



Confessional · Interdenominational · Personal

2011–13 BULLETIN

Quality Theological Education for a Lifetime of Ministry

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DEAN'S MESSAGE



Beeson Divinity School of Samford University opened its doors in the fall of 1988 to an entering class of 32 full-time students. This historic beginning fulfilled the dreams of the founders of what was then Howard College, who in 1841 longed for the day when their college also would have a theological school committed to the training of gospel ministers. We are a school of the church and of the university. We believe that the advantages of theological education in the midst of a Christian university are considerable. We are both confessional and interdenominational. We are committed to the great principles of historic Christian orthodoxy while at the same time open to students and faculty from a wide variety of Christian traditions. We desire to be a resource in ministry for the entire body of Christ by providing quality theological education in a Christian university context from an explicitly evangelical perspective.

At Beeson Divinity School, we frequently say that “above all else, we want our students to be men and women of God.” Andrew Gerow Hodges Chapel, redolent with symbols of the faith and decorated with beautiful Christian art, stands at the center of Divinity Hall. Its cross-shaped form reminds us of the centrality of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Its prominence and location at the heart of our building bears witness to the fact that Beeson Divinity School is not merely a graduate school for the study of theology, but rather a living community of faith and learning whose highest purpose is “to know God and to enjoy him forever.”

Will you join me in praying that Beeson Divinity School may ever be a place where Jesus Christ is the center of our learning, living, and growing together as disciples in the school of faith, to the end that our students may go forth to serve the Lord with passion and purpose unto the ends of the earth? We welcome you gladly to join with us as together we press “toward the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.”

Soli Deo Gloria!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy George". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

Timothy George

Dean

Beeson Divinity School

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Beeson Divinity School is:

1. To provide graduate theological education
2. To prepare God-called persons to serve as ministers in the Church of Jesus Christ
3. To worship the Triune God as we encourage the practices of Christian spirituality

We seek to accomplish our mission through
the regular practice of worship,
a well-designed curriculum,
guided practical ministry experience,
and nurturing relationships
in an evangelical community of faith and hope and love,
so that
every student may grow toward full maturity in Christ,
practicing the disciplines of personal and communal spirituality,
developing biblical and theological depth,
being committed to evangelism and missions,
developing global awareness,
enhancing competencies for ministry,
respecting denominational identity,
and embracing the vision of being a servant leader;
and to improve continuously the overall quality of Beeson Divinity School
through
enhancing its resources, relationships, and reputation
so that
the experience of graduate theological study at Beeson Divinity School is
held dear by its students,
and the ministries of its graduates respected by churches and denominational leaders,
to the end that the worldwide Body of Christ is built up
and God is glorified in ever-increasing measure.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

At the founding of Beeson Divinity School in 1988, “The Baptist Faith and Message” (1963) was adopted by the Samford University Board of Trustees as the confessional standard for the school. We affirm without reservation the total truthfulness of Holy Scripture and the great principles of historic Christian orthodoxy embodied in this statement of faith. At the same time, in accordance with the desires of Ralph Waldo Beeson, the school was established as a “Christian, Protestant, evangelical and interdenominational” theological community. We all agree to teach in accordance with and not contrary to those evangelical essentials of the Christian faith, such as the Holy Trinity, the person and work of Jesus Christ, salvation by grace alone, and a life of discipleship and faithful obedience to God’s word. Members of the divinity school faculty who are not Baptist by denomination submit in writing their own convictions concerning those articles in the statement of faith that touch on denominational distinctions. In this way, we seek to preserve both the theological integrity and the interdenominational variety of our faculty as set forth in the founding documents of the school.

The Apostles’ Creed, which is etched in stone in Andrew Gerow Hodges Chapel, is recited at the beginning of each academic year as an expression of our common commitment to the historic faith of the church. In addition, students who apply for admission to Beeson Divinity School are asked to submit an essay based on the Apostles’ Creed.

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of
God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen

INTRODUCTION

History of Samford University

Samford University is the largest privately supported and fully accredited coeducational institution of higher learning in Alabama. The university was founded by Baptists of Alabama, and today maintains a close relationship with the Alabama Baptist State Convention (Southern Baptist Convention). While the university cherishes this relationship and sees its role centered on Christian belief, Samford is open to students of all denominations and faith traditions.

Founded by a group of educational, economic, and religious leaders, the school was chartered in 1841 and opened its doors on January 3, 1842, in Marion, Alabama, as Howard College. In 1887, it was relocated in Birmingham, and in 1957, the institution was moved to its present campus.

In 1920, Howard College gained membership in the Southern Association of Colleges. The establishment of the Teacher Education Division in 1914 and Division of Pharmacy in 1927 highlighted the school's continuous growth throughout the years. The historic and renowned Cumberland School of Law, established in 1847 at Lebanon, Tennessee, was acquired in 1961.

In 1965, the master's degree program was reinstated. This development, coupled with the existing diversity of degree programs, resulted in Howard College's official elevation to university status on November 9, 1965.

In the same year, the new university was named for Frank Park Samford, member of one of Alabama's most respected families, chairman of the Howard College Board of Trustees, and one of the institution's most generous individual benefactors.

The university now consists of the Howard College of Arts and Sciences, Brock School of Business, Beeson Divinity School, Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies, Cumberland School of Law, Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing, School of Performing Arts, and McWhorter School of Pharmacy.

Founding of Beeson Divinity School

On February 9, 1988, the board of trustees of Samford University authorized the establishment of a school of divinity beginning in the 1988–89 academic year. In one sense, this action fulfilled the founding purpose of the university, adopted in 1841, which provided for “the establishment of a theological institution, connected with the college hereinafter established.”

In December 1988, Samford's trustees voted to name the school Beeson Divinity School in honor of Ralph Waldo Beeson and his late father, John Wesley Beeson. Ralph Beeson provided the largest gift from a living individual in Samford history to establish the only divinity school at that time at a Baptist college or university in the nation. The divinity school is open to individuals from all Christian denominations.

Accreditation

Samford University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the associate degree, the bachelor's degree, the master's degree, the specialist in education degree, the doctor of pharmacy degree, the juris doctor degree, the doctor of ministry degree, and the doctor of education degree.

Beeson Divinity School is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada. The following degree programs are approved by the Commission on Accrediting: Master of Arts [Theological Studies], Master of Divinity, and Doctor of Ministry. Inquiries or concerns regarding Beeson Divinity School's compliance with ATS accrediting standards may be communicated to the Commission on Accrediting at 10 Summit Park Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1110, or by calling 412-788-6505.

The divinity school offers the master of divinity degree (M.Div.), the standard graduate-professional degree in ministry; the master of arts in theological studies degree (M.A.T.S.), a general academic degree; and the doctor of ministry degree (D.Min.), the highest earned degree for the practice of Christian ministry.

Spiritual and Community Life

The development of spiritual life within Christian community is as essential for theological students as academic development and practical skill enhancement. Weekly chapel services on Tuesday serve as a time of gathering together as a community of faith for corporate worship. Students are expected to attend, and offices are closed so that all faculty, staff, and students can attend. The worship experience is followed by community lunch in the Student Commons. Each Thursday faculty members lead mentoring groups structured to include prayer, focused meditations, scripture reading, and sharing. Participation is required.

Additional opportunities for encouraging and developing personal spiritual discipline, as well as courses offered in spiritual formation, are integral strands to the overall tapestry of Christian community life at Beeson Divinity School.

Expectations/Regulations

The Samford University community affirms the value of a peaceful and purposeful community founded on the moral and ethical integrity of students and faculty. Because of our strong commitment to the Christian values on which the university was founded, reasonable expectations of student behavior are necessary for contributing to a healthy and quality environment. Using principles of fundamental fairness, students are held accountable for their actions that violate our stated values: worth of the individual, self-discipline, academic integrity, respect for property and the environment, and respect for community authority. The *Divinity School Student Handbook* contains the statement of values, minimum sanctions for inappropriate behavior, and the appeal procedure. Divinity school faculty have committed themselves to practice, and encourage students to practice, the discipline of employing inclusive language as one aspect of community building and a way of recognizing the worth of each individual.

Distinctive Features

Beeson Divinity School is a community of believers and scholars, offering students a unique opportunity to combine both faith and learning. Students are thoroughly grounded in the classical doctrines and traditions of the Christian faith. The word of God is taught, believed, and lived by faculty and students.

The divinity school is explicitly evangelical, standing without apology for the great principles of historic Christian orthodoxy. Faculty and students stress by word and example a life of prayer, devotion, and Christian growth. At Beeson Divinity School, spiritual formation goes hand-in-hand with intellectual development.

Pastoral competence is underscored. The program of study offers comprehensive preparation for the tasks demanded by ministry in the world today. The presence of more than 700 congregations in the greater Birmingham area means all students have an opportunity to learn ministry through a mentoring relationship with an experienced church leader. Through weekly chapel services and special guest lecturers, students have opportunities to interface with the finest preachers, scholars, and Christian leaders in the evangelical community. The annual Reformation Heritage Lectures feature theological aspects of the Reformation tradition. The annual Biblical Studies Lectures and William E. Conger, Jr. Lectures on biblical preaching feature outstanding biblical scholars of the evangelical tradition. The annual Beeson Divinity School's Pastors School provides pastors and their families opportunity for ongoing learning and inspiration.

Students are important at Beeson Divinity School. Because of the low faculty-student ratio, students receive personal attention through ongoing interaction with professors. Faculty members are experts in their fields of study, and are committed to the word of God and the lordship of Jesus Christ.

Housing

The divinity school does not own housing. Most divinity students choose to live in one of the numerous apartment complexes near the Samford campus. Single student housing on campus is reserved for undergraduates at Samford.

Library

The University Library, centrally located on campus, furnishes divinity school faculty and students with a mixture of group seating, study rooms, and individual carrels for quiet study. Utilizing funds drawn from the Beeson endowment, several million dollars have been spent to build the library's theological holdings. Materials necessary for reference, research, independent study, and recreational reading have been carefully added since the school's inception.

The divinity school employs a full-time librarian; however, the entire public staff of the University Library is available to all students. Circulation, reference, and interlibrary loan departmental staffs are available throughout library hours. Extensive library hours include weekends and late evenings during the week.

Student Health Services

Student Health Services is located at the rear ground level of Pittman Hall (entrance is off the covered patio) and provides primary care services for students while they are attending Samford University. Students are required to submit a health form provided by the university before registering for classes. Services include general health maintenance, diagnostic and treatment procedures, and referral to specialists. All students who are currently enrolled for course work and who have the health information form on file are eligible for care at the Student Health Services Office. Regular office hours are staffed Monday through Friday by a full-time physician assistant (PA), a registered nurse (RN), and a secretary/receptionist.

A fee is charged for some services and supply items stocked in Student Health Services when they are dispensed to students. The staff can take cultures and draw blood for testing, but lab work is done off campus, and students are billed directly for the service. Referrals to physicians or facilities off campus are at the expense of the student.

Accident and medical insurance is strongly recommended. Students not otherwise covered may subscribe to the Samford student group plan at a modest cost. The plan protects the insured student 24 hours a day, is effective during holidays, and is payable in addition to any other coverage the student may have, except for motor vehicle injuries. Additional information on this plan is available through Student Health Services.

Student Services

Samford University is located in the picturesque Shades Valley, six miles from the heart of Birmingham, Alabama's largest city and the state's industrial, business and cultural center. Divinity school students enjoy the best of two worlds—an environmental setting for study, contemplation and social enjoyment, and easy access to the varied offerings of a metropolitan area.

As a university-based divinity school, Beeson Divinity School offers students the opportunity to be involved in the larger community of a vibrant university. Divinity school students can fully participate in the activities of the university, including recreational facilities, concerts, theatrical productions, art exhibitions, lectures, recitals and sporting events.

The Student Government Association of Beeson Divinity School provides additional opportunities for social interaction and community building. Student concerns and suggestions are addressed through this group as well.

The Office of the Director of Student Services serves as a resource to students and provides direction in accessing available counseling services and other appropriate services.

Placement

The divinity school's placement office assists students and alumni in their efforts to seek and secure positions of service in vocational Christian ministry. The director of placement services provides vocational counseling, assistance with résumé development, and interview preparation by appointment. The placement office, in coordination with Samford University's Career Development Center, maintains a list of available part-time and full-time ministry positions. The placement office also regularly hosts representatives from churches and ministry organizations for recruiting visits at the divinity school.

The placement office is located in N224 Divinity Hall. For additional information about placement office services, go to www.beesondivinity.com/placement or call 205-726-2374.

Extension Division of Samford University

The Extension Division traces its roots to September 1942, in Jasper, Alabama, when Gilbert L. Guffin, pastor of the First Baptist Church, organized the first center. It was destined to become the pattern for many to follow. The Jasper Center was related to Walker College and came into being because of requests from ministers for an adult, Christian continuing education program to prepare them for ministry in their churches and communities while they were earning their living in secular jobs.

Alabama Baptists recognized the value of this program and, in 1946, projected a statewide program under the auspices of Howard College. Dr. Guffin, the pioneer in adult Christian continuing education in the Southern Baptist Convention, was elected to serve as the founding director. The program became known as the “Howard Plan,” and spread to other states and institutions. The Extension Division celebrated its 50th year of service at the end of 1997.

The Extension Division was placed under Beeson Divinity School in the summer of 1988. However, courses for credit toward degrees from the divinity school and the university are not available by extension. Currently, there are approximately 30 centers throughout the state—including seven such sites located in prisons.

More than 40,000 lay people and 10,000 ministers have received training in the Extension Division and are serving churches in Alabama and other states. Many preachers and lay people, because of the Extension Division, have felt a sense of belonging. It has helped to develop a tie and a loyalty to Samford University. The Extension Division also has been a feeder to colleges and seminaries by encouraging individuals to become full-time students.

The local Baptist association, the Alabama Baptist State Convention, other denominational entities and Samford University cooperate in providing quality biblical, theological and practical ministry courses for students at the grassroots level. The Extension Division seeks to enable students to receive a basic theological education and to develop a lifelong education lifestyle.

In both of these programs, certificate credit is given. Though this represents a high level of academic work, it will not be accepted at Samford as credit on a college degree. Certificates are given for each 24 units of credit earned. For additional information, contact the Extension Division, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35229; 205-726-2731.



Global Center

World missions and evangelization were a primary concern of Ralph Waldo Beeson. The Global Center of Beeson Divinity School seeks to build awareness of the Christian cause and community by sending equipped divinity students into every part of the world, and by inviting the world into the divinity school and Birmingham communities. The Global Center offers on-campus and international courses, mission and global prayer opportunities, and a variety of other resources to expand our thinking about the world and the role we play in it. In addition to serving current students, faculty, and staff, the Global Center also supports divinity alumni serving internationally.

Special Events and Speakers

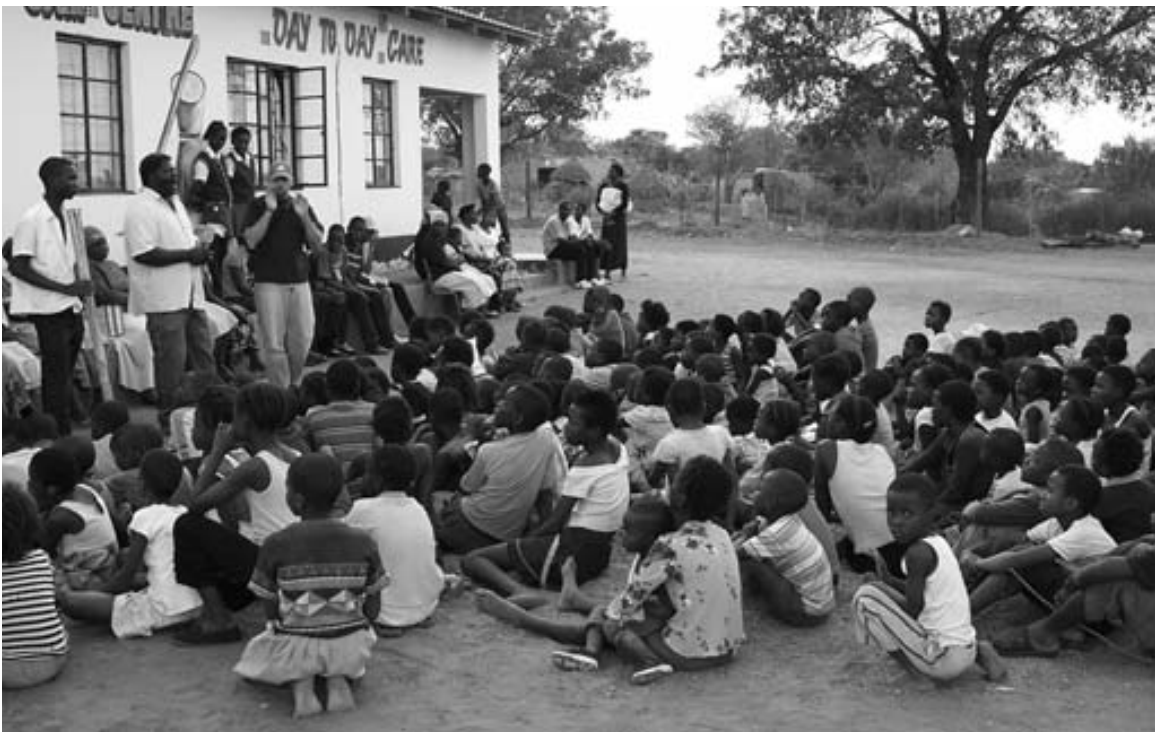
Every semester, the Global Center invites international authors, experts, and missionaries to speak to the divinity school and Birmingham communities on the topic of global Christianity. In conjunction with Samford University Ministries, the Global Center hosts a mission-mobilizing event called “Go Global.” The Global Center also sponsors World Christianity Emphasis Week, which features a keynote speaker, international Christian visual artists, and divinity alumni who serve as missionaries.

