



ATHENS
COLLEGE *of* MINISTRY

2019–2020
Academic Program Catalog



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About Our College

ACMin is an interdenominational Christian college that offers a new kind of ministry preparation designed to equip tomorrow's Christian leaders for tomorrow's changing world. The College provides an opportunity for adult students from all walks of life to engage in real ministry opportunities supported by biblically-based coursework in a Christian environment with instructors qualified to provide biblically-centered teaching.

History

The inaugural Board of Trustees of the Athens School of Ministry & Worship Arts met in August 2009. The College was incorporated with the Georgia Secretary of State in November 2009 and received IRS non-profit status in September 2010. With the invitation to house our college at Watkinsville First United Methodist Church and approval from the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission to operate under Religious Exemption, ASM&WA first opened its doors to students in August 2012. In August 2015, the College accomplished Full Authorization status from the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission and formally changed its name to the Athens College of Ministry. The College is currently pursuing full accreditation through the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS).

Institutional Goals

The Institutional Goals for the Athens College of Ministry are grounded in the following key components of the College's DNA:

Mission Statement

To be a biblically-grounded, Holy Spirit-empowered, fully accredited Christian college that prepares men and women who will teach, reach, lead, and minister to others out of their identity in Christ through relational, hands-on training for leadership in the church, in the marketplace, and across the globe.

Core Values

- Biblical knowledge
- The power of prayer
- Worship in Spirit and the truth
- Christ-like love and service
- Relevant, experiential learning
- Unity in the body of Christ
- Ministry is the call of EVERY believer

Motto

"Equipping heads and hearts to serve as Christ's hands and feet."

Purpose Statement

ACMin is an interdenominational Christian college seeking to equip faithful men and women for ministry and Christian leadership by:

- teaching spiritual truths;
- imparting biblical knowledge;
- providing practical ministry opportunities through degree and non-degree programs;
- ensuring a Christ-centered approach that seeks to build character within a community of believers; and
- tailoring coursework to support each student's calling.

ACMin programs are designed and integrated with building students' relationships at the core—relationships with God, with the school community, and within the context of Christian servant leadership opportunities.

Christian Philosophy of Education

The Goal of Kingdom-focused teaching is to develop students who will live and minister out of their identity in Christ as evidenced by transformed values, actions and capabilities including:

- An effectual understanding of who God is;
- a redeemed mindset, life focus, and Christian worldview;
- an abiding personal relationship with Jesus through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit;
- joyful, obedient surrender to the will of the Heavenly Father and His Word;
- an understanding and effective use of their power and authority as believers; and
- the ability to disciple others into Christ-likeness within community.

Educational Goals

Upon completion of their respective academic programs, ACMin students will:

1. Demonstrate an appropriate depth of biblical knowledge and understanding necessary for fulfilling their ministry role as well the ability to continue to grow in biblical knowledge and understanding;
2. Demonstrate strong evidence of a growing personal relationship with Christ through prayer, biblical studies, and worship;
3. Clearly articulate their personal call to ministry and demonstrate an understanding of how to apply the unique talents and spiritual gifts they possess in order to be successful in their calling;
4. Exhibit strong, effective servant leadership skills appropriate for their chosen area of ministry;
5. Possess the specialized knowledge related to their degree program area and demonstrate the ability to apply that knowledge for effective ministry to people; and
6. Exhibit: a) a desire to serve others, b) Godly humility, c) the ability to rely on God rather than self for ministry success; and d) a healthy understanding and application of self-care in order to avoid burnout.

Belief Statement

The Bible

The Bible consists of the sixty-six canonical books of the Old and New Testaments and was written by individuals divinely and uniquely inspired by the Holy Spirit as God's self-revelation to humanity. Since Jesus Christ is the ultimate focus of divine revelation, all Scripture ultimately serves as a testimony to Christ. In the original manuscripts, the Bible is free from error of any sort, and it serves as our supreme authority in all matters of faith and practice. *John 5:39; 1 Timothy 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:15–17; Hebrews 1:1–2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19–21; 3:15–16.*

Concerning God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is infinite, personal, omnipotent, omnipresent, and an omniscient Spirit. He is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. God is holy and perfect in all His attributes. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being. *Deuteronomy 6:4–5; Mark 12:28–31; Matthew 3:16–17; 28:19; John 14:6–17; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:4–6.*

God, The Father

God as Father and the Creator of all things reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth, and those who put faith in His Son, Jesus Christ, are adopted into the family as sons and daughters. *Matthew 3:16–17; 6:9, 25–26; John 16:23–28; Romans 8:14–17; Galatians 1:3–4; 4:6–7; Ephesians 1:3, 17–23.*

God, The Son

Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God the Father, and the exact imprint of His being, fully God who was present at the creation of the universe. In His incarnation as Jesus, He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and obeyed the will of God the Father. He announced and initiated God's Kingdom upon the Earth, took upon Himself the demands and necessities of human nature, and identified Himself completely with humanity, yet was without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience. And by His death on the cross, He made provision for the redemption of people from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God in power and where He is the One Mediator, partaking of the nature of God and of humanity, and in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and His creation. His Spirit now dwells in all believers as the living and ever-present Lord. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate God's Kingdom. *Matthew 1:18–23; 28:18; Luke 24:1–8; John 1:1–4; 5:26–27; Acts 1:11; 2 Corinthians 5:19–21; Philippians 2:6–11; Colossians 1:15–20; Hebrews 1:2–4; 4:14–15; 7:23–28; 1 John 2:1–2; Revelation 19:11–13; 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17; 2 Timothy 1:14; 1 John 3:24; Ephesians 1:20–23.*

God, The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the eternal Spirit of God, fully God who was present at the creation of the universe. He is the divine author of all Scripture, and through revelation He enables people to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls people to the Savior and effects regeneration. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer until the day of the final redemption. His indwelling presence in each Christian is the assurance of God to bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service. *John 4:24; 14:6–13; Acts 1:2, 8; 2:17–18; 5:32; Romans 8:14–15, 26; 1 Corinthians 2:10–15; James 2:26; Galatians 4:6; 5:25; Ephesians 1:13–14; 4:6; Hebrews 12:9; 1 John 3:24.*

Humanity

God created humans, male and female, in His own image to rule on His behalf. The first humans, Adam and Eve, were originally free from sin, but they disobeyed God, and the consequence of their disobedience was death. As a result, all humans are fallen creatures, born alienated from God, with a sinful nature. All have sinned and are in need of salvation from sin and death. Humans are incapable of effecting reconciliation on their own merit and thus are wholly dependent on the grace of God. Those who put their faith in Jesus are adopted into the family of God, have their sins forgiven, receive the Holy Spirit, are made a new creation, are restored to ruling with Christ in His Kingdom, and will receive a glorified body at the resurrection. *Genesis chapters 1–3; Romans 1:18–32; 3:23–28; 4:16; 5:8–12; 8:14–17; 11:6; 1 Corinthians 15:20–28, 50–55; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:4–10; Revelation 2:26–27; 22:5.*

The Spiritual Battle

A cosmic battle exists between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness. The war is not of flesh and blood but against the spiritual forces of Satan, principalities, powers, and rulers of this world. On account of Jesus's defeat of the works of the devil, Christians war from a standpoint of victory, which was initiated by Jesus's death and resurrection but will not be completed until Jesus returns in power. Those who are in Christ participate in the expansion of the Kingdom of God that results in the diminishment of the kingdom of darkness, which will ultimately be destroyed when Christ returns. *Isaiah 14:10–17; Ezekiel 28:11–19; Matthew 12:25–29; 25:41; 28:18–20; John 12:31; 16:11; 2 Corinthians 10:3–6; Ephesians 6:10–20; Colossians 2:15; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6; Revelation 12:7–9; 20:10.*

Salvation

God took the initiative to restore the relationship between Himself and humanity through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of His Son, Jesus Christ. Salvation is the redemption and restoration of the whole person and is offered freely to all who place their full trust in Jesus Christ alone as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. Christians are saved by grace through faith in Christ alone and not by their own works. As new creations, believers become transformed to Christ-likeness through the agency of the Holy Spirit. *Romans 3:24; 5:18; 8:20–25; 10:9–10; John 3:16; 14:6; Colossians 1:20–22; Ephesians 2:1–10; Philippians 2:8; Isaiah 53:5.*

The Transformed Christian Life

The supreme purpose of all believers is to be whole-hearted, risk-taking lovers of God, who glorify Him in and with our lives. Our conduct should be blameless before the world; we should be faithful stewards of the possessions, abilities, and spiritual gifts God entrusted to us, and we should intentionally and continually seek the full measure of maturity in Jesus Christ through our active participation in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting, study, worship, service, evangelism, and fellowship with other Christ-followers. An abiding oneness with the Father through Christ and empowered by the Spirit is our ultimate goal in this life. Through our relationship with Jesus, the power of God's Holy Spirit living in us, and our God-given authority in Christ over all the power of the enemy, we are able to participate in the divine nature, living as Jesus lived in this world, accomplishing even greater things than the Lord, and advancing His kingdom on Earth for His glory. In joyful obedience to the Great Commission, we demonstrate the Good News with both words and actions through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 10:8; 28:18–19; Luke 10:19; John 14:12, 20; 15:10; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 2:6, 9–10; 3:1–10; 1 Timothy 6:6–12; 1 Peter 1:14–16; Ephesians 1:18–21; 2:5–6; 4:1–3, 11–14; 5:1–5; Philippians 2:14–16; 2 Peter 1:3–8; 1 John 4:17; Galatians 2:20.*

The Church

Jesus is the founder of the church, his bride, for whom he died. Jesus commissioned it to advance God's Kingdom and to overcome the forces of darkness. The church is the bride for whom Jesus died and will return to claim. The global church is the body of Christ, of which he is the head. The local church is composed of regenerated believers voluntarily united together for the purpose of evangelism, of equipping each other through discipleship for service to Christ, of tending to one another's needs, and for the worship of God. *Matthew 16:18–19; 1 Corinthians 12:12–27; Ephesians 4:4–16; Hebrews 10:25; 1 Peter 2:9–10; Acts 2:42; 16:5; 20:28; Revelation 19:7.*

Baptism & The Lord's Supper

Jesus instituted Christian Baptism through the use of water as a sign of the covenant to be identified with His death, burial, and resurrection in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus also commanded that we participate in the Lord's Supper in remembrance of His body broken and blood shed on the cross, which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins. The Lord's Supper is a sign of the new covenant and anticipates the consummation of God's Kingdom when Jesus returns. *Matthew 3:11; 26:26–30; 28:19; Mark 14:22–26; Luke 22:14–20; Acts 2:38; 10:47–48; 19:1–7; Romans 6:3–11; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:11–13; Ephesians 4:5; 1 Peter 3:21–22.*

Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world as it currently exists to its appropriate end, and will create a new heaven and a new earth. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth, Satan will ultimately be destroyed, the dead will be raised, Christ will judge all people in righteousness, and all creation will bow before Him. The unrighteous will be consigned to everlasting punishment and eternal separation from God. The righteous from every tribe, tongue, and nation, in their resurrected and glorified bodies, will receive their inheritance to rule and reign with God over creation for all eternity. *Genesis 1:28; Isaiah 65:17; 66:22; Matthew 24–25; Romans 8:18–22; Philippians 2:9–11; 2 Thessalonians 1:7–10; 1 Timothy 6:13–16; Hebrews 9:27–28; 2 Peter 3:7; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14–15; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 7:9; 21:1–22:13.*

**Students having strong opinions on doctrines that have historically been controversial (i.e., have caused division in the church) need to be sure that they can "agree to disagree."*

Organizational Information

Accreditation Statement

Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

The Athens College of Ministry is fully authorized by the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission (<https://gnpec.georgia.gov/>).

Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools

The Athens College of Ministry is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), having been awarded Candidate Status as a Category III institution by the TRACS Accreditation Commission on April 25, 2017. This status is effective for a period of up to five years. TRACS is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDOE), the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE). Contact TRACS at: 15935 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551; Telephone: 434.525.9539; Email: info@tracs.org.

Accreditation Candidacy status indicates that the institution is in compliance with accreditation Standards and Criteria, has been evaluated by an on-site peer team, and in the professional judgment of the evaluation team and the TRACS Accreditation Commission, the institution provides sound instruction and student services, and the institution has the potential to achieve full accreditation within the prescribed five-year period or sooner.

Visit the following websites to verify ACMin's accreditation status:

- <https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home>
- <http://www.tracs.org/>

Non-profit Statement

The Athens College of Ministry, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with Federal Tax ID# 27-1288541.

2019–2020 Academic Calendar

Fall 2019

Registration Begins	April 1, 2019
Application Deadline	July 1, 2019
Financial Aid Application Deadline	July 1, 201
Tuition Due	July 19, 2019
New Student Orientation	August 12, 2019
Classes Begin	August 12, 2019
Drop/Add — Late Registration	August 12–16, 2019
Holiday — No Classes	September 2, 2019
Withdrawal Deadline	October 4, 2019
Holiday — No Classes	November 25–29, 2019
Last Day of Classes	December 4, 2019
Final Exams	December 5–6, 2019
Grades Due	December 13, 2019

Spring 2020

Registration Begins	October 1, 2019
Application Deadline	November 15, 2019
Financial Aid Application Deadline	November 15, 2019
Tuition Due	December 13, 2019
New Student Orientation	January 6, 2020
Classes begin	January 6, 2020
Drop/Add — Late Registration	January 6–10, 2020
Holiday — No Classes	January 20, 2020
Withdrawal Deadline	March 2, 2020
Spring Break – No Classes	March 9–13, 2020
Last day of Classes	April 28, 2020
Final Exams	April 29–May 1, 2020
Grades Due	May 8, 2020

Summer 2020

Registration Begins	February 1, 2020
Financial Aid Application Deadline	April 1, 2020
Application Deadline	April 1, 2020
Tuition Due	May 1, 2020
New Student Orientation	May 11, 2020
Classes begin	May 11, 2020
Drop/Add — Late Registration	May 11–15, 2020
Holiday — No Classes	May 25, 2020
Withdrawal Deadline	June 19, 2020
Holiday — No Classes	July 3, 2020
Last day of Classes	July 28, 2020
Final Exams	July 29–31, 2020
Grades Due	August 7, 2020

Holiday Closings 2019 – 2020 Academic Year		
Independence Day	Thursday & Friday	July 4–5, 2019
Labor Day	Monday	September 2, 2019
Thanksgiving	Thursday & Friday	November 28 – November 29, 2019
Christmas	Tuesday & Wednesday	December 24 – December 25, 2019
New Year’s Day	Tuesday & Wednesday	December 31, 2019 – January 1, 2020
Martin Luther King Day	Monday	January 20, 2020
Good Friday	Friday	April 10, 2020
Memorial Day	Monday	May 25, 2020

Board of Trustees

Mr. Tim Bryant, Radio Broadcasting, Cox Media (June 2021)
 Mr. Blake Giles, (Chair), Retired Reporter (June 2022)
 Mrs. Nanette Heckler, Esq., (June 2021)
 Mr. Mark Johnson, Director of Marketing & Operations, Ambactus Group (December 2021)
 Mrs. Chelsea Mathews, Senior Manager, Golden Pantry Food Stores (June 2022)
 Mrs. Sharon Sanderson (Vice Chair), Retired Business Owner & Analyst (June 2022)
 Mr. Jeff Snowden, (Treasurer), Partner, Snowden-Tatarski (June 2021)
 Col. Mitchell Swan, USMCR (retired), Senior Advisor, Sapphire Wealth Management (June 2021)
 Dr. Marcia Wilbur, (Secretary), ACMin President

Administration & Faculty

President: Dr. Marcia Wilbur

A.B., The University of Michigan
 M.A.C.T., Michigan State University
 Ph.D., The University of Georgia

The Athens College of Ministry President is the Chief Executive and Administrative Officer of the College. The President executes all executive and administrative duties for operation of the College under the direction of the Board of Trustees, including but not limited to:

- Responsible for the organization and administration of the College
- Enforce current policies and make policy recommendations to the Board on all matters pertaining to the College.
- Recommend additions and changes to personnel and personnel policies and oversee employee performance.
- Prepare and administer the approved budget and provide regular financial updates to the Board.
- Oversee ACMin fundraising and campus development efforts.

Chief Academic Officer: Dr. Raymond Morris

B.A., Mercer University
 M.Div., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
 Ed.D., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

The ACMin Chief Academic Officer is responsible for the overall quality and integrity of the academic programs in keeping with the institutional goals and belief statement, for providing leadership toward the achievement of the highest possible level of excellence in the academic activities of the College in

accordance with the institution's mission, vision, and strategic goals. The primary duties of the Chief Academic Officer include but are not limited to:

- Oversee the successful and timely development of all accreditation and state authorization reports.
- Oversee the implementation and collection of data of the ACMin Comprehensive Assessment Plan.
- Oversee the implementation of the College's academic programs and the development of any new programs.
- Manage the maintenance of all departmental and student records.
- Oversee faculty performance and professional development.

Chairman, Christian Ministry Program & Graduate Studies: Dr. Jesse Coyne

B.S., The University of Georgia

M.A.B.S., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Th.M., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Ph.D., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

The Chairman of the Christian Ministry Program works with ACMin Faculty to develop curriculum that equips men and women for biblically-based Christ-centered Ministry. This includes:

- Identify and develop course offerings to fulfill students' academic progress needs.
- Ensure all levels of curriculum development and implementation align with program's learning outcomes.
- Oversee and care for presently enrolled graduate students including academic advising and apprenticeship mentoring.
- Participate on the College's Leadership Team.
- Teach one to two courses per semester.
- Oversee the implementation and data collection for the ACMin Comprehensive Assessment Plan
- Oversee the writing of the yearly ACMin Comprehensive Assessment Plan Report
- Oversee the successful and timely development of all accreditation reports.

Director of Student Affairs & Undergraduate Studies: Dr. Kurt Genteman

B.S., The University of Illinois

M.B.A., Georgia State University

M.P.A., Georgia State University

D.Min., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

The Director of Student Affairs oversees and administrates all student admissions, activities, discipleship and care of students at Athens College of Ministry including responsibilities for:

- Identify and develop course offerings to fulfill students' academic progress needs.
- Ensure all levels of curriculum development and implementation align with program's learning outcomes.
- Oversee and care for presently enrolled undergraduate graduate students including academic advising and apprenticeship mentoring.
- Participate on the College's Leadership Team.
- Teach one to two courses per semester.
- Oversee and enhance the College's use of technology for education and communication.
- Oversee the work of the College's Accounting Manager.

Director of Outreach: Mr. Alex Fields

B.A., The University of Georgia

Master's Certificate, Columbia International University

M.A., Columbia International University (in progress)

The Director of Outreach is responsible for providing leadership toward the successful accomplishment of the college's externally-facing activities including community-wide events, local outreach, and international missions strategies. Specific duties include:

- Oversee the planning, marketing, and successful operations of ACMin's key community events.
- Effectively recruit and involve a diversity of local churches and business sponsors in ACMin community events.
- Represent ACMin to the local community of missions and service organizations.
- Serve as the liaison between ACMin students and missions organizations for the purpose of their Faith-in-Action apprenticeships.
- Oversee the planning of an annual missions trip and symposium for ACMin students and surrounding community.
- Participate in ACMin Leadership Team activities.
- Assist with ACMin fundraising, development, and vision casting efforts as appropriate.

Library Specialist: Ms. Ashton Hedrick

B.B.A., The University of Georgia

M.L.I.S., Valdosta State University (December 2019)

The Library Specialist supports the students, faculty, and staff with academic resources, both hard copy and electronic resources that support the mission of the College and broadens users' personal spiritual growth. The Library Specialist also assists faculty in seeking appropriate resources to support the syllabus and class assignments and offers class research sessions developed along with faculty to meet specific course research needs.

Academic Dean Committee

This Committee is comprised of respected local Christian leaders with doctorate-level credentials from respected theological institutions. Their charge is to review all ACMin Course Syllabi, ensuring that the course content aligns with our Belief Statement and the ACMin Educational Goals.

Dr. Dan Dunn

B.A., Oral Roberts University
M.Div., Candler School of Theology
Ph.D., Asbury Theological Seminary

Dr. Lee Mason

B.B.A., The University of Georgia
M.B.S., Reformed Theological Seminary
D.Min., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Dr. Jesse Coyne

B.S., The University of Georgia
M.A., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Th.M., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Ph.D., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Carlos Sibley

B.S., Auburn University
M.Div., Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary
D.Min., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Adjunct Faculty (Part-time)

Rev. Leland Arney (Biblical Studies)

B.A., Malone University
M.A., Ashland Theological Seminary

Dr. Dan Dunn (Evangelism)

B.A., Oral Roberts University
M.Div., Candler School of Theology
Ph.D., Asbury Theological Seminary

Dr. David Holt (Biblical Studies)

B.B.A., The University of Georgia
M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
Th.M., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
D.Min., Trinity International University

Mrs. Phyllis Kiser (Care & Counseling)

B.S., North Georgia College & State University
M.B.A., Georgia College
M.A., Asbury University

Mrs. Cindy Mackey (Care & Counseling)

B.S., The University of Georgia
M.B.S. Christian Leadership University

Dr. Douglas Bailey (General Education)

B.S., The University of Georgia
M.S., Purdue University
Ph.D., Purdue University

Rev. Dr. Ross Johns (Greek)

B.R.E., William Tyndale College
M.A., Eastern Michigan University
Th.B., American Baptist College
M.Div., Candler School of Theology

Rev. Josh Jones (Christian Studies)

B.A., Trinity Baptist College
Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary

Mr. Michael Millier (Hebrew)

B.S., Toccoa Falls Bible College
M.A., Jerusalem University

Rev. Steve Smith (Christian Studies)

B.A., Biola University
M.A., Talbot Seminary

Admissions Information

Students interested in enrolling at the Athens College of Ministry should visit <https://acmin.org/Admissions> for complete information about the admissions process, admissions requirements, and to complete the online Admissions Application. Follow the steps below to get started. Contact the Office of Admissions at 706-769-1472 or acmininfo@acmin.org with any questions.

Admissions Deadlines

Fall July 1
Spring November 15
Summer April 1

(Contact acmininfo@acmin.org to apply after admissions deadline has passed.)

Steps to Admission

Step 1. Visit <https://acmin.org/Admissions> to complete the online Admissions Application including the Personal Statement of Faith and the application fee of \$35. Detailed instructions for completing the application portfolio are found online.

