



# Catalog

2015-2016

# **THE BAPTIST SEMINARY OF KENTUCKY CATALOG**

This catalog contains the proposed program, regulations, requirements, and general information for Baptist Seminary of Kentucky as of the 2015-2016 academic year. It should be used only for informational purposes and does not constitute a contract. All information, including admissions requirements, tuition, degree requirements, course offerings, and Seminary policies, is subject to change without notice and is in no way binding upon the Seminary.

For more information, please contact the Seminary:

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Georgetown, KY 40324-1628  
[www.bsk.edu](http://www.bsk.edu)

General Inquiries: 502-863-8300 | [info@bsk.edu](mailto:info@bsk.edu)  
Admissions Inquiries: 502-863-8301 | [admissions@bsk.edu](mailto:admissions@bsk.edu)

## **ACCREDITATION**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS). The Master of Divinity degree program is approved by the Commission on Accrediting.

More information about the Commission is available at [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu). The Commission may be contacted by mail (Commission on Accrediting, Association of Theological Schools, 10 Summit Park Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15275) or by phone (412-788-6505).

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is committed to offering equal access to educational opportunities for all qualified students. BSK does not discriminate in matters of hiring, admissions, academics, or student affairs on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, gender, disability, or age.

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# PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Greetings!

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky, let me offer you a word of welcome. We are delighted by your interest and participation in the BSK community. We hope you have come with an openness to God's call to ministry, an openness to growing in your faith through thoughtful study, and an openness to sharing your faith journey with others.



Our main focus is expressed in the following statement: “The purpose of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is to prepare men and women sensing God’s leadership for life and ministry in faithful witness to Christ in the church and the world.”

To fulfill our purpose, we offer a learning environment in which we stress excellence in academics, development in spiritual formation, and praxis in ministry. We do this in community by reading together, praying together, discerning together, eating together, and imagining together. The Seminary experience will be much richer if all of us – students, faculty, and staff – make a special effort to be “together.”

Please know that we are available to help each of you in ways that will enhance and enrich your life as a person, as a student, and as a minister of the Gospel of Christ. Feel free to contact us when particular needs arise.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg C. Earwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Greg C. Earwood, Ph.D.  
President

# BAPTIST SEMINARY OF KENTUCKY: AN OVERVIEW

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is a small, freestanding, regional theological school that offers the Master of Divinity degree (with an optional concentration in Pastoral Care and Counseling). The intimate size of our learning community and an educational approach, which attends first to the formation of ministerial identities rather than the mere transfer of information, distinguish BSK from other theological institutions. The sum of these qualities is an environment that develops ministers who are theologically reflective, morally healthy, spiritually mature, and practically trained for life and ministry in a variety of contexts.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is to prepare men and women sensing God's leadership for life and ministry in faithful witness to Jesus Christ in the church and the world.

## VISION

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is a learning community committed to spiritual, moral, intellectual, and practical formation in the Christian life. Students, faculty, staff, and members of our wider ecclesial community nurture personal faith:

*with* gratitude for our Baptist history and heritage and an active commitment to a global and ecumenical vision of the Church;

*through* honest intellectual engagement that reflects scholarly discipline, humility, and a tolerance for ambiguity and diversity in thought;

*by* cultivating virtuous lives rooted in Christian habits and practices, such as reading together, eating together, praying together, gifting one another, learning together, confessing together, discerning together, serving together, and hoping together; and

*by* encouraging one another in the discernment of spiritual gifts and the development of pastoral imagination and skills.

## BSK COMMITMENTS

BSK serves the Church by helping in the formation of Christians for serving and building up the body of Christ. To this end...

- we provide advanced theological studies for those called of God to ministry (full-time or part-time, ordained or laity); and
- we resource churches for discerning and equipping in mission and ministry.

BSK is committed to theological education affirming the God-given gifts of each student and grounded in spiritual, moral, and intellectual formation in the Christian life. This includes...

- the nurture of personal faith within community by reading and receiving the word together, eating together, and praying together;
- the cultivation of virtuous lives rooted in Christian habits and practices;
- honest intellectual engagement in the face of difficult questions of faith, reflecting scholarly discipline, humility, and a tolerance for ambiguity and diversity in thought; and
- encouragement in the discernment of spiritual gifts and the nurture of pastoral imagination.

At BSK, we are committed to God's calling...

- to bear witness to Jesus Christ in relationship with persons from diverse cultures both in our communities and throughout the world;
- to seek the unity of the church for which Christ prayed and to embrace the work and witness of the larger Christian community in a spirit of cooperation, respect, and acceptance; and
- to pursue and practice together peace, justice, reconciliation, forgiveness, mercy, patience, and hope, the virtues of Jesus' beloved community.

At BSK, we draw upon the breadth and depth of the whole Christian tradition to undergird our common life and Christian formation. As Baptists, we especially value...

- the authority of Scripture, through which God's truth found in Jesus Christ is revealed to us and transforms us;
- the priesthood of all believers, who practice the Christian faith within the community of God's people as priests to one another;
- the freedom and responsibility of each congregation under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to discern the mind of Christ and to order its common life accordingly;
- the freedom and responsibility of each individual to follow his or her conscience under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and in covenant with fellow believers to discern the mind of Christ;

- dissent both as freedom from coercion in all religious matters through the separation of church and state and as a gift given and received within the covenant community; and
- partnership in mission and ministry with fellow believers, in our case especially with the churches of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

### **The Baptist Seminary of Kentucky Difference**

What makes BSK different from neighboring seminaries, divinity schools, and/or Bible colleges?

- We value Christian tradition highly, but we are skeptical of dogmatic and authoritarian claims to represent that tradition and God's truth.
- We seek answers sufficient for living out our faith, but where Christian perspectives differ on what it means to be faithful in interpreting Scripture and in living out the good news of God in Christ, we seek discernment through deliberation and respectful dialogue with diverse communities.
- We recognize that our understanding is ultimately partial and incomplete and that complete knowledge remains shrouded in mystery; therefore, we strive to practice humility and charity as we listen together for the leading of the Spirit.
- We advocate for and support women in all roles of ministry, and we maintain an openness on a variety of biblical and theological issues.
- As faculty and students, our primary commitment is to exercise together scholarly gifts and vocation as stewards of the mysteries in service to God's church.



# THE BSK TRADITION

## ORIGINS

During the early to mid-1990s, a confluence of events led a number of Kentucky Baptists to seek new and inventive ways of training ministers that reflected the diversity of Baptist identity and worship in the Commonwealth and took into account shifting cultural realities. These events included:

- changes in the theological direction and leadership of the Southern Baptist Convention, Kentucky Baptist Convention, and Southern Baptist seminaries;
- the formation of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship; and
- the creation of new Baptist theological schools and houses of study in the South.

As a result, a group of ministers, laity, and theological professors formed a Joint Venture Committee to consider alternative avenues of theological education among Baptists in Kentucky. Their initial gathering, which took place on October 30, 1995, was blessed by the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

By mid-1996, the Joint Venture Committee had made several significant decisions about forming a new theological school in Kentucky. Through prayer and conversation, the Committee agreed to prepare women and men for ministry in the church and the world; to value historical Baptist principles while participating in the larger Christian community; and to stress a formational approach emphasizing spiritual growth and the practical dimensions of ministry. Another early important decision was that the school would be free-standing and not under the governance of an existing seminary or college.

A major challenge remained – the choice of a name that would reflect the various rationales for forming the school. The Committee reached consensus on “Baptist Seminary of Kentucky.”

### ***Baptist.***

The founders of BSK valued Baptist principles such as the authority of Scripture to transform lives, the priesthood of all believers, the church as gathered congregations of believers, conscientious dissent, freedom from religious coercion, and the importance of partnerships between Baptist congregations, institutions, and individuals. At the same



time, the Seminary would affirm the necessity of drawing upon the breadth and depth of the whole Christian tradition to undergird Christian life and formation.

### Baptist *Seminary*.

“Seminary” has its roots in a word that refers to a seed plot where plants are nurtured and grown. BSK would be a place where students and faculty would learn together to cultivate habits and practices of faithful Christian living, to ask questions, to nurture spiritual gifts, to develop a theological imagination, and to pursue God’s calling on their lives.

### Baptist Seminary of *Kentucky*.

One concern about including “Kentucky” was based on being perceived as provincial or exclusive of non-Kentuckians. Yet the founders understood that the location in Kentucky would be attractive to students in this region who wanted to stay close to home and would also address the geographical gap between new “moderate” Baptist schools located on the east coast and those in Texas. Kentucky was a vital part of the name.

The work of creating this new school was accomplished formally through the Board of Trustees while many of the practical aspects were moved forward through what had become The Committee for Baptist Seminary of Kentucky (composed of trustees and non-trustees). BSK’s incorporation in the Commonwealth of Kentucky occurred in November of 1996.

Kentucky pastor Dr. Greg C. Earwood was elected as Baptist Seminary of Kentucky’s first president and began on September 1, 2001. In August 2002, the first classes were offered at Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington, which graciously hosted the Seminary during its first three years of operation. The majority of the faculty teaching load in these early years was covered by Dr. E. Glenn Hinson as Senior Professor of Church History and Spirituality along with Dr. Dalen Jackson, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies.

In 2005, BSK moved to the campus of Lexington Theological Seminary where academic life was highly valued. The two seminaries engaged in the practice of “sharing space and sharing grace” for the next five years. In August 2010, the Seminary joined in its present partnership with Georgetown College, built upon a common Baptist identity, educational excellence, and a sense of permanency. Today BSK continues to engage students in spiritual formation, theological reflection, and practical training as we prepare together for life and ministry in the church and the world.

## KEY MOMENTS IN SEMINARY HISTORY

**1995:** Baptist ministers and laity first gathered in Elizabethtown and then in Frankfort for what was called the Kentucky Consultation on Baptist Theological Education.

**1995:** A Joint Venture Committee was created by the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship to explore partnership opportunities with existing seminaries in Kentucky and elsewhere.

**1996:** The Joint Venture Committee became an autonomous group and secured incorporation from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, creating the Baptist Seminary of Kentucky and naming eleven Trustees. The Committee for Baptist Seminary of Kentucky continued to function as the main working group.

**1997:** The Trustees of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky launched a series of meetings around the Commonwealth to ascertain needs and interests.

**2001:** Baptist Seminary of Kentucky elected longtime Kentucky pastor (Louisville, Murray, and Georgetown) Dr. Greg C. Earwood as the first president.

**2002:** Classes began at Calvary Baptist Church (Lexington) in August with 14 students. Dr. Dalen Jackson, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, became Baptist Seminary of Kentucky's first full-time faculty member.

**2005:** The Seminary held its first commencement ceremony with three graduates. Dr. E. Glenn Hinson delivered the address to the graduates.

**2005:** On August 1, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky relocated to the campus of Lexington Theological Seminary. While remaining separate institutions with distinctive identities, the two seminaries began "sharing space and sharing grace."

**2007:** On September 8, the Seminary celebrated its Encenia, a celebration of the founding of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. Dr. Emmanuel McCall was the event's featured speaker

**2008:** On March 10, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky installed Dr. Dalen Jackson, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, as the school's first Academic Dean.

**2009:** On March 6, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky launched the E. Glenn Hinson Lecture Series. Dr. Hinson delivered the inaugural lecture.

**2010:** Baptist Seminary of Kentucky received Associate Membership in the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS).

**2010:** The Seminary relocated to its present location on the campus of Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky, during the summer.

**2012:** On August 25, the Seminary recognized the completion of its tenth year of classes with a Tenth Anniversary Celebration held on the campus of Georgetown College. Dr. Brett Younger was the featured speaker.

**2013:** The Seminary was granted Candidacy for Accredited Status by the ATS Board of Commissioners and began a two year period of institutional self-study.

**2015:** In June, the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools granted Baptist Seminary of Kentucky accreditation, approving the Master of Divinity degree program.



# FACULTY & STAFF

## FULL-TIME FACULTY

**Greg C. Earwood**, President and Professor of Hebrew (2002)

B.A., Mississippi College

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

**John D. Inscore Essick**, Assistant Professor of Church History (2009)

B.S., Appalachian State University

M.Div., Campbell University Divinity School

Ph.D., Baylor University

**Dalen C. Jackson**, Academic Dean (2008) and Professor of Biblical Studies (2002)

B.A., Samford University

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

**Laura R. Levens**, Assistant Professor of Christian Mission (2014)

B.A., Baylor University

M.Div., Th.D., Duke University

**Mark S. Medley**, Associate Professor of Theology (2007)

B.S., University of North Carolina

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

Studies at University of Notre Dame

**G. Wade Rowatt**, Senior Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling (2009)

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

Studies at Claremont School of Theology and Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry

Dr. Rowatt taught as an adjunct from 2002-2009 before becoming full-time.

