



gsop

**GEORGIA SCHOOL OF PREACHING
AND BIBLICAL STUDIES**

Student Handbook and Catalogue

- 4th Edition, Volume 3 -

GEORGIA SCHOOL OF PREACHING & BIBLICAL STUDIES



Training & Inspiring
Students
Toward a Lifetime of
Study, Scholarship & Service

Student, Faculty & Staff
Handbook
&
Catalogue

Table of Contents

- Our Heritage -	6
- Our Mission -	7
- Organizational Profile -	8
Overseeing Eldership.....	8
Steering Committee	8
Director	8
Treasurer	8
Registrar.....	8
Media Director.....	8
Schools	9
Academic Dean.....	9
Campus Eldership / Director(s)	9
Instructor.....	9
Adjunct Instructor.....	9
Volunteers	10
- Academics -	11
Yearly Academic Calendar	11
Semester.....	11
Course Hours (Academic Load)	11
Semester Start Date.....	11
Short Courses.....	11
Academic Status / Advisement / Certificates	12
Audit	12
Credit	12
Academic Status Change	12
Course Status (Audit-to-Credit) Change	12
Course Work / Course Grading / Course Status / Course Syllabi.....	13
Certificates.....	13
Honors	15
Online Instruction / eGSOP	15

Core Learning Goals / Student Outcomes	16
Institutional Education Goals	16
Core Learning Outcomes (CLO)	16
School of Preaching & Ministry	16
School of Biblical Studies	16
School of Church Leadership	17
School of Missions	17
Grading & Student Records	17
Permanent Records	18
Transcripts & Transfer Credits	18
School of Preaching & Ministry	20
Preaching Certificate Program Requirements (66 hours):	20
Common Core Courses (15 hours required):	20
School of Preaching & Ministry Core (15 hours required):	20
School of Preaching & Ministry Electives (36 hours required): *	21
School of Preaching & Ministry Course Descriptions	21
School of Biblical Studies	24
Common Core Courses (15 hours required):	24
School of Biblical Studies Core (18 hours required):	24
School of Biblical Studies Course Descriptions	26
School of Church Leadership	32
Common Core Courses (15 hours required):	32
School of Church Leadership Core (12 hours required):	32
School of Church Leadership Course Descriptions	32
School of Missions	34
Common Core Courses (15 hours required):	34
School of Missions Core (12 hours required):	35
School of Missions Course Descriptions	35
Department of Lifelong Learning Training for Service	37
Lifelong Learning Training for Service Course Offerings / Descriptions	37
- Tuition & Textbooks -	38
- Scholarships -	39

- Library / Media Resources -	39
- School Policy -	39
- Ethics -	40
- Special Events & Student Organizations -	40
Annual Bible Lectureship & Commencement	40
GSOP Alumni Association	41
Campus Information	41

- Our Heritage -

The Georgia School of Preaching and Biblical Studies (GSOP) first opened its doors on September 13, 1999. Founded by the elders of the Piedmont Road church of Christ in Marietta, Georgia, GSOP has grown throughout its history to encompass a broad network of campuses in Georgia and Alabama. Also, various online course offerings have attracted students from several states, as well as students from several foreign countries.

GSOP was primarily designed to offer collegiate-level preacher training, with an additional emphasis on Biblical studies courses intended to strengthen the person in the pew. Our school's humble beginning employed a single campus and only a handful of students. The presence of students in our classrooms who had driven great distances to attend GSOP courses moved the school's leadership to investigate opportunities for growth. Those opportunities came in abundance.

Beginning in 2005, GSOP began opening regional campuses in places such as Buford, Warner Robins, Valdosta, Ellijay, and Villa Rica. The school grew rapidly over the next several years - not only in number, but also in the esteem of our brotherhood. Our courses were the first of their kind to be offered at events such as Polishing the Pulpit. Invitations also came from brotherhood colleges and universities to partner with GSOP in offering dual-credit coursework.

GSOP alumni serve in full-time ministry, church leadership, Christian education, and missions in locations throughout Georgia, the southeast, the continental United States, and selected mission points across the world.

As GSOP grew and matured, it became necessary to broaden the school's focus. A diligent period of institutional self-study mandated attention to elevated academic standards, greater uniformity in campus operations, and an even more stringent pursuit of administrative professionalism and educational excellence. A nine-member Steering Committee was established in the Spring of 2016. The Steering Committee's charge was to conceptualize and orchestrate perpetual improvement and innovation, in addition to making substantive recommendations to the school's overseeing body of elders toward the accomplishment of definable goals in all operational areas.

Beginning in the Fall of 2017, the transformation of GSOP into a semester-based educational institution was begun. Upon the completion of a trial phase, the final adoption of a new platform, curriculum, and permanent model was accomplished beginning in the Fall of 2019.

- Our Mission -

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies operates as a non-profit, educational institution in association with churches of Christ in Georgia, as well as selected congregations in other states/locations where our campuses exist. Enrollment in our school is open to anyone regardless of age, level of Bible knowledge, gender, race, denominational affiliation, or educational background.

Being firmly rooted in the churches of Christ, GSOP does not embrace denominational doctrines, false teachings, or human tradition and creed. We believe the Bible to be the Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit. Our instructors stand firmly on this premise and teach and defend the Scriptures without hesitation or apology.

Our mission is to offer college-level training and instruction that augments what is done in the godly home, as well as in the Bible school program at the local congregational level. Our core values involve motivating and inspiring our students to a lifetime of diligent study of the Biblical text, a relentless pursuit of responsible and balanced scholarship, and absolute adherence to doctrinal soundness.

The comprehensive body of instruction and training available as a GSOP student includes academic disciplines of Preaching & Ministry, Biblical Studies, Church Leadership, and Missions. Courses are taught on a semester calendar, with selected short course offerings which fulfill elective hour requirements for credit students, as well as audit student needs and preferences. Particulars are discussed in the Academics Section of this catalog.

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies is not the church. The school does not assume the right, nor the responsibility, of speaking for our brotherhood in matters of faith, doctrine, and practice. As per the Divine pattern of church government detailed in the New Testament, each congregation of the Lord's church is autonomous. Therefore, we enthusiastically defer to respective elders who oversee individuals and congregations for statements and explanations regarding matters of doctrine and policy - with the Bible understood as the final authority in all such matters.

When a student leaves our school, our job as educators and mentors is never really finished. Our instructors and staff unselfishly lend guidance and direction through the years to all who have studied with us. Some students who came to us as non-Christians eventually obeyed the Gospel because of the influence of GSOP. This is perhaps our highest purpose and mission - both as a school and as New Testament Christians.

- Organizational Profile -

Overseeing Eldership

Provides general oversight of the Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies, with particular focus on the work of all upper-level administration - Steering Committee, Executive Director and Director. Responsible for all final decisions and direction of the school.

Steering Committee

Nine-member committee is responsible for the annual review of the school. Areas of focus include the formulation of policy, curriculum review and revision, staff function and performance, and website/catalog review, update, and revision. Members serve for a minimum of three years, with a maximum turnover of three members per year. Reports to Overseeing Eldership.

Director

Provides oversight of the daily operation of the school. Responsibilities include oversight and assistance of Campus Directors, Registrar, Academic Dean, Treasurer, and Media Director, arbitration and resolution of all staff and student issues, and institutional planning and development. Reports to Executive Director and Steering Committee.

Treasurer

Responsible for oversight of all accounting, budgeting, and financial aspects of the school. Duties would include: preparing an annual financial statement, coordination of & responding to all donors - charitable giving, payment of all invoices and vendor relations, oversight and payment of all salaries, instructor stipends, reimbursements, and school-related expenses. Reports to Director, Executive Director & Overseeing Eldership.

