



Metro Baltimore Seminary
Academic Catalog
2023-2024

www.metrobaltimoreseminary.org

Maryland Higher Education Commission Exemption

Metro Baltimore Seminary is a religious educational institution operating in the State of Maryland pursuant to an exemption granted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, without a certificate of approval from the Commission, as specified in the Code of Maryland Regulations 13B.02.04.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Page

4	Administration
4	Academic Calendar
5	From the President
6	Mission and Doctrinal Statement
8	Student Spiritual Life at MBS
10	Faculty
13	Academic Program: Bachelor of Theology
34	Academic Program: Master of Divinity
54	Academic Program: Certificate in Christian Studies

ADMINISTRATION

Metro Baltimore Seminary

2600 Olive Branch Way
Marriottsville, MD 21104

Contact Details:

Phone: (443) 799-2736

Fax: (410) 442-5820

Email: office@metrobaltoreseminary.org

Website: www.metrobaltoreseminary.org

MBS Administration

President	Rev. Dr. Dan Passerelli
Academic Dean	Rev. Dr. Adam L. Feldman
Dean of Students	Rev. Steve Dallwig
Dean of Mentoring	Rev. Dr. Benton W. Taylor
Dean of Church Planting & Renewal Associate Dean of Urban Ministry	Rev. Dr. Craig Garriott
Dean of Urban Ministry Associate Dean of Church Planting & Renewal	Rev. Stanley J. Long
Dean of Biblical Counseling	Mrs. Alison Spiegel
Bursar	Mrs. Jen Hartranft
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Grace Passerelli

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

<https://www.metrobaltoreseminary.org/calendar>

FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the heart of most Christian seminaries is a desire to equip Christian leaders. Metro Baltimore Seminary is no different. We want to see disciple-making leaders trained for our region. Other seminaries may have larger libraries, greater resources, and more robust academic programs – and we are glad for the training they provide. At MBS we do not desire to replace seminaries that operate under a more traditional model. Rather, our aim is to offer a distinctive model of leadership formation that is intellectually challenging, spiritually rigorous, and intimately connected to the practice of ministry. Here is what we think makes us unique:

1. We offer a mentor-based approach to leadership formation. Every student has a mentor that meets regularly with them to process the work God is doing in their heart. Students are equipped to pursue a mentoring relationship that draws them into a deeper connection with God, a greater understanding of their calling, and a fuller engagement with the people and places they serve.
2. We foster a learning environment that allows students to not only gain the biblical, theological, and historical knowledge they need to serve, but that also encourages them to grow in wisdom as they apply knowledge to life. Classes are taught by ministry practitioners who bring their real-world experience into the classroom. Discussion and interaction are encouraged because we know that professors do not have all the answers and that sometimes students learn best from each other.
3. We require our students to be actively engaged in practical ministry as part of the curriculum. Doing the work of ministry while studying forces students to make practical application of their classroom work and keeps them from getting lost in academic details. It also further shapes them for future leadership as they learn the soft skills needed to effectively care for and influence others for the sake of Christ.
4. We keep tuition affordable so that anyone who desires to go to seminary can do so, no matter their financial situation. We believe we prepare our students well for future leadership if we offer training that does not require them to take on significant debt. Scholarships are available for students who cannot afford our modest fees, thanks to the generosity of donors and churches that value our approach to leadership formation on the local level.

Classes meet weekly throughout the academic year, and we would love to welcome you to sit in on a class, meet students and faculty, and get to know the community that makes MBS unique. I look forward to getting to meet you, whether God calls you to study with us or somewhere else.

In Jesus,
Rev. Dr. Dan Passerelli, D.Min.
President
Metro Baltimore Seminary

MISSION, VISION, AND DOCTRINAL STATEMENTS

Mission:

Our mission is to identify, equip and deploy emerging Christ-centered leaders for the Baltimore Metropolitan Region and beyond through classroom instruction, mentoring and practical ministry experience to advance the Gospel for our increasingly diverse contexts.

Vision:

MBS exists to be the most accessible and transformative seminary for training disciple-making leaders in the Baltimore region.

Metro Baltimore Seminary Values Cross-Cultural Instruction and Equipping:

Values:

1. **Theology:** As the eternal truth of the scriptures were originally written in Hebrew and Greek to different cultures, through different genres, through leaders of particular cultures, to express the only redeeming-reconciling Gospel to the whole world, so **MBS** seeks to equip students to become competent in knowing and applying the transforming Word for the making of disciples of all nations.
2. **Contextual Instruction:** **MBS** seeks theological instruction that affirms and dignifies the diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences of its students under the light of the scriptures as it seeks to equip them for healthy missional engagement.
3. **Leadership Development:** **MBS** seeks to build cross-cultural leaders who are strong in their spiritual formation (gospel-grounded in relationship with God), missional formation (doing theology for a diverse society), and social formation (emotional and cultural intelligence).
4. **Doing Theology in Community:** **MBS** cultivates instructors and students who live in gospel-centered friendship and community as mutual learners who strengthen one another's knowledge and love of God.

Doctrinal Distinctives:

- I. We believe the Bible is the Word of God and revelation of God. We therefore accept the trustworthiness of its historical records as inerrant in its original writings, the authority of its teachings, and the truth of all Christ's utterances contained in it.
- II. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- III. We believe in Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is therefore true God and true man.
- IV. We believe our Lord Jesus Christ lived a perfect life and died for our sins according to the Scriptures, voluntarily bearing our guilt and suffering as our substitute.
- V. We believe all who believe in Him are now justified by His blood, and shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.
- VI. We believe in His corporeal resurrection, His ascension into Heaven, and His present life there as our Priest and Advocate.
- VII. We believe man was created in the image of God, that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. As consequence of the Fall all human beings are born with a sinful nature.
- VIII. We believe in the universality and heinousness of sin, in the necessity of being saved by grace, and that sonship with God is attained only by regeneration through the Holy Spirit by faith in Jesus Christ.
- IX. We believe in the personality and the godhead of the Holy Spirit, who came down upon earth on the day of Pentecost, and we believe in His offices to convict the world in respect of sin and of righteousness and of judgment, and to indwell believers as their Teacher, Sanctifier and Comforter.
- X. We believe in the Great Commission which our Lord has given to His Church to disciple the world; this is the great mission of the Church.
- XI. We believe in the Great Commandment our Lord gave to us to love others even as He has loved us.
- XII. We believe in that blessed hope, the personal return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
- XIII. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust; the judgment of the living and of the dead; the everlasting blessedness of the saved; and the everlasting punishment of the lost.
- XIV. We do not take a specific stand on the mode of baptism or the form of church government.
- XV. We hold to those doctrines that are common to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms and the Second London Confession of 1689.

STUDENT SPIRITUAL LIFE AT MBS

You will soon discover MBS is a unique place and you have joined a special family. Not only is MBS renowned for its ministry-oriented training of men and women in the historic evangelical and Reformed faith, but also for its emphasis on spiritual growth and nurturing. It is with this that we are most interested. We want you to become more like Christ as you study at MBS. We want you to know Him and know yourself more. We want you to be transformed into His image.

The seminary offers a range of programs, taught by a faculty committed to the historic evangelical and Reformed faith, both as creedal affirmation and as living experience. Furthermore, MBS seeks to shape the whole of its corporate life to educate, nurture and mentor men and women to become mature leaders in their Christian vocations wherever in the world the Lord might lead.

MBS places a very high premium on the development of Christian character, and to that end, close contact between students, mentors, and faculty is promoted. Active participation in your home church in worship and growth in spiritual disciplines is considered an essential part of the educational process. Mentoring is a critical factor to growth and success, so much so that you cannot graduate without your mentor being in agreement that you are ready.

Walking with Christ While in Seminary - Sadly, some students who have gone to seminary have come out from the experience calling it cemetery. They have been left dry and dusty in their faith. We are committed to having students graduate from MBS who say that it was a rich time for them spiritually, emotionally and academically. We ask that students think about the following areas in their lives as they enter into MBS:

Your relationship with God - Busyness of life will kill your relationship with Him. You are “adding on” to your life by taking on seminary studies. So, the question is, “What will you set aside?” It might be entertainment, social time or recreational reading, but it cannot be time with the Lord. The Lord desires you trust and love him with all your heart (Deut. 6:5; Prov. 3:5) and walk humbly before him (Mic. 6:8). In other words, as you run the Christian race, you are to fix your eyes on Jesus and throw off every sin that entangles (Heb. 12:1-2). It is with such an attitude the Spirit is pleased to work in your life and fulfill the Lord's commands. Such spiritual fruit includes love, patience, kindness, and self-control (Gal. 5:22). You are encouraged to read the Scriptures with this in mind, always combining the Word with faith (cf., Heb. 4:2); and continually praying to your Father who loves you and delights in you (Zeph. 3:17; 1 Thess. 5:17). A daily time with Him is essential and supersedes the reading of any material for class.

Your relationships with others - Again, your time at MBS could rob you of relationships with people. We think it is fine for you to see your friends a bit less as you study, but don't neglect your family! We have seen too many in the ministry who have trashed families as they climb to the top. We rather you not. All God commands is summarized by loving others (Gal. 5:14). In the context of MBS, this has special reference to your relationships with other students. We encourage you to look after the interests of your fellow students and in humility consider them more important than yourself (Phil. 2:3-5). Considering the widely differing church and cultural backgrounds of all who come to MBS, your time here will be one of growing to love, accept, and appreciate others different from you. In fact, this diversity is one of MBS's most desired features, a distinctive of our campus life. Please pray for and seek to cultivate loving relationships with everyone in the student body, and not only with those with whom you have most in common.

Promotion of Spiritual Growth - The Christian needs constant spiritual nourishment, something only possible in the context of prayerful and systematic Bible study and meditation. A spiritual life not renewed on a daily basis soon withers. It is like a stream soaking away in a desert. Attendance in classes on Bible subjects is no substitute for personal devotions!

Mentoring - Mentoring at MBS is distinctive and may be unique. Each student has a mentor who meets with him/her regularly for a time of life on life engagement, sharpening, and asking the good questions. Most classes require that you engage with your mentor for some of the assignments due. We want students to engage with men and women who have hearts for the Lord, people and experience. We want you to open up, reveal weaknesses where appropriate and gain strength as a wiser and more experienced person points you to Christ. Mentoring at MBS is the heart of who we are and we believe it will be one of the things that will cause you to say that seminary was a rich time for your walk with Christ.

Student Association/Alumni - As we have mentioned, we believe the MBS experience will mark your life in a spiritually rich way. A large part of that will be through your fellow students. As an enrolled student you are automatically enrolled as a member of the MBS Student Body. It is an association of current and former students who gather together regularly to encourage one another, support the work of the school and support each other in their vocational call. The Dean of Students can give you more information.

It is the hope and goal of MBS that students will learn what it means to become more Christ-like and will in fact become more Christ-like in all aspects of their lives. To that end, the goals of MBS are designed to aid the student in using the means of grace to be empowered by the Holy Spirit to walk by the Spirit in a way that reflects the image of Christ to the world by being transformed by the renewing of the mind.

- A. By the basis of faith itself. In particular, an unequivocal stand on biblical inerrancy, with all that that involves in terms of true Christian assurance. This is seen as a powerful stimulus to spiritual growth.
- B. By the example of Board members and teaching staff, all of whom are required to be people of spiritual maturity and understanding, subscribing wholeheartedly to either the Westminster Confession or the 1689 Baptist Confession. They sign their agreement to these standards every year.
- C. By ascertaining, as far as is possible through references' forms, that every intending student has been born again into the Kingdom of God and is already demonstrating spiritual growth. Their past ministry in their homes, local churches and other Christian spheres is assessed.
- D. By the lectures in which the Bible is clearly portrayed as the Word of God and taught (so far as may be) with a warm and hortatory spirit.
- E. By formal or informal sessions of students with their mentors. These times of fellowship afford an opportunity for pastoral and vocational counseling.
- F. By attendance at local church services. MBS students can continue to attend their own home churches. This allows opportunities for service and the ability to be evaluated for suitability for ministry by people who know them well.

