# ACADEMIC CATALOG

2026

FORGE
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY

EDUCATION IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hades.
On the third day, he rose again from the grave.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there, he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The Westminster Creed**

I believe man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

I believe that the word of God, contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule given to direct us how to glorify and enjoy God.

I believe God is a spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth; I believe there is but one true living God; that there are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory; I believe God has foreordained whatever comes to pass; that God made all things of nothing, by the word of His power, in the space of six days, and all very good; and that God preserves and governs all His creatures and all their actions.

I believe our first parents, though created in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, sinned against God, by eating the forbidden fruit; and that their fall brought mankind into an estate of sin and misery; I believe God determined, out of His mere good pleasure, to deliver His elect out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer; I believe the only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever; I believe Christ, as our Redeemer, executes the office of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king; I believe Christ as our Redeemer underwent the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, the cursed death of the cross, and burial; He rose again from the dead on the third day, ascended up into heaven, sits at the right hand of God, the Father, and is coming to judge the world at the last day.

I believe we are made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ, by the effectual application of it to us by his Holy Spirit; I believe God requires of us faith in Jesus Christ, and repentance unto life to escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin; I believe by His free grace we are effectually called, justified, and sanctified, and gathered into the visible church, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation; I believe that we also are given in this life such accompanying benefits as assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end; that at death, we are made perfect in holiness, and immediately pass into glory; and our bodies, being still united in Christ, rest in their graves, till the resurrection; and at the resurrection, we shall be raised up in glory, we shall openly be acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgement, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.

# A Letter from the President

**Rev. Michael R. Burgos**
B.S., Lee University
M.A., University of Chester
M.A., Belhaven University
Th.M., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ph.D., Forge Theological Seminary

There are few things men undertake that are as critical and glorious as theological education. The faculty and leadership of Forge Theological Seminary (FTS) recognize the weight of our mission, to provide rigorous and accessible theological education in the name of Christ. We also recognize that FTS serves at the pleasure of the people of God. Christ never established a seminary or Bible college and, therefore, we affirm and uphold the supremacy and authority of local churches when it comes to theological education. For that reason, we require our students and faculty to be active members in a local church. *We exist for the church.*

A quick survey reveals a vast array of options for theological education. Prior to becoming a faculty member at FTS, I faced a dizzying array of schools, programs, and modalities as I contemplated pursuing doctoral education. Why then should one consider FTS? Here are the four reasons that convinced me:

- FTS is utterly committed to the inerrancy and infallibility of Scripture and the biblical gospel.
- FTS represents education in the Reformed tradition and, therefore, we cherish the theological legacy of the Protestant Reformation.
- The faculty of FTS are men who uphold the importance of the local church. Many of our faculty are ordained churchmen with many years of pastoral experience.
- FTS offers a highly accessible approach to education that emphasizes research, asynchronous learning, academic rigor, and affordability.

May our Lord guide you as you pursue education for his glory and the good of his people.

Michael R Burgos

# About Forge Theological Seminary

**Our Mission**

Forge Theological Seminary exists to provide rigorous theological education that will serve both students and Christ's church. We've developed our programs to be extremely affordable and to have real-world flexibility. Our goal is to engender careful theological formation in students while they serve their families and local church.

**Doctrinal Stance**

FTS is situated in the Reformed and evangelical traditions (e.g., the Westminster Confession and Catechisms and the London Baptist Confession of Faith).

All staff and faculty members affirm the following:

*The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy*
*The Nashville Statement*
*The Danvers Statement*
*The Statement on Social Justice and the Gospel*
The Five *Solas* of the Protestant Reformation
The Apostles', Nicene, Chalcedonian, and Athanasian Creeds

Additionally, all faculty members teaching or overseeing counseling courses must affirm the following:
*The Confessional Statement of the Biblical Counseling Coalition*
*The Sufficiency Statement*

**Non-Discrimination Policy**

Forge Theological Seminary admits students of any race, color, national, or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies and admissions policies.

## Contacting the Seminary

**Office Hours**
Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM EST; Friday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Closed on federally recognized holidays.

**Transcripts**
Transcripts are available through the portal at https://www.forge.education/transcript-request. Questions regarding transcripts may be directed to the registrar's office at registrar@forge.education.

**Questions About Course Content**
Matriculated students should contact their respective professors in the event that they possess questions related to course content, research projects, or for scheduling instructor assessments. Faculty emails are located at the top of every syllabus within the learning management system.

**Questions About Programs, Fees, & Technical Problems**
Questions or concerns related to program offerings, program changes, tuition and fees, student status, course substitutions, and technical problems should be addressed to the registrar's office at registrar@forge.education.

**General Inquiry**
General inquiries should be directed to the Seminary administrator at inquire@forge.educaiton or at (843) 481-0193.

**Mail Correspondence**
Forge Theological Seminary
6650 Rivers Ave. STE 100
Charleston, SC 29406

**Phone Correspondence**
(843) 481-0193

**Rev. Dr. Michael R. Burgos, President**
michael@forge.education
**Rev. Dr. Michael Beck, Academic Dean**
michael.beck@forge.education
**Rev. Dr. Russell Threet, Dean of the Biblical Counseling Certificate Program**
russell.threet@forge.education
**Rev. Dr. Michael Shultz, Director of Institutional Development**
michael.shultz@forge.education

# Accreditation

Forge Theological Seminary is not accredited by any accreditation agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. As an institution whose sole purpose is religious and theological training, Forge Theological Seminary is exempt from state oversight as per the South Carolina Code of Laws, Nonpublic Postsecondary Institution License Act, § 59-58-30(4).

**FTS Statement on Accreditation**

Since its inception in 2015, FTS has intentionally rejected seeking accreditation with any accreditor recognized by either the federal government or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Our reasons are two-fold: First, theological education belongs to the church. Second, our mission is to provide robust theological education that is as affordable as possible. The system of US accreditation is a convoluted morass that typically provides little benefit to the students and taxpayers whose dollars pay for its existence. We believe that theological education should not involve students becoming indebted to the federal government or anyone else. Indeed, "the borrower is the slave of the lender" (Prov. 22:7). Institutions endure the expense and toil of achieving federally recognized accreditation primarily in order to gain access to federal money via student grants and loans. FTS has no interest in Title IV compliance or federal student loan dollars. Further, we do not equate recognized accreditation with either legitimacy or faithfulness to Christ. Ultimately, the validation of our degree programs lies in the ability of our graduates to serve the church with excellence. Our graduates are pastors, elders, deacons, counselors, missionaries, theologians, lay Bible teachers, and parachurch leaders. FTS is, however, committed to ensuring the quality of its courses and programs through critical third-party review and we will continue to pursue strategic partnerships that benefit our students and faculty through continuous improvement.

**Incorporation**

Forge Theological Seminary is a non-profit corporation registered in the state of South Carolina and holds 501(c)3 status with the Internal Revenue Service.

# Board of Trustees

Forge Theological Seminary (FTS) is governed by a group of men who are dedicated to serving Christ and our students by pursuing the mission of FTS. In addition to participating in regular meetings, trustees express their commitment to the Seminary and its mission through service in a variety of ways, including oversight of the Seminary's educational programs, staff and faculty, and financial dealings.

