



# Lutheran Brethren Seminary

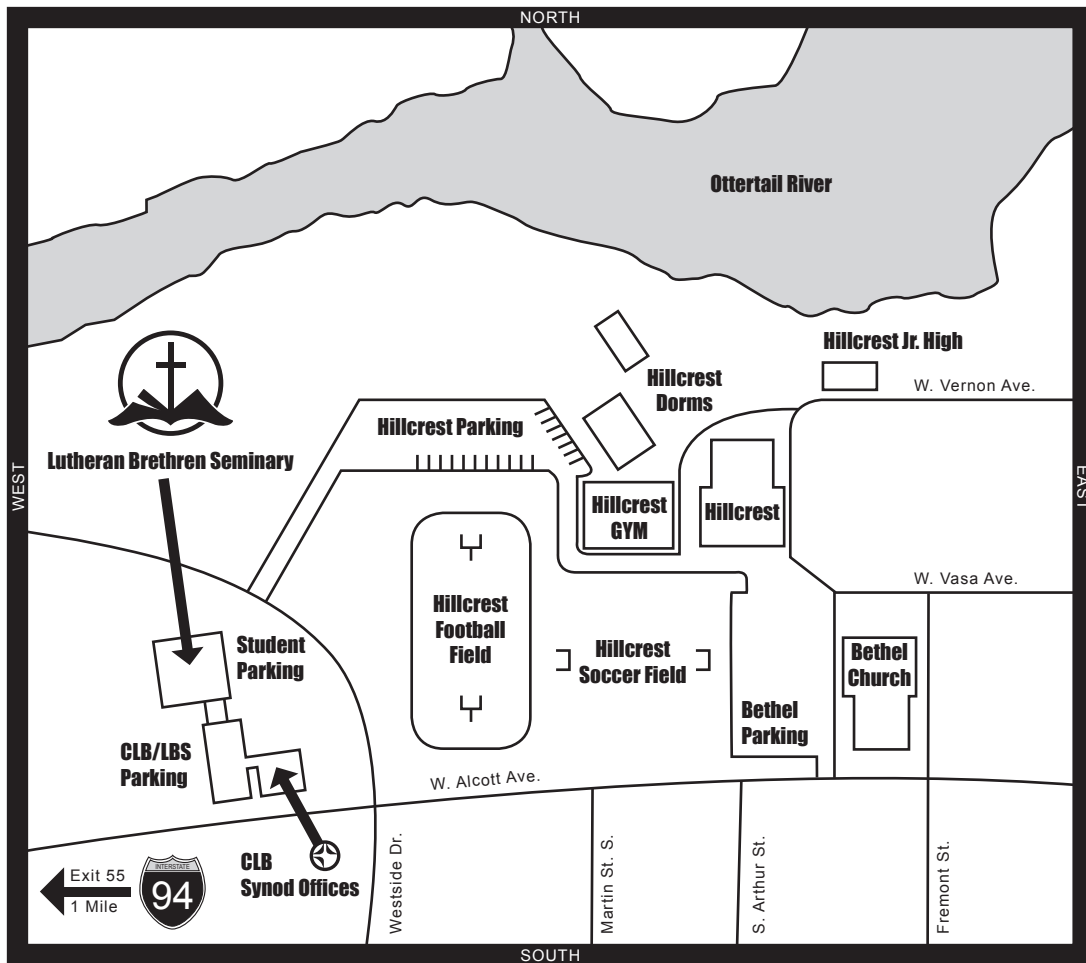
2015-16 ACADEMIC CATALOG



EMBRACING THE WORD • REACHING THE WORLD



# Lutheran Brethren Seminary



The Campus of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren

# Contents

<b>2015-2016 Academic Calendar</b> .....	<b>2</b>	Incomplete Course Work .....	21
<b>From The President...</b> .....	<b>3</b>	Extension for Late Work .....	21
<b>Directory of Administrative Services</b> .....	<b>4</b>	Examinations .....	21
<b>Administration</b> .....	<b>5</b>	Academic Integrity .....	21
<b>Faculty</b> .....	<b>6</b>	Attendance Policy .....	21
<b>Staff</b> .....	<b>8</b>	Handicap Accessibility .....	21
<b>General Information</b> .....	<b>10</b>	Student Complaint/Grievance Policy .....	22
History .....	10	Filing a Complaint to the Seminary Accrediting Agency ...	22
The Mission .....	11	Courses Taken as Audits .....	22
What We Believe .....	12	Courses Taken by Directed Study .....	22
Academic Philosophy .....	14	Field Experience Courses .....	22
Academic Freedom .....	14	Time Limits .....	22
Accreditation .....	14	Academic Probation and Good Standing .....	23
I-20 Authorization .....	14	Leave of Absence/Withdrawal .....	23
Veterans Administration .....	14	Leave of Absence .....	23
FERPA .....	14	Withdrawal/Dismissal .....	23
<b>Student Life</b> .....	<b>15</b>	Admitted but Does Not Register .....	23
Community .....	15	Guidelines for Readmission .....	23
Code of Conduct .....	15	Graduation .....	24
A.A. Pedersen Lectureship in Preaching .....	16	Ministry Placement .....	24
J-Term .....	16	Transcripts .....	24
Chapel .....	16	Grading and Transcript Notations .....	24
Church Life .....	16	<b>Financial Information</b> .....	<b>25</b>
Prayer Emphasis .....	16	Tuition and Fees .....	25
Ministry Opportunities .....	16	Refunds .....	25
Student Council .....	16	Financial Aid .....	25
Sports .....	17	Health Insurance and Housing .....	25
Seminary Women .....	17	Student Accounts .....	25
<b>Student Formation</b> .....	<b>17</b>	Veterans .....	25
Advising and Spiritual Formation Groups .....	17	Refund Policy for Veterans .....	25
Supervised Ministry Experience .....	17	<b>Academic Programs</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>Admissions</b> .....	<b>18</b>	Master of Divinity Degree .....	27
Application Process .....	18	Master of Theological Studies Degree .....	29
Enrollment .....	18	Diploma in Christian Ministry .....	30
Nondiscrimination Policy .....	18	Certificate of Theological Studies .....	32
Student Orientation .....	18	<b>Distance Education Program</b> .....	<b>34</b>
Open Studies .....	18	<b>Tentative Course Offerings for Fall 2015</b> .....	<b>35</b>
Review of Student Progress .....	18	<b>Tentative Course Offerings for Spring 2016</b> .....	<b>35</b>
Certificate and Degree Transfer .....	18	<b>Seminary Courses</b> .....	<b>36</b>
Transfer of Credit .....	19	Seminary Orientation .....	36
Prerequisites .....	19	Historical Theology .....	36
Computer Literacy .....	19	Introduction to Biblical Languages .....	36
Pre-Seminary Study .....	19	New Testament Studies .....	36
<b>Academic Policies</b> .....	<b>20</b>	Old Testament Studies .....	38
Academic Load .....	20	Practical Theology .....	40
Class Schedule .....	20	Systematic Theology .....	42
Credit Hour .....	20	World Mission .....	43
Non-Degree Applicant .....	20		
Adding or Dropping a Course .....	20		
Intensive Courses .....	21		

The statements contained in this catalog are for informational purposes, are not intended to create binding commitments on the part of the seminary, and are subject to change.

# 2015-2016 Academic Calendar

## Fall 2015

### Fall Intensives

August 24-28 PT 920 Worship  
 August 31 Dedication & Opening Service  
 Sept 1-3 PT 900 Introduction to Seminary

### Fall Semester

September 8 Semester begins  
 September 18 Last day to add a course  
 October 9 Last day to drop a course  
 October 19 A.A. Pedersen Lectureship  
 October 12-16 Mid-term break  
 November 23-27 Thanksgiving break  
 December 1 Application deadline for Spr 2016  
 December 2 Registration for Spring 2016  
 December 18 Semester ends  
 December 21 Christmas break begins

August 2015						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2015						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2015						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2015						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2015						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2016						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## Spring 2016

January 1 Registration Deadline

### Spring Intensives

January 18-20 J-Term

### Spring Semester

January 25 Semester begins  
 February 5 Last day to add a course  
 February 26 Last day to drop a course  
 February 22-26 Mid-term break  
 Mar. 21-28 Easter break  
 March 29 Classes resume  
 April 20 Registration for Fall 2016  
 May 6 Semester ends  
 May 7 Graduation  
 June 15 Application deadline Fall 2016  
 August 1 Admissions deadline Fall 2016

February 2016						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

March 2016						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2016						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2016						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2016						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2016						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## From The President...



Welcome to the Lutheran Brethren Seminary!

Is the Holy Spirit calling you into ministry? Are people telling you that you have gifts for pastoring? Are you sensing that you want a stronger biblical foundation for life? This catalog is designed help you decide if our programs might serve as the Holy Spirit's tools to prepare you for the next step in following Christ.

As a school we value:

- The message of God's matchless grace to us in Christ through the cross and the empty tomb.
- The truth of the Holy Spirit's work in leading us to repentance and in giving us faith to believe this message.
- Christ's call to all who repent and believe the gospel to follow him in being sent to our broken world with this message.
- The authority of the Bible as God's Word.
- Excellence and integrity in our work and in our lives.

As a faculty we value:

- The academic preparation necessary for teaching.
- Personal experience in ministry.
- Ministry preparation with a clear theological foundation.
- Living and teaching with a passion for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Graduates of the Master of Divinity and Diploma in Christian Ministry programs are equipped with knowledge, skills, and attitudes to serve as pastors and missionaries.

The Master of Theological Studies degree offers students a strong Biblical and theological foundation for serving the Lord in many ministry roles including such callings as parish nurse, youth pastor, missionary, and Director of Christian education.

The one-year Certificate of Theological Studies program serves several unique preparation needs such as:

- Adult learners preparing for lay ministry or specific overseas mission assignments.
- College-level students wanting a solid theological foundation.
- Youth ministers wanting biblical and practical training for ministry.

Our Seminary is chartered by the Church of the Lutheran Brethren. We are accredited by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools.

Our campus is located in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, an all-American City with a population of over 13,000. The city is a great place for families, with many parks and both private and public school opportunities. Situated along the peaceful Ottertail River, the setting provides a reflective atmosphere conducive to theological study and ministry preparation.

Please give us a call and visit our campus. If you are unable to relocate, all of our programs are available by distance education. We would love to talk with you about how our school might be involved in your preparation for ministry.

In Christ's Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Veum".

David Veum, D. Min.  
President

## Board of Lutheran Brethren Seminary

Dr. Tony Rogness, Chairman	Clitherall, MN
Mr. Loyal Clarke, Vice-Chairman	Tempe, AZ
Dr. Richard Erickson, Secretary	Seattle, WA
Rev. Paul Larson, President of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren (CLB)	Fergus Falls, MN
Rev. Matthew Rogness, Director of Lutheran Brethren International Mission	Fergus Falls, MN
Ch. (Major General), USA, Ret. G.T Gunhus	Bellingham, WA
Rev. Roger Olson	Beaumont, AB, Canada
Rev. Jim Rademaker	Appleton, WI
Dr. Jeff Seaver	Moorhead, MN
Dr. David Veum, President-LBS	Fergus Falls, MN

## Directory of Administrative Services

Seminary Office: (218) 739-3375 • Email: LBS@LBS.edu

Very often a question arises and students are not sure where to begin looking for the answer. This Seminary Directory of Administrative Services will help students find answers to their questions. Faculty and staff can also be contacted by their email addresses located on the LBS website. In most instances, the email address is the initial of the person's first name and the full last name followed by @lbs.edu.

### **Seminary President** (Financial Aid, Recruiting, Fundraising, Publicity)

Dr. David Veum, dveum@lbs.edu

### **Dean of the Seminary** (Administrative Oversight, Academic Affairs)

Dr. Eugene L. Boe, eboe@lbs.edu

### **Registrar/Director of Admissions** (Registration, Transcript Evaluation, Admissions)

Dr. Gaylan Mathiesen, gmathiesen@lbs.edu

### **Director of Student Life and Congregational Ministries** (Supervised Ministry Experience)

Dr. Mark Erickson, merickson@lbs.edu

### **Director of Distance Education**

Dr. Allan Bjerkaas, abjerkaas@lbs.edu

### **Librarian/Media Specialist (Technology)**

Brent Andrews, bandrews@lbs.edu

### **Administrative Assistant to the Dean** (Immigration, Veterans, Registration)

Kathy Garvin, kgarvin@lbs.edu

### **Administrative Assistant to the President/Receptionist**

Patti Zwiers, pzwiers@lbs.edu

## ADMINISTRATION



**Dr. DAVID VEUM**  
**CEO/President**  
DMin, Bethel Theological  
Seminary, St. Paul, MN



**Dr. EUGENE BOE**  
**CAO/Dean**  
PhD, Concordia Seminary,  
St. Louis, MO



**LaWAYNE ROGNES**  
**CFO/Director of Finance**

## FULL-TIME FACULTY



### **MARK J. ERICKSON**

2012-Director of Student Life and Congregational Ministries  
2008-present, Professor of New Testament and Practical Theology

**Education:** BA, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN; Summer Institute of Linguistics, Grand Forks, ND; French Language Study at L'Accueil Fraternal, France; STM, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO; DMin, Knox Theological Seminary, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

**Ministry:** 1983-1984, Assistant Pastor, Bethany Lutheran Brethren Church, East Hartland, CT; 1984-1985, Associate Pastor, Hillside Lutheran Brethren Church, Succasunna, NJ; 1985-1989, Missionary Staff, Church of the Lutheran Brethren, Exegetical consultant for Masana Translation Project, France, Cameroon & Chad; 1989-1994, Pastor, Liberty Lutheran Brethren Church, Fargo, ND; 1994-2006, Pastor, Zion Lutheran Brethren Church, Cooperstown, ND.



### **GAYLAN MATHIESEN**

2005-present, Professor of Mission and Evangelism, Registrar

**Education:** BA, Northwestern College, St. Paul, MN; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN; Diploma, Japan Missionary Language Institute, Tokyo, Japan; PhD, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN.

**Ministry:** 1979-1985, Founding Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Brethren Church, Park Rapids, MN; 1985-1996, Missionary Staff, Church of the Lutheran Brethren, Japan; 1988-1996, Founding Pastor, New Life Church, Sendai, Japan; 1996-2005, Professor, Northwestern College, St. Paul, MN.

**Publications:** A Theology of Mission: Challenges and Opportunities in Northeast Asia, Lutheran University Press.



### **BRAD PRIBBENOW**

2011-present, Professor of Old Testament

**Education:** BME, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN; (Pending) PhD, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO.

**Ministry:** 2007-2008, Teacher, Hillcrest Lutheran Academy, Fergus Falls, MN; 2008-2010, Pastor, Bethel Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN.

### **PART-TIME FACULTY**

#### **EUGENE L. BOE**

1983-present, Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology, 1998-present, Dean

**Education:** BS, Iowa State University, Ames, IA; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN; STM, Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN; PhD in Theology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO; Additional studies: Christian Counseling & Education Foundation, Laverock, PA; University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway; Goethe Institute, Prien, Germany; Jerusalem University College, Jerusalem, Israel.