Faculty

Rev. Patrick Allen

M.Div., Covenant Theological Seminary
B.A. (Speech Communications), Georgia State University
Courses: Making and Equipping Disciples

Rev. Steve Dallwig, Dean of Students

M.A. (Theological Studies), Reformed Theological Seminary
B.S. (Pastoral Ministry), Liberty University
Courses: Ecclesiology

Rev. Dr. Adam L. Feldman, Academic Dean

D.Min. (Spiritual Formation), Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
P.B.C. TESOL, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
B.A. (Double major: English; Communication Arts), Carson-Newman University
Courses: NT Exegesis, OT Exegesis, Survey of the Covenants, Theology of John's Gospel, and Introduction to Research and Writing Workshop

Rev. Dr. Craig Garriott, Dean of Church Planting & Renewal, Assoc. Dean of Urban Ministry

D.Min. (Urban Missions), Westminster Theological Seminary
M.Div., Covenant Theological Seminary
B.S. (College of Architecture & Urban Studies), Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Courses: Ecclesiology, Holy Spirit and Salvation, and New Testament Survey

Rev. Todd Hare

M.Div., Biblical Theological Seminary
B.S. (Christian Education and Bible), Messiah College
Courses: Old Testament Survey and New Testament Survey

Mrs. Eliza Huie, Dean of Biblical Counseling

M.A. (Counseling), Biblical Theological Seminary
National Counselors Exam (NCE)
Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC, MD and VA)
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)
Courses: Biblical Counseling Foundations

Mr. Steven Kennedy

M.A. (Religious Education), Cornerstone University
B.A. (Bilingual Elementary Education), University of Massachusetts
Courses: Teaching and Learning Seminar

Rev. Dr. Sebastian Young-Min Kim

D.Min. (Preaching), Covenant Theological Seminary
M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
B.A. (Biblical Studies), Trinity International University
Courses: Sermon Construction

Rev. Dr. Peter D. Lee

Ph.D. (Systematic Theology), Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Th.M. (Biblical Studies), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
M.Div. (Theology), Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary
M.A. (Philosophy), Clarks Summit University
B.S. (Electrical Engineering Technology), Rochester Institute of Technology
CCourses: Doctrine of Scripture, Eschatology, and Ethics and Leadership

Rev. Stanley J. Long, Dean of Urban Ministry, Assoc. Dean of Church Planting & Renewal

M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
B.A. (History), Frostburg State University
Courses: Survey of Church History 1 and 2

Rev. Jeffrey McMullen

M.A. (Counseling), Biblical Theological Seminary
M.Div., Westminster Theological Seminary
B.A. (Educational Ministries), Houghton College
Courses: Biblical Counseling Foundations

Rev. Dr. Dan Passerelli, President

D.Min. (Leadership), Fuller Theological Seminary
M.Div., Westminster Theological Seminary
B.A. (Major: International Studies, Minor: Business), Towson University
Courses: Evangelism and Apologetics, Hebrew for Bible Study, and Survey of the Covenants

Rev. Terry Pruitt

M.Div., Capital Bible Seminary
B.S. (Humanities: Arabic Language, Philosophy, & Religion), Regents College
Courses: Greek for Bible Study and Hebrew for Bible Study

Rev. Dr. Brian K. Sandifer

Ph.D. (Systematic Theology), Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
M.Div. (Advance Biblical Languages), Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
M.A. (Education – Secondary Mathematics), University of South Carolina
B.S. (Business Administration, International Business), Bowling Green State University
Courses: Doctrine of Scripture, Eschatology, and Person and Work of Christ

Rev. Dr. David Scafide

D.Min. (Semiotics and Future Studies), George Fox Evangelical Seminary
M.Div. (Church Ministries), Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary
B.S. (Religion), Liberty University
Courses: Making and Equipping Disciples, New Testament Survey, NT Exegesis, OT Exegesis, and Survey of the Covenants

Rev. Dr. Benton W. Taylor, Dean of Mentoring

D.Min. (Pastoral Counseling), Westminster Theological Seminary
M.Div., Reformed Theological Seminary
B.B.A. (Finance and Economics), Valdosta State College
Courses: Doctrine of Scripture and Hermeneutics

Rev. Jonathan Song

M.Div., Reformed Theological Seminary
B.A. (Music Education), University of Maryland, College Park
Courses: OT Exegesis and Sermon Construction

Rev. J.B. Watkins

M.Div., Reformed Theological Seminary
B.S. (Business Management), Tennessee Wesleyan College
Courses: Greek for Bible Study, God, Man, and Sin, Making and Equipping Disciples, NT Exegesis, Person and Work of Christ, and Survey of the Covenants

Rev. Michael S. Weltin

M.Div., Knox Theological Seminary
B.A. (Environmental Policy and Analysis), Bowling Green State University
Courses: Eschatology, Ethics and Leadership, and Old Testament Survey

Rev. Tom Wenger Jr.

M.A. (Historical Theology), Westminster Theological Seminary California
B.A., Lancaster Bible College
Courses: Doctrine of God, Man, and Sin, Doctrine of Scripture, Hermeneutics, and Person and Work of Christ

Rev. Dr. Louis H. Wilson

Ph.D. (Religion and Society), Oxford Graduate School
D.Mgt. (Organizational Leadership and Management), University of Phoenix
M.S. (Urban Sociology), University of North Texas
Th.M. (Pastoral Ministry), Dallas Theological Seminary
B.A. (General Studies), Dallas Baptist University
Courses: Evangelism and Apologetics and New Testament Survey

Rev. Chul Yoo

Th.M. (Historical Theology, ABT), Duke University
M.A. (Church History), Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
B.A. (Theology and Biblical Languages), Moody Bible Institute
Courses: Hermeneutics, Holy Spirit and Salvation, and Survey of Church History 1 & 2

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)

The Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) is a three-year course of study intended to prepare graduates for the Christian ministry. Along with the regular studies in Old and New Testament, Theology, Church History, and Biblical Languages, each student will be required to be heavily involved with a local church and mentor in order to complete the Mentoring and Practicum parts of the curriculum. (See the Curriculum section for details.)

The B.Th. program requires a total of 84 credits:

Part 1 – Classroom Instruction:	36 Credits
Part 2 – Structured Mentoring:	12 Credits
Part 3 – Structured Practicum:	<u>36 Credits</u>
Total	84 Credits

Entrance requirement: High School diploma or equivalent

ACCREDITATION:

MBS is a candidate for membership in the Association of Reformed Theological Seminaries (ARTS). MBS completed a self-study in September 2022 and a site-visit in March 2023, with a goal of full membership in ARTS by October 2023. As an accrediting agency, ARTS has applied for recognition by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as a religious institution offering degrees.

In response to the proliferation of “diploma mills”, some states have tightened their laws regarding which institutions can offer classes and degrees to their residents. The tendency in those states is to exclude all institutions which do not have an accreditation recognized by CHEA or the U.S. Department of Education.

Maryland Higher Education Commission Exemption

Metro Baltimore Seminary is a religious educational institution operating in the State of Maryland pursuant to an exemption granted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, without a certificate of approval from the Commission, as specified in the Code of Maryland Regulations 13B.02.04.

BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY CURRICULUM

Curriculum Portfolio Part I – Classroom Program [24 courses, 36 credits]

Terms are 8 weeks long. Each credit equals one 70-minute class hour per week for 8 weeks.

Year 1				
	Course	Term	Credits	
Bible	Old Testament Survey	1	2	Year 1 courses are repeated annually. Successful completion of all Year 1 courses is required to advance to Biblical language and exegesis courses offered in Years 2 and 3.
	New Testament Survey	2	2	
Systematic and Historical Theology	Doctrine of Scripture	1	1	
	Doctrine of God, Man, Sin	3	2	
	Person and Work of Christ	4	2	
Theology in Practice	Hermeneutics	2	1	
	Making & Equipping Disciples	3	1	
	Sermon Construction	4	1	

Year 2 or 3				
	Course	Term	Credits	ROTATION
Bible	Hebrew for Bible Study	1	2	2023-2024
	OT Exegesis 1	2	2	
	OT Exegesis 2	4	2	
Systematic and Historical Theology	Survey of the Covenants	1	1	2025-2026
	Eschatology	2	1	2027-2028
	Holy Spirit and Salvation	3	2	
Theology in Practice	Ethics and Leadership	4	1	2027-2028
	Biblical Counseling Foundations	3	1	

Year 2 or 3				
	Course	Term	Credits	ROTATION
Bible	Greek for Bible Study	1	2	2024-2025
	NT Exegesis 1	2	2	
	NT Exegesis 2	4	2	
Systematic and Historical Theology	Ecclesiology	2	1	2026-2027
	Survey of Church History 1	3	2	2028-2029
	Survey of Church History 2	4	1	
	Theology of John's Gospel	3	1	
Theology in Practice	Evangelism & Apologetics	1	1	

The criteria for evaluating classroom coursework:

- A** (90-100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required in the syllabus
- B** (80-89) = the student has completed every requirement in the syllabus
- C** (70-79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = the student has not *yet* completed all required work and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete *all* the required work in the time permitted

Part 2 – Mentoring

The student learning from a mentor (12 credits)

Who can know the heart of a man? The hope of MBS is, while in seminary, each student will grow spiritually. The purpose of a mentor is to come alongside the student so they get to know themselves even as they get to know God. Further, a mentor's role is to encourage a student to have a plan for spiritual growth and to work that plan as enabled by the Holy Spirit.

A mentor meets regularly with a student to ask questions, get beneath the surface and help the student learn what it means to develop a deeper relationship with the Lord and others. During this time the mentor may encourage, give wisdom, coach or direct as needed. The mentor will meet with the student and family as needed, communicating through email, text, phone, video-chat, and face-to-face.

The mentor is the one who checks the heart, by the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, in the hopes the student is changing to become more like Christ. Students are expected to meet with their mentors at least 3 times during each quarter for a total of 5 hours. In addition, students should plan to spend at least 5 hours per quarter working through readings, assignments, and exercises in the Mentoring Manual. The total amount of time spent meeting with the mentor and working on readings and other assignments from the mentor is expected to be at least 10 hours per term.

Measuring a person's readiness for ministry is always difficult as it is a subjective judgment. However, after three years of regular meetings, the mentor will have a good idea if the student is prepared.

Because Part II of the MBS Curriculum Portfolio is so mentor-based, evaluation is subjective. Grading is as follows:

- A** (90-100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required by the mentor
- B** (80-89) = the student has completed every requirement of the mentor
- C** (70-79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = the student has not *yet* completed all required work and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete *all* the required work in the time permitted

Mentoring Manual

While each student's relationship with their mentor is unique, the MBS Mentoring Manual provides a general structure for the 3-year mentoring relationship that all students must follow. The manual contains reading assignments and other activities and exercises that must be completed by students in order to fulfill the mentoring requirement for graduation. The manual contains sections for each year at MBS, and completed sections must be submitted in the Spring Quarter of each year of enrollment at MBS to demonstrate sufficient progress in the mentoring program. The MBS Mentoring Manual can be accessed at www.metrobaltimoreseminary.org/mentoring.

Part 3 - Practicum/Internship (36 credits/360 hours)

Real things happen in the world and not in a classroom. Students must have an opportunity to try their skills and test their abilities so when the real challenges come, they will be ready. The practicum is not so much a simulation or experiment on a bench. It is more the idea of a plumber taking an apprentice along to learn how to unstop a toilet. Hands get dirty. Watching a master, and then trying to do what he or she does, can enable the student to learn to become the master.

Practicum Oversight & Supervision

At Metro Baltimore Seminary we seek and prioritize the effective supervision and assessment of each student's practicum experience. To ensure a robust oversight process, the following procedures are followed:

1. Practicum Supervisor and Contract

Each student will be assigned a dedicated practicum supervisor, who will play a crucial role in overseeing the student's practicum experience. Through a collaborative approach, the seminary and the practicum supervisors establish a strong relationship that facilitates periodic observation of the students. This close partnership enables the MBS Administration to gain valuable insights into the student's progress and address any areas that require additional support or improvement.

