



## **FULL BRIGHT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

### **CATALOG 2024**

Academic Excellence      Life Change      World Impact



Full Bright Theological Seminary Main Campus, Lakewood, Washington



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## OUR MISSION AND VISION

The mission of FBTS is to provide its diverse student body with a religious education that equips students with knowledge, expertise, and experience to impact their world for Jesus. We seek to fulfill the Great Commission as stated by the Lord Jesus, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20 Christian Standard Bible)

The values that focus our energy are: Academic Excellence, Life Change, and World Impact.

The name Full Bright comes from the church being a light to the world and as we impact the world for Jesus we participate as individuals in communities and the world reaching their full potential to honor God in everything becoming a fully bright light.

The success of FBTS will be measured by its alumni who lead extraordinary lives of mission and value. We invite everyone to explore the various ways our academic quality is proven.



## CHANCELLOR'S GREETING

Welcome one and all! We are thankful for each and every one of you and we pray that God will guide you as you consider if this school is right for you. I hope and pray that what follows here will be helpful as you decide if FBTS is the place for you to grow in your ability to connect God to yourself and connect others to Him.

Full Bright Theological Seminary (FBTS) is not at this time a separate non-profit organization. FBTS is a ministry of Trinity Baptist Church of Lakewood, Washington. FBTS was started by Dr. Francis Githuku with the support of Pastor Jeffrey Forshee in recognition of the need for better biblical teaching and biblical counseling in Kenya, the United States, and around the world. FBTS is not affiliated in any way with any famous organizations operating under the name Fulbright. Because FBTS is operating under the church, all payments will be made to Trinity Baptist Church and all people compensated by FBTS will receive checks from Trinity Baptist Church. Payments made to FBTS will not be considered tax-deductible gifts. People receiving compensation from FBTS will be considered self-employed contractors and will be responsible for their own taxes associated with any income unless informed otherwise in writing.



## ACCREDITATION

FBTS is not currently accredited through any organization that is recognized by the United States Department of Education. We intend to pursue accreditation through the Association of Theological Schools.

Our school is theological training being offered by a church. It may be possible to convince an employer that you have solid counseling training, but we can make no guarantee that you will be able to use any degree that we offer to gain a job in secular (non-religious) employment. Our degrees also will not necessarily be recognized by any other school. Please consider carefully.

*The Washington Student Achievement Council has determined that Full Bright Theological Seminary qualifies for religious exempt status from the Degree-Granting Institutions Act for the following programs: Associate in Theology and Biblical Counseling, Bachelor in Theology and Biblical Counseling, Master in Theology and Biblical Counseling, and Doctorate in Theology and Biblical Counseling. The Council makes no evaluation of the administration, faculty, business practices, financial condition or quality of the offerings by this institution. Any person desiring information about the requirements of the act or the applicability of those requirements to the institution may contact the Council at P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA 98504-3430 or by email at [degreeauthorization@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:degreeauthorization@wsac.wa.gov).*

## AFFILIATION

Trinity Baptist Church is a member of the Puget Sound Baptist Association, the Northwest Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. Our statement of faith is the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. It can be found at: [bfm.sbc.net/bfm2000/](http://bfm.sbc.net/bfm2000/). We do not expect students to agree with every element of the BF & M. Our instructors are expected to not teach in class contrary to the BF & M. Our students are expected to be an active member of a church, have the blessing of their pastor to attend this school, and to be born-again believers.



## DEGREES OFFERED OVERVIEW

Time frame	Academic requirements	Number of Courses	Credit Hour Requirements
<b>ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN THEOLOGY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELING (ATBC)</b>			
2 years	High School Diploma	20	60
<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN THEOLOGY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELING (BTBC)</b>			
2 years	Associate's Degree or Equivalent	20	60
4 years	High School Diploma	40	120
<b>MASTER'S DEGREE IN THEOLOGY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELING (MTBC)</b>			
2 years	Bachelor's Degree	15 + Thesis	48
<b>DOCTORATE'S DEGREE IN THEOLOGY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELING (DTBC)</b>			
3 + years	Master's Degree	21 + Thesis	78-81

## COURSES SCHEDULE

FBTS offers 3 semesters per year with 3 courses available at each level (Associates, Bachelors, Masters, and Doctorates) per semester. Each semester lasts 11 weeks with 10 weeks of instruction and an 11<sup>th</sup> week for exams. Courses are currently offered on Saturdays from 815AM to 145PM. Each class is 90 minutes with a break in between courses and for lunch. A student enrolled full time will complete 3 courses per semester and 9 courses per year. Additional short intensive courses are offered in between semesters to allow a student to reach 20 classes in two years.



## TUITION

Tuition fees are to be paid in full before the end of each semester. A student will not be able to enroll in the next semester until the balance from the previous semester is paid unless permission due to special circumstances is received from the Dean of Curriculum. Any request for special circumstances should be submitted in writing.