**Ministry:** 1969-71, Student Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Brethren Church, Jewell, IA; 1971-72, Pastor to Youth, 59th Street Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, NY; 1972-74, Student Pastor, Inspiration Lutheran Brethren Church, Wahpeton, ND; 1974-77, Bethel Lutheran Brethren Church, Huntington Station, NY; 1978-83, Hope Lutheran Brethren Church, Appleton, WI; 1994-present, Trinity Lutheran Church, Wendell, MN.

**Publications:** "The Relationship between Faith, Baptism, and Conversion in the Theology of Carl Fr. Wisløff." in *Theologian Carl Fr. Wisløff: En antologi hundre år etter fødsel* redaktør, Sverre Bøe, 22-44. Oslo, Norway: FMH-forlaget; "Pietism and the Sacraments in the Christian Life: The Contribution of Erik Pontoppidan" in *Pietism and the Challenges of Modernity* Editor, David J. Goa, Occasional Papers of the Chester Ronning Centre, I. Camrose, Alberta: The Chester Ronning Centre for The Study Of Religion and Public Life.



#### **NATHAN OLDENKAMP**

2014-present, Professor of Practical Theology

**Education:** BA, Dordt College, Sioux Center, IA; MDiv, Bethel Seminary, St. Paul, MN; CPE: Level I & II, Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, WI; (Pending) DMin, Bethel Seminary, St. Paul, MN.

**Ministry:** 2007-2008, Chaplain Resident, Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, WI; 2008-2009, Visitation Pastor, Chapel Heights United Methodist Church, Eau Claire, WI; 2009-2014, Chaplain – Spiritual Care Director, Dove Healthcare, Eau Claire, WI; 2014 – Present, Chaplain, LB Homes, Fergus Falls, MN.







## **DAVID VEUM**

2005-present, Professor of Practical Theology, 2006-present, President

**Education:** BA, Western Washington State College; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary; DMin, Bethel Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN.

**Ministry:** 1971, Pastor, Triumph Lutheran Brethren Church, Great Falls, MT; 1971-73, Pastor, Emmanuel Lutheran Brethren Church, Edmonton, AB, Canada; 1977-78, Pastor, Gethsemane Lutheran Brethren Church, Rochester, MN; 1983-87, Pastor, Bethesda Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI; 1990-2005, Senior Pastor, Bethel Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN.

## **ADJUNCT FACULTY**

### **SIGURD GRINDHEIM**

Professor of New Testament

**Education:** Misjonskandidat, Fjellhaug Mission Seminary, Oslo, Norway; Cand.theol., Norwegian Lutheran School of Theology, Oslo, Norway; Cand.mag (Degree in Classical Greek and Hebrew), University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway; Ph.D. in New Testament, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL.

**Experience:** M.Th. Thesis Supervision, Master's Thesis Examination, Book Reviews, Journal Articles, Three books published, Invited Lecturer; Ministry Experience: Pastoral- 7 years, Missionary - 4 years.

**Publications:** Introducing Biblical Theology, London: T & T Clark, Forthcoming; Christology in the Synoptic Gospels: God or God's Servant?, London T & T Clark, 2012; God's Equal: What Can We Know about Jesus "Self-Understanding? Library of New Testament Studies 446, London: T & T Clark, 2011; The Crux of Election: Paul's Critique of the Jewish Confidence in the Election of Israel Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament II/202; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2005.

### **JEFF SEAVER**

Professor of Practical Theology

**Education:** MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN; DMin, Bethel Theological Seminary, ST. Paul, MN.

**Ministry:** 1984-Present, Senior Pastor, Triumph Lutheran Brethren Church, Moorhead, MN; Chairman of the Board of Valley Christian Counseling Center (9 years)

## EMERITI

### OMAR N. GJERNESS

Professor Emeritus of Systematic Theology, (1962-1990).

BA, Wagner College, Staten Island, NY; MA, Systematic Theology, Pasadena College, Pasadena, CA; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN.

### JOHN C. KILDE

Professor Emeritus of New Testament, (1973-80; 1987-2008).

BA, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN; ThM, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ.

## STAFF

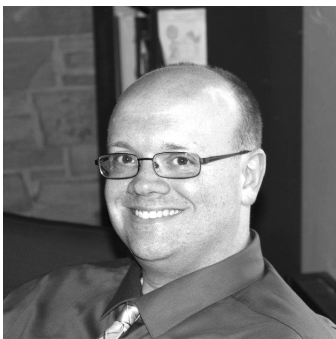


### MARGARETH ALEXANDERSEN

2011-present, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Instruction Design

**Education:** BS in Elementary Education, Trenton State College, Ewing, NJ; MAR, Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, MN; MS in ED, Walden University, Minneapolis, MN; EdD, Pensacola Christian College, Pensacola, FL.

**Experience:** Teacher, Timothy Christian School, Piscataway, NJ; Teacher, Hillcrest Lutheran Academy, Fergus Falls, MN; Pre-School Superintendent and Elementary School Principal, Community Baptist Academy, Somerset, NJ; Basic Skills Teacher, PleasanTech Academy Charter School, Pleasantville, NJ; Supervisor of Curriculum & Basic Skills, PleasanTech Academy Charter School, Pleasantville, NJ; Supervisor of Curriculum, Technology Coordinator, Tabernacle Township School District, Tabernacle NJ.



### BRENT ANDREWS

2014-present, Librarian/Media Specialist

**Education:** BA Music, Luther College, Decorah, IA; MA Library Science, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA; MDiv, Lutheran Brethren Seminary.

**Experience:** 1995-1996 Head of Information & Reference Services, Viterbo University – Todd Wehr Memorial Library, La Crosse, WI; 1996-1998 High School Library Media Specialist/Gifted & Talented Coordinator, Valders Area School District, Valders, WI; 1998-2000 High School Library Media Specialist, School District of Jefferson, Jefferson, WI; 2000-2002 Middle School Teacher/Elementary Music Teacher, Faith Community Christian School, Fort Atkinson, WI; 2002-2009 District Media Specialist/Elementary & Middle School Technology Teacher, Hilbert School District, Hilbert, WI; 2009-2014 Appraisal Data Specialist, Forensic Appraisal Group, Neenah, WI.



**ALLAN BJERKAAS**

2013-present, Director of Distance Education

**Education:** BS Physics and Math, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND; MS Physics, University of Illinois, Urbana- Champaign, IL; PhD, Physics University of Illinois, Urbana – Champaign, IL.

**Experience:** 1973-2005 Technical Staff, John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Baltimore, MD; 2001-2010, Associate Dean for Engineering for Professionals programs, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.



**KATHLEEN GARVIN**

1996-present Administrative Assistant to the Dean

**Education:** Graduate of Alexandria Technical College, Alexandria, MN.



**PATTI ZWIERS**

2009-present Administrative Assistant to the President

**Education:** BS, Bemidji State, Bemidji, MN.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## History

The roots of the Lutheran Brethren Seminary are found in the great spiritual revivals of the 1890's, in the Northwestern Free Church Mission School, and in the founding of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren in 1900.

In these spiritual revivals among Norwegian-American Lutherans in the 1890's, large numbers of young people came to a knowledge of personal salvation, and craved an opportunity for Biblical studies beyond what was given in the local congregations.

In response to the need, Rev. Halvor Jenssen founded the first Lutheran Bible School in the United States, the Northwestern Free Church Mission School, in a farmhouse near Lowry, MN in 1897. The next year classes were held in a church in Belgrade, MN, and in 1901 the school moved to Grand Forks, ND and was renamed "Northwestern Lutheran Bible School." The school offered courses in Biblical studies, missions, doctrine, personal evangelism, and Christian education. The school functioned as a Bible training school. This school closed in the summer of 1903. Several Lutheran Brethren students were in attendance at the time of the closing, and a number had previously graduated from the school.

In less than a year after the founding of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren in 1900, the need for a seminary for training Lutheran Brethren pastors and missionaries was felt.

In response to that need, the 1903 Synodical Convention authorized the founding of the Lutheran Bible School in Wahpeton, ND that fall. The pastor's course offered theological training for persons going into the ministry, and the Bible (parochial) course was designed as a Bible school for young people wishing special training in the Bible and for doing more effective work in the congregations as laypersons.

Upon popular demand from parents for a four-year high school, the freshman class was offered in 1916, and the first high school senior class graduated in 1920. The increased enrollment led to moving the school to Grand Forks, ND in 1918. In 1935, the Lutheran Bible School moved to Fergus Falls, MN, locating on the spacious and beautiful campus of the former Park Region Luther College.

In 1948, the Church of the Lutheran Brethren renamed the school system "Lutheran Brethren Schools," giving the high school department the name "Hillcrest Lutheran Academy," and retaining the name of "Lutheran Bible School and Seminary" for the Bible (college) and Seminary (theological) departments.

In 1992, the Board of Education changed the name of the Lutheran Brethren Junior Bible College to the Lutheran Center for Christian Learning (LCCL).

Lutheran Brethren Seminary is the training institution for those preparing for ministry in the Church of the Lutheran Brethren. The Seminary offers at a master's level: Master of Theological Studies (two years); Master of Divinity (three years); Diploma in Christian Ministry (three years); and a one year Certificate of Theological Studies (emphases in Lay Ministry, Bible & Theology and Mission).

# The Mission

## Mission Statement

*Lutheran Brethren Seminary serves the church and the world by preparing servants of Christ for a life of ministry in God's mission and for equipping His people to serve in His mission.*

## Institutional Calling

Jesus said. "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20).

Called by the Church of the Lutheran Brethren, the Seminary serves the church and world by living in and preparing others to live in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his call to participate in his mission of grace to bless all nations.

LBS prepares people to enter the diverse cultural contexts of the world through particular ministries as Christ's servants shaped by His words and wounds, speaking his gospel in word and deed. The Seminary approaches its ministry in dependence on the Triune God who speaks truth through his inspired scriptures.

## Institutional Objectives

Graduates of Lutheran Brethren Seminary will:

- Embrace a Christ-centered understanding of Scripture
- Demonstrate skills that correspond to the doing of ministry
- Exhibit attitudes that characterize God's servants
- Model godly character in life and in ministry

Our prayer is that students will be shaped by the words and wounds of Christ to live as servants of Christ in God's church and world.

The Seminary fulfills its mission in partnership with and by the support of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren. This Church's mission is: "In response to God's person and grace, we worship Him with everything we are in Christ, serve one another in Christian love and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people." This Church lives out its passions in the following core values:<sup>1</sup>

- The Bible is central in our congregations and in our households.
- The Gospel is our treasure and our joy.
- We revere God's Law.
- The Word and the Sacraments are God's precious means of grace.
- We cherish the love and fellowship of God's people.
- We long for people to trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to come to know Him in a personal way.
- We seek to be people of prayer.

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.clba.org/about-us/what-we-believe/statement-core-values> for a commentary on these core values.

# What We Believe

## The Doctrinal Statement of Faith of the Lutheran Brethren Seminary

- A. The Bible, including both Old and New Testaments as originally given, is the verbally and plenary inspired Word of God and is free from error in the whole and in the part, and is therefore the final authoritative guide for faith and conduct.
- B. There is one God eternally existent in three distinct persons in one divine essence, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C. God the Father has revealed Himself as the Creator and preserver of the universe, to Whom the entire creation and all creatures are subject.
- D. God created Adam and Eve in His image to live in fellowship with Him. They fell into sin through the temptation of Satan and thereby lost fellowship with God. Through their disobedience the entire human race became totally depraved, that is, self-centered sinners who oppose God, and who by nature are unable to trust, fear or love Him. They are subject to the devil, and are condemned to death under the eternal wrath of God.
- E. Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son, is the image of the invisible God. To accomplish our redemption, He became fully human, being conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus Christ, who is true God and true man, by His perfect obedience and substitutionary death on the cross, has purchased our redemption. He arose from the dead for our justification in the body in which He was crucified. He ascended into heaven, where He is now seated at the right hand of God, the Father, as our interceding High Priest. He will come a second time personally, bodily, and visibly to gather the believers unto Himself and to establish His millennial kingdom. He will judge the living and the dead and make an eternal separation between believers and unbelievers. His kingdom shall have no end.
- F. The Holy Spirit is a divine person eternally one with the Father and with the Son. Through the Word of God, He convicts people of sin, persuades them to confess their sinfulness to God and calls them to faith through the Gospel. He regenerates, sanctifies, and preserves believers in the one true faith. He comforts, guides, equips, directs, and empowers the church to fulfill the great commission.
- G. The knowledge and benefit of Christ's redemption from sin is brought to the human race through the means of grace, namely the Word and the sacraments.
  - 1. Through the Word of the Law God brings sinners to know their lost condition and to repent. Through the Word of the Gospel He brings sinners to believe in Jesus Christ, to be justified, to enter the process of sanctification, and to have eternal life. This occurs as the Holy Spirit awakens them to see their sin, convicts them of their guilt of sin, and calls them to repent and believe, inviting and enabling them to accept God's grace in Christ. Each one who thus believes is instantly forgiven and credited with Christ's righteousness. The Word then teaches and guides the believer to lead a godly life.
  - 2. In the Sacrament of Baptism, God offers the benefits of Christ's redemption to all people and graciously bestows the washing of regeneration and newness of life to all who believe. God calls the baptized person to live in daily repentance, that is, in sorrow for sin, in turning from sin, and in personal faith in the forgiveness of sin obtained by Christ. By grace we are daily given the power to overcome sinful desires and live a new life in Christ. Those who do not continue to live in God's grace need to be brought again to repentance and faith through the Law and Gospel.

Because the sinfulness of human nature passes on from generation to generation and the promise of God's grace includes little children, we baptize infants, who become members of Christ's believing church through baptism. These children need to come to know that they are sinners with a sinful nature that opposes God. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, they need to confess their sinfulness and yield to God; and possess for themselves forgiveness of their sin through Jesus Christ, as they are led from the faith received in infant baptism into a clear conscious personal faith in Christ as their Lord and Savior and being assured of salvation, rely solely on the finished work of Christ, and the power of the Gospel to live as children of God.

3. In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, Christ gives to the communicants His body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. He declares the forgiveness of sin to all believers, and strengthens their faith.

H. Eternal salvation is available to every living human being on earth by God's grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. This salvation consists of an instantaneous aspect and an ongoing, continual aspect.

1. Justification is God's gracious act by which He, for Christ's sake, instantaneously acquits repentant and believing sinners and credits them with Christ's righteousness. At that moment, God gives each one who believes a new and godly nature and the Holy Spirit begins the process of sanctification. There is no place for human effort in justification.

2. Sanctification is God's gracious, continual work of spiritual renewal and growth in the life of every justified person. Through the means of grace, the Holy Spirit works to reproduce the character of Christ within the lives of all believers, instructing and urging them to live out their new nature. The Holy Spirit enables believers more and more to resist the devil, to overcome the world, and to count themselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit produces spiritual fruit in and bestows spiritual gifts upon all believers. He calls, empowers and equips them to serve God in the home, in the community, and as part of the Church Universal. The process of sanctification will be complete only when the believer reaches glory.