Registrar

General oversight of all student registration, student information, permanent records, and student database. Works in conjunction with Webmaster and Campus Directors in the coordination of all on-campus, streaming and archived course registration, recording of grades, and all transcript generation and student records transfers. Reports to Director.

Media Director

Oversight and coordination of the work/responsibilities of school Webmaster, Librarian, Social Media Coordinator, and Campus Directors/ Admin Staff regarding all inter-school and public communication. Areas of function include school logos, brochures, signage, school catalog, and all electronic and web-based communication. Reports to Director.

Schools

Georgia School of Preaching and Biblical Studies is comprised of the following schools:

- School of Preaching and Ministry
- School of Biblical Studies
- School of Church Leadership
- School of Missions

Academic Dean

Responsible for oversight and coordination of curriculum, course development, all new-student, academic/course planning and advisement, and certification of student academic standing at graduation and transfer. Duties include course scheduling and planning for all campuses, liaison with brotherhood colleges and universities to maintain current Articulation Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding regarding curriculum and academic standards. Reports to Director.

Campus Eldership / Director(s)

Responsible for oversight and daily/weekly operation of local campuses, including coordination of facilities, instructors, canteens, and all related campus matters/activities. Works in conjunction with Academic Dean and Registrar to maintain accurate student records, report campus attendance each semester and maintain academic standards for each respective campus. Responsible for their respective campus page(s) on the Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies website. Reports to Director.

Instructor

Responsible for all classroom instruction, testing and student assessment, grading, and coordination with local Campus Director to resolve student issues. GSOP Instructors are faithful Christians. Each one brings to the classroom a wealth of knowledge, an outstanding resume' of academic preparation, a legacy of faithfulness and diligence in ministry, and a deep love and respect for the church, and the Biblical text. Most GSOP instructors hold graduate degrees, with some having earned terminal degrees in their respective fields. Those who hold either a bachelor's degree or certificate from a school of preaching are required to have a minimum of 15 years of tenure/experience in ministry.

GSOP instructors make every effort to be respectful, encouraging, and genuinely concerned about each student. In addition to teaching, our instructors are encouraged to act as ambassadors for GSOP in their respective congregations. They assist the local Campus Director in recruiting and mentoring students, record-keeping, and other duties that may arise. A current roster of our instructors may be found on the GSOP website (gsoponline.org).

Adjunct Instructor

On occasion, GSOP utilizes adjunct instructors to teach selected courses. These courses may require education and expertise from a disciple other than ministry or Biblical

studies. Adjunct instructors are evaluated and vetted according to academic standards of education and experience identical to all GSOP instructors.

Volunteers

GSOP welcomes volunteers that assist local Campus Directors in various ways. There are no specific educational or experiential requirements for someone who wishes to volunteer their services. Volunteers help in a variety of ways ranging from serving meals to assisting Campus Directors with administrative duties. Please contact the local GSOP Campus Director if you wish to serve in a volunteer capacity. Your willingness to assist us is much appreciated.

- Academics -

Yearly Academic Calendar

Semester

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies operates on a semester-based academic calendar. Semesters at each GSOP campus will begin on the same calendar week with allowance for flexibility as to the end date of each campus' semester. End dates for each campus will depend on how the respective campus eldership/director chooses to schedule course hours during the semester.

Course Hours (Academic Load)

GSOP courses are loaded at two different academic levels: 1) Three (3) semester credit hours; 2) One (1) semester credit hour. Three (3) hour courses shall run for a minimum of thirty-four (34) hours of classroom instruction. One (1) hour courses shall run for a minimum of twelve (12) hours of classroom instruction. Scheduling for satisfying the required hours, in terms of the duration of the semester, will be done for each campus by the local campus eldership/director. Each campus shall begin their semesters on the same week each term (See: "Semester Start Date").

Semester Start Date

Semesters for each GSOP campus shall begin on the following dates:

Fall - First week of August.

Spring - Second week of January.

Summer – First week of June

Short Courses are conducted periodically throughout the year.

Short Courses

GSOP summer short courses will be conducted during June and July and will satisfy only one (1) elective hour of academic credit. GSOP short courses will adhere to one of the following formats:

- **Four Week** - Course meets for one session per week for four consecutive weeks. Class sessions will be three (3) hours in length. Total classroom instruction: Twelve (12) hours. Credit students will be expected to complete projects outside of class time in order to satisfy course requirements. Total course credit hours: One (1). The course will count only toward satisfying elective hours.

- **Three Day** - Course meets on Thursday (3 hours), Friday (3 hours), Saturday (6 hours). Credit students will be expected to complete at least one outside class project and a final exam in order to satisfy course requirements. Total course credit hours: One (1). The course will count exclusively toward satisfying elective hours.

Academic Status / Advisement / Certificates

GSOP students must declare their academic status and major school of study at the beginning of their first semester of enrollment. The office of the Academic Dean shall conduct an academic advisement session during each new student's first semester of work. This initial session will involve the student choosing and declaring their Academic School/Major/ Certificate. See the following section on "Certificates."

There are two paths of Academic Status with the Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies.

Audit

Students declaring an Audit status bear no responsibility for completion of exams or other course assignments. There are also no class attendance requirements for Audit students. Note: Audit students must be aware that they are ineligible to receive GSOP Certificates unless the student successfully completes the requirements of Course Credit Change. Also, no transcript is available for Audit students to transfer academic credit to other schools or institutions.

Credit

Students declaring a Credit Status are required to complete all course work and educational path requirements for completion of a GSOP Certificate. Credit students who fail to complete all required course work, including any courses notated as "I" - Incomplete, will not graduate until all academic requirements have been satisfied.

Academic Status Change

Students electing to change their academic status during their course/path of study as a GSOP student may do so at any time. However, any status change for Audit students will require them to re-take any/all course work required for a GSOP Certificate. Regarding changing one's academic status during an individual course - the request for change must be made during the first three weeks/class sessions of the course. Any status change past this deadline will only be granted when a genuine hardship is involved. This determination will be made jointly by the course Instructor, Campus Director, and Academic Dean.

Course Status (Audit-to-Credit) Change

Students desiring to change the status of courses taken for Audit may do so under the following guidelines/restrictions. First, courses elected for status change from Audit to Credit must have been taken within a window of five (5) years or less from the time the change is applied for. Second, a maximum of no more than twelve (12) hours of course credit can be eligible for status change from Audit to Credit. Third, the student must satisfy all academic requirements listed in each course syllabus, including all exams and class projects. Fourth, application for such status change must be approved by the office of the Academic Dean before the student is allowed to begin this phase of work.

Course Work / Course Grading / Course Status / Course Syllabi

At the beginning of each semester, students receive a course syllabus provided by the course instructor. GSOP utilizes a standardized syllabus which outlines all course requirements. While each course entails differing requirements, there are academic standards common to each course which shall be outlined for the student's information in each syllabus.

Students declaring on their course registration forms the desire and intent to take the course for credit are required to complete all course work and other course requirements by the deadlines outlined by the instructor on the course syllabus.

Failure to do so will result in a penalized grade being issued for the course work and/or for the final grade of the course. The amount of percentages of grade reduction and/or penalties for course work turned in after the stated deadlines will be determined by the course instructor.

Students initially declaring to take a course for either credit or audit will have a window of time covering the first three class sessions in which to change this status. Beyond this window, unless there is a hardship situation (which must be determined / approved by both the course instructor and campus director), the student will not be allowed to change course status. Students who successfully change their course status from audit to credit must make up any course work that might have been due during the first three sessions of the course.