We make every effort to keep our costs low. This is the minimum that we believe that we can charge and provide the instructors and administrators some compensation for their time. The low fees mean all of our instructors and staff have other jobs. Please be understanding that the instructors and staff, while being compensated, are involved in this school as a ministry. Appreciation of their willingness to sacrifice so that the school can be affordable and accessible to low-income students should be shown by all. Tuition fees are collected by degree according to the following table:

DEGREE	COST PER CREDIT	COST PER SEMESTER	COST PER YEAR
CERTIFICATE	\$75	\$675	\$2,025
ASSOCIATES	\$80	\$720	\$2,160
BACHELORS	\$100	\$900	\$2,700
MASTERS	\$120	\$1080	\$3,240
DOCTORATES	\$140	\$1260	\$3,780
DEGREE	NUMBER OF TOTAL CREDITS	COST PER CREDIT	TOTAL COST OF TUITION FOR DEGREE
ASSOCIATES	60	\$80	\$4,800
BACHELORS *	120	\$80, then \$100	\$10,800
MASTERS	48	\$120	\$5,760
DOCTORATES	81	\$140	\$11,340
		* NOTE: The first two years of the bachelors are charged at the associates rate leading to 4800 + 6000 over 4 years.	



## **ASSOCIATES DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING**

**Program Objective:** This is a 2-year program designed to equip a student to more accurately teach the Bible, provide biblical counseling, and lead in their local church. This program also prepares the student for more advanced academic programs.

<b>ASSOCIATES OF THEOLOGY &amp; BIBLICAL COUNSELING</b>		
<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
ATBC-101	English Grammar and Academic Writing	3
ATBC-102	Church Leadership and Management I	3
ATBC-103	Introduction to Discipleship	3
ATBC-104	Church/Organizational Growth	3
ATBC-105	Old Testament Survey I	3
ATBC-106	Doctrine of God	3
ATBC-107	Principles of Teaching the Bible	3
ATBC-108	Introduction to Bible Study Methods	3
ATBC-109	Introduction to Preaching	3
ATBC-110	Introduction to Missions	3
ATBC-201	New Testament Survey I	3
ATBC-202	1 & 2 Corinthians	3
ATBC-203	Church History 1	3
ATBC-204	Counseling Skills and Ethics	3
ATBC-205	Developmental Psychology	3
ATBC-206	Multicultural Concerns in Biblical Counseling	3
ATBC-207	Biblical Counseling of Individuals and Groups	3
ATBC-208	Introduction to Trauma & Grief Counseling	3
ATBC-209	Writing Capstone	3
ATBC-210	Special Topic	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>60</b>



## **ASSOCIATES DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND ACADEMIC WRITING (ATBC-101) 3 Credit Hours**

This course emphasizes using standard English grammar in writing sentences and paragraphs. Students learn pre-writing strategies and the development of a paragraph and essay. By the end of the course, students will be able to write narrative and descriptive essays on a variety of topics.

### **CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT I (ATBC-102) 3 Credit Hours**

This course investigates the principles, challenges, and practices of Christian leadership, emphasizing the issues that make leadership in the context of the church, education, and non-profit service organizations unique. It includes theological reflection, literature review, theory, and practical application of learning in the context of professional ministry.

### **INTRODUCTION TO DISCIPLESHIP (ATBC-103) 3 Credit Hours**

This course focuses on understanding basic discipleship disciplines, as the believer learns to grow deeper in their personal relationship with God and to guide others to do the same.

### **CHURCH/ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH (ATBC-104) 3 Credit Hours**

This course focuses on understanding basic entrepreneurial concepts, the entrepreneurial mindset, and developing entrepreneurial skills through hands-on learning. The course emphasizes the entrepreneurial process and the application of this process to a broad range of faith-based contexts. The course also addresses creativity, securing resources, team building, communication, and leadership.

### **OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY I (ATBC-105) 3 Credit Hours**

This course is designed to introduce you to the literature, history, and messages of the Old Testament. The Old Testament provides its readers with a history of the people of Israel and a picture of Israel's relationship with God. It functions as the theological and moral foundation for three of the world's major religious traditions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. As the ancient text is studied, its impact on ourselves and on people of other cultures today is considered.

### **DOCTRINE OF GOD (ATBC-106) 3 Credit Hours**

A study of the existence, nature, and attributes of the triune God. Contains a study of such doctrines as the decree of God, Creation, the providence of God, and the doctrine of the Trinity. The course will also will survey the Biblical, Christian and Reformed dogmatic and confessional doctrine of God's existence in unity and Trinity, his attributes, works, decree and providence.

**PRINCIPLES OF TEACHING BIBLE (ATBC-107) 3 Credit Hours**

The purpose of this course is to increase the student's knowledge and skills in teaching within the context of the local church. The class will discuss, envision, and practice some essential principles, philosophies, methods, and models for effective Christian teaching. This course will explore the teaching principles of Jesus coupled with a look at the teaching/learning process and application of teaching methods.

**INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE STUDY METHODS (ATBC-108) 3 Credit Hours**

This course explores several approaches to Bible study, including analysis of the text, book study, study of a topic, and character study in a simple overview of hermeneutics (Biblical interpretation). The course introduces to students the principles of observation, interpretation and application by means of a study of 1 Peter. Students are then expected to apply those principles in a study of Philemon.

**INTRODUCTION TO PREACHING (ATBC-109) 3 Credit Hours**

Lays the foundation for biblical sermon construction and delivery. In this class students will discover the fundamentals of sermon construction. As a basic course in homiletics, attention is given to understanding a definition of preaching, practical aspects of sermon preparation, various resources available for sermonic development, and learning how to plan for regular preaching opportunities based on challenges related to a contemporary preaching ministry.

