this publication. The grade point values for the doctoral program are found in the following chart.

The DMin Grading Scale with GPA nomenclature:

A + 99-100 (4.0)	B+ 91-93 (3.3)	F 0-85 (0.0)
A 96-98 (4.0)	B 88-90 (3.0)	I Incomplete
A- 94-95 (3.7)	B- 86-87 (2.7)	WP Withdrawal/Pass

DMin Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate, a student must:

1. Pass all required courses with a 3.0 GPA and satisfactorily complete the ministry project, its oral presentation to the Faculty body, and submission of the project to the Seminary Librarian.
2. Reflect a life of sound doctrinal beliefs, genuine Christian character, and conduct becoming of a person called of God to a position of Christian leadership.
3. Settle all financial obligations to the school, including the payment of the graduation fee.
4. File an *Intent to Graduate* form to be considered for graduation.
5. Be recommended for graduation to the Board of Trustees by the Faculty.
6. Attend commencement exercises. Permission to graduate *in absentia* must be requested in writing to the Academic Dean, at least TWELVE weeks prior to commencement.

Course Descriptions

Undergraduate Courses

Bible Exposition

BI-201 Old Testament Survey

A survey of the books of the Old Testament, with an emphasis on the Pentateuch, God's providential dealing with His people Israel, poetic and wisdom literature, and the messages of the prophets and their contribution to Israel's history and faith.

3 credits

(Required for BSC students only or may be taken as a BI- elective for others.)

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

BI-203 New Testament Survey

A survey of the books of the New Testament with an emphasis on author, genre, structural outline, and main teachings of every book of the New Testament.

3 credits

(Required for BSC students only or may be taken as a BI- elective for others.)

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

BI-303 Pentateuch

A study of the Pentateuch (Genesis to Deuteronomy) with an emphasis on the historical setting, genre, structure, purpose, biblical theology, and application of these books. Special attention will be given to creation, fall, flood, God's creation of Israel and His covenants and dealings with her.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-305 The History of Israel

A study of the history of Israel in light of the Old Testament books of Joshua through Esther. Emphasis will be on God's activities and interventions into the affairs of mankind, as well as on how heroes of faith impacted their culture.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-307 Prophetic Books

A study of the Major and Minor Prophetic Books of the Old Testament (Isaiah through Malachi). Emphasis is on messianic prophecies and how heroes of faith impacted their culture.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-309 Poetic Books

A study of the Poetical Books of the Old Testament (Job through the Song of Solomon). Emphasis is on Old Testament wisdom and worship literature.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-340 The Life of Christ

The life of Christ, his teaching and work, will be studied in light of the unique perspective of each of the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-342 Pauline Epistles (less Romans)

A study of the Epistles of Paul emphasizing exegetical and expositional analysis of 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. Emphasis is placed on proper application to life and ministry. (Romans will be studied separately.)

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-343 Acts

An analysis of the book of the Acts of the Apostles emphasizing the birth and growth of the early church and its beginning expansion beyond Jerusalem. Attention is also given to the historical context, literary structure, and practical applications of their content for the church today.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-344 Romans

A study of Paul's epistle to the Romans with an emphasis on the great theological themes of the sinfulness of man, justification by faith, and sanctification through the Holy Spirit. Emphasis is given to the dispensational aspects of Israel and the Church in chapters nine through eleven.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-346 General Epistles and Revelation

A study of the General Epistles with an emphasis on the exegetical and expositional analysis of Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter, 1, 2, and 3 John, and Jude and their importance on the growth of the believer. In addition, a review of important aspects in the book of Revelation will be analyzed.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

BI-420 Elementary Greek 1

A study of the basic principles of New Testament Greek for students who have not had Greek or who would benefit from a review of the elements of the language.

3 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

BI-422 Elementary Greek 2

A continuation of the study of the basic principles of New Testament Greek for students who have not had Greek or who would benefit from a review of the elements of the language.

3 credits

Prerequisite: BI-420

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

Black Church Studies**BC-442 Introduction to Black Church Studies in America**

This course is a broad overview study on the history of the Black Church in American society, with the purpose of informing the uninformed and educating all interested parties, while celebrating the contributions of the Black Church as a ministry and an institution since its inception. The following subject matter is not exhaustive but illustrative of what the professor will address during this course: Black Church History in America, Black Church Worship Experience in America, Black Church Preaching in America, Black Church Ethics in America, and more.

2 credits

BC-444 Introduction to Black Church History 1

This course is an introduction to follow the journey of the Black Church in American society from the beginning of slavery until the start of the Civil Rights Movement. It will evaluate key events, leaders, and various social topics.

2 credits

BC-446 Introduction to Black Church History 2

This course is an introduction to follow the journey of the Black Church in American society from the start of the Civil Rights Movement until present day America.

2 credits

BC-448 Exploring Development Opportunities in the Black Community

This course explores various opportunities to develop the surrounding community in which the Black Church resides. The students will examine closely the Black Church's involvement in the following areas of study: education, financial literacy, workforce development, housing, and recreation. The purpose is to inform the uninformed and educate all interested parties concerning the Black Church and its local mission of developing community holistically.

2 credits

BC-450 The Black Church: A Kingdom Approach to Racism in America

This course is an in-depth investigation of the sin of racism in our American Society, and how and why the Black Church has responded to this sin. During the semester, students will learn key terms, events, and leaders relevant to this topic and discuss how a “Free Grace” perspective can affect various viewpoints and outcomes.

2 credits

Counseling

CO-310 Conflict Resolution

The course will address the importance of building and sustaining decision-making teams, mentoring, delegating, resolving conflict, and handling and overcoming opposition. Styles of communication will also be studied with a view of functioning more effectively and efficiently as a team leader in handling routine and crisis situations.

2 credits

CO-450 Christian Counseling

A study of the models, theories, and techniques of Christian counseling and the central issues addressed in counseling in the Christian community.

2 credits

Ministry Skills

MS-402 Homiletics

This course guides students to develop and deliver expository messages that present biblical truths in a way that changes peoples’ lives. This is a practical course that will help students prepare and present biblically accurate and culturally relevant sermons in creative ways. Students will preach twice and receive evaluations from fellow students and the professor.

2 credits

Prerequisite: TH-310

MS-404 Effective Biblical Leadership

An introduction to the subject of Christian leadership as well as a study of the biblical texts on leadership. A self-evaluation of the student’s current role and leadership style will be completed. Biblical stewardship is critical for the Christian leader. This course helps the student build a solid biblical foundation regarding his or her personal and ministerial stewardship. The student will be able to apply biblical principles to the use of personal possessions and finances. Basic financial management is a skill to learn and spiritual discipline to practice.