A qualified practicum supervisor must have at least 5 years of service in Christian ministry, and provide a CV of relevant training and experience to the Dean of Students. The practicum supervisor and student complete and sign an initial Practicum Contract, which spells out expectations for the oversight of the student's completion of each competency area of the practicum.

2. Quarterly Evaluations

The practicum supervisor evaluates the student quarterly through the completion of a Supervisor Evaluation Form and review of the Student Self-Evaluation Form. The supervisor will sign off on all hours submitted by the student and hours will not be officially counted toward completion of the minimum required hours unless both supervisor and student self-evaluations are submitted.

3. Annual Review Meeting

The Dean of the corresponding ministry track will conduct an annual evaluation meeting with each student's practicum supervisor. During this meeting, the dean and the supervisor will discuss their observations of the student's performance, assess the student's progress in each area of the practicum track, and explore ways to further enhance the student's mastery of the learning outcomes. These evaluations will be documented using the Practicum Annual Review Form, which will be kept on file by the track dean, ensuring a comprehensive record of the student's growth.

4. Assessment of Competencies

Each practicum track has 12 Competency Areas and a minimum number of practicum hours that must be completed for each. In all competency areas for all tracks, the minimum required hours of practical experience is 10 hours for each credit assigned to that competency area. In order to receive the credit(s) for that competency area, the student must first complete the minimum required number of hours of practical experience (equivalent to 10 hours of practice for each credit). Once those minimum hours are met, they are eligible to be assessed for

competency in that area. This assessment is performed by their practicum supervisor in collaboration with their ministry track dean. When a student completes the required hours in a specific competency area, the practicum supervisor should write an evaluation and assessment that includes a grade and highlights the student's growth and mastery in that area. This assessment is submitted as part of the quarterly Supervisor Evaluation Form, and offers valuable feedback on the student's ongoing development.

Completing the minimum required hours in each competency area is required, but not sufficient, to receive credit for each competency area. If, after completing the minimum number of hours for a given competency, in the evaluation of the practicum supervisor the student has not achieved competency in the learning outcomes described in the syllabus for that area, the supervisor will work with the student to provide additional opportunities for practice, until the learning outcomes are met. It is at the discretion of the supervisor to set an appropriate time period for the student to be assessed again for competency in the learning outcomes.

5. Practicum Timeframe

Required practicum hours must ordinarily be completed during the student's enrollment at the seminary. This framework ensures that students engage in practicum experiences while actively enrolled in their academic program, allowing for seamless integration of theoretical knowledge with practical ministry settings.

Exceptions may be granted for previously completed work, provided there is a written request approved by both the student's dean and practicum supervisor. In such cases, the student must submit a demonstration (e.g. written, verbal, electronic recording) of their competency in the learning outcomes for the area(s) for which they are requesting credit.

Through these comprehensive procedures, MBS aims to provide students with rigorous oversight, assessment, and support during their practicum experiences. By closely collaborating with practicum supervisors, conducting annual evaluation meetings, involving qualified individuals for competency assessments, and adhering to appropriate time frames, MBS ensures that students receive a well-rounded and impactful practicum experience.

Practicum Tracks

We offer 5 tracks of ministry pursuit in which your practicum and Internship hours will be focused on. Your internship/practical ministry will be arranged through the Dean of Internships/Practical Ministry in cooperation with your mentor and local church.

The 5 tracks from which you must choose are:

1. Pastoral Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and pastors are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Preaching & Teaching - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 2: Preaching & Teaching - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 3: Discipleship - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Discipleship - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Congregational Care - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Congregational Care - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Evangelism (30 hours)
- Module 8: Leadership (30 hours)
- Module 9: Mercy/Service/Mission (30 hours)
- Module 10: Church Life (30 hours)
- Module 11: Continued Learning - Research & Reflection (30 hours)
- Module 12: Capstone Project

The complete syllabus for the Pastoral Ministry Track can be found here: [Pastoral Ministry Syllabus](#).

2. Church Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and people serving in Christian ministries are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of

Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Teaching - (30 hours)
- Module 2: Ministry Program Engagement (30 hours)
- Module 3: Discipleship - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Discipleship - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Congregational Care - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Congregational Care - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Evangelism (30 hours)
- Module 8: Leadership (30 hours)
- Module 9: Mercy/Service/Mission (30 hours)
- Module 10: Church Life (30 hours)
- Module 11: Continued Learning - Research & Reflection (30 hours)
- Module 12: Capstone Project

The complete syllabus for the General Church Ministry Track can be found here: [General Church Ministry Syllabus](#).

3. Church Planting & Renewal Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of church planting and renewal ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and ministry leaders are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Church Planting Foundations Collection 1 (30 hours)
- Module 2 : Church Planting Foundations Collection 1 (30 hours)
- Module 3 Church Planting Foundations Collection 2 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Church Planting Foundations Collection 2 (30 hours)
- Module 5 Church Renewal Foundations Collection 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Church Renewal Foundations Collection 2 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Gospel Witness (30 hours)
- Module 8: Preaching & Teaching Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 9: Preaching & Teaching Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 10: Leadership Development (30 hours)
- Module 11: Disciple-Making Pathways Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 12: Disciple-Making Pathways Part 2 (30 hours)

The complete syllabus for the Church Planting and Renewal Track can be found here: [Church Planting and Renewal Syllabus](#).

4. Urban Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of urban ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and leaders are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum, other than the 3 years of monthly cohort gatherings, are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Urban Ministry Personal Maintenance (30 hours)
- Module 2: Urban Preaching/Teaching/Instruction - part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 3: Urban Preaching/Teaching/Instruction – part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Urban Theology –part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Urban Theology –part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Urban Context – part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Urban Context – part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 8: Urban Ecclesiology - part 1(30 hours)
- Module 9: Urban Ecclesiology - part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 10: Urban Evangelism (30 hours)
- Module 11: Urban Community Service (30 hours)
- Module 12: Urban Leadership Development (30 hours)

The complete syllabus for the Urban Ministry Track can be found here: [Urban Ministry Syllabus](#).

5. Biblical Counseling Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and ministry is often unscheduled, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Formation for Counseling Ministry (30 hours)
- Module 2: Peer Support and Ministry
- Module 4: Teaching & Counseling – Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Teaching & Counseling – Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Visitation (30 hours) **
- Module 7: Evangelism (30 hours) **
- Module 8: Leadership Development (30 hours) **

Module 9: Group Counseling (30 hours)

Module 10: Counseling Network Connections (30 hours)

Module 11: Continued Learning (30 hours)

Module 12: Sustainability and Ministry Values (30 hours)

** 1 of these modules may be replaced by optional module: Overseas Trip (30 hours)

The complete syllabus for the Biblical Counseling Track can be found here: [Biblical Counseling Syllabus](#).

POLICIES:

APPLICATION PROCEDURE – In addition to the academic qualifications for the intended program of study, applicants are assessed before entry to establish they are Christians who are maturing spiritually. They should be in good standing with their local church, and in a reasonable state of health.

Required Documents

- ❑ Application – this will determine:
 1. genuineness of conversion and commitment to the Lord Jesus
 2. present involvement in Christian service
 3. a sense of vocation in future service for the Lord
- ❑ Three References who can verify the potential student's readiness for study and service
- ❑ Photograph
- ❑ Copy of High School diploma or GED (B.Th. candidate only)
- ❑ Transcripts from any tertiary institutions. (A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required to pursue the M.Div.) (If you wish to transfer credit into MBS see below.)
- ❑ \$50 application fee (Must accompany application or be paid on the website)
- ❑ Signed Student Acknowledgement (Required by the State of Maryland)

Requirements for Entry into the Bachelor in Theology Degree Program:

Entrance to the Bachelor in Theology requires the following:

1. High School diploma or equivalent
2. The Seminary has a mature entry policy, i.e., a student may be granted mature age exemption if the applicant is 25 or older.
3. Acceptance of the student is based upon the information submitted in the application and from the three references.
4. Applicants to MBS's undergraduate programs must be at least 21 years of age in order to be accepted to the program. Applicants under the age of 21 may be considered for limited exceptions to the minimum age requirement if they meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - a. Applicant has earned an Associates Degree.
 - b. Applicant has successfully earned at least 60 credit hours of undergraduate study (approximately 2 years of full time undergraduate study) at an accredited university, college, or community college.
 - c. Applicant demonstrates clear calling to vocational ministry, demonstrates academic ability consistent with an undergraduate level (sample research and writings may be requested), and demonstrates mature Christian character and mature decision making ability for their age. These three criteria will be determined through an evaluative process with members of the MBS Administrative Team

Applicant demonstrates clear calling to vocational ministry, demonstrates academic ability consistent with an undergraduate level (sample research and writings may be requested), and demonstrates mature Christian character and mature decision making ability for their age. These three criteria will be determined through an evaluative process with members of the MBS Administrative Team.

REGISTRATION & ORIENTATION

Students can register for classes online at <http://www.metrobaltimoreseminary.populiweb.com>. As we anticipate the arrival of all new and returning students, MBS arranges a schedule of orientation activities at the beginning of each academic year. We strive to provide an atmosphere of Christian unity and fellowship as the faculty, staff, and returning students help to familiarize new students with the program and various ministry opportunities.

TUITION AND FEES

Application Fee	\$50
Tuition.....	\$180/Credit (Coursework)
Practicum Fee	\$50/Quarter
Mentoring Fee	\$50/Quarter
Late Registration Fee	\$25
Audit Fee.....	\$80/Credit
Graduation Fee.....	\$200 (payable student's last term)

* Note: MBS does not issue T1098 tuition forms because the seminary does not receive federal funding.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Students are expected to pay all fees for each term by the first night of class. If a payment schedule is needed, terms can be arranged with the Dean of Academics. All fees must be fully paid before a student can start another term or graduate.

SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Due to the generosity of Christians committed to the work at MBS, limited funds are available as scholarships. These are awarded for one year and must be applied for, and are considered for renewal each year. The Scholarship Application and Instructions are available on the website.

TRANSFER OF CREDIT POLICY

MBS will accept transfer of credit from many accredited schools. A maximum of ten credit hours may be transferred into the program. Courses and credits must correlate closely with the courses MBS offers, including practicum and mentoring.

Credits from MBS have been accepted by several evangelical institutions. A student wishing to transfer credit from MBS to another institution should acquire specific information concerning the policies and procedures of that institution.

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

When a student can demonstrate prior learning in a particular subject area, he or she may be exempted from that course by the Faculty Academic Committee. In its place will be a course equal to the amount of credit granted by the prior learning as agreed upon by the student and Dean.

REFUND POLICY

- a. 75% after one full clock hour of class has been completed
- b. 50% after two full clock hours of class has been completed
- c. No refund will be given after the third clock class hour

Students will not be allowed to continue in the program should their previous term's account not be settled by the beginning of each new term. In case of an unforeseen crisis, **written** application can be made to the Dean of Administration who will review each case and determine whether the student will be allowed to continue.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Metro Baltimore Seminary does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, national and ethnic origin, natural born gender, disability, or age.

GRADING SYSTEM

Students are graded according to their quality of work.

- A** (90 - 100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required in the syllabus
- B** (80 - 89) = the student has completed every requirement in the syllabus
- C** (70 - 79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = all required work has not yet completed and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete all the required work in the time permitted

RESEARCH AND WRITING POLICY

All written work submitted for credit must conform to the *MBS Research, Writing and Style Guide*. This guide is available for download from the seminary's website on [the "Current Students > Writing Guide" tab](#).

MISSED CLASS POLICY

All classes are eight weeks long and 70 minutes each per credit hour. For this reason, students may not pass a course if more than one class has been missed, unless permission has been granted in advance by the professor to make up the work.