Credit students failing to complete all course work by the end of the course, will be given a course grade of "I" (Incomplete). A course grade of "I" (Incomplete) may only be erased from a student's permanent record upon completion of all course work and assignments within a period specified by the instructor - not to exceed one full semester. If such requirements are not met, the student will receive a final grade of "F" (Failing) for the course.

Certificates

Each school will award its Certificate of Graduation to Credit students who have fulfilled that particular school's academic requirements. Students must submit a formal application for graduation upon completion of all course/study requirements to the office of the Academic Dean.

The Certificates of Graduation offered by the Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies and the course/semester hours required for completion are as follows:

- Preaching Certificate	66 hours
- Biblical Studies Certificate	66 hours
- Church Leadership Certificate	48 hours
- Missions Certificate	48 hours

Each student/graduation candidate must fulfill the common core requirements of fifteen (15) hours and the required course work specific to their certificate program (24 hours for the Preaching Certificate, 18 hours for the Biblical Studies Certificate, and 15 hours each for the remaining certificate programs). The remainder of their required hours must be fulfilled as elective courses. Additionally, the Preaching Certificate, Biblical Studies Certificate, Church Leadership Certificate, and Missions Certificate each require either a capstone project or practical/internship.

Preaching Certificate	Biblical Studies Certificate	Church Leadership Certificate	Missions Certificate
66 Semester Hours 15 - Common Core 15 - Preaching Required 36 - Preaching / Biblical Studies Electives	66 Semester Hours 15 - Common Core 18 - Biblical Studies Required 24 - Biblical Studies Electives 9 - Other Electives	48 Semester Hours 15 - Common Core 15 - Church Leadership Required 12 - Church Leadership Electives 6 - Other Electives	48 Semester Hours 15 - Common Core 15 - Preaching Required 12 - Missions Electives 6 - Other Electives
36 Elective Hours - Must come from Biblical Studies Program	24 Elective Hours - Must come from Biblical Studies Program 9 Other Elective Hours - May be selected from Any Program	12 Elective Hours - Must come from Church Leadership Program 6 Other Elective Hours - May be selected from Any Program	12 Elective Hours - Must come from Missions Program 6 Other Elective Hours - May be selected from Any Program
Credit Students Must complete one semester practicum/ internship. Assessment: Paper chronicling the experience.	Credit Students Must teach class, present at a lectureship, or write a paper chronicling the experience.	Credit Students Must complete semester research project involving interviews, observation, assisting church elders, deacons, or ministry staff. Assessment: Abstract written in summation and evaluation.	Credit Students Must complete one semester practicum / internship with domestic or foreign missionary. Assessment: Paper chronicling the experience.

Honors

Credit students from all four GSOP schools who maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.5 throughout their course of study will graduate with honors and shall be so noted and recognized at their commencement, and on the GSOP Certificate, they receive.

Online Instruction / eGSOP

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies conducts online training for students who do not have access or availability to attend courses at one of our regional campuses. GSOP online instruction is offered through the following venues:

- **Live Streaming** - Selected campuses of GSOP offer live streaming of their courses. Credit students may fulfill the majority of their course work toward a GSOP Certificate through live streaming, with some additional requirements - course work, internships or practicum - necessitating the actual/physical presence of the student at a GSOP campus or other location. Information regarding the availability of streaming may be obtained through GSOP campuses or online at the GSOP website (gsoponline.org).

- **Archived Courses** - Select GSOP courses have been filmed and produced in high-definition, and are archived via the GSOP website for access by students desiring this form of instruction. These offerings are designed as more of an introduction to GSOP training, but can also be taken for credit. Credit students may fulfill only a small portion of their course work toward a GSOP Certificate through these archived courses. Information regarding this form of instruction may be obtained through the GSOP website (gsoponline.org). Select the drop-down labeled, "eGSOP."

Core Learning Goals / Student Outcomes

Institutional Education Goals

GSOP seeks to offer a core curriculum in each of its schools which enables and encourages students to pursue a mature grasp and understanding of the Biblical text and to gain skills and competence in the disciplines of ministry, leadership, missions, and scholarship.

Students are encouraged to demonstrate critical thinking, self-expression in both writing and oral communication, and to develop the ability to thoroughly research and compile complex ideas and concepts, theological terminologies, and related textual and behavioral information.

GSOP seeks to offer opportunities for students to experience significant and measurable personal and spiritual growth, and to acquire knowledge of Scripture and Bible-related disciplines that will further a deeper and closer walk with God.

Core Learning Outcomes (CLO)

GSOP Core Learning Outcomes are carefully reviewed on an annual basis, with amendment and revision intended to keep the school current with ever-changing, contemporary education philosophies, and processes. We aim to aid all students - particularly those wishing to transfer their GSOP learning experience and course work to an undergraduate or graduate level of study.

Specific CLO's of each school within the GSOP system are as follows:

School of Preaching & Ministry

- Greater familiarity and understanding of the Biblical text.
- Development and enhancement of public speaking, writing, and teaching skills.
- Incorporation and synthesis of technology, information systems and various media related to ministry, teaching, and preaching.
- Students will attain pastoral and counseling skills vital to their roles in the local church and community.

School of Biblical Studies

- Greater familiarity and understanding of the Biblical text.
- The student will develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the contextual, cultural, linguistic, and archaeological landscape of the Eastern world, and its pertinence to the Biblical text.

- Students will achieve a mature familiarity with Biblical languages, textual criticism, and the foundational mechanics of translation and hermeneutics.
- Students will grow to meet and overcome challenges in the application of ancient teachings and Biblical concepts to a modern worldview.

School of Church Leadership

- Comprehension of dynamic and practical leadership skills needed in local congregational/church settings.
- Students will attain greater mastery in the implementation of discipleship, recruiting, team building, and group unity.
- Students will learn both destructive and constructive leadership techniques and how these relate to the furtherance of the well-being of the local congregation.
- Exposure to conflict dynamics, problem-solving and interpersonal communication will offer students real-world insights into how churches function when the worship is over.

School of Missions

- Students will conduct cross-cultural evangelism exercises that prepare them for assimilation into foreign cultures.
- Proficiency in fund-raising, reporting, and maintaining relations with overseeing congregations and ancillary financial support individuals and groups.
- Students will learn the particulars of planning and the integration of mission teams and temporary staff into an established mission effort.
- Skills developed toward the successful organization and implementation of joint mission efforts such as campaigns, short-term regional trips, and medical missions.

Grading & Student Records

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies employs a standard grading system for courses taken for credit.

The assessment framework/grading system for all Credit student examinations, class projects, and other assignments and exercises is as follows:

- A - 100-90
- B - 80-89
- C - 70-79
- D - 60-69
- F - 59-Below

I - Incomplete

A grade of “F” (Failing) is considered as final and will appear as such on the student’s GSOP’s permanent record and transcript.

A grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be erased from a student’s permanent record upon completion of class work and assignments within a period specified by the instructor. If such requirements are not met, the student will receive a final grade of “F” (Failing) for the course.

Class attendance and participation play an important part in the student’s course grade. GSOP enforces attendance standards in courses taken for credit. If a student is absent from more than four class sessions, unless the absences are due to a verifiable hardship situation, the student will be required to re-take the course at a later time. Students are required to notify instructors in advance of anticipated absences from class.

Permanent Records

Student course grades and permanent records will be maintained and posted in an on-line database via the “Academics” section of the GSOP website. Some Instructors may also choose to notify students of final course grades by e-mail, or in writing. Students may review grades online through a student account established in the school’s online permanent records database.