2 credits

MS-410 Church Planting Principles and Practice

A course designed to encourage and prepare church leaders and missionaries to facilitate the growth and multiplication of churches. The course includes a study of biblical principles for church growth and church planting, an overview of church government as it relates to new churches, kinds of church planting, effective strategies for planting and growing churches, the importance of a kingdom-mentality and a grace-orientation, and challenges church-planters encounter.

2 credits

MS-412 Introduction to Children’s Ministry

In this course, students will discover their personal leadership style, learn the fundamentals of children’s ministry leadership, and develop administrative and organizational skills. It will be a practical study of the key areas of Christian Education ministry, designed to equip children’s pastors to administer effectively the day-to-day tasks of a typical children’s ministry.

2 credits

MS-420 Short-Term Ministry Experience

A practical study designed to provide the student with cross-cultural missionary experience and enhance his/her understanding of the value and limitations of short-term ministries.

2 credits

MS-425 Living the Great Commission

Building on Free Grace Theology, this course is designed to help students understand and apply the principles of personal evangelism and discipleship in order to join Jesus in changing the world through evangelism and disciple-making.

2 credits

MS-430 Internship

A supervised, directed ministry experience for students in their specific area of interest and skill. This includes practical training in the local church, mission field, or school, working in the areas of counseling, teaching, church leadership, and evangelism. This course is taken during the senior year of studies. *Pass/Fail.*

2 credits

Prerequisites: BABS Core Requirements – Senior Standing

Semester Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

MS-452 Spiritual Leadership

In this course, the student will be studying numerous Scriptures dealing with Christ as the Servant Leader; wrestling with passages speaking to what it means to be a Servant Leader as Christ was; and learning the tools from the Scriptures that help one become a Servant Leader. The student will also learn and begin to apply a new set of definitions related to being a Servant Leader and, in specific, the development of their own Transcendent There - the ultimate goal of every Christian. Through the videos, reading, and engagement with the material presented, the student will be better equipped to be a Christlike Servant Leader and to establish their own Transcendent There.

2 credits

Pass/Fail

Research Skills

RS-210 Research Writing and Technology

A course designed to teach the serious student of the Word proper research methodology, review of college-level writing skills, and the effective use of technology for conducting research, following *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate L. Turabian (9th ed.). Methods for using technology to discover information appropriate for college-level research through the use of electronic databases, Internet resources, library collections, and information literacy are addressed. Students will be introduced to the Canvas LMS and Zoom video conferencing system used at Grace for all its courses.

3 credits

This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.

RS-455 Directed Research

This is an undergraduate directed research course in an area of the Bible exposition, systematic theology, or ministry. The content of this course varies depending on a particular subject that a student desires to study and approved by a professor who agrees to oversee the student. The student can earn 1, 2 or 3 credits with a minimum of 45 hours of work per credit. The professor and student will develop a mutually agreed upon syllabus that includes specific learning outcomes and assignments. *(NOTE: Students who need this course must submit a petition to the Registrar during the spring or fall registration period.)*

1-3 credits

Prerequisites: All core courses

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

Systematic Theology

TH-250 Survey of Bible Doctrine

A broad survey of the basic doctrines found in the Scriptures, presented in a systematic and theological manner. Twelve major areas will be reviewed that include an introduction to theological terms and definitions.

3 credits

(Required for BSC students only or may be taken as a TH- elective for others.)

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

TH-300 The Life of the Believer

This course is a practical study of the biblical principles and practices that develop Christian character and service, with emphasis on the primacy of the Scriptures and the building of a devotional life, as well as challenges in the Spiritual Life. The goal is a personal devotional method which can be used throughout your life.

3 credits

Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within their first academic year in the school. The other options would be for the student to either take this before enrolling in any Systematic Theology and Bible course or take this simultaneously with any Systematic Theology and Bible course.

TH-310 Principles of Biblical Interpretation

A directed study of the principles of the literal-grammatical-historical (L-G-H) system of biblical interpretation, with guided practice in using those principles in interpreting representative passages.

3 credits

This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.

TH-330 Doctrine of Salvation

A study of the doctrine of salvation. Topics include election, faith, regeneration, justification, adoption, sanctification, assurance of salvation, eternal security and glorification.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within their first academic year in the school. The other options would be for the student to either take this before enrolling in any Systematic Theology and Bible course or take this simultaneously with any Systematic Theology and Bible course.

TH-407 Doctrine 1 – The Bible and God

A study of the biblical doctrines of the Bible and of God. Topics include, revelation, inspiration, authority and canon, as well as God's existence, attributes, and trinity.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

TH-412 Doctrine 2 – Man, Sin, and Spirit Beings

The study of angelic beings, both good and fallen, their existence, nature, and activities, as well as the study of man's creation, nature, and fall into sin will be studied in light of the Scriptures.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

TH-415 Doctrine 3 – Christ and the Holy Spirit

A course designed to provide a theological understanding of the doctrines of Christ and the Holy Spirit and to help develop the student's walk with Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. The course includes a study of the preparations for the coming of Christ, His life, His person (His full deity, His sinless humanity, the kenosis, and the hypostatic union), and His work (the substitutionary atonement). The course also includes a study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, including His deity, His personhood, and His ministries to both unbelievers and believers, with special emphasis on the filling of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

TH-420 Doctrine 4 – The Church and Last Things

An examination of the biblical doctrine of the Church and biblical prophecy. Topics include, the beginning of the church, its nature, governance, its two ordinances, as well as things to come such as the rapture, tribulation and millennial kingdom.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-310 and RS-210

TH-430 Doctrinal Summary 1

A written production and defense of a student's own doctrinal statement, including statements on the twelve major theological areas of consideration. In the first trimester the first 6 theological themes will be presented.

4 credits

Prerequisites: All required Systematic Theology courses.

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

TH-435 Doctrinal Summary 2

This is a continuation of the written production and defense of a student's own doctrinal summary. The last 6 theological themes will be completed and defended.

4 credits

Prerequisites: All required Systematic Theology courses and TH-430

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

General Education

(In alphabetical order - All courses are semester-long unless otherwise noted.)

CM-103 Communication Skills

This course explores the various models of interpersonal communication and will enable students to develop their own communication skills. The different models and methods of communication will be covered. This course is designed to help students improve their communication in both personal and professional contexts. Emphasis is placed on presentation skills needed for academic and ministerial success, along with a focus on the process of discovering and developing ideas while identifying one's audience and communicating in a well-organized and clearly developed manner.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

EN-103 English Composition 1

An introduction to the writing process through narrative, expository, and persuasive forms of writing. Consideration will be given to the fundamentals of English grammar, rhetoric, and composition and their application in effective written communication. This course focuses on the process of writing, from the prewriting to the first drafts to publication-ready final drafts. Emphasis is placed on writing skills needed for academic success, along with a focus on the process of discovering and developing ideas while identifying one's audience and communicating in a well-organized and clearly developed manner.