Our current Board of Trustees comprises the following individuals:

Rev. Michael Burgos (Trustee)
Paul Carmen (Secretary)
Chris Chumita (Vice Chairman)
Dr. Jason Quintern (Trustee)
Rev. Michael Shultz (Chairman)

# Affiliation

Forge Theological Seminary is a Certified Training Center with the International Association of Biblical Counselors.

Forge Theological Seminary is a training center of the Fellowship of Biblical Counselors.

Forge Theological Seminary is a member institution of the World Reformed Fellowship.

Forge Theological Seminary is a partner of GradXS and is authorized to deliver the M.A. and Ph.D. programs from IIC University of Technology.

**Agreement with Cornerstone College & Seminary**

Forge Theological Seminary has entered into a reciprocity agreement with Cornerstone College & Seminary which affords FTS/Cornerstone students and graduates transferability and general admission. For detailed information, contact the registrar's office.

**Agreement with Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi Christian University**

Forge Theological Seminary has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding agreement with Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi Christian University (JHPCU) which affords both FTS/JHPCU students and graduates transferability and the potential for reciprocal awards. For detailed information, contact the registrar's office.

**Agreement with Master's International University of Divinity**

Forge Theological Seminary has entered into an articulation agreement with Master's International University of Divinity (MIUD) which affords FTS students and graduates transferability and a significant discount for MIUD's courses and programs. For detailed information, contact the registrar's office.

# Degree Programs

## Undergraduate Studies

### Certificate in Biblical Counseling

The Certificate in Biblical Counseling (CBC) is a twelve-credit hour program that fulfills the educational/exam components and some of the supervision requirements for certification with the International Association of Biblical Counselors (IABC) or the Fellowship of Biblical Counselors (FBC). CBC students have the option to pursue either IABC or FBC certification. The CBC program is designed for lay counselors who desire to become better equipped to engage in soul care ministry in their local church. CBC credits are transferable into either our Associate of Theology, Bachelor of Theology, or Master of Theological Studies programs.

C.B.C. Courses:

Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3 credit hours)
Theology of Biblical Counseling (3)
Biblical Hermeneutics (3)
Biblical Counseling Practicum (6)

### Associate of Theology (Theology)

The Th.A. program is designed to give basic training in biblical and theological studies. At 60 credit hours, students generally complete this program in two years of full-time study.

Th.A. Courses

Introduction to the Old Testament I-IV (12 credit hours)
Introduction to the New Testament I-III (9)
Systematic Theology I-IV (12)
Biblical Hermeneutics (3)
Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)
Theology of Biblical Counseling (3)
Biblical Ethics (3)
Church History I-II (6)
Electives (6)
Capstone (3)

### Bachelor of Theology (Theology; Degree Completion Program)

This program is designed for students who want a thorough knowledge of the Bible and theological studies for training as preparation for ministry and for graduate study. The Th.B. in theology is a degree completion program designed for students who possess some college or an Associate degree. Graduation requires a total of 120 credit hours or the equivalent of four years of full-time study.

# Degree Programs

## Dual Track

### Bachelor of Divinity + Master of Divinity

Th.B. + M.Div. Dual-Degree Track is designed for serious students who sense a clear call to serve Christ's church as pastors, teachers, or missionaries in the Reformed Protestant tradition. This 120 credit hour program allows students to pursue the Bachelor of Theology and Master of Divinity concurrently, completing both degrees in a streamlined path that prioritizes depth, flexibility, and stewardship of time and resources.

Theological Studies Core:
Christian Worldview & Thought (3)
Luther & Calvin (3)
Introduction to Apologetics (3)
Apologetics II (3)
Cultural Apologetics I (3)
Total: 54 Credit Hours
Theological Studies Core:
Theological Research, Writing, & Rhetoric (3)
Systematic Theology I-IV (12)
Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)
Theology of Biblical Counseling (3)
Biblical Ethics (3)
Church History I-II (6)
Theology of Worship (3)
Sacraments & Sacred Rights (3)
Pastoral Ministry I (3)

Biblical Literature Core:
Old Testament Introduction I-IV (12)
New Testament Introduction I (9)
Biblical Hermeneutics (3)
Biblical Greek I-II (6)
New Testament Exegesis (3)
Exegesis of Galatians (3)
Biblical Hebrew I-II (6)
Genesis 1-11 (3)
Proverbs (3)

Local Church Practicum:
Church Cooperative Study Program (18)

# Degree Programs

## Graduate Studies

### Master of Theological Studies (Bible and Theology)

The M.T.S. in Bible and Theology is designed for students who want advanced knowledge of the Bible and systematic theology, ideally for training as preparation for ministry or doctoral education. The M.T.S. is a 36-credit-hour program that is generally completed in one year of full-time study.

M.T.S. (Bible and Theology) Courses
Introduction to the Old Testament I-IV (12 credit hours)
Introduction to the New Testament I-III (9)
Systematic Theology I-IV (12)
Capstone (3)

### Master of Theological Studies (Biblical Counseling)

The M.T.S. is a 42-credit hour program that equips students with a foundation of Systematic theology and robust training in biblical counseling. This program is designed to equip students for vocational ministry in Biblical Counseling. M.T.S students will achieve certification with IABC.

M.T.S. Courses (Biblical Counseling)
Systematic Theology I-IV (12 credit hours)
Biblical Hermeneutics (3)
Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)
Theology of Biblical Counseling (3)
Biblical Ethics (3)
Advanced Counseling I-IV (12)
Biblical Counseling Practicum (6)

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# Degree Programs

## Graduate Studies *cont.*

### Master of Theological Studies (New Testament Language & Literature)

The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) in New Testament Language and Literature is a thirty-six credit hour program that provides students with an immersive education in biblical Greek and in the text of the New Testament. Students will learn Biblical Greek and will develop the skills needed to conduct quality exegesis. M.T.S. students benefit from the guidance of our expert faculty and the use of state-of-the-art learning tools.

M.T.S. (New Testament Language & Literature) Courses

Theological Research, Writing, & Rhetoric (3 credit hours)
Introduction to the New Testament I-III (9)
New Testament Background (3)
Biblical Hermeneutics (3)
Biblical Greek I-II (3)
New Testament Exegesis (3)
Exegesis of Galatians (3)
Electives (6)

### Master of Theological Studies (Classical Christian Education)

The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) in Classical Christian Education is a thirty-six credit hour program that provides students with a foundation upon which to construct a philosophy of education for both the school and homeschool settings. Students will build on their theological training to grasp the history of Christian learning, the development of the liberal arts, and the biblical application of these principles for educational endeavors.

F.T.S. has partnered with the Beza Institute to offer teaching certification for M.T.S. students.

M.T.S. (Classical Christian Education Courses)

Core Courses (24)

Systematic Theology I: Prolegomena and Theology Proper (3 Credit Hours)
Systematic Theology II: Bibliology and Anthropology (3)
Systematic Theology III: Christology, Pneumatology, and Soteriology (3)
Systematic Theology IV: Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)
History of Classical Christian Education (3)
Philosophies of Classical Christian Education (3)
Biblical Greek I (3)
Biblical Greek II (3)

Electives (12)

Children's Literature (3)
Great Tradition I (3)
Great Tradition II (3)
Home Education (3)
Progymnasmata (3)
Graduate Thesis (6)
Virtue (3)

***Cont.***

# Degree Programs

**Graduate Studies *cont.***

## Master of Theological Studies (Apologetics)

The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) in Apologetics is a thirty-nine credit hour program in which students develop a sound understanding of the Bible and theology as well as a faithful and effective apologetic method. Students may choose one of three available concentrations to pursue their particular interests. M.T.S. students benefit from the guidance of our expert faculty and the use of state-of-the-art learning tools.