Step 2. Request all official transcripts be mailed directly to the Athens College of Ministry at PO Box 7953, Athens, GA 30604.

- Incoming undergraduates and undergraduate transfer students with fewer than 30 hours of credit must send official high school transcripts.
- Incoming undergraduate transfer students and graduate students must send official college transcripts from ALL institutions attended.

Step 3. Request that two letters of recommendation be submitted via the online Admissions Application (follow online instructions). One Letter of Recommendation should be faith-based, the other should address the applicant's intellectual ability to be successful in a college-level ministry preparation program. Recommenders must have known the applicant for a minimum of one year.

Step 4. Undergraduate students must request that official test scores be sent directly to the Athens College of Ministry. Incoming undergraduates and undergraduate transfer students with fewer than 30 hours of credit must send SAT or ACT scores.

The Designated Institution (DI) Codes for ACMin are:

ACT: 0675

SAT: 7066

AP: 7066

Notification

Students will be notified by email when their Application for Admission and Application Fee have been received. Students will receive a second email notification when their application portfolio is complete. An admission decision will be made within 30 days after the portfolio is complete.

Admissions Requirements

Applicants for freshman admission must be graduates of accredited high schools*. Freshman applicants are required to submit official college entrance examination scores. Minimum scores for full admission are one of the following:

- 480 Critical Reading and 460 Math on the SAT
- 21 English and 19 Mathematics on the ACT

Undergraduate transfer students with fewer than 30 credits must meet freshman admissions requirements. Undergraduate transfer students with 30 credits or more must have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Applicants for graduate admission must have completed an undergraduate degree at the bachelor's level from an accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

***Special cases.** If you have any questions about your transcripts, test scores, were home schooled, or have any unique circumstances, please contact the Athens College of Ministry Office of Admissions to determine the necessary admissions documentation. Students who graduated from high school more than five years prior to application may not be required to take the ACT or SAT exams if those exams were not taken previously.

Ability-to-Benefit

The Athens College of Ministry may admit students who do not meet the minimum academic requirements if a student demonstrates both the interest and the ability to succeed at the institution (e.g., students' poor grades at a prior institution were the result of a significant life challenge, etc.). In the case of such students, additional letters of recommendation may be required. Such students may be admitted under academic probation and will be required to demonstrate an average G.P.A. of 3.0 or greater at the conclusion of the first 30 credit hours of study. The decision to admit students under academic probation is made in collaboration with the Admissions Office and the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Director of Graduate Studies as appropriate. For students admitted under academic probation:

- A notice of their probationary status will be made in the student's online profile for the purpose of alerting faculty.
- Faculty must notify the student's Academic Advisor if at any point their course work drops below a "C" level of performance.
- These students must meet with their Academic Advisor twice per semester to check on their success and to provide suggestions for improving performance as needed.

Transfer of Credits

At the discretion of the Office of Admissions, Athens College of Ministry may accept transfer credits from accredited colleges and universities as follows:

- up to 30 semester hours for incoming undergraduate transfer students who intend to complete an associate's degree;
- up to 60 semester hours for incoming undergraduate transfer students who intend to complete a bachelor's degree; and
- up to 15 semester hours for incoming graduate transfer students who intend to complete a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry.
- Transfer credits are not accepted for students who intend to complete the 30-credit hour programs of the Certificate in Christian Ministry or the Master of Arts in Christian Leadership.

Transfer credits may not be added to a student's academic record until the Athens College of Ministry's Registrar has received official copies of transcripts from the institutions attended. Credits considered for transfer should have been earned within ten years prior to the date of admission and will only be granted for coursework receiving a grade of "C" (or the equivalent) or higher. Decisions to count transfer credits toward ACMin program requirements will be made by the heads of the Graduate Studies and Undergraduate Studies programs respectively. Credits that do not fulfill ACMin program requirements may be accepted as elective credits. Exceptions and appeals to the above-stated policies may be made to the ACMin Chief Academic Officer.

Transfer Credits from a Non-accredited Institution. On some occasions, the Chief Academic Officer may approve transfer credits from a non-accredited institution, provided that the character and reputation of the institution is on par with institutions that offer similar programs. Students seeking approval from non-accredited institutions will be asked to provide some or all of the following information:

- History and mission of the institution attended;
- Description of courses studied; and
- Instructor credentials.

Credit by Examination. Undergraduate students may receive credit by examination from approved sources (e.g., Advanced Placement, C.L.E.P., etc.). All credit awarded by examination, on the basis of certificates, or by assessment of prior learning, must be within the guidelines of the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), and documented in students' files by official records from the credit-granting agency. Credits that do not fulfill ACMin program requirements may be accepted as elective credits. Credit by examination or prior learning (except graduate-level transfer credit as described above) is not awarded at the graduate level.

Prior-Learning Credits (PLCs). Students with extensive work experience and training, who can demonstrate and document learning that corresponds to specific learning outcomes of ACMin courses, can apply for PLCs through a portfolio process.

Advanced Standing. Students who have graduated from an accredited undergraduate institution of similar theological background within the last five years and have earned at least a "B" in equivalent courses have the opportunity to enter a master's degree program with advanced standing.

Students seeking information about transferring credits to or from the Athens College of Ministry and another institution should contact the Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Ray Morris, (rmorris@acmin.org) for advice and information.

Deferred Admission/Enrollment

Admitted students may decide to suspend enrollment in ACMin for a period of up to two consecutive terms. After two terms of suspended enrollment, students must re-enroll or their status will be changed to inactive. Once a student reaches inactive status, he or she will no longer have access to ACMin student privileges until a new Application for Admission has been received. Exceptions may be made by the President.

Equal Opportunity & Diversity Policy

The Athens College of Ministry is dedicated to the principle of equal opportunity—its programs, services, and policies are guided by that principle. The Athens College of Ministry will engage in a personal, individualized review of applicants' files giving full consideration to the ways in which the applicant might contribute to the Athens College of Ministry's environment. No policy, either explicitly or implicitly, will lead to automatic acceptance or rejection of students or faculty based on any specific diversity consideration including race, sex, and national origin.

Financial Information

Tuition & Fees

The cost to attend the Athens College of Ministry is reasonably priced as compared to similar institutions.

- Tuition cost is \$295.00 per credit hour.
- Deadlines for tuition payment are listed for each semester on the **Academic Calendar**.
- Students will need to purchase appropriate books and materials for their program.
- Graduation Fee is \$100.

Please direct any questions about tuition to acmininfo@acmin.org or call 706-769-1472.

Financial Aid

Students with financial need may apply for a Need-based Scholarship to be applied to the cost of tuition. Students can also consider participating in a Work-Study Program. **Incoming students must have fully completed the application process and been accepted before scholarship applications will be considered.** Enrolled students may apply for Need-based Scholarship any semester that they are enrolled. The Need-based Scholarship application may be downloaded at:

<https://acmin.org/Tuition-and-Financial-Aid-2>.

Scholarship Application Deadlines (No exceptions)

Fall	July 1
Spring	November 15
Summer	April 1

ACMin does not currently participate in federal student loan programs and discourages students from incurring debt to complete their ministry studies. Please direct any questions about financial aid to acmininfo@acmin.org or call 706-769-1472.

Refund Policy

Certificate & Degree Courses

Certificate and degree students can receive a refund for course load reduction on or before the final published date of the drop/add period at the beginning of each semester (see the **ACMin Academic Calendar**). Students who drop one or more courses, thereby creating a course load reduction after the drop/add period, are not eligible for any refund. Students who officially withdraw from the College before 50% of the course meetings have occurred may receive a refund amount based on a pro rata percentage determined by dividing the number of course meeting days in the semester that the student completed by the total course meeting days in the semester. The unused portion will be refunded up to the point in time that the amount equals 50%. Students who withdraw enrollment from the institution when the calculated percentage of completion is greater than 50% are not entitled to any refund. Students suspended for disciplinary reasons are not entitled to any refunds. Refund by check will be mailed within 30 days of the official action. Exceptions to the above policy may be made by the Chief Academic Officer in the event of significant extenuating circumstances such as accident or illness.

Refund Policy for Payments by Credit Card

All refunds for tuition and registration fee payments made electronically by credit or debit card are subject a 5% refund processing fee.

Academic Information

Educational Goals

Upon completion of their respective academic programs, ACMin students will:

1. Demonstrate an appropriate depth of biblical knowledge and understanding necessary for fulfilling their ministry role as well the ability to continue to grow in biblical knowledge and understanding;
2. Demonstrate strong evidence of a growing personal relationship with Christ through prayer, biblical studies, and worship;
3. Clearly articulate their personal call to ministry and demonstrate an understanding of how to apply the unique talents and spiritual gifts they possess in order to be successful in that calling;
4. Exhibit strong, effective servant leadership skills appropriate for their chosen area of ministry;
5. Possess the specialized knowledge related to their degree program area and demonstrate the ability to apply that knowledge for effective ministry to people;
6. Exhibit: a) a desire to serve others, b) Godly humility, c) the ability to rely on God rather than self for ministry success; and d) a healthy understanding and application of self-care in order to avoid burnout.

Graduation Requirements

In order for students to qualify for graduation from ACMin, the following requirements must have been met:

- The appropriate number of credits earned in each department (Christian Core, Distribution, Major Area, Faith-in-Action, and Electives) per the program requirements as well as the total number of required credits for the degree earned.
- No grade of less than a 2.0 for any course in the Major Area and an overall GPA of no less than 2.0.
- Per semester service hours have been served and appropriately documented.
- All tuition and fees paid in full; required number of work-study hours have been served.
- The semester prior to the anticipated graduation date, a graduation audit will be conducted to ensure that all requirements have been met.

*Any exceptions to the above stated Graduation Requirements policy must be approved in writing by the Undergraduate or Graduate Program Chairs and the Chief Academic Officer.

Definition of a Credit Hour

The Athens College of Ministry operates on a traditional 15-week semester calendar, offering some courses during shortened or intensive time periods. In all cases, one credit hour is the equivalent of 15 hours of classroom instruction. Undergraduate students should expect an average of 60–90 minutes of study time per week for each credit hour in which they are enrolled. Graduate students should expect 90–120 minutes of study time per week for each credit hour in which they are enrolled.

Student Status

Undergraduate students who study 12 credit hours or more per semester are considered full-time. Those who study fewer than 12 credit hours are considered part-time.

Graduate students who study 9 credit hours or more per semester are considered full-time. Those who study fewer than 9 credit hours are considered part-time. Graduate students who are enrolled in at least 3 credit hours for the master's thesis or for apprenticeship (FIA) courses are also considered full-time.

Grading Scale

A	93% – 100%
A -	90% – 92%
B+	87% – 89%
B	83% – 86%
B-	80% – 82%
C+	77% – 79%
C	73% – 76%
C-	70% – 72%
D	65% – 69%
F	Below 65%

When a student's final grade has a fractional percentage of .5 or greater, the final grade will be rounded up to the next whole number and the corresponding letter grade assigned to the student's transcript.

Writing Proficiency & Remediation Program

1. All newly enrolled undergraduate and graduate students are required to take the ACMin Writing Skills Assessment. Students who do not demonstrate proficiency in writing skills through the assessment will be required to enroll in one or more remediation strategies.
2. Four writing remediation strategies are available:
 - a. A three-hour writing seminar (offered at the beginning of each semester)
 - b. An on-line self-study writing skills course
 - c. Weekly sessions with an ACMin writing tutor as a required 1-credit Writing Skills course
 - d. Graduate Students may be required to enroll in English Composition if their writing skills do not improve as a result of the Writing Skills course.

One or more strategies will be assigned based on the writing assessment results and the perceived degree of remediation needed. Fees will be charged for remediation strategies based upon the extent of services provided. Remediation strategies/courses may not be used to earn credits for graduation requirements.

3. Academic Advisors will monitor the participation and progress of students who have been assigned to writing remediation services.
4. All undergraduate students are required to take English Composition 101 at its earliest offering.
5. Graduate students who are deemed by course instructors to be in need of writing remediation may also be required to participate in one or more writing remediation strategies, including enrollment in the English Composition course.
6. Instructors may choose to refer students to the writing remediation program when they identify a substantive deficiency in writing skills. Referrals will be made through an individual student's Academic Advisor.

Throughout students' coursework, if any assignment is submitted with a clear lack of effort in the area of spell-check, grammar check, and/or appropriate citations, students will be notified that the assignment cannot be graded. Students will be given 3 to 5 additional days to re-submit the assignment to provide appropriate care to the writing standards, noting that there will be an automatic 10% grade reduction.

Academic Probation

Students will be placed on academic probation at the end of any semester when their cumulative GPA falls below 2.0. Students on academic probation are required to meet monthly with the head of the Undergraduate or Graduate Studies program, respectively until the GPA has recovered. Academic probation ends after any semester in which the cumulative GPA is equal to or greater than 2.0. Students on academic probation must improve their cumulative GPA to 2.0 or above within the next 30 credit hours of study or they will be dismissed from the Athens College of Ministry without further opportunity to finish their studies at this institution.

*Any exceptions to the above stated Academic Probation policy must be approved in writing by the Undergraduate or Graduate Program Chairs and the Chief Academic Officer.

Undergraduate Program Requirements

Christian Core Requirements for All Undergraduate Programs

All certificate and degree programs require that students complete Christian Core requirements, courses designed to equip head and heart with the biblical truths found in the **Athens College of Ministry Belief Statement**. Christian Core courses are also designed to equip students with the tools to effectively engage in further Bible study. Students must either complete the Christian Core coursework before beginning other degree coursework or, if approved by an academic advisor, may finish the Christian Core while pursuing other coursework. Faith-in-Action apprenticeships may only be assigned after completing the Christian Core requirements.

CHRISTIAN CORE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS		
Title	Number	Credits
Old Testament Survey	BS 101	4
New Testament Survey	BS 102	3
Foundations of Faith	CS 101	3
His Creation: Talents & Spiritual Gifts	CS 102	2
Prayer & Spiritual Direction	CS 103	3
The Great Commission: Evangelism	CS 201	3
The Great Commission: Discipleship	CS 202	3
Total Christian Core Credits		21

Certificate in Christian Ministry Program

Program Objectives — Undergraduate Certificate in Christian Ministry

1. To equip men and women with an abiding surrendered personal relationship with the Lord.
2. To equip men and women with the biblical knowledge, understanding, and interpretation skills necessary to represent Christ well in their circles of influence.
3. To equip men and women to effectively integrate evangelism and discipleship into any career area.
4. To equip men and women for effective, biblically-based, Spirit-led lay ministry and servant leadership.

Courses in the Undergraduate Certificate Program are offered such that students who study 15 credit hours per semester may finish the program in 2 semesters.

Required Coursework	Credits
Christian Core	21
Concentration Major	3
Faith-in-Action	6
Total Required Credits	30

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY MAJOR AREA COURSES — CERTIFICATE	
Students must take at least 3 credits in an area of concentration:	
Area	Credits
<i>Christian Studies</i>	
<i>Care & Counseling</i>	
<i>Education</i>	
<i>Field Ministry</i>	
<i>Generational Ministry</i>	
<i>Global Leadership</i>	
<i>Worship Arts</i>	
Total Major Area Credits	3

FAITH-IN-ACTION COURSEWORK — CERTIFICATE		
Title	Number	Credits
Case Studies in Ministry	FIA 201*	3
Apprenticeship in Action	FIA 250	3
Total Faith-in-Action Credits		6

**FIA 201 is a prerequisite for all FIA apprenticeships.*

Associate of Arts in Christian Ministry

Program Objectives — Associate of Arts in Christian Ministry

1. To equip men and women with an abiding, surrendered, personal relationship with the Lord.
2. To equip men and women with the biblical knowledge, understanding, and interpretation skills necessary to represent Christ well in their circles of influence.
3. To equip men and women to effectively integrate evangelism and discipleship into any career area.
4. To equip men and women for effective, biblically-based, Spirit-led servant leadership as an assistant in church and/or para-church ministry.

Courses in the Associate's Degree Program are offered such that students who study 15 credit hours per semester may finish the program in 4 semesters.

Required Coursework	Credits
Christian Core	21
Distribution Requirements (Science, Mathematics, Humanities)	18
Concentration Major	15
Faith-in-Action	6
Total Required Credits*	60

**Students may transfer up to 30 credits from an accredited post-secondary institution. Transfer credits subject to approval by ACMin Admissions.*

Distribution Requirements* — Associate's Degree	Credits
English Composition	3
Foreign Language or Biblical Language	6
Mathematics	3
Science	3
Literature, Psychology, Music, Art, or Other Humanities	3
Total Required Credits	18

** Students may accomplish core distribution requirements in mathematics, science, and humanities through transfer credit and/or through credit by examination (Advanced Placement, CLEP, etc.).*

Associate's in Christian Ministry — Concentration Major Courses

ACM — CHRISTIAN STUDIES		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take either:		3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 6 credits of Christian Studies (CS) courses		6
Total Major Area Credits		15

ACM — CARE & COUNSELING		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		9
Psychology & Theology	CC 301	3
Introduction to Care & Counseling Ministry	CC 304	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take at least 6 additional credits of Care & Counseling (CC) courses		6
Total Major Area Credits		15

ACM — FIELD MINISTRY		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take either:		3
Perspectives on World Missions	FM 301	3
Theology of Missions	FM 302	3
World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry	FM 310	3
Students must take either:		3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take 3 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Field Ministry (FM) Courses		6
Total Major Area Credits		15

ACM — GENERATIONAL MINISTRY		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		6
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
Psychology & Theology	CC 301	3
Students must take either:		3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take at least 6 additional credits of Generational Ministry (GM) or Education (ED) Courses		6
Total Major Area Credits		15

ACM — WORSHIP ARTS		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		6
Biblical Foundations of Worship	BS 375	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
Students must take 3 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Worship Arts (WA) Courses		6
Total Major Area Credits		15

ACM — GLOBAL LEADERSHIP		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		9
Personal Spiritual Formation	CS 403	3
Servant Leadership & Change	LS 371	3
The Dynamics of Leadership	LS 412	3
Students must take either:		3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take either:		3
Perspectives on World Missions	FM 301	3
World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry	FM 310	3
Total Major Area Credits		15

FAITH-IN-ACTION COURSEWORK — ASSOCIATE'S		
Title	Number	Credits
Case Studies in Ministry	FIA 201*	3
Apprenticeship in Action	FIA 250	3
Total Faith-in-Action Credits		6

**FIA 201 is a prerequisite for all FIA apprenticeships*

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry

Program Objectives — Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry

1. To equip men and women with an abiding, surrendered, personal relationship with the Lord.
2. To equip men and women with the biblical knowledge, understanding, and interpretation skills necessary to represent Christ well in their circles of influence.
3. To equip men and women to effectively integrate evangelism and discipleship into ministry and to equip others to do the same.
4. To equip men and women for effective, biblically-based, Spirit-led, servant leadership in Christian Ministry as well as Christian education, missions, or other similar settings.
5. To equip men and women for ordination in some denominations.

Courses in the Bachelor's Degree Program are offered such that students who study 15 credit hours per semester may finish the program in 8 semesters.

Overview: Required Courses	Credits
Christian Core	21
Distribution Requirements (Science, Mathematics, Humanities)	36
Concentration Major	36
Faith-in-Action	15
Electives (Additional Christian Studies or Biblical Studies courses)	12
Total Required Credits*	120

**Students may transfer up to 60 credits from an accredited post-secondary institution. Transfer credits subject to approval by ACMin Admissions.*

Distribution Requirements* — Bachelor's Degree	Credits
English Composition	3
Foreign Language or Biblical Language	6
Mathematics	3
Literature, Psychology, Music, Art, or Other Humanities	21
Science	3
Total Required Credits	36

**Students may accomplish core distribution requirements in mathematics, science, and humanities through transfer credit and/or through credit by examination (Advanced Placement, CLEP, etc.).*

Bachelor's in Christian Ministry — Concentration Major Courses

BACM — CHRISTIAN STUDIES		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		12
Systematic Theology	BS 350	3
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take 6 credits of the same biblical language:		6
Old Testament Hebrew I & II	BL 310, BL 311	6
New Testament Greek I & II	BL 350, BL 351	6
Students must take 6 at least credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 12 additional credits of Christian Studies (CS) or Biblical Studies (BS) courses		12
Total Major Area Credits		36

BACM — CARE & COUNSELING		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		15
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
Psychology & Theology	CC 301	3
Introduction to Care & Counseling Ministry	CC 304	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take either:		3
Biblical Foundations of Prayer Ministry	CC 320	3
Effective Prayer Ministry Tools	CC 330	3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 12 additional credits of Care & Counseling (CC) courses		15
Total Major Area Credits		36

BACM — FIELD MINISTRY		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		12
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Theology of Missions	FM 302	3
Students must take either:		3
Perspectives on World Missions	FM 301	3
World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry	FM 310	3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 15 additional credits of Field Ministry (FM) courses		15
Total Major Area Credits		36

BACM — GENERATIONAL MINISTRY		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		15
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
The Art & Science of Teaching	ED 402	3
Psychology & Theology	CC 301	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 15 additional credits of Generational Ministry (GM) or Education (ED) Courses		15
Total Major Area Credits		36

BACM — WORSHIP ARTS		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		15
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
Biblical Foundations of Worship	BS 375	3
The Dynamics of Leadership	LS 412	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 15 additional credits of Worship Arts (WA) Courses		15
Total Major Area Credits		36

BACM — GLOBAL LEADERSHIP		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		18
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
Personal Spiritual Formation	CS 403	3
Servant Leadership & Change	LS 371	3
The Dynamics of Leadership	LS 412	3
Students must take either:		3

Perspectives on World Missions	FM 301	3
World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry	FM 310	3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 9 additional credits of leadership related courses		9
Total Major Area Credits		36

BACM — CHRISTIAN EDUCATION		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		27
Inductive Bible Study	BS 351	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 351	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 352	3
An Introduction to Christian Education	ED 300	3
Christian Philosophy of Education	ED 301	3
Reading Instruction	ED 303	3
Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment	ED 400	3
The Art & Science of Teaching	ED 402	3
Personal Spiritual Formation	ED 403	3
Students must take at least 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 3 additional credits of Education (ED) courses		3
Total Major Area Credits		36

Elective Courses — Bachelor's Degree	Credits
Total Elective Credits	12

FAITH-IN-ACTION COURSEWORK — BACHELOR'S DEGREE		
Title	Number	Credits
Case Studies in Ministry (Required)	FIA 201*	3
FIA Concentration Area Credits**		12
Total Faith-in-Action Credits		15

**FIA 201 is a prerequisite for all other FIA courses*

***FIA apprenticeships may be repeated across semesters until the requirement has been met.*

Graduate Program Requirements

Christian Core Requirements for Graduate Students

The master-level program in Christian Ministry requires that students complete Christian Core requirements, courses designed to equip head and heart with the biblical truths found in the **Athens College of Ministry Belief Statement**. Christian Core courses are also designed to equip students with the tools to effectively engage in further Bible study. Christian Core requirements for graduate students may be modified based on previous coursework. Students must either complete the Christian Core coursework before beginning other degree coursework or, if approved by an academic advisor, may finish the Christian Core while pursuing other coursework. Faith-in-Action apprenticeships may only be assigned after completing the Christian Core requirements.