## ADJUNCT FACULTY

**David Adams**, Adjunct Professor of Christian Education (2003)

B.A., University of Kentucky

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

**Charles B. Bugg**, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Leadership (2012)

B.A., Stetson University

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

**Eileen R. Campbell-Reed**, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology (2012)

B.A., Carson-Newman College

M.Div., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

M.A., Ph.D., Vanderbilt University

**Deborah L. Endean**, Adjunct Professor of Old Testament (2014)

B.M., Wheaton College

M.M., University of Michigan

M.A., Ph.D. Candidate, Asbury Theological Seminary

**Roy Fuller**, Adjunct Professor of World Religions (2006)

B.A., Southwest Baptist University

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

**E. Glenn Hinson**, Senior Professor of Church History and Spirituality (2002)

B.A., Washington University

B.D., Th.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

D.Phil., Oxford University

**Mark Johnson**, Adjunct Professor of Christian Ministry (2005)

B.S., University of Kentucky

M.Div., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

D.Min., Lexington Theological Seminary

**Richard L. Landon**, Adjunct Professor of Spirituality and Pastoral Care (2002)

B.A., Oklahoma Baptist University

M.A., Oklahoma University

B.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

D.Min., Lexington Theological Seminary

**Ryan D. Shrauner**, Librarian (2014)

B.A., Willamette University

M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary

S.T.M., General Theological Seminary

M.S.L.S., University of Kentucky

**William L. Turner**, Senior Lecturer in Preaching and Worship (2003)

B.A., Samford University

B.D., Th.M., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

D.Min., Lexington Theological Seminary

## STAFF

**Lee Collins**, Director of Development (2015)

B.A., University of Kentucky

M.Div., Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

**Stephen L. Hadden**, Assistant to the President (2010)

B.S., Mercer University

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

**Jarrold Lopez**, Director of Admissions (2012)

B.A., Georgetown College

M.Div., Baptist Seminary of Kentucky

**Ellen R. Parks**, Academic Secretary (2007)

B.A., Eastern Kentucky University

**Glenda Simpson**, Administrative Assistant (2002)

B.S., Murray State University

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. Robert Browning  
*Frankfort, KY*

Mr. Larry Gray  
*Corbin, KY*

Ms. Melody Chaney  
*Hardyville, KY*

Dr. William Holmes  
*Louisville, KY*

Rev. Joan Clagett  
*Elizabethtown, KY*

Dr. Terry Lester  
*London, KY*

Mr. Michael Collins  
*Georgetown, KY*

Dr. Everett McCorvey  
*Lexington, KY*

Dr. Robert DeFoor  
*Harrodsburg, KY*

Mr. John McCoy  
*Houston, TX*

Rev. D. Anthony Everett  
*Lexington, KY*

Ms. Ann McMahan  
*Crestwood, KY*

Dr. Joan Fowler  
*Georgetown, KY*

Mr. Trent Thompson  
*Lexington, KY*



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## **BSK Offices**

Administrative Office: Main Floor Suite, Ensor Learning Resource Center (LRC)

Academic Office: Lower Level Suite, LRC

Admissions Office: 223 East College Street

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

## **BSK Parking**

Students, faculty, staff, and visitors may park in the Georgetown Baptist Church parking lot (located on the corner of Mulberry and East College) at no charge. There is also free street parking available on and around campus. Students who wish to park in one of the college's designated student parking lots may purchase a GC parking decal for \$90 per academic year. Permits may be obtained from Campus Safety in the Cralle Student Center. Cars parked in student lots without permits may be towed at the owner's expense.

## **Communication**

Students, faculty, and staff are assigned individual mail folders (located in the BSK academic office) for Seminary communications. This is the primary method for communicating information regarding community events, course registration, changes in Seminary policies, and other important matters. Students are encouraged to check their folders often. Bills and final grades are mailed directly to students.

## **G-Card**

All BSK students, faculty, and staff are issued a "G-Card." The BSK G-Card serves as a photo ID, library card, and campus services access card. G-Cards can also be used as a form of payment on campus and at several local off-campus businesses.

## **Housing**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky does not offer on-campus housing. The Seminary encourages students to live in the communities in which they minister. Students typically commute to BSK from their ministerial communities to attend classes. Those students who wish to move to Georgetown can find apartments near the Seminary that range in price from \$500 to \$800 per month. More information about off-campus housing options can be obtained from BSK's admissions office.



## **Library**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is fortunate to share library resources with Georgetown College through the College's Anna Ashcraft Ensor Learning Resources Center (LRC). Through this arrangement, BSK students have access to a quality collection of information resources to support curricular needs. Current BSK students have full on- and off-campus privileges at the LRC, including access to its resources and staff.

Check out the BSK LibGuide (<http://libguides.georgetowncollege.edu/BSK>) for a tour of relevant resources and information.

### *Other Theological Collections*

BSK is also fortunate to have partnerships with other theological libraries. Students have in-person access to the Bosworth Memorial Library at Lexington Theological Seminary, the B. L. Fisher Library at Asbury Seminary, and the Ernest Miller White Library at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. All of these institutions have research collections to help augment the curriculum support of the LRC. (Don't be afraid to introduce yourself and ask for help.)

### *Research Assistance*

Planning ahead is always the best research strategy. Contact the BSK Librarian ([librarian@bsk.edu](mailto:librarian@bsk.edu)) with research needs and questions. Additionally, research assistance is available from the faculty and staff of the LRC during all open hours.

## **Textbooks**

Students will receive via email a class-by-class instructor-generated textbook list prior to the beginning of each academic term. The Seminary encourages students to acquire textbooks in whatever way they wish.

Students often use Amazon or another online retailer to purchase textbooks. Amazon will now donate 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to a designated charity, including Baptist Seminary of Kentucky, when shopping at AmazonSmile. To shop at AmazonSmile, visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). On the first visit, select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before shopping.

Students may want to check local used bookstores for textbooks. Books also may be ordered through the Georgetown College bookstore located on the lower level of the Cralle Student Center on campus.

# COMMUNITY LIFE

Community life is a central part of the BSK experience. The Seminary's commitment to engaging students in the habits and practices of faithful Christian living is evident in the opportunities available throughout the school year for BSK students, faculty, and staff to share in each other's lives and to interact with the churches and individuals that comprise our larger community of faith.

## **Chapel**

BSK Chapel is a time for faculty, students, and staff to cultivate habits and practices of faithful Christian worship. Chapel is vital in fulfilling the Seminary's purpose and in nurturing the life and faith of the community. Chapel services are led by students, faculty, staff, and visiting speakers on Monday afternoons at 4:30 PM throughout the academic year. All students are encouraged to attend and participate in worship. A common meal follows all chapel services.

## **Eating Together**

Students, faculty, and staff regularly eat with one another during the Monday lunch hour (between the morning and afternoon classes) and during the break time on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. These moments of informal fellowship provide students, faculty, and staff with opportunities to share stories, seek advice, and enjoy each other's company.

## **E. Glenn Hinson Lecture Series**

Each year, typically on the first Monday of March, BSK hosts the E. Glenn Hinson Lectures. The series, established in 2009 in honor of Dr. Hinson's 50th year of teaching, explores formational, foundational and/or future issues in the areas of his passion: spiritual formation/spirituality, church history, ecumenism, and Baptist history. Speakers for the lectures have included:

2015: Dr. Molly T. Marshall, Central Baptist Theological Seminary

2014: Dr. Willie Jennings, Duke University

2013: Dr. Robin Jensen, Vanderbilt University

2012: Dr. Don Saliers, Emory University

2011: Dr. Stephanie Paulsell, Harvard Divinity School

2010: Dr. Wm. Loyd Allen, McAfee School of Theology

2009: Dr. E. Glenn Hinson, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky

## **Ministry Partners**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) and Kentucky Baptist Fellowship (KBF). The fellowship movement consists of approximately 1,800 affiliated churches who share a passion for the Great Commission of Jesus Christ and a commitment to Baptist principles of faith and practice.

Churches and individuals affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky (ABC IN/KY) and the Kentucky Council of Churches (KCC) also serve as ministry partners. Additionally, the Seminary works with and receives support from churches of multiple denominations across the commonwealth.

The Seminary's partnership with Georgetown College is built on shared commitments to Baptist identity and educational excellence. Beyond physical space and campus services, this essential partnership offers the Seminary community a sense of permanency. The Ensor Learning Resource Center (LRC), which houses the majority of the Seminary's offices and classrooms, provides a learning environment with abundant information resources to engage our community of learners in intellectual and spiritual growth.

## **Placement**

The admissions office maintains a list of churches with open staff positions that can be accessed from the Student Life section of the Seminary website (<http://bsk.edu/placement/ministry-positions>). The Seminary encourages students to consult this list often and to submit a current resume to the director of admissions.

Students may also use the CBF's internet-based reference and referral service to find a ministry position. The free *LeaderConnect* service strives to match the needs of churches with the skills and gifts of ministerial candidates. More information about this service can be found at [www.baptistministermatching.org](http://www.baptistministermatching.org) or by contacting Craig Janney at [cjanney@cbf.net](mailto:cjanney@cbf.net). Students are encouraged to consult the KBF website ([www.kybf.org/position-openings](http://www.kybf.org/position-openings)) for placement possibilities as well.

## **Super Summer Fun Day**

In past summers the BSK student body has organized a local off-campus event to engage the Seminary community while classes are out of session. Previous Super Summer Fun Days (on Mondays) have included a trip to Kings Island and a Lexington Legends baseball game.

# ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

The admissions office serves the Seminary by recruiting and enrolling students who are sensing God's leadership for life and ministry in faithful witness to Jesus Christ. Any person interested in becoming a student at BSK should consult the following section and is invited to contact Jarrod Lopez, Director of Admissions, at [jarrod.lopez@bsk.edu](mailto:jarrod.lopez@bsk.edu) or (502) 863-8301 for further guidance and/or to schedule a campus visit.

## **Application Deadlines**

Applications and supporting documents should be submitted by **July 15** for fall enrollment, by **December 1** for January and spring enrollment, and by **May 1** for summer enrollment.

## **Admissions Process**

An application is considered complete when all materials have been received by the director of admissions. When an application is complete, it will be reviewed by the admissions committee, which is comprised of the director of admissions, the academic dean, and full-time members of the faculty. Normally, a decision will be reached within two weeks. Students will receive an official letter from the director of admissions, which will include an offer or denial of admission. Admitted students should complete and return the "Intent to Enroll" by the deadline provided in the letter.

## **Admissions Decisions**

Admission will be based on a review by the admissions committee considering an applicant's total profile, including undergraduate GPA, ministerial experience, personal and spiritual autobiographies, recommendations, and an optional interview. Offers of admission are made on a rolling basis with priority given to applications received before the official deadlines.

## **Non-discriminatory Policy**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is committed to offering equal access to educational opportunities for all qualified students. BSK does not discriminate in matters of hiring, admissions, academic issues, or student affairs on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, gender, disability, or age.

## GENERAL ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Students are accepted according to the following categories:

1. Master of Divinity
2. Non-degree: Exploratory or Occasional
3. Non-degree: Provisional (No Bachelor's Degree/Does Not Meet Minimum Academic Requirements for Admission into the M.Div. Degree Program)
4. Special: Transient or Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)
5. Auditor

### Academic Requirements

Individuals applying for admission into the Master of Divinity degree program must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university in the United States or proof of an equivalent degree;
2. Have earned a minimum overall grade point average of 2.5 and 3.0 major GPA.

### Application Materials

An application for admission (including reference forms) can be obtained from the admissions office or downloaded from the Seminary website at <http://bsk.edu>.

Required application materials vary by admission category.

*Master of Divinity/Non-degree: Provisional/Non-degree: Exploratory or Occasional*

- A completed and signed application
- A non-refundable application fee of \$35
- An official transcript from each institution of higher education where applicant completed more than six (6) hours of study
- A completed reference form from each of the following:
  1. Minister of your home or current church
  2. Church member, family member, or peer
  3. Professor or supervisor
- Two autobiographical essays (800-1200 words each):
  1. Personal autobiography - describe your understanding of how your family history and relationships contribute to your identity and readiness for ministry

2. Spiritual autobiography - describe your understanding of the significant intellectual and religious influences on your spiritual development, how these factors have influenced your understanding of your call to ministry, and your expectations of your seminary experience

*Special: Transient or Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)*

- A completed and signed application
- A non-refundable application fee of \$35
- Transient: letter of good academic standing from current school OR
- CPE: approval by BSK CPE Director Dr. Wade Rowatt

*Auditor*

- A completed and signed application
- A non-refundable application fee of \$35
- One reference form from the list on the previous page
- A paragraph describing your expectations of your seminary experience

## NON-DEGREE AND SPECIAL ADMISSIONS

Individuals may take courses for credit under certain circumstances without being admitted into the Master of Divinity degree program. These categories include:

### **Non-degree: Exploratory or Occasional**

This category includes students desiring to take courses for credit *on an exploratory or occasional basis*. Such students may be considering the possibility of pursuing the M.Div. degree full-time or they may simply wish to engage in occasional continuing education for credit. Exploratory and occasional students are subject to the same admission requirements and procedures as degree-seeking students.

This academic status will remain in effect indefinitely as long as the student remains in good academic standing. Students may request to be considered for a change of status from “Non-degree” to “Master of Divinity” any time within the first two years from their initial enrollment in Seminary classes. During this period, the initial application portfolio submitted by the student will still be considered valid for consideration by the admissions committee, although the committee may request additional or updated materials.