Transcripts & Transfer Credits

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies seeks to maintain educational standards that are equitable to any undergraduate institution of higher learning. Our credible standing in the academic community for all course offerings, certificate programs, and level of instruction is a paramount concern of our school. GSOP does not adhere to, nor is our school governed by, the accreditation standards of any secular education association or academic governing bodies such as the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The office of the Academic Dean maintains active Articulation Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding with colleges and universities affiliated with churches of Christ. These institutions are the most likely recipients of our graduates and former students who seek to transfer their credit hours and course work.

Reciprocally, GSOP accepts on a per case basis credit hours earned from selected schools of preaching and other institutions of higher learning. Credit hours accepted in transfer must align with GSOP course curricula and academic standards and must be approved by the office of the Academic Dean.

Requests for Official GSOP Student Transcripts should be directed to the local Campus Director where the credit was earned, or to the office of the Academic Dean. Please allow sufficient time for these requests to be processed. Unofficial transcripts may be obtained directly from the online grading/permanent records database as accessed through the GSOP website.

- Curriculum -

Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies courses have been designed and cataloged to provide a well-rounded menu of study path choices. All GSOP courses are taught at a college/university level of difficulty, and provide an academic challenge to students of all levels of intellect and prior educational achievement. Courses and syllabi are standardized in terms of structure and content, with symmetry and uniformity maintained regardless of the host campus for the course.

Annual curriculum reviews are conducted by the office of the Academic Dean and the GSOP Steering Committee to ensure that the school's menu of courses is perpetually fresh, credible and beneficial given the ever-changing dynamics of ministry and culture.

The course curriculum for each academic school of GSOP adheres to the following criteria:

- Each course is weighted at three (3) academic credit hours.
- Each course is taught within a minimum of thirty-four (34) classroom/semester hours.
- Each course is considered "core" for students who have elected that particular academic school as their GSOP Certificate of emphasis.
- Each course is also offered as an elective choice of students who are majoring in other GSOP academic schools.
- Each course may be taken for either Credit or Audit.

School of Preaching & Ministry

Preaching Certificate Program Requirements (66 hours):

Common Core Courses (*15 hours required*):

- P101 Hermeneutics / Bible Interpretation*
- P107 Intro to Library Methods, Research Skills, & Composition*
- B102 Introduction to the Old Testament
- B103 Introduction to the New Testament
- L101 Christian Ethics

* Prerequisite courses must be taken within the first year of registering

School of Preaching & Ministry Core (*15 hours required*):

- P102 Elementary Hebrew and Greek in Ministry
- P103 The Life & Work of a Preacher/Evangelist I

- P105 Preparation & Delivery of Sermons I
- P108 Christian Evidence & Apologetics
- P109 Personal Evangelism

School of Preaching & Ministry Electives (*36 hours required*): *

- P104 The Life & Work of a Preacher/Evangelist II
- P106 Preparation & Delivery of Sermons II
- P109 Personal Evangelism
- P110 Church History 1
- P111 Church History 2
- P112 Denominational Theology/Doctrine & Practice
- P113 Fundamentals of Debate & Critical Discussion
- P114 Fundamentals of Youth, Involvement and Family Ministry
- P115 Marriage and the Family
- P116 The Preacher & His Finances
- P117 Elementary New Testament Greek I
- P118 Elementary New Testament Greek II
- P119 Readings from the Greek New Testament
- P120 Elementary Hebrew I
- P121 Elementary Hebrew
- P122 Practicum/Internship

* Preaching Certificate Program Electives must be taken from the School of Biblical Studies

School of Preaching & Ministry Course Descriptions

P101 Hermeneutics / Bible Interpretation

This course is an introduction to the principles, history, and methods of biblical interpretation. The course deals with fundamental considerations of grammar, vocabulary, logic, and contextual setting and also with such special problems as figures of speech, poetry, typology, and the literalism of dispensationalism.

P102 Elementary Hebrew and Greek in Ministry

A basic course in the use of biblical Hebrew and Greek and biblical language study tools in Christian ministry. This class is designed for the student who does not plan to concentrate on biblical language study, but who needs a practical working knowledge of some elementary skills in order to enhance ministry and service.

P103 The Life & Work of a Preacher/Evangelist I

The primary focus involves the Scriptural duties and responsibilities of the person and his family. The additional concerns addressed include congregational and leadership

relationships, various duties such as visitation and counseling, officiating weddings and funerals, financial concerns, the preacher's office, library, and continuing education.

P104 The Life & Work of a Preacher/Evangelist II

Continuation of material covered in the initial course. Emphases include: working in large or small congregations, working with no eldership in place, working in various demographics such as metropolitan/urban or small rural areas, working as a "tentmaker" or as a "part-time" or self/secularly supported preacher/evangelist, serving as an elder or deacon in addition to being a preacher/evangelist.

P105 Preparation & Delivery of Sermons I

Focus is on providing a practical framework for the preparation and delivery of sermons. Assimilation of appropriate methods and materials will be covered. Presentations, including sermons, classes, weddings, funerals, devotional talks, speeches, impromptu lessons, and other related discourses will be highlighted. Additional instruction involving the building of one's preaching library, public speaking techniques, and filing/record-keeping systems will also be emphasized. This class must be taken in conjunction with a second core class to complete the total course credit requirement.

P106 Preparation & Delivery of Sermons II

This course is designed to be a hands-on, laboratory companion to the initial Preparation & Delivery of Sermons course. Actual lesson outlines will be formulated and delivered before the class, and in front of a video camera. Lessons will be critiqued by the course instructor, fellow class members, and by the student themselves (when viewing the video tape of their presentation with the course instructor). The course instructor may also elect to arrange for male students to preach/teach on a one-time appointment for a local congregation. The host congregation would be asked to submit a short, written evaluation of the student's performance.

P107 Introduction to Library Methods, Research Skills & Composition

A survey of library methods, skills, and resources. An introduction to the basic procedures and resources common to research in libraries.

P108 Christian Evidences & Apologetics

Study of major, classical arguments for the existence of God. Related sub-topics include unbelief (varieties and causes), "problem" of evil, responses to key evolutionary arguments and "evidences." A segment of the course will focus on debate and other necessary skills related to the defense of one's faith.

P109 Personal Evangelism

Examination of various methods of evangelism, including personal evangelism, tract and written material methodologies, electronic, mass media, etc. The emphasis in personal evangelism will be placed on cultivating interest and relationships, effective settings, and establishment of Bible authority in problematic areas of study that frequently

cause disagreement. Attention is also given to preparation for campaigns as well as to personal evangelism in the local church.

P110 Church History 1

Study of the church from its pre-existent state as a plan in the mind of God to the period of the falling away of the church beginning in 313 A.D. Attention will also be given to the fallen period of the church, and the developments which led up to the Reformation and Restoration movements.

P111 Church History 2

Study of the church with an overview of events leading to and through both the Reformation (1500 A.D.) and Restoration Movement (1906 A.D.). Examination of major problems faced by the church during its restoration, various attempts at restoration, major digressions from restoration, as well as literature, dates, and important figures from the Restoration Movement.

P112 Denominational Theology/Doctrine & Practice

Study of major denominational teachings such as faith only, premillennialism, miraculous gifts, instrumental music, the role of women in the church, and more. Denominational origins, creeds, and practices will also be examined - particularly as they relate to the theology of the group.

P113 Fundamentals of Debate & Critical Discussion

Emphasis on critical thinking, logic, types of arguments, constructing arguments, defending positions, choosing evidence, documenting sources, studying logical reasoning, recognizing fallacies of reasoning, cross-examining opponents, delivering rebuttal speeches, writing debate ballots, and giving oral critiques. Students are exposed to analysis and validity testing of sources, evidence, and logic. Debate formats and techniques explored include SPAR debate, public forum debate, Lincoln-Douglas debate, policy debate, congressional debate, and religious debate.