Focused Missions Curriculum

Beeson Divinity School offers four missions courses on a rotating, two-year schedule. Each course fulfills the two-hour missions requirement. These courses include the following:

- Biblical and Theological Perspectives on Missions (DVMS 503)
- Historical Perspectives on Missions (DVMS 504)
- Perspectives on World Christianities (DVMS 505)
- Contemporary Missions: Issues and Strategies (DVMS 506)

Beeson Divinity School also offers study-abroad opportunities on special topics.



Cross-Cultural Ministry Opportunities

Beeson Divinity School requires all M.Div. students to participate in a Cross-Cultural Ministry Practicum [CCMP]. Students reside and minister in a culture different from their own for at least 14 consecutive days and are supervised by on-site mentors. Global Center staff help students plan their CCMP experience. Travel grants of up to \$1,000 are available to qualified students.

Resources for World Missions Participation and Prayer

The Global Center's Resource Room offers print and electronic materials on missions, and provides a private Prayer Room with updated prayer requests for the world and for the needs of the Beeson Divinity School community locally and abroad. Each Thursday, the Global Center invites divinity students and missionaries for a brown-bag lunch in the Resource Room to speak about different people groups and regions of the world.

World Missions Exhibition Area

The Global Center features a missions exhibition area highlighting the trends and issues facing world Christianity in the twenty-first century. It includes depictions of the ministry and martyrdom of six twentieth-century Christians as well as photos and stories of 25 missionaries from around the world.

For more information

www.beesondivinity.com/globalcenter

Beeson Divinity School Global Center on Facebook

global@samford.edu

205-726-2170

DEAN



Timothy George

Dean and Professor of Divinity
A.B., University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
M.Div., Harvard Divinity School
Th.D., Harvard University

Timothy George has been the dean of Beeson Divinity School since its inception in 1988. As founding dean, he has been instrumental in shaping its character and mission. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, George teaches church history and doctrine. He serves as executive editor for *Christianity Today*, and on the editorial advisory boards of *First Things*, *Harvard Theological Review* and *Books & Culture*. He is chairman of the board of BreakPoint, a member of the board of Prison Fellowship Ministries and a life advisory trustee of Wheaton College. He is active in Evangelical–Roman Catholic Church dialogue, and chairs the Doctrine and Christian Unity Commission of the Baptist World Alliance. A prolific author, he has written more than 20 books and regularly contributes to scholarly journals. George is the general editor of the Reformation Commentary on Scripture, a 28-volume series of sixteenth-century exegetical comment. His most recent books are *The Mark of Jesus: Loving in a Way the World Can See* (with John Woodbridge), *Is the Father of Jesus the God of Muhammad?* and *Amazing Grace: God's Pursuit, Our Response*. His *Theology of the Reformers* is the standard textbook on Reformation theology in many schools and seminaries and has been translated into multiple languages, most recently in Chinese. An ordained minister in the Southern Baptist Convention, George has served churches in Georgia, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Alabama. He and his wife, Denise, have two adult children.



ACADEMIC FACULTY AND STAFF



Carl L. Beckwith

Associate Professor of Divinity
B.A., St. Olaf College
M.Phil., Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland
M.A., Yale University
Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

Carl Beckwith joined the faculty of Beeson Divinity School in 2007 and teaches church history and doctrine. His research interests include the Trinitarian and Christological thought of the Early Church Fathers, the use of the Fathers by the Reformers, and Lutheran theology. He is the author of *Hilary of Poitiers on the Trinity* (Oxford University), translator of Johann Gerhard's *Handbook of Consolations* (Wipf & Stock), and editor of the forthcoming Ezekiel and Daniel volume for the Reformation Commentary on Scripture series (IVP). Beckwith has published articles in the *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, *Scottish Journal of Theology*, and *Concordia Theological Quarterly*. Before coming to Beeson Divinity School, Beckwith taught at Thiel College in Greenville, Pennsylvania, and at the University of Notre Dame. He is pastor of Hope Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Birmingham. He and his wife, Julie, have two daughters.



Gerald L. Bray

Research Professor of Divinity
B.A., McGill University
M.Litt., D.Litt., University of Paris–Sorbonne

Gerald Bray taught full time at Beeson Divinity School in the areas of church history, historical theology and Latin from 1993 to 2006. In 2006, he was named research professor and is currently engaged in writing and speaking on a variety of theological issues. He teaches specialized short courses for the divinity school. A prolific author, Bray has published many scholarly articles and books, including *The Doctrine of God* in the Contours of Christian Theology series (of which he is also the general editor) and *Biblical Interpretation: Past and Present*. He served as editor for *The Anglican Canons 1529–1947* and *Tudor Church Reform*, which contains the Henrician Canons of 1535 and the *Reformatio Legum Ecclesiasticarum*, and for three volumes in the Ancient Christian Commentary Series. His most recent book is *Yours is the Kingdom: A Systematic Theology of the Lord's Prayer*. Bray is a Church of England minister.



Charles T. Carter

James H. Chapman Fellow of Pastoral Ministry
A.B., Samford University
B.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
D.D., (Hon.), Samford University

Charles Carter joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 1999 and teaches Ministry Leadership Development. A native of Birmingham, he has served as pastor of churches in Alabama and Kentucky, has held leadership roles in the Southern Baptist Convention, including nine years on the International Mission Board, and served two terms as president of the Alabama Baptist Convention. Carter was senior pastor of Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Birmingham, 1971–98, and now regularly serves as an interim pastor for Alabama Baptist congregations. He has been distinguished visiting professor of religion at Judson College, Marion, Alabama. He and his wife, Janice, have two adult daughters.



Graham A. Cole

Anglican Professor of Divinity
B.A., M.Th., University of Sydney
B.D., University of London
Dip.A., Moore Theological College
Th.L., Th.D., Australian College of Theology

Graham A. Cole joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 2011. Before coming to the divinity school, he taught at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He also served as an administrator in the New South Wales Department of Education, lecturer in Christian Thought at Moore Theological College and in Philosophy of Religion at the University of Sydney. From 1992 to 2001, he was the principal of Ridley College, University of Melbourne. He is the author of *Engaging with the Holy Spirit: Real Questions, Practical Answers*; *He Who Gives Life: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*; and *God the Peacemaker: How Atonement Brings Shalom*. He is married to Jules, a dress designer, author and teacher of fashion. He is an ordained Anglican minister.



D. Mark DeVine

Associate Professor of Divinity
B.S., Clemson University
M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Mark DeVine joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 2008, and teaches church history and doctrine. He is the author of *Bonhoeffer Speaks Today: Following Jesus at All Costs*, has written extensively for theological journals and contributed to *The Disciple's Study Bible*. He writes and speaks regularly on the emerging and emergent church movements. He has been a pastor for churches in Indiana, South Carolina, Kentucky, Missouri, and Alabama. From 1998 to 2000, DeVine served as a missionary in Bangkok, Thailand. He and his wife, Jackie, have two sons.



Lyle W. Dorsett

Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism
B.A., M.A., University of Missouri–Kansas City
Ph.D., University of Missouri–Columbia

Lyle W. Dorsett has been the Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism at Beeson Divinity School since 2005, and teaches courses in evangelism and church history. He also serves as the pastor of Christ the King Anglican Church in Birmingham (AM). He is the author of 18 books, including several Christian biographies and three works on C. S. Lewis. His most recent book is *A Passion for God: The Spiritual Journey of A. W. Tozer*. He is married to Mary Hayes Dorsett, a deacon in AM. They have two children and four grandchildren.



Thomas L. Fuller

Director, Ministry Leadership Development, Placement and Assessment
B.A., Samford University
M.Div., D.Min., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ph.D., University of Alabama

Tom Fuller directs the Ministry Leadership Development program, coordinates Beeson Divinity School's placement services and leads the school in assessment of institutional effectiveness. He teaches courses in ministry leadership and oversees the ministry internships of all master of divinity students. His research interests include student engagement in graduate theological education, assessment of student learning in theological education, and the role of theological field education in ministerial formation. He contributed a chapter in *Preparing Ministry Leaders: A Practical Guide to Field Education*. In addition to his assessment responsibilities at the school, he regularly speaks, writes and provides guidance to other schools on evaluating student learning and improving educational quality. Before coming to Beeson Divinity School in 2000, Fuller served for 12 years as pastor of American Baptist and Southern Baptist churches in Alabama and Indiana. Tom has three daughters.



Mark S. Gignilliat

Assistant Professor of Divinity
B.A., Bob Jones University
M.Div., Reformed Theological Seminary
Ph.D., University of St. Andrews, Scotland

Mark Gignilliat has taught Hebrew, Old Testament Exegesis, and Biblical Theology at Beeson Divinity School since 2005. His research interests include Old Testament exegesis and theology, the relationship between the testaments, and theological interpretation. Before coming to Beeson Divinity School, he taught at Wycliffe Hall, University of Oxford. Gignilliat published *Paul and Isaiah's Servants* in 2007, and *Karl Barth and the Fifth Gospel: Barth's Theological Exegesis of Isaiah* in 2009. He has published articles in *Scottish Journal of Theology*, *Horizons in Biblical Theology*, *Westminster Theological Journal*, *Biblica*, *The Journal for Theological Interpretation*, and *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*. Before doctoral studies, he was youth director at North Hills Community Church in Greenville, South Carolina. Gignilliat is married to Naomi and has three sons.



David Hogg

Associate Professor of Divinity
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
B.A., University of Toronto, Canada
M.Div., Westminster Theological Seminary
Ph.D., University of St. Andrews, Scotland

David Hogg joined the faculty of Beeson Divinity School in 2011 as associate dean of academic affairs. He teaches church history and doctrine with a particular emphasis in medieval theology. In addition to his book, *Anselm of Canterbury, the Beauty of Theology*, Hogg has published works on medieval spirituality and various doctrines in historical perspective. Beyond his teaching responsibilities at the divinity school, Hogg travels annually to the Czech Republic to help train pastors and laymen at the Biblický Teologický Seminář. Before coming to Beeson Divinity School, he taught at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, and at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. While at Southeastern he was also associate pastor at Christ Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C. He and his wife, Sarah, have three sons.



Paul R. House

Professor of Divinity

B.A., Southwest Baptist University

M.A., University of Missouri–Columbia

M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Paul House, who served as associate dean from 2004 to 2010, teaches Old Testament. He previously served at Taylor University, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, and Wheaton College. House is the author or editor of 15 books, including *The Unity of the Twelve*; *Old Testament Survey*; *Old Testament Theology*; and *Lamentations*. He has been pastor of churches in Missouri, Indiana and Kentucky. He and his wife, Heather, have one adult daughter.



Gisela Kreglinger

Assistant Professor of Divinity

B.A., Berufsschule Kitzingen

M.C.S., Th.M., Regent College

Ph.D., University of St. Andrews

Gisela Kreglinger, born and raised in Northern Bavaria, Germany, joined the faculty in 2009 and teaches spiritual formation. Her research interests include the role of Scripture and art for spiritual formation, the history of Christian spirituality, and the development of an embodied spirituality. She has written on George MacDonald and is awaiting the publication of multiple articles in Zondervan's *Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*. Kreglinger enjoys exploring new cultures, the arts, the outdoors and sharing a good meal with friends and strangers alike.



Piotr J. Malysz

Assistant Professor of Divinity

B.A., Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland

M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Th.D., Harvard University

Piotr Malysz joined the faculty of Beeson Divinity School in 2011, and teaches church history and doctrine. His research interests lie at the intersection of historical and systematic theology, modern European intellectual history, philosophy, and social theory. Malysz has published articles in *Modern Theology*, *Scottish Journal of Theology*, *International Journal of Systematic Theology*, *Harvard Theological Review*, and *Pro Ecclesia*. He is also the author of a chapter analyzing doctrinal reception among early Lutherans in the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook to the Reception History of Christian Theology*. Before coming to Beeson Divinity School, Malysz was a Lilly Fellow and lecturer in theology at Valparaiso University in Indiana. He is an ordained Lutheran pastor in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



Kenneth A. Mathews

Professor of Divinity
B.A., Dallas Baptist University
Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary
M.A., Ph.D., University of Michigan

Ken Mathews teaches Old Testament and Hebrew. His book, *The Paleo-Hebrew Leviticus Scroll* (coauthored with David Noel Freedman), was the first full study of the Leviticus Dead Sea Scroll. He is the author of *Genesis 1–11:26* and *Genesis 11:27–50:26* in the New American Commentary series, serving also as associate general editor, and *Leviticus: Holy God, Holy People* in the Preaching the Word series. He translated “Leviticus” for *The New Living Translation*. Before coming to Beeson Divinity School in 1989, Mathews taught at Criswell College and Dallas Baptist University. He is an ordained minister in the Southern Baptist Convention. He serves as an itinerant preacher, conference speaker, and Bible teacher. He and his wife, Dea, have two adult children and seven grandchildren.



Calvin A. Miller

Research Professor of Divinity and Distinguished Writer in Residence
B.S., Oklahoma Baptist University
M.Div., D.Min., Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Calvin Miller assumed his new duties when he retired from Beeson Divinity School in 2007. Before coming to the divinity school, he was professor of communication and ministry studies, and writer-in-residence at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He previously served as pastor of Westside Baptist Church, Omaha, Nebraska. Miller is a poet, artist, novelist, and evangelist. He is the author of more than 40 books, and numerous articles on religion and preaching. His books include *The Empowered Communicator*; *Marketplace Preaching*; *Spirit, Word and Story*; *The Sermon Maker*; *O Shepherd, Where Art Thou?* and *Preaching: The Art of Narrative Exposition*. He and his wife, Barbara, have two adult children.



Patricia A. Outlaw

Associate Professor of Divinity
B.A., M.A., Towson State University
M.A.Th., St. Mary’s Seminary and University
Ph.D., University of Maryland
D.Min., Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

Patricia Outlaw teaches pastoral counseling and spiritual formation. She is the first woman to graduate from Beeson Divinity School’s Doctor of Ministry Program (2002). She is the author of *Soul Food for Hungry Hearts* and has contributed a chapter to *Giving Ourselves to Prayer: An Acts 6:4 Primer for Ministry*. Her research interests include pastoral counseling, small-church development, and women’s issues. Before joining the faculty, Outlaw headed a private psychological counseling practice and worked with numerous hospitals and schools. Outlaw has taught at Towson State University, St. Mary’s Seminary and University, and Morgan State University. She is an ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal [A.M.E.] Church, and has served as a pastor and an associate minister in Baltimore area churches. She is the pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Adamsville, Alabama.



Osvaldo Padilla

Assistant Professor of Divinity
B.A., Moody Bible Institute
M.A., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
Ph.D., King's College, University of Aberdeen

Osvaldo Padilla joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 2008 and teaches New Testament and Greek. He is the author of *The Speeches of Outsiders in Acts: Poetics, Theology, and Historiography*, published by Cambridge University Press. He has written articles and reviews for *Themelios*, *Bulletin for Biblical Research*, and *Ex Auditu*. His research interests include Luke-Acts, Matthew, 1 Peter, suffering and mission, ancient and modern historiography, and Greek New Testament in the context of Hellenistic Greek. Previously, he taught New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. During his time in the Chicago area, Padilla served as pastor of Jesus el Buen Pastor, a Hispanic congregation.



