

NationsUniversity®

2026

nationsu.edu

Certificate in Biblical Studies • Certificate in Christian Ministry • Bachelor of Religious Studies
Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies • Master of Theological Studies • Master of Divinity
Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Evangelism

Academic Catalog & Student Handbook

Building authentic faith and training Christian leaders around the world through affordable, accessible higher education, utilizing distance learning.

Incorporated in Louisiana, U.S.A., 650 Poydras St., Suite 1400-PMB 133, New Orleans, LA 70130
The regulations in this edition of the NU Catalog are binding on all students who matriculate during the calendar year 2024 (January 1-December 31). Students who registered before this date are under the regulations of the catalog in effect at the time of their initial registration or any catalog after that date, if the student chooses later regulations. A statute of limitations of seven years is placed on the life of any given catalog. v.3.17.26

Letter from the President



Dear Friends,

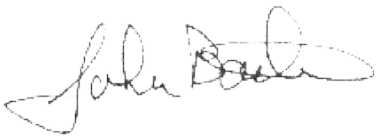
Welcome to NationsUniversity®! We appreciate your interest in academic study focused on the Bible. In our view, this is the most important journey one can take. We are honored to walk alongside you in this effort. As you read the academic program and course descriptions in this catalog, you will note that they are all focused on scripture. This is by design. A rigorous encounter with God's Word is life changing.

We welcome students of every faith as well as those who doubt whether faith is credible in the present age. Our faculty and supporters feel no obligation to denominational bias and simply want to help students learn to let scripture speak for itself. Agreement with specific doctrines and beliefs is not required at our university. Students who disagree with our conclusions and the principles we teach are welcome. We ask that each student explore biblical content in an atmosphere of objectivity. Together, we seek to understand the Bible's timeless message and consider how it equips us to face our world and its challenges.

We welcome students who have difficulty overcoming cost, distance, access, and cultural barriers in receiving Christian higher education. Our approach to accredited online education allows students to earn a degree without being burdened with massive debt. Students can access required textbooks and study materials through our student learning website at no additional cost. Each student engages in education at their own pace and on their schedule. While the financial cost is nominal, the personal cost involves dedication, self-motivation, and discipline in online study.

Thank you for allowing us to join you on this journey!

Peace,



John Baxter, Ed.D.
President & CEO

NationsUniversity®

2026 Academic Catalog & Student Handbook

Dr. Mac Lynn
Chancellor

Dr. John Baxter
President & C.E.O.

Dr. Herman Alexander
Vice Chancellor

Dr. David Srygley
Chief Academic Officer

Allison Jones
Registrar

Dr. Bert Alexander
Dean of Faculty

Holly Emery
Director of Student Services

Randi Baxter
Director of Prison Services

Bryan Riley
Chaplain

Jon-Roy Sloan
Chief Communications Officer

Meta McGuire
Administrator

Glenn Beville
IT Administrator

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General Information

Mission Statement

Building authentic faith and training Christian leaders around the world through affordable, accessible higher education utilizing distance learning.

Institutional Goals

1. To build faith
   - By focusing on the biblical text and personal spiritual formation
2. To train Christian leaders
   - By equipping students with knowledge and skills to serve as Christian leaders

Institutional Objectives

- To offer academic programs that provide students with opportunities for personal, spiritual, and professional development
- To portray biblical scripture in a positive manner
- To offer programs of academic excellence at a post-secondary level of instruction
- To build and maintain educational programs and services that are global in scope and suitable for global instruction
- To offer an open system for seekers without barriers to exploration
- To operate in keeping with the values found in the gospel of Jesus Christ
- To protect the students' security
- To provide programs that students can afford
- To provide accessible programs for students
- To encourage student progress through a supportive system of individual contacts by caring and dedicated staff and volunteers
- To conduct the business of the institution in the most efficient means

Academic Philosophy

NationsUniversity® offers degrees in biblical and related studies only. In recognizing the value of a broad liberal arts education by featuring a liberal arts core, the institution reflects a disposition that humans also need spiritual nourishment. Consequently, it focuses on religious themes. And as surely as the study of religious themes encompasses a wide range of belief systems that are impacted by anthropological, social, economic, political, psychological, scientific, and philosophical thought, the principals of the institution have chosen to give primary attention to the biblical text. Supplemental studies such as cultural backgrounds, church history, and comparative religions are included, but only in consideration of the canonical Hebrew and Greek scriptures.

The institution is set for leading students to consider the merits and vitality of the Christian way of life. It fosters the belief that a fair and critical investigation of scripture within its historical context and in view of human knowledge will lead to a wholesome worldview and lifestyle. At least, the institution wishes to offer its students this possibility.

Commitment

The institution is committed to fulfill its mission through quality distance education programs. The mission calls for a solid educational foundation. Building faith is not an emotional experience; it is an educational endeavor, built upon knowledge and understanding. Developing Christian leaders is likewise a calculated enterprise, constructed on knowledge and sound principles. For a proper foundation to be laid, a serious, high level, and objective presentation of the Christian faith and its rationale is essential. Therefore, the institution is committed to engage each student in a rigorous confrontation with the biblical text, hermeneutical techniques, alternative worldviews, historic interpretations, and spirituality.

Intent and Perspective

NationsUniversity strives for fairness in its treatment of religious topics and honesty in presentation. Although coming from a Christian perspective, it does not knowingly misrepresent other orientations. The Bible is treated as an authoritative work, bearing the marks of inspiration rather than myth. Its message is taken seriously and interpreted contextually. Historical interpretations are of interest, but they do not govern the interpretive process.

The Bible is understood to reveal the intent of God relative to human redemption. God's activity focused on a promise to Abraham, the witness of Israel, and the incarnation of Jesus Christ. In the process of establishing his spiritual kingdom, God sent his Son, born of a virgin, to teach, die on a cross, be resurrected, and ascend into heaven. The Holy Spirit was sent to guide the apostles in proclaiming redemption and to assist believers in their spiritual journey. In Christ, God unites all believers into one body, the church. The members of that body become his instruments to proclaim the gospel and live in a manner that declares the glory of God. At the conclusion of the human journey, all will be judged and assigned to a proper habitat according to the just will of the Creator.

History

NationsUniversity grew out of a vision to provide educational opportunities for people for whom religious studies were inaccessible and unaffordable. The target audience included persons from developing countries, countries that are closed to overt Christian teaching, and the incarcerated. The founders of the institution were determined to find a way to make a difference in the lives of these people and set out to create a means to deliver quality education in these settings.

The concept that evolved into NationsUniversity had its beginning on July 4, 1995, with Richard Ady and Mac Lynn. Ady had spent his adult years in local and foreign church work. Out of these experiences he had developed the World English Institute and was involved in teaching in several countries. Lynn had spent nearly 30 years in higher education in both teaching and administration. More recently, he had become interested in taking educational opportunities he had enjoyed to those who had been less privileged. As these two college classmates, co-workers, and long-time friends reflected on their interests in worldwide religious education, a simple plan was conceived. The plan was to enlist volunteers who would travel throughout the world at their own expense to conduct seminars and short courses in religious studies.

During the next several months, short courses were indeed conducted in a few international locations. Eventually nearly two hundred volunteers were recruited to lend assistance in a variety of tasks. As an increasing number of people became aware of the activity, the request for degree programs began to be heard.

The institution was incorporated in Louisiana with a board of three (Ady, Lynn, and Darrell Frazier) and approved to grant degrees in religious studies by the Board of Regents of Louisiana in 1996. The name was registered with the U.S. government in 1998, and subsequently renewed through July 7, 2028. The institution was also granted tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization in the same year. NU's corporate address is 3201 N. 7th St., West Monroe, LA 71291. All business is conducted through an office located at 650 Poydras St., Suite 1400, PMB 133, New Orleans, LA 70130.

As NationsUniversity grew in students and in academic strength, the governing board made the decision to move toward accreditation with a national commission approved by the U.S. Department of Education. In an effort to bring the school into line with accreditation standards, the degree offerings were streamlined, additional general education courses were added, stricter admissions standards were put into place, courses were upgraded, new student services were initiated, and foreign language courses were moved to a non-credit value.

The Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) at its meeting held on June 26, 2015 awarded NationsUniversity an initial grant of accreditation following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. Accreditation was renewed in June 2019 and again in June 2023.

In September 2023, DEAC and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission approved authorization for NationsUniversity to operate administrative facilities in Brentwood, Tennessee.

NU makes use of rolling admissions and enrollment. As of December 1, 2026, active enrollments stood at 1,194 students in 86 countries. Of the total enrollments, 231 were enrolled in Certificate in Biblical Studies, 222 in the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies, 136 in the Bachelor of Religious Studies, 107 in the Master of Theological Studies, and 38 in the Master of Divinity. The remaining students are in a pre-admission track or non-degree seeking.

For the 2024-2025 Academic Year, we awarded the following: CBS: 27 awards, CCM: 5 awards, BRS: 8 awards, GCBS: 40 awards, MTS: 33 awards, M.Div.: 1 awards

Contact Information

NationsUniversity® Website: https://nationsu.edu

Admissions/Registrar:	registrar@nationsu.edu
C.E.O.	johnb@nationsu.edu
Chancellor:	macl@nationsu.edu
Academic Affairs/Compliance:	davids@nationsu.edu
Finances:	NU_Financials@nationsu.edu
Prison Services:	prison.services@nationsu.edu
Student Services:	hollye@nationsu.edu
IT Functionality:	glennb@nationsu.edu
Public Relations:	jonroy@nationsu.edu

Office of the Board of Regents
650 Poydras St., Suite 1400-PMB 133
New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: (866) 617-6446

Business Administration Office
7003 Chadwick Dr., Ste. 351
Brentwood, TN 37027

Accreditation

The University is accredited by the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC). the Distance Education Accrediting Commission is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

State Authorization and Legal Authorization

NationsUniversity® is authorized by the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana, U.S.A. to grant degrees in religious studies.

NationsUniversty® is authorized by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission to operate educational and administrative facilities in the State of Tennessee.

The school is a member of NC-SARA (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements) and is legally entitled to offer distance education to residents in most states of the U.S. In addition, NU is allowed to offer degrees in California through specific state exemptions. Membership in NC-SARA can be verified at www.nc-sara.org.

National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements
3005 Center Green Drive, Suite 130 | Boulder, Colorado 80301
303.848.3275 | nc-sara.org |info@nc-sara.org

NationsUniversity provides religious courses to individuals around the globe. Students learn through internet-based courses and interact with their personal student advisor, and faculty via email, telephone, and the Moodle instructional technology platform.

The University provides instruction asynchronously, has rolling admissions, and does not operate within any semester, quarter, or other term systems. However, enrollment within any given course expires after a twelve-month period from enrollment if the course is incomplete. The University does not have a physical campus and operates as a distance education University.