3 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

EN-104 English Composition 2

A further development of clear writing and argumentation presented in EN-103. This course focuses on writing college level research papers and assignments. Students will learn the research process from concept to final draft, with emphasis on using proper sources and developing strong thesis statements and evidences for their position.

3 credits

Prerequisite: EN-103 or equivalent

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

HI-203 Early Church History

This course surveys the major developments in the history of Christianity from the time of its founding to the modern era. It will cover theological, political, intellectual, and artistic contributions to and by the church.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

HI-207 Foundations of Western Civilization

This course surveys the origins of Western Civilization from Ancient Mesopotamia, c. 3000 B.C., to the fall of the Roman Empire, c. 500 A.D. This course will show how Western Civilization has been formed by the intersection of a variety of ancient cultures, in particular Hebrew, Greek, Roman, and Christian.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

HI-209 History of the Ancient Near East

A study of the history, archaeology, and culture of Mesopotamia, Anatolia, Syria, Israel and Egypt from the rise of the Sumerian culture to The Roman Empire. Attention is given to the religious views prevalent in the ancient Near East as these views interacted with the culture and faith described in the Bible.

3 credits

Module-Long Course, Elective

LD-321 Outdoor Leadership Skills

A 20- day intensive course hosted by Voice of Wilderness for those interested in pursuing outdoor and recreational employment, individuals involved in disaster relief, or those wanting an immersive Wilderness Skills experience. Students will complete and earn certification in Basic Wilderness Life Support (BWLS)-equivalent of Wilderness First Responder (70 hours), and American Heart Association CPR for Healthcare Providers (5 hours). In addition, participants will take part in basic orienteering, water rescue for non-professionals, stargazing, basic ecological, botany identification, wildlife identification of host area, and principals involved with backpacking -gear, food, water purification, knots, fire building, and Leave No Trace ethics. There will be daily personal and group devotional time and the opportunity to experience God's "invisible attributes, eternal power and divine nature" (Romans 1 :20).

This class would be offered each summer at the Voice of Wilderness Lodge in Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

3 credits

MU-203 Music and Worship

The role of music in worship with emphasis on making and keeping worship music biblical. A discussion of contemporary versus traditional Christian music is also included.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

NS-103 Physical Science

A course designed to introduce the student to the world around him and the universe it is in from a biblical perspective. Areas to be studied include the history of science, scientific inquiry and methodologies. Introductions to the fields of geology, astronomy, physics, and biology will be presented emphasizing evidence for creation by an intelligent designer.

3 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

NS-104 Life Science

This course explores the various dimensions of life science that include genetic variation, DNA and genetic engineering, evidences of life before birth, and ecologic interactions past and present. Students will also learn to compare and contrast the scientific evidence for creationism and evolution and defend their position with the support of the Scriptures, and to counter Darwin's words with scientific evidence supporting God's Word.

3 credits

PH-201 Introduction to Philosophy

An analysis of the foundations of philosophical thought. The emphasis will be on the main branches of philosophy: metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics in light of Christian thought.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

PH-202 Introduction to Apologetics

The purpose of this course is to equip believers with answers to some of the more difficult theological questions and topics that Christians face, such as: arguments for the existence of God; the problem of evil; the life, death, and resurrection of Christ and a variety of other questions frequently encountered while witnessing.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

PY-101 General Psychology and Counseling

An introductory study that equips the student with an understanding of the nature of man, how psychological problems develop, and strategies for counseling, all based on a biblical worldview.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

SS-204 Cultural Anthropology

An investigation of race, culture, economics, social groups, religion, language, and arts of primitive folk and modern westernized peoples. This course compares biblical absolutes with cultural norms and includes Bible lands and cultures.

3 credits

Module-Long Course

Graduate Courses

Bible Exposition: Old Testament

OT-501 Old Testament Survey

An overview of the Old Testament books that includes an investigation of historical background, literary genres, authorship, purpose, structure, and major themes. Special attention is given to the development and nature of major Old Testament covenants and significant interpretive issues surrounding key verses.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

OT-513 Old Testament History

A study of the Old Testament history (Genesis through Esther) with an emphasis on the setting, genre, structure, key dates and persons, biblical theology, and key events of these books. Special attention will be given to the nature and development of the covenants, the development of the monarchy, and the rise and fall of Israel and Judah.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

OT-516 Wisdom Literature

A study of Old Testament wisdom literature (Job through the Song of Solomon) with an emphasis on the historical setting, literary genre, purpose, theology, and application of these books. Special attention will be given to the concept of Hebrew wisdom, type and function of Hebrew poetry, retribution theology, figures of speech, and hermeneutical issues.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

OT-628 Old Testament Prophets

A study of the Old Testament major and minor prophets (Isaiah to Malachi) with an emphasis on the setting, genre, structure, key dates and persons, biblical theology, and key events of these books. Special attention will be given to the history of Old Testament prophecy, the role of the prophets, divine judgment and salvation, and God's plan for Israel and the nations.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

OT-708 Genesis

A detailed survey and exposition of the Old Testament book of Genesis, with an emphasis on the book's biblical theology, genre, and application.

2 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

OT-730 Psalms

A detailed survey and exposition of the Old Testament book of Psalms, with an emphasis on the book's biblical theology, genre, and application.

2 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

OT-750 Daniel and Revelation

A detailed survey, exposition and synthesis of the Old Testament book of Daniel and the New Testament book of Revelation, with an emphasis on the biblical theology, genre, and application of these two books.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

OT-771 Elementary Hebrew 1

A study of the basic principles of biblical Hebrew for students who have not had Hebrew or who would benefit from a review of the elements of the language.

3 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

OT-773 Elementary Hebrew 2

A continuation of study of the basic principles of biblical Hebrew followed by an introduction to Hebrew syntax, textual criticism and to the basic tools and methods of lexical analysis.

3 credits

Prerequisite: OT-771

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

OT-875 Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis

An introduction to the exegesis of Hebrew narrative and poetry, including a review of Hebrew morphology, syntax, and lexical analysis in conjunction with the translation of selected Old Testament passages.

3 credits

ThM only

OT-877 Advanced Hebrew Exegesis

The application of exegetical methods to selected passages from historical, prophetic and wisdom books of the Old Testament. The exegetical consideration includes a survey of the literary, historical, and theological backgrounds unique to the texts under study.

3 credits

ThM only

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

OT-890 Advanced Exposition in the Old Testament

Advanced level exposition of selected Old Testament passages are examined utilizing Hebrew exegetical skills.