M. Sydney Park

Assistant Professor of Divinity
B.A., University of Chicago
M.Div., Fuller Theological Seminary
Th.M., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
Ph.D., University of Aberdeen

Sydney Park joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 2006 and teaches New Testament Theology and Biblical Interpretation. She is the author of *Submission within the Godhead and the Church in the Epistle to the Philippians: An Exegetical and Theological Examination of the Concept of Submission in Philippians 2 and 3*. Her research interests include racial reconciliation and the Gospel of Mark. She previously taught New Testament at Crown College in St. Bonifacius, Minnesota (2004–06), and also served as a minister to children, youth, and young adults in Korean American churches in Illinois, Texas and Washington for 11 years.



Allen P. Ross

Beeson Professor of Divinity
B.A. in Biblical Studies, Bob Jones University
Th.M., Th.D., Dallas Theological Seminary
Ph.D., University of Cambridge

Allen Ross joined the faculty in 2002 as Beeson Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew. He is the author of *Introducing Biblical Hebrew and Grammar*; *Holiness to the Lord: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus*; *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis*; and *Recalling the Hope of Glory: Biblical Worship from the Garden to the New Creation*. He has contributed numerous articles to scholarly journals. Previously, he taught at Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry and Dallas Theological Seminary, and served as director of the Christian Leadership Center, Tallahassee, Florida. With an earlier background in Baptist and Presbyterian churches, he has been associated with the Episcopal Church since 1979. He is married to Dr. Jan Ross, an expert in Traherne studies.



Mark A. Searby

Director, Doctor of Ministry Studies and Student Services
B.A., Lincoln Christian College
M.Div., Lincoln Christian Seminary
D.Min., Northern Baptist Theological Seminary

Mark Searby joined Beeson Divinity School in 2007. He directs the Doctor of Ministry Studies Program, serves as director of student services, and coordinates the faculty/student mentoring program. He also teaches ministry leadership development at the master's level. He taught for 10 years, serving as an administrator for four years, at Lincoln Christian College and Seminary in Lincoln, Illinois. Searby was a pastor of churches in Illinois for 24 years and continues to preach regularly. He and his wife, Dr. Linda Searby, have two sons, two grandsons, and two granddaughters.



Kurt D. Selles

Director, Global Center and Associate Professor of Divinity
B.A., Calvin College
M.Div., Calvin Theological Seminary
M.A., Ph.D., Vanderbilt University

Kurt Selles directs the Global Center and teaches missions. He joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 2006 after 19 years in Taiwan and China, where he worked with churches, taught in universities, and directed the Calvin College Semester-in-China Program. His research interests include the challenges facing missions in the 21st century, the history of Christianity in China, the American mission movement and global Christianity. Selles is an ordained pastor in the Christian Reformed Church, and has spoken widely in churches and schools on the topic of the church in China. He and his wife, Vicki, have three children.



Robert Smith, Jr.

Associate Professor of Divinity
A.S., God's Bible College
B.S., Cincinnati Bible College
M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Robert Smith joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 1997 and teaches Christian Preaching. He is the author of *Doctrine that Dances: Bringing Doctrinal Preaching and Teaching to Life*; coeditor (with Timothy George) of *A Mighty Long Journey*, a collection of sermons on racial reconciliation; editor (with Timothy George and James Earl Massey) of *Our Sufficiency Is of God: Essays on Preaching in Honor of Gardner C. Taylor*; and has had a study of Christian ministry in the African American church published in *Preparing for Christian Ministry*. His research interests include the place of passion in preaching, Christological preaching, theology of preaching, and the literary history of African American preaching. An ordained Baptist minister, he served as pastor of New Mission Missionary Baptist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, for 20 years. He and his wife, Wanda, are the parents of four children, one in heaven.



Frank S. Thielman

Presbyterian Professor of Divinity
B.A., Wheaton College
B.A., M.A., University of Cambridge
Ph.D., Duke University

Frank Thielman joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 1989. He teaches Greek Exegesis. He is a noted New Testament scholar, concentrating primarily in the Pauline epistles. His books include *Ephesians* in the Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament; *Paul and the Law: A Contextual Approach*; *From Plight to Solution: A Jewish Framework for Understanding Paul's View of the Law in Galatians and Romans*; *The Law in the New Testament: Questions and Commentary*; and *Theology of the New Testament: A Canonical and Synthetic Approach*. He is a member of the Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas [SNTS], and is an ordained Presbyterian (PCA) minister. He and his wife, Abby, have three children.



Douglas D. Webster

Professor of Divinity
B.A., M.A., Wheaton College
Ph.D., University of St. Michael's College, Toronto School of Theology

Douglas Webster joined the Beeson Divinity School faculty in 2007 as professor of pastoral theology and Christian preaching. Before coming to the divinity school, he was the senior pastor at First Presbyterian Church of San Diego (1993–2007). He has taught at Tyndale Seminary in Toronto, Canada, and served churches in Toronto, Indiana and Colorado. He has written several books, including *A Passion for Christ: An Evangelical Christology*; *Selling Jesus: What's Wrong with Marketing the Church*; *Soulcraft: How God Shapes Us Through Relationships*; *Discipline of Surrender: Biblical Images of Discipleship*; *Under the Radar: A Conversation on Spiritual Leadership*; and *A Christmas Journey: Filled with Wonder, Marked by the Cross*. He and his wife, Virginia, have three adult children.

PROGRAM STAFF



Burch R. Barger

Administrative Dean
B.A., Wake Forest University
M.B.A., Georgia State University

Burch Barger joined the Beeson Divinity School staff in 2005 and assumed the position of administrative dean in 2010. She supervises the admission and alumni relations departments, and she provides oversight for the school's budgeting, fund-raising, and marketing efforts. She is an ordained deacon in the PC-USA church. She and her husband, Jim, have two children.



Sherri Brown

Director of Admission
B.A., Samford University
M.T.S., Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

Sherri Brown joined the Beeson Divinity School staff in 2011. She oversees the admission, recruiting, scholarship and enrollment management processes for the school. Following graduation from Beeson Divinity School in 2002, she served as a college and career minister in a local Birmingham church. Most recently, she was assistant director of the undergraduate office for Samford's Brock School of Business. She and her husband, Justin, married in 2009.



Betsy Childs

Web and Publications Editor
B.A., Wheaton College

Betsy Childs is responsible for the publications of Beeson Divinity School. In addition to maintaining all web content, she edits *Beeson* magazine as well as companion pieces to each semester's chapel series and helps produce the Beeson Podcast. Prior to joining the Beeson Divinity School staff, Childs worked as a staff member for Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. She is an active member of Christ the King Anglican Church.



B. Coyne

Research Associate to the Dean
B.S., University of Alabama
M.B.A., Nova University
Ph.D., University of Lancaster

B. Coyne joined the Beeson Divinity School staff in 2005. After more than 20 years of human resources experience in major manufacturing industries, Coyne completed her Ph.D. in 2001. Her dissertation, *Care-giving: A Gender-neutral Glass Ceiling?* was a finalist in the American Society for Training and Development Dissertation of the Year Award. Her book, *Human Resources, Care-giving, Career Progression and Gender* (Oxford, UK: Routledge, 2004) was coauthored with E. Coyne and M. Lee. Coyne has taught research courses, including Demystifying the Research Maze, during Beeson Divinity School's Pastors School (2007). She and her husband, Ed, are members of the Catholic Church.



Vickie Gaston

Curator of Hodges Chapel and Coordinator of Spiritual Life Ministries
B.A., Florida Atlantic University
M.Div., Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

Vickie Gaston joined the Beeson Divinity School staff in 2009. She serves as curator of Hodges Chapel, providing hospitality to members of the divinity school, the university and guests, and assisting in the planning of worship services and events. As coordinator of spiritual life ministries, she promotes the spiritual life of the divinity school community through overseeing the Intercessory Prayer Room, coordinating weekly Communion services, and working with staff and faculty in the spiritual formation of divinity students. Before joining Beeson Divinity School, Gaston served for eight years as coordinator of the Advent House Prayer Ministry. For part of that time, she also served as coordinator of the seniors ministry at Cathedral Church of the Advent. She and her husband, Jim, have one adult son.



James C. Pounds, Jr.

Director of the Extension Division
B.A.M., Auburn University
M.Div., Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

Jim Pounds has been director of the Extension Division since 2000. He oversees adult Christian education at more than 30 sites throughout Alabama. Pounds coordinates Beeson Divinity School's conferences and lecture series, as well as the Lay Academy of Theology, a continuing education program on the school's campus for nondegree-seeking students. He maintains an active preaching and teaching ministry. Before joining the staff, he worked in the insurance industry for 14 years. He and his wife, Debra, have two children.



Jacob Simmons

Alumni Relations Officer

B.S., Samford University

M.Div., Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

M.B.A., Brock School of Business, Samford University

Jacob Simmons joined the Beeson Divinity School staff in 2010. Before joining the divinity school, he worked as a full-time missionary with the London City Mission. He is active in the Birmingham theatre community with a local improv troupe. He has worked on staff with university ministries at Shades Mountain Baptist Church, where he is a member.

Adjunct and Visiting Faculty

J. Alan Carter

B.S., Mississippi State University; M.Div., M.C.E., Reformed Theological Seminary; M.A., Western Kentucky University; Ph.D., University of Notre Dame; Pastor, Faith Presbyterian Church, Birmingham

Gary D. Fenton

B.A., Bethany Nazarene College; M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Min., Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Pastor, Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, Birmingham

Robert B. Hatfield

A.A., Truett McConnell College; B.M., Samford University; M.C.M., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Min., Beeson Divinity School, Samford University; Minister of Music, Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, Homewood

E. Langston Haygood

B.A., Belhaven College; M.Div., B.D., Th.M., Columbia Theological Seminary; D.Min., Westminster Theological Seminary; Ph.D., University of Alabama; Director, Covenant Counseling and Education Center, Birmingham

R. Kent Hughes

B.A., Whittier College; M.Div., Talbot Seminary; D.Min., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Pastor Emeritus, College Church, Wheaton, Illinois

James Earl Massey

B.R.E., Detroit Bible College; M.A., Oberlin Graduate School of Theology; Hum.D., Tuskegee University; Litt.D., Anderson University; Dean Emeritus and Distinguished Professor-at-Large, Anderson University School of Theology

Drayton Nabers, Jr.

A.B., Princeton University; L.L.B., Yale School of Law; Finance Director for the State of Alabama; Chief Justice, Alabama Supreme Court

Terry H. Pickett

A.B., University of Georgia; M.A., University of Alabama; Ph.D., Vanderbilt University; Professor of German and Director of Critical Language Program, Howard College of Arts and Sciences, Samford University

Stephen Randy Todd

B.A., Furman University; M.A., Ph.D., Vanderbilt University; Professor and Chair of Classics, Howard College of Arts and Sciences, Samford University

Bruce W. Winter

B.A., University of Queensland; Th.M., Southeast Asian Graduate School of Theology; Ph.D., Macquarie University

Support Staff

Devon Bagwell, State Registrar and Program Assistant (Extension Division)

Rachael Bailes, Secretary (Admission)

Sandy Brinson, Receptionist

Michaela Bundon, Program Assistant (Global Center)

Nancy Carroll, Special Projects Coordinator (Global Center)

Donna Harless, Records Officer

Le-Ann Little, Administrative Secretary (Dean's Office)

Melissa Matthews, Program Assistant (Ministry Leadership Development,
Placement and Assessment)

Susan McNabb, Secretary (Associate Dean's Office)

Valerie Merrill, Faculty Secretary

Darlene Robbins, Financial Administrator

Rob Willis, Media and Technology Manager

ADMISSION

Beeson Divinity School of Samford University admits qualified men and women of any Christian denomination, race, color, and national or ethnic origin, without regard to physical disability. The decision to admit a student rests with the admission committee, appointed by the dean of the divinity school. Admission to all degree programs is competitive and selective. The admission committee selects each entering class from applicants whose prior academic performance gives the strongest promise of success in the chosen degree program, and whose application data and interview indicate the most promise of effective leadership in Christian ministry and compatibility with the community and spiritual life of the divinity school. Admission to the Master of Divinity or Master of Arts in Theological Studies program is also based on the following considerations. (See pages 50–53 for Doctor of Ministry admission requirements.)

1. **Christian Character**—as evidenced by membership and active participation in the life of a church, recommendation by Christian leaders, and compatibility with the stated purposes of the divinity school.
2. **Commitment to Ministry**—as evidenced by an endorsement from a congregation or church governing body; and a personal statement of call to ministry, a description of past and current involvement in ministry, and clearly stated vocational goals.
3. **Academic Preparation**—as evidenced by a command of the English language in the admission essays and a bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited institution. Admission is competitive; approximately 60 percent of applicants are accepted each semester. While the minimum overall grade point average [GPA] requirement for applicants is 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, the average GPA for admitted students is typically above 3.0.
4. **Commitment to Full-time Studies**—The divinity school curriculum and community are designed for full-time study (9–16 credit hours per semester), and students should plan to be on campus three to four days per week. Classes are taught Tuesday through Friday during the day. All students are required to attend chapel services on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and to participate in mentoring groups on Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Admission Procedures

Candidates for admission must submit the application and participate in an interview before the deadline date corresponding to the term in which they plan to enroll. The deadline dates are March 1 for the fall semester and October 1 for the spring semester. The administrative staff of the divinity school is eager to help applicants move through the admission process as easily as possible. Applicants should not hesitate to call if they have any questions. The steps in the admission process are:

1. **Visit the Campus**—A campus visit is encouraged as part of the application process. Prospective students are welcome to visit classes, participate in school life, and talk with students. Applicants should contact the admission office two weeks before a planned visit. Applicants who are traveling long distances may contact the admission office to request lodging arrangements for one night.

2. **Interview**—Each applicant is responsible for calling the Beeson Divinity School admission office at 1-877-575-0595 or 205-726-2066 to schedule an interview. Interviews take approximately 30 minutes and are offered Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. **Interviews must be completed prior to the application deadline.** It is recommended that the interview be completed on campus, but if this is not possible, alternate arrangements can be made.
3. **Furnish an Application File**—The application packet is sent to prospective students at their request, or they may access the application online at www.beesondivinity.com. Components of a complete application file are:
 - a. A completed application form
 - b. A nonrefundable \$25 application fee
 - c. A current résumé outlining professional experience and extracurricular activities
 - d. An official transcript from every college or university attended: Academic transcript(s) should confirm the applicant’s completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution. Transcripts are considered official only when they bear the issuing institution’s seal and arrive with the seal intact.
 - e. Two essays, typed and double-spaced, as follows:
 1. One descriptive essay (700–1,000 words)
This essay is personal in nature. It should describe the applicant’s call to ministry, ministry involvement for the past two years, vocational objective, and the purpose of entering Beeson Divinity School’s Master of Divinity Program or Master of Arts in Theological Studies Program.
 2. One theological essay (700–1,000 words) on the Apostles’ Creed
This essay is academic in nature. It should state a thesis, interact with three themes found in the confession, and cite relevant sources. Applicants should indicate why they chose to focus upon the three themes they did, and they should describe how those three themes reflect what they believe doctrinally and theologically. The committee will look for each candidate’s ability to think analytically, and to sustain and defend an argument with reference to Scripture.

Essays are read for content, correctness of spelling and grammar, and the applicant’s ability to write clearly.
- f. Three letters of recommendation, as follows:
 1. Letter from the applicant’s church congregation or governing board stating endorsement of the applicant’s decision to apply for admission to the divinity school and describing the applicant’s service in that congregation
 2. Letter from the applicant’s pastor or other religious leader in the applicant’s church detailing the applicant’s gifts for ministry

3. Letter from a professor or college official familiar with the applicant's academic background detailing the applicant's research, writing and integrative capabilities

Each of these letters of recommendation should be written by a different person.

Admission Committee Procedures

Three to four weeks after the application deadline, each applicant will receive a written admission and scholarship decision letter via U.S. mail. **In the interest of maintaining a safe learning environment for divinity students, all acceptance decisions are conditional upon the applicant's successful completion of a criminal background check. If the admission committee has recommended a candidate for acceptance, the candidate's decision letter will provide detailed instructions for initiating the criminal background check. These confidential checks are conducted by an authorized third party and are provided at no cost to the applicant.**

International Students

Beeson Divinity School recognizes the importance of a multinational and multicultural student body, and welcomes admission applications from international students. International applicants are encouraged to allow six months for completing the application process because there are several steps involved. International applicants must submit the following materials to Beeson Divinity School before submitting the standard application file described on page 27:

1. Preliminary Application for International Students
2. Affidavit of Financial Support, including an official bank statement
3. An official transcript of academic work from each secondary school and college or university attended; duplicate official transcript(s) must also be sent to World Educational Services [WES]
4. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score of at least 550 (paper exam) or 80 (Internet exam) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language [TOEFL]. This test is administered in many countries and at many locations in the United States. Students may arrange to take the TOEFL by going to www.toefl.org or by writing to Educational Testing Service, P.O. Box 955, Princeton, NJ 08540.