I. The Church Universal consists of all those who truly believe on Jesus Christ as Savior. The local congregation is an assembly of believers in a certain locality among whom the Gospel is purely taught and the sacraments are rightly administered. The confessing membership of the local congregation shall include only those who have been baptized into "the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," confess personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, maintain a good reputation in the community and accept the constitution of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren. It cannot, however, be avoided that hypocrites might be mixed in the congregation; that is, those whose unbelief is not evident to the congregation.

J. The Church of the Lutheran Brethren practices the congregational form of church government and the autonomy of the local congregations. The office of pastor and elder is to be filled by men only. The synodical administration has an advisory function as it relates to the congregation, and an administrative function as it relates to the cooperative efforts of the congregations.

K. The Lutheran confessions are a summary of Bible doctrines. We adhere to the following confessional writings: The Apostles' Creed, Nicene and Athanasian Creeds, unaltered Augsburg Confession, and Luther's Small Catechism.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The Doctrinal Statement of Lutheran Brethren Seminary corresponds to the Doctrinal Statement of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren. Source: Constitution and Bylaws of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren, Article 2. 2015 Yearbook, CLB.

## Academic Philosophy

The Seminary is committed to the concept that we are spiritual, mental, emotional, social, and physical beings. Therefore, the educational process must include the development of each of these dimensions. The educational process is not limited to the classroom, but includes the entire range of interactions within the student's environment.

The Bible holds a primary and central place in the curriculum. It is recognized that the Bible is God's special revelation and that it is the source and norm for the institution's Statement of Faith. The Seminary also reserves the right to pursue its search for truth through diligent study of humanity and other elements of God's creation that constitute general revelation.

The pursuit of truth, in the context suggested above, should be approached with vigor and reverence. The basis of our teaching and learning should be that the source of our truth about God and His relationship with humanity is located in the Scriptures.

## Academic Freedom

The Seminary encourages both faculty members and students in the search for truth. The right to examine all relevant data will be protected. Academic freedom and neutrality are not considered as identical. It should be recognized that the intent to advance a particular point of view, so long as all the facts are accessible and the argument is distinguished from the inquiry, is not antithetical to academic freedom.

## Accreditation

Lutheran Brethren Seminary is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) [15935 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551; Telephone: (434) 525 9539; email: info@tracs.org] having been awarded Accredited status as a Category III institution by the TRACS' Accreditation Commission on November 9, 2012. In 2013 the TRACS Accreditation Commission approved the Seminary's substantive change request to offer its accredited programs via distance learning technology. This status is effective for a period of five years.

## 1-20 Authorization

Lutheran Brethren Seminary is authorized under Federal law to issue I-20 forms through the Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) and to enroll nonimmigrant international students.

## Veterans Administration

Lutheran Brethren Seminary is approved by the Minnesota State Approving Agency for training under the G.I. Bill.

## FERPA

The Seminary supports the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, a federal law that pertains to the release of and access to educational records. This statement of policy incorporates the rights accorded and the privacy guaranteed the student by this Act.

FERPA grants students certain rights in regards to their educational records. They are:

- The right to inspect and review the student's educational records within 45 days of the day the Seminary receives a request for access. Students shall submit written requests to the Registrar that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Registrar will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Students may ask the Seminary to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the Seminary official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record that they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. A school official is a person employed by LBS in an administrative, supervisory, academic or support staff position; a person or company with whom LBS has contracted; a person serving on the Board of LBS; a student serving on an official committee or assisting another school official in performing his/her professional responsibilities. If the Seminary decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the Registrar will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his/her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment.
- The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests.
- The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Seminary to comply with the requirements of FERPA:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
US Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington DC 20202-4605



## STUDENT LIFE

### Community

Seminary is a great deal more than simply going to classes and doing one's assignments conscientiously. It is more than just learning theology as an academic discipline. It is growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

Every class should be seen as an opportunity to learn to know God better. To mature in one's appreciation of the greatness of God and of His grace in Jesus Christ is an outcome of one's seminary studies to be prized and pursued.

Seminary is also an ideal place to learn to know oneself better. The study of Holy Scripture and its formulation into Lutheran theology forces a person to face up to the reality of one's sinfulness and need of God's daily forgiveness and renewing grace. Pastors, of all people, need to know themselves as repentant and forgiven sinners. We minister most effectively out of this brokenness.

Each believer in Jesus Christ has been given by the Holy Spirit, one or more spiritual gifts (Romans 12:3-7; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4:11-13). It is to be hoped that through practical ministry opportunities, the affirmation of one's peers, and the study of the Scriptures, each student might come to a clear understanding of his/her gifts and place in the ministry of the body of Christ.

Jesus said to His followers on the night before He was crucified, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another," (John 13:34, 35). Lutheran Brethren Seminary is a community, a community of professors and students, a community of school families. God calls us to love and care for one another, to speak well of one another, and to encourage one another. Many of the friendship bonds formed in seminary continue throughout one's life in the church.

Spiritual community includes caring for our brothers and sisters. Therefore we will keep watch not only of our doctrine, but also our life so that we put no obstacle in the way of other believers. As St. Paul wrote to the young pastor, Timothy, "... set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity" (1 Tim. 4:12).



## Code of Conduct

The Word of God is the final authority for all student life matters. The seminary's biblically-based curriculum and student life is designed to encourage character. Character displeasing to the Lord is corrected through exhortation, counsel, and implementation of biblical principles (1 Thessalonians 4:1). The personnel of LBS seek to consistently commend students in their daily walk for attitudes and actions that please the Lord.

LBS is committed to education for Christian leadership. The seminary also aims to encourage students to develop spiritually with an awareness of ethical and moral issues, and to be resolute regarding their own responsibility for upholding and strengthening Christian standards of behavior. Students are expected to live a life that reflects the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the authority of the Word of God, resulting in spiritual maturity in Christ manifested by the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

Students are expected to obey applicable local, state and federal laws as well as the policies of the seminary. As they desire rights and responsibilities for themselves, they are also expected to respect the rights and responsibilities of others. For infractions of laws, regulations, policies and standards, students may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the institution. Such disciplinary action may be imposed for violations that occur off campus when the violation may have an adverse effect on the educational mission of the seminary.



## **A.A. Pedersen Lectureship in Preaching**

Beginning in October, 1991, the Lutheran Brethren Seminary has sponsored an annual lectureship in preaching named in honor of a former LBS president and faculty member who was esteemed for his gifts as a Bible teacher and preacher. Each year this lectureship brings to our campus one of America's ablest preachers.

### **Past Lecturers include:**

Dr. Walter Kaiser  
Dr. Paul Maier  
Dr. Carl Fickenscher  
Dr. Reed Lessing  
Dr. John Nunes  
Dr. Bryan Chapell

## **J-Term**

Three days each January are set aside for a J(anuary)-term that offers students unique learning opportunities beyond the normal classroom.

J-term serves a number of important purposes. First, it allows current seminary students to receive additional instruction on a short-term basis, particularly in the area of practical theology. In addition, J-term courses also offer parish pastors an excellent opportunity to enhance their preparation for doing the Lord's work. Thirdly, the presence of active pastors on campus and in the classroom provides the seminary student with a valuable opportunity to interact with those actively engaged in ministry and to begin relationships with future colleagues. In addition, J-Term can also serve to fulfill partial requirement in a directed readings course.

- Some examples of past J-Term topics include:
- A Biblical Theology of Mercy
- Mercy and Witness/Evangelism
- Negotiating identity in God's Mission
- Creating a Missions Friendly Church
- Evangelism in the Small Town
- Islam
- The Art of Neighboring
- A Biblical Counseling approach to addictions
- Demon Possession and Spiritual Warfare
- Ministering to the Divorced
- Understanding Poverty & How Churches can Love their Neighbors in Need
- Stress and Burnout

## **Chapel**

Students and faculty assemble for chapel on Tuesdays and Thursdays to glorify God through singing, prayer and the proclamation of God's Word. The intent of these spiritual gatherings is to bring the seminary community away from the demands and pressures of everyday life for worship and to receive spiritual care and nurture as a community in Christ. Weekly chapel is a vital part of our spiritual formation as individuals and as a Christian community, and an essential complement to our academic pursuits. Attendance is expected.

## **Church Life**

Students are expected to be part of a church family while attending seminary. There are several Lutheran Brethren and affiliated churches in the area where the students often find their church home.

## **Prayer Emphasis**

Each semester, time is set apart for meditation and prayer. The Student Council and the Seminary Faculty make the arrangements for this special time.

## **Ministry Opportunities**

Seminary students, especially after their first year, have opportunities to do pulpit supply preaching in various churches. Churches customarily give an honorarium for these services.

A number of churches in the area provide seminary students with part-time student pastor or youth pastor employment. These ministry opportunities provide an excellent combination of practical ministry experience, seminary study, and useful income. These positions may involve some or all of the following: pulpit preaching, confirmation instruction, visitation, or youth ministry. Arrangements and supervision for this type of part-time ministry employment are made through the Director of Student Life and Congregational Ministry.

## **Student Council**

The Seminary Student Council is organized with student officers and a faculty advisor. The student council usually meets on Mondays following second period to conduct business and for prayer. A spring banquet is planned each year at which graduating students are honored. A Seminary Deacon Fund to help with special needs is managed by the students.

## Sports

Although organized athletics are not a part of the seminary program, seminary students often find ways to enjoy sports.

Each year Hillcrest Academy sponsors an Invitational Basketball Tournament comprised of church teams from across the country. Seminary students often participate in this tournament by joining other organized teams.

Seminary students and their families also receive a membership discount at the local YMCA.

## Seminary Women

Seminary Women is an organization that provides female students and the wives of seminarians opportunities for fellowship and support in seminary life. The gatherings range from social activities to a weekly Bible study. One on one friendship and prayer support by a local prayer partner is also offered.

## STUDENT FORMATION

### Advising and Spiritual Formation Groups

Each academic year, students are assigned to individual faculty members for academic advisement and spiritual nurture. Students assigned in their first year at seminary will continue with that faculty advisor through their graduation. Advising and Spiritual Formation Groups meet on Wednesdays with their faculty advisor for a time of reading devotional literature and praying together. All faculty members are encouraged to establish relationships with our students and encourage them in their ongoing growth in Christian character. In addition, faculty advisors assume the following academic objectives for each student in their Advising and Spiritual Formation Group:

- Assist in orienting students to seminary life and LBS community
- Assist students in developing educational goals
- Assist students in determining the way to reach educational goals through program planning
- Provide accurate information regarding academic programs, procedures and policies
- Provide students with or direct the student to career information
- Be an example to students of a Godly professional educator



## Supervised Ministry Experience

The supervised ministry experience is designed to help students prepare for a life of ministry in God's mission. Each student seeking the MDiv degree or DCM will complete 170 hours of ministry practice, instruction and supervision in practical theology courses PT 912-PT 915. The Supervised Ministry Experience supports Institutional Objectives (2), (3), and (4) and Program Outcomes (6).

The program specifically focuses on spiritual maturity, emotional maturity, leadership, communication, and conflict management in ministry practice. Each student takes two series of psychological inventories and meets with a licensed psychologist to receive feedback and recommendations. The student meets with a member of the faculty for advising in creating a Personal Development Plan. The plan includes learning modules, Supervised Ministry Experience appointments, faculty advising, and participation in a spiritual formation group.

**Personal Development Plan:** The personal development plan identifies a student's specific learning goals as well as strategies for accomplishing them through the processes of Christ-centered formation, developing pastoral competence and seeking and receiving pastoral evaluation.

**Psychological Inventories:** Students complete two series of psychological inventories and have corresponding sessions with a psychologist.

**Individual Supervision:** Regular supervision by designated faculty assists students in their learning and ministry.

**Learning Modules:** Students participate in various learning modules and critically reflect on how they apply to their calling, gifts and personal development plan goals.

**Supervised Ministry Experience Appointments:** During their seminary experience students have regular interaction with a designated mentor. In addition to fostering ministry development, this also provides a safe place to discuss any area of life and formation.

## **ADMISSIONS**

### **Application Process**

Most people who come to this page will have prayerfully considered God's leading in their life, seeking His direction through a study of the Bible, through counsel with respected leaders in the church and affirmation received from family and friends. They have explored LBS by looking at the catalog, the web site, and perhaps visited the campus. They are ready to apply. So, what does the application process look like?

- Applicants begin the application process by accessing the application on the LBS website, [www.lbs.edu](http://www.lbs.edu) and clicking on the "Apply Online" button.
- Applicants are sent a link to complete additional components of the on line application.
- Once all components of the applications are completed, the applicant submits the application. At this time, requests are immediately emailed to references for letters of recommendation.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to request official transcripts be sent directly to LBS from all colleges, universities and other learning institutions attended previously.
- Once the student's file is complete, the Admissions Committee reviews the application. A decision is communicated to the applicant normally within two weeks.

Timeliness of the application process is dependent upon prompt responses from the references and schools from which transcripts were requested. The whole process from start to finish usually takes about one month, so new applicants will want to plan far enough in advance that the admissions process will be completed before the beginning of the fall/spring semester.

Deadlines for Applications:

- Fall - June 15
- Spring - December 1

### **Enrollment**

No student can enroll in an LBS course until they have completed the admissions process and have been either admitted into a program of study or accepted as an Open Studies student. In all cases a new student must be accepted prior to the beginning of the required PT900 orientation course noted in the Student Orientation section.

### **Nondiscrimination Policy**

Lutheran Brethren Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, national or ethnic origin, handicaps, or age in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and financial aid programs, and other seminary administered programs. LBS is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant alien students.

## **Student Orientation**

Student Orientation takes place in the course PT 900 Introduction to Seminary Education. All incoming students who intend to take courses for credit are required to take this course on campus at the beginning of their seminary studies.

### **Open Studies**

Students who wish to earn credits and/or gain ministry skills but are not committed to a particular Seminary program need to apply, and be accepted. Upon admittance they can register as Open Studies (OS) students for intensive or full-semester courses on a part-time non-degree basis. Although OS credits may count toward a subsequent degree or certificate program, OS students are not admitted to a program leading to a degree or diploma. (Students whose ultimate goal is to obtain a certificate or degree in the future are encouraged to contact the seminary registrar or an advisor for detailed program advice.) A maximum of 24 total credit hours may be taken with the selection of courses limited to the courses available at the time of registration. Open Studies students must register for the PT900 Introduction to Seminary Education course and meet all prerequisites (including biblical languages for exegetical courses) and are subject to the Academic Probation Policy.

### **Review of Student Progress**

A student's first year of seminary is considered probationary. At the end of the first year of study the faculty will review his/her academic progress, and potential for ministry. At this time the faculty will recommend whether the student should continue in the program.