**INTRODUCTION TO MISSIONS (ATBC-110) 3 Credit Hours**

This course is intended to explore the biblical and theological basis for missions, the missionary movements in history, issues in communicating the gospel cross-culturally, and various mission strategies. Includes learning resources to aid the student in identifying and fulfilling their role in the Great Commission.

**NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY I (ATBC-201) 3 Credit Hours**

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the literature of the New Testament by means of studying both the Biblical text and the historical and cultural factors that shaped it. The historical background, certain aspects of contemporary scholarship, and especially the themes and general teachings of the New Testament books will be discussed.

**1 & 2 CORINTHIANS (ATBC-202) 3 Credit Hours**

This course examines the first and second epistles to the Corinthians as they embody certain aspects of one of the earliest Christian communities. We consider the historical, political and philosophical climate present in Corinth during Paul's ministry and examine ways in which each of those variables may have affected the presentation of Paul's theology. The course also prompts each student's consideration of their own theology as it relates to the church in the present time, and invites the student to think critically about how they can positively affect the context of their own church community.

**CHURCH HISTORY I (ATBC-203) 3 Credit Hours**

The course will cover the history of Christianity from its inception to the Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century. We will survey the major movements, doctrines, persons, and institutions that arose within the church and affected its development during this time. Our emphasis will be the development of doctrinal understanding in the church as well as careful study of selected key individuals whose lives should inspire us to biblical faithfulness today.

**COUNSELING SKILLS AND ETHICS (ATBC-204) 3 Credit Hours**

This course covers the ethics codes of professional organizations with emphasis on professional standards, ethical principles and legal considerations in the counseling profession. The course will help the student to follow a code of ethics laying a foundation for effective helping.

**DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (ATBC-205) 3 Credit Hours**

This course is an introduction to human growth and development from a psychological perspective. Emphasis is on major theories and perspectives as they relate to the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial aspects of development from conception to death. They will also learn comprehensive study of human development over the life span. Focuses on physical, cognitive and psychosocial changes throughout the human life cycle and emphasizes an interactionist approach to explain developmental processes and outcomes.

**MULTICULTURAL CONCERNS IN BIBLICAL COUNSELING (ATBC-206) 3 Credit Hours**

This course provides an examination of cultural and ethnic variables in human nature and their effect on the counseling process. Specific focus will be placed on the nature and function of culture, cultural variables in the context of the human experience, universal and culture specific aspects of the counseling process, barriers to effective cross- cultural counseling, specific ethnic and cultural considerations, and methods of intellectual training.

**BIBLICAL COUNSELING OF INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS (ATBC-207) 3 Credit Hours**

This course will explore what biblical counseling is, who is a counselor, and what is known about changing behavior in both individual and group settings. Historical concepts of counseling will be examined as well as the scientific foundations of counseling. This course will teach students to enter a helping profession with an understanding of the practice of group counseling. In the course students will explore different theoretical approaches to counseling groups; principles of group dynamics, which include leadership tasks, member roles, and basic group counseling skills including establishing, leading, and evaluating various types of counseling groups.

**INTRODUCTION TO TRAUMA AND GRIEF COUNSELING (ATBC-208) 3 Credit Hours**

This course explores the process of dealing with and recovering from losses that are common to normal human experience, the psychological impact of traumatic experiences that are outside the range of normal human experience, and therapeutic strategies for assisting people dealing with grief, loss, and trauma. This course proposes an integrated theoretical framework for trauma informed grief counseling to equip the minister for this situation they are called so often into.

**WRITING CAPSTONE (ATBC-209) 3 Credit Hours**

This course requires the student to select a topic of interest and with guidance from the instructor write a paper on the topic learning in the process research and writing skills.

**SPECIAL TOPIC (ATBC-210) 3 Credit Hours**

The topic of this course will vary by semester. The topic will depend on the instructor. Possible topics include chaplaincy, peer counseling, and substance abuse. The course will be noted on the student's transcript as Special Topic – followed by the specific topic of the course.



## BACHELORS DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING

**Program Objective:** This is a 4-year program designed to equip a student to more accurately teach the Bible, provide biblical counseling, and lead in their local church. The first 2 years of this program are identical to the Associates degree above. The last 2 years of this program add to what is gained at the Associate level with more advanced topics. It challenges the student to begin to learn to develop their own philosophy of ministry and progress in academic writing. This program also prepares the student for more advanced academic programs.