Interested individuals should contact the office of admission to obtain the Preliminary Application for International Students, the Affidavit of Financial Support form, and the WES Application for Evaluation of International Educational Credentials.

International students are expected to come with the financial support of their church body or other sponsors. As for all students, scholarships are available to international students for tuition. Complete information about the level of financial sponsorship required to study at Samford University is available from the financial aid office of the university.

Based upon federal regulations and university policy, all F and J visa holders must have health coverage for themselves and all dependents during residency in the United States. Insurance may be obtained by the student independently or through the university, but must contain certain required coverage. Proof of coverage is required before registering for classes. Samford University may expel international students who do not continue to comply.

Information about specific policy carriers, minimum coverage, and premium costs is available from the Office of International Studies.

Part-Time Students

The Beeson Divinity School curriculum and community are designed for full-time study (9–16 credit hours per semester), and students should plan to be on campus three to four days per week. Classes are taught Tuesdays through Fridays during the day, and all students are required to attend chapel services on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and to participate in mentoring groups on Thursdays at 11 a.m.

The admission committee focuses on full-time students when evaluating M.Div. and M.A.T.S. admission applications. If any new part-time students are accepted, it will be with the understanding that they will become full-time students after one semester or, at most, two semesters of part-time status. Full-time students help to make Beeson Divinity School a stronger community, and they complete their degrees in a timely fashion. Any exceptions to this policy must be granted by the associate dean.

For returning full-time students who encounter unforeseen circumstances requiring them to lighten their course loads temporarily, they may drop to part-time status for up to two semesters. Further extensions must be applied for to the admission committee.

As noted in the Scholarship Policy, only full-time students may be considered for scholarship support. Students who drop temporarily to part-time status will not receive a scholarship until they are reinstated as full-time students.

Students Seeking Readmission

Applicants for readmission are evaluated along with first-time applicants for available spaces in any given term. This is a competitive process, with the readmission applicant's previous academic performance at Beeson Divinity School weighing heavily in the admission committee's evaluation. Students who have been out of Beeson Divinity School for more than one year (or who have transferred from Beeson Divinity School to another institution for any period of time) and who wish to be considered for readmission to Beeson must submit the following:

1. New application form
2. Official transcripts of credits earned since leaving Beeson Divinity School
3. Essay explaining why the studies at Beeson Divinity School were interrupted and why the applicant wishes to be considered for admission again

To be considered for fall re-enrollment, the application deadline is March 1. For spring re-enrollment, the application deadline is October 1. Students who are readmitted must follow the curriculum requirements specified in the bulletin corresponding to the semester in which the student resumes enrollment at Beeson Divinity School. The divinity school may set additional requirements for readmitted students, all of which will be included in the readmission letter.

Transfer Students

Beeson Divinity School accepts transfer credit hours earned at accredited graduate institutions prior to admission to Beeson Divinity School. Students who desire a transfer credit evaluation should submit to the divinity school a letter requesting evaluation, official copies of transcripts and catalog descriptions of all courses to be evaluated. No online or correspondence credit will be accepted, though students with such credits may be considered for advanced standing.

Transient Students

Beeson Divinity School accepts transient students who are regularly enrolled in other schools. A transient student application can be secured from the divinity records officer for any term. All course work must be authorized by the student's primary institution. Transient applications must be received at least four weeks before the beginning of the term to be attended.

Visitors

The Visitor Program is available to people of the community who would like to enrich their lives and their ministry, to students who need additional study of a course they have previously taken for credit, and to students who desire to supplement their course work. This program is not available to prospective students. A limited number of visitors may be admitted. No records are kept, and visitors receive no grades or credit for courses. Interested individuals must apply directly to the divinity school through the associate dean's office for each course.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Master Degree Programs Tuition and Fees

(as of 2010–11)

Please go to www.beesondivinity.com or call 205-726-2066 to obtain current tuition rates.

Endowment earnings and student tuition primarily support the programs of the divinity school. In 2010–11, tuition scholarships of \$4,250 or more were awarded annually to all full-time students who met the academic requirements.

Tuition per semester, M.Div., M.A.T.S.

(full-time, 9–16 credits) \$5,099

(part-time rate applies beyond 16 credits)

Tuition Per Credit, M.Div., M.A.T.S.

(part-time) \$484

(January and summer terms) \$195

Fees

Application (nonrefundable) \$25

Returned check \$28

Auto decal \$20

Books and supplies \$550/year (estimated)

Technology Fee \$110/semester for fall and spring

\$30/summer term

\$20/January Term

Campus Life Fee \$35/semester

See “Academic Programs—Doctor of Ministry” for tuition information for the D.Min. program.

Terms of Payment

All admitted students must submit a \$200 Enrollment Confirmation Deposit to complete the admission process. The deposit is nonrefundable and is applied toward the student’s tuition. Failure to submit the deposit when accepting a place in the entering class forfeits the student’s admission to Beeson Divinity School.

All student charges are payable each term on or before the due date. A 5% late fee will be assessed on the day after the payment due date on any past due balance. Students are responsible for seeing that payments are made. If needed, loan arrangements for meeting this responsibility are between the student and the supporting financial institutions. Fees not paid by the financing companies must be remitted by the student on the scheduled due dates. The student is urged to make any necessary financial arrangements well in advance of due dates.

Students who are in arrears to any department or enterprise of the university, or past due on any school-affiliated loan program, may not be permitted to receive reports of grades, transcripts or a diploma.

Refund Policy

The refund policy of the divinity school is that of the university. It is the university's (not the divinity school's) academic calendar that applies when refunds are calculated. See "Academic Policies—Withdrawal from Beeson Divinity School" for the official process for withdrawing.

For fall and spring semesters, the following policies apply:

1. In case of withdrawal or suspension within the first week of the term, students may receive a refund of 100 percent of tuition for that term. The first week of a term ends on the last day to drop course(s) without financial penalty.
2. In case of withdrawal or suspension after the first week but before the end of the second week of the term, students may receive a refund of 90 percent of tuition for that term. The second week of a term ends on the first Wednesday following the last day to drop course(s) without financial penalty.
3. In case of withdrawal or suspension after the second week but before the end of the third week of the term, students may receive a refund of 75 percent of tuition for that term. The third week of a term ends on the second Wednesday following the last day to drop course(s) without financial penalty.
4. In case of withdrawal or suspension after the third week but before the end of the fifth week of the term, students may receive a refund of 50 percent of tuition for that term. The fifth week of a term ends on the fourth Wednesday following the last day to drop course(s) without financial penalty.
5. In case of withdrawal or suspension after the fifth week but before the end of the ninth week of the term, students may receive a refund of 25 percent of tuition for that term. The ninth week of a term ends on the eighth Wednesday following the last day to drop course(s) without financial penalty.
6. In case of withdrawal or suspension after the ninth week, no refund of tuition is available.

The refund policy during the January and summer modules is based on days instead of weeks. In case of withdrawal or suspension:

1. On the first and second day of classes, the refund will be 100 percent of tuition.
2. On the third day of classes, the refund will be 90 percent of tuition.
3. On the fourth day of classes, the refund will be 75 percent of tuition.
4. On the fifth day of classes, the refund will be 50 percent of tuition.
5. On the sixth day of classes, the refund will be 25 percent of tuition.
6. After the sixth day of classes, no refund of tuition is available.

All refunds are exclusive of the tuition scholarship awards.

Drop and Add Policy and Refunds

Drops and adds are changes in a schedule that do not involve complete withdrawal from school. **During** the drop/add period of any semester or term, if a schedule change results in a reduction of total credits below full-time status (9 credits), the student forfeits a tuition scholarship award and must immediately pay total tuition according to the part-time rate. **After** the drop/add period of any term, if a schedule change results in a reduction of total credits below full-time status (9 credits), the students forfeits a tuition scholarship award and must immediately pay back the scholarship that was awarded for the semester, therefore paying the total tuition at the full-time rate. Dropping a course after the drop/add period will not result in a reduction of charges for tuition or fees, unless it results in withdrawal from the university, in which case, the refund and withdrawal policies apply.

Appeals to Refund Policies

Students who believe that they have individual circumstances warranting an exception to published refund policies may appeal the application of the policy. To appeal, the student should contact the Dean of Academic Services, Student Records Office, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35229.

Financial Aid

Beeson Divinity School provides financial assistance in the form of tuition scholarships. All students who apply for admission are automatically considered for scholarships from the Beeson endowment. Students who also wish to apply for federal loans should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid [FAFSA] form, which is available from Samford's Office of Financial Aid or online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Processing time for the FAFSA is up to six weeks. The FAFSA report is not necessary for Beeson Divinity School tuition scholarship consideration, but it is required for all student loan programs available through the university.

Eligibility

Students must be fully admitted before an award for financial aid or scholarship can be made. Application for federal loans must be made for each academic year of study. Renewal is not automatic.

To remain eligible for scholarships, students should, among other considerations, demonstrate satisfactory academic progress, defined as the completion of at least 18 credits per year with a GPA of at least 2.5 each semester. Beeson Divinity School's scholarship committee meets every spring to review student eligibility and fund availability. Official scholarship renewal notices are mailed to returning students late in the spring semester.

Principles of Financial Aid

The following principles serve as guidelines in the administration of the financial aid program:

1. Only students enrolled for full-time study may receive financial aid. Part-time students do not qualify for tuition scholarships. For scholarship purposes, full-time is defined as nine (9) or more credits per semester.
2. Financial assistance consists primarily of tuition scholarships. Samford's financial aid office will help students secure loan assistance if desired. Qualification for and acceptance of a loan are not considered by the divinity school as prerequisite to the award of a scholarship.
3. Financial aid in the form of a tuition scholarship is available only for students in master's degree programs.
4. The family of a student, whether the student is unmarried or married, is expected to make every reasonable effort to assist with the student's educational expenses.
5. It is considered appropriate that a student's home church and/or denominational body assist with the costs of preparation for ministry.
6. Financial assistance is granted on a yearly basis.
7. Financial aid in the form of Beeson Divinity School tuition scholarships is limited for eight semesters for M.Div. students and four semesters for M.A.T.S. students. Students admitted in fall 2005 or later must maintain a 2.5 or higher cumulative average to keep scholarships.
8. Financial aid in the form of a tuition scholarship is limited to one retake of a failed course.

Sources of Financial Aid

1. **Beeson Scholarships**—Endowed funds make possible tuition scholarship awards. All full-time divinity students are considered for endowed scholarship support. Full-time students take 9–16 credit hours per semester, and those receiving scholarships must be on campus for a minimum of two days per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays are required) with a possible class schedule of four days per week. Endowed scholarship awards are announced simultaneously with admission decisions.
 - a. **Dean's Scholarship**—Qualified M.Div. candidates are selected by the scholarship committee based on academic achievement and Christian character. The 2010–11 award covers full tuition for a maximum of seven semesters. Dean's Scholars are required to earn a minimum 3.2 GPA each semester for the award to be renewed. Approximately twelve incoming students receive this award each year.
 - b. **John Wesley Beeson Merit Scholarship**—This is a merit award providing \$3,500 per semester for a maximum of seven semesters to M.Div. or M.A.T.S. students. Recipients are required to earn a minimum 3.2 semester and cumulative GPA for the award to be renewed. Approximately eight incoming students receive this award each year.

- c. **Cranmer Evangelical Scholarship**—This award is given to one evangelical Anglican student, and covers full tuition, books and one international trip for theological enrichment. Preference is given to M.Div. candidates.
 - d. **Daniel Wilson Scholarship**—This merit award is given to students training for local church pastoral ministry or for missionary service. Recipients must be M.Div. candidates. The award covers full tuition and books for seven regular semesters, as well as one international trip for theological enrichment.
 - e. **Ralph Waldo Beeson Tuition Scholarship**—The majority of full-time M.Div. and M.A.T.S. students receive a Beeson Scholarship. For 2010–11, the award is \$2,125 per semester. Beeson Scholarships are awarded on an annual basis. Students may receive this scholarship for a maximum of eight semesters. Beeson Scholars are required to earn a minimum 2.5 semester and cumulative GPA for the award to be renewed.
2. **Memorial and Honorary Scholarships**—Several scholarships are provided through the generosity of friends of the divinity school. These normally are named in memory or in honor of individuals and/or families, and are awarded by the scholarship committee to returning students each year. These endowed scholarships range from \$400 to \$2,000 per year, and the criteria for qualification vary. Details are available in the admission office.
- a. The Brookwood Baptist Church Scholarship
 - b. The Day-Sanders Scholarship
 - c. The Lillian Payne Donahoo Scholarship
 - d. The Banks and Evelyn Farris Scholarship
 - e. The Claude Heard Ford Scholarship
 - f. The Daniel Wilson Endowed Scholarship
 - g. The Fullman-Trott Scholarship
 - h. The Guffin Memorial Scholarship
 - i. The George H. Allred and Frances Allred Mason Scholarship
 - j. The Pierce Freeman McGuire Scholarship
 - k. The Cranmer Evangelical Anglican Scholarship
 - l. The James K. V. Ratliff Memorial Scholarship
 - m. The Bryant Strain Divinity Scholarship
 - n. The Aletha Tente Dawson Scholarship
 - o. The Woodward Scholarship
 - p. The Wanda United Methodist Church Scholarship
 - q. Antonio Maurice Smith Scholarship

3. **Assistantships**—A limited number of student assistantships are available. Student assistants receive a semester stipend based on performance of duties assigned by a faculty or staff member. Assistants normally are expected to work seven to eight hours per week.
4. **Veteran's Benefits**—Armed Forces veterans may be eligible for one of several types of educational assistance. Complete details are available from Samford's financial aid office.
5. **Federal Stafford Loans**—These loans are available through Samford's financial aid office.
6. **External Sources**—Many denominations and agencies offer varying kinds and amounts of aid. The divinity school makes every effort to be aware of these sources. Students are expected, however, to determine their eligibility and to apply for aid as appropriate.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Beeson Divinity School operates on a semester system. The academic year is comprised of two semesters (fall and spring), a January course, and summer terms. Credits earned for each course are expressed as semester credits. The number of credits earned varies according to the specific course. Students must be enrolled for at least nine (9) credits to be classified as full time. No student may take more than 16 credits without special permission of the associate dean.

Students graduate under the requirements stated in the *Beeson Divinity School Bulletin* at the time of entering the program, provided they do not withdraw longer than two consecutive semesters. If course requirements change while a student is pursuing the degree, the student may elect to graduate under the new requirements. Upon electing this option, the student must meet all the new requirements.

Entering students are required to participate in an orientation session. Orientation is conducted before the beginning of classes in fall and spring semesters.

Students admitted for the fall semester may elect to begin course work during the summer session. This option requires prior notice to the divinity records officer.

Predivinity School Studies

As a result of their undergraduate studies, students should have developed to a satisfactory degree the ability to think independently, learn foreign languages, communicate effectively in speech and writing, and conduct research. Students also should possess general knowledge of past and present culture through studies in humanities and natural and social sciences. Studying biblical and classical languages is highly recommended.

Academic Appeals

The procedure for registering an academic appeal is available from the office of the associate dean and in the student handbook.

Advanced Standing

Students who believe they have competence in the subject of a required course may request permission in writing from the associate dean to substitute another course in that subject area. Students may be required to demonstrate competency through a written and/or oral examination. When awarded, advanced standing is without credit; the total number of academic credits required for a degree is not reduced.

Class Attendance

For a complete description of the class attendance policy, please see *The Beeson Divinity School Student Handbook*.

Cross-Registration

Graduate, professional, divinity, and law students may not register for courses in other academic divisions without permission of the academic deans in both areas.

Degrees Taken in Sequence

When students enroll for the M.Div. degree after having received the M.A.T.S. degree at Beeson Divinity School, they are required to earn a minimum of 77 additional semester credits to receive the M.Div. degree. It is understood that all normal requirements for the degree must be met.