4 credits

ThM only

Prerequisite: OT-875

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

Bible Exposition: New Testament**NT-501 New Testament Survey**

An overview of the New Testament books that includes introductory matters such as historical background, literary genres, authorship, purpose, structure, and major themes. Special emphasis is given to a survey of the life and work of Christ, development of the church, major teachings of the epistles and Revelation.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

NT-513 Gospels

A survey and exposition of the Gospels, with an emphasis on the biblical theology of these books, their genre, and their application.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

NT-515 Acts and Pauline Epistles

A survey and exposition of the New Testament book of Acts and the Pauline epistles, with an emphasis on the biblical theology of these books, their genre, and their application.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

NT-517 General Epistles and Revelation

A survey and exposition of the New Testament books of Hebrews and the General Epistles, with an emphasis on the biblical theology of these books, their genre, and their application. In addition, a review of important aspects in the book of Revelation will be analyzed.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

NT-518 Exposition of Hebrews

This course will include both exegetical exposition and theological reflection of the New Testament book of Hebrews, aiming to develop a ministry paradigm that addresses the demands of pastors and the needs of God's people. Special attention will be given to the hermeneutical issue of using the Old Testament in the New Testament and how the Old Testament theology is inferred and applied in the New Testament.

2 credits

NT-708 Acts

This course will provide an exegetical and theological study of the book of Acts. Special attention will be given to the relevant theological and ministerial issues that faced the church of the first century as well as the twenty-first century.

2 credits

NT-711 Romans

A detailed survey and exposition of the New Testament book of Romans, with an emphasis on the book's biblical theology, genre, and application.

3 credits

NT-712 Galatians

A detailed survey and exposition of the New Testament book of Galatians, with an emphasis on the book's biblical theology, genre, and application.

2 credits

NT-716 The Epistle of James

A detailed survey and exposition of the New Testament book of James, with an emphasis on the book's biblical theology, genre, and application.

2 credits

NT-717 The Epistles of Peter

A detailed survey and exposition of the New Testament books of 1 and 2 Peter, with an emphasis on the book's biblical theology, genre, and application.

2 credits

NT-718 Johannine Epistles

A detailed survey and exposition of the New Testament books of 1, 2, 3 John, with an emphasis on the biblical theology of these books, their genre, and their application.

2 credits

NT-772 Elementary Greek 1

A study of the basic principles of New Testament Greek for students who have not had Greek or who would benefit from a review of the elements of the language.

3 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

NT-774 Elementary Greek 2

A continuation of the study of the basic principles of New Testament Greek for students who have not had Greek or who would benefit from a review of the elements of the language.

3 credits

Prerequisite: NT-772

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

NT-875 Introduction to Greek Exegesis

A study of New Testament Greek syntax and an introduction to New Testament textual criticism. The course will improve the ability of the student to (1) read the Greek New Testament, (2) analyze it grammatically and syntactically, and (3) determine its original wording.

3 credits

Prerequisites: NT-772, NT-774, TH-560, and RS-503

NT-877 Advanced Greek Exegesis

An introduction to the procedure and practice of New Testament Greek exegesis with an emphasis on the process of analysis and synthesis of the Biblical text which will result in the writing of a commentary on a New Testament epistle.

3 credits

This course is offered for credit for MDiv and ThM students only.

Prerequisite: NT-772, NT-774, NT-875, TH-560, and RS-503

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

NT-883 Advanced Greek Exegesis of the Letter to the Colossians

This course puts the skills of proper hermeneutical theory and exegetical methodology to work using the letter to the Colossians. This course builds on NT-875, integrating all the components of exegesis to bear on an entire discourse. Text-linguistics (dg and da), cultural analysis, text critical issues, synthesis of the biblical data, and a working outline of the entire letter will be discussed. At the completion of the course, the student will read the original text closer, make better exegetical decisions, and be fully equipped to teach or preach this amazing letter.

2 credits

Prerequisites: NT-772, NT-774, NT-875, TH-560, and RS-503

NT-890 Advanced Exposition in the New Testament

Advanced level exposition of selected New Testament passages are examined utilizing Greek exegetical skills.

4 credits

ThM only

Prerequisites: NT-772, NT-774, NT-875, NT-877, TH-560, and RS-503

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

Black Church Studies

BC-742 Introduction to Black Church Studies

This course is a broad overview study on the history of the Black Church in American society, with the purpose of informing the uninformed and educating all interested parties, while celebrating the contributions of the Black Church as a ministry and an institution since its inception. The following subject matter is not exhaustive but illustrative of what the professor will address during this course: Black Church History in America, Black Church Worship Experience in America, Black Church Preaching in America, Black Church Ethics in America, and more.

2 credits

BC-744 Black Church History 1

This course is a comprehensive exploration study on the history of the Black Church in American society spanning from the beginning of slavery in America until the start of the Civil Rights Movement. The purpose is to inform the uninformed and educate all interested parties, while celebrating the contributions of the Black Church to America and the world as a ministry and an institution since its inception. This course will cover the following subject matter during the above period: the birthing of the Black Church, key contributions of the black church in American society, and key leaders.

2 credits

BC-746 Black Church History 2

This course is a comprehensive explorative study on the history of the Black Church in American society spanning from the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement until present day America. The purpose is to inform the uninformed and educate all interested parties, while celebrating the contributions of the Black Church in America and the world as a ministry and an institution since its inception. This course will cover the following subject matter during the above period: key contributions of the Black Church in American society and how it has impacted the world and understanding thoughts and intentions of key leaders.

2 credits

BC-748 Black Church Community Development

This course is an intricate study on how the Black Church empowers her community outside of Sunday morning worship. We will explore the Black Church's involvement in education, financial literacy, workforce development, housing, and recreation. The purpose is to inform the uninformed and educate all interested parties concerning the Black Church and her local mission of developing community holistically.

2 credits

BC-750 Racism & The Black Church's Kingdom Response

This course is an in-depth investigation of the sin of racism in our American Society, and how and why the Black Church has responded to this sin. During the semester, students will learn key terms, events, and leaders relevant to this topic. Further, students will discuss how a "Free Grace" perspective can affect various viewpoints and outcomes.

2 credits

Counseling Courses

CO-757 Christian Counseling

A study of the models, theories, and techniques of Christian counseling, and the central issues addressed in counseling in the Christian community.

2 credits

CO-767 Counseling Women

This course examines the most common problems women bring to counseling, including developmental and situational crises. It explores biblical perspectives and an awareness of the needs of women through awareness for these situations.

2 credits

CO-856 Conflict Resolution

The course will address the CR skills, specific types of conflict, and perspectives important to resolving conflict in home and work settings. Class objectives are for students to be able to do the following: (1) explain the importance of assigning appropriate responsibility for behavior in conflict situations; (2) identify and describe effective means of apologizing for and confronting offenses; (3) demonstrate an understanding of effective negotiating skills; (4) describe the types of behaviors and attitudes that block effective conflict resolution; and (5) demonstrate an understanding of the processes of resolving conflict in the home and work settings.