### M.T.S. in Apologetics Courses

**Core Courses:**

Theological Research, Writing, & Rhetoric (3)
Systematic Theology I-IV (12)

Biblical Hermeneutics (3)
Introduction to Apologetics (3)
Apologetics II (3)
Introduction to Logic (3)
Introduction to Christian Philosophy (3)
Biblical Ethics (3)

**Concentrations (9 Credit Hours)**

Concentration in Cultural Apologetics
Christian Worldview & Thought (3)
Cultural Apologetics (3)
Marriage, Culture, & Family (3)

Concentration in Polemical Theology
Trinitarianism & Christology (3)
Survey of Modernist Theology (3)
Bibliology (3)

Concentration in Creation Studies
Genesis 1-11 (3)
Creation Apologetics I-II (6)

***Cont.***

# Degree Programs

## Graduate Studies *cont.*

### Master of Christian Studies

The Master of Christian Studies (M.C.S.) program is a 60-credit-hour graduate degree. The program is comprised of 5 core courses and 45 credit hours of electives. Further, students may opt to include a research thesis comprised of 6 credit hours. The M.C.S affords student maximum freedom to shape a program that fits their ministry goals. Male students who demonstrate advanced aptitude through the core courses may gain permission to complete up to three doctoral-level electives, which may transfer into the FTS Doctor of Theology program.

M.C.S. Courses

Systematic Theology I-IV (12 credit hours)
Capstone (3) *or* Research Thesis (6)
Electives (45)

Doctoral-Level Electives (By Approval Only)

Pastoral Theology (4)
Ecclesiology (4)
Hermeneutics (4)
Biblical Counseling Theory & Method (4)
Marriage & Family (4)
Trinitarian Theology (4)

### Master of Divinity

The Master of Divinity (M.Div.) is a 94-credit-hour graduate degree designed to afford students a considerable theological education with the specific aim of preparing men for service as local church pastors in the Reformed Protestant tradition.

M.Div. Courses

Theological Research, Writing, & Rhetoric (3 credit hours)
Introduction to the Old Testament I-IV (12)
Introduction to the New Testament I-III (9)
Biblical Greek I-II (6)
Biblical Hebrew I-II (6)
Biblical Hermeneutics (3)
New Testament Exegesis (3)*
Old Testament Exegesis (3)*
Genesis 1-11 (3)
Theology of Worship (3)
Systematic Theology I-IV (12)
Biblical Ethics (3)
Church History I-II (6)
Introduction to Apologetics (3)
Apologetics II (3)
Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)
Theology of Biblical Counseling (3)
Introduction to Expository Preaching (4)
Pastoral Ministry I-II (6)
Capstone (3)

***Cont.***

# Degree Programs

## Graduate Studies *cont.*

### Master of Theology

The Master of Theology (Th.M.) in Biblical and Theological Studies is a twenty-four-hour degree program designed to provide students with an advanced grasp of Christian theology. Th.M. students will undertake three doctoral seminars of their choosing, requiring considerable reading and research. Th.M. graduates may transfer their seminar work into either our D.Min. or Th.D. programs.

Th.M. Courses

Orientation Course:
Theological Research, Writing, and Rhetoric (3 Credit Hours)
Elective Core:
Graduate Electives (9)*

*Students who do not possess at least nine hours of biblical languages must devote their elective allotment to Biblical Greek I-II and New Testament Exegesis.

Doctoral Seminars (Choose Three):
Pastoral Theology (4)
Marriage & Family (4)
Ecclesiology (4)
Biblical Counseling Theory & Method (4)
Hermeneutics (4)
Trinitarian Theology (4)
Theological Pedagogy (4)
Puritan Theology I (4)

*Cont.*

# Degree Programs

**Graduate Studies *cont.***

**Doctor of Ministry**

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) in Expository Preaching is a thirty-four credit hour professional degree program designed to provide churchmen with an advanced grasp of biblical and theological studies. The program is designed for pastors who already possess a Master of Divinity (or equivalent) and who have substantial pastoral experience. Students can expect extensive reading and considerable writing assignments that involve significant research.

D.Min. Courses

*Orientation Course:*

Theological Research, Writing, and Rhetoric (3 Credit Hours)

*Core Seminars:*

Pastoral Theology (4)

Marriage and Family (4)

Ecclesiology (4)

Biblical Counseling Theory and Method (4 )

Hermeneutics (4)

*Doctoral Research:*

Expository Thesis (11)

# Degree Programs

**Graduate Studies *cont.***

**Doctor of Theology**

The Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) in Pastoral Theology is a 35-credit terminal degree program designed to provide churchmen an advanced grasp of Christian ministry. Students hone their skills in both the public and private ministry of the Word of God through an in-depth analysis of a wide array of subject areas. Th.D. candidates can expect extensive reading and writing assignments in addition to completing a substantial research dissertation.

Th.D. Courses

*Orientation Course:*

Theological Research, Writing, and Rhetoric (3 Credit Hours)

*Core Seminars (choose 5):*

Pastoral Theology (4)

Marriage and Family (4)

Ecclesiology (4)

Biblical Counseling Theory and Method (4 )

Hermeneutics (4)

Trinitarian Theology (4)

Theological Pedagogy (4)

Puritan Theology I (4)

*Doctoral Research:*

Doctoral Dissertation (10)

Research Defense (2)

# Admission Requirements

## Undergraduate Studies

### Associate of Theology & Certificate in Biblical Counseling

- Advanced proficiency in English.
- High school diploma or GED.
- Membership in a local church.
- General agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance.

### Bachelor of Theology (Theology; Degree Completion Program)

- Advanced proficiency in English.
- An undergraduate degree consisting of two years of full-time study or equivalent.*
- Membership in a local church.
- General agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance.

### Th.B. + M.Div.

- Advanced proficiency in English
- Membership in a local church
- General agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance
- This program is restricted to male students

## Graduate Studies

### Master of Theological Studies, Master of Arts, Master of Christian Studies, Master of Divinity

- Advanced proficiency in English.
- An undergraduate degree consisting of one four years of full-time study (or equivalent).*
- Membership in a local church.
- General Agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance
- The M.Div. program is restricted to male students.

### Master of Theology

- Advanced proficiency in English.
- An undergraduate degree consisting of four years of full-time study (or equivalent) and a graduate degree in biblical and(or) theological studies, Christian education, pastoral ministry, religion, or a related field consisting of at least forty-eight credit hours of study.
- Membership in a local church.
- General Agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance

### Doctor of Theology

- An undergraduate degree consisting of four years of full-time study (or equivalent) and a graduate degree in Biblical or theological studies or a closely related field.
- Advanced proficiency in English.
- Proficiency in biblical Greek.
- Longstanding membership in and service to a local church.
- General agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance
- The Th.D. program is restricted to male students

### Doctor of Ministry

- An undergraduate degree consisting of four years of full-time study (or equivalent) and a M.Div. degree or its equivalent.
- Advanced proficiency in English.
- A minimum of three years of documentable work as a pastor in a local church context.
- General agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance.
- The D.Min. program is restricted to male students.