Directed Study

Directed studies allow advanced students to pursue in-depth a subject not regularly offered in the curriculum. These courses are offered at the associate dean and faculty member's discretion. Courses are for two credits. Directed study courses may be available to M.Div. students who have completed 32 semester credits and M.A.T.S. students who have completed 19 semester credits of Beeson Divinity School course work and have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA. No more than six (6) semester credits of directed study may be taken by M.Div. students, and no more than two (2) semester credits of directed study may be taken by M.A.T.S. students during a student's divinity school career. Details are available in the associate dean's office.

Grading System

Academic achievement is graded on a system of letter grades with quality points assigned as follows:

A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D+	1.3
B	3.0	D	1.0
B-	2.7	D-	0.7
C+	2.3	F	0.0

A represents the highest proficiency.

A- represents slightly less than the highest proficiency.

B+ represents outstanding proficiency.

B represents ability and achievement of a high but second order.

B- represents ability and achievement of a high but third order.

C+ represents a better than average performance.

C shows average ability or achievement.

C- shows slightly below average achievement.

D+ shows performance slightly below average.

D reflects performance below average throughout the course.

D- reflects performance just above failing throughout the course.

F indicates outright failure and can be changed only if it is the result of a clerical error made by the institution.

FA is given to a student who is dropped from a course because of excessive absences or who withdraws without proper permission. It carries the same penalty as F.

FX indicates failure due to values violation. See the *Beeson Divinity School Student Handbook*.

INC indicates an incomplete due to unavoidable absence from a final exam or an excusable failure to complete assignments. Students desiring an INC must request an INC form from the records officer and have the relevant professor sign the form. The student must then submit the form to the associate dean for approval. When course requirements are completed, the instructor may change the INC to any grade. A student on probation who earns an incomplete in any course must remove the incomplete or secure special permission from the Office of Student Records to register for the next session. An INC automatically becomes an F if not removed within one semester after the grade is given. This grade of F may not be challenged.

Z (no grade) is given when a faculty member does not assign a grade based on performance. The instructor must change a Z to the earned grade.

W indicates a student withdrew before the academic penalty period but was in good standing.

WF indicates a student withdrew during the academic penalty period and was failing the course. WF carries the same penalty as F.

Pass/Fail credit only may be given for certain internship and externship courses.

Note: The numerical value assigned to a letter grade is determined by the divinity school grading scale noted in each syllabus.

Leave of Absence

Students who wish to interrupt their degree track may request a leave of absence for one semester, with the option of requesting a second semester of leave. Leave of absence is granted by the academic administration committee. Time granted for such a leave does not count against the total time allowed for completion of a degree. Upon returning, a student may be expected to resume studies under the catalog requirements current at the time. Requests for leave of absence are to be addressed to the academic administration committee through the associate dean. Except in cases of emergency, requests are due by October 15 for spring semesters and March 15 for fall semesters. Reapplication must be made for a second consecutive semester of leave.

A student on leave of absence must file a written statement of intent to resume studies by March 1 for the upcoming fall semester and by October 1 for the upcoming spring semester. A place and scholarship aid cannot be guaranteed otherwise. All grades of incomplete at the time leave is granted must be completed before studies can resume.

A student who does not request and receive an approved temporary leave of absence must reapply for admission to the divinity school and meet all admission requirements of the bulletin in force at the time.

Noncourse Load

Faculty strongly recommend that students who work concurrently with their theological studies limit themselves to no more than 20 hours per week of church or nonchurch employment during semesters in which they are registered as full-time students (nine or more credits per semester).

Part-Time Student Policy

A complete description of this policy can be found in “Admission—Part-Time Students” on page 29.

Probation/Suspension

Students who have attempted nine (9) or more semester credits must maintain a grade point average of 2.0. Regardless of a student’s cumulative grade point average, failure to achieve a 2.0 grade point average in any semester will result in a student being placed on probation. Regardless of a student’s cumulative grade point average, failure to achieve a 2.0 grade point average in a second consecutive semester will result in that student being required to withdraw. Students whose cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 in two consecutive semesters will be required to withdraw even if their semester grade point average has not fallen below 2.0 in two consecutive semesters.

A student who has been required to withdraw will not be eligible to apply for readmission until one full semester has elapsed. Summer terms and January terms will not count as a semester. During the time a student is required to withdraw, credit earned at another institution will not be accepted for credit toward requirements for graduation from Beeson Divinity School. Readmission is not automatic. Applications for readmission must be made to the admission office for consideration by the admission committee by October 1 for spring readmission and March 1 for fall readmission.

Theses

Faculty members are not required to supervise M.Div. theses. Forms and information are available from the office of the associate dean.

Admission is by petition by M.Div. students who have completed at least 48 hours of credit with a minimum GPA of 3.25.

Petition is made to the academic administration committee of the faculty through the associate dean's office by October 1 for the succeeding spring semester and by March 1 for the succeeding fall semester. This petition will include a completed request form and a written proposal of 1,000–1,500 words stating a requested supervisor and second reader, proposed timeframe for completion, topic, thesis, methodology, and suggested bibliography. Students do not need to gain approval from a proposed supervisor and second reader before submitting a proposal, and the proposed supervisor and second reader will have the opportunity to agree or decline to participate if the proposal receives approval.

The committee will report its response to the student's petition through the office of the associate dean.

If approved, the committee will inform the office of the associate dean, and the office of the associate dean will forward the student's request to the proposed supervisor and second reader. If they agree to participate, the supervisor and second reader will sign the form and return it to the office of the associate dean. The office of the associate dean will inform the student, supervisor and second reader, and forward the approval to the records officer, who will enroll the student in DVTH 798 and DVTH 799.

Students may not take both courses in the same term or semester. These courses are not available during January term. The first course consists of research and writing leading to the completion of the thesis in the second semester. A grade of "IP" (In Progress) will be assigned the first semester. In the second semester, the student will complete and submit the thesis to the supervisor and second reader by October 15 in the fall semester, by March 15 in the spring semester, or by August 1 in the summer session. Students may receive an "INC" (Incomplete) in the second semester only.

The supervisor and second reader will set an oral examination date and will confer on a final grade, which will be the same for both semesters, with the supervisor having the responsibility of entering the final grade. Students may not receive a grade for the first semester without completing the thesis. If students do not complete the thesis, the first semester grade will change from "IP" to "F."

Transfer Credit

Beeson Divinity School accepts transfer credits earned at accredited graduate institutions prior to admission. Once accepted, students who desire a transfer credit evaluation should submit a letter requesting evaluation to the associate dean, along with official copies of transcripts to be evaluated and a copy of catalog descriptions of all courses to be evaluated. No online or correspondence credit will be accepted, though students with such credits may be considered for advanced standing.

Beeson Divinity School will accept for transfer from another accredited theological school no more than one-third of the credits required for a master's degree. Up to nine (9) hours may be completed at another institution after a student has begun work at Beeson Divinity School. Otherwise, all transfer credits must be applied before beginning work at Beeson Divinity School. The exact allowance of transfer credit is determined on an individual basis.

Nonseminary graduate courses taken before enrollment in Beeson Divinity School may be considered for possible transfer credit provided the courses were taken within seven years and can be viewed reasonably as contributing to the development of a master of divinity or master of arts in theological studies degree program. Such transfer credit will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Normally, no more than 12 semester credits for nonseminary graduate courses will be granted toward an M.Div. degree or six (6) credits toward an M.A.T.S.

For course work to be eligible for transfer, a student must have received a B- or above in the course. No less than two-thirds of the required credits of study for a degree must be completed in residence at Beeson Divinity School after the student has transferred all relevant previously earned credits. All decisions on transfer credits are made by the associate dean in consultation with the divinity faculty.

Withdrawal from Beeson Divinity School

A student desiring to withdraw from the divinity school at any time must secure an official withdrawal request from the divinity school records officer. The request must be validated by the divinity school records officer. The form must be delivered to the university student records office. From that point, the student follows Samford University procedures for withdrawing. If a student drops out of the university without permission, the permanent grade report will show a grade of FA in all courses for that term. FA carries the same penalty as F. The permanent record of a student who withdraws officially from the university in the schedule change period of a term will not show any courses attempted and will list no academic penalty. The permanent record of a student who withdraws officially from the university before the published last date to withdraw without academic penalty will show W in courses attempted. A student who withdraws after the published last date to withdraw automatically receives an F.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Master of Divinity Degree [M.Div.]

The master of divinity degree [M.Div.] is the flagship degree of Beeson Divinity School. It combines academic and practical training to prepare pastors for full-time ministry. This degree offers a balanced curriculum of biblical studies, historical and theological studies, spiritual formation, and ministry leadership development. The M.Div. degree is designed to prepare God-called persons to serve in pastoral capacities in vocational Christian ministry roles, whether in traditional parish settings or in other Christian ministry organizations.

The requirements for a master of divinity degree normally are completed in four years or less, although students may elect to earn the degree over a more extended period. Normally, the degree must be completed within six years. A student may request an extension. A letter justifying such a request must be addressed to the associate dean.

A master of divinity degree requires at least 96 semester credits with a minimum of 64 credits completed at Beeson Divinity School (see “Transfer Credit,” page 42). A grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale is required. Students are required to satisfy all student accounts.

Core Courses

These classes, which constitute 22 hours of the 96 hours required for graduation, must be taken by students entering in a fall semester in their first two semesters and summer school, and by students entering in a spring semester in their first three semesters and summer school. This core of courses is a prerequisite for several subsequent classes.

Students may not take courses numbered 502 (e.g., DVHD 502) before taking the 501 course in the same subject (e.g., DVHD 501).

DVSF 501 Spiritual Formation (2)*

DVBF 501 Biblical Interpretation (2)*

DVBF 502 Old Testament Theology (3)

DVBF 503 New Testament Theology (3)

DVHD 501 Patristic and Medieval History and Doctrine (3)

DVHD 502 Reformation History and Doctrine (3)

DVNT 511 Introduction to New Testament Greek (3)

DVNT 512 Greek Syntax and Translation (3)

*Required in first semester regardless of semester of entry

**Biblical Studies: Biblical Interpretation, Biblical Theology and Biblical Languages
(32 credits, including core courses)**

- DVBF 501 Biblical Interpretation (2)
- DVBF 502 Old Testament Theology (3)
- DVBF 503 New Testament Theology (3)
- DVNT 511 Introduction to New Testament Greek (3)
- DVNT 512 Greek Syntax and Translation (3)
- DVNT 616 Greek Exegesis Practicum (3)
- DVNT 731 or 732 Greek Exegesis Book Study (3)
- DVOT 511 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew (3)
- DVOT 512 Hebrew Syntax and Translation (3)
- DVOT 616 Hebrew Exegesis Practicum (3)
- DVOT 731 or 732 Hebrew Exegesis Book Study (3)

Historical and Doctrinal Studies (21 credits, including core courses)

- DVHD 501 Patristic and Medieval History and Doctrine (3)
- DVHD 502 Reformation History and Doctrine (3)
- DVHD 601 Modern History and Doctrine (3)
- DVHD 602 Twentieth-Century History and Doctrine (3)
- DVHD 606 Ecclesiology and Worship (3)
- DVHD 701 Pastoral Theology (3)
- DVET 701 Christian Ethics (3)

Spiritual Formation Studies (6 credits, including core course)

- DVSF 501 Spiritual Formation (2)
- DVSF 600-level Spiritual Formation Elective (2)
- DVSF 710 Spiritual Formation Mentoring (2)

Ministry Theory and Practice Studies (24 credits)

- DVEV 500 Evangelism and Church Growth (3)
- DVMS 503, 504, 505 or 506 Christian Missions (2)
- DVCC 655 Cross-Cultural Ministry Practicum (1)
- DVPR 601 Christian Preaching (3)*
- DVPR 602 Preaching Practicum (3)**
- DVPM 701 Pastoral Counseling (3)
- DVML 501 Ministry Leadership Development I (2)
- DVML 601 Ministry Leadership Development II (2)
- DVML 701 Ministry Leadership Development III (2)
- DVML 550 Ministry Leadership Practicum I (1)
- DVML 650 Ministry Leadership Practicum II (1)
- DVML 750 Ministry Leadership Practicum III (1)

*Must be taken with or after DVNT 616 or DVOT 616

**Must be taken with or after DVNT 731 or 732 or DVOT 731 or 732

Electives (13 credits)

Total for M.Div. Degree (96 credits)

Master of Divinity Objectives

1. Demonstrate the ability to be able interpreters of the Scriptures in the preparation of expositions of the biblical text.
2. Demonstrate the ability to use relevant biblical, historical, ethical, and theological data and methodology to articulate key evangelical doctrines and their significance to the life and work of the church.
3. Demonstrate the ability to engage in the process of personal growth and maturity in Christian living, as well as the knowledge and skills to facilitate the spiritual development of others.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use relevant biblical, historical, and theological data and methodology to articulate the gospel of Jesus Christ, to incarnate the gospel for the sake of others in various cultural contexts, and to equip others to do the same.
5. Demonstrate the ability to prepare and deliver oral sermons that exhibit thorough exegetical and theological analysis of biblical texts in context, and that communicate the word of God clearly and persuasively to contemporary hearers in their setting.
6. Demonstrate the ability to express the relevance of biblical teachings to the practices of pastoral ministry (e.g., pastoral care, worship leadership), and to integrate and contextualize appropriately within the student's own ecclesiastical setting the theory and practice of ministry in supervised ministry experiences.

Ministry Leadership Development

Ministry Leadership Development [MLD] is that part of the M.Div. curriculum wherein students receive training for the roles and responsibilities of Christian leadership in vocational ministry capacities through courses in ministry practice and educational experiences within supervised ministry settings. MLD seeks to advance the growth of students toward:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. Vocational clarification
3. Ministry competence

The MLD requirements include three (3) on-campus courses and three (3) terms (semesters or summer sessions) of supervised ministry practice. Students may enroll in MLD courses upon completing those courses (22 credits) required of all M.Div. students in their first full year of study.

Each of the three (3) on-campus courses carries two (2) credits. No more than one of these courses may be taken in the same semester. The first course, Ministry Leadership Development

I (DVML 501), introduces students to the biblical foundations of Christian leadership, establishes the model of servanthood for Christian leaders, and addresses several topics of relevance for leading the Christian ministry. The second course, Ministry Leadership Development II (DVML 601), emphasizes the practice of ministry, providing instruction in the performance of various duties and responsibilities inherent to ordained Christian ministry. The final course, Ministry Leadership Development III (DVML 701), is a capstone course for the MLD curriculum. The course is designed to introduce students to the discipline of theological reflection on the practice of ministry, to aid students in the work of integrating Christian faith and ministry practice, and to address a variety of vocational issues for Christian leaders.

Ministry Leadership Practica [MLP] are the supervised ministry experience components of the MLD program at Beeson Divinity School. Each MLP carries one (1) credit. The practica must be taken in order, beginning with Ministry Leadership Practicum I (DVML 550), progressing to Ministry Leadership Practicum II (DVML 650) and ending with Ministry Leadership Practicum III (DVML 750). Students may not enroll in an MLP before enrolling in Ministry Leadership Development I (DVML 501); however, the course and practicum may be taken concurrently. Two of the three semesters of practica must be carried out in the same ministry placement and under the same ministry mentor.

Practica requirements may be satisfied by service in a variety of ministry settings, subject to the approval of the MLD director. Most practica are performed in a parish setting. Other options include, but are not limited to, Christian social ministry agencies, chaplaincy positions, campus ministry and Christian schools.

Transfer students need to communicate with the MLD director as soon as possible after beginning studies at Beeson Divinity School to determine what courses they need to take to complete the MLD requirements.

For more information about MLD, call the MLD office at 205-726-2374.

Cross-Cultural Ministry Practicum

This curricular requirement arises from the recognition that cross-cultural ministry is no longer exceptional but normative for Christian ministers. Communities across the United States are increasingly multicultural, and opportunities for mission involvement internationally are expanding rapidly. Competent ministry leaders in the 21st century must be prepared to cross cultural boundaries in the course of (and for the sake of) sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is an objective of this requirement that such preparation might be an introduction for some and be advanced for others.

The practicum can be satisfied in an abbreviated but intensified immersion into the practice of faith and ministry in a cultural context different from the student's own. An acceptable immersion experience will meet the following criteria as a minimum:

1. Location: Outside the Birmingham metropolitan area or in a Birmingham location significantly different from the student's normal context
2. Duration: No less than 14 consecutive days on location
3. Residence: In the community where the ministry is taking place
4. Substance: Ministering in a different cultural setting, rather than sightseeing
5. Supervision: On-site mentor

Approval of any proposed immersion experience is, finally, at the discretion of the director of the Global Center, who will take into consideration all the information—criteria-based and otherwise—before reaching a decision.