P114 Fundamentals of Youth, Involvement and Family Ministry

An introduction to the role of the youth minister in the church, organization of the youth program, and activities designed for a youth group.

P115 Marriage and the Family

An introduction to the basic principles that are needed in creating a happy and successful marriage and family life. A biblical perspective is used to consider such topics as sex roles, dating, marriageability, mixed marriages, engagement, sex adjustment, in-law adjustment, financial adjustment, life insurance, divorce, reproduction, family planning, and child rearing.

P116 The Preacher & His Finances

Practical study of the unique fiscal and stewardship issues that preachers encounter. Topics covered will include IRS tax filings and exemptions, 1099 issues, retirement and savings, parsonage allowances and deductions, charitable giving, and wills.

P117 Elementary New Testament Greek I

Elements of New Testament Greek with emphasis on grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.

P118 Elementary New Testament Greek II

A continuation of Elementary NT Greek I

P119 Readings from the Greek New Testament

Readings of the less difficult sections of the Greek New Testament.

P120 Elementary Hebrew I

Elements of Old Testament Hebrew with emphasis on grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.

P121 Elementary Hebrew II

A continuation of OT Hebrew I.

P122 Practicum/Internship

The practicum/internship is an educational strategy that links classroom learning and student interest with the acquisition of knowledge in an applied work setting. Through direct observation, reflection and evaluation, students gain an understanding of the internship site's work, mission, and audience, and how these relate to their study. Students will produce a critical reflection on their internship experience, demonstrating how they have addressed specific learning goals.

School of Biblical Studies

Common Core Courses (*15 hours required*):

- P101 Hermeneutics / Bible Interpretation*
- P107 Intro to Library Methods, Research Skills, & Composition*
- B102 Introduction to the Old Testament
- B103 Introduction to the New Testament
- L101 Christian Ethics

* Prerequisite courses must be taken within the first year of registering

School of Biblical Studies Core (*18 hours required*):

- B101 Introduction & History to the English Bible
- B104 Biblical Archaeology / Geography of Bible Lands
- B105 The World of the New Testament - Life, Customs, and Times
- B130 Scheme of Redemption
- B131 The Life of Christ

- B150 Practicum/Internship

School of Biblical Studies Electives (*a total of 33 hours required, 24 hours from the Biblical Studies Electives, and 9 hours from any GSOP School*):

- B106 Genesis
- B107 Exodus
- B108 Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy
- B109 Joshua, Judges, Ruth
- B110 I & II Samuel
- B111 I & II Kings and I & II Chronicles
- B112 Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
- B113 Isaiah
- B114 Jeremiah and Lamentations
- B115 Ezekiel
- B116 Daniel
- B117 Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament
- B118 Job
- B119 Psalms I
- B120 Psalms II
- B121 The Minor Prophets
- B121 Between the Testaments
- B132 The Synoptic Gospels
- B133 Gospel of Matthew
- B134 Gospel of Mark
- B135 Gospel of Luke
- B136 Gospel of John
- B137 The Book of Acts
- B138 Letters of Paul I: Romans and Galatians
- B139 Letters of Paul II: I & II Corinthians
- B140 Letters of Paul III: Prison Epistles
- B141 Letters of Paul IV: I & II Timothy and Titus
- B142 Hebrews
- B143 Epistles of James & Jude
- B144 Epistles of Peter
- B145 Epistles of John
- B146 The Book of Revelation
- B147 Eschatology
- B148 Independent Study
- B149A-Z Short-Course

School of Biblical Studies Course Descriptions

B101 General Introduction to the Bible I

A study of the historical events associated with the English Bible from revelation to reception and the translation methodologies behind the various English translations.

B102 Introduction to the Old Testament

An overview of each book in the Old Testament, studying the following for each book: authorship, date, purpose, brief outline, expanded outline, and its usage in the New Testament.

B103 Introduction to the New Testament

An overview of each book in the New Testament, studying the following for each book: authorship, date, purpose, brief outline, expanded outline, and how the book fits into the overall scheme of redemption.

B104 Biblical Archaeology / Geography of Bible Lands

This course is designed to help the student to understand the historical context of the Bible better. A study of archaeological research and findings and their relationship to biblical facts and teachings. Emphasis will be given to accessing the validity and reliability of the research efforts and discoveries. Examination of excavated materials such as monuments, pottery, inscriptions, art, architecture, literature, and other artifacts, objects and items related to customs, language, or peoples. The second half of the course focuses on the geographical and historical settings of biblical literature, including Palestine, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, Greece, and Rome. Attention is given to the effects of geological, climatological, and topographical features upon the lives of the people as well as to particular places that are connected with biblical events.

B105 The World of the New Testament - Life, Customs, and Times

This course is a study of the culture in which New Testament characters live. The political, social, economic, and religious conditions are studied. Special attention is given to the cultural impact on the spiritual lives of various religious groups.

B106 Genesis

A study of the first two books of the Old Testament. The course addresses the composition, contents, purpose, and background of the books. The relationships of these books to the other books of the Bible are explored.

B107 Exodus

A study seeking an understanding of the text in its historical and literary contexts, while gaining familiarity with the critical issues of the book. Effort will be given to tracing the use of parallels and motifs throughout the rest of the Bible.

B108 Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy

A study of the third, fourth, and fifth books of Moses in the Old Testament. The course addresses the composition, contents, purpose, and background of the books. The relationships of these books to the other books of the Bible are explored.

B109 Joshua, Judges, Ruth

An introduction to and study of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth, which cover the Israelite conquest of Canaan and the period of rule by judges.

B110 I & II Samuel

An overview of the books of Samuel with historical and geographical contexts.

B111 I & II Kings and I & II Chronicles

A study of the historical background, composition, and message of Kings and Chronicles with attention to the supplemental functions of the books and parallels with the books of history.

B112 Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther

An exegetical interpretation of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther in their historical context, showing God's continual provision for His people as He brings them out of captivity and re-establishes them in their land.

B113 Isaiah

An introduction to and study of Isaiah and Micah with an emphasis on their historical background and Messianic prophecies. An introduction to and study of Jeremiah with an emphasis on historical background and prophecies.

B114 Jeremiah and Lamentation

Textual study of the prophetic books. The life and work of Jeremiah as pertains to the writing of these books, as well as his preaching, will be a focus.

B115 Ezekiel

A study of major themes, apocalyptic passages, and historical setting of the book. Parallels will be made of language found in other apocalyptic writings in Scripture. Practical, contemporary application will be examined regarding timeless truths taught in the text.

B116 Daniel

A study of historical context, visions, messages, and their fulfillment within the history of Judah/Israel and the surrounding nations. Attention will be paid to prophecies regarding Christ, the church, and related millennial and premillennial doctrines taught in contemporary religions.

B117 Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament

An introduction to wisdom literature and a study of Solomon's writings: Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. Attention is given to the interpretation of wisdom literature in general. (General Education/Humanities)

B118 Job

The major themes and contents of the book of Job are studied. The problem of theodicy, as revealed in the book of Job, is compared with the problem of theodicy today.

B119 Psalms I

A study of the historical background, composition, and message of the Psalter (Psalms 1-72) with consideration to how these poems describe the piety of ancient Israel and how this piety corresponds to modern Christian piety.

B120 Psalms II

A study of the historical background, composition, and message of the Psalter (Psalms 73-150) with consideration to how these poems describe the piety of ancient Israel and how this piety corresponds to modern Christian piety.