CHRISTIAN CORE COURSES — MASTER'S DEGREE		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		
His Creation: Talents & Spiritual Gifts	CS 502	2
Old Testament Survey	BS 501	4
New Testament Survey	BS 502	3
Prayer & Spiritual Direction	CS 503	3
The Great Commission: Evangelism	CS 504	3
The Great Commission: Discipleship	CS 505	3
Total Christian Core Credits		18

Master of Arts in Christian Leadership

Program Objectives — Master of Arts in Christian Leadership

1. To equip men and women with an abiding surrendered personal relationship with the Lord.
2. To equip men and women with the biblical knowledge, understanding, and interpretation skills necessary to represent Christ well in their circles of influence.
3. To equip men and women to effectively integrate evangelism and discipleship into ministry and to equip others to do the same.
4. To equip men and women for effective, biblically-based, Spirit-led, servant leadership in a career area as well as Christian education, missions, or other similar settings.
5. To equip men and women for ordination in some denominations.

Courses in the Master of Arts in Christian Leadership Program are offered such that students who study 15 credit hours per semester may finish the program in 2 semesters.

Required Coursework	Credits
Christian Core	18
Concentration Major	9
Faith-in-Action	3
Total Required Credits	30

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP MAJOR AREA COURSES — MASTER’S DEGREE		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		6
Servant Leadership & Change	LS 571	3
The Dynamics of Leadership	LS 612	3
Students must take at least 3 credits of:		6
Personal Spiritual Formation	CS 403	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 551	3
Psychology & Theology	CC 501	3
Christian Entrepreneurship	FM 612	3
Total Major Area Credits		9

FAITH-IN-ACTION COURSEWORK — MASTER’S DEGREE		
Title	Number	Credits
Case Studies in Ministry	FIA 501	3
Total Faith-in-Action Credits		3

Master of Arts in Christian Ministry

Program Objectives — Master of Arts in Christian Ministry

1. To equip men and women with an abiding, surrendered, personal relationship with the Lord.
2. To equip men and women with the biblical knowledge, understanding, and interpretation skills necessary to represent Christ well in their circles of influence.
3. To equip men and women to effectively integrate evangelism and discipleship into ministry and to equip others to do the same.
4. To equip men and women for effective, biblically-based, Spirit-led, servant leadership in Christian Ministry as well as Christian education, missions, or other similar settings.
5. To equip men and women for ordination in some denominations.

Courses in the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry program are offered such that students who study 15 credit hours per semester may finish the program in 4 semesters.

Required Coursework	Credits
Christian Core	18
Concentration Major	24
Biblical Language or Elective Credits*	6
Faith-in-Action	9
Master's Thesis or Capstone Project	3
Total Required Credits**	60

**Christian Studies majors are required to take 6 credits of biblical languages.*

***Students may transfer up to 15 credits from an accredited post-secondary institution. Transfer credits subject to approval by ACMin Admissions.*

Master's in Christian Ministry — Concentration Major Courses

MACM — CHRISTIAN STUDIES		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		9
Systematic Theology	BS 550	3
Inductive Bible Study	BS 551	3
Church History	CS 531	3
Students must take either:		3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 551	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 552	3
Students must take 6 credits of the same biblical language:		6
Old Testament Hebrew I & II	BL 510, BL 511	6
New Testament Greek I & II	BL 550, BL 551	6
Students must take at least 6 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		6
Students must take at least 6 additional credits of Christian Studies (CS) courses		6
Total Major Area Credits		30

MACM — CARE & COUNSELING		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		12
Inductive Bible Study	BS 551	3
Psychology & Theology	CC 501	3
Introduction to Care & Counseling Ministry	CC 504	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 552	3
Students must take either:		3
Biblical Foundations for Prayer Ministry	CC 520	3
Effective Prayer Ministry Tools	CC 530	3
Students must take at least 9 additional credits of Care & Counseling (CC) courses		9
Total Major Area Credits		24

MACM — FIELD MINISTRY		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		6
Foundations of Faith	CS 501	3
Theology of Missions	FM 502	3
Students must take either:		3
Perspectives on World Missions	FM 501	3
World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry	FM 510	3
Students must take either:		3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 551	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 552	3
Students must take at least 3 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		3
Students must take at least 9 additional credits of Field Ministry (FM) Courses		9
Total Major Area Credits		24

MACM — GENERATIONAL MINISTRY		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		12
Foundations of Faith	CS 501	3
The Art & Science of Teaching	ED 602	3
Psychology & Theology	CC 501	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 552	3
Students must take at least 3 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		3
Students must take at least 9 additional credits of Generational Ministry (GM) or Education (ED) Courses		9
Total Major Area Credits		24

MACM — WORSHIP ARTS		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		12
Foundations of Faith	CS 501	3
Biblical Foundations of Worship	BS 575	3
The Dynamics of Leadership	LS 612	3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 551	3
Students must take at least 3 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		3
Students must take at least 9 additional credits of Worship Arts (WA) Courses		9
Total Major Area Credits		24

MACM — GLOBAL LEADERSHIP		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		12
Foundations of Faith	CS 501	3
Personal Spiritual Formation	CS 603	3
Servant Leadership & Change	LS 571	3
The Dynamics of Leadership	LS 612	3
Students must take either:		3
Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ	CS 551	3
God's Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 552	3
Students must take either:		3
Perspectives on World Missions	FM 501	3

World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry	FM 510	3
Students must take at least 3 credits of Biblical Studies (BS) courses		3
Students must take at least 3 additional credits of leadership related courses		3
Total Major Area Credits		24

MACM — CHRISTIAN EDUCATION		
Title	Number	Credits
Students must take:		18
God’s Design for Sexual Wholeness	CC 552	3
An Introduction to Christian Education	ED 500	3
Christian Philosophy of Education	ED 501	3
Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment	ED 600	3
The Art & Science of Teaching	ED 602	3
Personal Spiritual Formation	ED 603	3
Students must take at least 6 additional credits of Education (ED) courses*		6
Total Major Area Credits		24

**Students wishing to qualify for ACSI certification must take 1 additional Education course*

FAITH-IN-ACTION COURSEWORK — MASTER’S DEGREE		
Title	Number	Credits
Case Studies in Ministry	FIA 501*	3
FIA Concentration Area Credits**		6
Total Faith-in-Action Credits		9

**FIA 501 is a prerequisite for all other FIA courses*

***FIA apprenticeships may be repeated across semesters in one or more areas until credit requirement has been met.*

Master’s Thesis Guidelines

The purpose of the master’s thesis is to provide graduate students with an opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of Christian theology, ministry, or history and to grow through the Thesis experience in the capacity to research, analyze, and communicate ideas.

Procedure

1. Prior to two semesters before graduation, student will select a potential topic of research and be assigned a faculty member as the Thesis Mentor.
2. The student and faculty mentor will outline a plan of study and research (i.e., readings, qualitative inquiry, historical archival research, etc.)

3. The research topic and plan of action will be presented to the Chair of the Christian Ministry Program for feedback and approval.
4. The work to study, research, analyze and compose the Thesis will take place over two semesters:
 - a. Semester A (2 credits) will be comprised of study and research. All students beginning the master's thesis project will meet for 6–8 hours (times to be arranged) with the ACMin Library Specialist for advanced training in scholarly research. The student and faculty mentor will subsequently meet at least once per month to discuss ongoing progress and set milestones.
 - b. Semester B (1 credit) the student will synthesize the study and research into a written Thesis of 25–40 pages in length. Scholarly citations are expected. The thesis will be presented to an audience of the faculty mentor, at least one Academic Dean, and invited guests from among other faculty, students, and staff.

Grading

The master's thesis will receive a grade of Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory by the faculty mentor. Additional work on an unsatisfactory thesis project may be required. Satisfactory thesis completion is required for graduation with a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry.

Faith-in-Action Apprenticeship Guidelines

Program Objectives

The objective of the Faith-in-Action (FIA) Apprenticeship program requirement is to prepare students to be successful in ministry by providing a mentored, hands-on, applied learning opportunity for them to:

1. Effectively serve in Christ's Kingdom.
2. Apply classroom knowledge to practical ministry situations.
3. Grow in experience and maturity in their chosen area of ministry.

Program Requirements

All ACMin students are required to complete the Case Studies in Ministry course (3 credits) and their Christian Core courses prior to beginning their apprenticeship experiences. The number of additional, on-site FIA credits varies by degree program as follows:

- Undergraduate Certificate — 3 credits
- Associate of Arts in Christian Ministry — 3 credits
- Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry — 15 credits
- Master of Arts in Christian Leadership — n/a
- Master of Arts in Christian Ministry — 6 credits

Student Placement into FIA Sites

All apprenticeship experiences must be approved in advance by the Athens College of Ministry. Seeing how ministry works in a variety of church, community, and missions settings serves to build our students' effective platform for ministry. For that reason, to the greatest extent possible, students are expected to apprentice in at least two different ministry sites that are not the student's home church setting. Bachelor's level students may apprentice in their home churches for one semester as a third apprenticeship opportunity.

Getting Started

ACMin students interested in earning apprenticeship credits should complete the FIA Apprenticeship Application and return it to the Undergraduate or Graduate Program Chairs at least 6 weeks prior to the start of the semester during which the credits will be earned.

An ACMin faculty member, the student, and the on-site apprenticeship mentor will meet in person (or via Skype if distance makes an in-person meeting not feasible) to co-develop the objectives specific to the student's ministry preparation curriculum. The ACMin faculty member will have primary responsibility for the drafting and final approval of the objectives as well as for determining if the objectives have been met.

General Guidelines

One semester credit of apprenticeship is the equivalent of 25 hours of service and 5 hours of study, journaling, and reflection. Included in the 25 hours of service are the requisite, regular coaching meetings with the on-site mentor.

Prior to the start of the semester, the ACMin Faculty Mentor and student will agree upon a schedule to complete readings and papers, submit regular journal entries, and complete the end-of-semester reflection project.

Grades for the Faith-in-Action Apprenticeship credits are awarded as "P = Satisfactory" or "F = Unsatisfactory." Letter grades are not awarded. Based on the on-site mentor's evaluation, the ACMin Faculty Mentor will create a narrative summary for each of the student's apprenticeship experiences indicating how the objectives for the apprenticeship were met. This narrative summary will become part of the student's academic transcript.

Criminal background checks as required by the on-site hosting organization are the responsibility of that organization.

Guidelines for On-site Mentors

The most important guideline for mentors is to remember that while the ACMIN student apprentice is present to help serve the on-site organization, the most vital part of the experience is the mentorship piece itself. ACMin depends on the mentors to help guide, direct, encourage, and grow our student apprentices toward the accomplishment of the semester's objectives through regularly scheduled interactions with the apprentice.

Mentors are asked to:

- Review and provide feedback on the objectives to be accomplished.
- Establish a regularly scheduled meeting time with the apprentice.
- Attend one virtual or in-person meeting with the ACMIN faculty member prior to the start of the apprenticeship experience.
- Use the meeting times to discuss both the practical aspects of the apprentice's work as well as his or her progress toward the objectives.
- Complete a mid-semester and end-of-semester evaluation of the apprentice including a one-page narrative of the apprentice's progress throughout the semester.

Mentors are encouraged to provide biblical, spiritual mentorship of the ACMin apprentices as well as practical mentorship for the accomplishment of the apprentice's duties.

Guidelines for ACMin Faculty

The ACMin faculty member assigned to oversee the apprenticeship experience is the key connection between the College, the student, the mentor, and the objectives of the apprenticeship experience. The faculty member is expected to:

- Lead the development of the semester's objectives.
- Meet in person or virtually with the mentor prior to the start of the apprenticeship.
- Develop the schedule of assignments and readings for the semester that best support the accomplishment of the objectives.
- Serve as the ACMIN point of contact with the on-site mentor.
- Receive the mentor's reports of student progress.
- Provide feedback to the student on progress throughout the semester.
- Collect evidence that the semester's objectives have been met.
- Assign the final grade for the semester.

Compensation

Host sites are not required to compensate the ACMin student apprentice. However, if possible, on-site host organizations are encouraged to provide an ACMin student apprentice with a small stipend to help him or her offset living expenses as needed during the apprenticeship.

Student Services

Office of Registrar

Following approval of the student application, students will report to the registrar's office. The registrar will set up an account for the student in Populi and appoint an advisor for the student.

Financial Aid Office

Following approval for admission, students will arrange for payment of tuition and fees through the Accounting and Financial Aid Office. Students needing financial assistance should meet with the Financial Aid Officer who will help the student apply for available financial assistance.

Academic Advising

Freshman and transfer students are assigned advisors who help them select their classes and programs. The advisors counsel students concerning academic matters and post-graduation plans. Students may continue under the guidance of their assigned advisor or change to another by formal request. Advisors may also suggest a change. Each student is advised a minimum of two times per year. It is strongly suggested that those students who are not doing well in any of their classes be advised at the mid-term point of the semester. Accurate records should be kept in the student's file of all academic advising sessions between the student and the advisor.

Career and Vocational Advising

Career and vocational counseling are provided to all students through the core course *His Creation*. This course enables students to work toward understanding their God-given calling and to create a plan for how to accomplish it in Christ. Our Faith-in-Action courses and mentoring programs provide additional experience in exploring career pathways. In addition, ACMin does provide a Community Jobs posting page with a listing of open positions, other job sites, and resume-writing tips.

Course Registration Procedure

After the academic advisor has approved a schedule, the student will take the schedule to the Office of the Registrar to be enrolled in the approved course(s). The Registrar will open an academic record for the student and create an account for the student in Populi.

Adding and/or Dropping Courses

The first week of each new semester is the drop/add period for that semester. See the **ACMin Academic Calendar** for the specific dates of the drop/add period. Students who wish to adjust their academic schedule during the drop/add period should contact their academic advisors in order to begin the change process. See the ACMin Refund Policy for the effects of drop/add on students' tuition.

Course Withdrawal

Students registered for a course may withdraw from the course before the end of the drop/add period without any penalty. Students who withdraw from a course after the end of the drop/add period will be classified as "W" (withdrawn) on their transcript for that course. Students wishing to withdraw from a course must fill out a "Withdrawal/Drop/Add form. Forms may be obtained from the College office.

Student Orientation

All students who are newly enrolled at Athens College of Ministry must attend a college orientation meeting. During this meeting the student will be presented information concerning the College's beliefs, practices, procedures, services, and policies.

Library Services

The ACMin library is located in room "H," adjacent to the College office. The library is open from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday and in the evenings during class meeting times. The library will be closed on days when the College is closed for scheduled holidays. The College librarian (or an assistant) will be available to assist students in checking out books and/or finding the resources needed for reading, study, research, and media information.

Through students' Populi accounts, they may browse books available in the ACMin Library and place a hold on a resource. ACMin students also have access to Galileo, the University System of Georgia research database with thousands of online resources. The current password is on file in the library.

Library Research Guidelines

Purpose of Academic Research

Research involves critical thinking. Critical thinking in the college research context may be defined as "exercising or involving careful judgment or judicious evaluation."¹ The ACMin Library is here to serve students to that end.

Identify a Topic

Investigate a problem or area of interest or important to your discipline. Seek help from your instructor, look through handouts, textbooks, and bibliographies, and search the library catalog subject headings to develop a list of "keywords" to help find sources for your research project.

¹ Merriam-Webster.com

Gather Resources

With your topic in hand begin gathering resources.

Primary resources: Primary resources come in many formats. They are generally described as first-hand evidence by a participant or eyewitness at the time that the event took place. These can be diaries, letters, memoirs, autobiographies, newspaper articles (reporting a current event), eyewitness accounts, artistic works, speeches, legal documents, and others. Primary sources enable you to work with the raw material and draw your own conclusions. The important factor here is that a primary source is an “original” record of the event.

Secondary resources: Secondary resources point to and interpret primary resources. These sources address or analyze events, people, works, or topics after the fact. They include journal articles, non-fiction books that explain or are developed around an area present in a primary source, biographies, newspaper articles (reporting on past events), encyclopedias, etc. Secondary sources allow you to broaden your research by providing background information, analyses, and unique perspectives one or more steps removed from an original event or work. An important factor here is that a secondary source is an “after-the-fact” account or analysis of a past event.

Checklist to distinguish primary (P) and secondary (S) resources:

- **Author:** What is the author's relationship to the material or event described? P=an eyewitness account or S=an interpretation of the account
- **Purpose:** What is the purpose of the content? P=first-hand documentation of the event or (S) an analysis of the event from a later time or different cultural context
- **Publication Date:** What is the date of the publication? P=sourced at the time of the event or S=after the event

Evaluate Resources

A reliable source is any source that has competence in the field of interest, with limited biases or conflicts of interest related to the topic. Finding reliable sources is important in order to ensure that what is written or reported is accurate. Understanding the context in which the book was written better assists you to analyze its content and determine if it is a useful resource.

Author: Have you heard of the author before? Has your instructor mentioned the author's name? Is the author affiliated with a college or university or do they have other organizational affiliation? Is the author cited in other books on the subject?

Publisher: Was the resource published by a university press that holds high academic standards? If published by an organizational affiliation is it considered a **reliable source with competence in the field of interest?**

Date of Publication: Check the copyright date for verifying primary or secondary source. If you are researching a “current issue,” you want the most up-to-date sources you can find. Check the date! New evidence can drastically alter previously published arguments or interpretations. If a source was translated, when was it done? If available, choose a source that has been translated from the original into your language.

Websites: Much of the same criteria is used for evaluating websites as for printed text sources. This, however, may be difficult to find. If the website is published by a credible source, it should be listed at the bottom of the front webpage or accessible from a “contact us” or link. If you are in doubt, check with the instructor or librarian.

Journal articles: Journal articles typically meet academic standards and are commonly accessed online. Some databases are provided in CD format accessed through a dedicated computer. *Peer-reviewed* articles are written by experts AND have been reviewed by other experts before the article is allowed to be published. This increases the likelihood of its authoritativeness and accuracy. Some items in peer-reviewed journals, such as editorials, book reviews, and letters to the editor are not typically reviewed for accuracy and may not be accepted by your instructor. Graduate students at ACMin are expected to incorporate peer-reviewed sources in their research projects. (Magazine articles are not typically considered “academic” resources. If you have a question, please consult your instructor.)

Objectivity: After evaluating your source, analyze the text for objectivity. Secondary sources provide interpretations of primary data. Every interpretation is influenced by the author’s context and biases. Find out where the author is coming from and use the evidence accordingly. Using various authors will give you valuable information about the various positions held within the discussion of your topic.

Applicability: After identifying your resources from the above criteria it is time to dig deeper to select those you will use for your research. Look at the table of contents. Does the book cover topics or areas you wish to include in your research? Next, look at the index. This is a wonderful resource for researchers as you can use it to quickly jump to particular passages to test if the topic is well defined and covered. The index can also provide a feel for the authority and scope of the text. If you need further determining information, read the preface and introduction.

A Final Word: A critical researcher regularly considers the purpose of the research: what is supposed to be achieved and why. Without a sense of what you plan to accomplish, you are unlikely to have much success with your research.

Populi

Athens College of Ministry uses a comprehensive and integrative learning management system (LMS) called *Populi*. Once a student is enrolled in the College, a Populi user account will be created for the student. Once created, the student’s Populi account will be used for all financial transactions, registration for classes, maintaining grades and transcripts, library services, and depending upon the preferences of the teacher, the flow management of each course. Instruction for how to use Populi will be provided as part of the student orientation process.

Student Policies & Procedures

Expectations for Christian Conduct

As believers in Christ and leaders in our respective circles of influence, at the Athens College of Ministry we seek to hold each other accountable in community as Christian role models who live according to the standards God established in His Holy Word. We purpose to agree with God's definition of sin and recognize that God hates sin because He loves us. We also realize that only by the power of Christ living in us and by gaining strength from other believers are we able to overcome our personal desires to sin.

As Christians, we express our love to God through our obedience to His direction. And we acknowledge that the conditions of our thoughts and hearts have a direct influence on the type of fruit that others will see in our lives. As members of the ACMin community, we wish to support each other through areas of personal struggle and weakness and to ask God daily to search our hearts and show us any unclean areas so that genuine repentance will become our first reaction whenever the Lord convicts us of sin. Keeping our lives free from sin is the utmost way to ensure that the enemy does not gain a foothold in our lives.

God hates ALL sin because it keeps us separated from Him. Sin is sin, period. Below are biblical examples of what God calls sin. The more familiar you are with God's Word, the better you will understand all the ways that humankind sins against our Holy God.