# Transfer Credit & APL

## Criteria for Transfer Credit

Students who have completed work at other educational institutions may be entitled to transfer credit by presenting official transcripts from those institutions to be evaluated by the registrar's office. Coursework may be applied to a program's core courses, or they may transfer as elective credit. Certain criteria must be met in the transfer credit evaluation. Forge Theological Seminary reserves the right to reject transfer credit if the course content or relevant institution is found to be out of step with FTS' commitments to evangelical orthodoxy and academic integrity.

- Credit must have been earned through conventional means. Credit received from internships and the like is not transferable.
- All transfer credits must meet a grade threshold of "C" or higher.
- Except on the undergraduate level, transfer credit must have been earned within ten years of the application.
- Transfer credit must generally accord with the courses offered in the program applied for.
- Certificate applicants are not eligible to transfer credit.

Associate of Theology: Up to thirty credit hours
Bachelor of Theology: Up to ninety credit hours
Master of Theological Studies: Up to twelve credit hours
Master of Christian Studies: Up to thirty credit hours
Master of Divinity: Up to thirty credit hours
Master of Theology: Up to eight credit hours
Doctor of Theology: Up to eight credit hours (except ABD applicants)
Doctor of Ministry: Up to eight credit hours (except ABP applicants)
**Exceptions to our transfer limit are provided on a case-by-case basis and are provided at the discretion of the registrar.*

## Assessment of Prior Learning

A student's previous undergraduate or graduate-level learning, including that acquired outside of the traditional seminary setting, may be evaluated for academic credit upon the student's request. The APL program is restricted to ThA, ThB, MTS, MCS, and MDiv students who are presently matriculated. Under the direction and evaluation of a faculty committee, the registrar's office utilizes challenge essays and exams, portfolio assessments, individual performance assessments, locally evaluated ministry, and workplace education/training program credit as criteria for Assessment of Prior Learning (APL) credit. No less than the equivalent of six credit hours and no more than one-third of a degree program may be awarded through APL credit.

**APL Application Fee: $120.00**

# Degree By Exception: Criteria & Rules

## Introduction

The phrase “degree by exception” (DBE) refers to an enrollment status enjoyed by FTS students who do not meet the conventional admission requirements for their chosen program. DBE students meet alternative requirements for admission into a program of study that would be normally unattainable through the ordinary admissions process. FTS permits a limited number of DBE students into our Th.B., M.T.S., M.C.S., and M.Div. programs.

### Criteria

As determined by the registrar, DBE candidates are required to meet the following criteria for acceptance:

- Membership in a local church
- General Agreement with FTS' doctrinal stance
- Successful Completion of a DBE *Candidate Field Essay* or probationary enrollment until a total of six to nine credit hours of coursework are completed at a cumulative GPA of no less than 3.0. The *Candidate Field Essay* prompt may be acquired from the registrar’s office (registrar@forge.education).

### Rules

- DBE applicants may be required to conduct an admissions interview with a seminary administrator.
- DBE candidates who are found to have plagiarized any portion of their *Candidate Field Essay* will be denied admission or removed from enrollment.
- The *Candidate Field Essay* may only be submitted for evaluation once.
- DBE students who are admitted on the condition of probationary enrollment and who do not satisfy the GPA requirements will not be permitted to continue in their program.

# Faculty

### Rev. Michael R. Burgos
**President**
**Professor of Theology & Biblical Counseling**
B.S. (Lee University)
M.A. (University of Chester)
M.A. (Belhaven University)
Th.M. (Southern Baptist Theological Seminary)
Ph.D. (Forge Theological Seminary)
Ph.D. (Cand., IIC University of Technology)
ACBC Certified
FBC Certified
IABC Certified

### Clark Bates
**Professor of New Testament**
B.S. (Liberty University)
M.Div. (Liberty University)
Th.M. (Pheonix Seminary)
Ph.D. (University of Birmingham)

### Jeremy Dennis
**Associate Professor of Theology**
B.S. (Liberty University)
M.Div. (Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary)

### Rev. Anthony Jolly
**Professor of Christian Ministry**
B.Sc. (University of the Cumberlands)
M.A. (University of the Cumberlands)
D.Ed.Min. (Cand.; The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary)

### Noah King
**Adjunct Professor of Biblical Studies**
A.S. (Northwestern)
B.A. (Lancaster Bible College)
M.A. (University of Chester)

### Rev. Michael Shultz
**Associate Professor of Church History**
**Director of Institutional Development**
A.S. (Walters State Community College)
B.A. (Eastern Kentucky University)
Cert. (Harvard University)
M.Min. (Andersonville Theological Seminary)
M.Div. (Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary)
D.Min. (Andersonville Theological Seminary)

### Rev. Michael Beck
**Professor of Biblical Studies**
**Academic Dean**
Dip. (Damelin College)
Cert. (United Church and Bible College)
Dip. (United Church and Bible College)
B.Th. (South African Theological Seminary)
M.T.S (Nations University)
Ph.D. (South African Theological Seminary)
D.Min (Columbia Evangelical Seminary)

### Chris Chumita
**Associate Professor of Biblical Counseling**
A.A.S. (Youngstown State University)
B.S. (Indiana Wesleyan University)
M.A. (Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary)
ACBC Certified
FBC Certified
IABC Certified

### Edward L. Dalcour
**Professor of Christian Apologetics**
**Dean of Capstone Studies**
M.Apol. (Columbia Evangelical Seminary)
Ph.D. (North-West University)

### Rev. Greg Demme
**Professor of Creation Studies**
B.A. University of Virginia
M.A. (University of Virginia)
M.Sc. (Pennsylvania State University)
M.Div. (Southern Baptist Theological Seminary)

### Rev. Kevin Hay
**Professor of Christian Ministry**
B.A. (Shawnee State University)
M.Div. (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary)
D.Min. (The Master's Seminary)

### Christopher Johnson
**Professor of Biblical and Theological Studies**
B.A. (Calvary Bible College)
M.A. (Calvary University)
Ph.D. (Calvary University)

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# Faculty

### Jonathan Michael Jones
**Professor of Worship Studies**
B.M. (University of Mary Hardin Baylor)
M.M. (Texas State University)
D.Min., West Coast Seminary
D.W.S. (Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies)
Th.D. (Cand., Forge Theological Seminary)

### Rev. Daniel Ruben
**Associate Professor of Christian Ministry**
B.A. (University of Nevada)
M.Div. (Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary)
Th.M. (Cand.; Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary)
ACBC Certified

### Rev. Russell Threet
**Professor of Biblical Counseling**
**Dean of the Certificate in Biblical Counseling Program**
B.S. (Bellevue University)
M.A. (Liberty University)
M.Div. (Liberty University)
D.PTh. (Master's International University of Divinity)
D.Min. (Cand.; Forge Theological Seminary)
IABC Certified
FBC Certified