Students wishing to be considered for this change of status should request the form “Request for Change of Status: Non-degree to Master of Divinity” from the academic office and submit the completed form to that office. After two years have passed from initial enrollment, students with non-degree status will be required to submit a new application in order to be considered for admission into the M.Div. degree program.

### **Non-degree: Provisional**

BSK follows Association of Theological Schools (ATS) educational standards by admitting no more than fifteen percent of students into the M.Div. degree program without possession of a baccalaureate degree and by ensuring that all admitted students are capable of graduate-level work. An individual who has not completed a baccalaureate degree or whose undergraduate work does not meet the minimum academic requirements for admission into the M.Div. program may be admitted as a non-degree student on the basis of application materials that show promise that he/she possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities generally associated with persons who hold a baccalaureate degree. Such students may apply for admission to the M.Div. program after completing a *minimum of eleven (11) hours of credit in approved courses* and *maintaining at least a 3.0 grade point average in those courses* as a non-degree student. (The list of approved courses for non-degree students can be found on page 34.)

After meeting this requirement, students may request to be considered for a change of status from “Non-degree” to “Master of Divinity” by following the procedures outlined in the previous section. Provisional students may take no more than eighteen (18) hours at BSK without applying for degree-seeking status. Completion of eleven (11) hours of approved courses with a 3.0 average or better does not guarantee admission into the M.Div. program. Other factors, including the ATS limit on how many students can be enrolled without a baccalaureate degree, will be taken into consideration.

### **Special: Transient**

*Transient* students include those applicants who desire to take courses for credit with the intention of transferring the credit toward the degree requirements of an academic program at another institution of higher learning. Transcripts, autobiographical essays, and reference forms are not required, but a letter from the educational institution at which the student is pursuing a degree, affirming that he/she is in good academic standing and that the course(s) being taken will satisfy degree requirements at that institution, should be submitted along with the application and application fee.

### **Special: CPE**

*CPE* students include those applicants who are enrolled in a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) and who wish to have the credit for that program recorded on an academic transcript. Transcripts, autobiographical essays, and reference forms are not required, but the applicant must obtain approval from BSK CPE Director Dr. Wade Rowatt before he/she will be enrolled as a BSK student.

The student is responsible for having the CPE center mail directly to the BSK academic office written verification from the CPE supervisor/professor indicating that the unit was successfully completed and that a grade was assigned for that unit. Approval of the academic credit from an ACPE-accredited CPE unit will be determined by the academic dean. An administrative fee of \$150 will be assessed to cover the Seminary's costs.

### **Auditor**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky welcomes and encourages persons who are lifelong learners or professionals who desire continuing education to audit courses. Auditors are expected to attend class regularly, complete reading assignments, and participate in class discussions, but are not responsible for writing papers, taking examinations, or completing other projects assigned to the class. Auditors are not assigned a course grade. Students may audit courses on a space-available basis.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified school authorized to enroll non-immigrant alien students with F-1 visa status. The Seminary is NOT authorized to accept international "visiting scholars" with J-1 Exchange Visitor visas, whether as students or researchers.

As US immigration regulations are often subject to change, any international student seeking to study without F-1 visa status is advised to contact the director of admissions before beginning an application.

All international students must meet the standard requirements for admission to the M.Div. degree program. No international student may be enrolled as a non-degree, special, or auditing student.



In addition to the general admissions requirements (found on page 21), international students must also meet the following guidelines:

1. Applicants whose native language is not English must submit an official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score report from a test taken within the past three years prior to admission. The Seminary requires a score of at least 81 on internet-based tests, 220 on computer-based tests, or 550 on paper-based tests. Applicants who are graduates of an accredited United States college or university are exempt from this requirement.
2. International applicants are advised to submit an application for admission *at least four months (120 days) prior* to the semester in which they wish to begin studies. If all admission materials, including TOEFL scores, are not received *at least forty-five (45) days prior* to the anticipated start date, the applicant will be notified in writing of the withdrawal of his/her application.
3. The U.S. government requires that all international students provide proof of adequate annual financial support. “Adequate” is defined as an amount equal to or greater than the annual cost of the program of study plus living expenses for the full length of the M.Div. program. The Seminary calculates this amount to be \$24,000 per year for a single student and \$30,000 per year for a married student. (Add \$3,000 per year for each child.) Support may be expressed by any combination of personal savings and/or pledged support from one or more sponsors.
4. Initial F-1 students must provide a deposit of \$4,000 (\$6,000 for married students) prior to the issuance of the I-20 to ensure that the student has sufficient funds to begin studies and/or to travel home in case of an emergency. These funds will be available for immediate use upon the student’s arrival on campus and will be refunded in full if the student does not matriculate. Students already in F-1 status who are transferring from another U.S. school need not make this deposit.
5. The Seminary cannot provide any applicant a Form I-20 necessary for the F-1 visa unless, *at least thirty (30) days before* the semester or term begins, he/she has been approved for admission and has provided the aforementioned proof of financial support and deposit.
6. Health insurance must be obtained before the student may enroll. Proof of coverage will be required by the Seminary.

### **F-1 Transfer Students (now in the U.S.):**

F-1 students already living in the U.S. and desiring to transfer to Baptist Seminary of Kentucky should contact the director of admissions to discuss a SEVIS “F-1 Transfer.”

BSK can issue a new I-20 *only after* a F-1 transfer student's current school has "transferred out" the SEVIS record to BSK. The applicant will need to furnish evidence of admission to BSK's M.Div. degree program to his/her current school and evidence of adequate annual financial support to BSK (see page 25).

An international student (new or transfer) who is unable to meet his/her financial obligations to the Seminary may be denied matriculation.

## **Living Arrangements**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky does not have on-campus employment or housing available for international students. Because F-1 student visas are subject to some work restrictions and no jobs are guaranteed, support to pay for school and living expenses must come from personal funds or sponsors. Housing, transportation, and medical insurance will need to be arranged for prior to coming to the United States. The admissions office is glad to assist international students in making these plans.

The Seminary recommends that international students plan to arrive on campus at least 10 days before classes begin and contact Seminary officials in order to adjust to the community and to receive assistance for any special needs.

## **Further Information**

Additional information regarding international students can be found in the "International Student Admission Guide" available for download on the BSK website and available in print by request to the admissions office. All questions about the admission of international students should be directed to the director of admissions.



# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## TUITION AND FEES

### **Application Fee**

A non-refundable fee of \$35 is required to process each application for admission.

### **Tuition**

Tuition is \$375 per credit hour for the 2015-2016 academic year. The Seminary does not charge any additional semester fees for student activities or institutional services.

### **Audit Fee**

The audit fee is \$100 per hour of classroom instruction. For example, if a class meets three hours each week, the audit fee is \$300 for the semester.

### **CPE Administrative Fee**

A \$150 administrative fee is required for all students seeking academic credit for each CPE unit. CPE tuition is paid directly to the institution supervising the program.

### **Graduation Fee**

Students should plan ahead for the expenses of graduation. The \$100 graduation fee includes the provision of caps, gowns, and hoods for graduates during commencement.

### **Payment of Student Accounts**

Tuition and other student charges are due in full on or before the first day of classes unless the student elects to use the flex plan payment option provided by the Seminary. The flex plan payment option allows students to divide tuition costs into affordable installments (two or four equal payments) and pay over the course of the semester with the first payment due at the beginning of the semester and subsequent payments due in monthly intervals. Payment arrangements can be made with Glenda Simpson, Administrative Assistant, in the administrative office on the main floor of the LRC during regular office hours.

Students must meet all financial obligations for past semesters before they are allowed to attend classes during the current semester. All financial obligations must be met before the Seminary will confer degrees or release transcripts.

## Refunds

Refunds of tuition and fees may be disbursed to students in good financial standing who drop a course or withdraw from the Seminary by the designated withdrawal date on the academic calendar. The following policies guide BSK's refund procedures:

- Students who drop a course on or before the designated "last day to drop" will receive a full refund for each course.
- Students who withdraw after the "last day to drop" and on or before the "last day to withdraw" will receive up to a 50% refund for each course.
- There will be no refunds issued for students who withdraw after the designated "last day to withdraw."
- Veterans and other eligible persons receiving VA education benefits will be refunded tuition and other charges based on federal regulations.

Refunds will be mailed within forty (40) days after a student submits the necessary academic paperwork. Students must complete and return all required drop/withdraw forms to the academic office by the dates listed above to be eligible to receive a refund. No student with an outstanding balance on his/her Seminary account will be issued a refund until the balance is settled in full.

## FINANCIAL AID

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky offers financial aid in the form of need-based tuition assistance and merit-based scholarships and tuition discounts. Students must submit the "Financial Aid Application" each spring to be eligible for any type of financial aid during the following academic year. The "Financing Your Seminary Education" guide, which includes the application, is available on the Seminary website and from the admissions office. All questions should be directed to Jarrod Lopez, Director of Admissions.

### Financial Aid Policies

1. Financial aid is granted for a period of one (1) academic year beginning in the fall semester and concluding with the summer term. Students are required to re-apply during the spring semester to receive financial aid for the next academic year.  
*Scholar's, President's, and Trustee Award recipients are excluded from this policy.*
2. Financial aid is awarded for the first thirty (30) hours in any given academic year. Full financial responsibility for any hours taken over thirty belongs to the student.
3. Financial aid is available for no more than the total number of hours (90) in the

M.Div. program. Financial aid is not provided for any course that must be retaken due to a failing grade or which was dropped by the student after the designated “last day to drop.” Full financial responsibility for repeated courses and for courses taken beyond the required number of hours belongs to the student.

4. Full-time, degree-seeking students are given priority in the awarding of financial aid.
5. Scholarship recipients must maintain full-time enrollment status each semester (see page 39). Recipients of tuition assistance and/or tuition discounts are not required to maintain a minimum number of hours.
6. Students must make satisfactory academic progress (see page 35) to continue receiving any form of financial aid.
7. If a student’s financial status changes significantly during the academic year, the student may petition the director of admissions regarding his/her situation.

## **Tuition Assistance**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky awards tuition assistance based on need. The total amount of tuition assistance offered will not exceed the amount of a student’s demonstrated need. “Demonstrated need” is defined as the difference between the total cost of tuition and fees per academic year and the student’s Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as calculated from information provided by the student on the “Financial Aid Application.” The Seminary uses the standard formula prescribed by the US Department of Education to calculate a student’s EFC.

## **Scholarships**

Individuals, churches, and partner organizations have given generously to establish scholarships to be awarded to students enrolled full-time in BSK’s M.Div. degree program. The Seminary awards scholarships in accordance with the criteria set by the donors of the funds and the policies set forth by the Seminary to govern financial aid:

### *Institutional Scholarships*

- BSK Scholar’s Award (multiple; full tuition)
- BSK President’s Award (multiple; half tuition)
- BSK Trustee Award (multiple; varies)

### *Partner Scholarships*

- CBF Leadership Scholarship (multiple; \$4,000 per year)
- KBF Scholarship for Theological Education (\$1,000 per year)
- Harrodsburg Baptist Foundation Scholarship (multiple; \$2,000 per year)

### *Other Scholarships*

- Gerald and Doris Borchert Gift
- Freda Marie and Lewis Clinton Brock Scholarship for Women
- Rebecca Ruth Montgomery Colliver Honorary Fund
- Dr. William R. Cromer Scholarship
- Don and Wanda Cutter Scholarship
- W. Robert DeFoor Scholarship
- Carolyn S. Ellis Scholarship for Women
- Eminence Baptist Church Memorial Scholarship
- Faith Baptist Church (Georgetown) Scholarship
- Paul J. and Christine B. Godsey Scholarship
- Rick and Judy Landon Scholarship
- Alois and Jim Lewis Scholarship
- Ora Lunceford Scholarship for Women in Ministry
- Maude Ella and Forniss Park Scholarship
- Sanders W. Petrey Scholarship
- Michael T. Sanders Memorial Scholarship
- Adah and Fred Turpin Memorial Scholarship
- Jim and Ruth Ward Scholarship
- Darrell Ross and James Woods Scholarship

### **Outside Financial Aid**

Scholarships are available to students from sources external to the Seminary. A non-comprehensive list of such scholarships can be found in the “Financing Your Seminary Education” guide available online or from the admissions office. Students will need to investigate and apply for these scholarships independently of BSK financial aid.

### **Veterans’ Benefits**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky is recognized by the Kentucky Approving Agency for Veterans Education as an institution approved for the enrollment of veterans and other eligible persons. Veterans and other eligible persons who qualify to receive VA education benefits should contact the director of admissions to verify their eligibility and to begin the enrollment certification process in order to receive VA education benefits at BSK.