Licensure and Certification Disclosure

Degrees and certificates awarded by NationsUniversity may or may not qualify recipients for licensure or certification in the United States or its territories. Students wishing to apply for licensure or certification in any state are responsible for contacting the appropriate federal or state agency to determine if the accredited academic award from NationsUniversity meets the educational requirements.

Memberships

The institution is a member of

National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)
Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE)
Christian Higher Education Foundation, Inc. (CHEF)
Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)
Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officer (SACRAO)
National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)
Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA)

Operations

NationsUniversity functions as a distance learning institution. The school maintains no physical campus for students to attend classes and/or reside. Personnel may be reached at any time by email. The business phone sends an email when no one is available to answer.

Governance

NationsUniversity® is governed by an independent Board of Regents. The current Regents are listed below.

Ernie Clevenger, Chair, Brentwood, Tennessee
Chuck Webb, Vice Chair, Brentwood, Tennessee
Chris Lynn, Secretary, Union City, Tennessee
Sam Daniel, Treasurer, Nashville, Tennessee
Dr. Mac Lynn, Chancellor, Nashville, Tennessee
Dr. John Baxter, President & C.E.O., Nashville, Tennessee
Michael Bush, Nashville, Tennessee
Jerry Harris, Quincy, Illinois
Mike Kellett, West Monroe, Louisiana
Dr. Barry Neal, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Gary Waller, Brentwood, Tennessee
Don Wise, Franklin, Tennessee
Dr. Richard N. Ady, Gresham, Oregon, *president emeritus*

Executive Council

John Baxter, *C.E.O. and President*
Ed.D., Vanderbilt University
Mac Lynn, *Chancellor*
STD, San Francisco Theological Seminary
Herman Alexander, *Vice Chancellor*
D.Min., Harding School of Theology
David Srygley, *Chief Academic Officer*
D.Ed.Min., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Major Division Administrators

Mac Lynn, *Chancellor*
STD, San Francisco Theological Seminary; D.Admin. (hon.), The International University
David Srygley, *Chief Academic Officer*
D.Ed.Min., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Holly Emery, *Director of Student Services*
B.A., B.S., Texas A&M University
Mike Bush, *Director of Technology*
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University; B.S.M.E., University of Tennessee
Randi Baxter, *Director of Prison Services*
M.A.S., Johns Hopkins University, M.A.C.M., Lipscomb University

Academic Program Directors

David Srygley, *Chief Academic Officer*
D.Ed.Min., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Bert Alexander, *Dean of Faculty*
D.Min., Abilene Christian University
Myles Calvin, *Director of the Certificate Program*
D.Min., American Christian College and Seminary
Molly Swindell, *Director of the General Education Program*
Ph.D., Tennessee State University
Herman Alexander, *Director of the Master of Divinity Program*
D.Min., Harding School of Theology

Administrative Directors & Staff

Allison Jones, *Registrar*
M.A., University of Alabama at Birmingham
Lindsey Sullivan, *Registrar Assistant and Student Advisor*
B.A., Abilene Christian University
David Srygley, *Compliance Officer and Director of Assessment*
D.Ed.Min., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Bert Alexander, *Dean of Faculty*
D.Min., Abilene Christian University
Holly Emery, *Director of Student Services*
B.A., B.S., Texas A&M University
Chris Jones, *Start-up Advisor*
M.A., Heritage Christian University
Glenn Beville, *IT Administrator*
B.A., Bible, Lipscomb University
Meta McGuire, *Administrator*
B.A., Business Marketing, University of Arkansas
Bryan Riley, *Chaplain*
M.S. Leadership & Management, Western Governors University
Jon-Roy Sloan, *Chief Communications Officer, Marketing, Development & Public Relations*
B.A., History, Lipscomb University; M.A., University of Memphis

Student Advisors

An advisor is assigned to each student to provide guidance and encouragement and answer student inquiries. A student advisor is trained to work appropriately with students from a myriad of cultural backgrounds and experiences. Visit the University's website homepage to contact your advisor. This can be found under the **Student Tab** at the top of the homepage.

Faculty

Faculty routinely interact with students at the point of assignment uploads. Otherwise, e-mail addresses are made available to students on a need basis by their advisors to insure proper referral and prompt response. Persons designated "faculty" at NU may be assigned to a variety of activities.

Herman Alexander, B.A. (Bible and Speech), Harding University; M.A. (Bible), Harding School of Theology; M.Div. (Divinity), Melbourne College of Divinity; D.Min. (Ministry), Harding School of Theology

L. Bert Alexander, B.A. (Communications), Freed-Hardeman University, M.S. (Biblical and Related Studies), M.Div. (Lipscomb University), D.Min. (Abilene Christian University)

Robert A. Baker, B,S. & M.S. (Electrical Engineering) Mississippi State University, M.Div. (Theology) Asbury Theological Seminary

John Baxter, B.A., (Psychology), Lipscomb University; M.A.S., (Pastoral Counseling) Harding Graduate School of Religion; Ed.D., (Human Development Counseling) George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University

Randi Baxter, B.A., (Communications) Freed-Hardeman University; M.A.S., (Business) Johns Hopkins University, M.A.C.M., Lipscomb University

Michael Beck, M.B.M, (Marketing and Business Management) Damelin College, S.T, (Systematic Theology), United Church and Bible College, B.Th., (Theology), South African Theological Seminary, M.B.S, (Biblical Studies) Trinity School of Apologetics and Theology, M.T.S. (Theology) NationsUniversity, Ph.D. candidate at the South African Theological Seminary

Michael R. Bugos, B.S., (Bible and Theology, Lee University School of Religion), Certificate in Biblical Counseling Southeastern Baptist Theological, M.A., (Biblical & Theological Studies) Belhaven University, M.A. (Theology University of Chester, UK), D.Min. (Biblical Counseling) Southern Baptist Theological

Michael Blythe, B.R.S., M.T.S., NationsUniversity, additional study at Africa Nazarene University

Gary Burke, B.A., (Bible), Oklahoma Christian College, M.A., (Biblical and Patristic Greek), Abilene Christian University, Ph.D., Religion (Christian Origins), University of Iowa

Myles Calvin, B.A. (Sociology), University of Saskatchewan; M.A. (Counseling), Webster University; M.R.S. (Religious Studies), M.Div. (Divinity), NationsUniversity; D.Min. (Counseling), American Christian College and Seminary

Paul Cates, B.A. (Bible), M.A. (New Testament), Abilene Christian University; M.Ed. (Rehabilitation Counseling), Ed.D. (Counselor Education), Auburn University; Post-graduate (Marriage and Family Therapy), Auburn University L.P.C., L.M.F.T., A.A.M.F.T.

Paul Chimhungwe, B.A. & M.A. (Ministry and Religion) Abilene Christian University, M.A. (Christian Theology) McMaster Divinity College, Ph.D. (Christian Theology) McMaster Divinity College

Jonathan K. Corrado , B.S. (Mechanical Engineering) Virginia Military Institute, M.T.S. and M.Div. (Theology) NationsUniversity, M.T., Liberty University, PhD, Systems Engineering – Colorado State University

Peter Dubeć, RNDr. (Physics of Plasma), Comenius University; M.R.S., NationsUniversity

Ken Dye, B.A. (Bible and Psychology), Abilene Christian University; M.A. (Religion), Eastern New Mexico University; Ed.D. (Family Sciences), Oklahoma State University

Eric Kazenga, B.A. (Religion) York University; M.R.S., NationsUniversity

Garnet M. Kibombwe, B.A., (Christian Education), Global University, B.A., (Biblical Studies) African Bible University, Uganda, M.A., (Christian Leadership), African Bible College, Malawi

Jeffrey Kobman, B.A. (Elementary Education), Michigan State University, M.Ed. (School Administration), Michigan State University. M.Div. (Theology) NationsUniversity

Peter Taiti King'ori, B.R.S., M.R.S., NationsUniversity; M.A.R.S. Education,. Kenya Methodist University

Daniel Ki Nam Ko, B.A. (Bible), Beulah Heights Bible University, Th.B. (Theology, Point University), M.Div. (Divinity, J.C. Smith College) Th.M. (Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary) D.Min. (Ministry), San Francisco Theological Seminary

LLK, B.B.A., Baylor University; M.A. (Biblical Studies), M.A. (Cross-Cultural Ministries), Dallas Theological Seminary; M.B.A., Southern Methodist University [*Name concealed for security reasons*]

Mac Lynn, A.A. (Bible), Florida College; A.B., (Economics and Sociology) Morehead State University; M.A. (Old Testament), M.R.E. (Religious Education), M.Th. (Theology), Harding School of Theology; STM (Science of Theology), STD (Science of Theology), San Francisco Theological Seminary; D.Admin. (honorary), The International University

Steven H. Matthews, B.A. (Theology) Florida Baptist Theological College, Diplomas (Squadron Officer School & Air Command and Staff College) Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base), D.Min. (Leadership Education) Forge Theological Seminary, Torrington, Connecticut, Ph.D. (Biblical and Religious Studies) University of Pretoria, South Africa, D.Min. (Applied Theology) Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, M.B.A. (Business Administration) Liberty University, M.Div. Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, M.A. (Philosophy) Trinity Theological Seminary

AcSmhour McClintock, BTh.OL., African Christian College, M.T.S., NationsUniversity, M.A.C.M., Abilene Christian University

Stephen Muguro, A.A. (Computer science), University of the People, B.R.S., M.R.S., M.Div., (Theology), NationsUniversity, D.Min. (Ministry) Multnomah University

Rushad Muhammad, B.S. (Music Business), M.S., (Entertainment Business), Full Sail University, Doctor of Intercultural Studies, Faith International University & Seminary

Robert Neinstadt, A.A. (Construction Drafting), San Joaquin Delta Junior College, B.S. (Professional Dev.) Amber University, Certificate, (Preaching Ministry), Preston Road School of Preaching, M.T.S. (Theology), NationsUniversity

Renan José de Oliveira, A.T. (Theology), São Caetano Assembly of God Theological Seminary, B.T. (Theology), International University Center, B.M.T. (Theology), Grande ABC Baptist Theological Seminary, M.M. Lucent University, M.T. Lucent University, M.Div. Lucent University

Clayton Parks, B.S. (Bible and Christian Ministry), Saint Louis Christian College, Master of Theology (Practical Theology), South African Theological Seminary, Ph.D. (Philosophy in Theology, Historical Theology), South African Theological Seminary

Bytha Regauld, B.R.S. (Religious Studies), M.T.S. (Theological Studies), NationsUniversity

Brian E. Riley, B.S. (Nursing) Hampton University; M.A. (Theology) Liberty University; M.S. (Leadership & Management) Western Governors University; Post Graduate (Systemic Counseling) Capella University; Certificate (Lifestyle Coaching) Temple University; Clinical Pastoral Education (Chaplaincy) National Institutes of Health