Examples of sin according to God's Word:

- Lying, deceitfulness (Lev. 19:11; Prov. 12:22; John 8:44)
- Cheating, stealing, taking advantage of others (Lev. 25:17; Ex. 20:15; 1 Thess. 4:6)
- Failure to honor our parents and others (Ex. 20:12; Col. 3:20; Luke 6:31)
- Complaining, grumbling, and arguing (Phil. 2:14; 1 Peter 4:9; Eph. 4:29)
- All forms of sexual intimacy outside the boundaries of marriage between one man and one woman (Gen. 2:4; Ex. 20:14; Heb. 13:4; 1 Cor. 6:9)
- Drunkenness, gluttony, not taking proper care of your physical body—the temple of the Holy Spirit (Col. 3:5; Gal. 5:19–21; 1 Tim. 3:8; 1 Peter 4:3–4)
- All forms of impropriety (1 Thess. 5:21–22)
- Being judgmental (Matt. 7:1–5; Rom. 2:1–3; James 4:11–12)
- Murder, hatred, sowing hatred (Ex. 20:13; 1 John 3:15; Matt. 5:21–22)
- Unforgiveness, grudges, bitterness, and anger toward other individuals or groups (Col. 3:13; Eph. 4:13; Matt. 6:14–15)
- Gossiping, back-biting (Ex. 20:16; 1 Peter 2:1; Prov. 17:4)
- Fear, worry, doubt, unbelief (James 1:6; Matt. 6:25; Phil. 4:6–7)
- Laziness (Prov. 18:9; 2 Thess. 3:10; Eph. 5:16)
- Greed, envy, pride (1 John 2:16; Ps. 10:3; 1 Tim. 6:10)
- Not sharing the Gospel (Luke 12:8–9; Matt. 5:11–12)
-and more

If you are caught in a struggle with any sin, there are many ways to seek God's power to help you break free:

- PRAY and study God's Word for a promise to stand on.
- Invite a trusted Christian friend with strong faith to pray for you and hold you accountable.
- Contact the ACMin Transformational Prayer Ministry Center to make a Prayer Ministry appointment. GO to that appointment!
- Contact your advisor for personal guidance and support.
- As a community of faith, our goal is to help you break free from sin by the power of Jesus's blood and to assist you in staying free of all besetting sins.

When the Son sets you free, you are free indeed! (John 8:36)
The blood of Christ cleanses us from ALL sin. (1 John 1:7)

The Transformed Christian Life (From the ACMin Belief Statement)

The supreme purpose of all believers is to be whole-hearted, risk-taking lovers of God, who glorify Him in and with our lives. Our conduct should be blameless before the world; we should be faithful stewards of the possessions, abilities, and spiritual gifts God entrusted to us, and we should intentionally and continually seek the full measure of maturity in Jesus Christ through our active participation in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting, study, worship, service, evangelism, and fellowship with other Christ-followers. An abiding one-ness with the Father through Christ and empowered by the Spirit is our ultimate goal in this life.

Through our relationship with Jesus, the power of God's Holy Spirit living in us, and our God-given authority in Christ over all the power of the enemy, we are able to participate in the divine nature, living as Jesus lived in this world, accomplishing even greater things than the Lord, and advancing His kingdom on Earth for His glory. In joyful obedience to the Great Commission, we demonstrate the Good News with both words and actions through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 10:8; 28:18-19; Luke 10:19; John 14:12, 20; 15:10; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 2:6, 9-10; 3:1-10; 1 Timothy 6:6-12; 1 Peter 1:14-16; Ephesians 1:18-21; 2:5-6; 4:1-3, 11-14; 5:1-5; Philippians 2:14-16; 2 Peter 1:3-8; 1 John 4:17; Galatians 2:20.*

Disciplinary Probation

Because we hold high expectations for our students as Christ-followers, the need to engage in student disciplinary action should be rare. However, if there are occasions of student conduct that warrant immediate action (i.e., illegal activities, academic dishonesty, etc.), the student will be required to meet with the Chair of their academic program before the student is allowed to return to classes. Based on the nature of the misconduct, a written plan of reinstatement will be drafted by the Chair of their program, approved by the Chief Academic Officer and placed in the student's file. The Chair of their program will oversee the student's reinstatement to classes per the approved plan. The goal will always be to help restore the student to his or her good standing with the LORD and with the institution. In extreme cases (e.g., conduct that threatens the safety of other students and faculty, and/or persistent, willful misconduct), dismissal from the institution may be warranted. Dismissal from the Athens College of Ministry must be approved by the ACMin President and documented in writing.

Attendance

The classroom experience is of primary importance to our student's personal spiritual growth and preparation for ministry. Students gain much from their interactions with faculty and their peers. Full, on-time class attendance also demonstrates responsible, respectful character. Missing 25% or more of the scheduled class meeting times for any course will result in a grade of "F" for that course.

Disclosure Policy

By law, the Athens College of Ministry cannot disclose students' personal information or information about grades and class attendance to parents or other individuals without express, written permission from the enrolled student. Contact Dr. Ray Morris (rmorris@acmin.org) to authorize the release of grades and personal information to another individual.

For information concerning The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) follow the link provided below to the U.S. Department of Education website:

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>.

(Note: For dually enrolled high school or home school students under the age of 18, ACMin will release grade and attendance data to the designated secondary institution or individual with parental permission.)

Harassment

See Expectations for Christian Conduct above.

Substance Free Policy

Illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco products are not allowed at any time on the Athens College of Ministry campus.

Sexual Conduct Policy

In accordance with the ACMin Expectations for Christian Conduct, sexual activity outside of marriage between one man and one woman is not acceptable.

Student Standards of Conduct

See Expectations for Christian Conduct above.

Complaint, Grievance, & Due Process Policy

The ACMin Complaint, Grievance, and Due Process Policy applies to all faculty, staff, and students. Situations may occur where an individual believes that the fair and consistent application of a policy affecting him or her has not been followed or that someone in a position of authority has misused their authority according to ACMin policy and/or biblical principles. Sample grievances could include possible discrimination on the basis of race, color, or gender, inappropriate application of grading policies, disputes over a supervisor's judgment regarding job performance or professional competence, and others. In the event of a possible grievance circumstance, the steps toward resolution to be followed are:

Step 1. Seek the Lord in prayer asking for wisdom and guidance about how to approach the situation. Do not gossip to others about the potential offense.

Step 2. Within 7 days, speak privately to the individual involved in the concern for the purpose of seeking resolution of the situation. If the matter remains unresolved after a personal conversation, it should be brought to the attention of the ACMin President. Or, if the nature of the situation makes speaking directly to the individual involved contraindicated, the matter must be brought immediately to the ACMin President or other ACMin leadership staff.

Step 3. For those matters that require attention by the President, the complaint form located in the Appendices should be submitted in writing within 30 days of the incident to the President. Subsequently, confidential interviews with all parties involved in the dispute will be conducted within 14 days after formal notification. The President will provide written notification to the involved parties of the resolution decision within 14 days after completion of the interviews. In the event of wrong actions, a formal, written reprimand may be placed in an employee's or student's files on record. Legal action will be pursued only as necessary and as is required by law.

Step 4. As a last resort, if any party involved in a dispute is unsatisfied with the resolution decision provided by the President, the matter may be brought to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees in writing within 14 days of the resolution decision. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees will develop a plan for resolution appropriate for the situation. Board of Trustee involvement in grievance matters should be a rare exception.

After exhausting the internal appeals process, the student is entitled to file a complaint with the State of Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission at: 2082 EAST EXCHANGE PLACE, SUITE 220; TUCKER, GEORGIA 30084-5305; Phone: (770) 414-3300. See <https://gnpec.georgia.gov> for complete information. Further, students may file a complaint with the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges & Schools (www.tracs.org) at: 15935 Forest Rd., Forest, VA 24551; Phone: (434) 525-9359. The Athens College of Ministry agrees to provide the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges & Schools with all documentation related to any grievance proceedings since the previous comprehensive visit.

Note: In ALL situations, report any illegal or harmful actions or any form of harassment immediately to the ACMin Office of the President.

Note: All parties are encouraged to learn and grow in Christian maturity through the grievance process and to practice the biblical requirement of forgiveness from the heart.

Disability Policy

It is the policy of Athens College of Ministry to fully comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in all physical facilities, equipment, programs, and services. Students, staff, faculty, and visitors who need accommodations because of a verifiable disability, and need assistance in obtaining accommodations, should notify the College office of such need. Athens College of Ministry will provide accommodations and/or services as is both reasonable and required by federal and/or state law.

Students and parents should be aware that federal law does not require postsecondary educational institutions to lower entrance standards, academic standards, or technical standards as part of the accommodation process. Students and parents should also be aware that post-secondary institutions are not required to provide services commonly categorized as "special education" services in public primary and secondary educational institutions.

Emergency Operations Policy & Safety Plan

Procedures for Reporting Incidents

Events to Report

- + Accidents
- + Injuries
- + Medical emergencies
- + Illegal activities
- + Property damage
- + Unsafe facilities or equipment

Do what is most urgent first!

Who to Notify:

Call 911 if medical care is urgent, in case of fire, or if police assistance is needed.

In the event that any of the above listed incidents occur, the faculty or staff member shall at his/her discretion notify the Chief Academic Officer of the College, Dr. Raymond Morris (706-983-0065; rmorris@acmin.org) or the President of the College, Dr. Marcia Wilbur (706-461-3179; mwilbur@acmin.org). A phone call is warranted depending on the severity and urgency of the incident. Less urgent or less severe incidents should warrant an e-mail notification.

A written incident report will be provided to the College office within 24 hours of the incident or situation. A faculty or staff member, present at the time of the incident, shall be responsible for submitting the written incident report. Incident report forms are available in the College office and in the classroom Emergency Operations and Safety Plan folder.

Evacuation Policy & Procedure (to exit from ACMin office, classroom, or library)

Proceed in an orderly fashion to the nearest exit. There are two stairwell exits from the upstairs classroom and office. Both are clearly marked with lighted exit signs. The closest and shortest route to the outside is the stairwell that leads to the outside fire escape. This stairwell is located directly across from the upstairs restrooms. The secondary exit from all upstairs spaces is the main stairwell inside of the building and the door to the outside in the stairwell corridor. **Do not use the elevator.**

In Case of Fire

Proceed to the nearest exit that is clear of fire and smoke. Close all doors behind you. All doors are equipped with a glass pane that allows you to check conditions on the other side of the door before opening the door. There are fire alarm stations at each exit door. If the alarm is not already sounding, pull the fire alarm. There is a fire extinguisher in the wall opposite the elevator door (use for a small fire that can be easily extinguished). **Do not use the elevator.** Once you are out of the building, proceed to the fenced playground area and assemble so that the faculty and/or staff person in charge can account for everyone. See the Building Layout below to identify the marked exits.

Bomb Threat/Terrorist Threat

All threats will be considered serious. In case of a bomb threat, the building will be evacuated, and the appropriate authorities will be notified. All interior doors that are already open will be left open. Do not touch any object that has been left in any space as you exit the building. Do not turn light switches on or off. Do not use a cell phone or any electronic device while still inside the building. **Do not use the elevator.** Proceed to the fenced playground as the assembly area. Remain outside of the building until authorities have cleared it for re-entry. Do not leave the premises until released to do so by the authorities.

Active Shooter or Intruder Situation

In the case of an active shooter or intruder situation, quick decisions must be made. Generally, there are three decision choices. **Run** if the opportunity presents itself. Go to the nearest secure location away from the threatened area and call 911. The second option is to **Hide**. In this scenario, from the classroom, library, and upstairs foyer; faculty, staff, and students will gather in the College office and the door will be locked. If possible, the nearest fire alarm should be pulled as you move to the secure space. Once inside of the office area, push heavy objects against the door and hide in the office cubicles. Call 911. Do not remain near the door or any of the windows. Remain in lockdown until you are notified by law enforcement officials that it is safe to leave the room. Use the office phone and/or cell phones to be in constant contact with officials on the outside. The third option is to **Fight**. If there is no other recourse, use force to try to overcome and subdue the aggressor. Call 911 as soon as possible.

Severe Weather

During times when severe weather is possible, a faculty or staff member will monitor weather conditions. A severe thunderstorm or tornado watch means those weather conditions are possible. A severe thunderstorm or tornado warning means that one of those weather conditions is currently in effect and everyone should proceed to a designated safe area. In the case of a tornado warning, everyone in the College office and/or classroom will proceed downstairs and assemble in the downstairs restrooms and remain there until the all clear signal is given. If there is not enough time to move downstairs, occupants of the upstairs will assemble in the hallway outside of the classroom. All doors should be closed.

Medical Emergencies

In the case of a serious medical emergency, immediately call 911. The most qualified person shall administer any first aid that is necessary until authorized emergency personnel arrive.

If the victim is a student, faculty, or staff member of ACMin, have someone use the person's ACMin ID number to access emergency medical information and emergency contact information.

In case of emergency, the individual nearest to the incident individual should call 911 and have the individual transported to St. Mary's Hospital or Athens Piedmont Hospital for medical treatment. For minor incidents, there is a first-aid kit in the ACMin office, Room C.

Please notify the ACMin office immediately of any accident, injury, or serious medical emergency that takes place on campus.

For Emergencies:

Athens Piedmont Hospital, 1199 Prince Avenue, Athens, GA 30606
706-475-7000

St. Mary's Hospital, 1230 Baxter Street, Athens, GA 30606
706-389-3000

For Urgent Care:

Piedmont Regional First Care, 1010 Village Drive, Watkinsville, GA 30677
706-769-0000

Personal Safety

Students, faculty, and staff should exercise due caution to ensure personal safety. A higher level of caution should be observed before and after evening classes when arriving or leaving in darkness. Students and faculty should work together to ensure that no one is left to exit the building and go to his or her vehicle alone. When evening classes are in session, (and the building is not being used by another group) all doors to the outside will be locked at the end of the first hour of class.

Emergency Plan for Persons with Disabilities

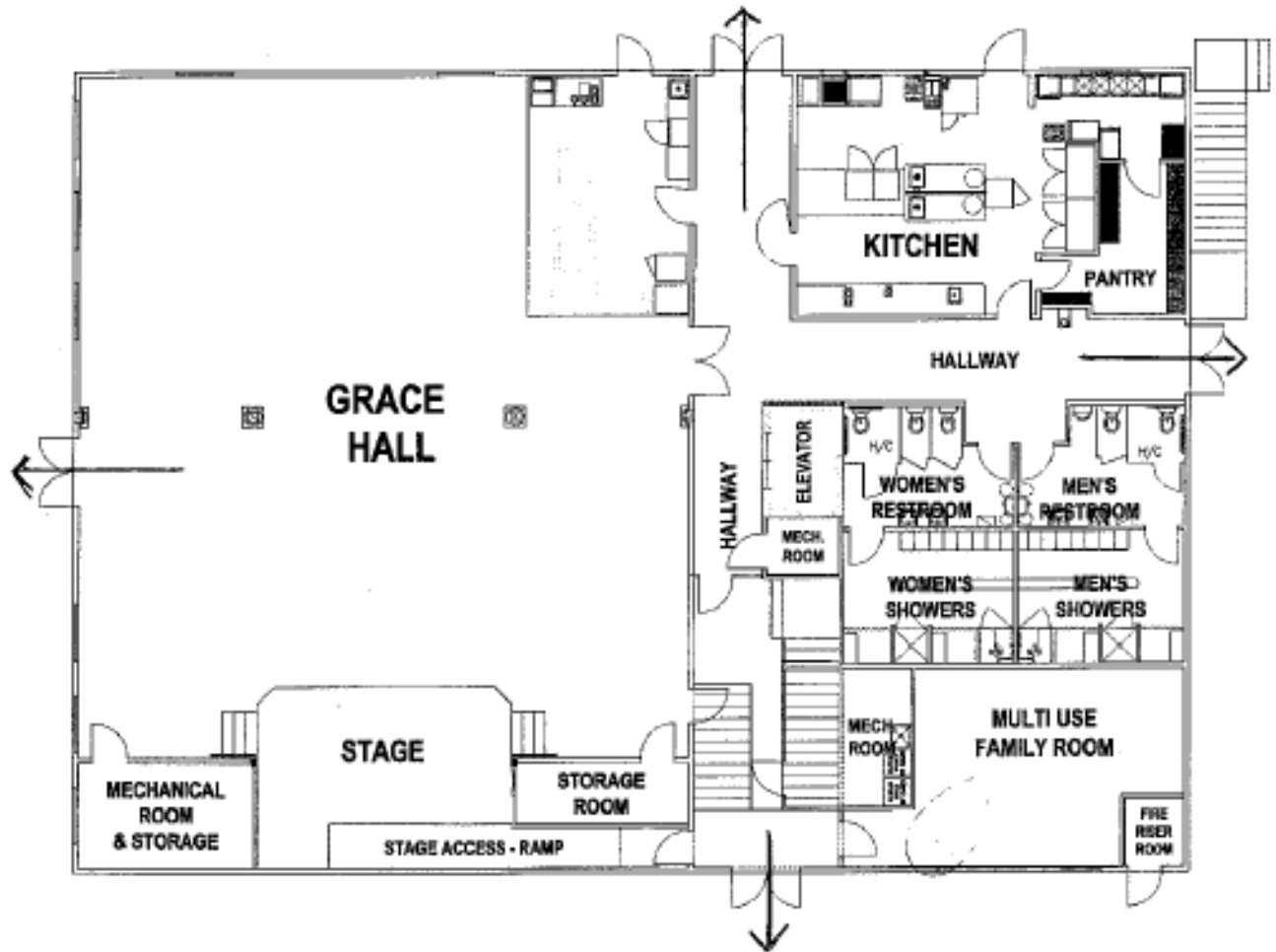
Faculty, staff, and fellow students will assist persons with disabilities to safely exit the building in case of an emergency evacuation. **Do not use the elevator.**

Emergency Notification Plan

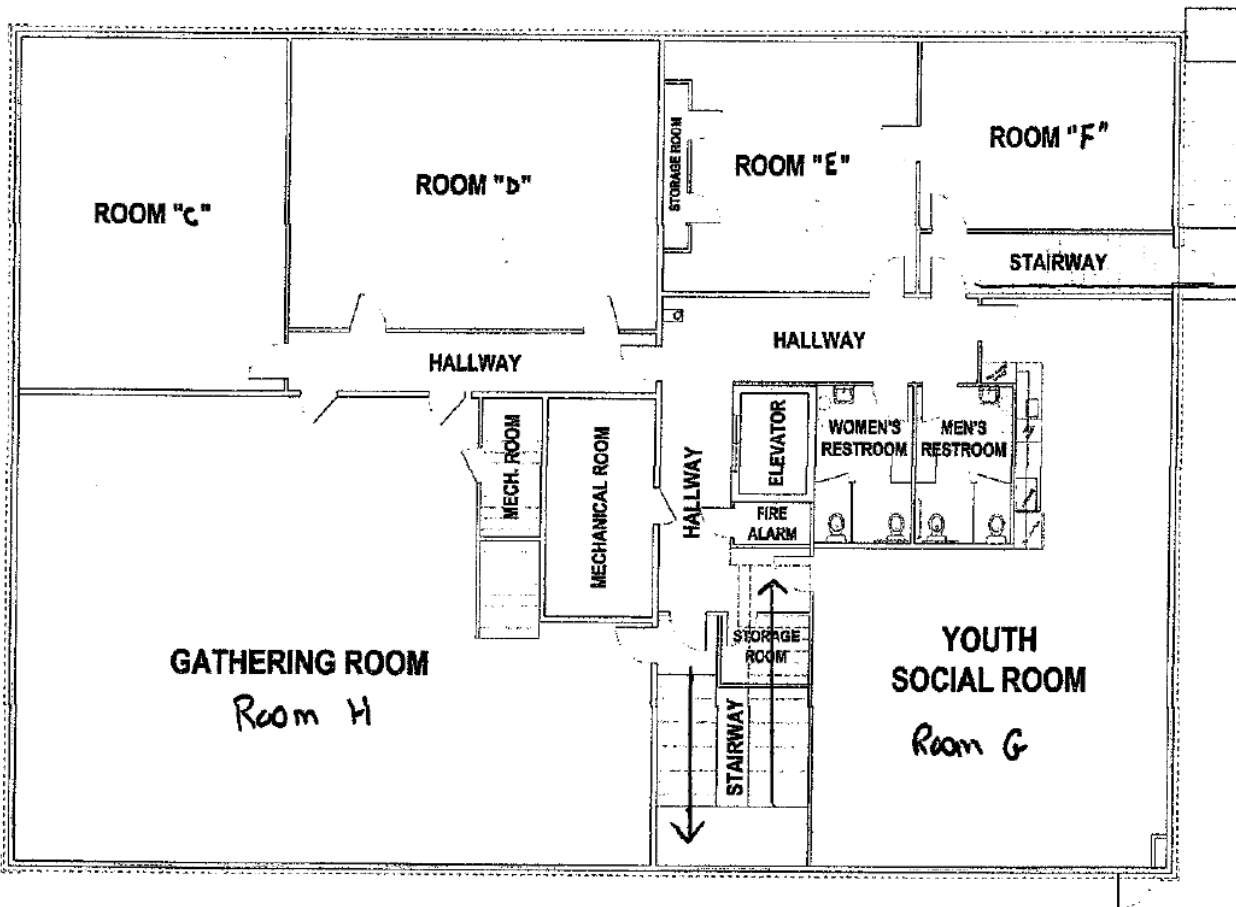
In case of inclement weather or any other emergency cancellation of classes, students will be notified by email. Weather related closings of the College will also be posted on the College's homepage (<https://acmin.org>) and through WMSL 88.9 radio.

ACMin Building Layout

Downstairs



Upstairs



Student Life

What is student life about at Athens College of Ministry? We are a community that is devoted to developing students who live out their lives knowing God better, understanding their identity in Christ more thoroughly, and seeing how to live out their calling in this world. Because relationships are vital to students' personal formation, this college community is dedicated and designed to build relationships with other students as well as faculty and staff. Students' lives here are rich and robust, and they leave ACMin transformed by God's grace. Student Life and Student Services are offered to support students on their personal journeys with the Lord, to provide a context for care and support, to undergird them with seasoned biblical wisdom for life decisions, and to help them flourish in Christ, with fellow believers, and in this world.

Prayer Support

One of our goals at ACMin is that our students would be spiritually healthy and whole! We highly recommend that all students make appointments at least twice per semester with the Transformational Prayer Ministry Center so that they can be better positioned to handle issues and struggles with the power of Christ! Times of Prayer Ministry should also be considered as times of great refreshing and renewal. Visit <https://acmin.org/Request-Appointment/> to make your Transformational Prayer Ministry Appointment. Prayer Ministry sessions are always personal and confidential.

Pastoral Counseling

As human beings, it is not unusual that ACMin students might need professional guidance for dealing with the circumstances of life that may threaten their personal, mental, and spiritual health. Students are welcomed and encouraged to reach out to their academic advisor to set up times for confidential pastoral counseling. Female students who need assistance from another female are encouraged to reach out to Dr. Marcia Wilbur, ACMin President. The ACMin Transformational Prayer Ministry Center is always available to our students for confidential Prayer Ministry (<https://acmin.org/Request-Appointment/>).

Learning Support

Students in need of learning support services should contact their academic advisor for referral to learning support services.