### **Certificate and Degree Transfer**

Students having graduated from Lutheran Brethren Seminary with a Certificate of Theological Studies (CTS) may transfer credits as applicable into the Master of Theological Studies (MTS) or Master of Divinity (MDIV) programs. Students having graduated with an MTS may transfer credit hours as applicable into the MDIV program.

## Transfer of Credit

A student desiring to transfer credits from another institution and be admitted to a degree program at LBS must be a student in good standing at that institution and must submit official transcripts of all previous undergraduate and graduate course work. (see Academic Probation and Good Standing) Undergraduate work is normally not transferrable, although credit might possibly be given for course work in biblical languages. Credits for course work taken at other accredited graduate-level institutions with a grade of C or above are normally granted complete or near-complete transfer credit upon approval by the Registrar when such work parallels courses listed in the Seminary catalog. Although the credits will apply toward graduation, grades and grade point averages earned at another institution do not transfer. Quarter-hour credits will normally be converted to semester hour credit. A majority of credits required for the MDiv, MTS, or CTS must be taken at LBS.

## Prerequisites

Admission to a seminary program of study is given to men and women of approved Christian character who possess such aptitudes as would seem to qualify them for future service in the Kingdom of God. While the degree, diploma and certificate programs are all taught at the graduate level, the Certificate of Theological Studies program is specifically designed for personal enrichment and growth in lay ministry.

The basic academic requirement for admission to the master's programs is a bachelor's degree or its equivalent. For the Diploma in Christian Ministry and the Certificate program, the student must meet the required prerequisites or their equivalents outlined on pp. 30 and 32.

An official transcript of high school and college work must be forwarded to the registrar for evaluation before registration is completed.

## Computer Literacy

All LBS programs require the use of a computer to complete course requirements. It is expected that all students have access to a computer, the Internet, and an email account. The following fundamental skills are assumed for all students:

1. Computer Basics - An understanding of the information processing cycle, hardware, common components, and an understanding of software, including operating systems and commonly used application software for word processing;
2. Internet Basics - An understanding of the appropriate use of current network technology and online resources; and
3. Microsoft Word Basics - *Microsoft Word* is

standard for word processing and is required for the production of reports and papers.

For a free set of video tutorials on these and other computer basics, see:

<http://www.gcflearnfree.org/computerbasics>.

## Pre-Seminary Study

The following is a list of fields of study with which a master's student should have acquaintance before he/she has completed his/her work for a baccalaureate degree in preparation for seminary study. It is further suggested that three-fourths of the pre-seminary training be taken in these fields, with the field concentration being drawn from any two or three fields.

## Field Semester Hours

English.....	12-16
	Literature, Composition, Speech
Philosophy.....	6-8
	Introduction, History, Logic
Bible.....	8-12
History.....	8-12
	If possible, a course in Ancient History
Psychology.....	6-8
Natural Sciences.....	4-6
	Physical or Biological
Social Sciences.....	6-12
	At least two of the following: Economics, Sociology, Political Science

Prospective Master of Divinity students are urged to take New Testament Greek while pursuing their undergraduate degree. Courses in education will also prove very advantageous to anyone entering pastoral work.



# Academic Policies

## Academic Load

The degree programs outlined on pp. 26-33 are mapped out for full-time study. (14-18 credits per semester). However, some students find it wise to reduce their academic loads to accommodate their family life, employment, or pace of learning. For example, a student who takes 4 years to work through the 3-year curriculum listed on p. 28 would meet with the faculty's understanding and support.

It is policy that a student in any degree program is not allowed to take more than 18 credits per semester unless given special permission by the Academic Dean.

It is recommended that a student taking 14 or more credits per semester be employed for no more than 20 hours per week.

## Class Schedule

Normally, classes begin each day at 7:45 a.m. with 60 minute class periods. Classes are usually completed each day by 2:00 p.m.

Although the seminary attempts to schedule its semester classes on a Monday through Thursday academic week, students are expected to be available for classes Monday through Friday. When Monday classes are not held due to a special event or holiday, Monday classes may be moved to Friday.

## Credit Hour

It is generally agreed that one credit equals 45 hours of work. Usually this involves 13 hours of face to face class time and 32 hours outside of class work.



## Non-Degree Applicant

A person who does not have a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent may apply to the MDiv Program as a Non-Degree applicant. The number of students in this category is limited to 10 percent of the total M.Div. student body. The Non-Degree applicant must be at least 35 years of age; provide a written explanation indicating that completing a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent is unrealistic; and have completed at least 60 hours of credits (90 quarter hours) at an accredited college or university, with the following minimum number of semester credits in the specific areas.

- 12 In English and humanities (composition, communication, journalism, literature, art, drama, music, philosophy, foreign languages-also Greek and Hebrew);
- 3 in public speaking
- 15 in social sciences (anthropology, economics, education, history, political science, psychology, sociology);
- 6 in science, mathematics, physical science); and
- 24 electives

Must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better (on a 4.0 scale)

Non-degree applicants are not officially admitted into the M.Div. program until after they have demonstrated the ability to do graduate level work by completing 30 semester credits with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale)

## Adding or Dropping a Course

1. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor and the registrar that a course is being dropped. For all course changes, the student must complete a Drop/Add form available in the Registrar's office. This form requires a signature by both the student and the student's advisor.
2. A student may not add a course or transfer from one course to another after the close of the second week of the semester.
3. If a student wishes to drop out of a course after the last day to drop a course, they may request a withdrawal from the class and a grade of W will be placed on their transcript for that course. Such a withdrawal must be requested before the last day of class.

## **Intensive Courses**

Students enrolled in Intensive Courses need to complete the required pre-class assignments as spelled out in the course syllabus before classes begin. Students must also complete the requirements of the course as outlined in the course syllabus.

## **Incomplete Course Work**

Unless an extension is granted a course not completed by the last day of the semester will be assigned a final grade on the basis of the work already submitted. This policy also applies to courses taken by directed study.

## **Extension for Late Work**

If a student has experienced special circumstances that prevent the completion of a course by the designated time set by the instructor, he/she may request an extension. This policy also applies to courses taken by intensive and directed study.

(1) The student must file a "Course Extension Form" (available in the Registrar's office) for each class in which an extension is desired and completed at the designated time set by the instructor.

(2) Upon completion of the extension form, the student must secure the written approval of the course instructor. The instructor will determine the validity of the request and may choose to refuse an extension. Upon the signed approval, the form will be placed in the student's file by the instructor.

(3) The maximum course extension deadline is 6 weeks.

(4) During the extension period the course will be listed as "I" (Incomplete).

(5) If the extension date is not met, the course will be graded on the basis of work submitted before the completion deadline.

(6) If the incomplete course is required for the student's degree and receives the final grade "F", the course must be retaken with full payment of tuition.

(7) No student will be allowed to graduate with an incomplete or failed required course.

## **Examinations**

All examinations must be taken when scheduled unless there is a valid excuse. The schedule for taking a missed exam will be set by the instructor. Final examinations are held the last week of each semester. An instructor may choose to use the final examination time for a class period if no final examination for the course is given.

## **Academic Integrity**

It is expected that all students will complete their studies in a responsible and honest manner. Cheating, submitting the same work for more than one course, and not giving proper acknowledgement for the ideas and data of others is irresponsible and dishonest and therefore subject to disciplinary action.

## **Attendance Policy**

Faithful class attendance is expected. Students are permitted absences during a semester without penalty up to the number of times a class meets each week. After this, absences will reflect adversely on the student's final grade. Class attendance of at least 75% is required in order to be eligible to receive credit for the course. Excused absences are granted for illness and other necessary situations. Common courtesy dictates that the instructor be notified of any absence so the proper notation can be made. Non-emergency absences should be approved beforehand by the instructor. Students who miss a class period are responsible for obtaining the content covered.

Given their compressed nature, complete attendance of all class periods for intensive (block) courses is very important. Students taking an intensive course are allowed to miss 2 hours for a 2 credit class and 3 hours for a 3 credit class. Any missed class periods of an intensive course must be recovered by the student via audio or video recording and be reported on by the student to the instructor in order to demonstrate assimilation of the missed material.

## **Handicap Accessibility**

The LBS building is handicap accessible from the parking lot where there are marked handicap parking places. There is also an accessible route from that parking lot into and through the building. This is the same route that would be used in an emergency situation. All emergency plans specifically state that faculty and students are to be available to give assistance to those who might need it. If one believes that special assistance or accommodations are needed in order to participate in the benefits of a service, program, or activity or more information is desired, you may contact the Dean's Office.

Any complaints addressing the physical accessibility of the LBS building may be made in writing or in person to the Office of the Lutheran Brethren Seminary President.

## **Student Complaint/Grievance Policy**

As disciples of Jesus Christ, the Lutheran Brethren Seminary community cherishes the practice of Christian love as of prime importance. We seek to follow the exhortation of the Apostle Paul: "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:3). Disagreements and differences sometimes strengthen the church, but sometimes they divide. Members of the LBS community will endeavor to settle differences with others in a Christian manner in accord with the Word of God (Gal.6:1; Matt. 18:15-17) and with school policy, and to avoid resorting to a court of law (I Cor. 6:5-7). The objective of this grievance policy is to resolve disputes/concerns as quickly and effectively as possible. The office of the Dean is responsible for maintaining all information and records on student complaints. (For more details see the Student Handbook)

## **Filing a Complaint to the Seminary Accrediting Agency**

Any student has the right to notify the Seminary's accrediting agency regarding the status of any grievance using the following contact information: Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), 15935 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551. Call 804-525-9539.

## **Courses Taken as Audits**

Any student who wishes to take a course without credit or grade may do so by registering the course as an audit. A seminarian accepted into a program of study may audit any class free of charge. Students not in a program will audit courses at the standard fee of \$100 per credit and \$150 per credit for language courses. Auditors are expected to attend class with the same regularity as those registered for credit. Class attendance of at least 75% is required for the course to be recorded an official audit on the student's transcript. If attendance expectations have not been met, the course will not appear on the student's record. Under no circumstances are auditors given academic credit.

Reading and writing assignments are not required and examinations are not given to auditors. Exceptions with regard to prerequisite requirements may be made with the permission of the instructor and in consultation with the Registrar when appropriate. Auditors may participate in class discussion only upon prior consent of the instructor. Spouses of Seminary students who have been accepted into a program are encouraged to audit courses and may audit any course free of charge without applying for admission. Faculty and staff and their spouses also may audit free of charge without applying for admission.

Regularly enrolled students who wish to change their status in a course from credit to audit must inform the instructor and the Office of the Registrar by the fifth week of a semester.

## **Courses Taken by Directed Study**

From time to time it is necessary for a student to take one or more courses in the Seminary curriculum by directed study, that is, on a one-to-one basis with the professor. A student may transfer in from another institution for his/her last year of seminary and one or more courses may not be available during that year. Occasionally, licensed pastors, licensed lay pastors or a colloquy student will need a course in this manner. Furthermore, a student may be required to take a course by directed study because he/she neglected to take it when it was offered during the regular cycle.

Because of added expense created by production, administration, and faculty involvement, directed study courses have an additional \$50 per credit hour charge added to the normal tuition fee.

Directed study courses must be completed within the semester or summer in which they are started. The same policies for incomplete work and extensions apply to courses taken by directed study.

## **Field Experience Courses**

The intent of these courses is to give defined and intentional "hands on" experience in supervised situations that allow for reflection on and growth in the student's ability to minister in a wide variety of situations. Ministry settings may include: local congregations, Lake Region Hospital, retirement centers, nursing homes, etc. The student processes these practical experiences by interacting with readings, journaling, and dialoging with the on-site supervisor and the Seminary Instructor.

## **Practical Experience Credits**

In addition to Field Experience credits, two additional credits may be earned through supervised practical ministry experiences. Arrangements for earning such credits must be made with the Dean's office.

## **Time Limits**

All requirements for the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree, normally completed in three years, must be met within eight years of initially enrolling. Requirements for the Master of Theological Studies (MTS), normally completed in two years, must be completed within five years. Requirements for the Certificate in Theological Studies (CTS), normally completed in one year, must be met within three years. Students are encouraged to take into consideration commitments of family, ministry and work when planning their course schedules. A petition for extension of these time limits must be made to the Dean of the Seminary and is subject to approval by the entire faculty.



## Academic Probation and Good Standing

LBS recognizes a student as being in good standing when the student is not on academic probation, has no incomplete work and is current with his or her financial accounts. At any time after the first year a student may be placed on academic probation if his/her grade point average falls below 2.00 or if there is incomplete work. Failure to correct the situation can result in dismissal. The student will have two semesters to bring his/her GPA up to 2.00. A student who has been asked to withdraw for academic or other reasons may reapply at some future time.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE/WITHDRAWAL

### Leave of Absence

A student may request a leave of absence of up to one academic year (2 consecutive semesters). A student intending to take a leave of absence from LBS must consult with his or her academic advisor and the Dean of the Seminary, and must complete the Leave of Absence/Withdrawal Form and submit it to the office of the Registrar. Ceasing to submit assignments and/or failure to attend classes does not constitute a leave of absence, nor does it relieve students of their financial obligations to the Seminary. A completed Leave of Absence/Withdrawal Form must be submitted to the office of the Registrar before any refunds can be given (see page 25 for refund schedule). If granted a leave of absence, the student may be readmitted and resume studies at any time during the leave period without reapplication.



## Withdrawal/Dismissal

A leave of absence for more than two semesters is categorized as a withdrawal. The procedure for requesting a withdrawal is the same as that for requesting a leave of absence with the additional requirement that a student must apply for readmission to the Seminary before resuming studies. Dismissals are handled according to the guidelines under the Code of Conduct or Academic Probation.

If a student withdraws or is dismissed from LBS and subsequently desires to reenroll, the student must submit a letter requesting readmission and reapply. The letter must indicate what the student has done since leaving seminary, what their current goals are, and how finishing a seminary program contributes to accomplishing those goals. If readmitted to a program, the student is subject to the graduation requirements and fees set forth in the catalog at the time of readmission and registration.

### Admitted but Does Not Register

If a student has been accepted for enrollment in an LBS program, but does not register for courses within one academic year (2 or more consecutive semesters), that student must apply for readmission before pursuing his or her studies at LBS. The application for readmission is the same as for Withdrawal/Dismissal.

### Guidelines for Readmission

1. Filing an application for readmission and/or any other reapplication materials does not guarantee readmission to LBS.
2. The student must demonstrate that he or she still meets the admission standards for the given program of study.
3. Applications for readmission must include transcripts of any courses completed at another institution since the student was last admitted to LBS.

The Admissions Committee requires the following of a student applying for readmission:

1. Absent for more than 2 but less than 5 semesters: Submit the Application for Admission and one pastoral reference.
2. Absent for 5 or more semesters: Submit all application materials required of any new applicant according to the current catalog.

While any application for readmission will be processed in a manner consistent with the above guidelines, the Seminary authorizes the Admissions Committee to make the final determination as to what will be required in all cases. The Admissions Committee will review all previous records of and may request a personal interview with the applicant before deciding to re-admit the student or to deny his or her application. The decision of the Admissions Committee is final.