2 credits

CO-863 Advanced Counseling Theory and Integration

An advanced exploration of the theories and integration of counseling for use in pastoral counseling. Biblical principles and practices for guiding, sustaining, healing, and reconciling individuals, primarily within the context of the local church, chaplaincy, or parachurch ministry.

2 credits

Prerequisite: CO-757

CO-864 Crisis Counseling

The student gains an understanding of the anatomy of crisis and learns to apply biblical principles. Attention is focused on the crises of PTSD, trauma, depression, spousal abuse, suicide, death, divorce and adolescence.

2 credits

Prerequisite: CO-757

CO-865 Marriage Counseling

This course will explore theories, models, and processes of couples counseling and assessment. Students will discuss and study common problems, issues, and conflicts that arise in the marital relationship and methods to help couples they encounter in their ministry roles. This course will provide unique skills and knowledge to manage real-world issues that present themselves in the marriage counseling context.

2 credits

CO-868 Foundations of the Christian Home

A study of the biblical principles and practices for establishing and building the Christian home. Emphasis is placed on marriage issues such as the divinely designed differences between men and women; the individual responsibilities for both husband and wife; and building a better marriage through improved communication and conflict resolution. In addition, there will be a focus on biblical responsibilities that equip parents to build and launch the next generation.

2 credits

CO-869 Issues in Human Sexuality

An exploration of the theological, biological, social, and cultural foundations of human sexuality, particularly as related to pastoral counseling. Topics include emotional and sexual intimacy, sexuality and singleness, marital sexuality, sexual orientation and identity, sexual addictions, sexual disorders, and sexual betrayal and abuse. Biblical principles and practices for guiding, sustaining, healing, and reconciling individuals within the context of the local church, chaplaincy, or parachurch ministry will be discussed.

2 credits

Leadership Courses

LD-710 Self-Leadership

Before we can lead others in ministry or business, we have to be able to lead ourselves successfully. Integrity demands that our self-leadership be congruent with our leading of others. Self-leadership prepares a principled leader to set the example in the physical, mental and spiritual domains of one's life. It is from these three domains that the leadership of others begins. In this course, students will complete several self-assessment tools to discover areas of growth, define their personal vision, purpose, and passion, and will prepare forward-thinking goals and plans for moving ahead with intentional, practical leadership skills.

2 credits

LD-720 Leading Teams

Each person in a group working together becomes part of a team because of a common mission, vision and foundational values. These are crucial for the common good of a team. The effective principled leader, whether in ministry or business, will assemble individuals and lead them to adopt and execute a shared vision. This course will begin to address the key aspects of teams, including team formation, relationship dynamics, dysfunction, and communication.

2 credits

LD-730 Leading Organizations

Every organization whether a ministry or business has a culture that is specific and defined. As the organization grows and changes, what happens to that culture and how principled leaders and managers handle those changes, is crucial. This course will help students understand cultural shift, health, and habits within organizations. This will also help them understand leadership through change and explore the various types of leadership structures. By using case studies, students will learn practical skills on how to navigate cultural change and conflict.

2 credits

LD-740 Managing Organizations Effectively

Leading and managing are different functions. A ministry or organization is more effective when these differences are known and appreciated. This course will address the many areas where these two work together to accomplish the common vision and mission in an effective and efficient way. Students will assess their role as managers and leaders to determine the appropriate balance. Students will explore the complexity of communication, human resources and process management, to enable the efficient management of an organization or ministry.

2 credits

Ministry Skills

MS-753 Missions and Outreach

A course designed to develop effective disciplers and effective participants and supporters of world missions. The course includes a study of the biblical mandate and models for evangelism and missions and the importance of a clear gospel and the teaching of grace, a study of major contemporary evangelism and missionary strategies, training in personal evangelism and discipleship, a study of current challenges and issues in world missions, and exposure to examples of effective mission-minded churches and missionary agencies.

2 credits

MS-756 Expository Preaching

This course guides students to develop and deliver expository messages that present biblical truths in a way that changes peoples' lives. This is a practical course that will help students prepare and present biblically accurate and culturally relevant sermons in creative ways. Students will preach twice and receive evaluations from fellow students and the professor.

2 credits

Prerequisite: TH-560

MS-757 Preaching Narrative Literature

Instruction in preaching biblical narratives, with attention to theological development. Students preach twice and receive evaluations from the professor and fellow students. Based on an exegetical and theological interpretation of a narrative pericope, this course prepares students to preach the Word of God by integrating and applying the trans-historical intention of a biblical narrative to life and ministry. This course employs a learning model centered on student practice and critique. Students will learn best by listening carefully to all the sermons preached and critiques offered, and sincerely receiving the feedback given directly to them. (At times, enrollment may be limited to 15 students.)

2 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and MS-756

MS-762 Eternal Rewards

A study of the Judgment Seat of Christ, designed to help the student develop an eternal perspective toward all of his life's relationships, attitudes, and activities, and to provide a tool for teaching others about rewards and shame at the appearing of Christ.

2 credit

MS-765 Discipleship Strategies

This course will focus on how a theology of discipleship and a church's Matrix complement each other for effective disciple-making in the church today. The student will develop a philosophy and strategy that will engage unbelievers and believers on an intentional journey of salvation, spiritual growth, genuine life change, and missional living. The student will create a church pathway that engages a church's congregation in the disciple-making process. The student will complete the course with clear principles of discipleship, an understanding of the different models of disciple-making, and the experience of applying the appropriate model in a local church setting.

2 credits

MS-771 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry

This is a survey course that provides a broad overview of biblical and contemporary ethics and a methodology for Christian moral reasoning. Students will examine biblical ethics as they relate to divorce, abortion, immigration, environment, war, suicide and other significant topics in light of key scriptural passages. In addition, students will reflect on their convictions and discover personal and pastoral implications relevant to these important moral issues that confront the church today.

2 credits

MS-773 Teaching for Impact

Students will enter into a discussion of general teaching methodologies to learn how to teach with life-changing impact and effectively communicate any relevant truth. Practical application of various teaching methods will be used during the course.

2 credits

Prerequisite: TH-560

MS-854 Pastoral Ministries

A practical study of key areas of pastoral ministry designed to equip pastors to effectively administer the day-to-day tasks of a typical church ministry.

2 credits

MS-858 Vision and Strategic Planning

This course will examine the importance of having a shared vision and how a leader can communicate it and implement it using a systematic process to develop it within a ministry. The strategic planning process, based on the vision, will be examined in detail and put into practice for the student's ministry.

2 credits

Module-Long Course

MS-860 Edification Programs in the Local Church

A course designed to equip church leaders to develop programs and practices that will enhance the spiritual growth of all believers in their churches, from new believers to mature believers, and will produce spiritual leaders that contribute to the multiplication of disciples and churches.