<b>BACHELORS OF THEOLOGY &amp; BIBLICAL COUNSELING</b>		
<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
BTBC-301	Critical and Creative Academic Writing	3
BTBC-302	Church Leadership and Management II	3
BTBC-303	Introduction To Biblical Hebrew and Greek	3
BTBC-304	Systematic Theology I	3
BTBC-305	Role of Music and Worship in Church	3
BTBC-306	Homiletics	3
BTBC-307	Couple's Counseling and Family Systems	3
BTBC-308	New Testament Survey II	3
BTBC-309	Developmental Disability and Biblical Counseling	3
BTBC-310	Special Topic	3
BTBC-401	Old Testament Survey II	3
BTBC-402	Systematic Theology II	3
BTBC-403	Church History II	3
BTBC-404	Spiritual Formation	3
BTBC-405	The Gospels and Acts	3
BTBC-406	Abusive Relationships	3
BTBC-407	Counseling Career Development	3
BTBC-408	Introduction to Research and Evaluation	3
BTBC-409	Writing Capstone	3
BTBC-410	Special Topic	3
<b>TOTAL CREDITS SECOND TWO YEARS</b>		<b>60</b>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS INCLUDING ASSOCIATES</b>		<b>120</b>



## **BACHELORS DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **CRITICAL AND CREATIVE ACADEMIC WRITING (BTBC-301) 3 Credit Hours**

This course is the study of critical and creative thinking and how these apply to academic writing.

### **CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT II (BTBC-302) 3 Credit Hours**

This course further prepares the church pastors and leaders, to learn how they should manage church. They explore Christian theology in church administration and management principles and techniques to make church a more faithful church, rather than turning it into a secular enterprise. This course will also provide an overview of conflict, types of conflict, conflict styles, communication styles, and intervention strategies. We will learn five strategies for dealing with conflict, the skills necessary to resolve it, and the steps needed to reach a mutual understanding.

### **INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW AND GREEK (BTBC-303) 3 Credit Hours**

In this course, students begin to learn to read biblical Hebrew and Greek. Students learn Hebrew and Greek grammar. They will be offered the opportunity to approach and explore the biblical texts in their original language. They are introduced to Bible study tools that allow assistance in teaching preparation that does not require mastery of the original languages. By the end of this course students will acquire the basic familiarity with the Hebrew and Greek language and grammar.

### **SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I (BTBC-304) 3 Credit Hours**

This course along with Systematic Theology II covers the major topics of theology in a comprehensive way exploring both contemporary views and historical perspectives from different church time periods. This course lays the foundation covering different approaches to theology, studying God, knowing God, the attributes of God, the work of God, creation, angels, humanity, the nature and intent of the Bible and sin and its impact on creation.

### **ROLE OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP IN CHURCH (BTBC-305) 3 Credit Hours**

The student will learn the purpose, ways and means for the people of God to have communion with God. A philosophical study of the use and function of music in the worship practice of the local church. Emphasis is given to the goals, motivations, responsibilities, parameters, and aesthetics of music in the church community.

### **HOMILETICS (BTBC-306) 3 Credit Hours**

This course is the study of the content, principles and delivery of expositional evangelistic sermons. Emphasis will be on preaching evangelistically from the Old and New Testaments. This course is a study in the selection, preparation and delivery of sermons to meet the needs of the contemporary church family. This course is an introduction to theories and practices of preaching in pastoral and liturgical settings. In lecture sessions, students will study the various dynamics of preaching (theological, hermeneutical, pastoral, exegetical, ethical, liturgical) and their relation to the regular practice of preaching.

### **COUPLE'S COUNSELING AND FAMILY SYSTEMS (BTBC-307) 3 Credit Hours**

This course introduces the student to methods of counseling couples and families. Techniques and strategies are introduced for marital and relationship counseling. Differences in working with children are also introduced with the emphasis on working with the family as a whole. Methods of mediation and bringing about reconciliation are also introduced.

### **NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY II (BTBC-308) 3 Credit Hours**

This course assumes familiarity with the New Testament and explores deeper into the authors, audiences, historical context, purpose, and how to faithfully interpret the books of the New Testament.

### **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELING**

#### **(BTBC-309) 3 Credit Hours**

This course examines a variety of developmental disabilities such as intellectual disability, autism, neurological, sensory, and health impairments, learning disabilities, and emotional and behavioral disorders and the impact of these on biblical counseling. Special attention is devoted to helping with barriers to integration and the impact on the individual and his/her family. Students explore their own beliefs and biases regarding people with disabilities and their possible role as change agents in society.

### **SPECIAL TOPIC (BTBC-310) 3 Credit Hours**

The topic of this course will vary by semester. The topic will depend on the instructor. Possible topics include chaplaincy, peer counseling, and substance abuse. The course will be noted on the student's transcript as Special Topic – followed by the specific topic of the course.

### **OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY II (BTBC-401) 3 Credit Hours**

This course assumes familiarity with the Old Testament and explores deeper into the authors, audiences, historical context, purpose, and how to faithfully interpret the books of the Old Testament.

### **SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II (BTBC-402) 3 Credit Hours**

This course along with Systematic Theology I, covers the major topics of theology in a comprehensive way exploring both contemporary views and historical perspectives from different church time periods. This course builds on the topics covered in Systematic Theology I covering Christology (The nature and work of Christ), Pneumatology (The nature and work of the Holy Spirit), Soteriology (Salvation), Ecclesiology (The Church), and Eschatology (The Last Things).

**CHURCH HISTORY II (BTBC-403) 3 Credit Hours**

The course will cover the history of Christianity from the Protestant Reformation to the present. We will survey the major movements, doctrines, persons, and institutions that arose within the church and affected its development during this time. Our emphasis will be the development of doctrinal understanding in the church as well as careful study of selected key individuals whose lives should inspire us to biblical faithfulness today.