Steven Rindahl, B.A., (History) Excelsior College, University State of NY, M.Div. Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, M.Th., (Anglican Studies) Cranmer Theological House, Houston TX, M.Th. (Preaching), University of Wales (Cardiff) with Spurgeon's College, D.Min., University of Chester with Spurgeon's College, London, Clinical Pastoral Education, Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Ft Gordon, GA

Paul Robison, B.A. (Bible and English), Harding University, M.A.R. (New Testament), Harding School of Theology, M.A. (Missions), Harding School of Theology, D.Min. (Church Leadership), Bethel Theological Seminary

Bigda Oum Rufus, B.A. (Philosopy) University of Dschang, B.R.S. (Religious Studies), M.T.S. (Theological Studies), M.Div. NationsUniversity

Jon-Roy Sloan, B.A. (History), Lipscomb University; Diploma (Leadership), U. S. Army Command and General Staff College, M.A. (History), University of Memphis

Jerry Smith, A.A. (Instructor Technology), Community College of the Air Force; B.S., B.S. (Occupations Education) Wayland Baptist University; M.A.T. (English), De La Salle University

David Srygley, B.A. (Sociology), Texas A&M University, M.P.A. (Public Administration), Texas A&M University, M.S. (Biblical and Related Studies), Abilene Christian University, D.Ed.Min. (Evangelism and Church Growth), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Joshua Thibodaux, A.A.S., (Electronics), Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, B.S., (Computer Science), University of Southern Mississippi, M.A., (Theological Studies), M.A., (Biblical Languages Liberty University

Russell W. Threet, B.S., (Marketing Management), Bellevue University, M.A.C.M., Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, M.Div., Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, D.P.Th., Masters International University of Divinity

Michael T. Tune, B.S., (Business), Murray State University, M.A., (Religion), Harding Graduate School

Kristen Turner, B.A. (Spanish), Mexico University of Findlay, M.A. (Spanish and English), University of Central Arkansas, M.T.S. (Theological Studies), NationsUniversity

Bledar Valca, B.A., (Economics), University of Tirana, Albania, M.T.S., NationsUniversity, M.A., (Theology), Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Richard Youngblood, B.A. (Bible), Lipscomb University, M.Div. (Ministry), D.Min. (Missiology and Church Growth), Harding School of Theology

NationsUniversity is indebted to a significant number of persons who have contributed their good will, counsel, and services over the years.

Financial Information

Fees and Tuition Policy

1. Registration Fee. A one-time initial application fee of $25 shall apply to all new students.
2. Tuition Fee. The tuition shall apply to all students except those identified below in Section 3. The tuition covers as many courses as the student desires to attempt in accordance with his or her academic plan of study during his or her academic term.
    a. Undergraduate and Master's Students.
        i. Quarterly Tuition. NationsUniversity uses a rolling enrollment, so it does not have semesters or quarters in the traditional sense. A student's academic quarter is calculated from the date of the completed application and new quarters of study must be purchased every three months to remain active and in good standing. The quarterly tuition rate is $450.
        ii. Initial Academic Quarter. The first quarterly tuition shall be assessed upon acceptance of a student's application and shall be due immediately. The initial academic quarter begins from the date of acceptance of the application. The student may enroll in as many courses as he or she desires to attempt in accordance with his or her academic plan of study without additional tuition being assessed.
        iii. Subsequent Academic Quarter(s). If a student continues his or her studies beyond the first quarter, he or she may purchase additional quarters of study at the then-current rate. The full quarterly tuition is due and must be paid prior to the beginning of the subsequent quarter(s) of study. The student may continue his active studies and enroll in as many courses as he or she desires to attempt in accordance with his or her academic plan of study during this subsequent quarter without additional tuition being assessed.
    b. Doctoral Students.
        i. Trimester Tuition. Doctoral students are charged tuition for three trimesters per year, with each trimester being four months in length. Each trimester is $600 in tuition.
        ii. Academic Trimesters. The three trimesters are September-December, January-April, and May-August. Payment is due prior to the beginning of each trimester.
        iii. Monthly Payment Option. NationsUniversity offers the option of monthly payments on all tuition invoices. The student may elect to make three monthly payments, with each payment being one-third of the tuition. NationsUniversity will not charge any finance charges or interest on any balance.
3. Discounted Groups: The following identified groups are eligible for specific discounts on tuition.
    a. Prison students. Studentsincarcerated in the U.S. are eligible for a 100% discount on tuition. All fees, both required and optional, are still due at the time they are incurred, including but not limited to application fees and graduation fees.
    b. Students discharged from prison. Students who have been enrolled while in prison shall, upon their release, receive automatically a discount of 100% of the tuition rate in effect at the time of their release for a period of one year following release.
    c. Students in impoverished countries. Students who reside outside of certain developed countries are eligible for a 100% discount on tuition, not including the application fee, for non-doctoral programs. If a territory belonging to one of the identified impoverished countries has an internationally recognized ID code that is different from its parent country, the tuition shall not apply. The Board of Regents will determine the maximum number of countries which will pay tuition based on a review of international financial information. This financial information will be obtained in the following manner:
        i. The list of all countries with pertinent financial information will be obtained from the International Monetary Fund, United Nations, and/or other reliable data source.
        ii. The list of countries will be sorted by Gross Domestic Product adjusted by the Purchasing Power Index, with the highest grossing countries listed first.
        iii. Countries with populations of less than 100,000 will be excluded from the list due to the unreliability of information when dealing with such a small sample.

iv. Territories of identified countries will be removed from the list as they will be included with the parent countries' eligibility determination.

v. To control for and allow for economic volatility, countries that appear in a current list but which fall below the GDP-PPI threshold after recalculating a new list will remain on the new list if its GDP-PPI is within 5% of GDP-PPI of the lowest country or countries. The existing country or countries will replace the lowest country or countries on the recalculated list.

vi. The list of countries that must pay tuition shall be published for students and the general public in the university's catalog and on the university's website.

vii. Calculations for this discount shall be made no less than every three years.

viii. Determination of student discount for online students residing in an impoverished country is made automatically by the Student Information System at the time the student completes an application. Determination is made based on the student's country of residence entered by the student at the time of application.

ix. Students residing in a country which previously received a discount will retain that discount for 1 year after the date the country loses its discounted status.

LIst of Top 35 Countries

Australia	Cyprus	Ireland	Malta	Slovenia
Austria	Denmark	Israel	Netherlands	South Korea
Bahrain	Estonia	Italy	New Zealand	Sweden
Belgium	Finland	Japan	Norway	Switzerland
Brunei	France	Kuwait	Qatar	United Arab Emirates
Canada	Germany	Lithuania	Saudi Arabia	United Kingdom
Czech Republic	Iceland	Luxemburg	Singapore	United States

d. Refugee or Involuntary Relocation. Students previously residing in a non-paying country who are displaced under conditions beyond their control may receive a discount equivalent to their original country of residence for a period of one year

e. Students associated with the University. Tuition discounts are available to the categories of students listed below:

i. Children and spouses of paid staff or board members shall receive a discount of 100% of the tuition rate in effect at the time of their enrollment.

ii. Volunteer faculty members who are actively teaching at least 6 credit hours of courses and performing satisfactorily on all evaluations shall receive a discount on non-doctoral programs of 100% of the tuition rate in effect at the time of their enrollment.

iii. Volunteer faculty may receive a discount on doctoral programs if space is available. Volunteer faculty teaching at least 12 credit hours of courses and performing satisfactorily on all evaluations shall receive a discount on doctoral programs of 100%. Volunteer faculty teaching 6 to 11 credit hours of courses shall receive a discount on doctoral programs of 50%.

iv. Students associated with the university must request this discount from the Registrar's Office. Determination will be made by the Registrar in cooperation with the CEO, CAO, or Dean of Faculty.

4. Appeal of Determination. Any student may contact their advisor if the discount was not applied, and he or she feels they meet the conditions stated above. All appeals will be addressed within 30 days by Student Services Division.

5. **Failure to pay.** Those enrolled in a certificate or degree program. Students who are pursuing a certificate or degree from NationsUniversity will have full access to all NU services, and after meeting all academic and financial requirements, will be awarded the appropriate degree. Students who are not current in their financial obligations shall not be allowed to:
    1) Enter into a degree program,
    2) Take comprehensive exams,
    3) Receive academic awards, or
    4) Be provided with transcripts.
6. **Installment payments.** Tuition-paying students may elect to divide their quarterly tuition into three equal, monthly payments. To arrange payments, please contact the finance office at NU_Financials@nationsu.edu.
7. **Loans and Scholarships.** In order to minimize administrative costs and keep tuition as low as possible, the University does not participate in, or accept funds from, any state or federal financial aid program, including loans, grants or scholarships. This paragraph does not, however, prohibit a church or other entity from paying a student's tuition as may be agreed privately between the two parties.

Cancellation and Refunds

If at any time a student decides to cancel his enrollment in NationsUniversity, the notice may be conveyed in any written manner. All such communications should be recorded and kept on file to substantiate the writing of any refund checks. Amounts to be refunded shall be as calculated below and paid within 30 days of receiving the request. Requests for refund must be submitted in writing prior to the end of the academic quarter for which the refund is being requested.

1. Application Fees – Application fees are non-refundable but shall be refunded if request is made within five days following registration.
2. Refunds of Tuition for Rolling Enrollment – After the five-day cooling off period which begins upon signing the LOA, if the student cancels after completing at least one lesson assignment but less than 50 percent of course assignments in at least one course, the institution may retain the nonrefundable fee (application fee) plus a percentage of any tuition assessment, which shall not exceed the following:
    a. Up to and including 10 percent of a single-course equivalency: 10 percent of the refundable fee (fee charges remaining after subtracting the nonrefundable fee already retained).
    b. Between 11 percent and 25 percent of a single-course equivalency: 25 percent of the refundable fee
    c. Between 26 percent and 50 percent of a single-course equivalency: 50 percent of the refundable fee.
    d. After the student completes more than half of a single-course equivalency, the institution shall be entitled to retain the entire course fee.
    e. Based on NationsUniversity's standardized grading plan, all courses contain five (5) graded elements. Therefore, a single-course equivalency is a total of five assignments from any number of courses. The curriculum benchmarks for 10%, 25%, and 50% completion are as follows.
        1) Up to and including 10 percent: 1 graded assignment.
        2) 11 percent to 25 percent: 2 graded assignments.
        3) 26 percent to 50 percent: 3 graded assignments.
3. Refunds of Tuition for Fixed Terms – After the five-day cooling off period which begins upon acceptance of the application, if a student cancels his or her registration, the university is entitled to retain any non-refundable fees paid and a percentage of the tuition paid based. Refunds shall be made to the student on the following fixed-term schedule: (*see table on the following page*)

Student Cancels during the	Tuition Refunded
1st Week	80%
2nd Week	70%
3rd Week	60%

4th Week	50%
5th Week	40%
6th Week	30%
7th Week	20%
8th Week	10%
9th Week or later	0%

4. Records – When refunds are made, the date, check number, and amount of refund shall be entered in the student's CMS file.
5. Public Notice on Website: The following information regarding refunds shall be posted on the NationsUniversity website.