## Graduation

Students must declare in December, at the time of registration, their intent to graduate. Approval must be received by the Academic Dean after the students' records are reviewed by the Registrar. The Seminary Faculty conducts interviews with graduating students. All work for graduating seniors must be completed prior to graduation.

## Ministry Placement

Ministry placement of seminary graduates happens in accordance with the customary calling process that is initiated by the congregation or other ministry extending a call to the candidate of their choosing. Church of the Lutheran Brethren (CLB) Regional Pastors, along with the CLB Director of Operations and the Office of the President are available to seminarians in considering ministry placement within the CLB and in entering the Pastoral Candidate process that follows a call. The Pastoral Candidate Program is a function of the Synodical President's office which oversees the first year of ministry in preparation for the graduate's ordination. The office of the Director of Lutheran Brethren International Missions (LBIM) is available to all who are exploring a call to global missions with the Lutheran Brethren. Those seeking service in a CLB congregation should first contact the committee chair of the Regional Pastors (CLB headquarters office); and those seeking service in a church body outside of the CLB should contact the offices of that denominational agency. We also advise students to avail themselves of the helpful resources available for free download on the CLB web site: "Pastoral Calling Process" and "Ministers of the Gospel Handbook."

## Transcripts

Requests for transcripts should be made to the Seminary Registrar. Official transcripts are issued only upon written authorization by the student. Official transcripts will be sent only to the institution or agency requiring them. Unofficial transcripts will be issued to the students for personal evaluation of academic progress. Three transcripts are issued without charge. The charge for each subsequent transcript is \$5 pre-paid. If the transcript is to be issued by a given date, the registrar's office must be informed in writing at least one week beforehand.

No transcript of credits or issuance of diplomas or degrees will be given unless all school bills are paid in full or satisfactory arrangements have been made with the Business Office. A transcript will not be sent out with an incomplete course listed on it or with an outstanding balance on that person's school account.

## Grading and Transcript Notations

The following criteria should be taken into consideration in understanding an assigned letter grade for course work:

- "A" Outstanding and excellent
- "B" Good and commendable
- "C" Acceptable
- "D" Minimal performance
- "F" Unacceptable

## GRADING SCALE

A	4.00	(93-100%)
A-	3.67	(90-92%)
B+	3.33	(87-89%)
B	3.00	(83-86%)
B-	2.67	(80-82%)
C+	2.33	(77-79%)
C	2.00	(73-76%)
C-	1.67	(70-72%)
D+	1.33	(67-69%)
D	1.00	(63-66%)
D-	.67	(60-62%)
F	0.00	(0-59%)

## Other Notations

W	.....	Withdrawal
I	.....	Incomplete
AUD	.....	Audit
R	.....	Course was repeated at a later time
P/F	.....	Pass/Fail

To graduate from any seminary program, a student must have a grade point average of not less than 2.0. To graduate with honors a student must have a grade point average of at least 3.50.



## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

### **Tuition and Fees**

1. The cost for the 2015-2016 academic year is \$345 per credit.
2. The standard fee for auditing a course on campus is \$100 per credit and \$150 per credit for language courses. This fee is not refundable. Spouses of Seminary students accepted into a program of study and retired CLB pastors may audit courses free of charge.
3. Students accepted into a program of study may audit courses and take J-Term courses free of charge.
4. Open Studies students taking courses should note that the total tuition amount is the responsibility of the student. No financial aid is available for Open Studies students. The total tuition fees are due on or before the first day of class. (See Open Studies Category- p. 18)
5. Directed study courses carry an additional \$50 per credit fee for production, administration, mailing, and faculty involvement.
6. A course retaken to change a previous grade will be charged regular tuition.
7. Other fees include.
  - Registration fee of \$10/credit with a maximum of \$120/semester;
  - Student activity fee of \$20/semester;
  - Technology fee of \$30/semester;
  - Graduation fee of \$100/final semester.

### **Refunds**

In the case of students who drop a course or withdraw from the Seminary before the end of a semester, refunds on tuition will be made at the following rates. The fees are non-refundable.

1. Within the first week, full tuition refund with proper approval of the Administration.
2. Second and third weeks, 75%
3. Fourth and fifth weeks, 50%
4. No refunds after the fifth week.

### **Financial Aid**

The churches of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren support the Seminary by providing two-thirds of the school's operating costs. In this way the amount of financial responsibility to the student is significantly reduced. The remaining one-third of the Seminary cost is covered through student tuition for which the student is responsible. Financial aid is available to assist some students with these tuition costs. No financial aid is available for Open Studies students.

### **Health Insurance and Housing**

Students are responsible for their own health insurance and housing.

## **Student Accounts**

Student costs are payable at registration. A payment plan may be arranged through the Seminary finance office. Unless pre-approved by the Lutheran Brethren Seminary Administrative Committee, students will not be allowed to register if their account is greater than one semester's cost. A student's account must be paid in full or be current on an approved payment plan in order to receive a diploma (certificate, etc.) or to obtain the release of official transcripts.

### **Veterans**

Lutheran Brethren Seminary is approved by the Minnesota State Approving Agency for training under the G. I. Bill. Applicants for these benefits should apply for educational assistance at their nearest regional Veterans Administration Office or Lutheran Brethren Seminary.

A person who meets the basic service requirements and who has been separated or discharged under conditions other than dishonorable may be entitled to educational assistance. A student receiving VA educational assistance is required to maintain satisfactory progress and conduct according to standards established and enforced by the institution, fully and clearly published in the institution's catalog, approved by the State Approving Agency, and accepted by the Veterans Administration. If the student fails to maintain satisfactory progress or conduct, payments will then be suspended. Regardless of whether the student desires to remain in the same program or desires to change institutions or programs, VA counseling is required before benefits can be resumed.

### **Refund Policy for Veterans**

For students enrolled under the provisions of Public Law 89-358, the school will refund the unused portion of tuition, fees, and other charges in the event the veteran or eligible person fails to enter the course, withdraws, or is discontinued there from at any time prior to completion. The amount charged to the veteran or eligible person for tuition, fees, and other charges for a portion of the course will not exceed the approximate pro rate portion of the total charges for tuition, fees, and other charges that the length of the completed portion of the course bears to its total length.

## Academic Programs

Lutheran Brethren Seminary offers the following programs of study:

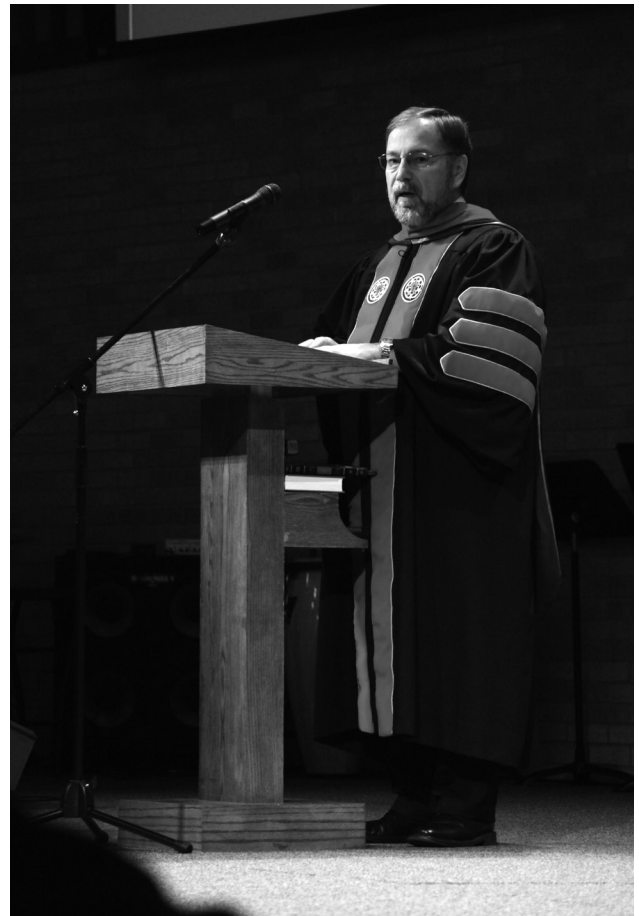
Master of Divinity

Master of Theological Studies

Diploma in Christian Ministry

Certificate of Theological Studies with emphases in:

- Lay Ministry
- Bible and Theology
- Missions



# Master of Divinity Degree

## Master of Divinity Degree<sup>3</sup>

The Master of Divinity Degree is a graduate degree in theology which prepares one to serve within the Church of the Lutheran Brethren, in other church bodies, and in mission organizations. This degree assumes a Bachelor of Arts or Science Degree. The Master of Divinity Degree is granted to seminary students upon the completion of the following academic requirements and upon the recommendation of the faculty:

1. The baccalaureate degree earned prior to registration in Seminary.
2. 92 credits in Seminary with a grade point average of not less than 2.0 (2.0= C grade), meeting all the departmental course requirements.

## Program Outcomes

- A. Interpret the Bible in its parts and in its whole through use of its original languages and appropriate exegetical and hermeneutical methods.
- B. Formulate a comprehensive view of the main teachings of the Bible.
- C. Proclaim God's saving work in Jesus Christ through the public and private ministries of the Word and Sacraments.
- D. Demonstrate skills for leading congregations in living as called, gathered, sanctified and sent communities in Christ.
- E. Evaluate the historical, theological, and missiological dimensions of the Christian faith.
- F. Demonstrate a personal love for God, His Church, and the world.



# Master of Divinity<sup>4</sup>

## Seminary Year 1

OT-NT 600	Introduction to Biblical Languages	1
PT 900	Introduction to Seminary Education	1

### Fall

EB 635	New Testament Introduction 1	2
HT 715	Church History	3
NT 601	New Testament Greek 1	3
WM 757	World Religions & New Religious Movements	3

**Total Credits 13**

### Spring

EB 611	Torah & Covenant History	3
EB 636	New Testament Introduction 2	2
HT 722	Survey of American Christianity	3
NT 602	New Testament Greek 2	3
PT 901	Homiletics	2
PT 912	Supervised Ministry Experience	1

**Total Credits 14**

## Seminary Year 2

### Fall

NT 636	Exegesis of Galatians	3
OT 601	Beginning Biblical Hebrew	4
PT 903	Advanced Preaching	2
PT 908	Pastoral Theology	3
PT 913	Supervised Ministry Experience	1
ST 821	Systematic Theology I	3

**Total credits 16**

### Spring

EB 612	Old Testament Prophets	3
OT 602	Intro to Hebrew Exegesis	3
PT 904	Advanced Preaching	2
PT 914	Supervised Ministry Experience	1
ST 822	Systematic Theology II	3
WM 755	Cross Cultural Comm. In Mission	3

**Total credits 15**

## Seminary Year 3

### Fall

EB 613	OT Poetry & Wisdom	3
PT 905	Senior Preaching	1
PT 907	Spiritual Care	3
PT 915	Supervised Ministry Experience	1
ST 823	Systematic Theology III	3
WM 751	The Church in Mission	3

**Total credits 14**

### Spring

PT 932	Theology & Practice Of Evangelism	3
PT 965	Personal Wellness in Min.	5
ST 813	Apologetics	3
ST 836	Ethics	3

**Total credits 14**

### Intensive Courses

*Offered every other year to 2nd & 3rd Year students*

PT 920	Worship	2
PT 909	Leadership in Ministry	2
PT 911	Teaching Ministry of the Congregation	2

**Total required credits 92**

Offered:

August 2015  
January 2016  
January 2017

<sup>4</sup>For students entering seminary in the Fall of 2015. Students follow the curriculum that was in place at the time they enrolled.

# Master of Theological Studies Degree

The Master of Theological Studies (MTS) is designed for personal enrichment for lay ministry and for various church staff positions. Although this degree is not designed for pastoral ministry, it can be used in a variety of church ministries. The MTS is a two-year (full-time is 14-18 credits per semester) graduate program that results in the conferring of a master's level degree. A bachelor's degree is required for entrance into the MTS program.

The MTS degree is granted to seminary students upon the completion of 60 credits with a grade point average of not less than 2.0 and upon the recommendation of the faculty.

## Program Outcomes

- A. Interpret the Bible in its parts and in its whole through use of appropriate exegetical and hermeneutical methods.
- B. Formulate a comprehensive view of the main teachings of the Bible.
- C. Communicate God's saving work in Jesus Christ through the public and private ministries of the Word
- D. Demonstrate skills for leadership within congregations
- E. Evaluate the historical, theological and missiological dimensions of the Christian faith
- F. Demonstrate a personal love for God, His Church, and the world

## Seminary Year 1

OT-NT 600	Intro to Biblical Languages	1
PT 900	Intro to Seminary Education	1

### Fall

EB 635	New Testament Introduction (1)	2
HT 715	Church History	3
ST 821	Systematic Theology I	3

**Total credits                    10**

### Spring

EB 611	Torah and Covenant History	3
EB 636	New Testament Introduction (2)	2
HT 722	Survey of American Christianity	3
PT 951	Field Experience	1
ST 822	Systematic Theology II	3

**Total credits                    12**

## Seminary Year 2

### Fall

EB 612	Old Testament Prophets	3
PT 950	Field Experience	1
ST 823	Systematic Theology III	3
WM 757	World Religions & New Mvmts.	3

**Total credits                    10**

### Spring

EB 613	OT Poetry & Wisdom	3
PT 932	Theology & Practice Of Evangelism	3
ST 813	Apologetics (or ST 836 Ethics)	3
WM 755	Cross Cultural Communication	3

**Total credits                    12**

**Total required credits                    44**

**Total Elective credits (not listed above)                    16 - Not listed above**

EB Elective credits	6
PT Elective credits	4
Other elective credits	6

**Total Program credits                    60**

# Diploma in Christian Ministry

The Diploma in Christian Ministry is designed to prepare mature students who sense a call later in life to serve within the Church of the Lutheran Brethren or in other church bodies or mission organizations but do not have the Bachelor's degree which is prerequisite for the Master of Divinity Degree (see p. 20, Non-Degree Applicant). The Diploma in Christian Ministry provides an opportunity for students who have completed 32 general education credits as prescribed to complete a program of ministry training without receiving a formal academic degree.

The General Education prerequisites are required in the belief that they are needed for the student to have the basic skills to benefit from this course of study leading to being prepared for Christian ministry.

The student will follow essentially the same course of study as prescribed for the Master of Divinity degree.

Should a graduate of the LBS Diploma or B.Th. program ever subsequently complete an accredited college baccalaureate degree, the Diploma or the B.Th. degree may be exchanged for either an M.T.S. or M.Div. degree, upon the recommendation of the faculty, provided that 1.) the B.Th. or Diploma credits have not been used in another degree program; and 2.) all of the academic requirements stipulated in the current LBS catalog for those degrees are satisfied.