CLASS TIME AND ATTENDANCE

We view class time not merely as a time of academic instruction, but also as a time of fellowship, when faculty and students together explore the Holy Scriptures, learn God's truth, "*grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*", and find ways of practically implementing, as soon as possible, what has been learned. To that end, class time is essential and absences must have providential as well as faculty excuse. Students are encouraged to attend all classes, and to be punctual. We operate on a short 8-week term, and therefore attendance is critical to success in any subject. To that end, no student may miss more than one class hour of a one-credit course; 2 class hours of a two-credit course; etc. Students who are unable to attend a class must contact the professor before the class starts to ask for an excused absence. Students must also contact a fellow student to find out what was missed and what needs to be made up.

OUTSIDE CLASS STUDY EXPECTATION

As a basic guideline, a student is expected to do about two hours of private study for every hour of classroom time.

SPOUSES

Spouses who would like to attend classes as auditors may do so at no charge. However, please remember, auditors are there to listen only and should respect the right of degree- seeking students to speak and ask questions.

DRESS GUIDELINES

Students are to dress appropriately, with modesty, and due respect in consideration of others. This simply means we are all to take seriously the vocation of MBS and all who train here, and to have due respect for those of other cultures. (Rom. 14:13ff)

GRADUATION POLICY

To graduate, a student must complete and pass all courses, complete the practicum, and be approved by the mentor.

- a. All required courses are taken and passed.
- b. The student's mentor has signed off on the readiness of the student to begin his or her ministry.
- c. The student has completed and received credit for all required competency areas of their chosen practicum track.

No student will be permitted to graduate unless all outstanding fees have been paid, nor will a copy of their transcript be given or sent until all financial deficits are settled.

INSURANCE POLICY

1. General – Metro Baltimore Seminary does not provide personal insurance. It is the student's responsibility to make sure he or she is covered in case of sickness or injury.
2. Indemnity – Students, by registering, are holding MBS harmless from any liability or any accident.

LIBRARY

Access to great books and papers is important to students. MBS has chosen to own no buildings, which enables us to keep tuition low. Having no building means we cannot have a library. But that does not mean the student does not have access to great books. They can be sourced in the following ways:

- a. A robust list of free digital research resources is provided to students on [the "Current Students > Writing Guide" tab](#).
- b. The use of public and private libraries
- c. The development of your own libraries, especially within Logos Bible Software
- d. Making good use of the internet, being careful to properly use, notate, and discern that material is accurate.
- e. Talking with faculty who are willing to lend their own books to students.
- f. Checking with your own pastor and see if he has the books you need and if he is willing to lend them.

ORDINATION

MBS does not ordain anyone to the ministry. MBS believes this is the sole responsibility of the church.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Bible Courses

New Testament Survey - NT111

2 credit hrs

This course is an introduction to the NT writings and their message in the historical, cultural and religious context of the first century. The aim of the course is to give the student an accurate understanding of the primary backgrounds of the NT writings and other related introductory questions that impact on their message. The course comprises lectures, assigned readings, a written assignment and examination.

Old Testament Survey - OT111

2 credit hrs

This is a study of the OT dealing with its content, message, form and background. The survey will introduce the student to the biblical - theological approach to Scripture, showing how the books of the OT point us to God's Covenant of Grace in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Hebrew for Bible Study - OT311

Prerequisite: Passing grade in all first year courses.

2 credit hrs

The purpose of this course is not to make a person a Hebrew scholar. Rather, the intent is to give just enough basics of the Hebrew language to enable the student of the Bible to use the many word study tools written by the Hebrew scholars.

Old Testament Exegesis 1 - OT322

Prerequisite: Hebrew for Bible Study

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in OT will be required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable to student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Hebrew taught in Hebrew for Bible Study courses. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

Old Testament Exegesis 2 - OT343

Prerequisite: Hebrew for Bible Study and Old Testament Exegesis 1

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in OT will be required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable to student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Hebrew taught in Hebrew for Bible Study courses. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

Greek for Bible Study - NT211

Prerequisite: Passing grade in all first year courses.

2 credit hrs

The purpose of this course is not to make a person a Greek scholar. Rather, the intent is to give just enough basics of the Greek language to enable the student of the Bible to use the many word study tools written by the Greek scholars.

New Testament Exegesis 1 - NT222

Prerequisite: Greek for Bible Study

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in NT are required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable to student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Greek taught in the Greek for Bible Study course. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

New Testament Exegesis 2 - NT243

Prerequisite: Greek for Bible Study and New Testament Exegesis 1

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in NT are required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable the student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Greek taught in the Greek for Bible Study course. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

Systematic and Historical Theology Courses

Doctrine of Scripture - ST111

1 credit hr

Major topics to be covered are: the divisions of Scripture, its revelation, inspiration and illumination; understanding Jesus' view of the Bible as well as its view of itself, canonicity, alleged "errors" in the Bible; and modern translations. The infallibility and inerrancy of all Scripture will be greatly emphasized. The seminary endeavors to teach something regarding all the major positions with respect to the Bible. The seminary's position is summed up by the description "biblical inerrancy". Our objective is to teach from the viewpoint of orthodox Protestantism concerning the Word of God, demonstrating its divine origin, internal harmony and its controlling role in the faith, life and vocation of Christians.

Doctrine of God, Man, and Sin - ST122

2 credit hrs

This course seeks to explore the nature, character and triunity of the God who has revealed Himself historically in redemption through His inspired Word, and in the enlightening which comes through the Holy Spirit. It comprises the centerpiece of our theological efforts as it has the Triune God Himself, and therefore the impartation of a profound knowledge of Him, as its focus. God as Maker and Upholder is set alongside a study of the humanity; both of our original and fallen nature, dependence, and destiny. As with all doctrinal courses, the topic is explored along biblical, historical and systematic lines.

Ecclesiology - ST326

1 credit hr

This course will examine various subjects related to the doctrine of the church including: the mission, leadership, governance, marks, and sacraments of the church. The roles of church discipline, church multiplication, and church health will also be explored.

Doctrine of Eschatology - ST317

1 credit hr

The Doctrine of Eschatology course will establish a biblical foundation regarding "last things," exploring historic Christian beliefs on death and the resurrection, the second coming of Christ, the Millennium, the final judgment, the New Heavens/Earth, and the people of God.

Holy Spirit and Salvation - ST234

2 credit hrs

This course is intended to give the student a foundational understanding of the doctrine of the Person of the Holy Spirit and his work in the Church from a historical, Biblical and theological perspective. The course is designed so the student may have a foundational knowledge of and a practical appreciation for the personal ministry of the Holy Spirit in his/her own life. An understanding of how the Holy Spirit works in your life should change the way you view how to live a godly life, being dependent on the Holy Spirit.

Person and Work of Christ - ST133

2 credit hrs

The topic of the Person of Christ is a careful study of the relevant biblical material found in both Testaments, and a survey of the doctrine throughout the period of church history. The study on the Work of Christ is drawn from both Testaments and reaches its climax in Paul's epistles and Hebrews. The study encompasses a treatment of all the important views of the work of Christ, and will be compared with other differing viewpoints advanced over the last 2000 years.

Survey of the Covenants - ST215

1 credit hr

While the topic of covenant may sound obscure to modern ears, it's something of central significance to God's redemptive work. The late great J.I. Packer goes so far as to say that you cannot properly understand the gospel, God, or Scripture till you view them "within a covenantal frame." It's the structural support that undergirds our interpretation of the entire redemptive story. In this course, we will explore what covenants are and how God relates to us through them. We'll specifically look at how they progressively develop over the course of redemptive history and the way they shape our relationship with God in Christ.

Survey of Church History 1 - HT331

2 credit hrs

This two-part course will enable the student to come away with an understanding of the "time line" upon which God used individuals and events to bring about His desired ends from the end of the first century to the beginning of the 21st century. Particular note will be made of the development of doctrine throughout this period.

Survey of Church History 2 - HT342

1 credit hr

This two-part course will enable the student to come away with an understanding of the "time line" upon which God used individuals and events to bring about His desired ends from the end of the first century to the beginning of the 21st century. Particular note will be made of the development of doctrine throughout this period.

Theology of John's Gospel - ST348

1 credit hr

This course explores the theological distinctives and themes of the Gospel of John. Attention is also given to tracing the threads Johannian theology present in the Gospel and in 1, 2, and 3 John and Revelation.

Theology in Practice Courses

Hermeneutics - PT121

Prerequisite: Doctrine of Scripture

1 credit hr

This course is intended to teach the student to interpret and apply the Bible accurately in our modern context. Students will learn a Christ-centered hermeneutic incorporating the main principles of interpretation to enable the student to rightly divide the Word of Truth.

Making & Equipping Disciples - PT134

1 credit hr

Jesus Christ calls us to make and train disciples of all nations. This course offers the student an opportunity to explore his or her own challenges with obeying the command and to learn from practitioners of making and training disciples. Coursework includes thinking about who, what, when, and where, and directly applying principles in real world life and ministry contexts.

Ethics and Leadership - PT245

1 credit hr

Leaders lead to a destination by helping each follower determine their kingdom purpose which is called wisdom, defined as the settled application of the law to daily life. In this course, students will study the cultural mandate as the intended destination of our leadership and see how the law as applied to daily life forms the foundation of our ethics.

Evangelism and Apologetics - PT313

1 credit hr

Every Christian needs to be ready at all times to give a defense for the hope that is in us. This course is meant to help every student to be equipped and trained to witness to anyone without reservation.

Biblical Counseling Foundations - PT357

1 credit hr

This course lays the groundwork for understanding people and the implications of human suffering and struggle. Caring for God's people is not reserved solely for official ministry roles but is for every member of the body of Christ.

Through the lens of the sufficient Word of God and the centrality of the ministry of the Holy Spirit, students will learn how biblical counseling flows out of personal sanctification and discipleship. This elective course is designed to help students gain a foundational understanding of how change takes place through the power for the gospel. The principles learned will have deeply personal application and will equip students for the work of ministry.

Sermon Construction - PT142

Prerequisite: *Doctrine of Scripture and Hermeneutics*

1 credit hr

This course will be hands-on interactive learning time, as students understand the principles, but more importantly, the heart, of preaching.

Workshops and Seminars

Workshops and seminars are offered periodically. Some workshop/seminar hours may count towards required minimum hours for certain practicum tracks - see track descriptions for details.

Introduction to Research and Writing – PT010U

3 practicum hrs

This workshop is designed to introduce MBS students to the research skills, writing methods, and style tools required in order to produce well researched, written, and presented projects. By the end of this workshop, students will be able to...

- Identify legitimate academic and scholarly resources for seminary projects.
- Compose a paper following the MBS *Research, Writing, and Style Guide*.
- Consult and navigate style and citation tools for current Turabian writing style format.

Teaching and Learning Seminar – PT011U

2 practicum hrs

Most courses that are designed to teach teachers to teach usually teach methods of communication (delivery). This is not adequate because the methods used may not reach the learning styles of most of your listeners. In this course we will concentrate first on helping you learn how you learn. Then you will study the characteristics of the other major learning styles. It will be only after this is understood that we can turn to putting together teaching methods that will enable you to reach all the learners you are charged with teaching.

Practicum

Students are supervised by an experienced ministry practitioner as they practice the skills required for Christian ministry. Students receive credit by demonstrating proficiency in 12 competency areas, which are described in the syllabus for each individual practicum. A minimum of 10 hours of practical ministry experience is required per credit, along with demonstrating attainment of the learning outcomes for the 12 competency areas as defined in the syllabus for each practicum. Students complete one of the practicums below.