# ACADEMIC INFORMATION

## Master of Divinity Degree Program Goals

BSK offers only one degree program, which is oriented toward ministerial leadership and requires ninety (90) semester hours for completion. The Seminary has established three goals for the Master of Divinity program:

1. A reception of **informed witness** through gaining a knowledge and understanding of Christian scripture, history, theology, and practice that is substantial and relevant to ministerial vocations.
2. A cultivation of **imagined witness** through evidence of sustained theological reflection on ministerial identity and vocation given the variety of cultural realities and contextual issues bearing upon ministerial practice.
3. An embodiment of **lived witness** through the cultivation of habits, practices, and competencies for leading and directing persons in faithful Christian living.



## MASTER OF DIVINITY CURRICULUM

The Master of Divinity requires ninety (90) hours with seventy-five (75) hours of required classes and fifteen (15) elective hours. The curriculum is designed to address the five core divisions of the program as outlined below:

<b><i>The Witness of the Christian Call</i></b>	<b><i>12 hours</i></b>
Spiritual Formation (SPF 501& 502)	4
Contextual Ministry (CTM 601 & 602)	6
The Benediction (BEN 701)	2
<b><i>The Witness of the Scriptures</i></b>	<b><i>18 hours</i></b>
Introduction to the Bible (BIB 501)	3
Introduction to Old Testament (OTS 501)	3
Introduction to New Testament (NTS 501)	3
Biblical Hermeneutics (BIB 503)	3
Required Electives	6
<b><i>The Witness of the Church</i></b>	<b><i>18 hours</i></b>
Church History (CHH 501 & 502)	6
Baptist Heritage (CHH 505)	3
Theology (THE 601 & 603)	6
Ethics (ETH 501)	3
<b><i>The Witness of Ministry</i></b>	<b><i>21 hours</i></b>
Preaching (PRC 601)	3
Worship (WOR 601)	3
The Missional Life of the Church (MIS 501 & 502)	6
Introduction to Pastoral Care (PAC 601) OR	
Introduction to Pastoral Counseling (PAC 609)	3
Leadership in the Church (CHS 601)	3
Church Administration (CHS 607)	3
<b><i>The Witness in the World</i></b>	<b><i>6 hours</i></b>
Christianity and Culture (CUL 603)	3
World Religions (WRL 607)	3
<b><i>Requirements</i></b>	<b><i>75 hours</i></b>
<b><i>Electives</i></b>	<b><i>15 hours</i></b>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>90 hours</i></b>

***Revised Fall 2013***



## PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING CONCENTRATION

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky has designed a program that will provide training in pastoral care and counseling within the context of the Master of Divinity studies. This emphasis will enable students to take strong steps toward licensure or certification. This program is offered under the direction of Dr. Wade Rowatt, Senior Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling.

Eighteen (18) Pastoral Care and Counseling (PCC) hours are required in addition to the seventy-two (72) hours of core requirements. Two electives (6 hours) from any area except PCC may be substituted in place of the two required electives in the Witness of the Scriptures core area.

<b><i>Required</i></b>	<b><i>9 hours</i></b>
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Introduction to Pastoral Counseling (PAC 609) OR	
Introduction to Pastoral Care (PAC 601)	3
Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE 615, CPE 617, or CPE 619)	6

<b><i>Electives</i></b>	<b><i>9 hours</i></b>
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Psychology and Theology of the Family (PAC 603)	3
Pastoral Care with Small Groups (PAC 605)	3
Pastoral Care with Children/Adolescents/Families (PAC 607)	3
Psychology of Religious Experience (PAC 611)	3
Pastoral Care: Death, Dying and Grief (PAC 613)	3
Marriage and Family Counseling and Therapy (PAC 615)	3
Personality Theory/Abnormal Behavior (PAC 617)	3
Plus other PCC courses offered	

<b><i>Core Curriculum Requirements</i></b>	<b><i>66 hours*</i></b>
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<b><i>Core Curriculum Electives</i></b>	<b><i>6 hours**</i></b>
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<b><i>Pastoral Care and Counseling Requirements</i></b>	<b><i>18 hours</i></b>
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\*Core Curriculum adjustments for Pastoral Care and Counseling Concentration

- 1) Either PAC 601 Introduction to Pastoral Care or PAC 609 Introduction to Pastoral Counseling may be taken to satisfy the Core Curriculum requirement and serve as a prerequisite for all PAC courses. The other of these two courses must be taken to satisfy the Pastoral Care and Counseling concentration requirements.
- 2) Either CHS 601 Leadership or CHS 607 Church Administration may be taken to satisfy the Pastoral Care and Counseling concentration core requirements.

\*\*Two electives (6 hours) from any area except PCC may be substituted in place of the two required electives in The Witness of the Scriptures Core area.

***Revised Fall 2013***

## NON-DEGREE: PROVISIONAL CURRICULUM

Students admitted with “Non-degree: Provisional” status must complete a *minimum of eleven (11) hours of credit in approved courses* (see below) and *maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average in those courses* in order to be considered for admission into the Master of Divinity program. Such students must enroll in *one course in at least four of the five core divisions* of the M.Div. program to meet the academic requirements set forth for the first eleven (11) hours. The following list represents courses approved for provisional students by the faculty:

### Required

#### ***The Witness of the Christian Call***

Spiritual Formation I or II (SPF 501 or 502)	2 hours
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#### ***The Witness of the Scriptures***

Introduction to the Bible (BIB 501)	3 hours
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### Electives

#### ***The Witness of the Church***

Church History I or II (CHH 501 or 502)	3 hours
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Baptist Heritage (CHH 505)	3 hours
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Theology I (THE 601)	3 hours
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#### ***The Witness of Ministry***

Preaching (PRC 601)	3 hours
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Worship (WOR 601)	3 hours
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Missional Life of the Church I or II (MIS 501 or MIS 502)	3 hours
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Introduction to Pastoral Care (PAC 601)	3 hours
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Introduction to Pastoral Counseling (PAC 609)	3 hours
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Leadership in the Church (CHS 601)	3 hours
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#### ***The Witness in the World***

Christianity and Culture (CUL 603)	3 hours
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World Religions (WRL 607)	3 hours
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After completing 11-18 hours of credit, provisional students will need to follow the procedures prescribed for non-degree students applying to the M.Div. program (found on pages 22-23). New autobiographical essays and letters of reference may be requested. If more than two years has passed since being admitted as a non-degree student, the student will need to submit a new application for admission. Provisional students may take no more than eighteen (18) hours at BSK without applying for degree-seeking status.

# ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

## **Academic Honor**

Mutual trust is a basic component of any community. Baptist Seminary of Kentucky expects its students, as members of an academic and Christian community, to take seriously their positions in the community. Students are expected to ensure the continuance of trust among themselves and between them and the faculty by accepting responsibility for their own work. The Seminary considers breaches of this trust and responsibility to be serious offenses. Offenses that constitute violation of academic honor include plagiarism, cheating, lying, and academic theft.

## **Academic Probation**

A grade point average of 2.5 (B/C) is considered the minimum for satisfactory academic progress toward the degree of Master of Divinity. A student whose average falls below 2.5 will be placed on academic probation. A student whose average falls below 2.0 *in any semester* must have a conference with the academic dean to discuss methods for improving course performance. The student placed on academic probation is required to reduce course load to no more than eight (8) hours per semester and will be reviewed regularly for improvement in progress toward the degree. If the student's work does not meet the 2.5 minimum standards in the following semester, he/she will be asked to withdraw from the Seminary.

## **Academic Probation or Termination Appeal Process**

Upon notice of probation or termination, a student may appeal that decision within fourteen (14) days by letter to the academic dean, detailing circumstances causing the unsatisfactory grades or attendance and the measures that have been or will be taken to alleviate the problem. The academic dean will have fourteen (14) days to review the appeal and notify the student of the school's decision regarding his/her probation or termination.

## **Advanced Standing**

Students may be exempted from a required course or courses based on demonstrated competence in the subject area but without transcripts of graduate credit in that area of study. Exemptions may be based on extensive study at the undergraduate level in a subject area or on other training or experiential learning. Course credit is not granted in such a case, and the exemption does not reduce the total number of hours required for the degree.

Requests or inquiries concerning advanced standing should be directed to the academic dean. If advanced standing is granted, the student will be required to complete a number of credit hours equivalent to the number of hours exempted. In some cases, those hours will be required to be taken in a specific curricular area.

## **Advising**

The purpose of academic advising is to provide information and counsel to students to aid them in making decisions about how they can most fully avail themselves of the opportunities and resources provided at and through BSK to prepare them for life and ministry in faithful witness to Jesus Christ in the church and the world.

Advisement may include helping students address or gain a better understanding of:

- their interests and abilities
- life/vocational/career goals
- Seminary policies/requirements
- available courses/educational experiences
- campus and community (including KBF & CBF) resources
- degree requirements and options
- financial aid possibilities and requirements
- academic progress measures (grades/GPA questions)
- study skills and/or resources
- personal concerns or problems
- internship or cooperative education opportunities
- study abroad opportunities
- academic petitions or special requests (advanced standing, course substitution, etc.)
- concerns related to professor/faculty/other students
- selecting courses for the next term
- dropping and/or adding course(s)
- identifying other campus offices that can provide assistance

## **Advising System**

Upon enrolling at Baptist Seminary of Kentucky, each degree-seeking student and any non-degree student taking courses with the possible intention of pursuing a degree will be assigned a full-time faculty advisor who will generally remain a permanent advisor for the remainder of the student's program. Students may request a change in advisors after completion of twelve (12) hours of study. Students should request permission of the professor prior to requesting he/she serve as advisor.

## **Attendance**

Regular attendance in scheduled class sessions is important to the learning process and especially crucial to the interactive nature of courses at Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. Faculty and students are accountable to one another within a community of learning and should strive to be good stewards of both their own time and opportunities, and those of others. Acceptance of reasons for the absence or tardiness is at the discretion of the faculty.

## **Auditing Courses**

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky encourages and welcomes persons who wish to audit courses. Students who audit are expected to attend class regularly, complete reading assignments, and participate in class discussion. No papers or examinations will be required or graded.

## **Catalog in Effect**

A candidate for a degree may choose to graduate under the requirements of the catalog at the time of enrollment or any subsequent catalog.

## **Change of Status**

Students may request to be considered for a change of status from “Non-degree” to “Master of Divinity” any time within the first two years from their initial enrollment in Seminary classes. During this period, the initial application portfolio submitted by the student will still be considered valid for consideration by the admissions committee, although the committee may request additional or updated materials. Students wishing to be considered for this change of status should request the form “Request for Change of Status: Non-degree to Master of Divinity” from the academic office and submit the completed form to that office. After two years have passed from initial enrollment, students with non-degree status will be required to submit a new application in order to be considered for admission into the Master of Divinity degree program.

## **Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)**

*For BSK M.Div. students taking CPE:*

If a BSK student in the Master of Divinity degree program desires academic credit (ordinarily 6 semester hours credit) for an accredited clinical pastoral education unit, then he or she must register for CPE at BSK during the registration period prior to the term when the CPE unit will be taken. The student should gain acceptance in the CPE program before registering for BSK credit. The student will be responsible for paying

the CPE center's fee directly to the center. The student also will be assessed an administrative fee of \$150, which is due to BSK on the first day of the academic term for which the student is registered unless prior arrangements have been made. The student is responsible for having the CPE center mail directly to the BSK academic office written verification from the CPE supervisor/professor indicating that the unit was successfully completed and a full unit of CPE credit extended and the grade assigned for that unit.

*For M.Div. students who have previously taken CPE:*

BSK will consider academic credit for CPE units completed prior to the student's acceptance into the Master of Divinity program at BSK. The student will be assessed an administrative fee of \$150 per unit of CPE to have the credit officially recorded on the student's record. The student is responsible for having the CPE center mail directly to the BSK academic office written verification from the CPE supervisor/professor indicating that the unit was successfully completed and a full unit of CPE credit extended and the grade assigned for that unit. Approval of the academic credit for a CPE unit from the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) accredited center will be determined by the academic dean.

*For non-degree students:*

Students not enrolled in the Master of Divinity Program at BSK may enroll as special students in order to have the CPE credit officially recorded as academic credit. These students will need to complete and submit the BSK application for special student status and pay an application fee of \$35. The student also will be assessed an administrative fee of \$150, which is due to BSK on the first day of the academic term for which the student is registered unless prior arrangements have been made. The student is responsible for having the CPE center mail directly to the BSK academic office written verification from the CPE supervisor/professor indicating that the unit was successfully completed and a full unit of CPE credit extended and the grade assigned for that unit. Approval of the academic credit for a CPE unit from an ACPE accredited center will be determined by the academic dean.

## **Course Change Request – Drop/Add**

To request a change in registration prior to the start of classes, a "Course Change Request" form should be submitted by the student to the academic office. An advisor's

signature is required to drop and/or add courses after the start of classes. If the advisor is not available, the student should contact the academic office. Courses dropped by the drop deadline will not appear on the student's grade report or permanent record.

## **Course Load**

The BSK Master of Divinity degree consists of 90 semester hours of course work. Historically, those 90 hours would typically have been completed by residential students in three (3) years, averaging 30 semester hours per year. While BSK does not support a traditional residential model, the M.Div. can still be completed in three (3) years; this plan requires taking courses both on Monday and in the evenings and/or enrollment in summer and January courses, which offer almost exclusively elective courses.