### Rev. Steven H. Mathews
**Professor of Christian Ethics**
B.A. (Florida Baptist Theological College)
M.A. (Trinity Theological Seminary)
M.B.A. (Liberty University)
M.Div. (Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary)
D.Min. (Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary)
D.Min. (Forge Theological Seminary)
Ph.D. (University of Pretoria)

### Kevin G. Smith
**Seminary Librarian**
**Professor of Christian Education**
B.A. (Multnomah University)
M.A. (Nazarene Theological Seminary)
M.L.S. (Emporia State University)
Th.M. (Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary)

### Rev. Owen Anderson
**Visiting Professor of Doctoral Research**
B.A. (Arizona State University)
B.A. (Arizona State University)
M.A. (Arizona State University)
M.A. (Arizona State University)
Ph.D. (Arizona State University)

# Courses

## Biblical Studies

**Introduction to the Old Testament I: Pentateuch (BS503; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course will familiarize students with the literature that comprises the Pentateuch from both a historical, literary, and theological framework. Students will learn about each book, its occasion, authorship, and its relevance to contemporary life. Special focus will be given to the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch and the Passover account in Exodus 12.

**Introduction to the Old Testament II: Historical Books (BS504; 3 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to the Old Testament II: Historical Books surveys the history of Israel from the period of Joshua through to the return of the Jews to Jerusalem. Students will examine the major themes, chronology, and literary character of each historical book of the OT with special emphasis on Messianic typology.

**Introduction to the Old Testament III: Wisdom Literature (BS505; 3 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to the Old Testament III: Wisdom Literature will provide a broad sweep through each wisdom book. The authorship, literary character, and major themes will be considered for each book. Students will learn to analyze and apply wisdom books in a responsible and even-handed fashion while accounting for their original setting and application.

**Introduction to the Old Testament IV: Prophets (BS506; 3 Credit Hours)**
Old Testament Introduction IV: Prophets will introduce Old Testament studies specific to those books that cover the prophets before Christ and will provide an examination of each book in that subgroup. Additionally, this course will consider issues such as the transmission of the Old Testament prophetic books, their authorship, various literary genres, and canonicity.

**Introduction to the New Testament I: Gospels & Acts (BS500; 3 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to the New Testament will introduce New Testament studies and will provide an examination of each book that comprises the New Testament. Additionally, this course will consider issues such as the transmission of the New Testament, its authorship, various literary genres, and canonicity.

**Introduction to the New Testament II: Pauline Epistles (BS501; 3 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to the New Testament II: Pauline Epistles examines the Pauline corpus in terms of its literature, rhetoric, and theological import. Students will apprehend the cultural and historical context of each letter as they develop an appreciation for Paul's corpus as an integral part of the NT canon. Careful attention will be given to Paul's soteriological developments and his approach to conflict within the body of Christ.

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# Courses

## Biblical Studies (*Cont.*)

**Introduction to the New Testament III: General Epistles & Revelation (BS502; 3 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to the New Testament III: General Epistles & Revelation will familiarize students with the contents of the non-Pauline letters and Revelation with a special focus on their literary genre, historical and cultural settings, and theological meaning. Students analyze key themes (e.g., Christian living; suffering) and produce an exegesis of a select passage.

**New Testament Background (BS508; 3 Credit Hours)**
New Testament Background explores the historical, social, and theological context of the New Testament. Students will examine the historicity of the people and events described in the New Testament as well as the life and ministry of Christ and his apostles.

**Genesis 1-11 (BS600; 3 Credit Hours)**
Genesis 1-11 is an in-depth analysis of the critical portion of biblical revelation. Students learn to approach Genesis 1-11 exegetically, historically, and theologically. Special attention will be given to scientific commentary, which demonstrates, in conjunction with the biblical record, robust evidence for a young earth. Students will also apprehend the foundational theological truths which permeate the balance of the canon.

**Biblical Hermeneutics (BS507; 3 Credit Hours)**
Biblical Hermeneutics will provide a careful introduction to the task of biblical interpretation, especially as it relates to the Old Testament. Students will learn about the different approaches to hermeneutics and will be instructed in an evenhanded approach that honors evangelical conviction regarding the absolute truthfulness and relevance of Scripture but also acknowledges the importance of recognizing how the interpreter's experience and background affect interpretation.

**Biblical Greek I (BS605; 3 Credit Hours)**
Biblical Greek I immerses students in the original language of the New Testament. Students will learn the Greek alphabet, Erasmian pronunciation, the noun system, article, the verb of being, personal pronouns, demonstratives, relative pronouns, the present active indicative verb, and contract verbs.

**Biblical Greek II (BS606; 3 Credit Hours)**
Building upon the skills acquired in Biblical Greek I, students will learn the indicative and non-indicative verb systems and participles. Additionally, students will develop and sharpen their translation skills in preparation for NT exegesis.

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# Courses

## Biblical Studies (*Cont.*)

**New Testament Exegesis (BS677; 3 Credit Hours)**
New Testament Exegesis builds upon the skills acquired in Greek I-II and provides students with an introduction to NT textual criticism, translation theory, and exegetical method. The course culminates in a substantial exegesis of a selected pericope.

**Biblical Hebrew I (BS607; 3 Credit Hours)**
Biblical Hebrew I immerses students in the original language of the Old Testament. Students will learn the Hebrew alphabet, vocabulary, the noun system, nominals, and receive an introduction to Hebrew verbs.

**Biblical Hebrew II (BS608; 3 Credit Hours)**
Biblical Hebrew II builds upon the accomplishments of Biblical Hebrew I. Students will grasp the balance of the Hebrew verb system and vocabulary.

**Old Testament Exegesis (BS640; 3 Credit Hours)**
Old Testament Exegesis builds upon the skills acquired in Hebrew I-II and provides students with an introduction to OT textual criticism, translation theory, and exegetical method. The course culminates in a substantial exegesis of a selected pericope.

**Exegesis of Galatians (BS678; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course explores in detail Paul's Epistle to the Galatians and provides a special focus on both the soteriological and covenantal aspects of the letter. The course will emphasize sound hermeneutical principles for discovering the meaning of the text and for applying that meaning in teaching and preaching.

**Proverbs (BS555; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course explores the history, major themes, and interpretation of the book of Proverbs. Students will become familiar with the best interpretive strategy for the book, with special focus on its theological and practical import, as well as the relevance of Proverbs to other wisdom texts and the New Testament.

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# Courses

## Theological Studies

**Systematic Theology I: Prolegomena & Theology Proper (TH500; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course provides a prolegomenon that will introduce the theological method and goals of systematic theology and will situate the student to understand systematics as a distinct category of Christian theology. Subsequently, students will examine God's acts, attributes, and trinitarian nature. Further, students will engage theology proper as it is presented through the cumulative portrait of biblical truth.

**Systematic Theology II: Bibliology & Anthropology (TH501; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course provides a continuation of what was apprehended in Systematic Theology I and will provide an introductory consideration of revelation epistemology leading to the knowledge of God. Students will grasp natural and special revelation, biblical inspiration, and the basis for the evangelical doctrine of Scripture. Subsequently, students will examine the doctrines of angels and demons, viewing these doctrines through biblical data and the ANE. Further, the doctrine of anthropology will be evaluated and explored, as well as hamartiology.