## Program Outcomes

- A. Interpret the Bible in its parts and in its whole through use of its original languages and appropriate exegetical and hermeneutical methods
- B. Formulate a comprehensive view of the main teachings of the Bible
- C. Proclaim God's saving work in Jesus Christ through the public and private ministries of the Word and Sacraments
- D. Demonstrate skills for leading congregations in living as called, gathered, sanctified and sent communities in Christ
- E. Evaluate the historical, theological, and missiological dimensions of the Christian faith
- F. Demonstrate a personal love for God, His Church, and the world

## General Education Requirements for the Diploma in Christian Ministry (32 credits)

**At a minimum, the student must meet the following general education requirements prior to admission into the program:**

### Communications (6 credits)

Speech	3 credits
English Composition	3 credits

### Behavioral/Social Science (12 credits)

Western Civilization, I, II	6 credits
General Psychology	3 credits
Introduction to Sociology	3 credits

### Humanities/Fine Arts (6 credits)

Introduction to Philosophy	3 credits
Literature	3 credits

### Natural Science/Math (3 credits)

**The following are also required either prior to or following admission:**

Humanities Electives	(5 credits)
----------------------	-------------

### Total General Education Requirements 32 credits

In addition, 92 credits of seminary credits are also required. The Diploma in Christian Ministry will be granted to students who have completed the 32 credits of prescribed general education requirements plus the 92 required credits outlined in the Seminary Diploma in Christian Ministry program of study.



# Diploma in Christian Ministry<sup>6</sup>

## Seminary Year 1

OT-OT 600	Introduction to Biblical Languages	1
PT 900	Introduction to Seminary Education	1

### Fall

EB 635	New Testament Introduction (1)	2
HT 715	Church History	3
NT 601	New Testament Greek 1	3
WM 757	World Religions & New Religious Movements	3

### Spring

EB 611	Torah & Covenant History	3
EB 636	New Testament Intro (2)	2
HT 722	Survey of American Christianity	3
NT 602	New Testament Greek 2	3
PT 901	Homiletics	2
PT 912	Supervised Ministry Experience	1

**Total Credits** **13**

**Total Credits** **14**

## Seminary Year 2

### Fall

NT 636	Exegesis of Galatians	3
OT 601	Beginning Biblical Hebrew	4
PT 903	Advanced Preaching	2
PT 908	Pastoral Theology	3
PT 913	Supervised Ministry Experience	1
ST 821	Systematic Theology I	3

### Spring

EB 612	Old Testament Prophets	3
OT 602	Intro to Hebrew Exegesis	3
PT 904	Advanced Preaching	2
PT 914	Supervised Ministry Experience	1
ST 822	Systematic Theology II	3
WM 755	Cross Cultural Comm. In Mission	3

**Total credits** **16**

**Total credits** **15**

## Seminary Year 3

### Fall

EB 613	OT Poetry & Wisdom	3
PT 905	Senior Preaching	1
PT 907	Spiritual Care	3
PT 915	Supervised Ministry Experience	1
ST 823	Systematic Theology III	3
WM 751	The Church in Mission	3

### Spring

PT 932	Theology & Practice Of Evangelism	3
PT 965	Personal Wellness in Min.	5
ST 813	Apologetics	3
ST 836	Ethics	3

**Total credits** **14**

**Total credits** **14**

### Intensive Courses

(Offered every other year to 2nd & 3rd Year students)		Offered:
PT 920	Worship	2 August 2015
PT 909	Leadership in Ministry	2 January 2016
PT 911	Teaching Ministry of the Congregation	2 January 2017

**Total Credits** **2**

**Total required credits** **92**

<sup>6</sup> For students entering seminary in the Fall of 2015. Students follow the curriculum that was in place at the time they enrolled..

# Certificate of Theological Studies

At Lutheran Brethren Seminary, we are eager to serve men and women sensing a call to pursue theological education in order to serve more effectively as a layperson. The Certificate of Theological Studies (CTS) is a non-degree program that offers the student a wonderful opportunity to experience the equivalent of one year in seminary in order to develop a deeper understanding of his/her faith and to explore God's leading in his/her life for future ministry.

Candidates for the Certificate of Theological Studies might include the following: adult learners who are interested in full or part-time study, those preparing specific local or overseas cross-cultural mission assignments, or college students who wish to attain theological and biblical grounding for future study or vocation. In addition to the required core courses, the CTS offers many choices in biblical and theological electives with emphases in Lay Ministry, Bible and Theology, and Mission. If full-time study is possible, a student may complete a CTS program in one year.

As with all other programs at LBS, CTS courses are taught at the graduate level. If a student should later be admitted to an LBS degree or diploma program, all of the credits earned in the CTS may be applied.

## General Education Requirements for the Certificate in Theological Studies (32 credits)

**At a minimum, the student must meet the following general education requirements or their equivalents prior to admission into the program:**

### Communications (6 credits)

Speech 3 credits  
English Composition 3 credits

### Behavioral/Social Science (12 credits)

Western Civilization, I, II 6 credits  
General Psychology 3 credits

### Humanities/Fine Arts (6 credits)

Introduction to Philosophy 3 credits  
Literature 3 credits

### Natural Science/Math

**3 credits**

**The following are also required either prior to or following admission:**

Humanities Electives 5 credits

### Total General Education Requirements 32 credits

The Certificate in Theological Studies is granted to students who have completed the 32 credits of general education requirements prescribed above, plus an additional 30 credits (10 core required credits, 20 credits in electives) as outlined in the CTS program of study.

**The following core courses are required of all students in the CTS program.  
12 credits**

OT-NT600	Introduction to Biblical Languages	1
PT 900	Introduction to Seminary Education	1
EB 635	New Testament Introduction 1	2
EB 636	New Testament Introduction 2	2
EB 611	Torah & Covenant History	3
ST 821	Systematic Theology I	3

In addition to the above core requirements, students will complete the program with electives from other courses listed in the spring and fall schedule. (See p. 35 for 2015-2016 Tentative Course Offerings. For other course options in the catalog that are not in the Fall/Spring schedule, consult with your assigned faculty advisor or the Registrar.) 18 credits

**For students wanting a CTS with an emphasis in Lay Ministry, we especially recommend including electives from the following:**

PT 901	Homiletics	2
PT 907	Spiritual Care	3
PT 908	Pastoral Theology	3
PT 932	Theology & Practice of Evangelism	3
PT 920	Worship (offered every other year)	2

**For students wanting a CTS with an emphasis in Bible & Theology, we recommend including electives from the following list:**

HT 715	Church History	3
HT 722	Survey of American Christianity	3
EB 613	Old Testament Poetry & Wisdom	3
ST 823	Systematic Theo. III	3

**For students wanting a CTS with an emphasis in Mission, we recommend including electives from the following list:**

WM 751	The Church in Mission	3
WM 755	Cross-Cultural Communication in Mission	3
WM 757	World Religions and New Religious Movements	3
PT 932	Theology & Practice of Evangelism	3

## Distance Education

Distance education provides educational opportunities for individuals who are unable to participate in an on-campus program to acquire the same levels of knowledge, skills, attitudes and character as those students enrolled in on-campus programs.

The Distance Education goals include:

- a. Compliance with state and federal regulations,
- b. Sufficient training for students and faculty,
- c. A successful experience for all distance students.

At LBS, distance education is conducted in a distributed learning format—students experience both synchronous and asynchronous learning. Distributed learning is a multi-media method of instructional delivery, involving practices such as on-campus intensive courses, web-based instruction, video conferencing, and video streaming.

In synchronous online learning, students enroll in courses and attend them in real time, at the same time as on-campus students. This format facilitates close communication with fellow students and faculty, and also fosters a sense of community. Both distance students and classroom students benefit by seeing and hearing one another.

In asynchronous online learning students view recorded lectures and complete assignments without real-time contact with a class of fellow students.

Students at LBS enroll in online courses in the same sequence as on-campus students. Most will attend live classes via Adobe Connect and view recorded lectures when their schedule prohibits live participation. Other students, due to time zone issues, will only view recorded classes. However, all will participate in writing and responding to posts which include the professor. Distance students will be able to ask questions and discuss course content with the professor in an "Adobe Connect Office Hour" (See Student Handbook).

Distance students will have the same professors as on-campus students attending the same courses.

One week prior to the start of each semester all new students are required to come to the campus to participate in PT 900 Introduction to Seminary Education. This course is offered in a two and a half day intensive format with pre-course readings assigned and other assignments will be completed during the subsequent semester. This course is an overview of skills and aptitudes necessary for effectiveness in seminary. Topics covered include seminary program outcomes; managing time effectively; reading, researching and writing at a master's level; and thinking critically and theologically. The course will also be an orientation into the use of technology to enhance the learning process. This orientation will demonstrate how to access the administrative and educational support infrastructure at LBS.

While most residential students are enrolled full-time while working part-time, LBS expects that most distance students will maintain full or nearly full-time employment while pursuing their academic program part-time. To complete a part-time distance degree program successfully requires a strong commitment to very careful and disciplined time and priority management. Distance students should expect to spend about 2.5 hours outside of class for each hour spent in class. The "in class" time will be either participating in a class using video conferencing technology or watching a recording online of a class that the student is unable to attend.

## Tentative Course Offerings for Fall 2015

<b>Summer 2015</b>		<b>Credit</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
OT-NT 600	Introduction to Biblical Languages	1	Pribbenow
<b>Intensives</b>			
PT 920	Worship (August 24-28)	2	Pribbenow
PT 900	Introduction to Seminary Education (Sept. 1-3)	1	Boe/Bjerkaas
<b>Fall Semester</b>			
EB 612	Old Testament Prophets	3	Pribbenow
EB 635	New Testament Introduction I	2	Grindheim
HT 715	Church History	3	Mathiesen
NT 601	New Testament Greek I	3	Grindheim
NT 640	Exegesis of New Testament Texts	3	Grindheim
PT 903	Advanced Preaching	2	Veum
PT 905	Senior Preaching	1	Erickson
PT 907	Spiritual Care	3	Veum/Oldenkamp
PT 908	Pastoral Theology	3	Veum
PT 913	Supervised Ministry Experience	1	Erickson
PT 915	Supervised Ministry Experience	1	Erickson
PT 950	Field Experience	1	Erickson
ST 821	Systematic Theology I	3	Boe
ST 823	Systematic Theology III	3	Boe
WM 751	The Church in Mission	3	Mathiesen
WM 757	World Religions and the New Religious Movements	3	Mathiesen

---

## Tentative Course Offerings for Spring 2016

<b>January Intensive – January 7-8, 11-13</b>		<b>Credit</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
PT 909	Leadership in Ministry (Jan. 7-8, 11-13)	2	Seaver
<b>Spring Semester</b>			
EB 611	Torah & Covenant History	3	Pribbenow
EB 613	Old Testament Poetry & Wisdom	3	Pribbenow
EB 636	New Testament Introduction II	2	Grindheim
HT 722	Survey of American Christianity & American Lutheranism	3	Mathiesen
NT 602	New Testament Greek II	3	Grindheim
PT 901	Homiletics	2	Erickson
PT 904	Advanced Preaching	2	Erickson
PT 912	Supervised Ministry Experience	1	Erickson
PT 914	Supervised Ministry Experience	1	Erickson
PT 932	Theology and Practice of Evangelism	3	Mathiesen
PT 951	Field Experience	1	Erickson
PT 965	Personal Wellness In Ministry	5	Veum/Oldenkamp
ST 813	Introduction to Apologetics	3	Boe
ST 822	Systematic Theology II	3	Boe
ST 836	Ethics	3	Boe
WM 755	Cross Cultural Communication In Mission	3	Mathiesen

# Seminary Courses

## Seminary Orientation

### **SO 101 Student Orientation** 0 credit

There is an individually scheduled orientation for new students into the world of learning technology at Lutheran Brethren Seminary (LBS). While the primary emphasis is on the use of technology to enhance the learning process, the participants will also become familiar with how to access all the support infrastructure that will help them have a successful learning experience. The program consists of one or more individually scheduled online sessions before classes begin each term, as well as some reading and personal equipment setup activities prior to the sessions.

## Historical Theology

### **HT 215 Church History** 3 credits

A study of the history of the Christian Church in its context from the Apostolic era to the present, tracing its development with particular emphasis on the individuals, groups, institutions, pattern of thought, events, and ideas. The course includes movements such as the Reformation, Orthodoxy, Pietism and their relationships to the flow of God's mission.

### **HT 715 Church History** 3 credits

This course is a study of the history of the Christian Church and its contexts from the Apostolic era through the Reformation and the Age of Enlightenment, tracing its development with particular emphasis on the individuals, groups, institutions, patterns of thought, events and ideas that have shaped the Church. Attention is also given to the various structures and forms utilized by the Church as it participates in God's mission in the world.

### **HT 721 Theology of the Cults** 2 credits

A careful study of the origin, history, and theology of the more common cults and sects comparing them with Lutheran teachings and examining them in the light of the Word of God. Research projects and readings in related literature are included in the course requirements.

### **HT 222 A Survey of American Christianity, American Lutheranism and the Lutheran Brethren** 3 credits

This course picks up the discussion from HT 215 (which is a pre-requisite for this course), with emphasis on the American Church movement from its roots to the present. Early American Lutheranism, revivalism, European influences, the fundamentalist/modernist controversy, Liberation Theology and other important interactions between individuals, groups, institutions, events and ideas are also covered. The semester concludes with a focus on the roots and development of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren.

### **HT 722 A Survey of American Christianity, American Lutheranism and the Lutheran Brethren** 3 credits

This course picks up the discussion from HT 715 (which is a pre-requisite for this course), with emphasis on the American Church movement from its roots to the present. Early American Lutheranism, revivalism, European influences, the fundamentalist/modernist controversy, Liberation Theology and other important interactions between individuals, groups, institutions, events and ideas are also covered. The semester concludes with a focus on the roots and development of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren.

### **HT 841, 842, 843**

#### **Directed Readings** 1-3 credits

Directed readings are pursued under the guidance of the professor in the department of instruction. One credit in a semester may be earned in this way, with a maximum of three credits.

## Introduction to Biblical Languages

### **OT-NT 600 Introduction to Biblical Languages** 1 credit

This course is designed to provide a foundational introduction to how language works. It is a survey of the basics of English grammar, and will also introduce the primary elements of Biblical Hebrew and Greek, including the alphabet, simple pronunciation, and simple writing. As a result of this class, students continuing on with the study of Biblical Hebrew and/or Biblical Greek will be given a framework for understanding the nature of language which will aid them in learning and using these languages with greater efficiency and usefulness. Those not continuing on in with the study of the Bible's original languages will likewise gain a base knowledge that will allow them to more thoroughly use Bible study tools (such as lexicons, theological dictionaries, commentaries, and Bible software) which incorporate Hebrew or Greek in their content.

## New Testament Studies

### **NT 601 New Testament Greek 1** 3 credits

Introduction to New Testament Greek, including basic vocabulary, morphology, and syntax.

### **NT 602 New Testament Greek 2** 3 credits

Further study of New Testament Greek, including vocabulary, morphology, and syntax. Students will translate texts from the Johannine literature.