Students must register and pay tuition for the practicum under the course listing of DVCC 655. Students may enroll for the practicum during their first semester of study.

For more information, contact the Global Center at global@samford.edu, 205-726-2170 or 205-726-2274 (fax).

Master of Arts in Theological Studies [M.A.T.S.]

The main mission of Beeson Divinity School is “to prepare God-called individuals to serve as ministers in the church of Jesus Christ” (see page 2). Thus, Beeson Divinity School focuses on the master of divinity degree [M.Div.], the most recognized, broad-based degree for professional ministry. However, the M.Div. degree does not fit the objectives of a smaller number of students the divinity school faculty wishes to serve. These include the following:

1. Individuals who want to deepen their understanding of the content of the Christian faith so they can integrate the Christian faith more effectively in professional vocations and lay ministry settings. Such individuals may include those wishing to take a divinity degree in conjunction with a primary graduate degree taken in another school of the university.
2. Individuals already serving in permanent positions in ministry settings in financial, managerial and other nonpastoral roles who wish to gain a better understanding of the content of the Christian faith.
3. International students who have received ministerial training in their home country whose governing body wishes them to study in the United States.

The faculty of the divinity school have designed the M.A.T.S. degree program for individuals such as these. Enrollment in the program is limited to 10 percent of the student body. Applicants must state in the admission application that they are not seeking to prepare for traditional church ministry. The faculty does not consider the M.A.T.S. program adequate preparation for Ph.D. studies, so students wishing to use the M.A.T.S. for this purpose will not be admitted.

Students in the M.A.T.S. program may not take DVPM courses, DVML courses, or DVHD 701 without permission of the associate dean. Students in the M.A.T.S. program may take language courses as electives but should be advised that the faculty have set the biblical languages curriculum in a building, sequential manner. Thus, if students take fewer than four courses in an individual language, they may not gain the facility they desire in that language.

Students may not transfer from the M.Div. degree program to the M.A.T.S. degree program. Transfer credits will be accepted from similar programs only. A maximum of 12 credits may be transferred from a similar M.A. degree program. Students wishing to transfer from the M.A.T.S. degree program to the M.Div. degree program must follow the application procedures for acceptance to the M.Div. degree program. Transfer is not automatic.

This degree requires at least 39 semester credits, with a minimum of 27 credits being completed at Beeson Divinity School. A grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale is required. Students are required to satisfy all student accounts.

Core Courses

These classes constitute 30–31 hours of the 39 hours required for graduation. Students may not take courses numbered 502 (e.g. DVHD 502) prior to taking the 501 course in the same subject (e.g. DVHD 501).

DVSF 501 Spiritual Formation (2)*
DVBF 501 Biblical Interpretation (2)*
DVBF 502 Old Testament Theology (3)
DVBF 503 New Testament Theology (3)
DVHD 501 Patristic and Medieval History and Doctrine (3)
DVHD 502 Reformation History and Doctrine (3)
DVHD 601 Modern History and Doctrine (3)
DVHD 602 Twentieth-Century History and Doctrine (3)
DVOT Exposition or DVOT 731–732 (3)
DVNT Exposition or DVNT 731–732 (2 or 3)
DVMS 5XX Missions (2)
DVTH 701 Faith and Vocation (1)**

*Must be taken in the first 4 credits

**Must be taken after DVHD 601 and DVBF 503

Electives (8–9 credits)

Total for M.A.T.S. Degree (39 Credits)

Master of Arts in Theological Studies Objectives

1. Demonstrate the ability to use appropriate principles of interpretation in the analysis of English Bible texts.
2. Demonstrate the ability to use relevant biblical, historical, and theological data and methodology to articulate key evangelical doctrines in the context of one's denominational tradition.
3. Demonstrate the ability to use basic principles of Christian spiritual formation to articulate plans for personal growth and maturity in Christian living.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use relevant biblical, historical, and theological data and methodology to articulate the Christian mission in the world.

Joint M.Div. and M.A.T.S. Degree Programs

Joint-degree programs allow students to earn two degrees concurrently with fewer credit requirements than needed to earn the degrees separately. Joint-degree programs require separate admission applications to each of the respective schools. Students seeking to enter a joint-degree program must meet admission requirements for both schools participating in the joint program.

Beeson Divinity School's primary degree is the master of divinity, and our student body is small. As such, our course work offerings are limited. Classes are offered Tuesday through Friday only, with attendance required on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The curriculum structure is

integrative and requires incremental progress from one semester to the next. Joint degree students are encouraged to plan their course work well in advance to minimize scheduling or sequencing conflicts. To receive divinity school scholarships, joint degree students are expected to take a minimum of nine divinity credit hours per semester.

The M.Div./master of business administration [M.B.A.] joint degree program offered by the divinity school and the Brock School of Business allows students to pursue the master of divinity degree and the M.B.A. degree concurrently. The program is designed to enrich the educational opportunities available to students in the separate disciplines by encouraging interdisciplinary approaches to ministry preparation and organizational problems that directly affect churches and other religious institutions. Students take 84 credits of course work at Beeson Divinity School and 24–42 credits at the Brock School of Business. Students interested in this joint program should apply to the Brock School of Business for admission into the M.B.A. program at the conclusion of the first year of the M.Div. program. To inquire, please contact the Brock School of Business at 205-726-2931 or Beeson Divinity School at 205-726-2066.

Beeson Divinity School and Cumberland School of Law offer two dual-degree programs. The M.Div./juris doctor [J.D.] is a 158–59 credit hour program that takes approximately six years to complete. The M.A.T.S./J.D. is a 109 credit hour program that takes approximately five years to complete. Scheduling is difficult to balance between programs. To inquire, please contact Cumberland School of Law at 205-726-2400 or Beeson Divinity School at 205-726-2066.

The M.Div./master of science in education [M.S.E.] joint degree program combines work in Beeson Divinity School and Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies. Up to twelve (12) credits of education degree course work are accepted as part of the elective requirement of the M.Div. degree. Crossover credit from the divinity degree to the education degree is determined case-by-case as may be allowable within government regulations concerning teacher certification. Students normally are required to complete the first year of the M.Div. before beginning work in the education school. To inquire, please contact the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies at 205-726-2019 or Beeson Divinity School at 205-726-2066.

The M.Div./master of music [M.M.] joint-degree program, offered in collaboration with the School of the Arts, is designed for individuals who desire a stronger foundation in biblical, historical/theological, and ministry studies as preparation for ministry through music. To inquire, please contact the Samford School of Arts at 205-726-4524 or Beeson Divinity School at 205-726-2066.

Doctor of Ministry Degree [D. Min.]

The doctor of ministry is the highest earned degree for the practice of Christian ministry. The degree is designed to enhance understanding and to improve skills of ministers, whether in a local congregation or some related field. The goal is to equip people committed to a Christian vocation for the highest level of excellence in the practice of that ministry.

The program is open to those who are engaged in vocational Christian ministry, who already have earned their first professional degree (M.Div. or its equivalent) either at Beeson Divinity School or another accredited school, and who have a minimum of three years post-M.Div. experience in full-time vocational Christian ministry. The D.Min. program is open only to those who demonstrate the highest competence, dedication, and potential for excellence. The program consists of seminars on campus, field-based assignments under supervision, and a dissertation in practical theology. Midcareer candidates especially are encouraged to apply.

Tracks of Study

Beeson Divinity School offers three tracks of study within the D.Min. program: General Studies, Specialization in Christian Preaching, and Specialization in Spiritual Leadership. A maximum of six students is admitted annually to each of the three tracks. Applicants to the Christian Preaching track must be engaged in a weekly preaching ministry.

Admission Requirements

The deadline for application is March 1. Requirements for admission to the D.Min. program are as follows:

1. Master of divinity degree or its equivalent from an accredited school
2. Grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; probationary admission is possible with a GPA of at least 2.75
3. Must be currently engaged in vocational Christian ministry with a minimum of three years full-time experience after completion of the master of divinity degree

Application Requirements

1. Application and nonrefundable \$50 application fee
2. Ministry reflection paper (10–12 pages), briefly describing a ministry experience, the student's ministry response, and the primary theological issues in the case
3. Current résumé
4. Autobiographical essay (7–8 pages) detailing the student's Christian conversion and call to ministry, experience in ministry, and goals for personal and professional development
5. Official transcripts from all educational institutions attended since high school
6. Personal interview with a member of the D.Min. committee and/or the D.Min. director
7. Score of at least 550 (paper exam) or 80 (Internet exam) on the TOEFL if English is the student's second language and the student's master's degree work was done in a language other than English
8. Four references from appropriate sources

Academic Requirements for the Degree

The doctor of ministry degree requires the completion of 42 credits in varied phases of learning. Degree requirements include 10 weeks on campus for seminars with three semesters of field-based assignments. The D.Min. degree can be completed in three and a half years.

Seminar requirements are:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| First Year | Two two-week foundational seminars, six (6) credits each
Two semesters of field supervision, one (1) credit each |
|-------------------|---|

Second Year	One two-week foundational seminar, six (6) credits One two-week ministry studies seminar, six (6) credits One semester of field supervision, one (1) credit One semester of research in ministry, three (3) credits
Third Year	One one-week ministry studies seminar, three (3) credits Ministry praxis proposal seminar (one week), three (3) credits

Following the completion of seminar requirements, a student must engage in an approved ministry praxis and produce a written ministry dissertation, six (6) credits.

D.Min. Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify significant issues in one's practice of ministry in order to develop viable responses for enhancing ministry effectiveness.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to use relevant biblical, historical, and theological data and methodology to articulate clearly a sound rationale for Christian ministry practice.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to integrate one's understanding of the nature and purposes of ministry into ministry initiatives that are contextually relevant and theologically sound.
4. Students will demonstrate the acquisition of new knowledge about the practice of ministry derived from biblical teaching, theoretical sources, and ministry experience.
5. Students will demonstrate continued growth in spiritual maturity.

Tuition and Fees

The policy for doctor of ministry tuition and fees is as follows:

1. The current per credit rate for D.Min. courses is posted on the divinity school website, beesondivinity.com. This figure is subject to change each academic year. Students are allowed four years to complete the degree requirements, but a continuation fee of \$1,000 per semester is assessed for those granted an extension beyond the fourth year.
2. All admitted students must submit a \$200 Enrollment Confirmation Deposit to complete the admission process. The deposit is nonrefundable and nontransferable (from one semester to the next), but will be applied toward the student's tuition in the upcoming term. If a student chooses to defer admission after submitting the required deposit, a new deposit will be required to confirm enrollment in the new term. Failure to submit the deposit by the stated deadline forfeits the student's admission to Beeson Divinity School.
3. All students completing a ministry praxis dissertation must submit the dissertation to an approved proofreader before submitting the report to the faculty adviser. All costs associated with the proofreader's service are the responsibility of the student.

4. The refund policy for the D.Min. program is the same as that for the master's degree programs. See "Financial Information" for this policy in its entirety.

For application forms or additional information, go to www.beesondivinity.com; write the Doctor of Ministry Studies Office, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35229; or call 205-726-2803 or 1-800-888-8266.

CURRICULUM

Master Degrees

Due to the need to assess curriculum offerings regularly, every prerequisite cannot be listed in this publication. Thus, students should consult the divinity school website and the records officer's instructions for registration for current information on prerequisites. Unless stated otherwise on the website or in registration materials, sequential courses must be taken in sequence (e.g., DVHD 501 before DVHD 502); DVOT and DVNT courses have DVBF 501, 502, and/or 503 as prerequisites; DVHD 501 and 502 are prerequisites for all DVHD courses numbered above 502; courses numbered above the required course in the relevant discipline have the required course as a prerequisite (e.g., DVEV 500 for all other DVEV courses); and the 22-hour core is required for DVPR 601 and DVHD 601. Exceptions to prerequisites are rarely granted for reasons other than students having conflicts in their final semester. Students with advanced backgrounds should petition for advanced standing (see page 37).

ADMINISTRATION

DVAD 700 *Southern Baptist Polity*

This course surveys biblical, historical, and theological rationale for Southern Baptist polity. Special attention is given to organizational and governmental structures of the local church and denominational life. Two credits.

DVAD 731 *Special Topics in Church Administration*

This course is a special study in a selected aspect of church administration not otherwise covered in church administration curriculum. Two or three credits.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS

DVBF 501 *Biblical Interpretation*

This course is required of all students in their first semester. It deals with the science of biblical interpretation. After a survey and broad critique of modern approaches to the issue, students explore how history, culture, genre, and literary context affect interpretation. Two credits.

DVBF 502 *Old Testament Theology*

This course studies the historical context and theological unity of the Old Testament. Special attention is given to the significance of the Old Testament's role in biblical theology and to the significance of the Old Testament's major theological themes for the world today. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVBF 501. Three credits.

DVBF 503 *New Testament Theology*

This course studies the historical context and theological unity of the New Testament. Special attention is given to the significance of the New Testament's role in biblical theology and to the significance of the New Testament's major theological themes for the world today. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVBF 501 and 502. Three credits.

DVBF 504 *Biblical Theology*

This course studies theological interpretation of the Old and New Testaments. Attention is given to major theological themes, issues of unity and diversity, and specific theological problems raised by the inclusion of both Testaments in a single Christian Bible. *Prerequisites:* DVBF 501, 502, and 503. Two or three credits.

DVBF 521 *Special Topics in Biblical Foundations*

This course is a special study in a selected aspect of biblical foundations not otherwise covered in the Biblical Foundations curriculum. Two or three credits.

DVBF 601 *Biblical Foundations of Worship*

This course traces developing patterns and principles of worship through the Bible, focusing on the central themes of prayer, praise, sacrifice, and the word of God. Biblical data is regularly brought to bear on the worship activities of the church. Three credits.

CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY PRACTICUM

DVCC 521–522 *Special Topics in Cross-Cultural Ministry*

These courses introduce students to issues related to cross-cultural ministry in specific contexts. Requires study outside of on-site study in domestic or international settings. Two or three credits.

DVCC 655 *Cross-Cultural Ministry Practicum*

This practicum introduces students to issues related to cross-cultural ministry through first-hand experience in a cross-cultural ministry setting. One credit.

ETHICS

DVET 701 *Christian Ethics*

This course is a detailed survey of Christian personal and social ethics. Major systems of Christian ethics are examined in terms of theological presuppositions and methodological implications. Special attention is given to the application of a model of Christian ethics to a specific ethical problem. Three credits.

DVET 703 *The Ethics of Personhood*

This course explores several of the answers given by thoughtful people to the question, “Who are we?” and considers the consequence of various answers. These are studied in light of two specific biblical answers, “We are sinners,” and “We are redeemed.” *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVET 701. Two credits.

DVET 705 *Genetics, Ethics and Theology*

The Genome project and the identification of many human genes have created a new series of ethical questions. Does the ability to do something in science mean that it should be done? Is treatment with genes the moral equivalent of surgery and drugs? What does it mean to be humans, created in the image of God, when it is becoming possible to change our being radically? This course explores these and related questions in light of Scripture. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVET 701. Two credits.

DVET 707 *Social Justice Ethics*

Salvation comes to individuals, not to societies, but this does not relieve the Christian of living within society. What is the role of the Christian in diagnosing the ills of society and working to correct them? This course assumes that there is a role and seeks to understand what that might be. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVET 701. Two credits.

DVET 709 *Medicine, Ministry, and Morals*

High on nearly every pastor's list of things they wish they could avoid is a visit to the hospital. It is a hierarchical environment where they do not fit. The subject material is that in which they have no expertise. It is a place where "bad things" happen. This course deals with the intersections of medicine and ministry, particularly in those areas where moral issues arise. Its goal is to reduce the discomfort of medical encounters when involved in pastoral care. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVET 701. Two credits.

DVET 711 *Racial Reconciliation*

This course is designed to develop a moral sensitivity to the history of race relations in the South, while causing students to think about racism not only as sociological and historical, but as a distorted theology that was/is translated into action. Students develop a biblical theology of racial reconciliation and consider ways the church can work to promote racial reconciliation today. Two credits.

DVET 721 *Special Topics in Ethics*

This course is a special study in a selected aspect of ethics not otherwise covered in ethics curriculum. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVET 701. Two or three credits.

EVANGELISM

DVEV 500 *Evangelism and Church Growth*

This course is an introduction to evangelism coupled with an introduction to the history and theology of the Church Growth Movement. The study of evangelism moves from its biblical basis and theological foundations to a study of the current philosophical and sociological scene in which the evangelistic mission must be implemented. Attention is given to the history and principles of important evangelistic movements and their relevance for today, as well as contemporary trends and methodologies in effective evangelism through the globalization of the gospel. The study of church growth surveys the basic principles of church growth in the local church. Three credits.