**Systematic Theology III: Christology, Pneumatology, and Soteriology (TH502; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course provides a continuation of what was apprehended in Systematic Theology I-II and will provide a consideration of Christology, including the nature and work of Christ. The person, work, and nature of the Holy Spirit will be examined. Thereafter, students will analyze the doctrine of salvation from a Protestant Reformed perspective.

**Systematic Theology IV: Ecclesiology & Eschatology (TH503; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course provides a continuation of what was apprehended in Systematic Theology I-III and provides a consideration of ecclesiology, including the biblical foundation, attributes, and mission of the Christian church. Students will learn about the sacraments, the church's function as the only hope upon the earth, and God's means of renewal. Thereafter, students are introduced to eschatology, including the intermediate state, return of Christ, and eschaton.

**Introduction to Apologetics (TH605; 3 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to Apologetics will provide an analysis of the defense of the Christian faith, with emphasis on the formation of the Christian worldview and apologetic methodology. Students will be introduced to a variety of approaches to the apologetic task and will be equipped to provide compassionate, respectful, and thoughtful responses to those who challenge the faith.

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# Courses

## Theological Studies (*Cont.*)

**Apologetics II: Theological Polemics (TH606; 3 Credit Hours)**
Apologetics II: Theological Polemics will build upon the foundational principles learned in Introduction to Apologetics and address issues related to cults and false religious systems. Students will learn to evaluate and critique heterodox Christian movements and groups while sharing the gospel and engaging respectfully and reverently.

**Introduction to Biblical Counseling (TH603; 3 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to Biblical Counseling provides students with an expansive explanation of biblical soul care. Students will explore the basics of biblical counseling method and will learn to address some of the more common problems presented in counseling situations. Additionally, students will learn to navigate the differences between biblical counseling, integrationism, and secular psychology and psychiatry.

**Theology of Biblical Counseling (TH604; 3 Credit Hours)**
Theology of Biblical Counseling explores how to practically apply the theological truths that the student learned while studying Biblical and Systematic Theology. Students will apprehend the theological basis for the practice of biblical counseling and will develop a substantial understanding of counseling as an inherently theological task.

**Capstone (TH607; 3 Credit Hours)**
As the final course for non-thesis students, Capstone affords students the opportunity to synthesize their education from previous coursework and to produce a piece of substantial scholarship. Students will construct a Confession of Faith which expresses their theology in eleven areas of doctrine.

**Advanced Counseling I: Evaluating Methods of Counseling (TH654; 3 Credit Hours)**
Advanced Counseling I will provide students with an overview and critique of various Christian approaches to counseling. Students will engage with the levels-of-explanation and integrationist approaches as well as a number of other perspectives. Students will not only learn to evaluate these approaches fairly, using the text of Scripture as the standard, but they will learn to parse through the disparities with care and skill.

**Bibliology (TH618; 3 Credit Hours)**
Bibliology is a guided study course that examines the Reformed doctrine of Scripture, including its inspiration, canon, and inerrancy. Students will become familiarized with non-evangelical viewpoints and learn to engage with them through thoughtful and critical interaction.

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# Courses

## Theological Studies (*Cont.*)

**Advanced Counseling II: Marriage & Family (TH656; 3 Credit Hours)**
Advanced Counseling II will train students to understand marriage and parenting. This course will also train students to counsel married couples and children with skill and compassion. Marriage, divorce, and remarriage will be considered in detail as well as a large array of counseling problems among children. Students will develop a theology of divorce and interact with two complex case studies.

**Advanced Counseling III (TH657; 3 Credit Hours)**
Building on both Introduction to Biblical Counseling and Theology of Biblical Counseling, Advanced Counseling III: Addictions broadens the student's grasp of biblical counseling theory and practice to areas related to addiction. The underlying issues of addiction will be considered, developed, and students will learn to address these in a counseling situation with care and skill.

**Advanced Counseling IV: Medical Issues (TH658; 3 Credit Hours)**
Advanced Counseling IV will familiarize students with a myriad of medical and psychiatric concepts as they relate to the task of biblical counseling. Students will learn to speak the truth in love to those involved with psychiatric medications while counseling in an evenhanded and compassionate way. Other issues, such as terminal or chronic illness, depression, anxiety, and PTSD will be considered.

**Biblical Counseling Practicum (TH688; 6 Credit Hours)**
Biblical Counseling Practicum consists of ten hours of supervised counseling. Students will complete counseling sessions within their own ministry context and regularly meet with their supervisor on a bi-weekly basis.

**Introductory to Expository Preaching (TH681; 4 Credit Hours)**
Introduction to Expository Preaching is designed to equip students with the rudiments of sermon preparation and development. Students will learn the mechanics and method of biblical exposition, including narratives and didactic literature. Students will also work closely with an experienced pastor to develop and refine a sermon of their own.

**Introduction to Christian Philosophy (TH650; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course will provide a comprehensive overview of the history of philosophy from ancient times to today. It will require students to wrestle with the same questions that Socrates, Plato, Jesus, the Apostle Paul, the Church Fathers, Luther, and Calvin struggled with, as well as consider the questions modern philosophers ask today. It will provide many of the tools necessary to begin serious work in philosophy, and the arguments and solutions throughout the course will be heavily grounded in Scripture.

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# Courses

## Theological Studies (*Cont.*)

**Pastoral Ministry I (TH544; 3 Credit Hours)**
Pastoral Ministry I is designed to equip students with a biblical and historical foundation for pastoral ministry. This foundation will be used to help students better understand and process their own calling to pastoral ministry. Students will develop a theology of pastoral ministry that will become the foundation for the practical application of pastoral ministry in a subsequent course.

**Pastoral Ministry II (TH545; 3 Credit Hours)**
Building on the material covered in Pastoral Theology I, this course will expand the student's grasp of the pastoral vocation. Focus is given to homiletics, ministerial ethics, and pastoral care within the local church context.

**Introduction to Logic (TH530; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course will provide a comprehensive overview of logic as a philosophical subject. It will require students to wrestle with subjects such as God in logic, classification, truth, formal systems, symbolic logic, propositional logic, syllogistic logic, predicate logic and formalized reasoning. It will provide many of the tools necessary to begin serious work in philosophy, theology, and mathematical logic, but does not presuppose any prior coursework in mathematics. The arguments and solutions throughout the course will be heavily grounded in Scripture.

**Luther and Calvin (Th581; 3 Credit Hours)**
While students are expected to engage and comprehend Reformed theology from various courses, this course will introduce students to the two foremost figures in Reformation history: Martin Luther and John Calvin. By reading biographies, academic essays, and primary sources, students will develop an understanding of the various forces that contributed to the development of Luther and Calvin's respective positions. Their backgrounds, educations, ministerial experiences, confessional and doctrinal affirmations, and legacies will be discussed, and students will be challenged to assess the validity of the ideas of each reformer, as well as to exhibit an understanding of why each man came to his respective position.

**Theological Research, Writing, & Rhetoric (TH608; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course is designed to equip students with the essential skills and knowledge required to engage in rigorous theological research and produce high-quality academic writing. This course aims to cultivate critical thinking, research competence, and effective communication within the realms of theology, biblical studies, and ministry.