However, the three-year plan is not the only, or necessarily the preferable, option for completing the M.Div. degree. For students who balance work and family responsibilities, especially when engaged in ongoing ministry positions, degree requirements may reasonably be spread out over four or more years. This deliberate approach to completing requirements often provides more opportunity to integrate learning with the practice of ministry over an extended period of time.

For reporting purposes, the Seminary is required in some instances to define "full-time" student status. The minimum full-time course load for Master of Divinity degree students is nine (9) hours per semester. Students enrolled in SPF 501, SPF 502, or BEN 701 shall be considered full-time with a course load of eight (8) semester hours.

Students who plan to take more than fifteen (15) hours in a semester must have the request approved by the academic dean. It is recommended that students who are serving in vocational ministry positions and/or working full-time restrict their course loads to no more than twelve (12) hours per semester to allow for the demands of graduate theological study.

Students who fall below six (6) hours per semester may lose eligibility for in-school deferment of previous higher education loans.

## **Course Substitution**

Course substitutions for degree requirements will be considered in special cases. Students desiring consideration of a substitution should consult with a faculty member in the relevant academic area or with the academic dean.

## Final Examinations

Final examinations are conducted near the end of each term during the regular class time. Students must take exams at the scheduled time unless they have obtained prior permission from the instructor. Exams may be “made up” only after the scheduled time. In many cases this will result in the student receiving a grade of “I” for the course for that semester, and the regulations regarding “Incomplete” course grades will apply.

## Grade Reports

Course grades will be mailed to students within approximately six weeks after the end of the term.

## Grading System and Quality Points

The method and manner of evaluation for course grades is left to the discretion of each professor as outlined in their course syllabus. A student may take an examination or submit an assigned project at a time other than the scheduled one only under extenuating circumstances and with permission from the professor.

Cumulative grade point averages are computed on a quality point system. The interpretation of the letter grade and the quality point value is as follows:

Quality Pts. Per Credit Hr.

A	Exceptional mastery of the course	4.0	100%-93%
A/B	More than required mastery of course essentials	3.5	92%-89%
B	Required mastery of course essentials	3.0	88%-82%
B/C	Slightly more than course essentials	2.5	81%-78%
C	Course essentials	2.0	77%-70%
D	Minimal comprehension of course essentials	1.0	69%-65%
F	Inadequate comprehension of course essentials	0	Below 65%
I	Incomplete		
IP	In Progress		
AU	Audit		
W	Withdrawal		

## Graduation Requirements

In order to meet requirements for a Master of Divinity degree from Baptist Seminary of Kentucky, a student must complete each of the following requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of ninety (90) semester hours of academic credit in specified courses as listed in student degree program;



2. Achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.50; and
3. Complete a minimum of forty-six (46) hours at Baptist Seminary of Kentucky.

Students who have six (6) hours or less to complete, including incomplete grades, may participate in commencement exercises. Candidates for graduation must submit an application for a degree to the academic office during the fall semester preceding the spring semester in which the student intends to graduate/“walk.” Degrees will be conferred and mailed at the time the hours are completed. All incompletes over the six (6) hours must be completed by the end of April preceding graduation to participate in commencement. Students participating in commencement with hours outstanding should maintain continuous enrollment until the hours are completed or request a leave of absence.

### **Human Subject Research Guidelines**

Faculty, administrators, and students who do research with human subjects should be intentional to maintain the integrity of individuals and institutions involved in the research. “Research,” for these purposes includes, but is not limited to, personal interviews, personal questionnaires, polls, surveys, and any related recordings. These guidelines apply to research done through traditional formats as well as through online or social media platforms.

All research is to:

1. respect the dignity and worth of each person and his or her institution
2. avoid the imposition of cultural values or theology of persons
3. do no harm to the participants or their institutions
4. avoid using position to secure unfair personal advantage over others
5. avoid representing research agendas as official positions of BSK
6. receive appropriate supervision of the process

Faculty, administrators, and students who propose to do research with human subjects *with public implications* (publication, class presentation, or other non-confidential forums) shall seek approval from the BSK Research Review Committee (RRC). A proposal (form available from the academic office) is to be submitted to the academic dean at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the research.

The RRC shall be composed of the dean, a professor in the field of studies, and the director of admissions.

The Human Subjects Research Proposal shall include:

1. a description of the participants and the purpose of the research
2. the duration and description of process of the research
3. a plan to protect the confidentiality of the participants
4. a plan to inform participants of any risks and seek written consent

### **Inclusive Language Policy**

Out of respect for all persons created in the image of God the Seminary encourages the use of language avoiding narrowly subjective categories that may imply bias in regard to gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, ability/disability, or any other exclusionary perspectives. All members of the BSK community—faculty, staff, and students—are called upon to adopt respectful and inclusive language in all academic work as well as in Seminary publications, official documents, and correspondence, including all Internet communication.

The Seminary recognizes the ongoing debate and conflicting views about gender-sensitive language for God. As a result, BSK currently adopts no formal policy statement concerning language for God. At the same time, the Seminary is committed to promoting exchange of ideas and sharing of faith relative to the use of language for the divine.

### **Incomplete Courses**

A grade of “Incomplete” (“I”) will be assigned if, due to exceptional circumstances and with the prior approval of the course instructor, a student is not able to complete the required coursework during the semester. The Seminary recognizes the pressures that students often face, and faculty members are committed to helping students succeed. The Seminary must ask, however, that students be diligent in communicating the need for additional time and in completing assignments in a timely manner when additional time is given.

Students who believe they meet the necessary conditions to be assigned an incomplete should secure a “Request for Incomplete” form from the academic office and complete the form in consultation with the course instructor no later than the final week of the semester. The form should include a description of the specific assignments that will need to be completed. The instructor should sign the form and assign a provisional grade for the student on the basis of work currently completed.

The incomplete grade will revert to the provisional grade if assignments are not completed to remove the incomplete within the prescribed time period. An instructor

should assign a provisional grade of “F” if a student has not demonstrated learning appropriate for the assignment of a grade that indicates adequate completion of the course’s learning objectives.

Approval of the request for an incomplete grade is at the discretion of the course instructor. Upon approval, the instructor will submit the “Request for Incomplete” form with grade sheets at the end of the semester. All work must then be completed within one calendar year of the assignment of the “Incomplete” grade. At any time prior to the end of that year, the instructor may submit a grade based on completion of the work. If no new grade is submitted, the “I” will be replaced with the provisional grade previously assigned by the instructor. If the student has not completed the work by the end of the first semester following assignment of more than one “Incomplete” grade, the student will be placed on academic probation and required to reduce course load to no more than eight (8) hours in the following semester.

### **Leave of Absence**

A student may request a leave of absence from the M.Div. program for a period of one (1) semester or one (1) year, renewable up to the maximum of one (1) year for students admitted without a bachelor’s degree, two (2) years for all other M.Div. students. To request a leave of absence, a student should complete a “Request for Leave of Absence” form and submit it to the academic office by the beginning of the first term the student will not be enrolled in classes.

Time spent in a leave of absence does not count toward the six-year limit for the M.Div. program. Students on leave of absence will not be considered in residence or actively pursuing a course of study for purposes of reporting to loan officers or government agencies.

Students requesting a leave of absence during an academic term should follow existing procedures in regard to resolving their status in courses in progress, working with the course instructors to determine the possibility and/or appropriateness of withdrawing from a course or receiving an incomplete. If the withdrawal deadline has passed, the student may follow the withdrawal appeal process.

Students who do not enroll for a fall or spring term and who do not request a leave of absence, as well as students who complete the requested leave of absence and do not enroll for classes in the next term, will be subject to administrative withdrawal from the M.Div. program. They will be required to reapply for admission and will be subject to the catalog and graduation requirements in place at the time of readmission.

## **Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

The Seminary complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding students with disabilities. No otherwise qualified individual shall be denied access to or participation in the services, programs, and activities of the Seminary solely on the basis of a disability. The Seminary shall provide accommodations for each eligible student who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, has a record or history of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment.

Disabilities may include, but are not limited to:

- Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders (ADHD)
- Learning Disabilities (aka Learning Disorders)
- Psychological Disorders (including Autism Spectrum Disorders)
- Visual Impairments
- Hearing Impairments
- Mobility Impairments
- Chronic Health Disorders

Examples of academic accommodations that might be warranted include, but are not limited to the following:

- Extended test time to complete quizzes, tests, and examinations
- Provision of readers for tests and exams as required
- Administration of test and exam in a quiet room with minimal distractions
- Provision of a scribe for tests and exam as required
- Large Print (tests, articles)
- Provision of books in alternative format
- Provision of Sign Language interpreter/transliterator
- Priority seating
- Relocation of classes when necessary
- Provision of a note taker to supplement student notes

Students who wish to be considered for reasonable accommodations must submit to the academic dean's office:

- A completed and signed "Disability Accommodation Request" form

- Complete and current documentation, and if applicable historical records and other materials. (Documentation should be recent in most cases; however, the need for recent documentation depends on the circumstances of the student's disability.)

Information concerning a student's disability is treated in a confidential manner in accordance with applicable federal laws. Documentation presented will be reviewed by the dean; further documentation may be required from the student to substantiate the claim of a disability or to assist the Seminary in determining appropriate accommodations.

The dean determines which of the student's requested accommodations are supported as being necessary for purposes of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and ADA Amendments Act and also determines if the accommodations found to be necessary are reasonable in the context of the student's academic program. The dean then meets with the student to discuss the accommodations approved as being necessary and reasonable.

Approved accommodations are recorded in an Accommodations Agreement which is signed and dated by the student and the dean; the original agreement is maintained in the student's file and the student receives a copy. Procedures for implementing accommodations are discussed and the student's rights and responsibilities are reviewed. The student is also apprised that individual circumstances may warrant modification of the accommodations agreed upon and listed on the Accommodations Agreement.

If a student disagrees with eligibility decisions made by the dean, it is recommended that the student request a meeting to discuss questions and concerns. If, after meeting with the dean, the student disagrees with the eligibility decisions made, he or she has the right to file a grievance. (See "Student Grievance Procedures" in the BSK Student Handbook.)

Students should contact the Seminary within two (2) weeks of admission for an initial discussion and no later than two (2) weeks prior to the first day of classes for each academic term for which accommodations are requested. The dean's office shall prepare letters to appropriate faculty members concerning specific, reasonable, academic adjustments for the student.

The Seminary prohibits discrimination or harassment based on disabilities.

To better serve students and to avoid confusion, faculty members may wish to include a disability statement on their syllabus such as:

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the academic dean as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations can be implemented in a timely fashion.

## **Registration**

Prior to registering for a term, all students in a degree program are encouraged to meet with their advisors to determine the most appropriate courses for that term and complete the registration form. Completed forms should be returned to the Seminary academic office.

There is a designated “pre-registration” period each semester. The two-week period in the fall covers registration for the following January and spring terms. The period in the spring covers summer and fall terms. Active students are expected to register during the pre-registration periods.

Registration requests are honored if at all possible. If it is determined that adjustments need to be made to a request, the student will be contacted. Provided the request is received during the pre-registration period, priority will be given first to persons nearing graduation, second, to degree-seeking students and then in the order of submission of the request. Students will be provided with a final schedule.

## **Repeating a Course**

If a student receives a grade of “D” or “F”, he or she may repeat the course once for credit but only at Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. A student may not take the course at another school and transfer the credit. Although all grades that a student earns appear on the student’s record, the grade received the last time the course is taken is the only grade that is calculated into the grade point average. Financial aid may not be used toward any course that is repeated.

## **Time Limits**

The Master of Divinity degree has a time limit of six (6) years for completion. Time spent in a leave of absence does not count toward the six-year limit for the M.Div. program. If additional time is needed to complete a degree, the student must submit the “Request for Extension of Six-Year Time Limit” form and a proposal for the completion

of the degree. The student consults with his/her advisor and provides the written request to the academic office for consideration. Extensions may require additional coursework.

### **Transcript Request**

A BSK student, graduate, or former student is entitled to a BSK official transcript of academic record provided all financial obligations to the Seminary have been satisfied. The official transcript is held at the Georgetown College (GC) Registrar's Office located in Highbaugh Hall. The request is subject to a GC scheduled charge for the service. Complete information on how to request an official transcript is available in the BSK Academic Office or on the GC website ([www.georgetowncollege.edu/registrar/types-of-requests/transcripts](http://www.georgetowncollege.edu/registrar/types-of-requests/transcripts)). The official transcript is released only upon the written request of the student; no telephone, fax, or email requests will be honored.

### **Transfer of Credit**

Transfer credits are considered on a case-by-case basis. Only courses with a grade of at least a “B” or its equivalent and eligible for graduate credit from an accredited graduate institution are transferable. Credits that have been earned as part of the award of another graduate degree program can be transferred to the BSK Master of Divinity program if the course content is deemed appropriate. Grades earned for credits transferred are not included in the calculation of a student’s grade point average. The majority of credits for the Master of Divinity degree must be earned at Baptist Seminary of Kentucky.