Course Enrollment Cancellation or Withdrawal Refund

Enrollment in a degree program may be canceled any time after the execution of an enrollment agreement through the first 5 days. For students enrolled in rolling enrollment programs, after the five-day cooling off period, if the student cancels after completing at least one lesson assignment but less than 50 percent of course assignments in at least one course, the institution may retain the nonrefundable fee (registration fee) plus a percentage of any tuition assessment, which shall not exceed the following:

1. Up to and including 10 percent of a single-course equivalency: 10 percent of the refundable fee (fee charges remaining after subtracting the nonrefundable fee already retained).
2. Between 11 percent and 25 percent of a single-course equivalency: 25 percent of the refundable fee.
3. Between 26 percent and 50 percent of a single-course equivalency: 50 percent of the refundable fee.
4. After the student completes more than half of a single-course equivalency, the institution shall be entitled to retain the entire course fee.
5. Based on NationsUniversity's standardized grading plan, all courses contain five (5) graded elements. Therefore, a single-course equivalency is a total of five assignments from any number of courses. The curriculum benchmarks for 10%, 25%, and 50% completion are as follows.
   a. Up to and including 10 percent: 1 graded assignment.
   b. 11 percent to 25 percent: 2 graded assignments.
   c. 26 percent to 50 percent: 3 graded assignments.
6. For students enrolled in fixed-term programs, After the five-day cooling off period which begins upon acceptance of the application, if a student cancels his or her registration, the university is entitled to retain any non-refundable fees paid and a percentage of the tuition paid based. Refunds shall be made to the student on the following fixed-term schedule:

Student Cancels during the	Tuition Refunded
1st Week	80%
2nd Week	70%
3rd Week	60%
4th Week	50%
5th Week	40%
6th Week	30%
7th Week	20%
8th Week	10%
9th Week or later	0%

Refunds

All advance payments on the behalf of a student are refundable within the limits cited below. Refunds are payable by check only and will not be charged back to a credit card. All money due will be refunded within 30 days of the date of the request. Requests for refunds must be made in writing before the end of the academic quarter for which the refund is being requested. A full refund will be given in the event that one of the following occurs:

a. If the student is not conditionally or fully accepted into a degree program by the University;

b. It is determined by a state authority or accrediting agency that the enrollment of the student was procured as a result of any misrepresentation in advertising, promotional materials of the school or representations by the owners or representatives of the school; or

c. If a course of instruction is discontinued by the school and this, for a valid reason, prevents the student from completing the program.

Note: transcript fees are non-refundable.

Sample Calculations

Non-Discounted Students

1. A student is admitted to a rolling enrollment program at NU and pays the $25 application fee and his or her quarterly tuition of $450. The student enrolls in his or her first course of the quarter but withdraws after 10 days and the completion of one graded assignment. NU may retain the application fee of $25 and 10% of the tuition. The student is entitled to a refund of 90% of the quarterly tuition. The student will receive a check in the amount of $405 ($475 – ($25 + ($450 x 10%)) = $405)
2. A student is admitted to NU and pays the application fee of $25 and his or her quarterly tuition of $450. The student enrolls in two courses but withdraws after 25 days and the completion of one graded assignment in each. Because the student has completed two assignments, NU may retain 25% of the tuition, and the student is entitled to a refund of 75% of the quarterly tuition of $450. The student will receive a check in the amount of $337.50 ($475- ($25 + ($450 x 25%)) = $337.50)
3. A student is admitted to a fixed-term program at NU and pays the $25 application fee and his or her trimester tuition of $600. The student enrolls in his or her first trimester but withdraws during the sixth week of the trimester. Based on the above schedule, NU may retain the application and 70% of the tuition paid, and the student is entitled to a refund of 30% of the tuition. The student will receive a check in the amount of $180.00 ($625-($25 + ($600 x 70%)) = $180.00)
4. A student is admitted to NU and pays the $25 application fee and his or her first quarter tuition of $450. The student then withdraws within five days of admission. Regardless of the number of assignments completed, the student is entitled to a full refund of all fees and tuition. The student will receive a check in the amount of $475.00 (($25 + $450 – 0%) = $475.00)

Discounted Students

1. A student is admitted to any program type at NU and pays the $25 application fee. The student receives a 100% discount on his or her tuition so pays nothing. The student enrolls in his or her first course of the quarter but withdraws after 10 days and the completion of one graded assignment. NU may retain the application fee of $25 and 10% of the tuition. The student is entitled to a refund of 90% of the quarterly tuition. The student will receive a check in the amount of $0 ($25 – ($25 + ($0 x 10%)) = $0)
2. A student is admitted to any program type at NU and pays the application fee of $25. The student receives a 100% discount on his or her tuition so pays nothing. The student enrolls in two courses but withdraws after 25 days and the completion of one graded assignment in each. Because the student has completed two assignments, NU may retain 25% of the tuition, and the student is entitled to a refund of 75% of the quarterly tuition of $450. The student will receive a check in the amount of $0 ($25- ($25 + ($0 x 25%)) = $0).
3. A student is admitted to a fixed-term program at NU and pays the $25 application fee and his or her trimester tuition of $600. The student enrolls in his or her first trimester but withdraws during the sixth week of the trimester. Based on the above schedule, NU may retain the application and 70% of the tuition paid, and the student is entitled to a refund of 30% of the tuition. The student will receive a check in the amount of $180.00 ($625-($25 + ($600 x 70%)) = $180.00)
4. A student is admitted to NU and pays the $25 application fee and his or her first quarter tuition of $450. The student then withdraws within five days of admission. Regardless of the number of assignments completed, the student is entitled to a full refund of all fees and tuition. The student will receive a check in the amount of $475.00 (($25 + $450 – 0%) = $475.00)

Requests for Hiatus from Studies

Tuition-paying students may request a hiatus at any time during their studies. When the written request for a hiatus is received prior to the first day of the student's next academic quarter, no tuition shall be charged. If, however, the student fails to notify his or her advisor or the finance office prior to beginning the next academic quarter and continues to submit assignments, the student will accrue the tuition for the next quarter minus the amount of a refund had the student paid.

Sample Calculation:

A student's next academic quarter begins on August 10th. On August 22nd, prior to paying the current quarter's tuition, the student notifies the finance office that they wish to take a hiatus. If the student has completed one assignment between August 10th and August 22nd, he or she must pay 10% of the delinquent tuition prior to beginning a new quarter of study.

Student owed $450 in tuition for current quarter.
Refund percentage allowed based on 1 graded assignment is 90%, or $405.
Student owes the remaining $45 due to the university which must be paid prior to reinitiating studies.

Students Called to Active Military Service

A student of NationsUniversity who withdraws from the University as a result of being called to active duty in a military service of the United States or their State National Guard and is unable to continue his studies may, upon request, receive a full refund of tuition and fees paid.

Academic Programs

Undergraduate Programs

Certificate in Biblical Studies (C.B.S.)
Certificate in Christian Ministry (C.C.M.)
Bachelor of Religious Studies (B.R.S.)
Bachelor of Religious Studies (Bridge Options)

Masters & Doctoral Programs

Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies (G.C.B.S.)
Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)
Master of Divinity (M.Div.)
Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Evangelism (D.Min.)

Orientation to NationsUniversity Online Study (ONOS)

A proficient student is one who can navigate online courses, research effectively, think critically, and write professionally. Therefore, each student is required to work through a non-credit orientation course in the first nine (9) hours of their degree plan. The orientation provides instructions on navigating their student information dashboard, their online courses, and the EBSCO library. In addition, the course offers advice, insights, and tools to ensure all students are successful in their academic studies. The course is non-credit, but it must be passed before the student is permitted to take their first proctored examination, which occurs after the student completes the first nine (9) hours of the degree plan. The course consists of reading material, videos, and two short quizzes. All students must complete this orientation.

Undergraduate Programs

Certificate in Biblical Studies (C.B.S.)

The Certificate in Biblical Studies (C.B.S.) The Certificate in Biblical Studies requires 21 semester hours of prescribed credits taken at NationsUniversity, plus two proctored comprehensive exams. Transfer credit cannot be substituted for these Certificate courses. In addition to recognizing a student's accomplishment, the certificate also enables the University to evaluate the student's potential for achieving a higher academic award.

Admission into the Certificate in Biblical Studies Program

Admission to the C.B.S. program requires the following:

1. Submission of an official transcript that indicates graduation from a secondary school, a G.E.D. (secondary school equivalency), or university transcript or other approved official document that indicates secondary completion.
2. No financial obligations to the University.
3. Submission of a TOEFL score of 500 or above or acceptable substitute 61 iBT, 6.0 IELTS, 44 PTE, grade level 3 on ACT Compass, Pre-1 on Eiken English Proficiency Exam, secondary school diploma where instruction is in English, or "C" or better on English Composition from an accredited college) by student whose native language is not English.

Program Learning Outcomes

C.B.S. program outcomes are a reduced number of those belonging to the B.R.S. PLO's to reflect reduced curriculum requirements.

1. Student will demonstrate an awareness of the content and meaning of the biblical canon.

2. Student will apply the tools for sound exegesis of biblical scripture.

3. Student is equipped for personal spiritual formations

Specific Course Requirements

Seven courses constitute the Certificate curriculum. These are named below and are normally taken in the order listed. These courses must be completed at NationsUniversity, even though the student may have taken similar courses elsewhere. No transfer credit is accepted for the C.B.S. course. These courses serve as the Foundations for the B.R.S.

ONOS	Orientation to NationsU Online Study (non-credit)
BRS 100	A Search for Spirituality
BRS 121	The Hebrew Scriptures
BRS 122	The Greek Scriptures
BRS 123	Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures

----(Proctored) CBS Comprehensive Exam #1----

BRS 124	Theology of the Greek Scriptures
BRS 125	Exegesis of the Hebrew Scriptures
BRS 126	Exegesis of the Greek Scriptures

----(Proctored) CBS Comprehensive Exam #2----

Additional Graduation Requirement

NU is a distance learning institution and operates without defined semesters or terms; therefore, students work at their own pace. Courses are normally completed one at a time, but a student is not prohibited from enrolling in multiple courses simultaneously. Credit is calculated according to the semester system. The final cumulative grade point average (C.G.P.A.) must be a minimum of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale on the credits used for this certificate.

In addition to all course requirements listed above and the minimum C.G.P.A., the student must complete two proctored comprehensive exams. Arrangements for the proctored exams will be made with the student's advisor. A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam.