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION (BTBC-404) 3 Credit Hours**

This course covers spiritual disciplines and encourages the student to self-examination as they seek to practice their faith in Jesus in private and in public. Mentoring others in their spiritual formation is also covered. Methods of helping others progress and overcome obstacles in their personal relationship with God are discussed.

**THE GOSPELS AND ACTS (BTBC-405) 3 Credit Hours**

This course covers the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts. The students will address the harmony of the gospels and challenges with this, study in detail the life and manner of interacting with the world of Jesus. The course also covers the birth of the early church and how that applies to and informs the church today.

**ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS (BTBC-406) 3 Credit Hours\**

This course will explore the barriers that Christian counselors have, including blind spots and questioning techniques and focus upon how to make assessments for victimization and perpetration from gendered and gender-neutral perspectives. Conventional treatment considerations will be discussed, including how to devise safety plans and how to determine if individual and/or conjoint sessions are appropriate. Emphasis is given to how to end cycles of abuse and how to help someone who needs to exit a living situation.

**COUNSELING CAREER DEVELOPMENT (BTBC-407) 3 Credit Hours**

This a course that will help students understand career development theories and approaches, learn to utilize career assessments, access career information, and examine the impact of career on the lives of individuals with whom they will be working, as well as reflect on their own personal/professional career development.

**INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH AND EVALUATION (BTBC-408) 3 Credit Hours**

In this study research techniques and methods will be examined for the formulation of hypotheses, development of testable objectives, experimental design, subject selection, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, and report preparation. Research methods courses offer students the opportunity to learn the various aspects of the research process, framing useful research questions, research design, data collection, analysis, writing and presentation.

**WRITING CAPSTONE (BTBC-409) 3 Credit Hours**

This course requires the student to select a topic of interest and conduct research on this topic with guidance from the instructor. They will then write a paper on the topic to the standard of being able to submit to a scholarly journal.

**SPECIAL TOPIC (BTBC-410) 3 Credit Hours**

The topic of this course will vary by semester. The topic will depend on the instructor. Possible topics include chaplaincy, peer counseling, and substance abuse. The course will be noted on the student's transcript as Special Topic – followed by the specific topic of the course.



### MASTERS DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING

This is an advanced academic degree that provides the student with an opportunity for in-depth study. Those taking this course will be prepared for further studies at the Doctoral level and/or for the scholarly enhancement of their ministerial practice. This is a 2-year program designed to equip a student to more accurately teach the Bible, provide biblical counseling, and lead in their local church. The student will participate in classes that require synthesis of information and developing one's own conclusions. The student will be prepared to teach at the Bachelor's level, produce scholarly papers, and conduct research. A thesis must be completed to graduate.

MASTERS OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING		
NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT HOUR
MTBC-501	Old Testament Theology	3
MTBC-502	New Testament Theology	3
MTBC-503	Missiology (Theology of Missions)	3
MTBC-504	Leadership and Church Management	3
MTBC-505	Pastoral Ethics and Multicultural concerns	3
MTBC-506	Foundations Of Biblical Preaching	3
MTBC-507	Old Testament Prophets	3
MTBC-508	Traditional Religions and Christian Theology	3
MTBC-509	Counseling Skills and Ethics	3
MTBC-601	Church History	3
MTBC-602	Counseling Individuals and Groups	3
MTBC-603	Assessment, Referral, and Consultation	3
MTBC-604	Spiritual Formation	3
MTBC-605	Addiction and Substance Abuse	3
MTBC-606	Research and Evaluation Methodology I	3
MTBC-607	Thesis	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>48</b>



## **MASTERS DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY (MTBC-501) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course examines the perspective and beliefs of the authors of the books of the Old Testament. It examines the evolving understanding as God progressively reveals Himself to His people from Adam and Eve to Malachi. Then the theology of each period in the Old Testament is studied to see how it can inform our theology today and be applied to how we live our lives.

### **NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY (MTBC-502) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course examines the perspective and beliefs of the authors of the books of the New Testament. It examines the understanding of the apostles, Paul, and the other authors to gain insight into the life and nature of Jesus, the reasons the church expanded so rapidly, and why the church holds to the beliefs that it does today. Particular attention is given to practical application in developing biblical teaching and liturgy in the church and in how we live our lives.

### **MISSIONOLOGY (THEOLOGY OF MISSIONS) (MTBC-503) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course studies the theory of how to expand the kingdom of God through church outreach, evangelism, and overseas mission trips and activities. It goes beyond how to do missions and explores the why of missions. It also surveys different philosophies and strategies learning the positives, negatives, and effectiveness of each. Challenges of intercultural communication and interacting with local governments that function under widely varying systems of laws are studied.

### **LEADERSHIP AND CHURCH MANAGEMENT (MTBC-504) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course continues the study of church structure, systems, and leaders. Particular emphasis is given to the aspects of leadership and character qualities of a Christian leader. Impact of leadership style and decisions on the congregation are studied. This course begins to introduce the student to secular teachings on leadership and how they are or are not compatible with Christian practice.

### **PASTORAL ETHICS AND MULTICULTURAL CONCERN (MTBC-505) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course continues the study of the ethics of the pastoral leader and pastoral counselor. It includes an emphasis on ethics as it relates to cross-cultural ministry and overseas missions activities. The overseas portion covers both interactions with churches and governments in other countries that function under widely varying systems of laws and the ethical implications of various strategies and relationships.