**NT 604 Introduction to New Testament Exegesis 3 credits**

The purpose of this course is to develop proficiency in reading and studying Greek by translating and exegeting selected texts from the New Testament. Prerequisite: NT 103 or equivalent.

**NT 636 Galatians 3 credits**

An in-depth study of the entire letter of Paul to the Galatians. Emphasis is given to exegesis and translation with a view to preparing a series of expository sermons and/or a biblical study of Galatians.

**NT 639 Ephesians 2 credits**

An exegetical study of Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus. An approach to the study of the church (chapters 1-3) and practical Christian living (chapters 4-6). Prerequisite: NT 604 or equivalents.

**NT 640 Exegesis of New Testament Texts 3 credits**

Use of the Greek text in the study and preparation for sermons and biblical studies. Readings will be taken from Epistle and Gospel lessons of the Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship as found in the CLB Yearbook.

**EB 100 Biblical Interpretation 2 credits**

This course covers the Science and art of Biblical interpretation. Attention is focused upon principles of grammatical-historical hermeneutics. In addition to the general principles, special attention is given to the principles that govern the interpretation of types, prophecy, and parables.

**EB 102 The History and Literature of the New Testament 2 credits**

An introduction to the history and literature of the New Testament, beginning with a brief survey of the Intertestamental Period. Critical problems associated with each book will be discussed and a rapid survey of the contents of the twenty-seven New Testament books will be conducted. The New International Version will be used.

**EB 600 Biblical Interpretation 2 credits**

The science and art of Biblical interpretation. Attention is focused upon the principles of the historical-grammatical-theological approach of Lutheran hermeneutics. In addition to the general principles, special attention is given to the principles that govern the interpretation of types, prophecy, and parables.

**EB 635 New Testament Introduction I 2 credits**

A broad-based study of the Gospels and Acts: their place in history; development as canon; theology and interpretation; challenges and criticism; and use in Christian ministry.

**EB 636 New Testament Introduction II 2 credits**

A broad-based study of the Epistles and Revelation: their place in history; development as canon; theology and interpretation; challenges and criticism; and use in Christian ministry.

**EB 643 Study of New Testament Text 4 credits**

An inductive study of Gospel and Epistle texts based on the English text.

**EB 680 The Gospel of Matthew 2 credits**

This course involves a survey of the content and structure of the Gospel of Matthew with special attention to the Messiahship and Kingship of Jesus as fulfillments of Old Testament prophecy.

**EB 681 The Gospel of Mark 2 credits**

This course involves a survey of the content of Mark's Gospel with special attention to the matter of Markan priority. The motif of Jesus as Servant will be considered.

**EB 682 The Gospel of Luke 2 credits**

The longest of the four Gospels, Luke presents Jesus as the Savior of all humankind. Special emphasis is placed in Luke's Gospel on the historical validity of our understanding of Jesus' life and mission.

**EB 683 The Gospel of John 2 credits**

Unique among the four Gospels, this Gospel portrays Jesus as the God-Man, the Word who became flesh. Special attention is paid to such Johannine themes as light, darkness, sin, regeneration, life, etc. The organization and structure of the Gospel of John is studied in some depth as well.

**EB 684 Romans 2 credits**

Treated as the basic Biblical manual for doctrine, the book of Romans places particular emphasis on human depravity, justification, and sanctification. Christian ethics are viewed as growing out of the doctrine presented in chapters one through eleven. Throughout, God's grace is stressed.

**EB 685 1 & 2 Corinthians 2 credits**

A devotional study of the epistles of I and II Corinthians with special attention given to the problems of the Corinthian Church as an example of a church just converted from paganism. The Corinthian problems are also seen as problems of our contemporary society, and Paul's solutions as applicable to our society as they were to Corinth.

**EB 686 Galatians 2 credits**

Whereas NT 636 is an exegesis of Galatians based on the Greek text, this course is a devotional and practical examination of Galatians based on the English text. Special attention is paid to Paul's teaching of justification by faith and its emphasis in the Lutheran Church. Luther's unabridged commentary on Galatians is required reading.

**EB 687 Acts & the Life of Paul 2 credits**

Viewing Acts 1:8 as the Key to understanding the book, this course surveys the contents of the Book of Acts as the story of the first generation of the Church. Special focus is brought to bear on the ministry of St. Paul the Apostle.

**EB 688 Ephesians 2 credits**

A devotional and practical study of the Epistle, particularly in its teaching regarding the church.

**EB 689 Philippians, Colossians, Philemon 2 credits**

A devotional and practical study of these books using the inductive method of study.

**EB 690 Pastoral Epistles 2 credits**

A devotional and practical study of Paul's letters to Timothy and to Titus. A study of the offices and the organization of the church as Paul outlines them in these three epistles.

**EB 691 Hebrews 2 credits**

A devotional and practical study of the epistle to the Hebrews. Attention is given to its Christology and the use of the Old Testament in its theology.

**EB 692 James 2 credits**

A devotional and practical study of the book using the inductive method of study with special concern for the relationship of faith and works.

**EB 693 1 Peter 2 credits**

This course is given to provide the occasion for entering the thought and meaning of this epistle on the subject of living daily with hope through the Gospel in the midst of "various trials." Special attention will be given to its teaching on the church, baptism, eschatology, ethics, and Christ's descent into hell.

**EB 695 Revelation 2 credits**

An exegetical, historical, and doctrinal study of the Apocalypse of John with consideration of the preterist, historic, idealist, and futurist positions.

**EB 697, 698, 699 Directed Readings 1-3 credits**

Directed readings are pursued under the guidance of the professor in the department of instruction. One credit per semester may be earned in this way, with a maximum of three credits.

**Old Testament Studies****OT 601 Beginning Hebrew 4 credits**

This course is an introductory study of the basic morphology, syntax and vocabulary of Biblical Hebrew. The goal of this course is to prepare the student to translate and exegete Biblical Hebrew.

**OT 602 Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis 3 credits**

This course builds on the student's knowledge of Biblical Hebrew to aid the student to engage in a thorough, analytical study of a biblical text. The aim is to develop a method of exegesis which will assist in the preparation of a soundly biblical and practical sermon or teaching presentation. Emphasis in this course will be given to working with middle-level Hebrew grammar and syntax based on a grammatical-historical method and applying fundamental skills in Hebrew to basic interpretation of biblical texts.

**OT 603 Exegesis of Old Testament Narrative 2+1 credits**

This one-semester course is designed to familiarize the student with the translation and exegesis of Old Testament narrative. Beginning in Genesis selected narrative passages will be studied from the Hebrew Old Testament. Special attention will be given to placing the finished product of this exegesis into homiletical form. OT 601-602, or their equivalent required.

**OT 604 Exegesis of the Psalms 2+1 credits**

This one-semester course is designed to familiarize the student with the translation and exegesis of Old Testament poetry. Special attention will be given to placing the finished product of this exegesis into homiletical form. OT 601-602 or equivalent required.

**OT 605 New Testament Use of the Old Testament 2+1 credits**

This course would deal with some of the more complex areas of hermeneutics and textual criticism involved in the New Testament's citations of the Old Testament. Various theories concerning the use of the Old Testament by the New Testament will be discussed. A working knowledge of Greek and Hebrew is required.

**OT 606, 607 Biblical Hebrew Reading 1 credit**

Guided readings in selected portions of Biblical Hebrew are designed to provide a continuous review of phonology, grammar, and vocabulary. OT 601-602 required. This course aims specifically at Hebrew reading and translation. Forty-five hours of work in the above areas are equal to one credit.



**EB 101 The History and Literature of the Old Testament 3 credits**

An introduction to and broad survey of the history and literature of the books that make up the Old Testament. Each book will be surveyed in light of its historical background in the life and faith of ancient Israel. This course is designed to provide the student with the opportunity to gain a basic understanding of the content form, and history of the Old Testament.

**EB 611 Torah and Covenant History 3 credits**

An introductory study of the canonicity, form, historical reliability, and the Law-Gospel theology of the books of the Torah and Covenant History. A three-fold emphasis will be evident in this course.

1. How the deuteronomic theology of the Torah is imprinted on the historical books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah.
2. A study of each individual book in light of its historical origin and background with an emphasis upon how its message contributes to the Messianic hope of humanity fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
3. The Old Testament's origin of Christ's Great Commission to reach the world with the Gospel will be explored.

**EB 612 Old Testament Prophets 3 credits**

An introductory study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and theology of the Major Prophets, Daniel, and the twelve Minor Prophets. Each book will be studied in light of its historical origin and background with an emphasis upon how its message contributes to the Messianic hope of humanity fulfilled in Jesus Christ. The relevancy of the prophetic message of Law-Gospel to contemporary preaching will be explored.

**EB 613 Old Testament Poetry & Wisdom 3 credits**

An introductory study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and Law-Gospel theology of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. Each book will be studied in light of its historical origin and background with an emphasis upon how its message contributes to the Messianic hope of humanity fulfilled in Jesus Christ. The use of each book in ministry will be explored.

**EB 651 Genesis 2 credits**

A study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and theology of the first book of Holy Scripture. This book will be studied in light of its Mosaic background with an emphasis upon its relevance for the original Hebrew audience and how its message contributes to the remainder of the Bible. Care will be taken to trace the origin and development of the Messianic hope of humanity evidenced in this book.

**EB 655 Deuteronomy 2 credits**

A study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and theology of the fifth book of Holy Scripture. This book will be studied in light of its Mosaic origin and historical background with an emphasis upon how "deuteronomic" theology contributes to the remainder of the Bible and the Messianic hope of humanity fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

**EB 658 Exegesis of Old Testament Texts 2 credits**

This course is a hands-on approach to developing Christ-centered sermons, Bible studies, and devotions from the Old Testament. In working with various Old Testament texts the student will learn to apply the hermeneutical relationships of Law-Gospel and Promise-Fulfillment which inseparably join the Old and New Testaments through their fulfillment in Jesus Christ. A practical use of the whole Bible by Christians will be emphasized.

**EB 659 Job and a Biblical View of Suffering 2 credits**

Starting with the text of Job appropriate Biblical passages will be examined that deal with the Christians response to suffering. The Theology of the Cross will be contrasted with the Theology of Glory, and justification will be studied as solely the work of God. The goal of this course is to give the student a thoroughly Biblical view of suffering that will enable one to work through the difficult questions brought on by hardship.

**EB 660 Psalms 2 credits**

A study of the Psalter in which a select number of the various literary types of Psalms are examined in the light of their historical context and Christological application. Each student is expected to read the entire book of Psalms during the semester. This course is designed to deepen the student's devotional use of the Psalms and enable him to preach, teach, and lead worship from the Psalter.

**EB 664 Isaiah 2 credits**

A study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and theology of the eight-century prophet Isaiah. This course is designed to provide the student with the historical background to Isaiah's oracles, followed by an analysis of the structure, theology, and Messianic predictions found in this book. The goal of the course is to better understand Isaiah's unified theological message and come to an awareness of how this message participates in the Christocentric focus of the Scriptures.

**EB 665 Jeremiah 2 credits**

A study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and theology of Jeremiah. This book will be studied in light of its historical origin and background with special emphasis upon how its message contributes to the Messianic hope of humanity fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

**EB 667 Ezekiel****2 credits**

A study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and theology of Ezekiel. Attention will be given to the nature of apocalyptic literature and how Ezekiel fits into various eschatological views. This book will be studied in light of its historical origin and background with special emphasis upon how its message contributes to the Messianic hope of humanity fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

**EB 668 Daniel****2 credits**

A study of the canonicity, content, form, historical reliability, and theology of Daniel. Attention will be given to the nature of apocalyptic literature and how Daniel fits into various eschatological views. This book will be studied in light of its historical origin and background with special emphasis upon how its message contributes to the Messianic hope of humanity fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

**EB 669 Hosea****2 credits**

In no other prophet is the love of God more clearly demonstrated than in Hosea. The message of God's great love for Israel and His desire for reciprocal love is what the prophet Hosea delivered on behalf of a heartbroken God to a loveless nation. In spite of his announcement of the coming judgment brought about by Israel's habitual national unfaithfulness to God, Hosea was also called to speak of the Lord's free and faithful love. Using the analogy of the prophet's own marriage, God pictures for us in Hosea not only His unyielding righteousness but also His tender love for that which is utterly abhorrent and His willingness to pay the price that would restore people back to Him.

**EB 670 Messianic Themes****2 credits**

A research seminar designed to enable the student to study the relationship between Old Testament texts, persons, events, institutions, and their New Testament counterparts. The student will be allowed to pursue areas of personal interest under the supervision of the instructor. The goal of this course is to familiarize the student with the unity of the two Testaments as one body of Scripture.

**Practical Theology****PT 900 Introduction****to Seminary Education.****1 credits**

An overview of skills and aptitudes necessary for effectiveness in seminary. Topics to be covered include seminary program outcomes; managing time effectively; reading, researching and writing at a master's level; and thinking critically and theologically. The course will also be an orientation to the use of technology to enhance the learning process. This orientation will demonstrate how to access the administrative and educational support infrastructure at LBS. The course is offered in a two and a half day intensive format the week before the start of each semester. Pre-course Readings will be assigned and other assignments will be completed during the subsequent semester.

**PT 901 Homiletics****2 credits**

A study of the principles that govern the preparation and delivery of sermons. Representative homiletical literature is surveyed and each student is given at least one opportunity to preach to the class.

**PT 903, 904 Advanced Preaching****2-2 credits**

Students are assigned pericope texts and special topics for sermon preparation and delivery. Sermons are preached in congregational/ministry settings and video-recorded. Prerequisite: PT 901.

**PT 905 Senior Preaching****1 credit**

This capstone course for preaching provides the opportunity to demonstrate competency in the full spectrum of sermon preparation and delivery, including the integration of other disciplines of the curriculum, through the preparation and preaching of sermons. Prerequisite: PT 903-904.

**PT 907 Spiritual Care****3 credits**

An introduction to spiritual care giving built on a foundation of biblical, historical, and theological study, with an emphasis on the use of Law and Gospel. The student will investigate the difference between spiritual care and psychological therapy, study Egan's Helping Model, begin to master the basic skills of spiritual dialogue, and become familiar with various practical situations, such as crisis, spiritual, marital, and pre-marital counseling.

**PT 908 Pastoral Theology****3 credits**

This course prepares students for the work of pastoring by further developing in them the character qualities of a pastor, by increasing their skill in conducting the services in the Ministerial Acts, and by practicing their care for the sick and the elderly. Students examine themselves in light of the Pastoral Epistles, are mentored by an experienced pastor, and reflect on their pastoring experiences and attitudes with each other.

**PT 909 Leadership in Ministry 2 credits**

A study of the nature styles and applications of leadership in ministry. The course will address the following questions: What does it mean to be a servant leader as represented by Jesus Christ? How do leadership styles vary because of individual and congregational differences? What leadership responsibilities will a person likely encounter in a ministry setting?