All financial obligations must be satisfied two weeks prior to a NationsUniversity graduation date before a certificate can be conferred and before a transcript can be issued.

Time Allowance and Estimated Total Costs

The projected completion time for the C.B.S. degree is 1 year. The cost for students who reside in the 35 developed countries listed under Financial Information is a one-time $25 registration fee and a tuition charge of $450 per quarter. Tuition and fees are guaranteed for only two (2) years. At this rate, students residing in one of the 35 developed nations may expect to pay $1,825 if they complete the C.B.S. within 12 months or $2,725 if they extend their studies over 18 months. Textbooks and other resources are available online in an electronic format without cost to the student. Any purchase of hard copy books is totally optional. Incarcerated students living within the United States are assessed only the $25 registration fee but are responsible for securing hard copy textbooks, which will run about $100 for the C.B.S.

Students normally complete degree requirements in effect when they are officially admitted, unless completion comes after seven years from initial admission. Course requirements may be adjusted at any time. The requirements are displayed in the curriculum assigned to their username and in older editions of the NU Catalog. These students may opt to complete their degree under the current requirements upon request.

Certificate in Christian Ministry (C.C.M.)

The Certificate in Christian Ministry (C.C.M.) follows after the Certificate in Biblical Studies and may be taken concurrently with the Bachelor of Religious Studies program. It may also be taken by students who have completed the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies. The C.C.M. requires 12 semester hours of prescribed credits taken at NationsUniversity. These 12 hours are applicable to the B.R.S. program courses but not to any graduate program. Transfer credit cannot be substituted for these Certificate courses.

Admission into the Certificate in Christian Ministry Program

Admission to the C.C.M. program requires the following:

1. Met all admission requirements for the Certificate in Biblical Studies or the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies.
2. Completed all requirements to be awarded the Certificate in Biblical Studies or Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies.
3. No financial obligations to the University.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Student is equipped for personal spiritual formation.
2. Student can utilize biblical foundations for life decisions.
3. Student can provide effective Christian leadership.

Specific Course Requirements

The Certificate curriculum is outlined below, with courses named in the recommended order. These courses must be completed at NU, even though the student may have taken similar courses elsewhere. No transfer credit may apply.

HUM 220	Ethics
BRS 443	Foundations of Ministry*
SOC 200	Family
BRS 450	The Pastoral Ministry

(Prerequisite for BRS 450)

Additional Graduation Requirement

NU is a distance learning institution and operates without defined semesters or terms; therefore, students work at their own pace. Courses are normally completed one at a time, but a student is not prohibited from enrolling in multiple courses simultaneously. Credit is calculated according to the semester system. The final cumulative grade point average (C.G.P.A.) must be a minimum of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale on the credits used for this certificate.

All financial obligations must be satisfied two weeks prior to a NationsUniversity graduation date before a certificate can be conferred and before a transcript can be issued.

Time Allowance and Estimated Total Costs

The projected completion time for the C.C.M. degree is 1 year when taken concurrently with the Bachelor of Religious Studies program. The cost for students who reside in the 35 developed countries listed under Financial Information is a one-time $25 registration fee and a tuition charge of $450 per quarter. Tuition and fees are guaranteed for only two (2) years. At this rate, students residing in one of the 35 developed nations may expect to pay $1,825 if they complete the C.C.M. within 12 months or $2,725 if they extend their studies over 18 months. Since the C.C.M. is designed to run concurrently with the B.R.S., students paying toward the B.R.S. will not be charged any additional tuition for courses applied to both the B.R.S. and the C.C.M.

Textbooks and other resources are available online in an electronic format without cost to the student. Any purchase of hard copy books is totally optional. Incarcerated students living within the United States are

assessed only the $25 registration fee but are responsible for securing hard copy textbooks, which will run about $100 for the C.C.M.

Students normally complete degree requirements in effect when they are officially admitted, unless completion comes after seven years from initial admission. Course requirements may be adjusted at any time. The requirements are displayed in the curriculum assigned to their username and in older editions of the NU Catalog. These students may opt to complete their degree under the current requirements upon request.

Bachelor of Religious Studies (B.R.S.)

The Bachelor of Religious Studies (B.R.S.) requires 120 semester hour credits. A minimum of thirty (30) of these must be taken with NU. A minimum of 60 credits shall be drawn from the category of religion, philosophy or worldview, counseling, and courses that address ministry, worship, biblical languages, and biblical exegesis. For calculation of religious studies credit, all courses taken at NU can be counted. The student will also complete a Bible knowledge test and a self-evaluated spiritual inventory at the beginning and end of the program.

Admission into the B.R.S. Program

Admission to the B.R.S. program requires the following:

1. Submission of an official transcript that indicates graduation from a secondary school, a G.E.D. (secondary school equivalency), or university transcript or other approved official document that indicates secondary completion.
2. No financial obligations to the University.
3. Submission of a TOEFL score of 500 or above or acceptable substitute (61 iBT, 6.0 IELTS, 44 PTE, grade level 3 on ACT Compass, Pre-1 on Eiken English Proficiency Exam, secondary school diploma where instruction is in English, or "C" or better on English Composition from an accredited college) by students whose native language is not English
4. Must have completed the Certificate in Biblical Studies or 21 hours of Foundations.

**In the event a student cannot, for reasons beyond his/her control, submit official documentation of having secondary completion, the student may appeal to the Registrar.*

Program Learning Outcomes

The Bachelor of Religious Studies program imparts a general foundation in the biblical and theological disciplines. Distinctively, the outcomes of the B.R.S. program are to prepare graduates who

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the content and meaning of the biblical canon.
2. Apply the tools for sound exegesis of biblical scripture.
3. Are equipped for personal spiritual formation.
4. Can critique and use information from a wide range of sources.
5. Can provide effective Christian leadership in diverse organizations, institutions, and countries.

Course Requirements

Requirements for the B.R.S. are divided into four sections (1) General Education, (2) Required Foundation Courses, (3) Additional Religious Courses, and (4) General Electives. The first section of course requirements is General Education. Transfer credit from other accredited universities is allowed for general education courses or the general education may all be taken at NationsUniversity. A minimum of 30 General Education credits must be in the following disciplines: arts and humanities, communications, English, mathematics, natural science, and social science. Six (6) credits must be in English (comprehension and composition). At least four other categories other than English shall be represented.

The second section is the Required Courses which serve as the biblical foundation to the B.R.S. Normally, these courses are completed as part of the C.B.S. Full admission into the B.R.S. is not granted until these courses or the C.B.S. are passed with a 2.0 or higher.

Courses taken prior to January 1, 2012, may not be applied to current program requirements, with one exception. Courses applied to the C.R.S. or M.R.S. award between 1/1/2012 and 12/31/2013 may be used to meet current program requirements.

Required Courses

ONOS	Orientation to NationsU Online Study (non-credit)
BRS 100	A Search for Spirituality
BRS 121	The Hebrew Scriptures
BRS 122	The Greek Scriptures
BRS 123	Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures
----(Proctored) CBS Comprehensive Exam #1----	
BRS 124	Theology of the Greek Scriptures
BRS 125	Exegesis of the Hebrew Scriptures
BRS 126	Exegesis of the Greek Scriptures
----(Proctored) CBS Comprehensive Exam #2----	

The third section of courses is the Additional Religious Courses. This section consists of 39 hours of additional religious credits. Of these 39 hours of credit, 18 credit hours must be fulfilled with the following coursework that may be completed at NationsUniversity or be met by transfer credits specific to the following courses.

Additional Required Courses

BRS 313	The Church of the First Five Decades
BRS 431	Exegesis Torah & Prophets *or*
BRS 432	Exegesis Job, Ruth, & Chronicles

BRS 433 New Testament Exegesis I *or*
BRS 434 New Testament Exegesis II
BRS 443 Foundations of Ministry
BRS 444 Worship
----(Proctored) BRS Comprehensive Exam----

One of the following three:
Hum 230 Worldview
BRS 401 Comparative Religion: Eastern
BRS 424 Comparative Religion: Abrahamic Faiths

The remaining 21 credit hours of coursework may be fulfilled with any religious coursework from NationsUniversity or by transfer credit from another accredited institution.

The fourth section is General Electives and is comprised of 30 credit hours of any coursework. The hours may be fulfilled using courses from NationsUniversity or by transfer credit from another accredited institution.

Additional Graduation Requirements

NU is a distance learning institution and operates without defined semesters or terms; therefore, students work at their own pace. Courses are normally completed one at a time, but a student is not prohibited from enrolling in multiple courses simultaneously. Credit is calculated according to the semester system. The final cumulative grade point average (C.G.P.A.) must be a minimum of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale on the credits used for the degree.

In addition to all course requirements listed above and the minimum C.G.P.A., the student must complete three proctored comprehensive exams. Arrangements for the proctored exams will be made with the student's advisor. A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam.

All financial obligations must be satisfied two weeks prior to a NationsUniversity graduation date before a degree can be conferred and before a transcript can be issued.

Time Allowance and Estimated Total Costs

The projected completion time for the B.R.S. degree is 4 years. The cost for students who reside in the 35 developed countries listed under Financial Information is a one-time $25 registration fee and a tuition charge of $450 per quarter. Tuition and fees are guaranteed for only two (2) years. Allowing for a modest increase in tuition, students residing in one of the 35 developed nations may expect to pay $8,125 if they present no transfer credit and complete the B.R.S. within 48 months or $13,750 if they extend their studies over 72 months. Textbooks and other resources are available online in an electronic format, without cost to the student. Any purchase of hard copy books is totally optional.

Transfer Credits

Ninety (90) credits maximum can be accepted from an accredited institution. Transfer credits are only granted from official transcript evaluations. Official transcripts are those sent directly from the issuing institution and not by way of the student. Only in special circumstances and from certain countries, are authenticated documents valid.

Bachelor of Religious Studies Bridge Program (B.R.S. Bridge)

For qualified students, whose plans include graduate studies, NationsUniversity offers a "Bridge" program that allows students to earn twelve (12) hours of graduate credit while completing their undergraduate degree. The twelve graduate hours earned will satisfy twelve of the 120 hours for the B.R.S. and be applied to the thirty-six (36) hours required for the Master of Theological Studies. The Program Learning Outcomes of the B.R.S. Bridge are the same as the B.R.S. Students who elect to participate in the B.R.S. Bridge are not eligible to receive the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies (G.C.B.S.) upon completion of thetwelve hours of graduate courses. The simultaneous application of these hours to the B.R.S. and the M.T.S. prevents the use of these hours for any other academic programs or awards prior to the M.T.S.