Student Healthcare

The Athens College of Ministry does not offer or participate in any student healthcare insurance plans at this time. In cases of illness, students should contact their personal physician. Staff do not distribute any type of medications to students or faculty members.

Student Organizations

Student Government

The Student Organization (SO) has as its purpose to ensure that students have an active voice in campus issues and problems, and to be a voice for student rights. The SO provides leadership and direction in the planning and implementation of activities that promote spiritual, social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth. In all of its functions, the SO will strive to recognize Christ's preeminence.

The Student Organization officers include a Chair and a Vice Chair. The Chair will be a graduate student and the Vice Chair will be an undergraduate student. Student representatives are elected by the student body on an annual basis. Representatives meet with assigned ACMin leadership staff at least one time each semester. Additional meetings may be scheduled as deemed necessary or desirable.

More information about the Student Organization, including the Student Organization Articles, may be found on the ACMin website (<https://acmin.org>).

Student Government Articles of Organization

Article 1 — Purpose

The Athens College of Ministry (ACMin) Student Government exists to:

- Intentionally inspire and nurture the desire and vision for community within the student body;
- Serve as a liaison between ACMin students, staff, and faculty in matters of importance; and
- Fulfill the mission of Athens College of Ministry.

Article 2 — Motto

Community through learning, loving and living the gospel together

Article 3 — Membership

All full-time and part-time students at the Athens College of Ministry may take part in the ACMin Student Organization. Membership is voluntary but encouraged.

Article 4 — Officers

The ACMin Student Government will be led by two Officers currently enrolled in the College. Officers will serve a 1-year renewable term. Officers will be selected by consensus of the student body (with advisor approval).

ACMin Student Government Leadership and Committee members (below) will meet four times per year for strategic planning and assessment of the Organization's effectiveness.

Article 5 – Committees

On an annual basis and informed by feedback from the ACMin Student Government, the Chair may appoint short- and/or long-term Committees to help further specific aspects of the work of the organization. He/She will appoint the leadership for each Committee and help the leader recruit volunteers to serve on each one.

Article 6 – Meetings & Activities

The ACMin Student Government will meet monthly during the academic year (September – April). Other activities created and executed by the established committees in support of the Student Government goals may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Monthly Student Newsletter containing opportunities for community, student stories and important updates;
- Monthly fellowship gatherings 7–8 times per year (Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, March, April);
- Encouraging opportunities to serve others together in Christ
- Sharing important events coming up in the life of the College and the greater Athens area that promote community;
- Sharing personal prayer requests;
- Small group prayer and/or discussions during student meetings; and/or
- Student retreats.

Article 7 – Strategic Evaluation

The Chair of the ACMin Student Government is responsible for collecting data from the students through the Student Survey as well as through informal feedback and presenting those data to the leaders of the ACMin Student Government for the purposes of setting fresh or renewed direction as appropriate.

Article 8 – Defining & Clarifying the Purpose Statement

“Student Government” — highly motivated and involved students who represent the student body as a liaison between the students and College leadership, staff, and faculty.

“To intentionally inspire and nurture” — The Student Government will purposely, faithfully, and with resolve enthusiastically cast the vision of vibrant Christian community for the student body in an attempt to inspire them to embrace both the vision and passion for experiencing Kingdom relationships through the love of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

“To nurture” — is the continued support of the student community through prayer, ministry, fellowship, worship, and serving together. To that end, the Student Government will organize, communicate, recruit, and build up the student body by initiating and supporting events that promote love and care for the student body.

“The desire and vision” — The Student Government is responsible for intentionally inspiring and cultivating among the student body desire for and participation in Athens College of Ministry’s community (defined below).

“For community within the student body” — Community as biblically defined (in Acts 2:42–47; 4:32–37; the Letter to the Ephesians; 1 Cor 2:1–5, 12, 14; Romans 12, etc.) is experienced in relationship within the student body, and including, but not limited to, ministry, discipleship, evangelism, a life of worship, personal spiritual formation, devotion to God and the community (body), generosity, service, and compassion.

“To fulfill the mission of Athens College of Ministry” — which is “To equip men and women for Christian life and ministry with a Biblically-centered spiritual and personal foundation so that they might glorify God by passionately fulfilling the great commission of Jesus Christ through worldwide service.”

Student Clubs

In addition to our ACMin Student Government organization, our college welcomes the development of student-led clubs and organizations. Members of the ACMin student body who wish to establish a club or organization may make a proposal to the Chief Academic Officer. Proposals should contain the following:

- Name of proposed club or organization
- Name and contact information of student(s) serving as the proposal’s spokesperson(s)
- Brief description of the club’s intended purpose and activities (Kingdom-advancement must be an intended purpose)
- Proposed club goals
- Proposed club governance and membership requirements
- Signatures of at least 10 students intending to become members
- Signature of faculty member willing to sponsor the club

The Chief Academic Officer will bring the proposal to the ACMin Leadership Staff for discussion and potential approval. Only approved clubs and organizations may meet on campus under the name of the Athens College of Ministry.

Cultural, Educational, & Religious Opportunities

There are countless cultural, educational, and religious opportunities within the greater Athens area.

The Athens College of Ministry hosts six major community events each year that serve as supplemental growth and service opportunities for our students as well as gathering points across our city:

- New Year — New Heart (prayer conference)
- Transformed! Conference (teaching conference)
- Athens National Day of Prayer Breakfast
- ServeAthens ICN (service event)
- A.D.O.R.E. (worship event)
- Pastors Appreciation Event

ACMin also hosts a **Connect Page** on our website at <https://acmin.org/Connect> that lists upcoming Christian events and opportunities throughout the greater Athens community.

Students looking for a **local church** to attend might consider one of ACMin's partner churches:

- Living Hope Church (non-denominational) in Athens
- Watkinsville First United Methodist Church
- Cornerstone Church (Church of God) Athens
- The Church at Winder (non-denominational) in Bethlehem
- New Freedom Christian Center (non-denominational) in Athens

There are many **local ministries and Christian community service agencies** that ACMin students might wish to serve. Some examples are:

- Athens Prayer Network — a city-wide prayer ministry
- Chosen for Life — a local adoption and foster care agency and ministry
- The Sparrow's Nest — a ministry that serves the poor
- Athens Foodbank — a ministry to the poor
- Bigger Vision — a homeless shelter
- Athens Pregnancy Center — a crisis pregnancy center

Cultural and educational opportunities abound in Athens, from concerts, to art exhibits, to dance and art classes, and sporting events. Go to:

- <https://classiccenter.com> or
- www.visitathensga.com/events for current information on events or opportunities.

Student Service Requirement

All enrolled students are required to engage in 1 hour of service to the Athens College of Ministry community (i.e., at ServeAthens ICN, a conference, or A.D.O.R.E. or other event) or through an approved community service agency for each credit hour in which they are enrolled. Service must be performed outside of students' home church setting. Students serving in multi-day, over-night events or trips can earn up to 5 hours per day for a maximum of 20 hours combined for the trip. Service hours—both positive and negative—roll over from semester to semester. Students with a negative balance (i.e., less service hours than credits taken) will have their transcripts locked until the service requirements have been met. All service performed outside of ACMin must be pre-approved by a student's Academic Advisor. Students are responsible for ensuring that they submit the completed Student Service Form by the close of each semester to their academic advisor.

Undergraduate Course Catalog

Overview

The course catalog presents all required and elective undergraduate courses necessary for certificate and degree completion. Primary areas of course listings include: Christian Studies, Field Ministry, Generational Ministry, and Worship Arts. General Education courses to fulfill distribution requirements are also listed. Students are encouraged to take courses outside of their major studies area as electives with permission from the department as necessary.

Key to Abbreviations:

AM = Agricultural Ministry

BL = Biblical Languages

BS = Biblical Studies

CC = Care & Christian Counseling

CS = Christian Studies

ED = Education

FIA = Faith in Action (Apprenticeship Program)

FM = Field Ministry

GM = Generational Ministry

LS = Leadership

WA = Worship Arts

(Note: Abbreviations for General Education Distribution Requirements vary by subject matter content area.)

Agricultural Ministry Courses

AM 101: Growing Food & Faith

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 4

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the basic scientific principles of plant growth and development, particularly as they apply to the production of food crops. Students will also explore the relationship between plant science and Christian faith, including how food production is used in a wide range of biblical passages, how an understanding of food production can impact faith messages, and how farming and gardening can be used effectively to enhance Christian ministry and service both on the local and international mission fields.

AM 112: Plants of the Bible

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 4

Through an end-to-end study of every plant mentioned in the Scriptures, students will consider plant names in the original biblical language (Hebrew, Greek) as well as the uses of those plants in ancient Israel. Further, students will explore present-day connections between biblical symbolism, the Scriptures, and 21st Century life and ministry.

Biblical Language Courses

BL 310: Old Testament Hebrew I

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

This course provides an introduction to the Old Testament Hebrew language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve a beginning confidence in reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while learning Old Testament Hebrew.

BL 311: Old Testament Hebrew II

Prerequisites: BL 310

Credits: 3

This course provides an intermediate level of study of the Old Testament Hebrew language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve proficiency reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while building on the foundation from Old Testament Hebrew I.

BL 350: New Testament Greek I

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

This course provides an introduction to the Hellenistic, New Testament Greek language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve beginning confidence in reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while learning New Testament Greek.

BL 351: New Testament Greek II

Prerequisites: BL 350

Credits: 3

This course provides an intermediate level of study of the Hellenistic, New Testament Greek language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve proficiency reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while building on the foundation from New Testament Greek I.

Biblical Studies Courses

BS 101: Old Testament Survey (Christian Core)

Prerequisite: None

Credits: 3

This course presents an overview of the history of the Bible, its writing and centuries of preservation, and provides an introduction to the history and theology of selected books and passages of the Old Testament. Through the study of the Old Testament, students will build their inductive Bible study skills.

BS 102: New Testament Survey (Christian Core)

Prerequisite: None

Credits: 3

This course explores the basic principles of Christian beliefs, community and ministry, as well as the promise of Christ's return through a study of the history and theology of the books of the New Testament. Through the study of the New Testament, students will build their inductive Bible study skills.

BS 302: Theology of Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents a comprehensive study of the biblical foundation for mission as it relates to the church's missionary obligation before God. Special attention will be given to exploring important issues within contemporary evangelical missiology. A study of Acts examines the birth and growth of the early church. In addition to studying the historical sequence of events, the student will consider Luke's theological themes, learn to extrapolate legitimate biblical principles from a historical narrative, and apply those principles in the development of a contemporary missions' strategy.

BS 310: The Book of Genesis**Prerequisite: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

In this course students will undertake an in-depth look at the story of creation, and well-known characters in biblical history from Adam and Eve, to Noah, Abraham, Jacob and Joseph. The course will consider the content of Genesis with particular focus on the theology from creation to the Abrahamic Covenant and the development of major themes that are repeated throughout Scripture.

BS 311: The Prophets**Prerequisite: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will examine the purpose for God's chosen servants, the Old Testament prophets, who were always calling the people to repentance and revealing God's will to Israel within the contexts of their times in history.

BS 312: Walking with Jesus—The Gospels**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course examines the Jewish world in the days of Christ, Jesus's life within Hebrew culture and Rabbinic tradition, the fruit of His ministry, and the aspects of a personal, daily walk with Him through the lens of His disciples. Students will also consider how to model their own lives and ministries based on a close relationship with the Father as modeled by the Son of Man.

BS 313: The Trinity**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

In this course students will explore the interrelated nature of the Trinity and the unique roles and characteristics of God as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, based on biblical examination. From that biblical grounding, students will then compare and contrast historical and contemporary theological perspectives related to the Trinity. Students will also consider the implications for Christian Life based on a biblically-based understanding of the Trinity.

BS: 320: God the Father**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course examines Scripture related to the character, person, and works of God the Father, exploring such areas as His holiness, power, strength, wrath, control, grace, mercy, and love. The course particularly focuses on God's plan for transforming people into Christ's likeness and experiencing godly living in today's world.

BS 350: Systematic Theology**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents biblical doctrine, the existence of God and His attributes, the Trinity, Theism, doctrine of creation, man, the fall, death, heaven, hell, doctrine of the church, spiritual warfare, the power of God through His Word, and Christ's return. Students will gain experience in integrating doctrine into real world situations and in understanding how theological concepts are expressed differently across cultures.

BS 351: Inductive Bible Study**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

The goal of inductive Bible study is to equip students with the tools to be life-long students of the Scriptures. The course presents a method for exegesis and Scripture study by considering the context and setting of the passage, the author's audience and purpose, and the other passages that surround the passage of study. The purpose of the study is to understand what the text would have communicated in the context of the time and culture that produced and used it, while also understanding that contemporary questions are conditioned by our own language, culture, and history.

BS 352: Apologetics**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

The primary focus of this course will be the practical application of apologetics in ministry and evangelism. Various approaches to the apologetic task will be investigated. Attention will be given to the systematic and rational defense of the Christian faith against significant contemporary challenges. Topics include such areas as tests for truth, a critique of relativism and pluralism, the problem of miracles, and the historicity of the Christian faith.

BS 375: Biblical Foundations for Worship**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102, or permission****Credits: 3**

This course provides students with a thorough understanding of the nature and practice of biblical, Christ-centered worship, its objective as related to the worshiper of God, its purpose for the corporate body of Christ, and its implications for the Kingdom of God in the world. This course will include a broad survey of Scriptures taken from both Old and New Testaments that describes worship which honors God, reflects His heart for worship, and reveals the central purpose of worship in the Church.

BS 401: The Psalms**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course examines the representation of the book of Psalms as both prayer and poetry intended to be set to worship and prayed in worship within the historical context of faith and worship in ancient Israel. The course will help students understand the message of the Psalms and their relevance for contemporary Christian experience. Attention will be given to different psalm types, the structure of Hebrew poetry, the universal perspective of the Psalms, and the use of Psalms for teaching and preaching.

BS 410 The Book of Acts**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course examines the early church through a study of the Book of Acts as God establishes the Church, raises up leaders, develops community, reaches the world with the Gospel, and pours out His Spirit. This book is foundational in understanding the application of the Gospel in relationship with God, the Church and the world. The student will better understand what it looks like to live out God's plans and purposes both individually and corporately.

BS 411: The Book of Romans**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course examines Paul's letter to the Romans, written from Corinth on Paul's third missionary journey, considered by many to be the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest Gospel, as well as the basic theological frame-work for the whole collection of Paul's writings.

BS 413: The Book of Revelation**Prerequisites: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will examine the Book of Revelation, an apocalyptic form of writing in the New Testament that sees God acting by bringing a radical end to history, destroying all evil, and completing the act of new creation. Students will examine the structure, biblical themes, key theological concepts, and present-day significance of the book of Revelation.

BS 450: Special Topics in Christian Theology**Prerequisite: Christian Core, Permission of Instructor****Credits: 1–4**

With instructor permission, students may pursue an independent study topic related to Christian Theology as relevant to their area of specialization.

Care & Christian Counseling Courses

CC 301: Psychology & Theology**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents the basic principles of the integration of psychology and theology at three levels—the philosophical, the theological, and the practical. Students will examine God's truths as related to emotional, relational, and spiritual formation as well as the application of these concepts to optimize others' personal growth in real ministry settings.

CC 302: Human Growth & Development**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course provides an understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels, personality theory, and learning theory, and which may provide a comprehensive overview of the factors, determinants, and stages that pertain to physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development and adaptation from infantile to geriatric stages.

CC 304: Introduction to Care & Counseling Ministry**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course introduces students to the importance of a Christian's call to bind up the broken hearted, with the goal of learning how to apply biblical principles and prayer techniques to specific issues such as anger management, marital breakdown, addiction development, crisis management, anxiety, depression, and grieving. In addition to understanding the importance of self-care, students will learn how to listen emphatically, how to facilitate spiritual life assessment and change, and how to pray and counsel strategically within the recipient's process of spiritual, emotional, and relational growth and healing.

CC 311: Walking in Sonship**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 2**

This course is designed to expose any area (trauma, shame, unbelief, etc.) that keeps you from living out of a secure place of knowing your identity as a son or daughter of God (Romans 8:14, Galatians 3:26). God desires to dismantle the belief systems that keep you trapped in 'Orphan Thinking' and prevent you from walking out your freedom in Christ. He wants to impart courage to you to step out of these traps and see from His Vantage Point your True Identity as His Sons and Daughters. He desires that you fully engage with Him as His beloved child and walk daily in that sure understanding.

CC 315: Counseling Children & Teens**Prerequisites: CC 304 or GM 310****Credits: 3**

This course provides the basic principles of counseling children and adolescents within the context of family, school, socio-cultural, and religious systems. The emphasis will be on helping each student develop his or her own style in forming therapeutic relationships with children or adolescents, and in using effective therapeutic skills and techniques. Students will examine the sanctification process for adolescents in the context of the temptations they face. A special focus will be given to parent training and parents as co-therapists, as well as empirically sound, highly efficacious, and cost-effective intervention strategies for treating behavioral challenges in children. Legal and ethical issues specific to working with children are addressed.

CC 320: Biblical Foundations for Prayer Ministry**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

Students will investigate the biblical premise for heart transformation and the renewing of the mind through the practice of prayer ministry. The focus will be on the application of effective prayer ministry methods and prayer ministry as a tool to set the captives free as well as a means to present Christ to unbelievers.

CC 321: Healing Shame**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 2**

Students will understand how the shroud of shame has become the new veil that would try to keep us separated from the fullness of our identity in and relationship with Christ. Shame can result from past sins, wounds inflicted by others, or incorrect self-perception, and affects how we view ourselves and others. Through Prayer Ministry and God's Word, students learn how to break free from the power of shame and replace it with the joy of the Lord as well as how to help others experience the same freedom.

CC 325: The Practice of Prayer**Prerequisites: CC 520****Credits: 3**

In this capstone course, students will reflect on various forms of prayer including intercession and transformational prayer, and they will develop a model of prayer leadership to use in a selected ministry setting. Students will concurrently lead prayer ministry sessions and reflect on their apprenticeship experience through this course as a means to grow in wisdom and understanding as prayer leaders.

CC 330: Effective Prayer Ministry tools**Prerequisites: CC 320****Credits: 3**

Students will learn and apply basic and advanced tools for engaging in effective prayer ministry to others. Methodologies for this course vary by semester. Students may choose from a number of Prayer Ministry methods offered at ACMin.

CC 352: God's Design for Sexual Wholeness**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course examines God's design for human sexuality, sexual wholeness, and what it means for individuals and for the church in 21st Century American culture. The course examines the enemy's attacks on Christians and Christian leaders in the area of sexual sin and provides a foundation for rebuking lies with biblically-based truth.

CC 375: Grief & Crisis Counseling**Prerequisites: CC 301 or CC 304****Credits: 3**

This course is designed to train students to respond with wise biblical counsel to those who have endured a crisis such as the death of a family member, divorce, loss of a child, illness, and other trauma. In this course students will learn to understand and identify the process and progress of how people deal with crisis or loss in their lives and how to guide a person through the healing process so that the crisis or loss can be placed in its proper perspective and the individual can readjust and grow. Special attention will be given to the emotional, spiritual, relational, and physical symptoms that may occur during the aftermath of a crisis along with the loss of hope and faith.

CC 410: Addictions Counseling**Prerequisites: CC 304****Credits: 3**

This course helps students to understand the etiology of addictions and enables them to understand and recommend treatment. Addictions in the areas of sexuality, pornography, work, thought, and substance abuse will be addressed. The issues of dependence, control, sin, and responsibility will be studied.

Christian Studies Courses

CS 101: Foundations of Faith (Christian Core)**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

The course presents a survey of Christ-centered biblical history and provides, through the study of Scripture, a theological framework for God, Jesus, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the spiritual world, evil, the Church, and specific theological beliefs. The course includes an introduction to inductive Bible study and an overview of church history.

CS 102: His Creation: Talents & Spiritual Gifts (Christian Core)**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course will equip students to identify and develop their identity in Christ as stewards entrusted with unique, individual talents. The course provides a biblical perspective on spiritual gifts and explores theological issues surrounding spiritual gifts in ministry. This course will give students the tools to discover, explore, and practice their God-given gifts and talents and will prepare them to represent the Lord in their circles of influence within a domain of leadership through the application of strengths and gifts within the context of ministry teams and as team leaders. Students will examine biblical, historical, and philosophical precedents for working groups and teams as related to ministry applications and realities.

CS 103: Prayer & Spiritual Direction (Christian Core)**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

The course examines the Christian practice of prayer through biblical and theological lenses, types of prayer (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication), and it introduces students to the theology and practice of hearing God and discerning His will. Students will engage in the spiritual discipline of prayer and reflect on their experiences with God through collaborative learning, individual assessment, and class discussion with an emphasis on application outside of the classroom environment.

CS 201: The Great Commission: Evangelism (Christian Core)**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

This course challenges students to consider the relationship between Christ and culture by equipping students with an overview of Christian philosophy and answers to the most difficult questions posed by both believers and unbelievers. Within the theological framework, students will study major doctrines pertaining to the existence and nature of God, evil, the nature of man, Scripture as the source of truth, and the Church as the body of Christ. The course introduces students to tools and models for evangelism by applying Christian philosophy in the context of sharing the Good News in a contemporary culture of competing world views and relativism. Students will perform and evaluate personal evangelistic activities.

CS 202: The Great Commission: Discipleship (Christian Core)**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

This course examines a biblically-based reflection on an individuals' personal spiritual growth. Based on an individual's progress along the pathway, students will consider spiritual needs and potential barriers to spiritual growth. Students focus on using Christian discipleship and leadership principles to develop healthy, thriving, Christian communities that promote and encourage spiritual growth and sanctification.

CS 301: Perspectives on World Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course examines multiple perspectives on missiology and the changing globe with special attention to students' own area(s) of particular interest. Students will examine specific strategies and issues in missions with a special interest on urban settings, cross-cultural settings, and reaching the 10/40 window.

CS 310: World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry**Prerequisite: CS 201****Credits: 3**

This course examines the beliefs, values, and cultural practices of major world religions such as: Judaism, Islam, Hindu, and Buddhism. Atheist and agnostic perspectives will also be explored. Taking into account these non-Christian perspectives, the course will present contexts and considerations for presenting the human need for Christ within the cultural contexts related to these various world perspectives.

CS 315: Christian Philosophy**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course is an in-depth study of the knowing that "there must be God" through an examination of God's power through His creation and through His infallible word. The course also examines different philosophical arguments concerning Jesus Christ, the relevancy of Christianity, and how Christians profess God's existence in a philosophical argument.