**FOUNDATIONS OF BIBLICAL PREACHING (MTBC-506) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course builds on the student's existing experience communicating the word of God. It covers the theology, theories, and methods of biblical preaching. Each student prepares and delivers one sermon as a part of this course

**OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS (MTBC-507) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course studies the difficult to understand prophecy books of the Old Testament including Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, the minor prophets, and other sections of prophecy in other Old Testament books. Particular attention is given to understanding the context of the life of the prophet and what it meant to the original audience. Additionally, focus is given to the practical meaning and application for the student today. Methods of teaching and preaching these books are also covered.

**TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS AND CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY (MTBC-508) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course surveys the topics of Christian Theology and how they relate to traditional religions such as Native American and traditional African beliefs. Similarities and differences are discussed with a focus on how to connect with and relate to practitioners of traditional religions in a way that they can understand.

**COUNSELING SKILLS AND ETHICS (MTBC-509) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course builds on the students existing counseling skills. It introduces them to secular theories on counseling and how to integrate those into biblical counseling. This course also covers more advanced ethics topics and concerns and how to train and counsel subordinate lay ministers in simple pastoral counseling and ethics.

**CHURCH HISTORY (MTBC-601) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course goes beyond teaching events and dates. This course examines key controversies and individuals in the history of the church and seeks to inform our current practice by studying the challenges and dilemmas that they faced and how they faced and overcame or were overcome by them.

**COUNSELING INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS (MTBC-602) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course covers strategies for the biblical counseling of individuals and groups. It introduces students to the best of techniques and strategies from the secular world and how to introduce those into the church setting to provide effective guidance and healing. Understanding what can and can not be easily helped and proper maintenance of boundaries and keeping the counselor and counselee emotionally safe are discussed. Concepts such as transference, projection, counter-transference and other counseling related issues are introduced so that the pastoral counselor can recognize, understand, and properly navigate these.

#### **ASSESSMENT, REFERAL, AND CONSULTATION (MTBC-603) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course introduces the student to methods of operation of counseling in the secular world. While the pastoral counselor is not qualified to diagnose or perform therapeutic counseling, they have to interact with clients with a wide variety of diagnoses. This course will help the biblical counselor to understand diagnoses that their client has received from qualified individuals including how to use the DSM to find definitions and proper ways to interact with different clients. This course will also cover when to attempt to help and when to refer to avoid attempting to treat complex mental health issues. Best practices about who to refer to depending on the issue will be discussed. Finally, this course will cover the basics of consultation with other professionals about a client undergoing mental health treatment including consent to share information and understanding the role of different providers. This will help the biblical counselor to be prepared to function in roles such as a chaplain on an interdisciplinary team.

#### **SPIRITUAL FORMATION (MTBC-604) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course will challenge the student to consider their current spiritual condition and develop strategies to continue to grow spiritually in their relationship with God. This course will also cover developing training plans and discipleship strategies for those under their spiritual care.

#### **ADDICTION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE (MTBC-605) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course covers the basics of addiction and its treatment. Different types of treatment programs and the potential role of clergy and faith-based helpers in functioning in or as a support to the program are covered. Particular attention is given to the development of and leadership of faith-based recovery support groups and ministries to empower the student to play a role in helping people stay clean once they have completed a treatment program. Celebrate Recovery is considered as one successful model.

#### **RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODOLOGY I (MTBC-606) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course prepares the MTBC or DTBC student to be able to conduct research at the graduate level. How to conduct and evaluate research accurately is emphasized. The basics of how to read and understand other's research is covered as well as how to properly cite and use for your own research is explained. This course is not required to be completed twice. If it was completed during the Master's degree, the doctoral student does not need to repeat it.

#### **THESIS (MTBC-607) 3 Credit Hours**

This advanced course is the capstone of the Masters in Theology and Biblical Counseling. This course is usually the last course taken and is taken alone in the final semester. Preparation of research and writing can begin as soon as the student begins the degree. This course while, only charged tuition as one 3 credit course, should be expected to take a full semester and possibly longer. This course is complete when a satisfactory Masters level thesis paper has been prepared and accepted by the instructor and the Dean of Curriculum.



## DOCTORATES DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING

**Program Objective:** This is an advanced degree which is a minimum 3-year program designed to equip a student to more accurately teach the Bible, provide biblical counseling, and lead in their local church. This program culminates with the student conducting research and producing a thesis paper that is defended before their peers. The length of the program is dependent on how long the research and thesis take. This program also prepares the student to teach in subjects that they are experts in at any academic level. Additionally, this program expands the student's horizons as it exposes them to how the theologian interacts with other academic disciplines to begin to develop a multidisciplinary approach to ministry functioning as a part of a team and integrating the best of secular learning to enhance their perspective and understanding.