2 credits

MS-866 Cross-Cultural Communications

An examination of the many trans-cultural dynamics for effective intercultural communication including values, tradition, non-verbal expression, and language expression.

2 credits

MS-870 Planting Churches and Ministries

A course designed to encourage and prepare church leaders and missionaries to lead or assist in the growth and multiplication of churches. The course includes a study of biblical principles and practical information for planting new ministries and churches, and students are required to arrange for a mentor in a ministry in which they will have opportunities to learn by experiencing the process of planting a ministry or a church.

2 credits

MS-871 The Growth and Development of Multisite Church

An introduction to the skills and knowledge needed to plant and grow a reproducing New Testament church. This study will expose the student to the Biblical need for new churches, a vision for planning them, the principle of founding them, and practical skills and knowledge needed to carry out the task. This course will give ample time to determine where new churches are needed, how to select a field, the biblical foundation for church planting, and practical help in beginning a new church. It is assumed that the students have acquired the general skills of organization and administration from other courses that teach those skills; only those areas dealing with the unique relationship of establishing new churches will be covered.

2 credits

MS-872 Children's Ministry in the Local Church

The purpose of this course is to further prepare students biblically, theologically, and professionally to work with children in churches and parachurch organizations. Students will discover their personal leadership style, learn the fundamentals of children's ministry leadership, and develop administrative and organizational skills. It will be a practical study of key areas of Christian Education ministry, designed to equip Children's Pastors to administer effectively the day-to-day tasks of a typical children's ministry.

2 credits

MS-875 Advanced Leadership and Administration

Church leadership is a unique blend of managing employees, volunteers, board development, and casting vision. Many pastors are under-equipped to lead organizations and overall ministry effectiveness decreases from a lack of organizational leadership. In other words, has anyone taught you how to ask the congregation for money or fire the janitor? Correctly guiding the church creates trust in leadership.

2 credits

Prerequisite: RS-503

MS-880 Short-Term Experience in Missions

A guided experience in cross-cultural missions through participation in a short-term mission trip and relevant training provided by an approved mission agency or church.

2 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

MS-885 Theology and Praxis on Evangelism and Discipleship

This course is designed to help students understand the principles of *corporate* evangelism and discipleship and how to join Jesus in changing the world through disciple-making. This class will complement the undergraduate course of the same name which will focus on *personal* evangelism and disciple-making.

3 credits

MS-890 Field Practicum 1

Field Practicum 1 is required of all students in MM and MDiv degree programs and serves as a structured and significantly enhanced learning experience that takes place in a church or approved Christian ministry venue under the supervision of a qualified professional practitioner. The Practicum comprises an integral part of a complete graduate competency-based curriculum and offers opportunities to apply course content within a ministry context that enhances further development of ministry skills, knowledge, and experience. The Practicum is taken during the final year of academic degree program studies.

Pass/Fail

2 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

MS-891 Field Practicum 2

Field Practicum 2 is required of all students in MM and MDiv degree programs and serves as a structured and significantly enhanced learning experience that is to be developed for a church or approved Christian ministry venue. The Practicum 2 course provides an opportunity for the student to create and develop a ministry project that could be implemented within a current ministry or applied in a future ministry context. Creative projects have been developed for churches, mission fields, counseling, teaching, church leadership, skills development, evangelism, and discipleship.

Approved projects have included online Bible studies, new member training, marriage conferences, children's ministries, study guide workbooks, media resources for distance education, women's ministry training, and leadership training. The Practicum is taken during the final year of academic degree program studies.

Pass/Fail

2 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

MS-892 Servant Leadership

In this course, the student will be studying numerous Scriptures dealing with Christ as the Servant Leader; wrestling with passages speaking to what it means to be a Servant Leader as Christ was; and learning the tools from the Scriptures that help one become a Servant Leader. The student will also learn and begin to apply a new set of definitions related to being a Servant Leader and, in specific, the development of their own Transcendent There - the ultimate goal of every Christian. Through the videos, reading, and engagement with the material presented, the student will be better equipped to be a Christlike Servant Leader and to establish their own Transcendent There.

2 credits

Research and Technology

RS-503 Research Methods, Writing and Technology

A course designed to introduce the student to the skills necessary to produce graduate level research papers and projects. This includes the proper formatting of papers (Turabian), source documentation, and thesis formation. How to read effectively for comprehension and how to express oneself properly is explored. Methods for using technology to discover information appropriate to graduate work through the use of electronic databases, internet resources, library collections, and information literacy are addressed. Students will be introduced to the Zoom video conferencing system used at Grace for all its courses.

1 credit

This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.

RS-755 Directed Research

This is a graduate-level directed research course in an area of the Bible exposition, systematic theology, or ministry. The content of this course varies depending on a particular subject that a student desires to study and approved by a professor who agrees to oversee the student. The student can earn 1, 2 or 3 credits with a minimum of 45 hours of work per credit. The professor and student will develop a mutually agreed upon syllabus that includes specific learning outcomes and assignments.

1-3 credits

(NOTE: Students who need this course must submit a petition to the Registrar during the spring or fall registration period.)

Pre-requisites: All core courses

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

RS-890 Thesis Proposal

This course is the beginning of the capstone project for ThM candidates through which the student produces independent research and writing of a thesis on an approved topic under the supervision of his faculty advisor. The thesis proposal is comprised of a title, thesis statement, introduction that defines the need for the research, literature review, and methodology, with a preliminary annotated bibliography.

3 credits

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

RS-892 Thesis Project

After the successful completion of RS-890, Thesis Proposal, the candidate completes the thesis under the guidance and supervision of the thesis advisor. After the advisor determines that the candidate's thesis is ready for defense, the student defends his or her thesis before the thesis committee. If the thesis is not completed by the end of the semester, students will be required to enroll continuously. Students have up to three years to complete the thesis from the time of their first enrollment in this course.

3 credits

Prerequisite: RS-890

Semester-Long Course/ Only offered in Fall or Spring

Spiritual Formation

SF-550 Spiritual Life

This course is a practical study of the biblical principles and practices that develop Christian character and service, with emphasis on the primacy of the Scriptures and the building of a devotional life, as well as challenges in the Spiritual Life. The goal is a personal devotional method which can be used throughout your life.

3 credits

Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within their first academic year in the school. The other options would be for the student to either take this before enrolling in any Systematic Theology and Bible course or take this simultaneously with any Systematic Theology and Bible course.

Systematic Theology

TH-501 Survey of Systematic Theology

A general survey of biblical doctrines outlining major areas of systematic theology including theology proper, bibliology, Christology, pneumatology, anthropology, angelology, hamartiology, soteriology, ecclesiology and eschatology. Special attention is given to the biblical background of Free Grace theology and its impact on soteriology.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

TH-560 Hermeneutics

A directed study of the principles of the literal-grammatical-historical (L-G-H) system of biblical interpretation, with guided practice in using those principles in interpreting representative passages.