# Courses

## Theological Studies (*Cont.*)

**Biblical Ethics (TH600; 3 Credit Hours)**
Biblical Ethics will introduce students to the legacy of Christian moral theology as it relates to often controversial and vexing contemporary ethical questions. Students will achieve a grasp of alternative ethical theories in light of the supremacy of Scripture's moral content. Issues such as the ongoing relevance of the law of God, relativism, reproductive technologies, and capital punishment will be explored.

**Church History I: The Ascension to the Medieval Era (TH601; 3 Credit Hours)**
Church History I: The Ascension to the Medieval Era acquaints students with major movements, leaders, and controversies of the church from its inception through the pre-Reformation period. Students will engage with primary sources in addition to the assigned textbooks and will gain an understanding of the theological development that took place through the centuries. Special focus will be placed on key leaders whose writings would come to prominence in the period of the Reformation.

**Church History II: The Reformation to the Present Day (TH602; 3 Credit Hours)**
Building upon the theological and cultural events discussed in Church History I, Church History II: The Reformation to the Present Day familiarizes students with major movements, leaders, and controversies of the church from the proto-reformers through to the modern day. Students will engage with primary sources in addition to the assigned textbooks and will gain an understanding of the theological development that took place through the centuries. Focus will be given to the magisterial reformers and their contribution to the church.

**Introduction to Christian Philosophy (TH623; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course will provide a comprehensive overview of the history of philosophy from ancient times to today. It will require students to wrestle with the same questions that Socrates, Plato, Jesus, the Apostle Paul, the Church Fathers, Luther, and Calvin struggled with, as well as consider many of the questions modern philosophers ask today. It will provide many of the tools necessary to begin serious work in philosophy, and the arguments and solutions throughout the course will be heavily grounded in Scripture.

**Christian Political Theology (TH624; 3 Credit Hours)**
Christian Political Theology explores the relationship between Christianity and politics. Students will examine how the Reformed faith, doctrines, and teachings intersect with political thought, American history, governance, and public policy. Particular focus is given to political theology as it relates to North America. Students will be exposed to a rich variety of perspectives with the goal of engendering critical reflection.

# Courses

## Theological Studies (*Cont.*)

**Theology of Worship (TH630; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course explores a theological understanding of worship as it relates to Christian practice over the past two millennia. Current worship trends in churches will be evaluated in light of this theological and historical perspective.

**Marriage, Family, & Culture (TH613; 3 Credit Hours)**
Marriage, Culture, & Family is a guided study course in which students develop a robust theology of the family and an appreciation for the family's role in creation, redemption, and the reformation of culture. Students gain a biblical view of marriage and sexuality and a thoughtful and relevant critique to contemporary cultural challenges.

**Creation Apologetics I (TH614; 3 Credit Hours)**
Creation Apologetics I is a guided study course that acquaints students with an array of issues surrounding the origins debate and provides a careful apologetic response derived from Scripture. Issues such as the age of the earth, evolutionary biology, and challenges to a biblical perspective are explored.

**Creation Apologetics II (TH615; 3 Credit Hours)**
Creation Apologetics II is a guided study course that builds upon the findings of Creation Apologetics I and analyzes contemporary scholarship related to the Genesis flood, the fossil record, human origins, and related issues.

**Survey of Modernist Theology (TH616; 3 Credit Hours)**
Survey of Modernist Theology is a guided study course that familiarizes students with the theological movements that sprung from the Enlightenment and contemporary iterations of theological liberalism and related issues. Students will develop a historical and critical understanding of modernist theology and its intellectual basis.

**Trinitarianism and Christology (TH617; 3 Credit Hours)**
Trinitarianism and Christology is a guided study course in which students gain an advanced understanding of the biblical basis for both Trinitarianism and the orthodox doctrine of Christ. Students critically interact with alternative perspectives through biblical exegesis and theological reflection.

# Courses

## Theological Studies (*Cont.*)

**Cultural Apologetics (TH610; 3 Credit Hours)**
Cultural Apologetics is a guided study course that examines the foundations of Western civilization and its primary interlocutors within contemporary society. Students develop an evenhanded view of culture and the church's role in societal reform.

**Christian Worldview & Thought (TH612; 3 Credit Hours)**
Christian Worldview and Thought is a guided study course in which students grasp worldview as an outgrowth of theology and develop a reflective method of analysis related to the constitutive parts of worldviews. Students will learn to accurately and effectively critique non-Christian worldviews through scholarly analysis and biblical evaluation.

**Church Cooperative Study (TH663; 18 Credit Hours)**
Church Cooperative Study consists of a structured internship wherein M.Div. students opt to complete approximately one-fifth of their program (i.e., eighteen credit hours) through directed service to their local church. The goal of the CCS program is to realize biblical and theological application in local church ministry in the areas of proclamation, leadership, and outreach.

**Philosophies of Classical Christian Education (TH620; 3 Credit Hours)**
Philosophies of Classical Christian Education is a guided study course that familiarizes students with the perspectives on Classical Christian Education, with special attention given to works since the Classical Renewal Movement. Students will develop an understanding of the various approaches to Classical Christian learning and appreciate the role of the Liberal Arts in these methods.

**History of Classical Education (TH631; 3 Credit Hours)**
History of Classical Christian Education is a guided study course that familiarizes students with the development of Classical Christian Education, with special attention given to works from the Medieval and Renaissance eras. Students will acquire an understanding of the formation of Classical Christian learning through a study of the development of the Western Liberal Arts tradition.

**Introduction to Missions (TH619; 3 Credit Hours)**
This course provides an introductory overview of world missions. The emphasis will be on equipping students to understand historical missiology, theological perspectives, strategic developments, and contemporary issues.

# Courses

## Theological Studies (*Cont.*)

**Great Tradition I (TH633; 3 Credit Hours)**
Great Tradition is a two-part guided study course that familiarizes students with the sweep and development of Western Civilization, with special attention given to Christian norms, seminal works, and pivotal figures/events. The first course, Great Tradition I, covers the Ancient to Medieval eras, focusing on the role of Scripture in shaping the West.

**Great Tradition II (TH634; 3 Credit Hours)**
Great Tradition is a two-part guided study course that familiarizes students with the sweep and development of Western Civilization, with special attention given to Christian norms, seminal works, and pivotal figures/events. The second course, Great Tradition II, covers the Modern and Contemporary West, focusing on the conflicts between faith and reason.

**Children's Literature (TH632; 3 Credit Hours)**
Children's Literature is a guided study course that familiarizes students with the importance and enjoyment of reading quality works. The course texts are divided into numerous works of literature and a few works pertaining to theory. Students will develop both an ability to articulate a rationale for classifying a work as quality children's literature and an initial list of works ranging from picture books to read-alouds to chapter books.

# Courses

## Doctoral Courses

**Pastoral Theology (TH800; 4 Credit Hours)**
Pastoral Theology provides an advanced grasp of the qualifications, responsibilities, and calling of the local church pastor. Significant attention is devoted to pulpit ministry, homiletical theory, and sermon development. Students will develop an exegetically informed view of key elements in pastoral theology.

**Marriage and Family (TH801; 4 Credit Hours)**
This course consists of an advanced biblical overview of the unique challenges faced in ministry to families. It is focused on accurately and appropriately instructing families in varied situations. Careful attention will be given to pursuing biblical fidelity, genuine heart change, and apprehension of the basis for marriage and the ethical and theological issues surrounding divorce and remarriage.