**PT 910 Introduction to Youth Ministry 2 credits**

This course is an overview of a wide variety of issues in the area of ministry to youth. The format of the course will include lecture, class discussion, and guest lecturers. The course will focus on the social and cultural world of the adolescent, the role of the youth pastor, the role of the family, and possible strategies for doing youth ministry in a local congregation. For CTS students an additional 1 credit for lab.

**PT 911 The Teaching Ministry of the Congregation 2 credits**

A survey of the teaching ministry of the congregation and the pastor's role in giving oversight to all the teaching ministries of the church. Special attention is given to the following areas confirmation instruction; choosing Sunday School materials and training Sunday School teachers; teaching the Scriptures to the adult learner; and training Bible Study leaders.

**PT 912 Supervised Ministry Experience 1 credit**

The supervised ministry experience is designed to help students prepare for a life of ministry in God's mission by understanding and developing spiritual and emotional maturity, leadership, communication, and conflict management through ministry practice and personal reflection.

In this course students will take the first series of psychological inventories and create their personal development plan.

**PT 913, 914 Supervised Ministry Experience 1-1 credits**

The supervised ministry experience is designed to help students prepare for a life of ministry in God's mission by understanding and developing spiritual and emotional maturity, leadership, communication, and conflict management through ministry practice and personal reflection.

**PT 915 Supervised Ministry Experience 1 credit**

The supervised ministry experience is designed to help students prepare for a life of ministry in God's mission by understanding and developing spiritual and emotional maturity, leadership, communication, and conflict management through ministry practice and personal reflection. In this course students will take the second series of psychological inventories and evaluate their personal development plan growth and goals.

**PT 920 Worship 2 credits**

An introduction to the history, theology, and practice of worship including guidelines for Christian worship in the Lutheran church.

**PT 932 The Theology and Practice of Evangelism 3 credits**

A study of the biblical theology of evangelism with an emphasis on personal witness and the role and function of the local church in missional engagement with a world of many cultures and religions. The goal of this course is to further the process of church leaders in training and leading the Church in its God-given mission to go into the world and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

**PT 934 Principles of Church Growth 2 credits**

A study of the church growth movement in the light of Lutheran theology and the principles involved in church planting and the growth of existing churches.

**PT 948, 949 Stephen Ministries 1-2 credits**

Taken as an alternative for PT 950, 951 Field Experience, this supervised ministry involves training lay ministers in appropriate listening and Christ centered caring skills. The certified Stephen Ministry Training Program schedule usually involves evening meetings from November through March. It involves a total of 50 hours of classroom and on-site training with additional time spent completing chapter readings and some written assignments (about 1-1.5 hours per week). The total time commitment of 90 hours for two semesters is equivalent to PT 950-51.

**PT 941, 942, 943 Directed Readings 1-3 credits**

Directed readings are pursued under the direction of the professor in the department of instruction. One credit a semester may be earned in this way, with a maximum of three credits.

**PT 950, 951 Field Experience 1-2 credits**

The intent of these courses is to provide seminary students with defined and intentional 'hands on' ministry experience in supervised situations. Off-site resources used include: local congregations; retirement centers, nursing homes, etc. In addition, readings, journaling of experiences, and interaction with the on-site supervisor and the Seminary Instructor aid the student in sharpening his/her God-given gifts for ministry.

**PT 952 Clinical Pastoral Education 5 credits**

This educational 'process model' of learning enables students to develop ministry skills through individual and group interviews, teaching seminars and clinical case presentations. Integration of theological reflection with practical experience is a key part of this program. The course focuses on three goals: 1) understanding one's role as pastor and person; 2) developing pastoral skills in relations to one's theology; 3) applying tools of behavioral assessment to the pastoral role. Students receive one-half unit of certification in CPE.

**PT 953 Pastor as Person in Ministry**

**3 credits**

This 'process model' of learning enables students to develop ministry skills through individual and group interviews, teaching seminars and clinical case presentations. Integration of theological reflection with practical experience is a key part of this program.

The course focuses on three goals: 1) understanding one's role as pastor and person; 2) developing pastoral skills in relations to one's theology; 3) applying tools of behavioral assessment to the pastoral role.

**PT 954, 955 Practical Experience**

**1-2 credits**

In addition to Field Experience credits, two additional credits may be earned through supervised practical ministry experience, such as teaching release time school, doing jail ministry, or carrying out a special summer ministry opportunity. Arrangements for earning such credits must be made with the Seminary Dean's office.

**PT 956 Practical Experience in Youth Ministry**

**2 credits**

This course will give the students defined and intentional 'hands on' ministry experience in supervised situations outside of the classroom. These experiences will also provide opportunities for reflection and growth in ministry skills.

**PT 965 Personal Wellness in Ministry**

**5 credits**

PT 965 uses a process model of learning which enables students to develop ministry skills through individual and group interviews, teaching seminars and clinical case presentations. The course includes supervised clinical practice of ministry, an individual contract for learning which the student and instructor develop together, group processing of ministry experiences including feedback from one's peers, and evaluation by the supervisor and the instructor.

**PT 975 Personal Ministry Component**

**2 credits**

This course is designed to help the student come to understand and love the local congregation even though it is imperfect. Using the attributes of the Church as a guide and systems theory as a tool the student learns how to examine the multi-faceted elements of a congregation including its identity, context and boundaries and to comprehend why a church is greater than the sum of its parts. Graduating seniors begin to research the places they will be serving in preparation for transition to their new ministries.

## Systematic Theology

**ST 301 The Christian Faith**

**3 credits**

An introduction to the basics of the Christian Faith to include: God's revelation, the trinity, creation, sin, person and work of Christ, redemption, person and work of the Holy Spirit, sanctification, means of grace, and the last things.

**ST 801 The Christian Faith**

**3 credits**

An introduction to the basics of the Christian Faith to include: God's revelation, the trinity, creation, sin, person and work of Christ, redemption, person and work of the Holy Spirit, sanctification, means of grace, and the last things.

**ST 811, 812 History of Christian Thought**

**2-2 credits**

A careful and critical study of the writings of the leading philosophers and theologians as an analysis of their impact upon Christian thought.

**ST 813 Introduction to Apologetics**

**3 credits**

This is an introductory survey to apologetics that examines the nature and role of apologetics in theology and in the 20th century; the significance of the natural knowledge of God in the light of philosophical and scientific data; and the reliability and historicity of the New Testament documents.

**ST 821 Systematic Theology I**

**3 credits**

A study of the doctrines of Scripture, God the Trinity, the creation, and humanity's state of sin.

**ST 822 Systematic Theology II**

**3 credits**

A study of the doctrines of reconciliation and redemption by Jesus Christ, dealing with the person of Christ, the communion of His natures, the states of Christ and His redemptive work.

**ST 823 Systematic Theology III**

**3 credits**

A study of the work of the Holy Spirit, dealing with grace and faith, justification, the inner transformation, the mystical union, sanctification, and the means of grace (Sacraments), the Church, the return of Christ, heaven, and hell.

**ST 136 Christian Ethics**

**3 credits**

The teaching of the Word of God and of Lutheran Theology with reference to the will of God for the forgiven sinner in the areas of sexuality, bioethics, the state, and society, as she/he lives out her/his life in the context of a fallen world.

**ST 836 Ethics**

**3 credits**

The teaching of the Word of God and of Lutheran theology with reference to the will of God for the forgiven sinner as they live out life in the context of the world.

**ST 837 Biblical Criticism** **2 credits**  
An introduction to the history and principles of the various aspects of biblical criticism such as textual criticism, historical criticism, literary criticism, form criticism, and redaction criticism. An evaluation of these tools as to their compatibility with Scripture as the inerrant Word of God will be part of the course.

**ST 841, 842, 843 Directed Readings** **1-3 credits**  
Directed readings are pursued under the guidance of the professor in the department of instruction. One credit in a semester may be earned in this way, with a maximum of three credits.

**ST 851 Studies in the Lutheran Confessions** **2 credits**  
An introduction to the doctrinal content of the Book of Concord with particular focus on the ecumenical creeds, the Augsburg Confession, and Luther's Small Catechism in terms of their historical setting.

**ST 852 Studies in the Life and Theology of Luther** **2 credits**  
An introduction to the life of Luther and his theology through selected readings from his works.

**ST 853 Introduction to Lutheran Thought** **2 credits**  
This course will explore the major themes of Lutheran Thought through the study of the writings of Martin Luther, the Lutheran Confessions, and the Scriptures. The course will be conducted in the manner of a seminar that will involve a combination of learning activities such as lectures, discussions, and presentations.

## World Mission

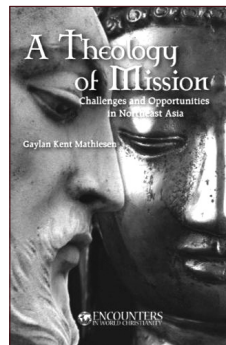
**WM 251 The Church in Mission** **3 credits**  
This course seeks to increase the student's understanding of the role of the local church among peoples and nations, and the need to apply a biblical ecclesiology to cross-cultural, social, economic and political experiences. The course further seeks to probe the dual aspects of what the local church is by nature and how that informs its tasks.

**WM 751 The Church in Mission** **3 Credits**  
This course serves as a biblical and missiological introduction to God's mission and how the nature of the church informs its role in mission today. Students will examine these concepts from a theological and missiological perspective, and apply them to the context of the church's varied ministries.

**WM 255 Cross Cultural Communication in Mission** **3 credits**  
This course seeks to increase the student's understanding of individual and group characteristics, identity/world view (e.g. ethnicity, race gender, class) and their knowledge of traditions of various groups in North America and around the world. Students will examine their role as incarnational representatives of Christ and His church in a culturally diverse world.

**WM 755 Cross Cultural Communication in Mission** **3 credits**  
This course seeks to increase the student's understanding of individual and group characteristics, identity/world view (e.g. ethnicity, race, gender, class) and their knowledge of traditions of various groups in North America and around the world. This course requires one or two short cross-cultural mission trips outside of class. Past trips have included the Red Lake Indian Reservation and the Phillips neighborhood in Minneapolis. Students will examine their role as incarnational representatives of Christ and His Church in a culturally diverse world.

**WM 257 World Religions and New Religious Movements** **3 credits**  
A Study of origins, histories, and teachings of the major non-Christian religions of the world with a view to understanding these religions on their own terms, learning from them and dialoguing with them from the perspective of a Christian worldview. These include Basic Religions (formerly Animism), Hinduism, Buddhism,, Confucianism, Taoism, Shinto, Islam, Judaism, Marxism, New Age and Secularism.



**A Theology of Mission**  
by  
Dr. Gaylan Mathiesen

**WM 757 World Religions and New Religious Movements** **3 Credits**  
This course introduces students to the histories, teachings and practices of major world religions and contemporary religious movements with a view to understanding these groups on their own terms and dialoguing with them from a biblical perspective. Included in the study are Basic Religions (Animism), Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese religions, Shinto, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, and varieties of secular and New Age movements.

**WM 760 Cultural Anthropology** **2 credits**  
This study deals with an understanding of the indigenous culture of people groups around the world. This class will help the student know how to approach these groups in such a way that will lessen the possibility of becoming an offense or being rejected by these people of a different culture. Though this course is aimed primarily at the overseas missionary, it will also help the pastor who remains in the U.S. to be aware of cultural differences between congregations and geographical areas and how to adjust to them. This class will make God's workers more effective in communicating the way of life to people both at home and overseas.

**WM 761, 762, 763 Directed Readings in World Mission 1-3 credits**  
Directed readings are pursued under the guidance of the professor in the department of instruction. One credit a semester may be earned in this way, with a maximum of three credits.

**WM 765 Missionary Development and Orientation 2 credits**  
This is an introductory course designed to give the student a clear understanding of Christian mission. This includes the theological, historical, and practical reason for mission. Several areas which are often misunderstood are dealt with, such as what are the present responsibilities of the missionaries, the relationships of the mission with the emerging indigenous church, missionary children, etc. The life and development of the missionary and his/her own spiritual survival and growth are important aspects to this course.

**WM 770 Biblical Theology of Mission 2 credits**  
This course is foundational to the entire mission enterprise as it deals with the Scriptural basis for mission. It traces God's purpose for the nations through both the Old and New Testaments. The entire Scriptural reason for missions is included in this course.

**WM 775 History of Christian Mission 2 credits**  
A study of the expansion of the early church from Pentecost continuing into the 20th century. Several questions will be considered, such as the following: Is the work of missions, as traditionally carried on, a thing of the past? Has the evangelical message, as traditionally preached to the nations, been in error? Have the methods of establishing churches with converted people been wrong? What are the present policies for the mission churches in assuming full responsibility for themselves? These and many more current trends and methodology will be covered.

**WM 780 Current Issues in Mission 2 credits**  
The first semester will focus primarily on Ethno-theologies, that is, theologies which have arisen predominantly in the Third World and which are generally a reaction to or a response to religious, cultural or political situations. While many of these theologies have their roots in the work and teachings of missions, most often they have deviated far from orthodox Christianity and moved into a mixture of Marxism and liberal theology.

**WM 781 Current Issues in Mission 2 credits**  
The second semester focuses on various other issues, such as syncretism, totalitarianism, ecumenism, contextualization, holistic mission, worldview, and power encounter.

**WM 785 Lutheran Brethren World Mission in Perspective 1 credit**  
This course traces the history of the overseas mission effort in the Church of the Lutheran Brethren, focusing on the Lutheran Brethren World Mission's current ministries and outlines its goals for the future.

**WM 790 Islam in America and Around the World 2 credits**  
What do nearly one billion (1/5 of the world's people) believe about God? Christians? The Bible? Why should you know? Islam is more than a religion; it is a way of life. Muslims may be the second largest religious group in the U.S. Wherever one goes these days, Islam is demanding attention. The face of Islam is changing, and it will affect our communities and country significantly in the next decade. This course will inform you about Islam, its history and beliefs, what the Koran says and most importantly, practical ways you can share your faith with a Muslim.

**WM 957 Practical Experience in Cross Cultural Ministry 1-2 credits**  
This course will give students supervised extensive, documented ministry experience in a cross cultural ministry environment. The experience must be approved and sponsored by the professor of mission and evangelism. The student will, with the professor, determine the academic goals for the experience and decide how these goals will be met and demonstrated. Credits are determined depending on the length of experience and the extent of academic work completed.



[www.LBS.edu](http://www.LBS.edu)



## EMBRACING THE WORD

---

At LBS you will hear the Bible taught as the inspired and authoritative Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16). Whether you come for a one year CTS experience or enter the MDIV track, you can be sure that you will receive solid biblical theological training that will open your eyes to the truth of Scripture.

The entire LBS experience is rooted in biblical teaching pointing to the saving work of Christ that allows you to go from here and point others to his salvation.

## REACHING THE WORLD

---

LBS provides a biblical training ground that exists for the sole purpose of equipping, training and sending men and women into a life of reaching those outside of Christ with the saving message of the gospel.

We are training people to reach the world in areas like overseas missions, church ministry, lay ministry, music and worship, youth and student ministry and much more. At LBS, we believe that God is calling his people to learn, to go and to reach out.