B121 The Minor Prophets

An introduction to and study of each of the minor prophets, with emphasis on their historical background and chronological order. Attention is given to the rise of the writing prophets, the nature of their mission and the character of their message, including principles of interpreting prophesy.

B122 Between the Testaments

A survey of the history of the Jewish people from Malachi to Matthew. It includes a study of the Old Testament apocrypha and pseudepigrapha.

B130 Scheme of Redemption

A general survey of God's plan for the redemption of mankind. Special attention will be given to the gradual unfolding of God's plan from all eternity throughout the history of man. The connective story of the Bible will be emphasized. Emphases will include God's foreknowledge, the progressive revelation of His plan through prophecy, and the fulfillment of the plan by the sending of Christ.

B131 The Life of Christ

Based upon Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, the life of Christ studied with special consideration to His life being exemplary, His teachings normative, and His atonement for sin and subsequent resurrection the chief end of His first coming.

B132 The Synoptic Gospels

An overview of the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke with an exegesis of selected texts. The authorship, date, purpose, and text of the books are studied. Special attention is given to parallel and unique texts.

B133 Gospel of Matthew

A study of Matthew's account of life and teachings of Jesus, the King of the Jews and long-awaited Messiah. Emphasis will include Jesus' use of Old Testament Scripture, His claim to be the Messiah, His genealogy, baptism, miracles, and message. Issues con-

cerning the study of the Synoptic Gospels, insofar as they pertain to the study of Matthew, will also be highlighted.

B134 Gospel of Mark

An examination of Mark's fast-paced portrayal of Jesus' life of service and sacrifice. This chapter-by-chapter study will focus on the life of Jesus, his miracles, teaching, discipleship, and opposition. Other topics will include authorship, date, and synoptic relationship with Matthew and Luke.

B135 Gospel of Luke

This section-by-section analysis of Luke's gospel is an examination of the Lukan account of Jesus' life, the cost of discipleship, the kingdom of God, the Son of Man. Other emphases will include Jesus' ancestry, birth, and early life, the gospel's relation to the Synoptic accounts and the Acts of the Apostles.

B136 Gospel of John

An investigation of the historical milieu of the gospel of John and an introduction to its contents, with an exegesis of selected passages. Consideration is given to the relation of John to the Synoptic Gospels, to its special purpose and emphases, and its unique presentation of Christ.

B137 The Acts of the Apostles

The establishment of the church and its emergence and growth in the Greco-Roman world of the first century A.D. A study of the beginning and growth of the church during the apostolic age as presented in the book of Acts. This course shows the relationship between apostolic activity and the New Testament letters.

B138 Letters of Paul I: Romans and Galatians

An introduction to and study of Romans and Galatians. Attention is given to the Judaizing problem, the relation of the Old Testament to the New Testament, and the meaning and implications of justification by faith.

B139 Letters of Paul II: I & II Corinthians

An introduction to and study of I & II Corinthians. The course examines the way that Paul dealt with numerous spiritual and practical problems encountered by a young gentile church in a pagan environment.

B140 Letters of Paul III: Prison Epistles

An introduction to and study of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. Special attention is given to the Christology and ethical teaching of these books and the relationship between Ephesians and Colossians.

B141 Letters of Paul IV: I & II Timothy and Titus

An introduction to and study of the letters that Paul wrote to the evangelists Timothy and Titus. Special attention is given to issues relating to church organization.

B142 Hebrews

An introduction to and study of the book of Hebrews, giving special attention to the relation of the New Testament to the Old Testament and to the comparison of Christ with various Old Testament persons

B143 Epistles of James & Jude

A survey and study of the epistles of James and Jude giving attention to the special theological issues and practical instruction of these letters.

B144 Epistles of Peter

A survey and study of the epistles of Peter, giving attention to the special theological issues and practical instruction of these letters.

B145 Epistles of John

An introduction to and study of the epistles of James, Peter, Jude, and John, giving attention to the special theological issues and practical instruction of these letters.

B146 The Book of Revelation

An introduction to and study of the book of Revelation. Special attention is given to the nature of apocalyptic literature, methods of interpretation, and historical background of the book.

B147 Eschatology

A survey of the biblical texts relating to the Christian's hope. Millennial theories are considered with emphasis maintained upon the Bible's teaching concerning the second coming, judgment, and eternity.

B148 Independent Study

The Independent Study offers each student the opportunity to conduct an in-depth study on a subject of his or her choice. Students will be matched with an independent study advisor knowledgeable in their chosen area of study.

B149 A-Z Short Course

Various Seminars (short-courses) offered to fill specific and unique needs. These are 1-hour credit courses.

B150 Practicum/Internship

The practicum/internship is an educational strategy that links classroom learning and student interest with the acquisition of knowledge in an applied work setting. Through direct observation, reflection and evaluation, students gain an understanding of the internship site's work, mission, and audience, and how these relate to their study. Students will produce a critical reflection on their internship experience, demonstrating how they have addressed specific learning goals.

School of Church Leadership

Common Core Courses (*15 hours required*):

- P101 Hermeneutics / Bible Interpretation*
- P107 Intro to Library Methods, Research Skills, & Composition*
- B102 Introduction to the Old Testament
- B103 Introduction to the New Testament
- L101 Christian Ethics

* Prerequisite courses must be taken within the first year of registering

School of Church Leadership Core (*12 hours required*):

- L102 Foundational Principles of Church Leadership
- L103 Profiles in Leadership: Elders, Deacons, Preachers
- L104 Recruiting & Mentoring Church Leaders
- L105 Church Conflict & Leadership
- L116 Research Project

School of Church Leadership Electives (*a total of 18 hours required, 12 hours from the Leadership Electives, and 6 hours from any GSOP School*):

- L106 Congregational Leadership Development
- L107 Dynamics in Congregational Maturation
- L108 Congregational Program Development & Implementation
- L109 Leaders & Congregational Change
- L110 Family Issues Among Church Leaders
- L111 Stewardship & Resource Management In Church Leadership
- L112 Human Resource Dynamics & Church Leadership
- L113 Church Leadership & Communication
- L114 Problems Facing the Church
- L115 Christian Counseling

School of Church Leadership Course Descriptions

L101 Christian Ethics

Ethical conduct in the light of Bible teaching will be studied. Some of the more relevant ethical issues of our day will be studied from a biblical perspective: abortion, euthanasia, war, genetic engineering with all of its facets, and similar matters.

L102 Foundational Principles of Church Leadership

A critical examination of foundational principles of leadership. Areas covered include authority, delegation of function & authority, decision-making, communication, personal integrity, spirituality, and example.

L103 Profiles in Leadership: Elders, Deacons, and Preachers

A detailed study of qualifications, qualities, and attributes of elders, shepherds, and bishops; deacons; and preachers in the 1st-century church, with application to church leadership in contemporary times and settings.

L104 Recruiting & Mentoring Church Leaders

In this course, students develop competencies in understanding the depth and scope of recruiting, along with essential processes of mentoring, training, and discipleship.

L105 Church Conflict & Leadership

A detailed study of church problems and conflict. Problems facing the local church, including litigation, civil rights, changes in societal morality and ethics, divorce and the changing family, and other contemporary concerns will be examined.

L106 Congregational Leadership Development

Focus is centered on ongoing training of current and future leaders. Close examination of examples and events in the Biblical text - including the commissioning of the apostles and the seventy by Jesus, and Paul / Barnabas' commissioned efforts on behalf of the church at Jerusalem and Antioch.

L107 Dynamics in Congregational Maturation

Competencies are examined and developed toward a proper nurturing and maturation of the local church, especially as it involves the role of elders and others in leadership. The focus will include congregational education & the Bible school, additional tools such as gospel meetings, seminars, lectureships, and personal evangelism.