<b>DOCTORATES OF THEOLOGY &amp; BIBLICAL COUNSELING</b>		
<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
DTBC701	Philosophy of Religion	3
DTBC702	Leadership and Church Management	3
DTBC703	Religion and Moral Education	3
DTBC704	Historical Theology	3
DTBC705	Ministry and Worship	3
DTBC706	Biblical Exegesis	3
DTBC707	Church History Perspectives	3
DTBC708	Sociology in Religion	3
DTBC709	Old and New Testament Language and Literature	3
DTBC710	Missiology and Evangelism	3
DTBC801	Ethical Issues in Biblical Counseling	3
DTBC802	Advanced Biblical Counseling	3
DTBC803	Chronic Mental Illness Consultation and Counseling	3
DTBC804	Introduction to Physiological Psychology	3
DTBC805	Family Systems and Couples Counselling	3
DTBC806	Addictions and Trauma Counselling	3
DTBC807	Assessment, Referral, and Consultation	3
DTBC808	Introduction to Psychopathology Psychology	3
MTBC606	Research and Evaluation Methodology I (See Above)	3*
DTBC902	Research and Evaluation Methodology II & III	6
DTBC903	Research Preparation	6
DTBC904	Thesis Preparation	9
DTBC905	Thesis Presentation and Defense	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>78-81</b>



## **DOCTORATES DEGREE OF THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL COUNSELING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION (DTBC-701) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course examines different perspectives on the nature of religion and religious practice and encourages the student to develop their own understanding informed by diverse perspectives. Selected secular philosophers are introduced and compared to the Christian faith tradition. An emphasis is on strategies to build common ground with people of different backgrounds and perspectives in order to bring unity in the church, cooperation between different kinds of churches, and effective outreach outside of the church.

### **LEADERSHIP AND CHURCH MANAGEMENT (DTBC-702) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course continues the study of church structure, systems, and leaders. Particular emphasis is given to the aspects of leadership and character qualities of a Christian leader. This course encourages the student to develop their own philosophy of great Christian leadership. The course also leads the student to create plans to implement leadership training and strategies to identify people with leadership potential and cultivate great leaders within their own ministry context. The course also examines how to make church structures and systems more logical, efficient and how to design them to best produce desired outcomes.

### **RELIGION AND MORAL EDUCATION (DTBC-703) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course focuses on religious education, but also addresses giving moral instruction in a secular setting in a way that presents biblical values without being overtly religious. This course also covers planning and management of religious education for all ages.

### **HISTORICAL THEOLOGY (DTBC-704) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course is a survey of the theology of the church from the early church to modern times with the emphasis on encouraging the student to learn from diverse perspectives and controversies to develop their own well thought out theology grounded with knowledge of the long faith tradition that goes before us and how the student fits into that history.

**MINISTRY AND WORSHIP (DTBC-705) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course examines different theories and practices of how to conduct church services. The emphasis is on learning to develop the student's own personal perspective on worship services. This covers planning, assigning leaders, and leading the service itself. This course also covers atmosphere, and the experience that someone has from when they drive into the parking lot to when they exit or in the case of online ministry from before they click in to follow up after they exit.

**BIBLICAL EXEGESIS (DTBC-706) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course is an advanced course on the interpretation of the Bible. It seeks to include different perspectives and methods of understanding the Bible with the goal of the student developing their own personal understanding of the Bible as a whole and it's message and how to teach it to modern audiences.

**CHURCH HISTORY PERSPECTIVES (DTBC-707) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course does not teach church history. It instead examines different perspectives on church history seeking to expand the understanding of the student. As we see modern church controversies and divisions, this course looks back through church history to find similar situations and uses examples from those to inform our solutions to our struggles today as well as our plans for the future.

**SOCIOLOGY IN RELIGION (DTBC-708) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course examines the discipline of sociology and how it relates to religion. This course examines how the impact of culture within the church and the culture outside the church affect what happens in the church. The emphasis is on using a sociological perspective to better lead the church and understand it's victories and struggles and to identify solutions to cultural problems.

**OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (DTBC-709) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course examines the use of types of literature in the Bible and how the genres of literature are interpreted differently and the significance of the use of different types of language to inform the student how to better teach and preach the Word of God.

**MISSIONOLOGY AND EVANGELISM (DTBC-710) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course explores the theology of expanding the kingdom of God with an emphasis on developing plans and leading these efforts for a church or ministry.

**ETHICAL ISSUES IN BIBLICAL COUNSELING (DTBC-801) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course examines ethics in biblical counseling from the perspective of setting policy and developing standards. This course prepares the student to set counseling policies and regulations of an organization. Topics covered include confidentiality, boundaries, and when to refer (from a policy perspective).

**ADVANCED BIBLICAL COUNSELING (DTBC-802) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course takes the student through current best practices and counseling techniques with the goal to help the student learn to identify the problems of clients and come up with solutions that are realistic and attainable within the scope of pastoral counseling.

**CHRONIC MENTAL ILLNESS CONSULTATION AND COUNSELING****(DTBC-803) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course prepares the biblical counselor to encounter clients with chronic mental illness struggles. Without trying to “fix” the client, this course will encourage the student to have understanding, empathy, and prepare the student to confidently help clients and encourage them to continue other interventions, treatments, medications, and therapies that are beneficial to their well-being. This course also has a significant component related to consultation and team work with mental health professionals to provide the best possible support to clients.

**INTRODUCTION TO PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY (DTBC-804) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course provides the student with an overview of current work in neuroscience and the understanding of how the biology of the brain and nervous system affect human behavior. The emphasis for the student in this class to understand how their biblical counseling can be impacted by neurological abnormalities and trauma.