3 credits

This is a prerequisite course. The student should take this prior to enrollment in Systematic Theology and Bible courses, preferably during the first semester or as soon as possible.

TH-563 Basis of Free Grace Theology

This course examines the major doctrines of Free Grace Theology in comparison with Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Calvinist, and Arminian theologies. The emphasis will be upon the divergent views of justification, faith, anthropology, hamartiology, sovereignty and providence, predestination and free will in relation to divine election, eternal security and assurance of salvation, the extent of Christ's propitiation, the process of sanctification, and God's payment ("rewards") and punishment of Christians.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

TH-565 Prolegomena, Bibliology, and Theology Proper

An in-depth study of Prolegomena, Bibliology- doctrines of revelation, inspiration, inerrancy, illumination, and theological hermeneutics will be conducted. The study of Theology Proper- the existence and attributes of the one God, the Triune Godhead, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in Scripture and in Christian history, and the ramifications of Trinitarian belief today will be addressed in detail.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

This is a new prerequisite for TH-568 Soteriology. Students who belong to older versions of the catalog do not need to take this course as a prerequisite.

TH-567 Christology and Pneumatology

A course designed to provide a theological understanding of the doctrines of Christ and the Holy Spirit and to help develop the student's walk with Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. The course includes a study of the preparations for the coming of Christ, His life, His person (His full deity, His sinless humanity, the kenosis, and the hypostatic union), and His work (the substitutionary atonement). The course also includes a study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, including His deity, His personhood, and His ministries to both unbelievers and believers, with special emphasis on the filling of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

TH-568 Soteriology

A study of the doctrine of salvation with special attention given to the work of Christ, the nature and extent of the atonement, the terms of salvation, election and human responsibility, and the eternal security of the believer.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560, TH-565, and RS-503

Since this is a foundational course, this should be taken by the student preferably within the first half of their program.

TH-663 Angelology, Anthropology and Hamartiology

A study of angelology (the doctrines of the unfallen angels, Satan and the fallen angels), anthropology (creation of humanity, the material and immaterial aspects of humanity, and the fall of humanity), and hamartiology (original and personal sin).

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

TH-667 Ecclesiology and Eschatology

This course is an analysis of the biblical teaching concerning last things, a discussion of the coming of Christ, and other end times events from a pre-millennial perspective. The students will be given a comprehensive outline of the future events of God's prophetic program. Contrasts will be drawn with Covenant Theology and progressive dispensationalism. The major millennial views will be presented along with various views relating to the Rapture. Attention will be given to the unconditional covenants of the Old Testament. Finally, a definition of the Church as the Body of Christ and its role and function in God's eternal plan will be examined.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

TH-767 Church History and Historical Theology 1

This is an overview studying the history and theological development of the Christian Church from its inception to the Reformation. Significant individuals, events, doctrines, and heresies will be highlighted. Major periods of theological formation will be emphasized, including the Patristic period and the Middle Ages. This will provide students the tools to critically evaluate modern doctrines of the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and various Protestant theologies within the context of their developments within Church History.

2 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

TH-775 Christian Apologetics: Classic and Contemporary

This course addresses the historical and current challenges to the Christian faith by religions, cults, and secular society. Apologetics trains the student to explain clearly his beliefs and then to defend the great truths of his Christian faith.

3 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560 and RS-503

TH-778 Advanced Historical Theology

A taught/research hybrid program on the development of evangelical doctrine for the purpose of answering the question: How did orthodox Christianity come to believe its core doctrines? The instructor will select a key theological *locus* covered in systematic theology (the doctrines of Scripture, God, humanity and sin, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, redemption, the church, the last things, etc.) with the development of this *locus* being traced chronologically beginning with the early church, continuing through the medieval period, extending into the Reformation and post-Reformation era, and concluding with the modern scene. Students will engage in substantive research on this *locus*, with the aim of mastering the historic discussion on this topic, and ultimately preparing the student for PhD studies.

3 credits

TH-780 Advanced Theological Methods

This course explores the formation and implementation of theological processes from the exegesis of biblical texts in hermeneutical methods to the contextualization of their theological message within a cohesive systematic theology.

Prolegomena will be emphasized, exposing philosophical presuppositions regarding the various views on Scriptural authority and revelation, together with competing hermeneutical approaches influencing exegesis of Scripture. Historical criticism and biblical criticism will be examined within discourse theories. The interrelationships between Biblical Theology, Historical Theology, and Systematic Theology are explored to develop practical and coherent theological methods for the modern Church as it relates to Scripture, Christ, and culture.

ThM only

4 credits

TH-783 Church History and Historical Theology 2

This is an overview studying the history and theological development of the Christian Church from the Reformation to the current era. Significant individuals, events, doctrines, and heresies will be highlighted. Major periods of theological formation will be emphasized, including the Protestant Reformation, and the Catholic Counter-Reformation. The responses of Christianity to the Enlightenment and modern theories will be analyzed alongside the demise of Western Christianity and the subsequent shift of power to eastern and southern nations. This will provide students the tools to critically evaluate modern doctrines of the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and various Protestant theologies within the context of their developments within Church History.

2 credits

Prerequisites: TH-560, RS-503, and TH-767

TH-786 The Bible & the Qur'an: A Comparative Analysis

The Bible and the Qur'an are two sacred books and often compared to each other whenever Christians and Muslims are discussing faith matters. Both texts are typically compared in various ways, such as Revelation and Preservation of text, Formation of the Canon, and Theology and Doctrines. Without a doubt, there are many facets to the Bible vs. Quran debate, on the differences, as well as similarities, between both of these books. However, the fundamental issue behind this scholarly debate is always concerned with this vital question: Which one of these two sacred books is the inspired Word of God? The purpose of this course is to assist students in comparing and contrasting the Bible vs. the Quran through the utilization of a critical analysis approach by allowing for tensions between traditional narrative, evidential examination, and modern views.

2 credits

TH-787 Theology of Major World Religions

A survey of the origin, the key leaders, and the theology of several major religions in the world today including Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society.

Doctorate Courses

DM-901 Contemporary Theological Issues

This course identifies, biblically evaluates and provides resources for men and women in ministry concerning a variety of theologically-oriented issues facing the church in contemporary society. These current issues have theological origins as well as cultural manifestations. This course equips those in ministry to serve more effectively in a changing world.

3 credits

DMin core course

DM-902 Effective Biblical Leadership

This course seeks to develop a philosophy of leadership that is biblically accurate and culturally relevant. Through the course the student will gain exposure to some of the best thinking and most current research on the subject of leadership (personal and team). The effective practices of a successful leader will be explored such as conflict resolution, planning with vision, team leadership, and basic management skills. Students will investigate the biblical model of servant leadership and how it is the foundation that enables others to lead and encourages others to serve with passion. Students will also be refreshed in their skills using Grace's Canvas LMS, digital library catalog, Logos Bible Software, *Turabian* writing format, and online research methods.