Pastoral Ministry Practicum

36 Credits

PM110, 120, 130, 140

PM210, 220, 230, 240

PM310, 320, 330, 340

The Pastoral Ministry Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective ministry as an ordained pastor in a church. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed to pastor in a local church. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for Pastoral Ministry Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

General Ministry Practicum

36 Credits

GM110, 120, 130, 140

GM210, 220, 230, 240

GM310, 320, 330, 340

The General Ministry Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective ministry as a non-ordained leader in a church, parachurch ministry, or other roles where competency in Christian ministry is essential. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students

practice the range of skills and experiences needed to be an effective servant of Christ in the church and in the wider community. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the General Ministry Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

Church Planting and Renewal Practicum

36 Credits

PR110, 120, 130, 140

PR210, 220, 230, 240

PR310, 320, 330, 340

The Church Planting and Renewal Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective ministry in the work of starting new churches and renewing existing congregations. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed to plant and renew congregations. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the Church Planting and Renewal Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

Urban Ministry Practicum

36 Credits

UM110, 120, 130, 140

UM210, 220, 230, 240

UM310, 320, 330, 340

The Urban Ministry Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective Christian ministry in an urban context. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed for effective Christian service in urban contexts. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the Urban Ministry Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

Biblical Counseling Practicum

36 Credits

BC110, 120, 130, 140

BC210, 220, 230, 240

BC310, 320, 330, 340

The Biblical Counseling Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective lay counseling ministry in a church or Christian organization. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed to walk alongside those in crisis situations. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the Biblical Counseling Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

A list of course textbooks is available online here: [MBS Textbooks](#).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

The Master of Divinity (M. Div.) is a three-year course of study intended to prepare graduates for the Christian ministry. Along with the regular studies in Old and New Testament, Theology, Church History, and Biblical Languages, each student will be required to be heavily involved with a local church and mentor in order to complete the Mentoring and Practicum parts of the curriculum. (See the Curriculum section for details.)

The M.Div program requires a total of 84 credits:

Part 1 – In-Class Program:	36 Credits
Part 2 – Mentoring:	12 Credits
Part 3 – Practicum:	<u>36 Credits</u>
Total	84 Credits

Entrance requirement: A bachelor degree from an accredited institution

ACCREDITATION:

MBS is a candidate for membership in the Association of Reformed Theological Seminaries (ARTS). MBS completed a self-study in September 2022 and a site-visit in March 2023, with a goal of full membership in ARTS by October 2023. As an accrediting agency, ARTS has applied for recognition by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as a religious institution offering degrees.

In response to the proliferation of “diploma mills”, some states have tightened their laws regarding which institutions can offer classes and degrees to their residents. The tendency in those states is to exclude all institutions which do not have an accreditation recognized by CHEA or the U.S. Department of Education.

Maryland Higher Education Commission Exemption

Metro Baltimore Seminary is a religious educational institution operating in the State of Maryland pursuant to an exemption granted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, without a certificate of approval from the Commission, as specified in the Code of Maryland Regulations 13B.02.04.

MASTER OF DIVINITY CURRICULUM

Curriculum Portfolio Part I – Classroom Program [24 courses, 36 credits]

Terms are 8 weeks long. Each credit equals one 70-minute class hour per week for 8 weeks.

Year 1				
	Course	Term	Credits	
Bible	Old Testament Survey	1	2	Year 1 courses are repeated annually. Successful completion of all Year 1 courses is required to advance to Biblical language and exegesis courses offered in Years 2 and 3.
	New Testament Survey	2	2	
Systematic and Historical Theology	Doctrine of Scripture	1	1	
	Doctrine of God, Man, Sin	3	2	
	Person and Work of Christ	4	2	
Theology in Practice	Hermeneutics	2	1	
	Making & Equipping Disciples	3	1	
	Sermon Construction	4	1	

Year 2 or 3				
	Course	Term	Credits	ROTATION
Bible	Hebrew for Bible Study	1	2	2023-2024
	OT Exegesis 1	2	2	
	OT Exegesis 2	4	2	
Systematic and Historical Theology	Survey of the Covenants	1	1	2025-2026
	Eschatology	2	1	2027-2028
	Holy Spirit and Salvation	3	2	
Theology in Practice	Ethics and Leadership	4	1	2027-2028
	Biblical Counseling Foundations	3	1	

Year 2 or 3				
	Course	Term	Credits	ROTATION
Bible	Greek for Bible Study	1	2	2024-2025
	NT Exegesis 1	2	2	
	NT Exegesis 2	4	2	
Systematic and Historical Theology	Ecclesiology	2	1	2026-2027
	Survey of Church History 1	3	2	2028-2029
	Survey of Church History 2	4	1	
	Theology of John's Gospel	3	1	
Theology in Practice	Evangelism & Apologetics	1	1	

The criteria for evaluating classroom coursework:

- A** (90-100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required in the syllabus
- B** (80-89) = the student has completed every requirement in the syllabus
- C** (70-79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = the student has not *yet* completed all required work and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete *all* the required work in the time permitted

Part 2 – Mentoring

The student learning from a mentor (12 credits)

Who can know the heart of a man? The hope of MBS is, while in seminary, each student will grow spiritually. The purpose of a mentor is to come alongside the student so they get to know themselves even as they get to know God. Further, a mentor's role is to encourage a student to have a plan for spiritual growth and to work that plan as enabled by the Holy Spirit.

A mentor meets regularly with a student to ask questions, get beneath the surface and help the student learn what it means to develop a deeper relationship with the Lord and others. During this time the mentor may encourage, give wisdom, coach or direct as needed. The mentor will meet with the student and family as needed, communicating through email, text, phone, video-chat, and face-to-face.

The mentor is the one who checks the heart, by the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, in the hopes the student is changing to become more like Christ. Students are expected to meet with their mentors at least 3 times during each quarter for a total of 5 hours. In addition, students should plan to spend at least 5 hours per quarter working through readings, assignments, and exercises in the Mentoring Manual. The total amount of time spent meeting with the mentor and working on readings and other assignments from the mentor is expected to be at least 10 hours per term.

Measuring a person's readiness for ministry is always difficult as it is a subjective judgment. However, after three years of regular meetings, the mentor will have a good idea if the student is prepared.

Because Part II of the MBS Curriculum Portfolio is so mentor-based, evaluation is subjective. Grading is as follows:

- A** (90-100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required by the mentor
- B** (80-89) = the student has completed every requirement of the mentor
- C** (70-79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = the student has not *yet* completed all required work and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete *all* the required work in the time permitted

Mentoring Manual

While each student's relationship with their mentor is unique, the MBS Mentoring Manual provides a general structure for the 3-year mentoring relationship that all students must follow. The manual contains reading assignments and other activities and exercises that must be completed by students in order to fulfill the mentoring requirement for graduation. The manual contains sections for each year at MBS, and completed sections must be submitted in the Spring Quarter of each year of enrollment at MBS to demonstrate sufficient progress in the mentoring program. The MBS Mentoring Manual can be accessed at www.metrobaltimoreseminary.org/mentoring.

Part 3 - Practicum/Internship (36 credits/360 hours)

Real things happen in the world and not in a classroom. Students must have an opportunity to try their skills and test their abilities so when the real challenges come, they will be ready. The practicum is not so much a simulation or experiment on a bench. It is more the idea of a plumber taking an apprentice along to learn how to unstop a toilet. Hands get dirty. Watching a master, and then trying to do what he or she does, can enable the student to learn to become the master.

Practicum Oversight & Supervision

At Metro Baltimore Seminary we seek and prioritize the effective supervision and assessment of each student's practicum experience. To ensure a robust oversight process, the following procedures are followed:

1. Practicum Supervisor and Contract

Each student will be assigned a dedicated practicum supervisor, who will play a crucial role in overseeing the student's practicum experience. Through a collaborative approach, the seminary and the practicum supervisors establish a strong relationship that facilitates periodic observation of the students. This close partnership enables the MBS Administration to gain valuable insights into the student's progress and address any areas that require additional support or improvement.

A qualified practicum supervisor must have at least 5 years of service in Christian ministry, and provide a CV of relevant training and experience to the Dean of Students. The practicum supervisor and student complete and sign an initial Practicum Contract, which spells out expectations for the oversight of the student's completion of each competency area of the practicum.

2. Quarterly Evaluations

The practicum supervisor evaluates the student quarterly through the completion of a Supervisor Evaluation Form and review of the Student Self-Evaluation Form. The supervisor will sign off on all hours submitted by the student and hours will not be officially counted toward completion of the minimum required hours unless both supervisor and student self-evaluations are submitted.

3. Annual Review Meeting

The Dean of the corresponding ministry track will conduct an annual evaluation meeting with each student's practicum supervisor. During this meeting, the dean and the supervisor will discuss their observations of the student's performance, assess the student's progress in each area of the practicum track, and explore ways to further enhance the student's mastery of the learning outcomes. These evaluations will be documented using the Practicum Annual Review Form, which will be kept on file by the track dean, ensuring a comprehensive record of the student's growth.

4. Assessment of Competencies

Each practicum track has 12 Competency Areas and a minimum number of practicum hours that must be completed for each. In all competency areas for all tracks, the minimum required hours of practical experience is 10 hours for each credit assigned to that competency area. In order to receive the credit(s) for that competency area, the student must first complete the minimum required number of hours of practical experience (equivalent to 10 hours of practice for each credit). Once those minimum hours are met, they are eligible to be assessed for

competency in that area. This assessment is performed by their practicum supervisor in collaboration with their ministry track dean. When a student completes the required hours in a specific competency area, the practicum supervisor should write an evaluation and assessment that includes a grade and highlights the student's growth and mastery in that area. This assessment is submitted as part of the quarterly Supervisor Evaluation Form, and offers valuable feedback on the student's ongoing development.

Completing the minimum required hours in each competency area is required, but not sufficient, to receive credit for each competency area. If, after completing the minimum number of hours for a given competency, in the evaluation of the practicum supervisor the student has not achieved competency in the learning outcomes described in the syllabus for that area, the supervisor will work with the student to provide additional opportunities for practice, until the learning outcomes are met. It is at the discretion of the supervisor to set an appropriate time period for the student to be assessed again for competency in the learning outcomes.

5. Practicum Timeframe

Required practicum hours must ordinarily be completed during the student's enrollment at the seminary. This framework ensures that students engage in practicum experiences while actively enrolled in their academic program, allowing for seamless integration of theoretical knowledge with practical ministry settings.

Exceptions may be granted for previously completed work, provided there is a written request approved by both the student's dean and practicum supervisor. In such cases, the student must submit a demonstration (e.g. written, verbal, electronic recording) of their competency in the learning outcomes for the area(s) for which they are requesting credit.

Through these comprehensive procedures, MBS aims to provide students with rigorous oversight, assessment, and support during their practicum experiences. By closely collaborating with practicum supervisors, conducting annual evaluation meetings, involving qualified individuals for competency assessments, and adhering to appropriate time frames, MBS ensures that students receive a well-rounded and impactful practicum experience.

Practicum Tracks

We offer 5 tracks of ministry pursuit in which your practicum and Internship hours will be focused on. Your internship/practical ministry will be arranged through the Dean of Internships/Practical Ministry in cooperation with your mentor and local church.

The 5 tracks from which you must choose are:

1. Pastoral Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and pastors are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Preaching & Teaching - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 2: Preaching & Teaching - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 3: Discipleship - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Discipleship - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Congregational Care - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Congregational Care - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Evangelism (30 hours)
- Module 8: Leadership (30 hours)
- Module 9: Mercy/Service/Mission (30 hours)
- Module 10: Church Life (30 hours)
- Module 11: Continued Learning - Research & Reflection (30 hours)
- Module 12: Capstone Project

The complete syllabus for the Pastoral Ministry Track can be found here: [Pastoral Ministry Syllabus](#).

2. Church Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and people serving in Christian ministries are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of

Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Teaching - (30 hours)
- Module 2: Ministry Program Engagement (30 hours)
- Module 3: Discipleship - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Discipleship - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Congregational Care - Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Congregational Care - Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Evangelism (30 hours)
- Module 8: Leadership (30 hours)
- Module 9: Mercy/Service/Mission (30 hours)
- Module 10: Church Life (30 hours)
- Module 11: Continued Learning - Research & Reflection (30 hours)
- Module 12: Capstone Project

The complete syllabus for the General Church Ministry Track can be found here: [General Church Ministry Syllabus](#).