**FAMILY SYSTEMS AND COUPLES COUNSELLING (DTBC-805) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course focuses on providing the student with strategies to do biblical couple’s counseling. This course also contains an overview of family systems and dynamics including the impact of family dynamics on a couple and others who live in the home.

**ADDICTIONS AND TRAUMA COUNSELING (DTBC-806) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course introduces the student to best practices in the areas of addiction and trauma counseling. This course covers how to perform biblical addiction and trauma counseling. This course also covers how to help a client when you are their first point of contact, preparing the student to identify what the client’s needs are and if the issues are significant, how to work with the client to identify additional resources to seek assistance from.

**ASSESSMENT, REFERRAL, AND CONSULTATION (DTBC-807) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course continues to prepare the student to function as part of a multidisciplinary team helping a client. It also prepares the student to consult with mental health professionals in a productive way with understanding of some of their vocabulary and common treatment strategies. This course also continues to enhance the student’s ability to recognize when a situation is outside of their ability to help on their own. This is when to refer and where to refer to.

**INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOPATHOLOGY PSYCHOLOGY (DTBC-808) 3 Credit Hours**

This doctorate level course does not qualify the student to diagnose or treat mental illness. What it does do is provide the student with a basic understanding of the history of the treatment and diagnosis of mental illness along with a basic understanding of current best practices. The goal of the course is to prepare the pastoral counselor to work with as a support to a mental health professional providing care for the soul of the client as they undergo difficult and challenging mental health treatment. The student will also learn how to best support the client to be cooperative and productive in their mental health treatment.

**RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODOLOGY II & III (DTBC-902) 6 Credit Hours**

This is an advanced two class period course that builds on the introduction in Research and Evaluation Methodology I. This class covers more detailed research that rises to the level of being published and can survive the rigors of being peer reviewed. This class also covers in more detail how to analyze and draw conclusions from the research of others in order to build and expand upon that research into new and novel areas. The student should prepare a research plan for their thesis in this course.

**RESEARCH PREPARATION (DTBC-903) 6 Credit Hours**

This course is the conducting of research in preparation to compose a thesis. The 6 credits are used to represent the amount of time that is required and to compensate the faculty advisor that mentors the student through the research process. This may be a different advisor than the one for the writing of the thesis who specializes in research or is an expert in the subject area.

**THESIS PREPARATION (DTBC-904) 9 Credit Hours**

This course is the writing of the thesis once the research is complete. The 9 credits are used to represent the amount of time that is required and to compensate the faculty advisor that mentors the student throughout the thesis preparation process. The student should present each major section of the paper to their faculty advisor for revision and corrections as they complete them. The faculty advisor should provide feedback as needed throughout the process. A second faculty advisor can be assigned to assist as appropriate. This course is complete when the student has a completed thesis paper that the faculty advisor is satisfied with.

**THESIS PRESENTATION AND DEFENSE (DTBC-905) 3 Credit Hours**

This course is the final step before receiving the doctoral degree. This course will involve a student presenting a completed thesis to their faculty advisor. Once the faculty advisor is satisfied with the paper and presentation, the paper will be presented before a group of faculty who will challenge the student to explain and defend their thesis. Then the group of faculty will vote with the outcome being that the thesis needs more work or is satisfactory. If the changes to the thesis are more than minor revisions, this course will need to be repeated. The additional cost will be for additional work from the faculty advisor as they mentor the student.



## **FBTS LEADERSHIP**

Chancellor	Pastor Jeffrey Forshee
President/ Vice Chancellor	Dr. Francis Githuku
Dean of Curriculum and Director of Research	Dr. Eunice Waithaka
Seminary Chaplain	Pastor Stephen Ibabu
Seminary Deputy Chaplain	Pastor Simon Kamau

## **INSTRUCTORS**

Jeffrey Forshee (Master of Divinity from Gateway Seminary, CA)

Dr. Francis Githuku (PhD in Leadership from Landmark Baptist Theological Seminary, TX)

Dr. Eunice Waithaka (PhD in Community Health and Development from Calamus International University, United Kingdom and Master of Arts in Counseling, St Martin's University, Lacey WA)

Dr. Karuri Thiongo (PhD in Sustainable Development and Disaster Management from Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, Kenya)

Dr. Bishop Peter Ndungu (Doctorate in Counseling and Leadership from Virginia Triumphant College and Seminary)

Dr. Suzane Shoemaker (Doctorate in Church History from Covenant Bible Seminary)

Dr. Jenipher Gachoka (PhD in Biblical Counseling from Landmark Baptist Theological Seminary, TX)

Dr. Bishop Andrew Muthemba (Theology)

Dr. Joe Karogi (Biblical Counseling)

Dr. Zachary Kariuki

Ralph Rittenhouse (Discipleship)

Dr. Rose Njorge (Phsychology Education)

Dr. Peter Lewa (Research)



***2024 FULL BRIGHT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY BOARD***

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<b>MEMBER</b>	Dr. Eunice Waithaka
<b>MEMBER</b>	Perry Horst
<b>MEMBER</b>	Tom Street

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***2024 TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH BOARD / COUNCIL***

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<b>FBTS REPRESENTATIVE</b>	Dr. Francis Githuku
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