L108 Congregational Program Development & Implementation

Course goals entail developing competencies in planning and implementation of church programs. Education, youth, seniors, singles, college age, young professionals, and other demographically affected areas will be examined.

L109 Leaders & Congregational Change

The focus of the course seeks to give students an understanding of how cultural, demographic, and socio-economic shifts and trends affect the local church. Changes in leadership, worship, and procedure will also be discussed and assessed.

L110 Family Issues Among Church Leaders

Primary texts include 1 Timothy, Titus. Focus on the impact that a church leader's life has on his family. Included emphasis on his role and work, and how the spiritual lives and conduct of the home affect his qualifications, competence, and performance as a leader.

L111 Stewardship & Resource Management in Church Leadership

Discussion of church finances, physical assets, facilities, and all other monetary and fiduciary components of a congregation's well-being. Emphasis will be given to a

leader's role in management, utilization, and planning. Careful examination of budgeting and accountability will be pivotal in this course.

L112 Human Resource Dynamics & Church Leadership

Semester study involving hiring and firing, continuing education and development of all components of the church staff. Areas of focus will include ministry staff, administration support, building maintenance, and repair staff, and appointment and attrition of church leadership (elders, deacons, missionaries, adjunct and temporary staff and resources).

L113 Church Leadership & Communication

A detailed study of interpersonal, organizational, and pastoral communication. Attention will be given to communication patterns between church leaders, as well as communication between church leaders and church members. Discussion of communication differences related to gender, socio-economic, and behavioral dynamics.

L114 Problems Facing the Church

Focus on cultural, theological, political, and scientific currents that provide roots for changes in the church. Subjects covered include pattern theology, the "New Hermeneutic," emotionalism, the authority of silence, female leadership, and ecumenism.

L115 Christian Counseling

A basic introduction to Christian counseling, and not a preparatory path toward becoming a professional counselor, but will train the student in more advanced listening proficiency. Upon completion, the student will have a better knowledge of counseling theories and family systems therapy. Additionally, special attention will be given to developing active listening skills crucial in a counseling environment and a working knowledge of counseling ethics. The course is offered exclusively for on-campus attendance.

L116 Research Project

The Research Project requires students to complete an original research project to evaluate and recommend solutions to a leadership issue in the church. Students will submit their area of research for approval and will be required to present their results to an audience of three or more faculty members.

School of Missions

Common Core Courses (*15 hours required*):

- P101 Hermeneutics / Bible Interpretation*
- P107 Intro to Library Methods, Research Skills, & Composition*
- B102 Introduction to the Old Testament
- B103 Introduction to the New Testament
- L101 Christian Ethics

* Prerequisite courses must be taken within the first year of registering

School of Missions Core (*12 hours required*):

- M101 Foundational Principles of Missions
- M102 Cultural Assimilation in Mission Work
- M103 Government, Law & Missions
- M104 World Religions
- M112 Practicum/Internship

School of Missions Electives (*a total of 18 hours required, 12 hours from the Missions Electives, and 6 hours from any GSOP School*):

- M105 The Life & Work of a Foreign Missionary
- M106 Family Issues in Missions
- M107 Ministry in a Small Church Setting
- M108 Domestic Support in Foreign Missions
- M109 Denominational Doctrines in Missions
- M110 Missions Expansion & Growth
- M111 Missions & Finances

School of Missions Course Descriptions

M101 Foundational Principles of Missions

Discussion and examination of the Scriptural basis for missions. Additional focus will be given to textual examples of the early growth of Christianity, and the mandate to continue the facilitation of the spread of the Gospel internationally.

M102 Cultural Assimilation in Mission Work

Course goals include a broadening of the students grasp of the adjustments, compromises, and the learning curve involved in living, working, and developing competence and comfort in foreign cultures. Concerns addressed will include language, customs, dietary, dress, counseling, and arbitrating congregational conflict.

M103 Government, Law & Missions

The course emphasis on challenges in missionary relations with foreign governments, compliance with foreign law, custom, legal demands, and cultural barriers. The student will develop competencies in living and working in foreign societies, and in recognizing and respecting nationalistic trends and concerns.

M104 World Religions

A study of the world's major religions. Areas of focus will include Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Taoism. Instructional methods will include readings, lecture, discussion, and audiovisual media. Supplemental instruction regarding denominations en-

countered in foreign mission settings - such as Latter-Day Saints, Methodism, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

M105 The Life & Work of a Foreign Missionary

Practical study of the life and work of a missionary in both foreign and domestic settings. Areas of emphasis will include working as part of a mission team, training indigenous co-workers, assuming an established work in a mission's environment, organization and administration, challenges of minimal supervision and protracted distance from overseeing leadership, and personal spirituality.

M106 Family Issues in Missions

Course focus addresses the missionary's family. Discussion will include spousal concerns, rearing children in a foreign culture, separation from extended family and related support systems, congregational responsibilities in support and nurturing of mission's families, and maintaining the proper balance of family life and church work.

M107 Ministry in a Small Church Setting

Course design is geared toward domestic missions in areas where the church is weak or non-existent. The focus will include dynamics of small congregations with the absence of male members, lack of funding and resources, and demographic challenges.

M108 Domestic Support in Foreign Missions

Discussion and study of all pertinent aspects of mission's infrastructure - including orientation, choosing overseeing eldership/congregation, fundraising, reporting, survey trips, supporting church visits, campaigns, recruitment of temporary workers, newsletter publication, printing, etc.

M109 Denominational Doctrines in Missions

Detailed overview of the history and scope of major denominational teachings and creeds, with a strong focus on those encountered most often in mission's settings. Additional attention will be given to denominational origins, structures/hierarchy, worship styles, growth patterns, and proliferation of domestic and foreign missions.

M110 Missions Expansion & Growth

Practical examination of growing a mission effort. Topics of study will include recruiting, training, and mentoring indigenous workers, the addition of missionaries to an existing team, expansion of the work outside the original target area, and short-term evangelistic trips & campaigns by both domestic workers and the resident missionary.

M111 Missions & Finances

The course will focus exclusively on money and missions. Related areas of examination and study will include budgeting, fund-raising, stewardship, and overcoming challenges that arise when replacing lost funds or inadequate financial resources. Additional discussion will address vocational missions and "tent-making."

M112 Practicum/Internship

The practicum/internship is an educational strategy that links classroom learning and student interest with the acquisition of knowledge in an applied work setting. Through direct observation, reflection and evaluation, students gain an understanding of the internship site's work, mission, and audience, and how these relate to their study. Students will produce a critical reflection on their internship experience, demonstrating how they have addressed specific learning goals.

Department of Lifelong Learning Training for Service

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies presents the Department of Lifelong Learning & Training for Service. This division of our school offers practical training in areas directly related to service in the Lord's church.

The courses offered in this department are conducted exclusively in the short course formats detailed elsewhere in this catalog. All courses herein may be taken for academic credit - exclusively as elective course hours, and are weighted at 1 (one) academic hour. Courses from this area of study are transferrable to select undergraduate and graduate institutions as elective hours only.

Lifelong Learning Training for Service Course Offerings / Descriptions

S101 Hymnology / Leading in Musical Worship

A study of the history of music in the worship of the Lord's church. Careful focus will also be given to the background of spiritual songs and hymns commonly sung in worship, and to training in song leading. Male members of this course, especially those taking the course for credit, will be given the task of leading songs during the class session.

S102 Fundamentals of Teaching

A study of how to teach. Fundamentals and dynamics of education will be examined. Current education practices, learning processes, and student learning outcomes will be discussed. Areas of focus will include classroom dynamics, discipline, utilizing technology, controlling the learning environment, conceptualization and implementation of Vacation Bible School and youth camps, and assessment of student progress.