Transfer credit decisions will be made by the academic dean. The dean may request recommendations from faculty members. These decisions are made with regard to the quality of the educational experience (including consideration of accreditation status and/or instructor credentials), the comparability of the nature, content, and level of a course to courses offered at BSK, and appropriateness to the BSK M.Div. degree program. Additional information, such as a detailed course outline or syllabus, may be needed to make a determination. Some credit may not transfer simply because the institutions and their educational goals and objectives are very different. The results of *credit transfer* evaluations may be appealed through the Seminary's Student Grievance Procedures (located in the BSK Student Handbook).

### **Tutorials**

Tutorials are a type of study in which a student works independently under the necessary and sufficient guidance of a supervising instructor. Tutorials may be taken in any area of the curriculum, but normally are undertaken only in areas not offered, or not

offered on a regular basis, in the regular curriculum. To be eligible to enroll for a tutorial, a student must have a grade point average of at least 3.0 and must have completed at least twenty (20) semester hours toward the Seminary degree.

A student wishing to engage in a tutorial should consult with a BSK full-time faculty member or a supervisor approved by the academic dean to plan the project. Students are encouraged to be active in the development of tutorial courses in areas of their special interest. Learning objectives for a tutorial course should be comparable in scope to learning objectives for a course of the same number of semester hours taught in a regular classroom setting. The professor and student should prepare a “Tutorial Application” form and syllabus to be submitted to the academic dean for approval. Upon approval, the student will be allowed to register for the tutorial in a regular academic term.

Tutorials have the same registration dates and tuition costs as other classes and must be completed by the end of the term in which they are registered. Normally students may register for no more than eighteen (18) hours of tutorial work towards a degree. Exceptions to any of the above guidelines must be approved by the academic dean.

### **Verification of Enrollment**

The Seminary academic office will provide verification of enrollment upon request. Verification of enrollment will be provided only after the “last day to drop.” Any verification needed prior to that date will indicate registration only.

The student is responsible for reporting to an agency or organization any changes in enrollment (number of hours, etc.) subsequent to provision of the verification. Failure to provide notification of such changes may be construed as fraud.

### **Withdrawal Appeal Process**

If mitigating circumstances are the reason for withdrawing from a course following the withdrawal deadline, a student may appeal within fourteen (14) days by letter to the academic dean detailing those circumstances. The student may request consideration of a W grade instead of the automatic F grade and/or a tuition refund. The academic dean will have fourteen (14) days to review the appeal and notify the student of the school’s decision regarding his/her grade and refund.



A student administratively withdrawn from the M.Div. program may appeal that action within fourteen (14) days by letter to the academic dean. The academic dean will have fourteen (14) days to review the appeal and notify the student of the school's decision regarding his or her status.

### **Withdrawal from a Course**

A student may withdraw from a course after the drop deadline and no later than the withdrawal deadline. The student must complete and submit a "Class Withdrawal Request" form no later than the withdrawal deadline. A grade of "W" will be assigned, and it will appear on the student's grade report and on the permanent record.

Withdrawals are not used to compute grade point average. Any student who withdraws after the withdrawal deadline or who fails to complete and submit the "Class Withdrawal" form will be assigned a letter grade of "F" for the course. (For information regarding refunds that result from withdrawals, please see page 28.)

### **Withdrawal from the M.Div. Program**

A student wishing to withdraw from BSK should submit a "Request for Withdrawal from the Master of Divinity Program" form and settle any outstanding academic and/or financial obligations in order to facilitate readmission at a later date. A student wishing to be readmitted will need to follow the regular procedures for applying to the M.Div. program.

Students requesting withdrawal during an academic term should follow existing procedures in regard to resolving their status in courses in progress, working with the course instructors to determine the possibility and/or appropriateness of withdrawing from a course. If the withdrawal deadline has passed, the student may follow the withdrawal appeal process.

Students who do not take classes during a fall or spring term and who do not request a leave of absence will be subject to administrative withdrawal from the M.Div. program. Prolonged non-attendance may also subject a student to administrative withdrawal from the M.Div. program.

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## **BEN 701 The Benediction** – Credit 2 hours

The Benediction is designed as an endpoint or blessing to Seminary studies. The primary objective is to integrate theological studies with ongoing preparation for Christian ministry in the student's final year. The course involves work in three areas: transitions, self-care, and ministry issues.

## **BIB 501 Introduction to the Bible** – Credit 3 hours

An introduction to the Christian Bible and to basic issues of understanding and interpreting the Bible. Emphasis will be placed on the history and physical nature of the Bible, the types of literature found in the Bible, and varied perspectives on interpreting the Bible.

## **BIB 503 Biblical Hermeneutics** – Credit 3 hours

An exploration of biblical interpretation. The course will introduce the study of the history of interpretation and theories of interpretation, as well as surveying some contemporary modes of interpretation. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

## **BIB 505 Introduction to Biblical Language** – Credit 3 hours

A study of the fundamentals of language and of biblical Hebrew and Greek in particular, with emphasis on phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, historical and comparative linguistics, sociolinguistics, and translation theory. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

## **BIB 507 Archaeology and Biblical Studies** – Credit 3 hours

This course will study the interrelationship between archaeology and biblical studies, and the appropriate role of each in the interpretation of data from the other. A survey of archaeological methods will be covered. The primary focus of the course will be on how discoveries from archaeological contexts aid in understanding biblical texts. In addition there will be some discussion of how biblical texts influence the interpretation of archaeological finds. Problems such as unprovenanced materials, site looting, and forgeries will also be discussed. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

## **CHH 501 Church History I** – Credit 3 hours

Introduction to Church History surveys the development of Christianity from the beginning of the Church up to the Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

## **CHH 502 Church History II** – Credit 3 hours

Continued study covering period from the Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the 21st century.

**CHH 505 Baptist Heritage – Credit 3 hours**

The course is intended to acquaint the seminarian with the rich and varied history of Baptist-type Christians since the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Current and future issues in Baptist life will be examined and discussed.

**CHH 601 Classics of Christian Devotion – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the classics of Christian devotion in their historical context. Objective of the course is to furnish a historical introduction to some of Christianity's greatest devotional writings, to learn more about the experimental and mystical element of religion, to deepen our understanding of the Christian faith, and to develop perspectives by which we can evaluate claims about religious experience.

**CHH 603 Prayer in Christian History – Credit 3 hours**

This course entails a study of the theology and practice of prayer in Christian history beginning with the New Testament and continuing to the present day. Because the materials are so extensive, however, the course will focus on the most important traditions in the theology and practice of prayer.

**CHH 605 Kentucky Baptists in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century – Credit 2 hours**

A study of the role of Kentucky Baptists in the context of the larger world. The seminarian will gain an understanding of the forces that have influenced the Kentucky Baptist convention, individual churches, and persons of the Baptist faith.

**CHH 607 Women in Christian History – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the role of women in Christian churches from the first century to the present day. In line with the area in which women played significant roles, spirituality will be explored in greater detail than other areas. Due to the expansiveness of the subject, special attention is focused on the early, medieval, and reformation periods.

**CHH 609 Introduction to Spirituality – Credit 3 hours**

Foundational course in spirituality, designed to help participants understand the nature of the human relationship with God, their fellow human beings, their world and to get started on a journey of spiritual growth. Goals are to help define the term "spirituality," help in understanding different personality types, and the development of personal disciplines. Course will introduce resources for continued spiritual growth.

**CHH 611 Thomas Merton: His Life, Thought, & Spirituality – Credit 3 hours**

This course will focus on the life, thought, and spirituality of Thomas Merton, one of the most widely read spiritual writers of all time.

### **CHH 613 Theology of Religious Experience – Credit 3 hours**

An effort to think about God in religious experience. The accent is on religious experience. How do people experience God? How does God fit into the picture in ordinary human experience and life? Because no available secondary source addresses the issue very directly, we will rely chiefly on primary source materials from scriptures and Christian history.

### **CHH 615 Early Christian Practices – Credit 3 hours**

Entails a study of early Christian practices or institutions – baptism and catechumenate, worship and Eucharist, discipline or penance, and ministry and organization.

### **CHH 617 The History of Christian Spirituality – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the development of major traditions in Christian spirituality - Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant - with special attention to insights which have continuing relevance and exposure of participants to practices which may nurture their own spiritual growth.

### **CHS 601 Leadership in the Church – Credit 3 hours**

The course will encourage an understanding of traditional and current leadership theories with a focus on how such theories relate to the biblical witness and the work of a local congregation. The course will develop the ability to both consciously develop a preferred style of leadership and to lead an organization in planning and realizing its future. Guidance will be provided in acquiring visionary leadership in a Christian institutional setting.

### **CHS 603 Life and Work of the Minister – Credit 3 hours**

A survey of the comprehensive ministry of the pastor. Attention is given to the personal growth of the pastor, the multifaceted work of the pastor in local church ministry, the biblical and theological basis of shepherding, the structures and programs of church life, weddings and funerals, and specific pastoral challenges and opportunities.

### **CHS 605 The Ministry as Spiritual Guidance – Credit 3 hours**

The course is designed to help ministers to understand their role and to function as spiritual guides. An effort will be made to show the varied ways in which they may offer spiritual guidance beyond that for individuals. This course presupposes that participants possess basic knowledge of Christian spirituality.

### **CHS 607 Church Administration – Credit 3 hours**

A study of administrative structures useful for the effective functioning of a local congregation. The course will examine how to strategically organize local church programming. Competencies will be developed in leading local church committees and organizations in identifying and carrying out their mission.

### **CHS 609 Age Graded Ministry – Credit 3 hours**

The course will explore developmental theories, educational philosophies, and teaching strategies specific to people of various ages with a focus on how such items relate to the biblical witness and the work of the local congregations.

### **CHS 613 Christian Teaching – Credit 3 hours**

The seminarian demonstrates an understanding of Learning Theory, resource development, and teaching practices. He/she will display the ability to design classroom learning environments and structured learning experiences. He/she will develop competencies in using a variety of teaching methods appropriate to the audience with whom he/she is working. He/she will further demonstrate an increased capacity to create, evaluate, and use curriculum resources.

### **CHS 615 Social Ministry and the Church – Credit 3 hours**

An introduction to the theology, theory, and practice of social ministry and the church from both the micro and macro perspective including human development, policy, poverty, ethics, and resources. Attention will be given to current social issues and the church's response.

### **CHS 617 The Mystics of the Church – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the lives, religious experience, and thought of the major Christian mystics from the martyrs to Thomas Merton with special attention to Bernard McGinn's multi-volume *The Presence of God*.

### **CHS 619 Pastoral Ethnography: Attending to Race, Gender and Class in Context – Credit 3 hours**

This course will help ministry students engage the tools and skills of 'theological ethnography' and qualitative research. The overarching goal is to integrate biblical and theological knowing with social scientific knowledge and skill to assemble a more complex understanding of people and places with whom pastors live and serve. Attention in the course will be given to 1) how religion forms and engenders identity through ritual and practice; 2) the gendered and racialized character of religious practices; 3) the ethics of pastoral research; and 4) the possible benefits of seeing more deeply situations we will confront in ministry. Students will have an opportunity to explore a situation of ministry in depth using the tools of 'theological ethnography.'

### **CPE 615, 617 and 619 Clinical Pastoral Education – Credit 6 hours**

Clinical Pastoral Education is a clinical program of 400 hours of supervised pastoral care in an accredited clinical setting (**CPE 615 - Parish; CPE 617 - Hospital; CPE 619 - Other Institutions**) with a certified supervisor of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education

(ACPE). Area centers are accredited by ACPE. Students must have prior approval from BSK CPE Director Dr. Wade Rowatt and an ACPE Supervisor in order to enroll. A CPE application and a list of accredited CPE centers can be found at [www.acpe.edu](http://www.acpe.edu).

**CPE 715, 717, and 719 Advanced Clinical Pastoral Education – Credit 6 hours**

Each advanced CPE course correlates to a 600 level CPE course: **CPE 715 - Parish Advanced; CPE 717 - Hospital Advanced; CPE 719 - Other Institution Advanced**. The corresponding 600 level course is a prerequisite for the advanced course. During the registration period prior to the term when the CPE unit will be taken, the student must secure prior approval from BSK CPE Director Dr. Wade Rowatt to enroll in a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) course at BSK.

**CTM 601 Contextual Ministry I – Credit 3 hours**

Designed for students who are in their “second year” (have taken approximately 30 hours including Spiritual Formation). Involves ministry placement, regular meetings with a mentor, and peer group meetings with a facilitator.

**CTM 602 Contextual Ministry II – Credit 3 hours**

To be taken consecutively with Contextual Ministry I and involves ministry placement, regular meetings with a mentor, and peer group meetings with a facilitator.

**CUL 603 Christianity and Culture – Credit 3 hours**

The course will explore the historical interaction of Christianity and culture. The seminarian will gain an understanding of social, political, intellectual, and economic forces that impact all religions, in particular, Christianity.

**CUL 605 Contemporary Cultural Issues – Credit 3 hours**

While the church has long felt the pressures of diverse cultures to become something other than what it is called to be, contemporary Christianity faces challenges that are unprecedented in their power to subtly transform its sense of purpose and mission. This class will consider several of these phenomena – environmental destruction, technological hope, and market globalization and consumerism – to see how Christians can respond positively and in a manner faithful to Christianity’s rich heritage and teachings.