DVEV 502 *Advanced Church Growth: Evangelism Paradigms*

This course, predicated on DVEV 500 Evangelism and Church Growth, investigates principles and practice of church growth on an in-depth level. It unfolds in studying various paradigms of church growth methodologies successfully used in practical contexts. The philosophy of the course is to develop leadership skills in building a functional evangelism and growth program in a local church or organization. Case studies are used along with lectures. *Prerequisite:* DVEV 500. Two credits.

DVEV 504 *History and Principles of Spiritual Awakenings*

This course studies spiritual awakenings as manifested in the epochal movements of Christian evangelism. Attention is given to surveying biblical, theological, historical and sociological principles involved in revivalism and evangelism. Emphasis is placed on the relevance of movements for contemporary ministry. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two credits.

DVEV 521 *Special Topics in Evangelism*

This course is a special study in a selected aspect of evangelism not otherwise covered in evangelism curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVEV 500. Two or three credits.

HISTORY AND DOCTRINE

DVHD 501 *Patristic and Medieval History and Doctrine*

This course examines major elements of the history and theology of the church to 1415. Special attention is given to the doctrine of Scripture, the doctrine of God (Trinity and Christology), the doctrine of salvation (atonement and grace), the Apostles' Creed, and the Nicene Creed. Three credits.

DVHD 502 *Reformation History and Doctrine*

This course examines the history and doctrine of the church from 1415 to 1647. Special attention is given to the doctrine of salvation and to the doctrine of the church. *Prerequisite:* DVHD 501. Three credits.

DVHD 601 *Modern History and Doctrine*

This course examines the history and doctrine of the church from 1647 to 1900. Special emphasis is given to the doctrine of the Holy Spirit and to the doctrine of humanity. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Three credits.

DVHD 602 *Twentieth-Century History and Doctrine*

This course examines major elements of twentieth-century history and doctrine, including the expansion of Christianity, liberalism, neo-orthodoxy, neo-evangelism, and the charismatic movement. Special attention is given to the doctrines of Scripture, Christology, salvation, eschatology, anthropology, and selected major confessions. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501, 502, and 601. Three credits.

DVHD 606 *Ecclesiology and Worship*

This course is a practical study of Christian worship based on the doctrine of the church. It traces the biblical and historical patterns and principles of significant aspects of worship as they fit within the theology and polity of the church in general, and in the various traditions within the church specifically, to promote more effective worship practices in the church. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501, 502, and 601. Three credits.

DVHD 651 *Introduction to Latin*

This course covers basic elements of Latin grammar and gives students a reading knowledge of simple religious texts by the end of the semester. Two or three credits.

DVHD 652–653 *Latin Theological Texts*

These courses continue study from DVHD 651, Introduction to Latin, including reading original theological texts and other texts. *Prerequisite:* DVHD 651 or equivalent. Two or three credits.

DVHD 701 *Pastoral Theology*

This course examines the theology and practice of significant pastoral issues such as the call of God, the mission of the church, the priesthood of all believers, the pastor's self-understanding, the ministry of the Word, worship, sacraments, preaching, music, church growth, leadership, and the formation and growth of the congregation. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501, 502, 601 and 602. Three credits.

DVHD 702 *Readings in Augustine*

This course covers some of the major works of the greatest father of the Western church. Students read Augustine's *Confessions*, *The City of God*, and *The Trinity*, and look closely at Augustine's life, theology, and spirituality. Students prepare one term paper on some aspect of Augustine's thought. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two or three credits.

DVHD 703 *Calvin and the Reformed Tradition*

This course studies the life and theology of John Calvin. Attention focuses on Calvin's role in the development of Reformed Protestantism as well as his distinctive contribution to Reformation theology. Readings include selections from Calvin's commentaries, letters, polemical and theological treatises, and institutes. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two or three credits.

DVHD 704 *History of English Reformation*

This course examines theological controversies that produced the English Reformation and led to the formation of different Protestant denominations that we know today. This course is based primarily on readings in original documents and theologians of the period. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two or three credits.

DVHD 705 *History of Biblical Interpretation*

This course covers the history of interpretation of Scripture from New Testament times to the present. Special attention is given to doctrinal issues, and cases are illustrated from specific biblical texts. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502; DVBF 501, 502 and 503. Two or three credits.

DVHD 706 *John Wesley and the Evangelical Heritage*

This course examines specific features of Wesley's theology with a view to appreciating both common and variable concerns of the broad evangelical heritage. Attention is given to the intriguing combination of themes, insights and concerns drawn from classical, Anglican, and Reformation sources. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two or three credits.

DVHD 708 *Doctrine of the Trinity*

The course looks at the way the understanding of the Trinity has evolved during the history of the church and considers different approaches that can be, have been, and currently are taken toward the permanent issues that surface in Trinitarian interpretation. *Prerequisite:* DVHD 601. Two or three credits.

DVHD 709 *Westminster Confession of Faith*

This course looks at the origin, development, and influence of the Westminster Confession of Faith and explores the theological system of this historic document of Reformed Christian doctrine. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two or three credits.

DVHD 713 *Doctrine of God*

This course is an intensive investigation of biblical teachings and philosophical arguments concerning God. Special attention is given to the Trinitarian understanding of God. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 601. Two or three credits.

DVHD 715 *Christology*

This course is a biblical and historical study of the person of Christ with special emphasis on patristic and contemporary understandings of Christ. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 601 and 602. Two or three credits.

DVHD 720 *Doctrine of the Church*

This course is an in-depth study of the doctrine of the church with particular emphasis on students' denominational polities. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two or three credits.

DVHD 721–722 *Special Topics in History and Doctrine*

These courses cover special studies in a selected aspect of history and doctrine. *Prerequisites:* DVHD 501 and 502. Two or three credits.

DVHD 751–752 *Introduction to Theological German*

This course covers fundamentals of German grammar and vocabulary for those interested in learning to read German theological works in their original language. Three credits each course.

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

DVML 501 *Ministry Leadership Development I*

This course introduces students to the principles and practice of spiritual leadership in a congregational setting. Particular attention is given to the biblical model of and call to servanthood, the impact of personality upon leadership behavior, and some specific tasks of effective organizational leadership within the broader pastoral ministry. *Prerequisite:* Completion of required first-year courses (22 credits). Two credits.

DVML 601 *Ministry Leadership Development II*

This course is designed to help students acquire or develop some of the knowledge and skills necessary for competent practice of Christian ministry, including knowledge of objective truths and practical ministry skills. It also helps students understand themselves and the nature of ministry, and develop the skill to minister from a sound spiritual and theological base. *Prerequisite:* DVML 501. Two credits.

DVML 701 *Ministry Leadership Development III*

This course serves as a capstone to the Ministry Leadership Development series of courses. Building on the previous courses in the MLD curriculum and drawing upon other courses in the divinity curriculum, this course gives attention to three areas: 1. Integrating theological disciplines and the practice of Christian ministry; 2. Ethical and professional issues relevant to the life and work of a vocational Christian minister; and 3. Readiness for entry into full-time Christian ministry. This course marks a turning from formal training for ministry leadership to future plans for intentional growth, both personally and professionally. *Prerequisites:* DVML 650 and DVHD 602. Two credits.

DVML 550, 650, 750 *Ministry Leadership Practicum I, II and III*

Ministry leadership practica provide students preparing for vocational Christian ministry with opportunities to engage in the practice of ministry under competent and caring supervision, and to receive formative counsel in reflection on their ministry experience, to the end that the students' personal growth and ministry preparedness is enhanced. Each section of ministry leadership practicum represents one term (a 14-week semester or a 10-week summer term) of supervised ministry experience—approximately 150 hours. Students who successfully complete the prescribed hours in supervised ministry should be able to understand more clearly their calling to and giftedness for Christian ministry; to perform some of the duties of Christian ministry with a minimal degree of proficiency; to articulate a more mature understanding of the nature and purposes of Christian ministry; and to give evidence of a sensitivity to the working of God's grace in his or her life. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVML 501. One credit each.

DVML 551, 651 *Clinical Pastoral Education I and II*

These courses are basic half-units (200 hours each) of Clinical Pastoral Education [CPE] at an ACPE-accredited institution. Students work as chaplains/ministers to patients, families and/or hospital staff (when conducted in a medical-care setting). Emphasis is on clinical work, personal and theological reflection, peer and supervisor feedback, and application of experience to ministry. Students must apply for admission to an accredited CPE program and gain acceptance into said program before registering for this course. Students are responsible for any program fees or tuition charged by the CPE program. DVML 551 and 651, taken in succession, may be substituted for one of the three required courses—DVML 550, 650, and 750. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVML 501. Three credits each.

DVML 751 *Clinical Pastoral Education*

This course is one unit (400 hours) of Clinical Pastoral Education [CPE] at an ACPE-accredited institution. Students work as chaplains/ministers to patients, families, and/or hospital staff (when conducted in a medical-care setting). Emphasis is on clinical work, personal and theological reflection, peer and supervisor feedback, and application of experience to ministry. Students must apply for admission to an accredited CPE program and gain acceptance into said program before registering for this course. Students are responsible for any program fees or tuition charged by the CPE program. DVML 751 may be substituted for one of three required courses—DVML 550, 650, and 750. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVML 501. Six credits.

MISSIONS

DVMS 503 *Biblical and Theological Perspectives on Missions*

This course will focus on biblical and theological perspectives of mission and missions with two primary objectives: to explore mission and missions in the Old and New Testaments; and to explore the theology of missions through the study of important theologians and issues. This course will also introduce the history of missions, the globalization of Christianity, cross-cultural issues, the call to missions, and the mobilization of the local church. Two credits.

DVMS 504 *Historical Perspectives on Missions*

This course will focus on the historical perspectives on missions with two primary objectives: to explore a survey of the history of the major epochs of Christian missions; and to explore the theological and cultural issues which the church has faced in its worldwide expansion. This course will also introduce the Bible and mission, the globalization of Christianity, cross-cultural issues, the missionary life and issues, and the mobilization of the local church. Two credits.

DVMS 505 *Perspectives on World Christianities*

This course focuses on Christianity as a worldwide movement by looking at the development and present state of missions and the church in the major regions of the world (Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe). The course also introduces the Bible and missions, short-term missions, cross-cultural communication, the call to missions, and mobilizing the local church. Two credits.

DVMS 506 *Contemporary Missions: Issues and Strategies*

This course provides an in-depth survey of contemporary missions through the prism of issues and strategies. The course also introduces the Bible and missions, short-term missions, cross-cultural communication, the call to missions, and mobilizing the local church. Two credits.

DVMS 521–522 *Special Topics in Missions*

These courses are special studies in a selected aspect of missions not otherwise covered in the Missions curriculum. Two or three credits.

DVMS 651 *Introduction to Islam*

This course surveys key elements in the life of Islam viewed from a Christian perspective with the aim of preparing Christians for ministry to Muslims. Special attention is given to the role of Muhammad; the Quran; diversity within Islam; and Islamic values, thought, social structure, and theology. Implications for cross-cultural communication are analyzed along with questions of contextualization. Two credits.

NEW TESTAMENT

DVNT 511 *Introduction to New Testament Greek*

This course studies the language in which the New Testament was written with special attention to the basic forms of nouns and adjectives, the inflection of simple indicative verbs, and the rudiments of Greek syntax. Three credits.

DVNT 512 *Greek Syntax and Translation*

This course continues study of Greek grammar and syntax, translation of selected passages from the Greek New Testament, and an introduction to exegetical method. *Prerequisite:* DVNT 511 or equivalent. Three credits.

DVNT 521–522 *Special Topics in New Testament Exposition*

These courses are special, advanced studies in a selected aspect of New Testament exposition not otherwise covered in New Testament curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 503. Two or three credits.

DVNT 602 *Advanced New Testament Theology*

This course studies the history of biblical and New Testament theology as discrete disciplines, the philosophical warrant for thinking about New Testament theology as Christians, the major theological themes of the three parts of the New Testament canon, and the theological unity of the entire New Testament. Special attention is given to the significance of the New Testament's major theological themes for the church today. *Prerequisites:* DVBF 501, 502 and 503. Two or three credits.

DVNT 616 *Greek Exegesis Practicum*

This course is a comprehensive study of intermediate Greek grammar and exegetical method based on the Greek text of Ephesians or Colossians. *Prerequisites:* DVNT 511 and 512 or equivalent. Three credits.

DVNT 703 *Advanced New Testament Study*

This course is designed by the advanced student in consultation with the instructor to pursue a topic of special interest not otherwise covered in New Testament curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 503. Two or three credits.

DVNT 721–722 *Special Topics in New Testament*

These courses are special studies in a selected aspect of New Testament studies not otherwise covered in New Testament curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 503. One to three credits.

DVNT 731–732 *Special Topics in New Testament Exegesis*

These courses consist of exegetical study of a selected book or books based on the Greek text. *Prerequisite:* DVNT 616. Three credits.

OLD TESTAMENT

DVOT 511 *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*

This course studies the essentials of biblical Hebrew grammar, including phonology, morphology, and vocabulary. Three credits.

DVOT 512 *Hebrew Syntax and Translation*

This course continues study of biblical Hebrew grammar and syntax and translation of selected passages from the Hebrew Bible. *Prerequisite:* DVOT 511 or equivalent. Three credits.

DVOT 521–522 *Special Topics in Old Testament Exposition*

These courses are special advanced studies in a selected aspect of Old Testament exposition not otherwise covered in Old Testament curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 502. Two or three credits.

DVOT 602 *Advanced Old Testament Theology*

This course surveys methods used in contemporary Old Testament theologies and the development of Old Testament theology centered on the Old Testament text itself. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 502. Two or three credits.

DVOT 607 *Women and the Bible*

This course is a through-the-Bible detailed study of God's design for women in creation, culture, and Christianity. The substance of the course is biblical exposition and the discussion of interpretations. The goal of the exposition and discussion is the synthesis of biblical material. The relevance of the synthesis is the spiritual development of the household of faith, both women and men. Three credits.

DVOT 616 *Hebrew Exegesis Practicum*

This course studies the method and research tools of Hebrew exegesis with application to a selected book or books in the Old Testament. *Prerequisites:* DVOT 511 and DVOT 512 or equivalents. Three credits.

DVOT 703–704 *Advanced Old Testament Study*

These courses are designed by the advanced student in consultation with the instructor to pursue a topic of special interest not otherwise covered in Old Testament curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 502. Two or three credits each course.

DVOT 705 *Biblical Archaeology*

This course surveys archaeology as it pertains to the Old Testament in general and Israel specifically. It includes a study of major findings of archaeology, both written texts and cultural remains; a correlation of these findings with biblical records; and an assessment of the value of archaeology in the study and exposition of the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 502. Three credits.

DVOT 713–714 *Advanced Hebrew Reading*

These courses are designed by the advanced student in consultation with the instructor to pursue the study of Hebrew beyond the bounds set by other courses offered in Old Testament curriculum. Two or three credits each course.

DVOT 721–722 *Special Topics in Old Testament*

This course is a special study in a selected aspect of Old Testament studies not otherwise covered in Old Testament curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVBF 502. One to three credits.

DVOT 731–732 *Special Topics in Old Testament Exegesis*

These courses consist of exegetical study of a selected book or books based on the Hebrew text. *Prerequisite:* DVOT 616. Three credits.

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

DVPH 701 *Philosophy of Religion*

This course surveys the relationship between some of the main questions of philosophy and Christian faith. Attention is given to philosophical questions regarding Christian beliefs and to philosophical statements of Christian truth. The class examines contemporary unbelief and some Christian presentations of a case for belief in God. Two or three credits.

DVPH 705 *Introduction to Apologetics*

This course examines the most frequently raised objections to and questions about Christian faith. Consideration is given to effective responses to objections, including hostile objections. Some consideration is given to what apologetics is and the use of logical arguments in apologetics. Two or three credits.

PASTORAL MINISTRY

DVPM 601 *Life and Work of the Pastor*

This course consists of selected studies of problems and opportunities related to the personal life and professional ministry of the Christian pastor. Two or three credits.

DVPM 602 *Pastoral Leadership in the Small Church*

This course is designed for individuals interested in pastoral ministry. Specifically, the course explores the dynamics of pastoring a small church and examines strategies for effective ministry. Two or three credits.

DVPM 606 *Planting and Growing a Church*

This course analyzes biblical, historical and contemporary components of church planting and church growth. Emphasis is given to the development of a workable local church evangelism program in a contemporary secular milieu. The course explores how to think creatively about assessing and implementing usable church planting techniques. Two or three credits.