S103 Ministering to & Overseeing Youth Groups

Training in how to organize, implement, lead, and mentor a youth group/ministry. Attention will be given to recruiting, staffing, organization and planning, utilization of parental and congregational resources, and accountability. Focus will also include legal/liability considerations, travel and youth conference/retreat dynamics, team building, goal setting, and improving parental involvement.

S104 The Powerful Role of Women in Ministry

A study of the tremendous impact that women had throughout both the Old and New Testaments. Focus will be given to female Bible characters and how they served God. Contemporary application will be made in terms of the following: the service rendered by Christian women whose husbands lead the church and serve in public ways, how single, widowed, elderly and physically impaired Christian women can effectively live for God, and the diligence necessary for personal spirituality, growth and maturation.

S105 Serving God Behind the Scenes

A course focusing on the physical aspects of serving. Items of discussion will include preparation and maintenance of the emblems and serving utensils of the Lord's Supper, attendance record-keeping, handling of money/funds from the collection, maintenance and care of church property-buildings-equipment-vehicles, recruiting men to lead and serve during worship assemblies, and working under the oversight of a deacon or group of elders.

S106 Ministry to Special Groups in the Church

Focus on how to minister to, lead, and give hope and a sense of belonging and respect for unique groups within the church. Areas of discussion will include young professionals, singles, special needs (blind, deaf, physically impaired, etc.), non-citizens and foreigners, non-English speaking, unemployed, disabled veterans, etc. The theme of the course would come from Paul's statement, "No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. Moreover, those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor." (1 Corinthians 12:22-23).

- Tuition & Textbooks -

There is no cost for tuition, and there are no admission or matriculation fees at the Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies. All operational expenses, except textbooks, are underwritten by the host and sponsoring congregation(s) of GSOP, as well as through individual donors who financially support our work. While GSOP does not openly solicit financial assistance from outside sources, we are always grateful for any support, gift, or endowment that may come from congregations or individuals who feel so inclined.

Instructors will occasionally require different textbooks (and possibly some additional materials) for their respective courses. The texts for particular courses will be outlined in the course syllabi that each student receives at the outset of a semester.

The cost of the books and materials for each course will be the responsibility of the student. Each GSOP campus handles this requirement uniquely. Each course Instructor will communicate information and direction regarding textbook purchases. If textbook requirements present a financial hardship, students are urged to obtain assistance from their home congregation. If no outside assistance is available, or in cases of extreme

hardship, GSOP is occasionally able to underwrite the cost of textbooks for deserving students. Arrangements for this should be made through local Campus Directors.

- Scholarships -

With no tuition charged for our courses, the sole scholarship benefit for Credit students involves the Tate Williams Memorial Scholarship. Brother Tate Williams was one of our youngest students in the early years of the school. Tate lost his life in a tragic car accident while on his way to preach his first Gospel Meeting at the age of nineteen. In Tate's honor, GSOP awards one scholarship annually that provides free textbooks to a qualifying student for the duration of that student's study path toward graduation. Additional information regarding this scholarship may be obtained from the office of the Director.

- Library / Media Resources -

There are many sets of commentaries in the regular collection, along with Bible dictionaries, atlases, and doctrinal studies. The commentaries include those by Barnes, Clarke, Coffman, DeHoff, Henry, Jamieson, Fausset, Brown, Lipscomb, Milligan, Woods, and Zerr. Series include "The Living Way," "Truth for Today," Barclay's "Daily Study Bible," "The Living Word" series, the New International Commentary on the New Testament, Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary, "The Restoration Library," "Explanatory, on the Whole Bible," "The Preacher's Complete Homiletic Commentary on the Books of the Bible," a set of "Gospel Advocate commentaries," and others.

There are books from lectureships, particularly from Freed-Hardeman and aids for speakers. Our collection also includes books on Christian living, parenting, worship, restoration history, and Christian fiction. The children's section includes Beer's "The Book of Life" series, Bible stories, apologetics, and fiction.

- School Policy -

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies accepts students from all walks of life. There is no gender, racial, doctrinal, or socio-economic barrier that would prevent anyone from attending GSOP classes. Those who become a part of our student body are expected to adhere to biblical principles and standards of conduct, dress, and respect for others.

The Instructor and local Campus Director will address classroom behavior that detracts from a positive and productive learning environment. Instructors are given the freedom to conduct their respective courses as they deem best while adhering to the general policies and procedures required of all GSOP faculty members.

All Campus Directors and Instructors will fairly and equitably enforce attendance requirements, give attention to excessive tardiness, and respectfully address any concerns that may arise - especially if such becomes a hindrance or obstacle to the orderly conduct of the class or the local GSOP campus. No person associated with GSOP, whether Director, Instructor or student, will be allowed to conduct themselves in any way that would cause embarrassment or humiliation to any other person attending classes or other GSOP events.

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies stands unapologetically for truth. Differences of opinion and conviction will inevitably occur in any given class or course. In every circumstance, the highest exegetical standards, the most objectively sound principles of interpretation, and the bold, but loving, proclamation of The Word of God (Ephesians 4:15) will be consistently practiced and upheld.

Any questions or issues regarding GSOP Policy may be addressed at any time with the Campus Director where the student attends, or with the GSOP Director's Office. Issues that may arise will be addressed and resolved in a fair and timely fashion, and as mutually satisfactory as possible.

- Ethics -

Students attending the Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies will be expected, without exception, to adhere to the highest standards of honesty, integrity, and Christian principles. No instances of plagiarism, cheating, or other misconduct about academics, class conduct, and any other facet of student life will be tolerated. All class work, course assignments, and examinations, as well as all other academic requirements, will be fulfilled by the student who registers for the course. Potential disciplinary cases in such matters will be handled by the Course Instructor, with the oversight and full approval of the Campus Director, as well as the Office of the GSOP Director. Any test, assignment, or other related course work that is deemed to have been plagiarized or otherwise fraudulently completed will receive a failing grade of "F." Further disciplinary action will come at the discretion of the Course Instructor, the Campus Director, and the Office of the GSOP Director.

- Special Events & Student Organizations -

Annual Bible Lectureship & Commencement

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies hosts an annual two-day Bible Lectureship at its home campus - the Piedmont Road church of Christ in Marietta, Georgia. This event is conducted on the first Saturday and Sunday in May and involves both student speakers as well as guest lecturers from across our brotherhood. Current and time-honored topics of interest are addressed in the lectureship theme and individual

lesson assignments. A breakout session for men and women is also included, with breakfast and lunch keynote sessions on Saturday.

GSOP commencement exercises for graduates from all campuses are held in conjunction with the Saturday lectureship sessions. Commencement and the lectureship also feature the presentation of faculty, scholarship, alumni and distinguished service awards.

GSOP Alumni Association

The Georgia School of Preaching & Biblical Studies Alumni Association is a fraternal organization designed to perpetuate association and fellowship among GSOP alumni. The GSOP Alumni Association sponsors and presents the annual Faculty Service Award, and is the overseeing body of the Tate Williams Scholarship. All alumni are encouraged to join this organization and maintain active participation in it.

Campus Information

For information on a campus near you, please consult the GSOP website - gsoponline.org, or call the Marietta Campus office at 770.971.9933.



gsop

GEORGIA SCHOOL OF PREACHING AND BIBLICAL STUDIES

MAIN CAMPUS

PIEDMONT ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST • 1630 PIEDMONT ROAD • MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30066
TELEPHONE 770.971.9933 • www.gsoonline.org