**ETH 501 Ethics – Credit 3 hours**

Introduction to the sources and nature of the Christian moral tradition examining New Testament foundations and texts in moral theology which purport to direct human social action in the contemporary world. The course will also offer study of one or two selected moral issues which confront the church today.

**ETH 601 Social Justice in Biblical and Historical Perspectives – Credit 3 hours**

The course will deepen the student's understanding of God's passion for justice and will work to permit this deepening biblical understanding to permeate his/her own consciousness, shaping values, priorities, and character. The course considers contemporary issues in light of biblical principles and the highest examples of Christian history as a foundation for Christian involvement in today's world.

**MIS 501 The Missional Life of the Church I – Credit 3 hours**

To develop biblical understanding and commitment toward the support of missions-evangelism for individual church leaders and effective contributions through their leadership resulting in a vital focus on missions-evangelism in church life.

**MIS 502 The Missional Life of the Church II – Credit 3 hours**

Course gives information and insight toward effective means and commitment for church leaders' personal-life-ministry in missions and evangelistic efforts. In addition the church leader will gain skills in leading church members-congregations in commitment to biblically based and practical missions and evangelistic efforts.

**MIS 505 The Biblical Theology of Missions – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the principal texts of the Old and New Testaments dealing with the missionary purpose of God in human history and the role of the People of God in that purpose. Through a study of the biblical text and models, as well as through exposure to a segment of current literature in the field of study, we will seek to develop both our theology and practice of mission.

**MIS 507 Contextual Missiology – Credit 3 hours**

Through the use of biblical historical, cultural, and anthropological materials, the student will explore the relationship of the Gospel and culture, analyze the methods of mission utilized through Christian history, conduct an ethnographic study, develop skills to enable believers in a given context to freely and intentionally theologize, and formulate his/her own theology of mission.

**NTS 501 Introduction to the New Testament – Credit 3 hours**

Introduction to the writings of the New Testament with attention to the literary character and history of the texts; the historical context of the life of Jesus and the rise of the church and Christian faith; and the role of the New Testament texts as a contemporary foundation for Christian faith. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**NTS 505 Introduction to Greek** – Credit 3 hours

An introductory course in New Testament Greek, focusing on basic principles of word formation, grammar, and syntax. This course is designed to provide a foundation for learning to read and interpret the Greek New Testament.

**NTS 605 Greek Reading** – Credit 3 hours

This course is a reading course in New Testament Greek, focusing on the application of basic principles of word formation, grammar, and syntax to the translation of particular New Testament texts. The course will also introduce more advanced concepts of semantics, grammar, and syntax. *Prerequisite: NTS 505*

**NTS 611 Synoptic Gospels** – Credit 3 hours

An investigation of the synoptic gospels, with attention to past and present methodologies employed in the understanding and interpretation of the synoptic tradition. The course will focus on the stories told by the gospel writers, on the synoptic traditions about the actions and teachings of Jesus, and on the synoptics' contribution to our understanding of the historical Jesus. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**NTS 613 Interpreting Matthew** – Credit 3 hours

An investigation of the Gospel of Matthew with emphasis on understanding the internal logic of the gospel and exploring its theological significance and relevance for contemporary Christian faith. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**NTS 615 Reading Mark in the Church** – Credit 3 hours

An investigation of the Gospel of Mark designed to give the student knowledge, understanding, and skills for interpreting and embodying the gospel faithfully in the life of the church and in the world. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**NTS 643 Interpreting Hebrews** – Credit 3 hours

An investigation of the epistle to the Hebrews with emphasis on understanding the argument of the sermon and exploring its relevance for contemporary Christian faith. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**NTS 647 Interpreting Romans** – Credit 3 hours

An investigation of Paul's letter to the Romans with emphasis on understanding Paul's argument and exploring the letter's relevance for contemporary Christian theology. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*



**NTS 648 The Book of Revelation** – Credit 3 hours

A critical interpretation of the New Testament book of Revelation based upon the nature of apocalyptic language and literature, the historical setting, its internal structure and literary/grammatical, syntactical considerations to the end that the seminarian may understand the book as a pastoral word of hope in the midst of desperate circumstances and be enabled to apply that message to contemporary situations. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**OTS 501 Introduction to the Old Testament** – Credit 3 hours

Introduction to the people, places, events, and themes of the Old Testament with attention to the literary character and history of the Old Testament writings; the historical context of ancient Israelite religion; and the role of the Old Testament as Christian scripture.

*Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**OTS 505 Introduction to Hebrew** – Credit 3 hours

An introduction to the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew. The student will be asked to learn frequently used words from the Hebrew Bible. The primary concepts of Hebrew grammar will be introduced during the course of the semester. The aim is to acquire basic skills for the reading of the Old Testament in Hebrew.

**OTS 605 Hebrew Reading** – Credit 3 hours

This course is designed to review the material covered in Introduction to Hebrew. Additionally, new principles related to grammar will be presented. Both review and new material will be taught in the reading of the Genesis text. *Prerequisite: OTS 505*

**OTS 671 Deuteronomy** – Credit 3 hours

An investigation of Deuteronomy with emphases on understanding the literary features and theological dimensions of the book as well as exploring its significance and relevance for contemporary Christian faith. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**OTS 673 Jeremiah** – Credit 3 hours

This course will include an introduction to the prophet and his times, a survey of scholarly opinions about the book, an exegesis of the major passages in the book, and careful instruction on the critical methods of biblical study and how to apply them to the book of Jeremiah. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**OTS 677 Ezekiel and Daniel** – Credit 3 hours

An overview of the books of Ezekiel and Daniel, with focus on the nature of prophetic and apocalyptic literature and the exegesis of selected texts from each book. A student exegetical paper will be required. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**OTS 679 The Psalms in the Life of the Church – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the book of Psalms, with attention to their critical analysis as well as to their use in Christian devotion and worship. *Prerequisite: BIB 501*

**OTS 681 Minor Prophets/Book of Twelve – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament, both as individual works and as an edited collection. The course will emphasize the methods used in the study of the Old Testament Prophets, and it will require a written exegesis of a text of the student's choosing from one of the books. It will also deal with the use of prophetic passages in worship and church education.

**PAC 601 Introduction to Pastoral Care: Theory & Practice – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed to equip persons for effective pastoral care in a church, hospital, or other religious context. Basic theories and the practice of pastoral care will be evaluated in relation to both developmental and emergency crises situations. Models of caring within religious communities are compared and contrasted. Students will be asked to integrate social, theological, biblical, and psychological understandings of pastoral care.

**PAC 603 Psychology and Theology of Family: Theory and Techniques – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed to explore the biblical/theological bases, research findings, and clinical issues for marriage and family theory and techniques. Students will consider a variety of foundational areas for marriage and family, examine their own beliefs and practices in those areas, and reflect on multi-cultural approaches to use in assisting others. *Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

**PAC 605 Pastoral Care with Small Groups: Dynamics and Techniques – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed to address the pastoral care and counseling needs of a congregation from a small group perspective. Students will learn the theories, techniques, principles of leadership, and process of small groups. Various types of groups will include Bible study, support, recovery, educational, self-help, and counseling activities. *Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

**PAC 607 Pastoral Care with Children, Adolescents and Families – Credit 3 hours**

This course will equip ministers to assess the developmental and crises needs of children and adolescents and their families. Students will learn to develop programs and to evaluate counseling approaches for adolescents and families. Students will be asked to integrate social, theological, biblical, and psychological understandings of children, adolescents, and families. *Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

**PAC 609 Introduction to Pastoral Counseling: Theory and Techniques – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed to equip persons in church settings for effective counseling with individuals at a level appropriate to their role and education. Basic theories and techniques of counseling will be evaluated in relation to both formal and informal structures of caring within a faith context. Biblical and theological insights provide a foundation for integrating the behavioral sciences with pastoral counseling.

**PAC 611 Psychology of Religious Experience – Credit 3 hours**

This course explores the psychology of religious experience, spiritual formation, and transformation. Biblical/theological foundations are studied together with research in the fields of psychology of religion and social psychology. Attention will be given to students' religious experiences as well as the ministry of guiding, sustaining, and interpreting the religious experiences of others. Students will be expected to participate in a variety of case studies and personal learning encounters in class. *Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

**PAC 613 Pastoral Care: Death, Dying and Grief – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed to equip persons in church settings for effective care and counseling with grieving individuals at a level appropriate to their role and education. It explores the biblical, theological, psychological, and social understandings of death, dying, and grief across the life cycle span. Ministry application will focus on the life and work of the local congregation, the ministry of chaplains, and pastoral counseling.

*Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

**PAC 615 Marriage and Family Counseling and Therapy – Credit 3 hours**

This course will equip persons for effective pastoral care and counseling. Family systems theory and counseling techniques will provide a basic framework for this class as students explore and evaluate marital and family issues. Students will explore these issues from the standpoints of both the congregational perspective and the role of the marriage and family counselor. *Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

**PAC 617 Pastoral Care and Counseling: Personality Theory & Abnormal Behavior – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed to investigate personality theories and abnormal behavior (DSM IV) as well as selected views of psychology, culture, and biblical/theological foundations. Students will be requested to look at their own beliefs and thoughts in these areas in order to consider applications for pastoral care and counseling. *Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

### **PAC 619 Prayer and Pastoral Care – Credit 3 hours**

An exploration of the pastoral care dimensions of prayer, as a sustaining practice that: 1) enriches the communal life of faith; 2) responds with care for individuals (e.g. in a pastoral visit); and 3) nurtures the vocation of ministry. The course explores the context, values, theological commitments, and psychological frameworks assumed in various forms of prayer. This course fulfills a Pastoral Care and Counseling elective, but may not apply toward pastoral counseling certification.

### **PAC 621 Pastoral Care and Transformational Leadership – Credit 3 hours**

This course will explore the biblical, theological and behavioral science dynamics of both Pastoral Care and Leadership components of ministry. Student will reflect on case studies that focus on leadership and pastoral care dimensions. This course fulfills a Pastoral Care and Counseling elective, but may not apply toward pastoral counseling certification.

*Prerequisite: PAC 601 or PAC 609*

### **PRC 601 Preaching – Credit 3 hours**

This course will introduce the student to some of the basic resources for the preparation and delivery of sermons. The student will be required to do fairly extensive reading of and about preaching itself, to reflect upon the calling and work of the preacher, to participate in classroom dialogue, and to prepare, preach, and critique sermons.

### **PRC 605 Preaching as Pastoral Care – Credit 3 hours**

Pastoral care is offered in many venues and forms in the setting of a local community of faith. One of those venues is the preaching event. Within the context of a specific time and a specific biblical passage, preaching speaks to the heart of today's listener conveying the hope of God. This course is designed to assist the minister in embracing opportunities to weave pastoral care through the sermon, guided by the biblical text, to address the human situation.

### **PRC 609 Preaching Practicum – Credit 3 hours**

This course will be a laboratory where students will write and preach as many sermons as possible during the length of a semester. The goal is the significant improvement of the students' skills in research, preparation, and delivery of sermons. Special attention will be given to pastoral preaching in both predictable and crisis situations. *Prerequisite: PRC 601*

### **SPF 501 Spiritual Formation I – Credit 2 hours**

Course designed as an intentional exploration of personal spiritual formation and its implications for ministry. Goals are to assist students in the development of personal spiritual disciplines, to formulate ways in which spiritual formation can shape and direct ministry, and to recognize the harmony of loving God with both mind and heart.

### **SPF 502 Spiritual Formation II – Credit 2 hours**

Practicum course to continue exploration of personal spiritual formation and its implications for ministry.

### **SPF 601 Spiritual Formation in the Local Church – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed to equip ministers to implement practical methodologies for spiritual formation in the local church. Some areas for possible exploration include growing groups, designing retreats, discovering gifts, discerning God's guidance, encouraging spiritual friendship, and facilitating group spiritual formation utilizing group book studies.

*Prerequisite: SPF 501 & 502*

### **SPF 603 Monasticism Old and New – Credit 3 hours**

An introductory and experiential course designed to expose students to a variety of Christian monastic movements. Special attention will be given to the biblical, historical, and theological foundations for Christian monasticism. Students will reflect on the ways congregations and ministers can learn from the breadth and depth of the Christian monastic tradition. Students will also gain experience writing and living under a rule during the semester.

### **THE 501 Christian Vocation – Credit 3 hours**

This course is designed as an introduction to Christian vocation. Students will be guided through a reflection on Scripture and a wide range of texts in the Christian tradition to consider the nature and purpose of God's call for all people. Readings and assignments also encourage the student to discern their sense of personal calling.

### **THE 601 Theology I – Credit 3 hours**

The first part of a two-semester course in basic Christian theology. It is a course integrating theme-based material with the reading of classic texts, the writing of reflection papers on assigned theological topics, and vigorous peer dialogue on all materials. The course is designed for the student who has had no prior graduate course work in theology.