Admission to the B.R.S. Bridge Program

Admission to the B.R.S. Bridge Program will require the following:

1. Submission of an official transcript that indicatesindicates graduation from a secondary school, a G.E.D. (secondary school equivalency), or university transcript that indicates secondary completion.
2. Must have completed the Certificate in Biblical Studies or 21 hours of Foundations, and
3. Earned a CGPA of 3.0 or higher, and
4. Have a combined score on the first two Proctored Comprehensive Exams of 80% or higher, and
5. Have a combined "B" average on the final essay in BRS 125 and BRS 126.
6. For students whose native language is not English, submission of a TOEFL score of 500 or above or acceptable substitute (61 iBT, 6.0 IELTS, 44 PTE, grade level 3 on ACT Compass, Pre-1 on Eiken English Proficiency Exam, secondary school diploma where instruction is in English, or "C" or better on English Composition from an accredited college).
7. A student may transfer up to 60 hours into the B.R.S. Bridge to meet the General Education and General Elective requirements. Religious courses taken at other appropriately accredited institutions will be applied to General Electives.

Movement between traditional B.R.S. and B.R.S. with Bridge Option

A student must choose either the traditional B.R.S. program or B.R.S. with Bridge Option prior to or immediately after completing the Proctored CBS Comprehensive Exam #2. Once a student applies to the traditional B.R.S. program, the student may not, at a later date, decide to exercise the Bridge Option. The B.R.S. Bridge uses different courses to meet program outcomes and requires the student to take the two Graduate Qualifying Exams instead of the BRS Comprehensive Exam as evidence of successful mastery of material. Students in the traditional B.R.S. program will not have had the necessary coursework.

Students, after being admitted into the B.R.S. with Bridge Option, may choose to discontinue the pursuit of the graduate courses. Any graduate course completed with a grade of 70 or higher will count towards the student's award of the B.R.S. and toward any future graduate work beyond the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies.

Requirements for Graduation

Students admitted into the B.R.S. Bridge must meet the following requirements for graduation and be eligible to apply the fifteen hours of graduate credit to a subsequent master's degree.

1. Complete 120 hours as detailed below.
2. Complete 60 hours of religious courses at NationsUniversity.
3. Earn a CGPA of 2.0 for all coursework.
4. Pass two undergraduate proctored comprehensive exams (PCEs).
5. Pass two proctored Graduate Qualifying Exams.

A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam. In addition to academic requirements, all financial obligations to the university must be fulfilled prior to the graduation deadline.

Transition to Master of Theological Studies Program

Students who complete the graduation requirements above are not automatically admitted into the Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.). In order to be eligible for continued studies beyond the bachelor's level, a student must have an earned CGPA of 3.0 on all coursework, including graduate studies. This requirement is to ensure consistency with NationsUniversity's admission requirements for the M.T.S.

Course Requirements

Requirements for the B.R.S. Bridge are divided into five sections: (1) Required Core Courses, (2) General Education, (3) Additional Religious Studies, (4) Required Bridge Courses, and (5) General Electives. Prior to beginning the Required Bridge Courses identified below, a student must complete the 21 hours of Required Core Courses, 30 hours of General Education, and 21 hours of Additional Religious Studies. General Electives may be taken concurrently with Bridge courses.

Courses taken prior to January 1, 2012, may not be applied to current program requirements, with one exception. Courses applied to the C.R.S. or M.R.S. award between 1/1/2012 and 12/31/2013 may be used to meet current program requirements.

Required Core Courses (21 hours)

ONOS	Orientation to NationsU Online Study (non-credit)
BRS 100	A Search for Spirituality
BRS 121	The Hebrew Scriptures
BRS 122	The Greek Scriptures
BRS 123	Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures
----(Proctored) CBS Comprehensive Exam #1----	
BRS 124	Theology of the Greek Scriptures
BRS 125	Exegesis of the Hebrew Scriptures
BRS 126	Exegesis of the Greek Scriptures
----(Proctored) CBS Comprehensive Exam #2----	

General Education (30 Hours)

(Must include 2 English courses and 1 Worldview)

Additional Religious Studies (18 hours)

BRS 216	New Testament Backgrounds I OR
BRS 217	New Testament Backgrounds II
BRS 313	The Church of the First Five Decades
BRS 323	Theology in Law, Wisdom, and Psalms
BRS 431	Exegesis: Torah and Prophets OR
BRS 432	Exegesis: Job, Ruth, and Chronicles
BRS 433	New Testament Exegesis I OR
BRS 434	New Testament Exegesis II
BRS 443	Ministry
BRS 444	Worship

General Electives (30 hours)

Any 10 courses in any subject area.

Required Bridge Courses (21 hours)

(Graduate courses indicated with asterisk.)

BRS 312	Church History since 1500
M 1	Critical Introduction to Old Testament*
M 2	Critical Introduction to New Testament*
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #1----	
BRS 401	Comparative Religion: Eastern OR
BRS 424	Comparative Religion: Abrahamic Faiths
M 3	Biblical Theology*
M 4	Biblical Hermeneutics*
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #2----	

Total Credits:	120 Credits
Applied to M.T.S.:	12 Credits

Time Allowance and Estimated Costs

Time allowance and estimated costs are the same for the B.R.S. Bridge as the traditional B.R.S.

Bachelor of Religious Studies Bridge with Transfer Bridge Option (Transfer Bridge)

The B.R.S. Transfer Bridge is designed to meet the needs of non-traditional students who have completed at least 90 semester credits towards an undergraduate degree at another institution but who have not graduated with a four year degree previously. The B.R.S. Transfer Bridge allows these students to begin work simultaneously on a four-year, accredited undergraduate degree and a master's degree.

Students who elect to participate in the B.R.S. Bridge are not eligible to receive the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies (G.C.B.S.) upon completion of the fifteen hours of graduate courses. The simultaneous application of these hours to the B.R.S. and the M.T.S. prevents the use of these hours for any other academic programs or awards prior to the M.T.S

Admission to the B.R.S. Transfer Bridge Program

Admission to the B.R.S. Transfer Bridge Program will require the following:

1. Must have completed a minimum of 90 semester credits at appropriately accredited institution(s). Only 90 hours, or 75% of degree requirements, will be transferred into the degree plan per NationsUniversity policy.
2. Ninety hours must include 30 semester credits of General Education courses, including six (6) credits of English
3. Ninety hours must include 30 semester credits in religious coursework.
4. Must have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher on all religious coursework.
5. Must successfully complete MRS 622 with a grade of "B" or higher.

A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam.

Requirements for Graduation

Students admitted into the B.R.S. Bridge must meet the following requirements for graduation and be eligible to apply the fifteen hours of graduate credit to a subsequent master's degree.

1. Complete 30 hours as detailed below.
2. Earn a CGPA of 2.0 for all coursework.
3. Pass two proctored Graduate Qualifying Exams.

Transition to Master of Theological Studies

Students who complete the graduation requirements above are not automatically admitted into the Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.). In order to be eligible for continued studies beyond the bachelor's level, a student must have an earned CGPA of 3.0 on all coursework, including graduate studies. This requirement is to ensure consistency with NationsUniversity's admission requirements for the M.T.S.

Course and Exam Requirements

All work must be completed in the order below. (Graduate courses are marked with an asterisk.) ONOS Orientation to NationsUniversity Online Studies (non-credit)

ONOS	Orientation to NationsU Online Study (non-credit))
MRS 622	Encountering Biblical Spirituality*
SSC 205	Ancient Near East
M 1	Critical Introduction to the Old Testament*
BRS 217	New Testament Backgrounds and Culture
M 2	Critical Introduction to the New Testament*

-------(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #1------

BRS 313	Church of the First Five Decades
M 3	Biblical Theology*
BRS 431	Old Testament Exegesis
BRS 433	New Testament Exegesis
M 4	Biblical Hermeneutics*

-------(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #2-----

Total Credits:	30 credits
Applied to M.T.S.:	15 credits

Time Allowance and Estimated Costs

Time allowance and estimated costs are the same for the B.R.S. Transfer Bridge as the traditional B.R.S. minus applicable transfer credits.

Transfer Credits

Transfer credits can only be accepted from an accredited institution. Transfer credits are only granted from official transcript evaluations. Official transcripts are those sent directly from the issuing institution and not by way of the student. Only in special circumstances from certain countries are authenticated documents accepted as valid.

Graduate Programs

Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies (G.C.B.S.)

The Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies is a 15-credit graduate level certificate designed to provide a more in-depth study of the Greek and Hebrew Scriptures for individuals who have developed a basic understanding through undergraduate studies or personal enrichment. Building on this foundation and a student's previously demonstrated academic successes, the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies challenges students to use critical thinking skills and personal devotion to expand their rudimentary understanding of biblical stories and texts. Students in the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies will learn to connect the biblical texts with the world around them to make better spiritual, ethical, and life decisions.

Admission to the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies

Admission to the G.C.B.S. program will require the following:

1. Submission of an official transcript that indicates completion of an applied bachelor's degree in theology or a related topic (minimum of 90 credits), a bachelor's degree (minimum 120 credits with appropriate general education courses), or higher degree from an accredited or nationally approved institution with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. (In the event a student cannot, for reasons beyond his/her control, submit official documentation of having completed the bachelor's degree, he/she may appeal to the Registrar and state the reasons. The Registrar will review the appeal and make a judgment as to how the official documentation requirement for the previous bachelor's degree may be satisfied.)
2. Submission of a TOEFL score of 530 or above or acceptable substitute (71 iBT, 6.5 IELTS, 50 PTE score) by students whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate degree is not in English.
3. Having no financial obligations to the University.

Program Learning Outcomes

The Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies program imparts a general foundation in the biblical and theological disciplines. Distinctively, the outcomes of the G.C.B.S. program are to prepare graduates who,

1. Strengthen foundations for enriching personal spiritual faith and developing spiritual maturity.
2. Enhance understanding of biblical theology through systematic analysis of Scripture in its social, historical, and literary settings.
3. Develop skills to teach well-prepared lessons.

Course Requirements

The G.C.B.S. consists of five courses. The first course, MRS 622, lays the spiritual foundation and goals of biblical studies and establishes a framework for those studies as well. The combination of M 1 and M 2 provide students with in-depth knowledge of the Bible and introduces them to the critical thinking skills needed to study the Bible. M 3 and M 4 then provide students a systematic study of major themes and additional skills needed to teach others. These higher-level skills will allow students to study the Bible effectively in the classroom context, to mature spiritually, and to teach biblical texts and truths to others.

ONOS	Orientation to NationsU Online Study (non-credit)
MRS 622	Encountering Biblical Spirituality
M 1	Critical Introduction to the Old Testament
M 2	Critical Introduction to the New Testament
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #1----	
M 3	Biblical Theology
M 4	Biblical Hermeneutics
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #2----	

Students who complete the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies may apply those 15 hours towards the foundation courses found in the M.T.S. or M.Div. Completion of the G.C.B.S. does not imply acceptance into a graduate program. A separate application process is required.