DVPM 607 *The Writing Minister*

This course helps ministers and other interested Christians develop self-critical writing and editing skills. It seeks to enable Christian writers to produce materials with an eye to eventual publication in each of several areas of Christian publishing: church newsletters, curriculum materials, magazine articles, short stories, and a book prospectus. Two credits.

DVPM 701 *Pastoral Counseling*

This course is a detailed study of the history, theology, and skills of pastoral counseling. A major emphasis of the course is the development of a biblical counseling model. Skill development focuses on listening, diagnosis, development of strategies, application of biblical principles, and referral. Special topics include premarital, family, career, crisis, grief, and substance-use counseling. Three credits.

DVPM 702 *Marriage and Family Counseling*

This course studies principles and methods of dealing with specific marriage and family problems with an emphasis on premarital counseling. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVPM 701. Two or three credits.

DVPM 703 *Crisis, Trauma, and Grief Counseling*

This course explores in-depth the psychological and systemic dynamics associated with experiences of crisis, trauma, and grief. Emphasis is placed on the role of the minister in responding to crisis situations, in providing pastoral guidance in times of bereavement and loss, in providing safety in the church for individuals to process past experiences of abuse and trauma, and in serving as a role model for the community as a messenger of truth and grace. This course is oriented toward the practical rather than the theoretical and toward the victim rather than the victimizer. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVPM 701. Two or three credits.

DVPM 704 *Counseling Emotional Problems*

This course equips pastors to help church members overcome debilitating personal and emotional struggles. Some problem areas include fear, anger, resentment, jealousy, hate, disappointment, depression, forgiveness, perfectionism, bad habits and others. Students learn why emotional issues are also spiritual problems, develop paradigms to facilitate effective biblical counseling, and discover ways parents can develop emotionally healthy families. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVPM 701. Two credits.

DVPM 721 *Special Topics in Pastoral Ministry*

This course is a detailed study of one aspect of the practice of pastoral ministry in the context of the local church. Special features include field investigation, lectures and seminars by experienced practitioners in the area of ministry, and hands-on instruction where possible. *Prerequisite or corequisite:* DVPM 701. Two or three credits.

PREACHING

DVPR 601 *Christian Preaching*

This course is a detailed study of the principles of sermon preparation and delivery. Topics include types of sermons and the relationship of exegesis, hermeneutics, and theology to the task of preaching. Special attention is given to the development of skill in preparation of expository sermons from the biblical text. The course also introduces principles of sermon delivery. *Prerequisites:* 22-hour core (see M.Div. degree requirements). Three credits.

DVPR 602 *Preaching Practicum*

This course studies sermon delivery by means of experience in a laboratory setting. The course includes study of the principles of speech communication as well as the delivery of sermons for self-study and evaluation. Audio and video recordings of sermons are utilized. *Prerequisites:* 22-hour core (see M.Div. degree requirements) and DVPR 601. Three credits.

DVPR 607 *Expository Preaching*

This course gives students experience in applying exegetical and homiletic principles to the preparation of expository sermons. Sermons by recognized expository preachers as well as sermons by members of the class are evaluated. The aim is to make biblical exposition relevant to contemporary needs with specific attention given to preaching through individual books of the Bible. *Prerequisite:* DVPR 602. Two or three credits.

DVPR 609 *Doctrinal Preaching*

This course examines the theology, history, and practice of doctrinal preaching. Attention is given to the biblical/theological basis for doctrinal preaching, the historical development of doctrinal preaching and hermeneutical issues related to the art of doctrinal preaching. The essential and relevant nature of doctrinal preaching for the contemporary church is emphasized. *Prerequisite:* DVPR 601. Three credits.

DVPR 704 *Creative Preaching*

This course examines principles that add dimension and interest to pulpit rhetoric. It emphasizes style, word usage, story telling, and the arts as components of interest enhancement. The aim is to enable students to prepare sound exposition with imagination and interest, and to deliver sermons in creative force. *Prerequisite:* DVPR 602. Two or three credits.

DVPR 721 *Special Topics in Preaching*

This course is a special study in a selected aspect of preaching not otherwise covered in preaching curriculum. Two or three credits.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

DVSF 501 *Spiritual Formation*

This course is required of all students in their first semester. It is designed to challenge students to develop and deepen spiritual resources for ministry. Subjects include calling, prayer, praise, devotional use of the word of God, ministries of the Holy Spirit, and spiritual formation through the disciplines of Christian life. Two credits.

DVSF 601 *Early Christian Spirituality*

This course focuses on key writers, such as Irenaeus, Athanasius, Gregory of Nyssa, and Evagrius of Pontus, to illuminate key themes from the Patristic period, such as the nature of sin and the passions, the image of God in human salvation, and the personal nature of theology grounded in prayer. The intent is to examine differences and similarities between this period and now, and to make judgments concerning the usefulness of early Christian spirituality today. *Prerequisite:* DVSF 501. Two credits.

DVSF 603 *African American Spirituality*

This course examines African American spirituality in the Christian tradition. It explores the African cosmology or worldview as a prelude to African American spirituality in human liberation. Students are encouraged to reflect theologically and to seek common ground between their religious orientation and the African American tradition. *Prerequisite:* DVSF 501. Two credits.

DVSF 607 *Walking with the Saints*

This course pursues the subject of “Union with Christ” as presented through spiritual classics so that students may develop a love of great devotional literature of the Christian faith and use these great themes in practical ways to develop their walk with Christ. *Prerequisite:* DVSF 501. Two credits.

DVSF 609 *C. S. Lewis: Apostle to the Skeptics*

This course examines the life and writings of C. S. Lewis and reviews his relevancy for understanding the Christian message and task today. *Prerequisite:* DVSF 501. Two credits.

DVSF 621–622 *Special Topics in Spiritual Formation*

These courses are special studies in a selected aspect of spiritual formation not otherwise covered in the Spiritual Formation curriculum. *Prerequisite:* DVSF 501. Two credits.

DVSF 710 *Spiritual Formation Mentoring*

This course involves reviewing biblical foundations for spiritual formation, deepening and strengthening the student’s own spiritual formation through Scripture and prayer, understanding the role of a spiritual mentor, and learning to do individual and group spiritual direction. This course serves as a capstone course in Spiritual Formation. *Prerequisites:* DVSF 501 and one 600-level DVSF course. Two credits.

DIRECTED STUDY

DVTH 701 *Faith and Vocation*

This course introduces students not pursuing careers in full-time paid ministry to the process of integrating theological studies and vocational objectives. *Prerequisites:* DVBF 503 and DVHD 601. One credit. M.A.T.S. students only.

DVTH 741 *Special Studies in Divinity*

This course is designed by the advanced student in consultation with the instructor to pursue a topic of special interest not otherwise covered in the divinity curriculum. See page 38 for a complete description and procedures for a directed study course. Two credits.

DVTH 798, 799 *Master’s Thesis*

For a description and procedures, see page 41 in the “Academic Policies” section. Three credits each course.

Doctor of Ministry

DVDM 801 *The Reflective Practice of Ministry*

This course involves the practice of personal exploration while discovering how personality affects leadership behaviors, the process of balancing rhetoric and servanthood, and the measurement of a minister’s performance. Six credits.

DVDM 811 *Biblical Theology for Christian Ministry*

This course studies and applies principles of relating Christian Scripture to the current church and society. It updates the minister in current biblical resources for interpretation and practice in the interpretation of selected passages from the Old and New Testament. Six credits.

DVDM 812, 814, 816 *Field Supervision I, II, and III*

These semesters of ministry take place under the supervision of a trained ministry mentor who assists the student in reflection upon ministry-related issues via assignments made in response to on-campus seminars. One credit each.

DVDM 821 *Spiritual Theology for Christian Ministry*

This seminar examines the theology and practice of significant pastoral issues such as the call of God, the mission of the church, the priesthood of all believers, the pastor's self-understanding, the ministry of the Word, worship, sacraments, preaching, music, church growth, leadership, and the formation and growth of the congregation. Six credits.

DVDM 822 *Methods and Models of Biblical Preaching*

This course concentrates on and examines major homiletical methods and models, including the deductive or propositional method, and the inductive or narrative/sermonic plot method. Six credits.

DVDM 831 *Ministry Studies Seminar*

This seminar seeks to update and enhance the practice of selected aspects of the arts of ministry. Topics vary yearly among preaching, leadership, pastoral counseling, worship leadership, spirituality, and others. Current practitioners in ministry usually lead the units of study. Six credits.

DVDM 834 *Strategic Leadership*

This course focuses on the leadership responsibility of the pastor in guiding a continuous process of strategic change, giving particular attention to the contribution of pulpit ministry in enabling the church to fulfill its mission. Six credits.

DVDM 841, 842, 843, 844 *Selected Topics I, II, III, and IV*

These elective, one-week seminars in selected topics may take the form of a directed study designed by the advanced student in consultation with the professor to pursue independently a topic of special interest not otherwise covered in the curriculum. Some courses offered under this heading include Issues in Marriage and Family Ministry, Leading Your Church in Worship, Pastoral Evangelism, and Doctrinal Preaching. Three credits each.

DVDM 850 *Research in Ministry*

This independent study is directed by the student's faculty adviser to strengthen development of the ministry praxis. The faculty adviser aids the student in developing a research plan and receives an accounting of the student's findings at the conclusion of the term. The study should be initiated nine months before the student's scheduled time for attending the Praxis Proposal seminar. Three credits.

DVDM 860 *Praxis Proposal Seminar*

This seminar is designed to provide guidance for students as they write proposals for their ministry praxis. Three credits.

DVDM 871, 872 *Ministry Praxis/Dissertation I and II*

The implementation of a major ministry research praxis in the student's place of ministry includes a formal written report that describes and evaluates the praxis, followed by an oral examination on the praxis and its dissertation. Students are given two semesters to complete the praxis and dissertation. A continuation fee is charged for subsequent semesters. Three credits each.

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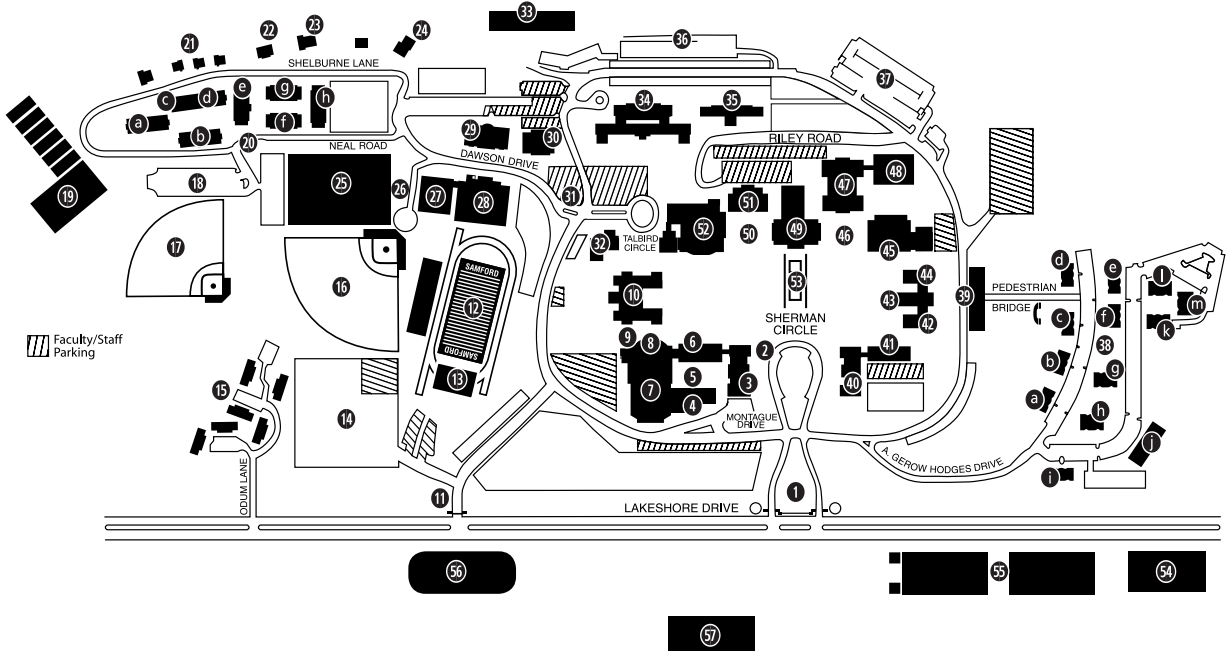
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MAP

Directions to Campus

From I-65, take Exit 255 and turn east on Lakeshore Drive. Travel approximately 1.5 miles and turn left at the traffic light at the main entrance of Samford University. Turn left onto Montague Drive at the first stop sign. Divinity Hall is on the right with a large dome. The Hodges Chapel entrance faces west.



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|--|---|--|
| 1. Main Gate | 20e. Phi Mu | 40. Robert I. Ingalls, Sr. Hall (Pharmacy) |
| 2. Sherman Oak | 20f. Chi Omega | 41. Thomas D. Russell Hall |
| 3. Frank Park Samford Hall (Admission, Administration) | 20g. Alpha Delta Pi | 42. James Horton Chapman Hall |
| 4. Jane Hollock Brock Hall | 20h. Zeta Tau Alpha | 43. A. Hamilton Reid Chapel |
| 4a. Jane Hollock Brock Recital Hall | 21. Facilities Management Houses | 44. Percy Pratt Burns Hall |
| 5. Hazel P. Boren Courtyard and Garden | 22. Pi Kappa Phi House | 45. Elinor Messer Brooks and Marion Thomas Brooks Hall (Arts and Sciences) |
| 6. John H. Buchanan Hall (Arts) | 23. Air Force ROTC Detachment | 46. Martha F. and Albert P. Brewer Plaza |
| 7. Leslie S. Wright Fine Arts Center | 24. Lambda Chi Alpha House | 47. Memory Leake Robinson Hall (Law) |
| 8. Bonnie Bolding Swearingen Hall | 25. Pete Hanna Center (Athletics) | 48. Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library |
| 8a. Benjamin F. Harrison Theatre | 25a. Thomas E. and Maria H. Corts Arena | 49. Harwell G. Davis University Library |
| 8b. Bolding Studio | 25b. Fitness/Wellness Center | 50. Ben Brown Plaza |
| 8c. Samford Art Gallery | 26. Bulldog Spirit Plaza | 51. Dwight M. Beeson Hall (Business) |
| 9. Gertha Itasca Earwood Bolding Memorial Garden | 27. Leo E. Bashinsky Field House | 52. Ralph W. Beeson University Center |
| 10. Divinity Hall (Divinity) | 28. F. Page Seibert Hall | 52a. Dining Hall |
| 10a. Andrew Gerow Hodges Chapel | 29. Dwight M. and Lucille S. Beeson Center for Healing Arts (Nursing) | 52b. Bookstore |
| 11. West Gate Entrance | 30. Orlean Bullard Beeson Hall (Education and Professional Studies) | 52c. The Hub (Information Center) |
| 12. F. Page Seibert Stadium | 31. Victory Flag | 53. Centennial Walk/University Quadrangle |
| 12a. Leo E. Bashinsky Press Tower | 32. John D. Pittman Hall | 54. Children's Learning Center |
| 13. Cooney Family Field House | 33. Facilities Management | 55. Intramural/Recreation Complex |
| 14. South Stadium Parking Lot | 33a. Shipping and Receiving | 55a. Alpine Tower |
| 15. Student Apartments | 34. Lena Vail Davis Residence Hall | 56. Track and Soccer Stadium |
| 16. Joe Lee Griffin Baseball Field | 35. Mamie Mell Smith Residence Hall | 57. President's Home (1994 Shades Crest Road) |
| 16a. Carl E. Miller, Jr. Press Box | 36. North Parking Deck | |
| 17. Bulldog Softball Field | 37. Northeast Parking Deck | |
| 18. West Parking Deck | 38. Beeson Woods Residence Halls | |
| 19. Samford Tennis Center | a. James Hall | |
| 19a. Darwin E. Hardison Tennis Courts | h. Lucille Hall | |
| 19b. Pat Murphy Courington Tennis Pavilion | b. Luther Hall | |
| | i. Treetop Hall | |
| | c. Malcolm Hall | |
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| 20. West Campus Residence Halls | | |
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Information in this catalog covers academic years 2011–13.

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The Beeson Divinity School Bulletin is published by Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama 35229. Second class postage is paid at Birmingham, Alabama.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Divinity School Bulletin, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35229.

Volume 16
June 2011

USPS 253-020

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