### **THE 603 Theology II – Credit 3 hours**

The second part of a two-semester course in basic Christian theology. It is a course integrating theme-based material with the reading of classic texts, the writing of reflection papers on assigned theological topics, and vigorous peer dialogue on all materials. The course is designed for the student who has had no prior graduate course work in theology.

### **THE 605 The Doctrine of the Trinity – Credit 3 hours**

This course offers an introduction to the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, with particular attention to classical Trinitarian theology and the interconnection between the Trinity and

other mysteries of the Christian faith. Students will develop a fresh contemporary theological understanding of the Trinity and its centrality in Christian faith, worship, and life.

**THE 607 Christology** – Credit 3 hours

A study of the Christian confession that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Biblical, historical, creedal, confessional, and contemporary models provide the basis for understanding and interpreting the person and work of Jesus Christ. In the final paper students are asked to articulate their own Christology. *Prerequisite: THE 601*

**THE 609 Significant Religious Thought** – Credit 3 hours

This course will focus on the meaning of God in philosophical and religious thought. The course will survey three of the important books in modern Christian thought, Jonathan Edwards's *Religious Affections*, William James's *Varieties of Religious Experience*, and C. S. Lewis's *Mere Christianity*. Each of these writers frames the question of God quite differently in their philosophical views, and we will use these differences to explore central issues in the philosophy of religion.

**THE 611 Public Theology** – Credit 3 hours

Public Theology is a study of the role of Christian theology in serving the human community. Included readings from theologians who engaged in public discourse on matters of social significance: Jeremiah, Augustine, Martin Luther, Walter Rauschenbusch, Martin Luther King, and Jürgen Moltmann, among others. Giving particular attention to the proper place of theology in modern institutions such as university, media, and government.

**THE 613 Novel Theology** – Credit 3 hours

The course will explore a variety of novels that develop religious themes of personal transformation, relationship with God, moral choices, and the conflict between good and evil. The purpose of the course is to enable the student to develop skills in the theological analysis of fiction. This will prepare the student to encounter new texts and enable a broader conversation with voices in the society of literature. The student will also deepen their own theological reflection through interaction with the ideas and descriptions in these texts.

**THE 617 Feminist Theology** – Credit 3 hours

This course examines the heterogeneous movements within feminist theology and their efforts toward historical revision, biblical reinterpretation, theological construction, and cultural transformation.

**THE 619 Church in a Postmodern Age – Credit 3 hours**

Current discussions in the church—from emergent “postmodern” congregations to mainline “missional” congregations—are increasingly grappling with philosophical and theoretical questions related to postmodernity. In light of these questions this course will examine theological and practical issues that confront ministers and congregations as they struggle together with integrity and trust to discern what it means to be and to practice Christian community in our postmodern society.

**THE 621 Theology of Baptist Confessions of Faith – Credit 3 hours**

An intensive study of the theologies expressed in the confessions of faith Baptists have produced during the past four centuries. Special attention will be given to confessional documents related to Baptist bodies in the United States of America, but attention will also be given to confessions adopted by other world Baptist bodies.

**THE 623 The Black Church in America – Credit 3 hours**

An introduction to African-American Christianity, with attention to the history, biblical hermeneutics, theology, worship, and other aspects of the Black church tradition in America.

**THE 625 Theology for the Parish – Credit 3 hours**

Theology is the beating heart of pastoral ministry. It is what facilitates and enriches gospel preaching, faithful teaching, and fruitful pastoral care. Therefore, it is of the greatest importance that students understand how to use wisely their knowledge and love of theology in their ministry, not only for leadership in, formation of, and care for the congregation, but also for their own continued enrichment and growth in the Christian life. This course seeks to consider ways ministers practice theology in the life of the congregation, giving attention to the worshiping life of the church, spiritual formation, weddings, and funerals, as well as ways persons and communities respond to traumatic experience.

**THE 627 Reading, Writing, and Believing: Studies in Christian Autobiography and Memoir – Credit 3 hours**

The class explores themes of God, faith, community, and pastoral vocation by means of religious biography, autobiography, and memoir from Augustine to Julian of Norwich to Dorothy Day to the present.

**THE 629 Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Disciple, Pastor, Resister, Martyr – Credit 3 hours**

“Who is Jesus Christ for us today?” This question Dietrich Bonhoeffer posed in a letter in April 1944. In many ways this Christological question defines Bonhoeffer’s life and thought.

The aim of this course is to consider the life and thought of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in light of his own question. Bonhoeffer's involvement in the Confessing Church movement in the era of Nazi socialism in Germany, his (singular German) voice on the "Jewish question," and his participation and role in the German resistance will also be taken up. The course will also consider the significance of Bonhoeffer for North America in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. While attention will be given to all of his writings, the course will especially consider his *Ethics* and *Letters and Papers from Prison*.

**WOR 601 Worship – Credit 3 hours**

This course will introduce the student to some of the history, theology, and practices of Christian worship. The student will be required to read, reflect, and write on liturgical issues, past and present, prepare a series of public prayers suitable for Sunday worship, report on on-site observations of various congregations at worship, participate in classroom dialogue, formulate a sound personal theology of worship, and design a complete worship service.

**WOR 603 Music in the Worship of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Church – Credit 3 hours**

This course will explore the history of music in the worship of the Church, focusing on the role and power of choral, instrumental, and congregational song. Specific issues to be addressed include worship planning and preparation, choral composition, copyrights and publishing, and creativity in liturgical music. Also to be examined are various worship models (traditional, contemporary, and blended) and the music appropriate for each model.

**WOR 605 Advanced Worship Seminar – Credit 3 hours**

An advanced practicum focused on planning, preparing, and presiding in worship. Students will work with the instructor and BSK Chapel coordinator during the semester to plan chapel services. Course content may vary. *Prerequisite: WOR 601 or permission from instructor*

**WRL 607 World Religions – Credit 3 hours**

A study of the emergence and tenets of Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shintoism with emphasis given to basic concepts, major figures, and cultural and historical development.



# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

## FALL 2015

Orientation	8/22
First/Last Day of Class	8/24 - 12/11
Last Day to Add/Drop	8/28 - 9/11
Labor Day	9/7
Last Day to Withdraw	10/2
Fall Break	10/12 - 10/16
Registration for Jan & Spring	11/2 - 11/13
Reading Days/Thanksgiving Break	11/24 - 11/27

## JANUARY 2016 (Class may follow shortened, intensive schedule)

First/Last Day of Class	1/4 - 1/22
Last Day to Add/Drop	TBA
Last Date to Withdraw	TBA
MLK Holiday	1/18

## SPRING 2016

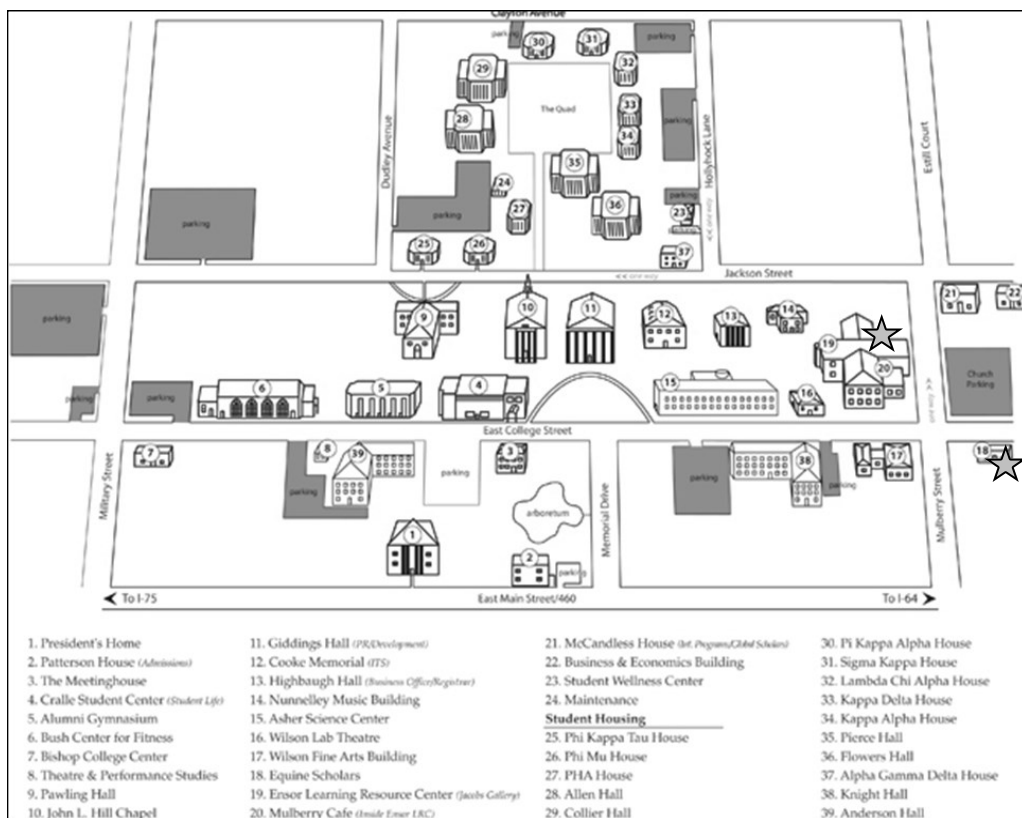
First/Last Day of Class	2/1 - 5/13
Last Day to Add/Drop	2/5 - 2/19
Last Day to Withdraw	3/11
Spring Break	3/14 - 3/18
Good Friday Holiday	3/25
Registration for Summer & Fall	4/5 - 4/16

## COMMENCEMENT 2016

5/14

## SUMMER 2016 (Class may follow shortened, intensive schedule)

First/Last Day of Class	6/6 - 6/24
Last Day to Add/Drop	TBA
Last Day to Withdraw	TBA

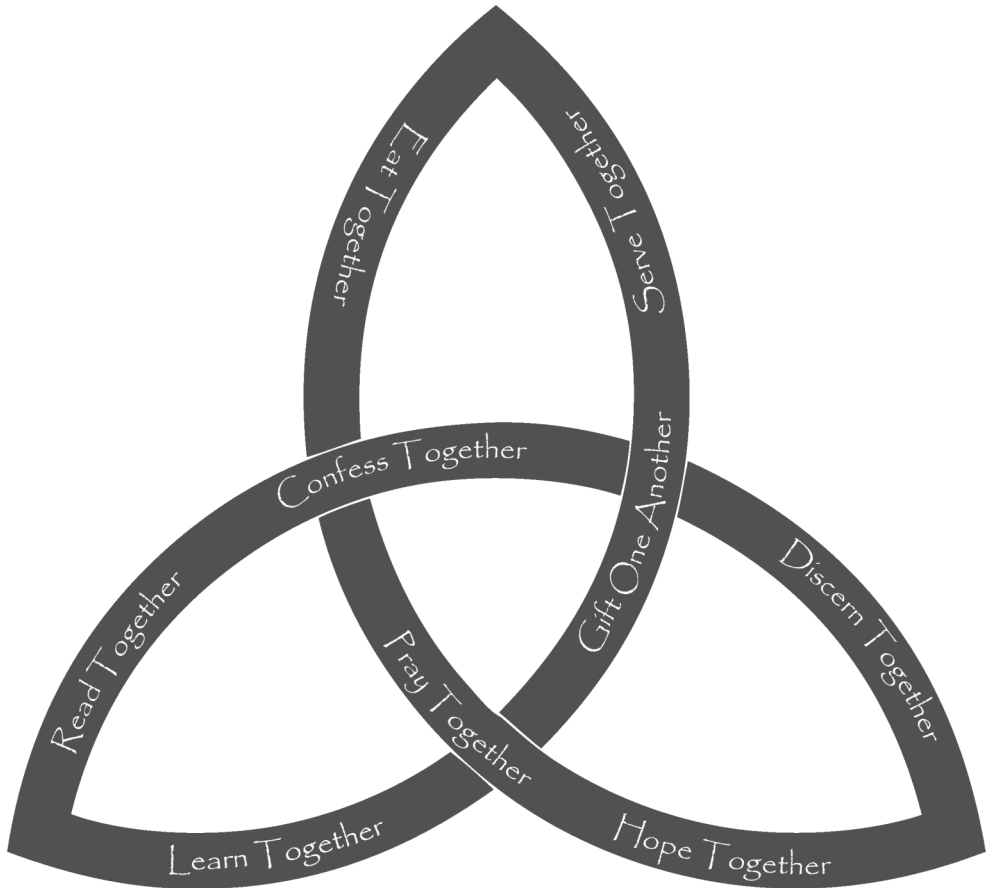


## Our Location

Baptist Seminary of Kentucky's administrative and academic offices are located on the main floor and lower level respectively of the Ensor Learning Resource Center. The admissions office is located at 223 E College Street. All BSK locations are indicated on the map with stars.

Georgetown College is located 12 miles north of Lexington, just west of Interstate 75 and just north of Interstate 64. In driving time, it is approximately 20 minutes from Lexington and one hour from Louisville and Cincinnati.

# The BSK Way



By engaging in these Christian habits and practices as a community,  
we are learning to **imagine together**.



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