**Ecclesiology (TH802; 4 Credit Hours)**
This course focuses on major issues concerning the doctrine and practice of the church from a biblical context. This will include such topics as the relationship between the church and Israel, the governance structures of the church, the traditional marks of the church, the ordinances of the church, as well as the church's mission in the world. In addition, current methodological issues surrounding the doctrine of the church will be addressed.

**Hermeneutics (BS803; 4 Credit Hours)**
This course will provide an expansive immersion in biblical hermeneutics and exegesis with particular emphasis on New Testament interpretation. Students will consider comparative and historical methods for biblical interpretation and delineate theological implications for faith and practice. Drawing upon the course content, students will develop an in-depth exegesis of a specified pericope.

**Trinitarian Theology (TH804; 4 Credit Hours)**
Trinitarian Theology provides students with a biblical, theological, and historical analysis of the doctrine of the Trinity. As the most significant doctrine of the Christian faith, students will learn the exegetical basis of the doctrine, its theological importance, and the history associated with its development.

**Biblical Counseling Theory & Method (TH805; 4 Credit Hours)**
Biblical Counseling Theory and Method is designed to equip ministry professionals for leadership in ministering and counseling from a biblical foundation. Specifically, the degree is designed for congregational ministers and others who serve in counseling roles. Students will complete a significant amount of the requirements for IABC or FBC certification.

# Courses

## Graduate Research

**Graduate Research Proposal (RE700; RE800)**
In Graduate Research Proposal, students will work together with their supervisor to develop a formal research proposal in accord with their major.

**Graduate Research (RE690; RE890; RE891)**
Graduate Research consists of supervised research that seeks to answer the primary and subsidiary research goals outlined in the formal proposal. Additionally, during this phase of the research program, students will craft their research projects while in continuous dialogue with their supervisors.

**Research Defense (RE799;RE899)**
Students who have completed Graduate Research and have developed either a thesis or dissertation move on to present their research to a committee comprised of, in the case of masters-level students, their supervisor, and an additional reader. On the doctoral level, students will present their research to a committee comprised of their supervisor and two additional readers. Research presentations incorporate several aspects that culminate in a research examination.

## Course Information

**How Credit Hours Are Calculated**
The "Credit Hour" is a traditional unit of measurement that depicts the time required to complete a course of study. A credit hour refers to approximately sixteen hours of study per week per sixteen-week conventional term. A conventional three-credit hour course, therefore, is designed to comprise approximately one hundred and thirty-five hours of study. However, because FTS employs asynchronous and blended learning modalities, including the use of a learning management system, the credit hour calculation is subject to the individual student's capabilities and preferences.

**Course Length**
While students are permitted to work at their own pace, they must complete a course no later than twenty weeks after their course start date. Motivated students may complete a course in as little as three to four weeks.

**How Courses Are Administered**
FTS employs a learning management system (LMS) to deliver coursework and materials. Our LMS is user-friendly, fully integrated, and affords students an excellent distance learning environment. Additionally, FTS has a strategic partnership with Zondervan and makes use of its Enhanced Edition textbooks in certain courses.

# Tuition & Fees

**Tuition Rates & Fees (Excluding M.Sc. and Ph.D.)**

| Undergraduate & Graduate Programs | Doctoral Program |
|---|---|
| Monthly Subscription of $60 | Monthly Subscription of $80 |
| One-Time Graduation Fee of $65 | One-Time Graduation Fee of $65 |

***Average textbook costs per course: Undergraduate/Graduate $30-$50; Doctoral: $60-120***

**Note: Students are required to maintain their tuition subscription through the entirety of their enrollment. Failure to meet tuition responsibilities will result in either academic probation, dismissal, or a freeze on the student's academic transcript. Further, students who do not meet their tuition responsibility will receive an invoice. Failure to remit payment within ten days of this invoice will result in late fees totaling no more than 6% interest billed monthly. Failure to remit payment within sixty calendar days may result in a legal claim, disclosure to credit agencies, and delivery of this debt to a collections agency.**

**Tuition FAQ**

- *When do I pay tuition?* Students who have already completed the application process are eligible to begin their subscriptions. The registrar's office contacts students as to the outcome of their application and next steps.
- *How do I pay?* Using the links provided on our tuition page, select your program and initiate your monthly subscription.
- *Will my tuition increase?* We guarantee no tuition increases for students who are presently subscribed to a monthly payment plan.
- *Is there another method of payment?* Because we have sought to keep our tuition costs as affordable as possible, there is no other method of payment.
- *What if I miss a payment?* Students who miss one payment are placed on probationary status for a period of one month. We will attempt to draft your account an additional time to cover the missed payment. Students who miss two payments will be removed from their program. Additionally, students who have missed payments will be unable to obtain copies of their transcripts until overdue balances are paid in full.
- *I do not wish to continue in my program. How do I end my subscription?* End your subscription through your PayPal account. Contact registrar@forge.education to end enrollment.
- *May I pause my program?* Students may request a one-time pause in studies up to a period of three months by contacting the registrar's office (registrar@forge.education).
- *When do I pay my graduation fee?* Students who complete the requirements of their program may apply for graduation by contacting registrar@forge.education. Upon approval, you may pay the fee.
- *Is there a transcript fee?* Yes, the fee for an official transcript is $8.
- *Is there a cost to transfer credit?* No, there is no fee associated with credit transfers for students who have an active payment subscription.
- *I have been approved for APL credit. When do I pay the $120 fee?* The finance office will bill successful APL applicants within thirty days of their enrollment.

# Tuition & Fees

**Refund Policy**

We understand that circumstances may arise that require students to withdraw from courses or programs. This Refund Policy outlines the terms and conditions under which refunds may be granted.

**1. Withdrawal and Refund Eligibility**

*Program Withdrawal*

Students who wish to withdraw from their program must submit a written request to the Registrar's Office (registrar@forge.education) by email.

Refunds are determined based on the date the written withdrawal request is received. Students who have issued a written withdrawal request and who have made a tuition payment within seven calendar days of the request are entitled to a full refund of the relevant payment.

Students who cancel their tuition subscription during their enrollment and(or) prior to withdrawal approval are not entitled to a refund as per our tuition agreement.

**2. Special Exceptions**

Refunds outside of the standard policy may be considered under the following exceptional circumstances:

- Military Duty: Students called to active military duty who request a pause in their enrollment may be eligible for a full or partial refund depending on the timing and duration of the deployment.
- Catastrophe: In the event of a catastrophic event, a student who requests a pause in their enrollment may be eligible for a refund of the most recent tuition payment.
- Institutional Error: If a student withdraws due to an error or miscommunication on the part of the Seminary, a full refund of the most recent tuition subscription fee may be granted.

**3. Processing Refunds**

Refunds will be processed within 30 days of the withdrawal request. Refunds will be issued through the original payment method unless otherwise requested.

**4. Non-Refundable Items**

Certain fees and charges are non-refundable, including but not limited to:

- Application fees
- Transcript fees
- Tuition Subscription fees prior to withdrawal
- Graduation fees
- No refunds are offered for the GradXS/IICUT programs.

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