3. Church Planting & Renewal Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of church planting and renewal ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and ministry leaders are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Church Planting Foundations Collection 1 (30 hours)
- Module 2 : Church Planting Foundations Collection 1 (30 hours)
- Module 3 Church Planting Foundations Collection 2 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Church Planting Foundations Collection 2 (30 hours)
- Module 5 Church Renewal Foundations Collection 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Church Renewal Foundations Collection 2 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Gospel Witness (30 hours)
- Module 8: Preaching & Teaching Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 9: Preaching & Teaching Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 10: Leadership Development (30 hours)
- Module 11: Disciple-Making Pathways Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 12: Disciple-Making Pathways Part 2 (30 hours)

The complete syllabus for the Church Planting and Renewal Track can be found here: [Church Planting and Renewal Syllabus](#).

4. Urban Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of urban ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and leaders are often called upon to engage in various types of ministry throughout the week, utilizing diverse skills in each unique setting, the modules in the practicum, other than the 3 years of monthly cohort gatherings, are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Urban Ministry Personal Maintenance (30 hours)
- Module 2: Urban Preaching/Teaching/Instruction - part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 3: Urban Preaching/Teaching/Instruction – part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 4: Urban Theology –part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Urban Theology –part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Urban Context – part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 7: Urban Context – part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 8: Urban Ecclesiology - part 1(30 hours)
- Module 9: Urban Ecclesiology - part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 10: Urban Evangelism (30 hours)
- Module 11: Urban Community Service (30 hours)
- Module 12: Urban Leadership Development (30 hours)

The complete syllabus for the Urban Ministry Track can be found here: [Urban Ministry Syllabus](#).

5. Biblical Counseling Ministry Track

The Practicum Program consists of 12 modules, corresponding to 12 competency areas of ministry. Since the practice of ministry is not organized sequentially and ministry is often unscheduled, the modules in the practicum are also non-sequential. Students are expected to engage in practice across the modules during their enrollment at MBS. Each module requires a minimum of 30 hours of practice, after which students are assessed for competency by their practicum supervisor.

Students are expected to complete their practicum in three years from the date of first enrollment at MBS. Should they fail to complete the practicum in three years, they may request an extension from the Dean of Students, the length of which will be determined by the Dean of Students in consultation with the student and their practicum supervisor, but which may not exceed three additional years.

- Module 1: Formation for Counseling Ministry (30 hours)
- Module 2: Peer Support and Ministry
- Module 4: Teaching & Counseling – Part 1 (30 hours)
- Module 5: Teaching & Counseling – Part 2 (30 hours)
- Module 6: Visitation (30 hours) **
- Module 7: Evangelism (30 hours) **
- Module 8: Leadership Development (30 hours) **

Module 9: Group Counseling (30 hours)

Module 10: Counseling Network Connections (30 hours)

Module 11: Continued Learning (30 hours)

Module 12: Sustainability and Ministry Values (30 hours)

** 1 of these modules may be replaced by optional module: Overseas Trip (30 hours)

The complete syllabus for the Biblical Counseling Track can be found here: [Biblical Counseling Syllabus](#).

POLICIES:

APPLICATION PROCEDURE – In addition to the academic qualifications for the intended program of study, applicants are assessed before entry to establish they are Christians who are maturing spiritually. They should be in good standing with their local church, and in a reasonable state of health.

Required Documents

- Application – this will determine:
 1. genuineness of conversion and commitment to the Lord Jesus
 2. present involvement in Christian service
 3. a sense of vocation in future service for the Lord
- Three References who can verify the potential student's readiness for study and service
- Photograph
- Copy of High School diploma or GED (B.Th. candidate only)
- Transcripts from any tertiary institutions. (A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required to pursue the M.Div.) (If you wish to transfer credit into MBS see below.)
- \$50 application fee (Must accompany application or be paid on the website)
- Signed Student Acknowledgement (Required by the State of Maryland)

Requirements for Entry into the Master of Divinity Degree Program:

Entrance to the Master of Divinity is as follows:

1. The minimum requirement is a completed bachelor's degree substantiated by the submission of a transcript.
2. Acceptance of the student is based upon the information submitted in the application and from the three references.

Applicant demonstrates clear calling to vocational ministry, demonstrates academic ability consistent with an undergraduate level (sample research and writings may be requested), and demonstrates mature Christian character and mature decision making ability for their age. These three criteria will be determined through an evaluative process with members of the MBS Administrative Team.

REGISTRATION & ORIENTATION

Students can register for classes online at <http://www.metrobaltimoreseminary.populiweb.com>. As we anticipate the arrival of all new and returning students, MBS arranges a schedule of orientation activities at the beginning of each academic year. We strive to provide an atmosphere of Christian unity and fellowship as the faculty, staff, and returning students help to familiarize new students with the program and various ministry opportunities.

TUITION AND FEES

Application Fee	\$50
Tuition.....	\$180/Credit (Coursework)
Practicum Fee	\$50/Quarter
Mentoring Fee	\$50/Quarter
Late Registration Fee	\$25
Audit Fee.....	\$80/Credit
Graduation Fee.....	\$200 (payable student's last term)

* Note: MBS does not issue T1098 tuition forms because the seminary does not receive federal funding.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Students are expected to pay all fees for each term by the first night of class. If a payment schedule is needed, terms can be arranged with the Dean of Academics. All fees must be fully paid before a student can start another term or graduate.

SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Due to the generosity of Christians committed to the work at MBS, limited funds are available as scholarships. These are awarded for one year and must be applied for, and are considered for renewal each year. The Scholarship Application and Instructions are available on the website.

TRANSFER OF CREDIT POLICY

MBS will accept transfer of credit from many accredited schools. A maximum of ten credit hours may be transferred into the program. Courses and credits must correlate closely with the courses MBS offers, including practicum and mentoring.

Credits from MBS have been accepted by several evangelical institutions. A student wishing to transfer credit from MBS to another institution should acquire specific information concerning the policies and procedures of that institution.

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

When a student can demonstrate prior learning in a particular subject area, he or she may be exempted from that course by the Faculty Academic Committee. In its place will be a course equal to the amount of credit granted by the prior learning as agreed upon by the student and Dean.

REFUND POLICY

- a. 75% after one full clock hour of class has been completed
- b. 50% after two full clock hours of class has been completed
- c. No refund will be given after the third clock class hour

Students will not be allowed to continue in the program should their previous term's account not be settled by the beginning of each new term. In case of an unforeseen crisis, **written** application can be made to the Dean of Administration who will review each case and determine whether the student will be allowed to continue.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Metro Baltimore Seminary does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, national and ethnic origin, natural born gender, disability, or age.

GRADING SYSTEM

Students are graded according to their quality of work.

- A** (90 - 100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required in the syllabus
- B** (80 - 89) = the student has completed every requirement in the syllabus
- C** (70 - 79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = all required work has not yet completed and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete all the required work in the time permitted

RESEARCH AND WRITING POLICY

All written work submitted for credit must conform to the *MBS Research, Writing and Style Guide*. This guide is available for download from the seminary's website on [the "Current Students > Writing Guide" tab](#).

MISSED CLASS POLICY

All classes are eight weeks long and 70 minutes each per credit hour. For this reason, students may not pass a course if more than one class has been missed, unless permission has been granted in advance by the professor to make up the work.

CLASS TIME AND ATTENDANCE

We view class time not merely as a time of academic instruction, but also as a time of fellowship, when faculty and students together explore the Holy Scriptures, learn God's truth, "*grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*", and find ways of practically implementing, as soon as possible, what has been learned. To that end, class time is essential and absences must have providential as well as faculty excuse. Students are encouraged to attend all classes, and to be punctual. We operate on a short 8-week term, and therefore attendance is critical to success in any subject. To that end, no student may miss more than one class hour of a one-credit course; 2 class hours of a two-credit course; etc. Students who are unable to attend a class must contact the professor before the class starts to ask for an excused absence. Students must also contact a fellow student to find out what was missed and what needs to be made up.

OUTSIDE CLASS STUDY EXPECTATION

As a basic guideline, a student is expected to do about two hours of private study for every hour of classroom time.

SPOUSES

Spouses who would like to attend classes as auditors may do so at no charge. However, please remember, auditors are there to listen only and should respect the right of degree- seeking students to speak and ask questions.

DRESS GUIDELINES

Students are to dress appropriately, with modesty, and due respect in consideration of others. This simply means we are all to take seriously the vocation of MBS and all who train here, and to have due respect for those of other cultures. (Rom. 14:13ff)

GRADUATION POLICY

To graduate, a student must complete and pass all courses, complete the practicum, and be approved by the mentor.

- a. All required courses are taken and passed.
- b. The student's mentor has signed off on the readiness of the student to begin his or her ministry.
- c. The student has completed and received credit for all required competency areas of their chosen practicum track.

No student will be permitted to graduate unless all outstanding fees have been paid, nor will a copy of their transcript be given or sent until all financial deficits are settled.

INSURANCE POLICY

1. General – Metro Baltimore Seminary does not provide personal insurance. It is the student's responsibility to make sure he or she is covered in case of sickness or injury.
2. Indemnity – Students, by registering, are holding MBS harmless from any liability or any accident.

LIBRARY

Access to great books and papers is important to students. MBS has chosen to own no buildings, which enables us to keep tuition low. Having no building means we cannot have a library. But that does not mean the student does not have access to great books. They can be sourced in the following ways:

- a. A robust list of free digital research resources is provided to students on [the "Current Students > Writing Guide" tab](#).
- b. The use of public and private libraries
- c. The development of your own libraries, especially within Logos Bible Software
- d. Making good use of the internet, being careful to properly use, notate, and discern that material is accurate.

- e. Talking with faculty who are willing to lend their own books to students.
- f. Checking with your own pastor and see if he has the books you need and if he is willing to lend them.

ORDINATION

MBS does not ordain anyone to the ministry. MBS believes this is the sole responsibility of the church.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Bible Courses

New Testament Survey – NT511

2 credit hrs

This course is an introduction to the NT writings and their message in the historical, cultural and religious context of the first century. The aim of the course is to give the student an accurate understanding of the primary backgrounds of the NT writings and other related introductory questions that impact on their message. The course comprises lectures, assigned readings, a written assignment and examination.

Old Testament Survey – OT511

2 credit hrs

This is a study of the OT dealing with its content, message, form and background. The survey will introduce the student to the biblical - theological approach to Scripture, showing how the books of the OT point us to God's Covenant of Grace in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Hebrew for Bible Study – OT711

Prerequisite: *Passing grade in all first year courses.*

2 credit hrs

The purpose of this course is not to make a person a Hebrew scholar. Rather, the intent is to give just enough basics of the Hebrew language to enable the student of the Bible to use the many word study tools written by the Hebrew scholars.

Old Testament Exegesis 1 – OT722

Prerequisite: *Hebrew for Bible Study*

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in OT will be required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable to student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Hebrew taught in Hebrew for Bible Study courses. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

Old Testament Exegesis 2 – OT743

Prerequisite: *Hebrew for Bible Study and Old Testament Exegesis 1*

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in OT will be required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable to student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Hebrew taught in Hebrew for Bible Study courses. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

Greek for Bible Study – NT611

Prerequisite: *Passing grade in all first year courses.*

2 credit hrs

The purpose of this course is not to make a person a Greek scholar. Rather, the intent is to give just enough basics of the Greek language to enable the student of the Bible to use the many word study tools written by the Greek scholars.

New Testament Exegesis 1 – NT622

Prerequisite: *Greek for Bible Study*

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in NT are required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable to student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Greek taught in the Greek for Bible Study course. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

New Testament Exegesis 2 – NT643

Prerequisite: *Greek for Bible Study and New Testament Exegesis 1*

2 credit hrs

Two exegesis courses in NT are required. These will be taught with two objectives in mind. First will be the plan to cover this course in a way that will enable the student to immediately be able to teach the course to others, complete with application. The second objective is to demonstrate to the students how to use the Greek taught in the Greek for Bible Study course. Students will be taught how to develop sermons and teaching lessons from the text. Systematic Theology/doctrine will also be covered in a way that will help the student to know how doctrine is developed out of the text.