CS 325: Christian Social Ethics**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 2**

In this course, students examine various approaches to ethical decision-making and evaluate them against the teaching of Scripture. The goal of the course is to prepare students to deal with ethical issues which arise in Christian ministry, whether in the local church, in an intercultural setting, in the mission field, or other ministry contexts.

CS 331: Church History**Prerequisite: CS 101****Credits: 3**

This course examines the history of Christianity from the New Testament through modern times, including the spread of Christianity throughout the world, the preservation of Christianity across generations, heroes of faith, and the emergence of different denominations.

CS 351: Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ**Prerequisite: CS 103****Credits: 3**

The course examines the realities of spiritual warfare and a biblical basis for victory given to believers through the power of Jesus.

CS 370: Administration & Finance**Prerequisite: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course examines core administrative and financial competencies expected of not for profit leaders, including human resource management, strategic planning, budget development and maintenance, fundraising, and taxes.

CS 371: Servant Leadership & Change**Prerequisite: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course studies servant leadership as an attitude exemplified by Jesus, expounded in the New Testament, and applied in contemporary organizations. It also explores the sociological and psychological phenomena involved in leading and managing organizational change. Students will explore their own leadership capacity and how to facilitate team building, organizational change, vision casting, and implementation.

CS 400: An Introduction to Christian Education**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

An Introduction to Christian Education is a course that introduces students to the purpose of Christian Education. Topics include: foundations of Christian education, an overview of developmental perspectives in Christian education, the teaching-learning process, organization and administration of educational programs, generational perspectives in Christian Education, and specialized purposes for Christian education. The course provides a general overview of the ministry of Christian education for church, Christian school, and non-profit educational ministry organizations.

CS 401: The Ministry of Preaching**Prerequisite: BS 351****Credits: 3**

In this course, students survey the theology and practice of the ministry of preaching, including examination of rhetorical and ethical topics. The course also focuses on sermon construction, delivery and evaluation with an emphasis on structural variety, clear biblical exposition, and suitable application. Students will plan, design, and deliver messages and engage in peer critique of messages delivered.

CS 402: The Art & Science of Teaching**Prerequisite: BS 351****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore two fundamental questions: How do people learn? and What instructional methods most effectively support student learning? Course participants will examine both traditional approaches to the educational process as well as current research-based theory and practice. Students will learn how to adapt course content and processes to meet the needs of all students (e.g., adaptation, differentiation, and accommodation). Students will develop both a philosophy and a practice for instructional planning that focuses on the seamless integration of outcomes, instruction, and the measurement of the intended objectives.

CS 403: Personal Spiritual Formation**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the foundations of the spiritual disciplines and their role in the development of personal spiritual formation—the day-by-day journey through which individuals open their hearts to a deeper relationship with God and a rich understanding of their identity in Christ. The course will present why spiritual formation is a vital part of Christian ministry, its biblical foundation, and its role in the development of Christian education programs.

CS 450: Special Topics in Ministry**Prerequisite: Christian Core, Permission of Instructor****Credits: 1–4**

With instructor permission, students may pursue an independent study topic related to Christian Ministry as relevant to their area of specialization.

Education Courses

Courses designed to satisfy the ACSI Christian education certification requirements***Courses specifically required for ACSI Christian education certification****ED 300: An Introduction to Christian Education*****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

An Introduction to Christian Education is a course that introduces students to the purpose of Christian education. Topics include: foundations of Christian education, an overview of developmental perspectives in Christian education, the teaching-learning process, organization and administration of educational programs, generational perspectives in Christian education, and specialized purposes for Christian education. The course provides a general overview of the ministry of Christian education for church, Christian school, and non-profit educational ministry organizations.

ED 301: Christian Philosophy of Education****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore ultimate questions of philosophy and theology in the light of a biblical foundation for education. Students will identify purposes of education and examine important life questions as they relate to the educational mission. Students will develop a personal philosophy of Christian education that demonstrates a grasp of six philosophical and educational questions and the integration of related biblical principles.

ED 302: Identification & Education of Exceptional Children***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course provides students with an overview of the identification, classification, eligibility, and unique characteristics of individuals with disabilities and/or giftedness that require accommodations and adaptations. This course will provide students with an overview of the different classification categories of exceptional children and criteria for identifying students with special needs. The course will also focus on applied strategies for effectively teaching students with special needs.

ED 303: Reading Instruction****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will develop skills for a foundation in reading instruction. The course will address current research and theory in reading instruction. Students will study methodology, instruction in phonics, vocabulary development, reading for comprehension, assessment, and modification for exceptionalities. Students will learn how to apply developmentally appropriate strategies in reading instruction. For the applied elements of the course, students will specialize in reading instruction for a selected educational level (i.e., early childhood, middle grades, secondary, or adult education).

ED 400: Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will learn how to identify the formal and informal components of curriculum development that integrate instruction and assessment through the development process. Students will learn the effective use of assessments for formative and summative purposes, and how to select, write, and adapt curriculum and assessment materials for meaningful educational experiences. Through the meaningful integration of curriculum, instruction, and assessment, students will master a purposeful educational process flow for effective, results-oriented teaching.

ED 402: The Art & Science of Teaching**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore two fundamental questions: How do people learn? and What instructional methods most effectively support student learning? Course participants will examine both traditional approaches to the educational process as well as current research-based theory and practice. Students will learn how to adapt course content and processes to meet the needs of all students (e.g. adaptation, differentiation, and accommodation). Students will develop both a philosophy and a practice for instructional planning that focuses on the seamless integration of outcomes, instruction, and the measurement of the intended objectives.

ED 403: Personal Spiritual Formation***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the foundations of the spiritual disciplines and their role in the development of personal spiritual formation—the day-by-day journey through which individuals open their hearts to a deeper relationship with God and a rich understanding of their identity in Christ. The course will present why spiritual formation is a vital part of Christian ministry, its biblical foundation, and its role in the development of Christian education programs.

ED 460: Media & Technology***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, the student will explore a variety of media and technology applications that enhance worship and/or learning experiences. The course will address both hardware and software applications and will provide a general introduction to effective media use in both church and educational settings. Topics will include but not be limited to: Using video, computers and tablets, creating media presentations, cloud applications and services, presentation software, learning management systems, conducting digital research, sound systems and media production. In the applied elements of the course, students will learn how to creatively integrate and augment technology applications in a selected specialty (i.e., technology in worship, technology in education, etc.).

Faith-in-Action Courses**FIA 201: Case Studies in Ministry****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In preparation for the Faith-in-Action apprenticeship experience, this course examines real-life case studies in ministry and their application to effective, Christ-centered, Kingdom transformation.

FIA 250: Apprenticeship in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201****Credits: 3**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a ministry setting which correlates directly to the individual's career goals. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to any career setting. (This course is for certificate and associate's degree students only.)

FIA 310: Elective Independent Study**Prerequisites: FIA 201, Permission of Instructor****Credits: 1–3**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a specialized setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to the specialized setting.

FIA 401: Preaching in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, CS 401****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a preaching setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to preaching.

FIA 402: Field Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201 and CS 401 or CS 402 or FM 301 and FM 302****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a field ministry setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to the setting (e.g., urban, international, cross-cultural, etc.).

FIA 403: Administration & Finance in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, CS 370****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an administration or finance setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to the setting.

FIA 404: Prayer Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: CS 351****Credits: 3–6**

Under the supervision of a trained leader in prayer ministry, students will lead live prayer ministry sessions.

FIA 405: Teaching in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, CS 402****Credits: 3–12**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a teaching setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to teaching.

FIA 406: Care & Counseling in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, CC 304****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a care and counseling setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to care and counseling.

FIA 425: Worship Teams in Action**Credits: 2–6**

This apprenticeship experience provides Worship Arts students an opportunity to serve the body of Christ in diverse, small-scale, ministry settings through biblical worship in a team format. Students must demonstrate the ability to build a worship team and coordinate effective ministry through worship in a variety of contexts over the course of the semester under the supervision of a faculty mentor. This study will culminate in the student's participation in the end-of-semester ACMIn sponsored, student-led worship events.

FIA 433: Media & Technology Production in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, WA 460****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a public setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience where their media and technology skills can be used for ministry. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed in the ministry setting.

FIA 434: Worship Leadership in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, WA 470****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, Worship Arts students will have an opportunity to serve on a regular rotation over the course of the semester as the primary corporate worship leader in approved settings under supervised mentorship. Students will organize, host, and lead an end-of-semester worship event which will involve all ACMin Worship Arts students.

FIA 441: Urban Missions in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, FM 301, FM 350****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an urban ministry setting for their ministry apprenticeship. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed for ministry in an urban setting.

FIA 442: International Missions in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, FM 301, FM 302****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an international ministry setting for their ministry apprenticeship. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed for ministry in an international setting.

FIA 450: Care & Counseling in Action**Prerequisite: FIA 405****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will engage in prayer and care and counseling ministry in church, community service agency, and/or other appropriate settings.

FIA 470: Children's Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, GM 410****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a Children's Ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Children's Ministry.

FIA 471: Youth Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, GM 412****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a Youth Ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Youth Ministry.

FIA 472: Adult Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, GM 350****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an Adult Ministry apprenticeship experience (e.g., discipleship leader at a local church, retirement home ministry, etc.). While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Adult Ministry.

FIA 473: Hospital Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 201, GM 402****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a Hospital Ministry apprenticeship experience (e.g., Chaplaincy, hospice, etc.). While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Hospital Ministry.

Field Ministry Courses

FM 301: Perspectives on World Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course examines multiple perspectives on missiology and the changing globe with special attention to students' own area(s) of particular interest. Students will examine specific strategies and issues in missions with a special interest on urban settings, cross-cultural settings, and reaching the 10/40 window.

FM 302: Theology of Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents a comprehensive study of the biblical foundation for mission as it relates to the church's missionary obligation before God. Special attention will be given to exploring important issues within contemporary evangelical missiology. A study of Acts examines the birth and growth of the early church. In addition to studying the historical sequence of events, the student will consider Luke's theological themes, learn to extrapolate legitimate biblical principles from a historical narrative, and apply those principles in the development of a contemporary missions' strategy.

FM 303: Cultural Anthropology**Prerequisites: FM 301, FM 302****Credits: 3**

This course will present an introduction to the study of other cultures and worldview assumptions that are foundational to an individual's belief systems and behavior patterns. Students will analyze the culture and worldview of ethnolinguistic and socio-economic people groups from a biblical worldview perspective.

FM 310 Business as Mission I**Prerequisites: FM 301, FM 302****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the biblical basis, strategic value, ethical viability, and current methods of taking the gospel to restricted access peoples. Students will propose a creative access strategy for a specific population segment that considers financial resource management and a biblically-based, principled, decision-making model.

FM 312: Business as Mission II**Prerequisites: FM 310****Credits: 3**

This course addresses the postmodern cry for different models of church and ministry, different forms of ministry, and new responses to the challenges facing the Church and mission from urban pluralism to globalization. Students will explore how church leaders and cultural influencers from the fields of business, politics, media, education, entertainment, and the arts can contribute to the church's responsibility to advance the kingdom of Christ.

FM 315: World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry**Prerequisite: CS 201****Credits: 3**

This course examines the beliefs, values, and cultural practices of major world religions such as: Judaism, Islam, Hindu, and Buddhism. Atheist and agnostic perspectives will also be explored. Taking into account these non-Christian perspectives, the course will present contexts and considerations for presenting the human need for Christ within the cultural contexts related to these various world perspectives.

FM 350: Urban Evangelism**Prerequisites: FM 301, FM 302****Credits: 3**

This course presents a study of evangelism and church growth strategies in urban settings, with attention given to urbanization and the role of the church in the city. Theological, sociological, and cross-cultural research applicable to the church in the city is considered.

FM 412: Christian Entrepreneurship**Prerequisites: FM 301, FM 302****Credits: 2**

In this course, students will explore the basics for the development of a start-up Christian ministry enterprise. Topics will include needs assessment for the enterprise, building social and financial support, business and legal considerations, goal setting, and success measurements.

FM 451: Church Planting Strategies**Prerequisites: FM 301, FM 302****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will closely examine Jesus's interactions with his disciples in order to understand His tactics for ministry expansion. The course carefully examines the book of Acts to trace the replication of Jesus's tactics. The course examines biblical, theological, and sociological foundations of church growth theory. Students will learn practical steps to implement these tactics within either the emerging church among unreached peoples, or the established church among reached peoples. Special attention will be given to the factors which promote and hinder church planting in both western and non-western settings.

FM 470: Intercultural Communication**Prerequisites: FM 301, FM 303****Credits: 3**

Within the framework of Christian values in the context of cross-cultural service, students will explore prevailing realities in other cultures, potentially conflicting expectations and values, and inherently incompatible sensitivities. Students will explore the complex interrelationship between culture and the various aspects of the communication process in its verbal and non-verbal dimensions and reflect on strategies for learning culture and the dynamics of cultural transformation. Specific attention will be given to the implications for communicating the Christian message in culturally relevant ways.

General Education Courses

Note: GenEd courses serve to help students fulfill their undergraduate distribution requirements. Course abbreviations vary depending on the content area.

AH 250: History of Biblical Art

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

History of Biblical Art provides students with an overview of how Christ, God, and the Church have been represented historically through various art forms including: paintings, tapestries, sculptures, and architecture. Students will seek connections with the Scriptures through the arts.

CT 101: Basic Computer Skills

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

This course is an introduction to the basic computer skills commonly utilized by students in college courses.

EN 101: English Composition

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

The English Composition course prepares students for the rigors of college writing with an emphasis on correct writing mechanics, writing for effective communication, writing styles appropriate to the intended audience, and proper citations. Students are required to complete a research paper on a Christian topic of personal interest at the culmination of this course.

EN 102: English Literature

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

Students will read and discuss works from both contemporary and historical authors in the context of a Christian worldview. Writings from C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and others will be included. Students will further develop their analytical and writing skills as they formulate critical essays about the works read.

HM 100: Humanities

Prerequisites: None

Credits: Variable

This course designation is used to offer credit for undergraduate transfer courses that meet the criteria for Athens College of Ministry distribution requirements.

MA 150: Math for Ministry

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

In this course, students will apply mathematical skills to ministry-related tasks such as: reading and understanding statistics, generating reliable statistics, basic accounting, and basic budget creation. Students will apply these mathematical skills to real case studies.

PY 101: Introductory Psychology

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

This course offers an introduction to the science of psychology. Students will investigate theories, topics, and applications in the field of psychology across biological, cognitive, social developmental, and spiritual areas. Students learn to identify ways in which the science of psychology affects everyday lives and gain knowledge in multiple areas of psychology. The course will highlight connections among different areas of psychology and identify ways in which different perspectives contribute to a fuller understanding of human behavior.

SP 101: Beginning Spanish**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 4**

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for ministry to Spanish-speaking peoples through the basics of the Spanish language. All modes of communication—interpersonal and intrapersonal—in both spoken and written form are included.

SP 102: Intermediate Spanish**Prerequisites: SP 101****Credits: 4**

Building on the basic linguistic skills gained in Beginning Spanish, Intermediate Spanish is designed to help students grow especially in the area of interpersonal communication. Students will continue to build strong listening skills and practice witnessing the power of the Good News in Spanish.

Generational Ministry Courses

GM 310: Family Ministry**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students explore the ways in which different paradigms of ministry affect children, youth, families, and culture. What does it mean to be family-based in ministry? What is the role of the family in the Church? How does Christianity affect culture? What is the role of the Church today and in the future? How does culture play a part in shaping families? How will these affect children's and youth ministry in the future?

GM 350: Adult Spiritual Development**Prerequisites: GM 310****Credits: 3**

This course provides an overview of ministry leadership and organization of ministries designed to evangelize and disciple young, mid-life, and senior adults. Theological, cultural, and practical issues related to adult ministry will be addressed, with particular attention to how each of these aspects contributes to an overall strategy of effective adult ministry

GM 370: Discipleship in Contemporary Youth Culture**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will engage in an in-depth look inside today's youth culture by examining the questions teens ask about such topics as parents, self-image, friendships, peer pressure, music, love, sex, dating, abuse, drugs, and teen violence. Special attention will be given to addressing these issues from a biblical perspective and to equipping students to speak, teach, and counsel youth and families about their felt needs.

GM 402: Hospice & Hospital Ministry**Prerequisites: CC 301****Credits: 3**

This course will incorporate a theological and practical study of pertinent medical issues in pastoral ministry. Broad overviews of topics including anatomy and physiology, physical and mental illness, hospital settings (emergency room, labor and delivery, intensive care, etc.), dying, grief, and crises will enable more effective ministry in key hospital and hospice settings.

GM 410: Leading Children's Ministry**Prerequisites: GM 310, CC 315****Credits: 4**

This course provides an overview of the role of ministers to children and directors in children's programs, including church related programs, day care and church kindergartens, all in the context of the objectives, methods, and trends of church programs for children. The course includes a study of the moral and spiritual development of children from birth through eleven years of age and an examination of curricular materials for children used by church organizations.

GM 412: Leading Teen Ministry**Prerequisites: GM 310, GM 370****Credits: 4**

This course examines a biblical perspective on youth ministry within the context of contemporary culture. Students will consider effective principles and practices needed to disciple a young person to know God and make Him known. The course looks specifically at adolescent Christian life and how it relates to growing mature leaders within circles of influence as related to youth. Students will examine practical, effective ways to build youth ministry teams, to engage students in spiritual growth through effective teaching and Christian service, and to plan and implement special youth ministry events and experiences.

Leadership Courses

LS 371: Servant Leadership & Change**Prerequisite: BS 101, BS 102****Credits: 3**

This course studies servant leadership as an attitude exemplified by Jesus, expounded in the New Testament and applied in contemporary organizations. It also explores the sociological and psychological phenomena involved in leading and managing organizational change. Students will explore their own leadership capacity and how to facilitate team building, organizational change, vision casting, and implementation.

LS 412: The Dynamics of Leadership**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

Given that leadership by biblical definition requires the ability to exercise positive influence on other people for the purpose of glorifying God, students in this course will examine and develop the ability to create successful interpersonal relationships. Through case studies, students will consider ethical ways to cast vision and inspire others to join with the leader in achieving a shared goal. Students will also consider what it means to develop effective ways to lead others to a saving relationship with Christ.

Worship Arts Courses

WA 301: Music Theory**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course provides an introduction to the fundamentals of music, incorporating music notation for rhythm, pitch, and simple chord construction and coordinates notational and music reading studies with the development of basic skills in sight singing, ear training, and keyboard harmony. The course includes aural skills such as a rhythmic, harmonic, and melodic dictation, score reading and sight reading.

WA 305: Effective Worship Leadership**Prerequisites: BS 375****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will gain a depth of understanding and development of the essential skills necessary for leading others in God-honoring worship. This includes an understanding of the worship leader's identity in Christ, their calling as children and servants, and the practice of spiritual disciplines. The course also covers practical skill development in engaging the body of Christ effectively, teaching and elocution, building & discipling worship teams, creative planning and service development, reflecting the Spirit of Christ on and off the platform, and serving Him as empowered by the Holy Spirit.

WA 310: Christian Music Genres**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course provides a cross-cultural survey of Christian congregational worship songs and hymns (texts and music) from different periods, styles, and traditions contrasted with contemporary Christian music styles through a survey of musical literature and styles in sacred music. Students will consider purpose, message, cultural context, and audience.

WA 350: Vocal Performance**Prerequisites: Permission of Department****Credits: 4**

This course is designed for voice students whose primary interest is improving their singing. The course presents and makes application of basic principles of singing technique. Students will examine the performance of different music styles, genres, and harmonic vocal blending. The course requires two concert performances during the semester and collaboration with instrumental students.

WA 351: Instrumental Performance**Prerequisites: Permission of Department****Credits: 4**

This course is designed for instrumental students whose primary interest is improving their musical technique. The course presents and makes application of basic principles of instrumental technique. Instrumental students will collaborate on the performance of different musical genres and styles. The course requires two concert performances during the semester and collaboration with vocal music students.

WA 401: Advanced Music Theory**Prerequisites: WA 301****Credits: 3**

This course provides advanced instruction of music theory, incorporating music notation for rhythm, pitch, and simple chord construction and coordinates notational and music reading studies with the continued development of skills in sight singing, ear training, and keyboard harmony. The course includes aural skills such as rhythmic, harmonic, and melodic dictation, score reading and sight reading.

WA 410: Arranging**Prerequisites: WA 301****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the basic techniques of arranging musical scores for audience, purpose, and effect. Students' course projects will result in performances and final critique. The course requires some rehearsal outside of regularly scheduled class time.

WA 411: Composing**Prerequisites: WA 301****Credits: 3**

In this course, students develop techniques for composing music and lyrics in different genres. Students will work closely with vocal and instrumental performance students on end-of-course performance of newly composed music.

WA 440: Choral & Instrumental Conducting**Prerequisites: WA 410****Credits: 3**

This course introduces students to techniques for rehearsing, conducting, and leading instrumental and choral performances. The course requires some rehearsal outside of regularly scheduled class time and end-of-course performance.

WA 450: Advanced Vocal Performance**Prerequisite: WA 350****Credits: 4**

Vocal students explore more advanced performance techniques and styles. The course requires two concert performances in public Christian venues during the semester and collaboration with instrumental students.

WA 451: Advanced Instrumental Performance**Prerequisite: WA 351****Credits: 4**

Instrumental students explore more advanced performance techniques and styles. The course requires two concert performances in public Christian venues during the semester and collaboration with vocal students.

WA 460: Media & Technology**Prerequisites: WA 310****Credits: 3**

In this course, the student will explore a variety of media and technology applications that enhance worship and/or learning experiences. The course will address both hardware and software applications and will provide a general introduction to effective media use in both church and educational settings. Topics will include but not be limited to: Using video, computers and tablets, creating media presentations, cloud applications and services, presentation software, learning management systems, conducting digital research, sound systems and media production. In the applied elements of the course, students will learn how to creatively integrate and augment technology applications in a selected specialty (i.e., technology in worship, technology in education, etc.).

WA 490: Special Project in Worship Arts**Prerequisite: Permission of Department****Credits: 2–4**

With instructor permission, students may pursue an independent study topic related to Worship Arts as relevant to their area of specialization.