4 credits

DMin core course

DM-903 Issues in Grace Theology and Praxis

This course investigates the ancient and modern issues dealing with specific areas of justification and sanctification of the believer at both an exegetical and theological level, with implications for pastoral theology and ministry.

3 credits

DMin core course

DM-910 Principles of Mission and Ministry in the Book of Acts

This course will provide an exegetical and theological study of the book of Acts. Special attention will be given to the relevant theological and ministerial issues that faced the church of the first century as well as the twenty-first century.

3 credits

DM-915 Theology of Spiritual Formation

Explores the historical development, the biblical teachings, and contemporary practice of spiritual formation. Attention will be given to spiritual disciplines such as walking in the spirit, confession, prayer, fasting, and Scripture meditation, with a view toward the development of the student's own spiritual life and ability to help others grow spiritually. Includes a brief look at the Roman Catholic style as well as the more recent Protestant style. It will investigate both style and substance and evaluate it against evangelical theology.

3 credits

DM-916 Pastoral Ministry Model from the Book of Hebrews

This course will include both exegetical exposition and theological reflection to arrive at a ministry paradigm to meet the demands of the pastor and the needs of God's people. The book of Hebrews will provide the baseline for an exploration into a modern pastoral model for ministry. Special attention will be given to the hermeneutical issue regarding the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament and the theology from the Old Testament and how it is implied and applied through the New Testament.

3 credits

DM-918 Conflict Management

Offers the "manager of conflict" biblical wisdom for the intervention and prevention of many causes and forms of conflict in order to lead people and churches into harmony, fruit bearing, truth telling, and grace-driven relationships. You will learn the various sources, levels, and causes of conflict along with the cycle of conflict, early warning signs, and principles for stopping, defusing, and reducing the conflict in and around you. Conflict management strategies will be systematically explained, illustrated, and applied in the context of 21st-century ministry to enhance the integrity, discernment, wisdom, and leadership of today's conflict manager.

3 credits

DM-920 Increasing Relevancy in Your Preaching

This course seeks to develop and enhance skills which are based upon and in line with a philosophy of preaching that gives priority to the Text of Scripture. We will seek to preach with accuracy, clarity, relevance, and interest. The content of the course will be designed for those who have an academic and experiential background in preaching. Topics could include but not limited to: philosophy and theology of preaching, spiritual life of the preacher, rhetorical analysis of preaching styles, audience analysis, delivery improvement, genre sensitive preaching, and creative forms in preaching.

3 credits

DM-921 Theology of Prayer

The purpose of this course is to provide a study of the theology of prayer, which will include its meaning, purpose, and practice. In addition, this course will examine the various theories of providence available within evangelical Christianity as one's belief in the providence of God determines the extent of Divine-human interaction in prayer.

3 credits

DM-925 Exegetical Review: Sharpening Your Exegetical Skills for Expositional Excellence

This course is at the same time a refresher and a revitalizer of learned but neglected skills, an updating of exegetically-oriented disciplines, and an initial introduction into key exegetical processes, all focused on the critical task of proclaiming God's Word in a post-modern culture.

3 credits

DM-927 Contemporary Moral Issues in Ministry

This is a course in biblical and contemporary ethics. It will include a broad overview of biblical ethics and develop a methodology for Christian moral reasoning. Based on our methodology, we will examine and evaluate some of the most important moral issues currently confronting the church.

3 credits

DM-935 Christian Apologetics in a Non-Christian World

Christianity is increasingly being challenged and countered by new religions and cults, but most insidiously by the secularization of our culture. In this doctoral seminar we examine the culture of the world, exposit the word of God, and seek to form a strategy for engagement. This course includes both the theory of apologetical systems and specific issues that can only be addressed through proper apologetic strategy.

3 credits

DM-938 Counseling Dysfunctional Families

This course examines dysfunctional families (e.g., alcoholic, battering, incestuous), with a focus on the issues facing those who grew up in them. It also provides basic counseling strategies and practical tools to help these "survivors" overcome their painful pasts.

3 credits

DM-989 Independent Research

This is an independent study course which allows the students to investigate and report on a theological ministry topic interest.

3 credits

DM-990 and DM-991 Ministry Project I & II

The Ministry Project is designed to involve the student researching, developing, and writing about a new ministry that will benefit the Christian church ministry as a whole. The project allows the student to select a specific aspect of ministry to explore more fully.

During DM-990, Project I, the student determines the subject, length, and form of the project in consultation with the Dean of the Doctor of Ministry Program. The student will also complete the introduction, literature review, and research methodology and present these for approval. During DM-991, Project II, the student conducts his research, writes his conclusions and summary, and presents his ministry findings to the external committee in an oral presentation.

4 credits each

Teaching Locations

Main Campus and Business Office

3705 College Park Drive, The Woodlands, Texas

Nepal

Dhapakhel, Naagdaha, Ward No. 25, Lalitpur Municipality, Nepal

Domestic Extension Sites

(The following extension sites offer less than one half of the programs listed below.)

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	TRACS	ATS
Beaumont, Texas	Antioch Baptist Church, 3920 W. Cardinal Dr. Beaumont, Texas 77705	BCSC, BSC, DBS, AABS, BABS MM, MA(BS), MDiv	MM, MA(BS), MDiv
San Antonio, Texas	Bandera Road City Church 9435 Bandera Rd. San Antonio, Texas 78250	BCSC, BSC, DBS, AABS, BABS MM, MA(BS), MDiv	MM, MA(BS), MDiv
Trussville, Alabama	4735 Norrell Dr. Suite 133 Trussville, Alabama 35173	BCSC, BSC, DBS, AABS, BABS MM, MA(BS), MDiv	MM, MA(BS), MDiv

International Extension Sites

(The following extension sites offer less than one half of the programs listed below.)

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	TRACS	ATS
Panama City, Panama	Sun Tower Mall #75, Avenida Panama City, Panama	BSC, DBS, AABS, BABS MM, MA(BS), MDiv	MM, MA(BS), MDiv
Metro Manila, Philippines	2109 Jollibee Plaza F. Ortigas Jr. Rd. Pasig City, Philippines	BSC, DBS, AABS, BABS MM, MA(BS), MDiv	MM, MA(BS), MDiv
Laguna, Philippines	Brgy. Perez Calauan Laguna 4012, Philippines	BSC, DBS, AABS, BABS MM, MA(BS), MDiv	MM, MA(BS), MDiv
Baracoa, Cuba	Primera Iglesia Bautista de Baracoa Maceo 70 Baracoa, Cuba 97310	BSC, DBS, AABS, BABS MM, MA(BS), MDiv	MM, MA(BS), MDiv

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