Systematic and Historical Theology Courses

Doctrine of Scripture – ST511

1 credit hr

Major topics to be covered are: the divisions of Scripture, its revelation, inspiration and illumination; understanding Jesus' view of the Bible as well as its view of itself, canonicity, alleged "errors" in the Bible; and modern translations. The infallibility and inerrancy of all Scripture will be greatly emphasized. The seminary endeavors to teach something regarding all the major positions with respect to the Bible. The seminary's position is summed up by the

description “biblical inerrancy”. Our objective is to teach from the viewpoint of orthodox Protestantism concerning the Word of God, demonstrating its divine origin, internal harmony and its controlling role in the faith, life and vocation of Christians.

Doctrine of God, Man, and Sin – ST522

2 credit hrs

This course seeks to explore the nature, character and triunity of the God who has revealed Himself historically in redemption through His inspired Word, and in the enlightening which comes through the Holy Spirit. It comprises the centerpiece of our theological efforts as it has the Triune God Himself, and therefore the impartation of a profound knowledge of Him, as its focus. God as Maker and Upholder is set alongside a study of the humanity; both of our original and fallen nature, dependence, and destiny. As with all doctrinal courses, the topic is explored along biblical, historical and systematic lines.

Ecclesiology – ST626

1 credit hr

This course will examine various subjects related to the doctrine of the church including: the mission, leadership, governance, marks, and sacraments of the church. The roles of church discipline, church multiplication, and church health will also be explored.

Doctrine of Eschatology – ST717

1 credit hr

The Doctrine of Eschatology course will establish a biblical foundation regarding “last things,” exploring historic Christian beliefs on death and the resurrection, the second coming of Christ, the Millennium, the final judgment, the New Heavens/Earth, and the people of God.

Holy Spirit and Salvation – ST634

2 credit hrs

This course is intended to give the student a foundational understanding of the doctrine of the Person of the Holy Spirit and his work in the Church from a historical, Biblical and theological perspective. The course is designed so the student may have a foundational knowledge of and a practical appreciation for the personal ministry of the Holy Spirit in his/her own life. An understanding of how the Holy Spirit works in your life should change the way you view how to live a godly life, being dependent on the Holy Spirit.

Person and Work of Christ – ST533

2 credit hrs

The topic of the Person of Christ is a careful study of the relevant biblical material found in both Testaments, and a survey of the doctrine throughout the period of church history. The study on the Work of Christ is drawn from both Testaments and reaches its climax in Paul’s epistles and Hebrews. The study encompasses a treatment of all the important views of the work of Christ, and will be compared with other differing viewpoints advanced over the last 2000 years.

Survey of the Covenants – ST615

1 credit hr

While the topic of covenant may sound obscure to modern ears, it's something of central significance to God's redemptive work. The late great J.I. Packer goes so far as to say that you cannot properly understand the gospel, God, or Scripture till you view them "within a covenantal frame." It's the structural support that undergirds our interpretation of the entire redemptive story. In this course, we will explore what covenants are and how God relates to us through them. We'll specifically look at how they progressively develop over the course of redemptive history and the way they shape our relationship with God in Christ.

Survey of Church History 1 – HT731

2 credit hrs

This two-part course will enable the student to come away with an understanding of the "time line" upon which God used individuals and events to bring about His desired ends from the end of the first century to the beginning of the 21st century. Particular note will be made of the development of doctrine throughout this period.

Survey of Church History 2 – HT742

1 credit hr

This two-part course will enable the student to come away with an understanding of the "time line" upon which God used individuals and events to bring about His desired ends from the end of the first century to the beginning of the 21st century. Particular note will be made of the development of doctrine throughout this period.

Theology of John's Gospel – ST748

1 credit hr

This course explores the theological distinctives and themes of the Gospel of John. Attention is also given to tracing the threads Johannian theology present in the Gospel and in 1, 2, and 3 John and Revelation.

Theology in Practice Courses

Hermeneutics – PT521

Prerequisite: Doctrine of Scripture

1 credit hr

This course is intended to teach the student to interpret and apply the Bible accurately in our modern context. Students will learn a Christ-centered hermeneutic incorporating the main principles of interpretation to enable the student to rightly divide the Word of Truth.

Making & Equipping Disciples – PT734

1 credit hr

Jesus Christ calls us to make and train disciples of all nations. This course offers the student an opportunity to explore his or her own challenges with obeying the command and to learn from practitioners of making and training disciples. Coursework includes thinking about who, what, when, and where, and directly applying principles in real world life and ministry contexts.

Ethics and Leadership – PT745

1 credit hr

Leaders lead to a destination by helping each follower determine their kingdom purpose which is called wisdom, defined as the settled application of the law to daily life. In this course, students will study the cultural mandate as the intended destination of our leadership and see how the law as applied to daily life forms the foundation of our ethics.

Evangelism and Apologetics – PT713

1 credit hr

Every Christian needs to be ready at all times to give a defense for the hope that is in us. This course is meant to help every student to be equipped and trained to witness to anyone without reservation.

Biblical Counseling Foundations – PT757

1 credit hr

This course lays the groundwork for understanding people and the implications of human suffering and struggle. Caring for God's people is not reserved solely for official ministry roles but is for every member of the body of Christ.

Through the lens of the sufficient Word of God and the centrality of the ministry of the Holy Spirit, students will learn how biblical counseling flows out of personal sanctification and discipleship. This elective course is designed to help students gain a foundational understanding of how change takes place through the power for the gospel. The principles learned will have deeply personal application and will equip students for the work of ministry.

Sermon Construction – PT542

Prerequisite: *Doctrine of Scripture and Hermeneutics*

1 credit hr

This course will be hands-on interactive learning time, as students understand the principles, but more importantly, the heart, of preaching.

Workshops and Seminars

Workshops and seminars are offered periodically. Some workshop/seminar hours may count towards required minimum hours for certain practicum tracks - see track descriptions for details.

Introduction to Research and Writing – PT010-G

3 practicum hrs

This workshop is designed to introduce MBS students to the research skills, writing methods, and style tools required in order to produce well researched, written, and presented projects. By the end of this workshop, students will be able to...

- Identify legitimate academic and scholarly resources for seminary projects.
- Compose a paper following the MBS *Research, Writing, and Style Guide*.
- Consult and navigate style and citation tools for current Turabian writing style format.

Teaching and Learning Seminar – PT011-G

2 practicum hrs

Most courses that are designed to teach teachers to teach usually teach methods of communication (delivery). This is not adequate because the methods used may not reach the learning styles of most of your listeners. In this course we will concentrate first on helping you learn how you learn. Then you will study the characteristics of the other major learning styles. It will be only after this is understood that we can turn to putting together teaching methods that will enable you to reach all the learners you are charged with teaching.

Practicum

Students are supervised by an experienced ministry practitioner as they practice the skills required for Christian ministry. Students receive credit by demonstrating proficiency in 12 competency areas, which are described in the syllabus for each individual practicum. A minimum of 10 hours of practical ministry experience is required per credit, along with demonstrating attainment of the learning outcomes for the 12 competency areas as defined in the syllabus for each practicum. Students complete one of the practicums below.

Pastoral Ministry Practicum

36 Credits

PM510, 520, 530, 540

PM610, 620, 630, 640

PM710, 720, 730, 740

The Pastoral Ministry Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective ministry as an ordained pastor in a church. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed to pastor in a local church. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for Pastoral Ministry Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

General Ministry Practicum

36 Credits

GM510, 520, 530, 540

GM610, 620, 630, 640

GM710, 720, 730, 740

The General Ministry Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective ministry as a non-ordained leader in a church, parachurch ministry, or other roles where competency in Christian ministry is essential. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed to be an effective servant of Christ in the church and in the wider community. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the General Ministry Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

Church Planting and Renewal Practicum

36 Credits

PR510, 520, 530, 540

PR610, 620, 630, 640

PR710, 720, 730, 740

The Church Planting and Renewal Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective ministry in the work of starting new churches and renewing existing congregations. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences

needed to plant and renew congregations. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the Church Planting and Renewal Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

Urban Ministry Practicum

36 Credits

UM510, 520, 530, 540

UM610, 620, 630, 640

UM710, 720, 730, 740

The Urban Ministry Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective Christian ministry in an urban context. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed for effective Christian service in urban contexts. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the Urban Ministry Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

Biblical Counseling Practicum

36 Credits

BC510, 520, 530, 540

BC610, 620, 630, 640

BC710, 720, 730, 740

The Biblical Counseling Practicum is designed to give students the skills they need for effective lay counseling ministry in a church or Christian organization. The student must complete a minimum of 360 hours of practical ministry across three years of enrollment at MBS. During this time, students practice the range of skills and experiences needed to walk alongside those in crisis situations. 12 competency areas are described in the syllabus for the Biblical Counseling Practicum. Students must meet the minimum required hours for each competency area and demonstrate proficiency in the learning outcomes for each of the competency areas.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

A list of course textbooks is available online here: [MBS Textbooks](#).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: Certificate in Christian Studies

The **CCS** is designed for those who are drawn to know more about God, faith, and the church in a seminary setting of academics and mentoring. The **CCS** can be completed in one year on a full-time basis or two years taking **only** one course per week. The **CCS** mirrors the curriculum for the first-year students in the MDiv program, consisting of 12 credit hours of academic study covering Church History, the Old and New Testament (survey courses), theology, and your choice of Sermon Prep or the Teaching and Learning course. Students also meet with a mentor for three terms. There are no Practicum requirements.

The Certificate in Christian Studies requires a total of 15 credits:

Part 1 – In-Class Program:	12 Credits
Part 2 – Mentoring:	<u>3 Credits</u>
Total	15 Credits

Entrance requirement: High School Diploma or equivalent

ACCREDITATION:

MBS is a candidate for membership in the Association of Reformed Theological Seminaries (ARTS). MBS completed a self-study in September 2022 and a site-visit in March 2023, with a goal of full membership in ARTS by October 2023. As an accrediting agency, ARTS has applied for recognition by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as a religious institution offering degrees.

In response to the proliferation of “diploma mills”, some states have tightened their laws regarding which institutions can offer classes and degrees to their residents. The tendency in those states is to exclude all institutions which do not have an accreditation recognized by CHEA or the U.S. Department of Education.

Maryland Higher Education Commission Exemption

Metro Baltimore Seminary is a religious educational institution operating in the State of Maryland pursuant to an exemption granted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, without a certificate of approval from the Commission, as specified in the Code of Maryland Regulations 13B.02.04.

CERTIFICATE IN CHRISTIAN STUDIES

Curriculum Portfolio Part I – Classroom Program [8 courses, 12 credits]

Terms are 8 weeks long. Each credit equals one 70-minute class hour per week for 8 weeks.

	Course	Term	Credits
Bible	Old Testament Survey	1	2
	New Testament Survey	2	2
Systematic and Historical Theology	Doctrine of Scripture	1	1
	Doctrine of God, Man, Sin	3	2
	Person and Work of Christ	4	2
Theology in Practice	Hermeneutics	2	1
	Making and Equipping Disciples	3	1
	Sermon Construction	4	1

The criteria for evaluating classroom coursework:

- A** (90-100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required in the syllabus
- B** (80-89) = the student has completed every requirement in the syllabus
- C** (70-79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = the student has not *yet* completed all required work and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete *all* the required work in the time permitted

Part 2 – Mentoring

The student learning from a mentor (3 credits)

Who can know the heart of a man? The hope of MBS is, while in seminary, each student will grow spiritually. The purpose of a mentor is to come alongside the student so they get to know themselves even as they get to know God. Further, a mentor's role is to encourage a student to have a plan for spiritual growth and to work that plan as enabled by the Holy Spirit.