Courses taken prior to January 1, 2012, may not be applied to current program requirements, with one exception. Courses applied to the C.R.S. or M.R.S. award between 1/1/2012 and 12/31/2013 may be used to meet current program requirements.

Additional Graduation Requirements

NU is a distance learning institution and operates without defined semesters or terms; therefore, students work at their own pace. Courses are normally completed one at a time, but a student is not prohibited from enrolling in multiple courses simultaneously. Credit is calculated according to the semester system. The final cumulative grade point average must be a minimum of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale on the credits used for the degree.

In addition to the minimum C.G.P.A. requirement, all students must successfully pass two proctored comprehensive exams administered after M 2 and M 4. A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam.

All financial obligations must be satisfied two weeks prior to a NationsUniversity graduation date before a certificate can be conferred and before a transcript can be issued.

Time Allowance and Estimated Total Costs

The projected completion time for the G.C.B.S. program is 1 year. The cost for students who reside in the 35 developed countries listed under Financial Information is a one-time $25 registration fee and a tuition charge of $450 per quarter. Tuition and fees are guaranteed for only two (2) years. At this rate, students residing in one of the 35 developed nations may expect to pay $1,825 if they complete the G.C.B.S. within 12 months or $2,725 if they extend their studies over 18 months. Textbooks and other resources are available online in an electronic format without cost to the student. Any purchase of hard copy books is totally optional. Incarcerated students living within the United States are assessed only the $25 registration fee but are responsible for securing hard copy textbooks, which will run about $500 for the G.C.B.S.

Students normally complete degree requirements in effect when they are formally admitted, unless completion comes after seven years from initial admission. Course requirements may be adjusted at any time. The requirements are displayed in the curriculum assigned to their username and in older editions of the NU Catalog. These students may opt to complete their degree under the current requirements upon request.

Transfer Credits

No transfer credit into the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies is permitted.

Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)

The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) is a 36-hour general academic graduate degree providing a serious study that covers Scripture, historical and systematic theology, comparative theology and ethics. Theology in this instance is understood to encompass both critical religious study--primarily of the Christian religion--and its practice. As such courses may contain theoretical and spiritual formation components. Many students choose the M.T.S. solely as a way to increase their knowledge of Christianity as well as to bring that knowledge to their families, careers, or individual lives. The program builds on either the B.R.S. or on undergraduate degree programs earned elsewhere. The degree is generally completed in two years.

Admission to the Master of Theological Studies

Admission to the M.T.S. program will require the following:

1. Submission of an official transcript that indicates completion of an applied bachelor's degree in theology or a related topic (minimum of 90 credits), a bachelor's degree (minimum 120 credits with appropriate general education courses), or higher degree from an accredited or nationally approved institution with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. (In the event a student cannot, for reasons beyond his/her control, submit official documentation of having completed the bachelor's degree, he/she may appeal to the Registrar and state the reasons. The Registrar will review the appeal and make a judgment as to how the official documentation requirement for the previous bachelor's degree may be satisfied.)
2. Completion of 15 credits of Foundations courses (MRS 622, M 1, M 2, M 3, and M 4) or the G.C.B.S. with a 3.00 grade point average.
3. Submission of all required activities, papers, and forum postings associated with the Foundation courses.
4. Passing two (2) qualifying examinations.
5. Having no financial obligations to the University.
6. Submission of a TOEFL score of 530 or above or acceptable substitute (71 iBT, 6.5 IELTS, 50 PTE score) by students whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate degree is not in English.

Prior to acceptance into the M.T.S., the student's writing ability will be assessed by way of a review of performance on the essays developed in the foundation courses. If the student is weak in writing skills, a decision on admission may be delayed until he/she has completed M 17 Research and Writing, which includes more extensive writing.

If the student presents a three-year Bachelor of Theology or similar degree or diploma, the student may be admitted to the master's program only after completing 30 credits of leveling work identified by the Office of the Registrar. However, in this instance, a bachelor's degree will not be awarded, as the credits are considered "leveling" work.

Program Learning Outcomes

The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) program imparts a general foundation in the biblical and theological disciplines. Distinctively, the outcomes of the M.T.S. program are to prepare graduates who,

1. Have strengthened foundations for enriching personal spiritual faith and developing spiritual maturity.
2. Have enhanced their understanding of biblical theology through systematic analysis of Scripture in its social, historical, and literary settings.
3. Have an increased understanding and appreciation for diverse worldviews.

Course Requirements

The spiritual dimension and development courses bracket the program but are operative throughout. The

foundation courses M 1 through M 4 provide evidence that the student has comprehensive understanding of the biblical text, the theological message of the Bible, and exegetical methodology needed to complete the master's program. Students who complete MRS 622, M 1, M 2, M 3, and M 4 as part of the G.C.B.S. may apply those 15 hours towards these Foundation courses. Foundation courses must be taken in the order listed below. Specialty courses are electives and may be drawn from any course numbered MRS 100-500, 700 in any order. However, MRS 633 Being Christian in a Secular Environment must be taken in the last 9 hours of the program.

Courses taken prior to January 1, 2012, may not be applied to current program requirements, with one exception. Courses applied to the C.R.S. or M.R.S. award between 1/1/2012 and 12/31/2013 may be used to meet current program requirements.

Foundations

ONOS Orientation to NationsU Online Study (non-credit)
MRS 622 Encountering Biblical Spirituality
M 1 Critical Introduction to the Old Testament
M 2 Critical Introduction to the New Testament
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #1----
M 3 Biblical Theology
M 4 Biblical Hermeneutics
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #2----
M 17 Research and Writing

Specialty Courses

One course from the MRS 100s
One course from the MRS 400s or 500s
One course from the MRS 700s

Two electives chosen from MRS 100-500s, 700s

MRS 633 Being Christian in a Secular Environment
(Must be taken in the last 9 hours of the program)

Additional Graduation Requirements

NU is a distance learning institution and operates without defined semesters or terms; therefore, students work at their own pace. Courses are normally completed one at a time, but a student is not prohibited from enrolling in multiple courses simultaneously. Credit is calculated according to the semester system. The final cumulative grade point average must be a minimum of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale on the credits used for the degree. In addition to the minimum cumulative G.P.A. requirement, students in the M.T.S. program must complete one additional proctored comprehensive exam at the end of the program of study prior to the capstone essays. Arrangements for the proctored exam will be made with the student's advisor. A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam.

The final academic requirement for graduation with the M.T.S. is the completion of a series of capstone essays. Capstone essays require the student to demonstrate mastery of all M.T.S. Program Learning Outcomes. Arrangements for these essays will be made with the student's advisor upon completion of the proctored comprehensive exam.All financial obligations must be satisfied two weeks prior to a NationsUniversity graduation date before a degree can be conferred and before a transcript can be issued.

Time Allowance and Estimated Total Costs.

The projected completion time for the M.T.S. degree is 24 months of full-time uninterrupted study. The cost for students who reside in the 35 developed countries listed under Financial Information is a one-time $25 registration fee and a tuition charge of $450 per quarter. Tuition and fees are guaranteed for only two (2) years. At this rate, students residing in one of the 35 developed nations may expect to pay $3,625 if they complete the M.T.S. with 24 months. Allowing for a modest increase in tuition after 24 months, students who extend their studies to 36 months may expect to pay $5,875. Textbooks and other resources are available online in an electronic format, without cost to the student. Any purchase of hard copy books is totally optional.

Students normally complete degree requirements in effect when they are formally admitted, unless completion comes after seven years from initial admission. These students may be required to complete their degree under the current requirements. Course requirements may be adjusted at any time. The requirements are displayed in the plan of study assigned to the student and may be found in older editions of the NU Catalog.

Transfer Credits

A maximum of six (6) semester credits may be accepted in transfer toward the M.T.S., provided the credits are (1) religious in nature, (2) come from an accredited institution, and (3) have not been applied toward another degree.

Curriculum

Once formal admission is granted, the student is assigned to the M.T.S. curriculum. Courses that have been completed from this curriculum will count toward the M.T.S. degree. Students normally complete degree requirements in effect when they are formally admitted, unless completion comes after seven years from initial admission. Transference to a new plan means that all requirements in this plan must be fulfilled.

Optional Master's Thesis

For students wishing to pursue a Doctor of Philosophy degree after the completion of the M.T.S., NationsUniversity makes an optional master's thesis available. The optional thesis allows students to demonstrate their research and writing skills at the post-graduate level and meet the requirement for admission into many Ph.D. programs. The thesis is to be a research-based inquiry into the biblical and theoretical foundations underpinning various theological

views and practices throughout the world and throughout history. The thesis is not a ministry project with analysis and reporting. Students wishing to do research in practical ministry should consider pursuing the Master of Divinity.

Students electing the optional thesis must secure a Committee Chair and a Thesis Advisor. Unless otherwise arranged, the professor of record for MRS 800 and MRS 810 will serve as the Committee Chair. A student may select a third member of their committee, or one will be assigned. The Thesis Advisor must be qualified by both credentials and experience or expertise.

The thesis is a total of six hours of graduate credit divided between two courses, MRS 800 Thesis Development and Proposal and MRS 810 Thesis Completion and Defense. Each of these courses is described below. Since these courses are beyond the requirements of the M.T.S., students are responsible for the additional costs associated with the courses, including tuition, books, and research resources. Normal discounts will apply to designated student categories.

Eligibility: Students must have completed all coursework for the M.T.S. with no course grade below an 80. In addition, the student must select a topic suitable for a graduate-level research project and be able to secure a Thesis Advisor from among the NationsUniversity Faculty with both the credentials and expertise and/or experience in the chosen area.

Additional Time and Costs: It is expected that a student will be able to complete all six credits within a 12-month period beyond the completion of the M.T.S. coursework. As such, the expected tuition cost for the additional thesis option is $1,800. Books and resources are provided free of charge to online students through NationsUniversity's EBSCO library.

Students who elect the thesis option may substitute the thesis for the M.T.S. Capstone. However, students who do not complete both courses below will still be required to complete the M.T.S. Capstone.

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

NationsUniversity's Master of Divinity program seeks to train Christian leaders in the areas of applied Christian living and ministry. The University's Master of Divinity program is an 84-credit hour program designed as a first professional degree in ministry. Therefore, NationsUniversity M.Div. graduates are best prepared for the professional practice of ministry but are equally prepared for to continue their studies in pursuit of an advanced professional degree, e.g., Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) or Doctor of Educational Ministry (D.Ed.Min.). However, candidates planning to undertake doctoral studies in the academic tracts of religion, theology, biblical languages, philosophy, apologetics, or church history should consider if NU's Master of Theological Studies will better serve their education goals. NationsUniversity M.Div. graduates are educationally prepared for possible careers as a minister, Bible teacher, chaplain, or other church/spiritual leader.