Graduate Course Catalog

Overview

The course catalog presents all required and elective graduate courses necessary for degree completion. Students are encouraged to take courses outside of their major studies area as electives with permission from the department as necessary. The Christian Core requirements for ACMin graduate students will be determined by the Chair of the Graduate Program based on incoming students' undergraduate course work.

Key to Abbreviations:

AM = Agricultural Ministry
BL = Biblical Languages
BS = Biblical Studies
CC = Care & Counseling
CS = Christian Studies
ED = Education
FIA = Faith in Action (Apprenticeship Program)
FM = Field Ministry
GM = Generational Ministry
LS = Leadership
WA = Worship Arts

Agricultural Ministry Courses

AM 501: Growing Food & Faith

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 4

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the basic scientific principles of plant growth and development, particularly as they apply to the production of food crops. Students will also explore the relationship between plant science and Christian faith, including how food production is used in a wide range of biblical passages, how an understanding of food production can impact faith messages, and how farming and gardening can be used effectively to enhance Christian ministry and service.

AM 512: Plants of the Bible

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 4

Through an end-to-end study of every plant mentioned in the Scriptures, students will consider plant names in the original biblical language (Hebrew, Greek) as well as the uses of those plants in ancient Israel. Further, students will explore present-day connections between biblical symbolism, the Scriptures, and 21st Century life and ministry.

Biblical Language Courses

BL 510: Old Testament Hebrew I

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

This course provides an introduction to the Old Testament Hebrew language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve a beginning confidence in reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while learning Old Testament Hebrew.

BL 511: Old Testament Hebrew II**Prerequisites: BS 510****Credits: 3**

This course provides an intermediate level of study of the Old Testament Hebrew language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve proficiency reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while building on the foundation from Old Testament Hebrew I.

BL 550: New Testament Greek I**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course provides an introduction to the Hellenistic, New Testament Greek language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve beginning confidence in reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while learning New Testament Greek.

BL 551: New Testament Greek II**Prerequisites: BL 550****Credits: 3**

This course provides an intermediate level of study of the Hellenistic, New Testament Greek language. Through sound principles of linguistic interpretation and grammar, the student will achieve proficiency reading and doing exegetical, biblical studies while building on the foundation from New Testament Greek I.

Biblical Studies Courses**BS 501: Old Testament Survey** (Christian Core)**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

This course presents an overview of the history of the Bible, its writing and centuries of preservation, and provides an introduction to the history and theology of selected books and passages of the Old Testament. Through the study of the Old Testament, students will build their inductive Bible study skills.

BS 502: New Testament Survey (Christian Core)**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

This course examines the features of Christian community and ministry, and the promise of Christ's return through a study of the history and theology of selected books of the New Testament. Through the study of the New Testament, students will build their inductive Bible study skills.

BS 510: The Book of Genesis**Prerequisite: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

In this course students will undertake an in-depth look at the story of creation, and well-known characters in biblical history from Adam and Eve, to Noah, Abraham, Jacob and Joseph. The course will consider the content of Genesis with particular focus on the theology from creation to the Abrahamic Covenant and the development of major themes that are repeated throughout Scripture.

BS 511: The Prophets**Prerequisite: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will examine the purpose for God's chosen servants, the Old Testament prophets, who were always calling the people to repentance and revealing God's will to Israel within the contexts of their times in history.

BS 512: Walking with Jesus—The Gospels**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course examines the Jewish world in the days of Christ, Jesus's life within Hebrew culture and Rabbinic tradition, the fruit of His ministry, and the aspects of a personal, daily walk with Him through the lens of His disciples. Students will also consider how to model their own lives and ministries based on a close relationship with the Father as modeled by the Son of Man.

BS 513: The Trinity**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

In this course students will explore the interrelated nature of the Trinity and the unique roles and characteristics of God as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, based on biblical examination. From that biblical grounding, students will then compare and contrast historical and contemporary theological perspectives related to the Trinity. Students will also consider the implications for Christian Life based on a biblically-based understanding of the Trinity.

BS: 520: God the Father**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course examines Scripture related to the character, person, and works of God the Father, exploring such areas as His holiness, power, strength, wrath, control, grace, mercy, and love. The course particularly focuses on God's plan for transforming people into Christ's likeness and experiencing godly living in today's world.

BS 550: Systematic Theology**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents biblical doctrine, the existence of God and His attributes, the Trinity, Theism, doctrine of creation, man, the fall, death, heaven, hell, doctrine of the church, spiritual warfare, the power of God through His Word, and Christ's return. Students will gain experience in integrating doctrine into real world situations and in understanding how theological concepts are expressed differently across cultures.

BS 551: Inductive Bible Study**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

The goal of inductive Bible study is to equip students with the tools to be life-long students of the Scriptures. The course presents a method for exegesis and Scripture study by considering the context and setting of the passage, the author's audience and purpose, and the other passages that surround the passage of study. The purpose of the study is to understand what the text would have communicated in the context of the time and culture that produced and used it, while also understanding that contemporary questions are conditioned by our own language, culture, and history.

BS 552: Apologetics**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

The primary focus of this course will be the practical application of apologetics in ministry and evangelism. Various approaches to the apologetic task will be investigated. Attention will be given to the systematic and rational defense of the Christian faith against significant contemporary challenges. Topics include such areas as tests for truth, a critique of relativism and pluralism, the problem of miracles, and the historicity of the Christian faith.

BS 575: Biblical Foundations for Worship**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502, or permission****Credits: 3**

This course provides students with a thorough understanding of the nature and practice of biblical, Christ-centered worship, its objective as related to the worshiper of God, its purpose for the corporate body of Christ, and its implications for the Kingdom of God in the world. This course will include a broad survey of Scriptures taken from both Old and New Testaments that describes worship which honors God, reflects His heart for worship, and reveals the central purpose of worship in the Church.

BS 601: The Psalms**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course examines the representation of the book of Psalms as both prayer and poetry intended to be set to worship and prayed in worship within the historical context of faith and worship in ancient Israel. The course will help students understand the message of the Psalms and their relevance for contemporary Christian experience. Attention will be given to different psalm types, the structure of Hebrew poetry, the universal perspective of the Psalms, and the use of Psalms for teaching and preaching.

BS 602: Theology of Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents a comprehensive study of the biblical foundation for mission as it relates to the church's missionary obligation before God. Special attention will be given to exploring important issues within contemporary evangelical missiology. A study of Acts examines the birth and growth of the early church. In addition to studying the historical sequence of events, the student will consider Luke's theological themes, learn to extrapolate legitimate biblical principles from a historical narrative, and apply those principles in the development of a contemporary missions' strategy.

BS 610 The Book of Acts**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course examines the early church through a study of the Book of Acts as God establishes the Church, raises up leaders, develops community, reaches the world with the Gospel, and pours out His Spirit. This book is foundational in understanding the application of the Gospel in relationship with God, the Church and the world. The student will better understand what it looks like to live out God's plans and purposes both individually and corporately.

BS 611: The Book of Romans**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course examines Paul's letter to the Romans, written from Corinth on Paul's third missionary journey, considered by many to be the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest Gospel, as well as the basic theological frame-work for the whole collection of Paul's writings.

BS 613: The Book of Revelation**Prerequisites: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will examine the Book of Revelation, an apocalyptic form of writing in the New Testament that sees God acting by bringing a radical end to history, destroying all evil, and completing the act of new creation. Students will examine the structure, biblical themes, key theological concepts, and present-day significance of the book of Revelation.

BS 650: Special Topics in Christian Theology**Prerequisite: Christian Core, Permission of Instructor****Credits: 1–4**

With instructor permission, students may pursue an independent study topic related to Christian Theology as relevant to their area of specialization.

Care & Counseling Courses**CC 501: Psychology & Theology****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents the basic principles of the integration of psychology and theology at three levels—the philosophical, the theological, and the practical. Students will examine God's truths as related to emotional, relational, and spiritual formation as well as the application of these concepts to optimize others' personal growth in real ministry settings.

CC 502: Human Growth & Development**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course provides an understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels, personality theory, and learning theory, and which may provide a comprehensive overview of the factors, determinants, and stages that pertain to physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development and adaptation from infantile to geriatric stages.

CC 503: Theory & Practice of Counseling & Psychotherapy**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course will provide a broad overview and critique of foundational personality and counseling theories. Emphasis will be on the application of these theories by exploring the techniques and strategies of each theory, including systems theory. The philosophical presuppositions, theological implications, situational appropriateness, and effectiveness with individual, group, and family client populations will be addressed.

CC 504: Introduction to Care & Counseling Ministry**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course introduces students to the importance of a Christian's call to bind up the broken hearted, with the goal of learning how to apply biblical principles and prayer techniques to specific issues such as anger management, marital breakdown, addiction development, crisis management, anxiety, depression, and grieving. In addition to understanding the importance of self-care, students will learn how to listen emphatically, how to facilitate spiritual life assessment and change, and how to pray and counsel strategically within the recipient's process of spiritual, emotional, and relational growth and healing.

CC 510: Professional, Ethical, & Legal Issues in Counseling**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

During this course, students will develop a biblically-based understanding of professional roles, responsibilities, objectives, and functions as they relate to Christian counseling settings. Students will examine the legal and ethical standards published by professional counseling organizations and associations and consider trends, historical cases regarding ethical and legal standards, professional preparation standards, and professional credentialing.

CC 515: Counseling Children & Teens**Prerequisites: GM 510 or CC 503****Credits: 3**

This course provides the basic principles of counseling children and adolescents within the context of family, school, socio-cultural, and religious systems. The emphasis will be on helping each student develop his or her own style in forming therapeutic relationships with children or adolescents, and in using effective therapeutic skills and techniques. Students will examine the sanctification process for adolescents in the context of the temptations they face. A special focus will be given to parent training and parents as co-therapists, as well as empirically sound, highly efficacious, and cost-effective intervention strategies for treating behavioral challenges in children. Legal and ethical issues specific to working with children are addressed.

CC 520: Biblical Foundations of Prayer Ministry**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

Students will investigate the biblical premise for heart transformation and the renewing of the mind through the practice of prayer ministry. The focus will be on the application of effective prayer ministry methods and prayer ministry as a tool to set the captives free as well as a means to present Christ to unbelievers.

CC 521: Healing Shame**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 2**

Students will understand how the shroud of shame has become the new veil that would try to keep us separated from the fullness of our identity in and relationship with Christ. Shame can result from past sins, wounds inflicted by others, or incorrect self-perception, and affects how we view ourselves and others. Through Prayer Ministry and God's Word, students learn how to break free from the power of shame and replace it with the joy of the Lord as well as how to help others experience the same freedom.

CC 525: The Practice of Prayer**Prerequisites: CC 520****Credits: 3**

In this capstone course, students will reflect on various forms of prayer including intercession and transformational prayer, and they will develop a model of prayer leadership to use in a selected ministry setting. Students will concurrently lead prayer ministry sessions and reflect on their apprenticeship experience through this course as a means to grow in wisdom and understanding as prayer leaders.

CC 530: Effective Prayer Ministry tools**Prerequisites: CC 520****Credits: 3**

Students will learn and apply basic and advanced tools for engaging in effective prayer ministry to others. Methodologies for this course vary by semester. Students may choose from a number of Prayer Ministry methods offered at ACMin.

CC 550: Research Methods in Counseling & Psychology**Prerequisites: CS 502, CS 503****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore types of research, statistics, research report development, research implementation, program evaluation, needs assessment, and ethical and legal considerations in research. The course also includes an understanding of the theory, analysis, and interpretation of manual or computer-generated statistical measures.

CC 552: God's Design for Sexual Wholeness**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course examines God's design for human sexuality, sexual wholeness, and what it means for individuals and for the church in 21st Century American culture. The course examines the enemy's attacks on Christians and Christian leaders in the area of sexual sin and provides a foundation for rebuking lies with biblically-based truth.

CC 570: Psychopathology**Prerequisites: CC 503****Credits: 3**

This course examines the theories, research, descriptive characteristics, categories, dynamics, and etiology of mental, behavioral, cognitive, and personality disorders.

CC 575: Lifestyle & Career Development**Prerequisites: CC 502****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will develop an understanding of career development theories, occupational educational information sources and systems, career and leisure counseling, guidance and education, lifestyle and career decision making, and career development program planning, resources, and evaluation.

CC 610: Addictions Counseling**Prerequisites: CC 503****Credits: 3**

This course helps students to understand the etiology of addictions and enables them to understand and recommend treatment. Addictions in the areas of sexuality, pornography, work, thought, and substance abuse will be addressed. The issues of dependence, control, sin, and responsibility will be studied.

CC 615: Assessment & Diagnosis**Prerequisites: CC 570****Credits: 3**

This course presents students with an understanding of the psychometric theories and practical approaches concerning the assessment of individuals, groups, couples, and families, while equipping students with the skills and competencies necessary to incorporate assessment strategies into the counseling process. Focus will be placed on information gathering methods, evaluating test results, and application of assessment practices as an integral part of diagnosing Christian counseling needs.

CC 650: Foundations of Mental Health & Community Counseling**Prerequisites: CC 615****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will consider how to work with individuals, families, and groups to address and treat mental and emotional disorders and to promote mental health. They will learn a variety of therapeutic techniques used to address issues such as depression, anxiety, addiction and substance abuse, trauma, and other issues and consider the effects of such issues on clients' lifestyles and occupations. Students will also develop an understanding of how to facilitate treatment by other mental health specialists, such as psychiatrists, psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurses, and school counselors. The course provides an overview of community advocacy services through education, employers, and other available social and rehabilitation programs.

CC 651: Group Counseling Theory & Practice**Prerequisites: CC 615****Credits: 3**

This course provides an understanding of group development, dynamics, and counseling/psychotherapy theories, group leadership styles, group counseling/psychotherapy methods and skills, and other group approaches.

CC 670: Social & Cross-Cultural Foundations**Prerequisites: CC 650****Credits: 3**

In this course, students gain an understanding of societal changes and trends, human roles, societal subgroups, social mores and interaction, and their impacts on groups and individuals.

CC 675: Grief & Crisis Counseling**Prerequisites: CC 503 or CC 504****Credits: 3**

This course is designed to train students to respond with wise biblical counsel to those who have endured a crisis such as the death of a family member, divorce, loss of a child, illness, and other trauma. In this course, students will learn to understand and identify the process and progress of how people deal with crisis or loss in their lives and how to guide a person through the healing process so that the crisis or loss can be placed in its proper perspective and the individual can readjust and grow. Special attention will be given to the emotional, spiritual, relational, and physical symptoms that may occur during the aftermath of a crisis along with the loss of hope and faith.

CC 680: Marriage & Family Counseling**Prerequisites: CC 615****Credits: 3**

This course will train students to prepare couples for marriage, to assess and address basic marital problems, and to understand and respond to typical family issues. Using the Bible, assessments, and systems thinking, students will explore how to use pastoral counseling skills in the arenas of prevention, treatment, and recovery of basic marriage and family issues.

Christian Studies Courses

CS 501: Foundations of Faith (Christian Core)**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

The course presents a survey of Christ-centered biblical history and provides, through the study of Scripture, a theological framework for God, Jesus, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the spiritual world, evil, the Church, and specific theological beliefs. The course includes an introduction to inductive Bible study and an overview of church history.

CS 502: His Creation: Talents & Spiritual Gifts (Christian Core)**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course will equip students to identify and develop their identity in Christ as stewards entrusted with unique, individual talents. The course provides a biblical perspective on spiritual gifts and explores theological issues surrounding spiritual gifts in ministry. This course will give students the tools to discover, explore, and practice their God-given gifts and talents and will prepare them to represent the Lord in their circles of influence within a domain of leadership through the application of talents and gifts within the context of ministry teams and as team leaders. Students will examine biblical, historical, and philosophical precedents for working groups and teams as related to ministry applications and realities.

CS 503: Prayer & Spiritual Direction (Christian Core)**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

The course examines the Christian practice of prayer through biblical and theological lenses, types of prayer (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication), and it introduces students to the theology and practice of hearing God and discerning His will. Students will engage in the spiritual discipline of prayer and reflect on their experiences with God through collaborative learning, individual assessment, and class discussion with an emphasis on application outside of the classroom environment.

CS 504: The Great Commission: Evangelism (Christian Core)**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

This course challenges students to consider the relationship between Christ and culture by equipping students with an overview of Christian philosophy and answers to the most difficult questions posed by both believers and unbelievers. Within the theological framework, students will study major doctrines pertaining to the existence and nature of God, evil, the nature of man, Scripture as the source of truth, and the Church as the body of Christ. The course introduces students to tools and models for evangelism by applying Christian philosophy in the context of sharing the Good News in a contemporary culture of competing world views and relativism. Students will perform and evaluate personal evangelistic activities.

CS 505: The Great Commission: Discipleship (Christian Core)**Prerequisite: None****Credits: 3**

This course examines a biblically-based reflection on an individuals' personal spiritual growth. Based on an individual's progress along the pathway, students will consider spiritual needs and potential barriers to spiritual growth. Students focus on using Christian discipleship and leadership principles to develop healthy, thriving, Christian communities that promote and encourage spiritual growth and sanctification.

CS 510: World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course examines the beliefs, values, and cultural practices of major world religions such as: Judaism, Islam, Hindu and Buddhism. Atheist and agnostic perspectives will also be explored. Taking into account these non-Christian perspectives, the course will present contexts and considerations for presenting the human need for Christ within the cultural contexts related to these various world perspectives.

CS 515: Christian Philosophy**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course is an in-depth study of the knowing that "there must be GOD" through an examination of God's power through His creation and through His infallible word. The course also examines different philosophical arguments concerning Jesus Christ, the relevancy of Christianity, and how Christians profess God's existence in a philosophical argument.

CS 525: Christian Social Ethics**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 2**

In this course, students examine various approaches to ethical decision-making and evaluate them against the teaching of Scripture. The goal of the course is to prepare students to deal with ethical issues which arise in Christian ministry, whether in the local church, in an intercultural setting, in the mission field, or other ministry contexts.

CS 531: Church History**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course examines the history of Christianity from the New Testament through modern times, including the spread of Christianity throughout the world, the preservation of Christianity across generations, heroes of faith, and the emergence of different denominations.

CS 551: Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ**Prerequisite: CS 503****Credits: 3**

The course examines the realities of spiritual warfare and a biblical basis for victory given to believers through the power of Jesus.

CS 570: Administration & Finance**Prerequisite: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course examines core administrative and financial competencies expected of not for profit leaders, including human resource management, strategic planning, budget development and maintenance, fundraising, and taxes.

CS 571: Servant Leadership & Change**Prerequisite: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course studies servant leadership as an attitude exemplified by Jesus, expounded in the New Testament and applied in contemporary organizations. It also explores the sociological and psychological phenomena involved in leading and managing organizational change. Students will explore their own leadership capacity and how to facilitate team building, organizational change, vision casting, and implementation.

CS: 600: An Introduction to Christian Education**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

An Introduction to Christian Education is a course that introduces students to the purpose of Christian education. Topics include: foundations of Christian education, an overview of developmental perspectives in Christian education, the teaching-learning process, organization and administration of educational programs, generational perspectives in Christian education, and specialized purposes for Christian education. The course provides a general overview of the ministry of Christian education for church, Christian school, and non-profit educational ministry organizations.

CS 601: The Ministry of Preaching**Prerequisite: BS 551****Credits: 3**

In this course students survey the theology and practice of the ministry of preaching, including examination of rhetorical and ethical topics. The course also focuses on sermon construction, delivery and evaluation with an emphasis on structural variety, clear biblical exposition, and suitable application. Students will plan, design, and deliver messages and engage in peer critique of messages delivered.

CS 602: The Art & Science of Teaching**Prerequisite: BS 551****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore two fundamental questions: How do people learn? and What instructional methods most effectively support student learning? Course participants will examine both traditional approaches to the educational process as well as current research-based theory and practice. Students will learn how to adapt course content and processes to meet the needs of all students (e.g., adaptation, differentiation, and accommodation). Students will develop both a philosophy and a practice for instructional planning that focuses on the seamless integration of outcomes, instruction, and the measurement of the intended objectives.

CS 603: Personal Spiritual Formation**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the foundations of the spiritual disciplines and their role in the development of personal spiritual formation—the day-by-day journey through which individuals open their hearts to a deeper relationship with God and a rich understanding of their identity in Christ. The course will present why spiritual formation is a vital part of Christian ministry, its biblical foundation, and its role in the development of Christian education programs.

CS 604: Perspectives on World Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course examines multiple perspectives on missiology and the changing globe with special attention to students' own area(s) of particular interest. Students will examine specific strategies and issues in missions with a special interest on urban settings, cross-cultural settings, and reaching the 10/40 window.

CS 612: The Dynamics of Leadership**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

Given that leadership by biblical definition requires the ability to exercise positive influence on other people for the purpose of glorifying God, students in this course will examine and develop the ability to create successful interpersonal relationships. Through case studies, students will consider ethical ways to cast vision and inspire others to join with the leader in achieving a shared goal. Students will also consider what it means to develop effective ways to lead others to a saving relationship with Christ.

CS 650: Special Topics in Ministry**Prerequisite: Christian Core, Permission of Instructor****Credits: 1–4**

With instructor permission, students may pursue an independent study topic related to Christian Ministry as relevant to their area of specialization.

CS 690: Master's Thesis**Prerequisite: 30 hours of major area studies complete****Credits: 2**

Under the direction of a faculty member, students will research a particular area of ministry interest and submit the master's thesis at the end of the semester in which the thesis course is taken, usually the final semester that a student is enrolled.

CS 691: Master's Thesis**Prerequisite: 30 hours of major area studies complete****Credits: 1**

Under the direction of a faculty member, students will research a particular area of ministry interest and submit the master's thesis at the end of the semester in which the thesis course is taken, usually the final semester that a student is enrolled.

Education Courses***Courses designed to satisfy the ACSI Christian education certification requirements******Courses specifically required for ACSI Christian education certification****ED 500: An Introduction to Christian Education*****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

An Introduction to Christian Education is a course that introduces students to the purpose of Christian education. Topics include: foundations of Christian education, an overview of developmental perspectives in Christian education, the teaching-learning process, organization and administration of educational programs, generational perspectives in Christian education, and specialized purposes for Christian education. The course provides a general overview of the ministry of Christian education for church, Christian school, and non-profit educational ministry organizations.

ED 501: Christian Philosophy of Education****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore ultimate questions of philosophy and theology in the light of a biblical foundation for education. Students will identify purposes of education and examine important life questions as they relate to the educational mission. Students will develop a personal philosophy of Christian education that demonstrates a grasp of six philosophical and educational questions and the integration of related biblical principles.