A mentor meets regularly with a student to ask questions, get beneath the surface and help the student learn what it means to develop a deeper relationship with the Lord and others. During this time the mentor may encourage, give wisdom, coach or direct as needed. The mentor will meet with the student and family as needed, communicating through email, text, phone, video-chat, and face-to-face.

The mentor is the one who checks the heart, by the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, in the hopes the student is changing to become more like Christ. Students are expected to meet with their mentors at least 3 times during each quarter for a total of 5 hours. In addition, students should plan to spend at least 5 hours per quarter working through readings, assignments, and exercises in the Mentoring Manual. The total amount of time spent meeting with the mentor and working on readings and other assignments from the mentor is expected to be at least 10 hours per term.

Measuring a person's readiness for ministry is always difficult as it is a subjective judgment. However, after three years of regular meetings, the mentor will have a good idea if the student is prepared.

Because Part II of the MBS Curriculum Portfolio is so mentor-based, evaluation is subjective. Grading is as follows:

- A** (90-100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required by the mentor
- B** (80-89) = the student has completed every requirement of the mentor
- C** (70-79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = the student has not *yet* completed all required work and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete *all* the required work in the time permitted

Mentoring Manual

While each student's relationship with their mentor is unique, the MBS Mentoring Manual provides a general structure for the 3-year mentoring relationship that all students must follow. The manual contains reading assignments and other activities and exercises that must be completed by students in order to fulfill the mentoring requirement for graduation. The manual contains sections for each year at MBS, and completed sections must be submitted in the Spring Quarter of each year of enrollment at MBS to demonstrate sufficient progress in the mentoring program. The MBS Mentoring Manual can be accessed at www.metrobaltimoreseminary.org/mentoring.

POLICIES:

APPLICATION PROCEDURE – In addition to the academic qualifications for the intended program of study, applicants are assessed before entry to establish they are Christians who are maturing spiritually. They should be in good standing with their local church, and in a reasonable state of health.

Required Documents

- Application – this will determine:
 1. genuineness of conversion and commitment to the Lord Jesus
 2. present involvement in Christian service
 3. a sense of vocation in future service for the Lord
- Three References who can verify the potential student's readiness for study and service
- Photograph
- Copy of High School diploma or GED (B.Th. candidate only)
- Transcripts from any tertiary institutions. (A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required to pursue the M.Div.) (If you wish to transfer credit into MBS see below.)
- \$50 application fee (Must accompany application or be paid on the website)
- Signed Student Acknowledgement (Required by the State of Maryland)

Requirements for Entry into the Certificate in Christian Studies Program:

Entrance to the Certificate in Christian Studies is as follows:

1. Minimum requirement is a high school diploma or equivalent.
2. Acceptance will be based on information submitted in the application and the three references.
3. Applicants to MBS's certificate programs must be at least 21 years of age in order to be accepted to the program. Applicants under the age of 21 may be considered for limited exceptions to the minimum age requirement if they meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - a. Applicant has earned an Associates Degree.
 - b. Applicant has successfully earned at least 60 credit hours of undergraduate study (approximately 2 years of full time undergraduate study) at an accredited university, college, or community college.

Applicant demonstrates clear calling to vocational ministry, demonstrates academic ability consistent with an undergraduate level (sample research and writings may be requested), and demonstrates mature Christian character and mature decision making ability for their age. These three criteria will be determined through an evaluative process with members of the MBS Administrative Team.

REGISTRATION & ORIENTATION

Students can register for classes online at <http://www.metrobaltimoreseminary.populiweb.com>. As we anticipate the arrival of all new and returning students, MBS arranges a schedule of orientation activities at the beginning of each academic year. We strive to provide an atmosphere of Christian unity and fellowship as the faculty, staff, and returning students help to familiarize new students with the program and various ministry opportunities.

TUITION AND FEES

Application Fee	\$50
Tuition.....	\$180/Credit (Coursework)
Practicum Fee	\$50/Quarter
Mentoring Fee	\$50/Quarter
Late Registration Fee	\$25
Audit Fee.....	\$80/Credit
Graduation Fee	\$200 (payable student's last term)

* Note: MBS does not issue T1098 tuition forms because the seminary does not receive federal funding.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Students are expected to pay all fees for each term by the first night of class. If a payment schedule is needed, terms can be arranged with the Dean of Academics. All fees must be fully paid before a student can start another term or graduate.

SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Due to the generosity of Christians committed to the work at MBS, limited funds are available as scholarships. These are awarded for one year and must be applied for, and are considered for renewal each year. The Scholarship Application and Instructions are available on the website.

TRANSFER OF CREDIT POLICY

MBS will accept transfer of credit from many accredited schools. A maximum of ten credit hours may be transferred into the program. Courses and credits must correlate closely with the courses MBS offers, including practicum and mentoring.

Credits from MBS have been accepted by several evangelical institutions. A student wishing to transfer credit from MBS to another institution should acquire specific information concerning the policies and procedures of that institution.

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

When a student can demonstrate prior learning in a particular subject area, he or she may be exempted from that course by the Faculty Academic Committee. In its place will be a course equal to the amount of credit granted by the prior learning as agreed upon by the student and Dean.

REFUND POLICY

- a. 75% after one full clock hour of class has been completed
- b. 50% after two full clock hours of class has been completed
- c. No refund will be given after the third clock class hour

Students will not be allowed to continue in the program should their previous term's account not be settled by the beginning of each new term. In case of an unforeseen crisis, **written** application can be made to the Dean of Administration who will review each case and determine whether the student will be allowed to continue.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Metro Baltimore Seminary does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, national and ethnic origin, natural born gender, disability, or age.

GRADING SYSTEM

Students are graded according to their quality of work.

- A** (90 - 100) = work done by the student *exceeds* what was required in the syllabus
- B** (80 - 89) = the student has completed every requirement in the syllabus
- C** (70 - 79) = all work was completed, but could have been better
- I** = all required work has not yet completed and has been granted extra time to finish
- F** = the student has failed to complete all the required work in the time permitted

RESEARCH AND WRITING POLICY

All written work submitted for credit must conform to the *MBS Research, Writing and Style Guide*. This guide is available for download from the seminary's website on [the "Current Students > Writing Guide" tab](#).

MISSED CLASS POLICY

All classes are eight weeks long and 70 minutes each per credit hour. For this reason, students may not pass a course if more than one class has been missed, unless permission has been granted in advance by the professor to make up the work.

CLASS TIME AND ATTENDANCE

We view class time not merely as a time of academic instruction, but also as a time of fellowship, when faculty and students together explore the Holy Scriptures, learn God's truth, "*grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*", and find ways of practically implementing, as soon as possible, what has been learned. To that end, class time is essential and absences must have providential as well as faculty excuse. Students are encouraged to attend all classes, and to be punctual. We operate on a short 8-week term, and therefore attendance is critical to success in any subject. To that end, no student may miss more than one class hour of a one-credit course; 2 class hours of a two-credit course; etc. Students who are unable to attend a class must contact the professor before the class starts to ask for an excused absence. Students must also contact a fellow student to find out what was missed and what needs to be made up.

OUTSIDE CLASS STUDY EXPECTATION

As a basic guideline, a student is expected to do about two hours of private study for every hour of classroom time.

SPOUSES

Spouses who would like to attend classes as auditors may do so at no charge. However, please remember, auditors are there to listen only and should respect the right of degree-seeking students to speak and ask questions.

DRESS GUIDELINES

Students are to dress appropriately, with modesty, and due respect in consideration of others. This simply means we are all to take seriously the vocation of MBS and all who train here, and to have due respect for those of other cultures. (Rom. 14:13ff)

GRADUATION POLICY

To graduate, a student must complete and pass all courses, complete the practicum, and be approved by the mentor.

- a. All required courses are taken and passed.
- b. The student's mentor has signed off on the readiness of the student to begin his or her ministry.
- c. The student has completed and received credit for all required competency areas of their chosen practicum track.

No student will be permitted to graduate unless all outstanding fees have been paid, nor will a copy of their transcript be given or sent until all financial deficits are settled.

INSURANCE POLICY

1. General – Metro Baltimore Seminary does not provide personal insurance. It is the student's responsibility to make sure he or she is covered in case of sickness or injury.

2. Indemnity – Students, by registering, are holding MBS harmless from any liability or any accident.

LIBRARY

Access to great books and papers is important to students. MBS has chosen to own no buildings, which enables us to keep tuition low. Having no building means we cannot have a library. But that does not mean the student does not have access to great books. They can be sourced in the following ways:

- a. A robust list of free digital research resources is provided to students on [the "Current Students > Writing Guide" tab](#).
- b. The use of public and private libraries
- c. The development of your own libraries, especially within Logos Bible Software
- d. Making good use of the internet, being careful to properly use, notate, and discern that material is accurate.
- e. Talking with faculty who are willing to lend their own books to students.
- f. Checking with your own pastor and see if he has the books you need and if he is willing to lend them.

ORDINATION

MBS does not ordain anyone to the ministry. MBS believes this is the sole responsibility of the church.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Bible Courses

New Testament Survey - NT111

2 credit hrs

This course is an introduction to the NT writings and their message in the historical, cultural and religious context of the first century. The aim of the course is to give the student an accurate understanding of the primary backgrounds of the NT writings and other related introductory questions that impact on their message. The course comprises lectures, assigned readings, a written assignment and examination.

Old Testament Survey - OT111

2 credit hrs

This is a study of the OT dealing with its content, message, form and background. The survey will introduce the student to the biblical - theological approach to Scripture, showing how the books of the OT point us to God's Covenant of Grace in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Systematic and Historical Theology Courses

Doctrine of Scripture - ST111

1 credit hr

Major topics to be covered are: the divisions of Scripture, its revelation, inspiration and illumination; understanding Jesus' view of the Bible as well as its view of itself, canonicity, alleged "errors" in the Bible; and modern translations. The infallibility and inerrancy of all Scripture will be greatly emphasized. The seminary endeavors to teach something regarding all the major positions with respect to the Bible. The seminary's position is summed up by the description "biblical inerrancy". Our objective is to teach from the viewpoint of orthodox Protestantism concerning the Word of God, demonstrating its divine origin, internal harmony and its controlling role in the faith, life and vocation of Christians

Doctrine of God, Man, and Sin - ST122

2 credit hrs

This course seeks to explore the nature, character and triunity of the God who has revealed Himself historically in redemption through His inspired Word, and in the enlightening which comes through the Holy Spirit. It comprises the centerpiece of our theological efforts as it has the Triune God Himself, and therefore the impartation of a profound knowledge of Him, as its focus. God as Maker and Upholder is set alongside a study of the humanity; both of our original and fallen nature, dependence, and destiny. As with all doctrinal courses, the topic is explored along biblical, historical and systematic lines.

Person and Work of Christ - ST133

2 credit hrs

The topic of the Person of Christ is a careful study of the relevant biblical material found in both Testaments, and a survey of the doctrine throughout the period of church history. The study on the Work of Christ is drawn from both Testaments and reaches its climax in Paul's epistles and Hebrews. The study encompasses a treatment of all the important views of the work of Christ, and will be compared with other differing viewpoints advanced over the last 2000 years.

Theology in Practice Courses

Hermeneutics - PT121

Prerequisite: *Doctrine of Scripture*

1 credit hr

This course is intended to teach the student to interpret and apply the Bible accurately in our modern context. Students will learn a Christ-centered hermeneutic incorporating the main principles of interpretation to enable the student to rightly divide the Word of Truth.

Making & Equipping Disciples - PT134

1 credit hr

Jesus Christ calls us to make and train disciples of all nations. This course offers the student an opportunity to explore his or her own challenges with obeying the command and to learn from practitioners of making and training disciples. Coursework includes thinking about who, what, when, and where, and directly applying principles in real world life and ministry contexts.

Sermon Construction - PT142

Prerequisite: *Doctrine of Scripture and Hermeneutics*

1 credit hr

This course will be hands-on interactive learning time, as students understand the principles, but more importantly, the heart, of preaching.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

A list of course textbooks is available online here: [MBS Textbooks](#).