ED 502: Identification & Education of Exceptional Children***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course provides students with an overview of the identification, classification, eligibility, and unique characteristics of individuals with disabilities and/or giftedness that require accommodations and adaptations. This course will provide students with an overview of the different classification categories of exceptional children and criteria for identifying students with special needs. The course will also focus on applied strategies for effectively teaching students with special needs.

ED 503: Reading Instruction****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will develop skills for a foundation in reading instruction. The course will address current research and theory in reading instruction. Students will study methodology, instruction in phonics, vocabulary development, reading for comprehension, assessment, and modification for exceptionalities. Students will learn how to apply developmentally appropriate strategies in reading instruction. For the applied elements of the course, students will specialize in reading instruction for a selected educational level (i.e., early childhood, middle grades, secondary, or adult education).

ED 600: Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will learn how to identify the formal and informal components of curriculum development that integrate instruction and assessment through the development process. Students will learn the effective use of assessments for formative and summative purposes, and how to select, write, and adapt curriculum and assessment materials for meaningful educational experiences. Through the meaningful integration of curriculum, instruction, and assessment, students will master a purposeful educational process flow for effective, results-oriented teaching.

ED 602: The Art & Science of Teaching**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore two fundamental questions: How do people learn? and What instructional methods most effectively support student learning? Course participants will examine both traditional approaches to the educational process as well as current research-based theory and practice. Students will learn how to adapt course content and processes to meet the needs of all students (e.g. adaptation, differentiation, and accommodation). Students will develop both a philosophy and a practice for instructional planning that focuses on the seamless integration of outcomes, instruction, and the measurement of the intended objectives.

ED 603: Personal Spiritual Formation***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the foundations of the spiritual disciplines and their role in the development of personal spiritual formation—the day-by-day journey through which individuals open their hearts to a deeper relationship with God and a rich understanding of their identity in Christ. The course will present why spiritual formation is a vital part of Christian ministry, its biblical foundation, and its role in the development of Christian education programs.

ED 660: Media & Technology***Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, the student will explore a variety of media and technology applications that enhance worship and/or learning experiences. The course will address both hardware and software applications and will provide a general introduction to effective media use in both church and educational settings. Topics will include but not be limited to: Using video, computers and tablets, creating media presentations, cloud applications and services, presentation software, learning management systems, conducting digital research, sound systems and media production. In the applied elements of the course, students will learn how to creatively integrate and augment technology applications in a selected specialty (i.e., technology in worship, technology in education, etc.).

Faith-in-Action Courses**FIA 501: Case Studies in Ministry****Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In preparation for the Faith-in-Action apprenticeship experience, this course examines case studies in ministry and their application to effective, Christ-centered, Kingdom transformation.

FIA 510: Elective Independent Study**Prerequisites: FIA 501, Permission of Instructor****Credits: 1–3**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a specialized setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to the specialized setting.

FIA 601: Preaching in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, CS 601****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a preaching setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to preaching.

FIA 602: Field Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, CS 601 or CS 602 or FM 501 and FM 502****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a field ministry setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to the setting (e.g., urban, international, cross-cultural, etc.).

FIA 603: Administration & Finance in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, CS 570****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an administration or finance setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to the setting.

FIA 604: Prayer Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: CS 551****Credits: 3**

Under the supervision of a trained leader in prayer ministry, students will lead live prayer ministry sessions.

FIA 605: Teaching in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, CS 602 or ED 602****Credits: 3–12**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a teaching setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to apply ministry to teaching.

FIA 610: Individual Clinical Assessment**Prerequisites: CC 615****Credits: 2 (75 hours)**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in clinical counseling settings with a focus on individual assessment and treatment.

FIA 611: Group & Community Clinical Assessment**Prerequisites: CC 651****Credits: 7 (75 hours)**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in clinical counseling settings with a focus on the assessment and treatment of client groups (e.g., marriage and family settings, group therapy, etc.)

FIA 615: Clinical Counseling Internship**Prerequisites: Permission of Department****Credits: 4 (150 hours)**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will lead clinical counseling sessions, complete session reports, and recommend appropriate therapy for assigned clients.

FIA 631: Worship Teams in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, WA 650****Credits: 3–6**

This apprenticeship experience provides Worship Arts students an opportunity to serve the body of Christ in diverse, small-scale, ministry settings through biblical worship in a team format. Students must demonstrate the ability to build a worship team and coordinate effective ministry through worship in a variety of contexts over the course of the semester under the supervision of a faculty mentor. This study will culminate in the student's participation in the end-of-semester ACMin sponsored, student-led worship events.

FIA 633: Media & Technology Production in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, WA 660****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a public setting for their ministry apprenticeship experience where their media and technology skills can be used for ministry. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed in the ministry setting.

FIA 634: Worship Leadership in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, WA 670****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, Worship Arts students will have an opportunity to serve on a regular rotation over the course of the semester as the primary corporate worship leader in approved settings under supervised mentorship. Students will organize, host, and lead an end-of-semester worship event which will involve all ACMin Worship Arts students.

FIA 641: Urban Missions in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, FM 501, FM 550****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an urban ministry setting for their ministry apprenticeship. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed for ministry in an urban setting.

FIA 642: International Missions in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, FM 501, FM 502****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an international ministry setting for their ministry apprenticeship. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed for ministry in an international setting.

FIA 670: Children's Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, GM 610****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a Children's Ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Youth Ministry.

FIA 671: Youth Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, GM 612****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a Children's Ministry apprenticeship experience. While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Youth Ministry.

FIA 672: Adult Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, GM 550****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in an Adult Ministry apprenticeship experience (e.g., discipleship leader at a local church, retirement home ministry, etc.). While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Adult Ministry.

FIA 673: Hospital Ministry in Action**Prerequisites: FIA 501, GM 602****Credits: 3–6**

Under the direction of a faculty member and a trained mentor, students will participate in a Hospital Ministry apprenticeship experience (e.g., Chaplaincy, hospice, etc.). While serving as an apprentice, students will have the opportunity to explore, develop, and enhance the personal and practical skills needed to effectively lead Hospital Ministry.

Field Ministry Courses

FM 501: Perspectives on World Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course examines multiple perspectives on missiology and the changing globe with special attention to students' own area(s) of particular interest. Students will examine specific strategies and issues in missions with a special interest on urban settings, cross-cultural settings, and reaching the 10/40 window.

FM 502: Theology of Missions**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

This course presents a comprehensive study of the biblical foundation for mission as it relates to the church's missionary obligation before God. Special attention will be given to exploring important issues within contemporary evangelical missiology. A study of Acts examines the birth and growth of the early church. In addition to studying the historical sequence of events, the student will consider Luke's theological themes, learn to extrapolate legitimate biblical principles from a historical narrative, and apply those principles in the development of a contemporary missions' strategy.

FM 503: Cultural Anthropology**Prerequisites: FM 501, FM 502****Credits: 3**

This course will present an introduction to the study of other cultures and worldview assumptions that are foundational to an individual's belief systems and behavior patterns. Students will analyze the culture and worldview of ethnolinguistic and socio-economic people groups from a biblical worldview perspective.

FM 510 Business as Mission I**Prerequisites: FM 501, FM 502****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the biblical basis, strategy, ethical viability, and current methods of taking the gospel to restricted access peoples. Students will propose a creative access strategy for a specific population segment that considers financial resource management and a biblically-based, principled, decision-making model.

FM 512: Business as Mission II**Prerequisites: FM 510****Credits: 3**

This course addresses the postmodern cry for different models of church and ministry, different forms of ministry, and new responses to the challenges facing the Church and mission from urban pluralism to globalization. Students will explore how church leaders and cultural influencers from the fields of business, politics, media, education, entertainment, and the arts can contribute to the church's responsibility to advance the kingdom of Christ.

FM 515: World Religions & Cross-Cultural Ministry**Prerequisite: CS 501****Credits: 3**

This course examines the beliefs, values, and cultural practices of major world religions such as: Judaism, Islam, Hindu, and Buddhism. Atheist and agnostic perspectives will also be explored. Taking into account these non-Christian perspectives, the course will present contexts and considerations for presenting the human need for Christ within the cultural contexts related to these various world perspectives.

FM 550: Urban Evangelism**Prerequisites: FM 501, FM 502****Credits: 3**

This course presents a study of evangelism and church growth strategies in urban settings, with attention given to urbanization and the role of the church in the city. Theological, sociological, and cross-cultural research applicable to the church in the city is considered.

FM 570: Intercultural Communication**Prerequisites: FM 501, FM 503****Credits: 3**

Within the framework of Christian values in the context of cross-cultural service, students will explore prevailing realities in other cultures, potentially conflicting expectations and values, and inherently incompatible sensitivities. Students will explore the complex interrelationship between culture and the various aspects of the communication process in its verbal and non-verbal dimensions, and they will reflect on strategies for learning culture and the dynamics of cultural transformation. Specific attention will be given to the implications for communicating the Christian message in culturally relevant ways.

FM 612: Christian Entrepreneurship**Prerequisites: FM 501, FM 502****Credits: 2**

In this course, students will explore the basics for the development of a start-up Christian ministry enterprise. Topics will include needs assessment for the enterprise, building social and financial support, business and legal considerations, goal setting, and success measurements.

FM 651: Church Planting Strategies**Prerequisites: FM 501, FM 502****Credits: 3**

In this course students will closely examine Jesus's interactions with his disciples in order to understand His tactics for ministry expansion. The course carefully examines the book of Acts to trace the replication of Jesus's tactics. The course examines biblical, theological, and sociological foundations of church growth theory. Students will learn practical steps to implement these tactics within either the emerging church among unreached peoples, or the established church among reached peoples. Special attention will be given to the factors which promote and hinder church planting in both western and non-western settings.

FM 680: Missional Leadership**Prerequisites: FM 501, FM 502****Credits: 2**

This course explores the features of the contemporary missional revolution and missions leadership. Students will specifically examine an external ministry focus, the shift from a people-driven development agenda, and apostolic-era leadership. Students will consider the mental, spiritual, and occupational needs of missionaries and how to use biblical truth to enhance missionaries' effectiveness as spiritual leaders. Students will also examine various aspects of gender issues in missions from biblical and contextual perspectives. Students will consider aspects of project planning for missions development.

Generational Ministry Courses

GM 510: Family Ministry**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students explore the ways in which different paradigms of ministry affect children, youth, families, and culture. What does it mean to be family-based in ministry? What is the role of the family in the Church? How does Christianity affect culture? What is the role of the Church today and in the future? How does culture play a part in shaping families? How will these affect children's and youth ministry in the future?

GM 550: Adult Spiritual Development**Prerequisites: GM 510****Credits: 3**

This course provides an overview of ministry leadership and organization of ministries designed to evangelize and disciple young, mid-life, and senior adults. Theological, cultural, and practical issues related to adult ministry will be addressed, with particular attention to how each of these aspects contributes to an overall strategy of effective adult ministry

GM 570: Discipleship in Contemporary Youth Culture**Prerequisites: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will engage in an in-depth look inside today's youth culture by examining the questions teens ask about such topics as parents, self-image, friendships, peer pressure, music, love, sex, dating, abuse, drugs, and teen violence. Special attention will be given to addressing these issues from a biblical perspective and to equipping students to speak, teach, and counsel youth and families about their felt needs.

GM 602: Hospice & Hospital Ministry**Prerequisites: CC 504****Credits: 3**

This course will incorporate a theological and practical study of pertinent medical issues in pastoral ministry. Broad overviews of topics including anatomy and physiology, physical and mental illness, hospital settings (emergency room, labor and delivery, intensive care, etc.), dying, grief, and crises will enable more effective ministry in key hospital and hospice settings.

GM 610: Leading Children's Ministry**Prerequisites: GM 510****Credits: 4**

This course provides an overview of the role of ministers to children and directors in children's programs, including church related programs, day care and church kindergartens, all in the context of the objectives, methods, and trends of church programs for children. The course includes a study of the moral and spiritual development of children from birth through eleven years of age and an examination of curricular materials for children used by church organizations.

GM 612: Leading Teen Ministry**Prerequisites: GM 510, GM 570****Credits: 4**

This course examines a biblical perspective on youth ministry within the context of contemporary culture. Students will consider effective principles and practices needed to disciple a young person to know God and make Him known. The course looks specifically at adolescent Christian life and how it relates to growing mature leaders within circles of influence as related to youth. Students will examine practical, effective ways to build youth ministry teams, to engage students in spiritual growth through effective teaching and Christian service, and to plan and implement special youth ministry events and experiences.

Leadership Courses**LS 571: Servant Leadership & Change****Prerequisite: BS 501, BS 502****Credits: 3**

This course studies servant leadership as an attitude exemplified by Jesus, expounded in the New Testament and applied in contemporary organizations. It also explores the sociological and psychological phenomena involved in leading and managing organizational change. Students will explore their own leadership capacity and how to facilitate team building, organizational change, vision casting, and implementation.

LS 612: The Dynamics of Leadership**Prerequisite: Christian Core****Credits: 3**

Given that leadership by biblical definition requires the ability to exercise positive influence on other people for the purpose of glorifying God, students in this course will examine and develop the ability to create successful interpersonal relationships. Through case studies, students will consider ethical ways to cast vision and inspire others to join with the leader in achieving a shared goal. Students will also consider what it means to develop effective ways to lead others to a saving relationship with Christ.

Worship Arts Courses**WA 505: Effective Worship Leadership****Prerequisites: BS 575****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will gain a depth of understanding and development of the essential skills necessary for leading others in God-honoring worship. This includes an understanding of the worship leader's identity in Christ, their calling as children and servants, and the practice of spiritual disciplines. The course also covers practical skill development in engaging the body of Christ effectively, teaching and elocution, building & discipling worship teams, creative planning and service development, reflecting the Spirit of Christ on and off the platform, and serving Him as empowered by the Holy Spirit.

WA 512: Psalms, Hymns, and Christian Praise**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

This course presents a study of leading more contemporary expressions of corporate worship by finding selecting, arranging, rehearsing, and using contemporary forms of evangelical church music literature and adapting historic church music literature to contemporary modes of expression.

WA 530: Discipling Music Ministry**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will develop a philosophy of music and worship ministry. This course will also explore a team approach to music ministry, organizational principles, and effective music ministry methods. Students will also consider effective music and worship ministry principles for various age groups and in different settings or contexts. Attention will be given to developing a philosophy of music ministry and administering a comprehensive music ministry.

WA 610: Arranging**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

In this course, students will explore the basic techniques of arranging musical scores for audience, purpose, and effect. Students' course projects will result in performances and final critique. The course requires some rehearsal outside of regularly scheduled class time.

WA 611: Composing**Prerequisites: None****Credits: 3**

In this course, students develop techniques for composing music and lyrics in different genres. Students will work closely with vocal and instrumental performance students on end-of-course performance of newly composed music.

WA 640: Choral & Orchestral Conducting**Prerequisites: WA 512****Credits: 3**

This course introduces students to techniques for rehearsing, conducting, and leading orchestral and choral performances. The course requires some rehearsal outside of regularly scheduled class time and end-of-course performance.

WA 641: Vocal Ensemble Leadership**Prerequisites: WA 512****Credits: 2**

This course includes a brief study of vocal pedagogy and its application in choral and vocal ensemble settings. This course will also include traditional choral technique practices as well as helpful methods for working with vocalists on praise teams.

WA 642: Orchestra Ensemble Leadership**Prerequisites: WA 512****Credits: 2**

This course will facilitate a foundational understanding of orchestral and worship band instruments so that the student will be equipped to work with instrumentalists in church music settings. Topics will also include assessing instrumental needs to fit the context of the worship setting, finding and securing players, scheduling, and rehearsing.

WA 650: Advanced Vocal Performance**Prerequisite: WA 512, WA 530****Credits: 4**

Vocal students explore more advanced performance techniques and styles. The course requires two concert performances in public Christian venues during the semester and collaboration with instrumental students.

WA 651: Advanced Instrumental Performance**Prerequisite: WA 512, WA 530****Credits: 4**

Instrumental students explore more advanced performance techniques and styles. The course requires two concert performances in public Christian venues during the semester and collaboration with vocal students.

WA 660: Media & Technology**Prerequisites: WA 512****Credits: 3**

In this course, the student will explore a variety of media and technology applications that enhance worship and/or learning experiences. The course will address both hardware and software applications and will provide a general introduction to effective media use in both church and educational settings. Topics will include but not be limited to: Using video, computers and tablets, creating media presentations, cloud applications and services, presentation software, learning management systems, conducting digital research, sound systems and media production. In the applied elements of the course, students will learn how to creatively integrate and augment technology applications in a selected specialty (i.e., technology in worship, technology in education, etc.).

WA 670: Leading Worship**Prerequisites: WA 512****Credits: 3**

This course explores the practical application of worship leadership skills by considering issues such as working with pastors, instrumentalists, and tech teams in worship, as well as enlisting, preparing, rehearsing, and using a team of singers and/or instrumentalists to conduct praise and worship. Students are required to apply the principles learned to a worship leadership experience.

WA 680: Special Project in Worship Arts

Prerequisite: Permission of Department

Credits: 2–4

With instructor permission, students may pursue an independent study topic related to Worship Arts as relevant to their area of specialization.

WA 690: Capstone Project in Worship Arts

Prerequisite: Permission of Department

Credits: 3

As a culmination of the master's degree program, students will propose a capstone project related to their individual area of specialization. With instructor permission and supervision, students will carry out the capstone project. All projects must include a public performance component.

Appendices



ATHENS
COLLEGE of MINISTRY

COMPLAINT FORM

Name of Person Submitting Complaint:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Complaint Against:

Date of Complaint:

Brief Explanation of Complaint:

Signature: _____

OFFICE USE

Date Complaint Received:

Complaint received by (signature) _____

Projected Course Schedule 2019 – 2023

Please see below for the projected terms when specific ACMin courses will be offered. Note that all courses can be subject to cancellation in the event of low enrollment. The current course offerings for the upcoming semester can be found on <https://acmin.org>.

Category	Summer 2019	Fall 2019	Spring 2020
Core Program	Foundations of Faith Old Testament Survey	Prayer & Spiritual Direction New Testament Survey	His Creation: Talents & Spiritual Gifts Great Commission: Discipleship
Prayer Leadership	Effective Prayer Ministry Tools	Biblical Foundations Prayer Ministry	The Practice of Prayer
Gen Ed		Science: Plants of the Bible Old Testament Hebrew I	English Composition Old Testament Hebrew II
FIA/Persnl	FIA	Case Studies in Ministry FIA	FIA
Biblical Studies		The Book of Acts	God, the Father The Book of Revelation
Christian Studies		Church History Systematic Theology	The Ministry of Preaching
Christian Leadership		Case Studies in Ministry	Psychology & Theology
Field Ministry			Business as Mission
Generational Min.		Introduction to Care & Counseling	Psychology & Theology
Care & Counseling		Introduction to Care & Counseling	Psychology & Theology
Worship Arts		Music Theory	Creative Media & Technology
Biblical Language		Old Testament Hebrew I	Old Testament Hebrew II

	Summer 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021
Core Program	Great Commission: Evangelism	Prayer & Spiritual Direction Old Testament Survey	Foundations of Faith New Testament Survey
Prayer Leadership	Effective Prayer Ministry Tools	Biblical Foundations Prayer Ministry	The Practice of Prayer
Gen Ed	Computer skills	Psychology Beginning Spanish	Literature Intermediate Spanish
FIA/Persnl Develop	FIA	FIA	FIA
Biblical Studies	Bilingual IBS	The Book of Romans	The Psalms
Christian Studies		Spiritual Warfare Victory in Christ Servant Leadership & Change	God's Design for Sexual Wholeness Inductive Bible Study
Christian Leadership	Administration & Finance	Servant Leadership & Change	Christian Entrepreneurship
Field Ministry		World Religions & Cross-Cultural Min	Perspectives on World Missions
Generational Min.		Family Ministry	Discipleship in Cont. Youth Culture
Care & Counseling		Biblical Foundations Prayer Ministry	The Practice of Prayer
Worship Arts		Biblical Foundations for Worship	Effective Worship Leadership
Biblical Language		New Testament Greek I	New Testament Greek II

	Summer 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022
Core Program		Prayer & Spiritual Direction Great Commission: Discipleship	Great Commission: Evangelism His Creation: Talents Spiritual Gifts
Prayer Leadership	Effective Prayer Ministry Tools	Biblical Foundations Prayer Ministry	The Practice of Prayer
Gen Ed	Art History	Science: Growing Food & Faith Mathematics for Ministry Old Testament Hebrew I	English Composition Psychology Old Testament Hebrew II
FIA/Persnl Develop	FIA	Case Studies in Ministry FIA	FIA
Biblical Studies	Walking with Jesus— The Gospels	The Prophets	The Book of Genesis
Christian Studies	Apologetics	Systematic Theology	Inductive Bible Study The Ministry of Teaching
Christian Leadership		The Dynamics of Leadership	Spiritual Disciplines & Personal Sp. Growth
Field Ministry		Church Planting Strategies	Theology of Missions
Generational Min.		Leading Children's & Teen Ministry	The Ministry of Teaching
Care & Counseling			Spiritual Disciplines & Personal Sp. Growth
Worship Arts	Psalms Hymns Spiritual Praise	Adv. Vocal Performance Choral and Orchestral Conducting	Adv. Instrumental Performance Choral and Orchestral Conducting
Biblical Language		Old Testament Hebrew I	Old Testament Hebrew II

	Sum 2022	Fall 2022	Spr. 2023
Core Program		Prayer & Spiritual Direction Old Testament Survey	Foundations of Faith New Testament Survey
Prayer Leadership	Effective Prayer Ministry Tools	Biblical Foundations Prayer Ministry	The Practice of Prayer
Gen Ed	Human Growth & Development	Christian Philosophy Greek I	Literature Greek II
FIA/Persnl Develop	FIA	FIA	FIA
Biblical Studies		The Book of Acts The Book of Revelation	God, the Father
Christian Studies		Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ (SS) Christian Philosophy	Apologetics God's Design for Sexual Wholeness
Christian Leadership			
Field Ministry		Christian Entrepreneurship	
Generational Min.		Leading Teen Ministry	Leading Children's Ministry
Care & Counseling		Addictions Counseling	Marriage & Family Counseling
Worship Arts			
Biblical Language		New Testament Greek I	New Testament Greek II