The M.Div. program features four components: (1) a general foundation for the work of ministry, (2) in-depth academic training, (3) field-based experience, and (4) a final professional paper. The NationsUniversity curriculum is structured to help distance-learning students acquire field experience in their own location, which is normally different and far removed from the U.S. field of ministry. Field-based courses which require a local supervisor are designated Supervised Ministry Experiences, or S.M.E. courses, and are indicated as such in the requirements that follow.

The curriculum is not organized around a question or theme peculiar to a given culture but is more universal in scope. Issues, which are current in the American context, may not be the particular issues which NationsUniversity is equipping its students to face. The issues of most concern to the personnel at NationsUniversity are those which are defined by the New Testament. While they include some of the same cultural items, they also include broader, global concerns, such as (1) the deity of Jesus in a pantheistic or post-modern world, (2) the pursuit of historical, biblical spirituality, and (3) living as a Christian in an environment dominated by non-Christian and atheistic ideologies.

Admission to the Master of Divinity

Admission to the M.Div. program will require the following:

1. Submission of an official transcript that indicates the completion of a bachelor's degree or higher in the discipline of religion, theology, or ministry from an accredited or nationally approved institution with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.*
   a. Bachelor's degree must represent 120 semester credits.
   b. Bachelor's degree must include 30 semester credits of General Education.
2. Completion of 15 credits of graduate Foundations courses (MRS 622, M 1, M 2, M 3, and M 4) or the G.C.B.S. with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
3. Passing two (2) qualifying examinations.
4. Having no financial obligations to the University.
5. Submission of a TOEFL score of 550 or above or acceptable substitute (80 iBT, 6.5 IELTS, 58 PTE) by students whose native language is not English or who have not completed a previous degree taught completely in English.

**In the event a student cannot, for reasons beyond his/her control, submit official documentation of having completed the bachelor's degree, he/she may appeal to the Registrar and state the reasons. The Registrar will review the appeal and make a judgment as to how the requirement for documentation may be satisfied.*

Students who do not hold the B.R.S. from NationsUniversity may begin work with MRS 622 immediately after their application is accepted. However, official admission is not

granted until all requirements above have been met. Students holding the NationsUniversity B.R.S. or M.T.S. should consult with their advisor before beginning any courses.

Applicants who do not hold an accredited or nationally approved undergraduate or graduate degree in the identified disciplines may apply to the M.T.S. program to meet these requirements. Thirty (30) credits earned as part of the 36-credit M.T.S. program may be applied to the M.Div. program. Upon completion of the M.T.S., students interested in the M.Div. must notify their advisor. The student's academic record will be reviewed before formal admission to the M.Div. program is approved and thestudent enrolls in courses.

Upon formal admission into the M.Div. program, students will be asked to provide a letter of cooperation from a local congregation or ministry. Students must have a local supervisor and a local cooperating congregation in order to enroll in Supervised Ministry Experiences (SMEs) and Final Project courses. The letter(s) must be received by the student's advisor before the completion of four courses (12 credits) in the M.Div. program.

Program Learning Outcomes

The outcomes of the M.Div. program are to prepare graduates to,

1. Demonstrate mastery of the advanced skills necessary for instructing and developing faith in themselves and others.
2. Apply current, research-based models of ministry with a recognition of the church's presence in diverse settings.
3. Have explored major historical developments of the Christian church, including both doctrines and practices.
4. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the spiritual and personal traits necessary for ministry.

Course Requirements

The spiritual dimension and development courses bracket the program but are operative throughout. Courses M 1 through M 4, along with the corresponding proctored qualifying exams, provide evidence that the student has a comprehensive understanding of the biblical text, the theological message of the Bible, and exegetical methodology needed to complete the master's program. Students who complete the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies may apply those 15 hours towards these Foundation courses. Foundation courses must be taken in the order listed below. Electives may be drawn in any order from any course numbered MRS 100-500, 700 after completion of the Foundation Courses. A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam.

Ministry courses may only be taken after the student has completed the Foundations courses. It is recommended that at least 21 hours of electives be completed before beginning Ministry courses to provide sufficient theological foundations for effective ministry.

After completion of all coursework and a proctored comprehensive examination, students must enroll in MFI 5 Church and Society and M 14 M.Div. Final Project. MFI 5 will direct the students in researching issues related to ministry in contemporary society and assist them in developing a proposal for their final project. M 14 will then direct the students in their implementation, evaluation, and reporting of their project findings. In these courses, students will produce one final professional paper that demonstrates the student's cumulative educational experience and its applicability to ministry.

Courses taken before January 1, 2012, may not be credited toward current program requirements, with one exception. Courses applied to the C.R.S. or M.R.S. award between 1/1/2012 and 12/31/2013 can be used to satisfy current program requirements.

Required Courses

The 84 semester credits required for the M.Div. must be distributed in the following manner:

Foundations (24 credits)

ONOS	Orientation to NationsU Online Study (non-credit)
MRS 622	Encountering Biblical Spirituality
M 1	Critical Introduction to the Old Testament
M 2	Critical Introduction to the New Testament
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #1----	
M 3	Biblical Theology
M 4	Biblical Hermeneutics
-----(Proctored) Graduate Qualifying Exam #2----	
M 11	Critical Analysis in Biblical Studies
M 17	Research and Writing
MRS 633	Being Christian in a Secular Environment

Ministry (12 credits)

M 12	Ministry (S.M.E.)
M 13	Worship (S.M.E.)
Choose Two:	
M 15	Communicating the Gospel
M 16	Family Counsel
M 20	Introduction to Pastoral Care
M 606	Missions

Electives (42 credits with 6 credit minimum from each category)

MRS 100s	Biblical Backgrounds
MRS 200s	Hebrew Scriptures
MRS 300s	Greek Scriptures
MRS 400s	Church History
MRS 500s	Theology

MRS 700s Comparative Religions

Final Project Courses (6 credits)

MFI 5 Church and Society
M 14 M.Div. Final Project (S.M.E.)

Additional Graduation Requirements

- The final Cumulative Grade Point Average must be a minimum of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale on the credits used for the degree.
- In addition to the grade point average requirement, the student must pass one additional graduate proctored comprehensive exam at the end of all coursework and prior to enrolling in the Final Project Courses.
- The Final Project paper produced at the culmination of the Final Project Courses will be reviewed by a committee.
- All financial obligations must be satisfied two weeks prior to a NationsUniversity graduation date before a degree can be conferred and before a transcript can be issued.

Time Allowance and Estimated Total Costs

The M.Div. program includes spirituality, biblical content, meaning, exegesis, and ministerial activity. The projected completion time is forty-eight months of full-time uninterrupted study. The cost for students who reside in the 35 developed countries listed under Financial Information is a one-time $25 registration fee and a tuition charge of $450 per quarter. Tuition and fees are guaranteed for only two (2) years. Allowing for a modest increase in tuition, students residing in one of the 35 developed nations may expect to pay $8,125 if they present no transfer credit and complete the M.Div. within 48 months or $13,750 if they extend their studies over 72 months. Textbooks and other resources are available online in an electronic format, without cost to the student. Any purchase of hard copy books is totally optional.

Students normally complete degree requirements in effect when they are officially admitted, unless completion comes after seven years from initial admission. Course requirements may be adjusted at any time. The requirements are displayed in the curriculum assigned to their username and in older editions of the NU Catalog. These students may opt to complete their degree under the current requirements upon request.

Transfer Credits

Students who enter the M.Div. with graduate credit and/or graduate degrees in religious or related studies from an accredited institution, may transfer up to 30 semester credits toward the M.Div. Students who have completed other graduate degrees at NU are accorded the same privilege, meaning that 30 credits from the NationsU M.T.S. degree may transfer into the M.Div.

Application for Chaplaincy Certification Program

NationsUniversity does not offer ACPE-accredited courses in professional chaplaincy or award CPE units. However, students obtaining an M.Div. from NationsUniversity may apply to an ACPE-accredited Chaplaincy training program. For more information on Chaplaincy certification, to find ACPE-accredited programs, or to inquire about CPE equivalency, you may contact the Board of Chaplaincy Certification, Inc. at https://bcci.professionalchaplains.org.

Those students interested in military chaplaincy with Christian Churches, Churches of Christ, and Restoration Movement churches must take MRS 491 Independent Study in the Stone-Campbell Movement. Completion of this course and the M.Div. program does not guarantee endorsement but will provide the necessary coursework to apply for endorsement. The final decision to endorse a candidate is completely within the purview of the Chaplaincy Endorsement Commission (www.cec-chap.org).

Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Evangelism

The NationsUniversity's Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Evangelism program offers an academic and spiritual journey, focusing on the development of ministry leaders equipped with a theology informed by biblical principles and critical engagement with diverse perspectives. Through an indepth study of scripture, students utilize research-based theories and skills to lead evangelistic ministries effectively, while addressing cross-cultural dynamics with biblical insight. The program emphasizes integration of insights from various disciplines, fostering a comprehensive strategy for personal and organizational ministry. Central to the curriculum is the cultivation of personal spiritual reflection, leading to increased maturity, stronger Christian character, and enhanced spiritual leadership.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Articulate a theology of ministry that is biblically informed and critically engages alternative perspectives.
2. Utilize research-based ministry theories and skills in the development, implementation, and leadership of evangelistic ministries.
3. Develop biblical ministry plans that address the impact of cross-cultural and intercultural issues and dynamics.
4. Integrate insights from a variety of sources (including the social sciences and other disciplines) into a comprehensive and effective strategy for personal and congregational or organizational ministry.
5. Demonstrate personal spiritual reflection in ways that result in personal maturity, stronger Christian character, and spiritual leadership.

Components

Ministry Care (2 hours):

DMIN 912 The Evangelist's Life, Work, and Development (2 hours)

Ministry Core (18 hours):

DMIN 910 Theology of the Evangelist and Evangelism (3 hours)
DMIN 914 The Evangelist as Communicator (3 hours)
DMIN 916 The Evangelist in Historical Context (3 hours)
DMIN 918 The Evangelist as Apologist (3 hours)
DMIN 920 The Evangelist as Equipper (3 hours)
DMIN 922 The Evangelist as Leader (3 hours)

Ministry Experience (4 hours):

DMIN 930 Observation and Participation (1 hour)
DMIN 932 Planning and Participation (1 hour)
DMIN 934 Leadership and Development (2 hour)

Research & Writing (6 hours):

DMIN 901 Research Methods in Ministry (1 hour)
DMIN 903 Research Project I (2 hours)
DMIN 904 Research Project II (3 hours)

Admission Requirements

Official transcript reflecting a minimum 72-hour M.Div. from an accredited institution. For applicants without an accredited M.Div., an M.Div. equivalent may be considered. M.Div. Equivalent: Minimum 30-hour master's degree in theology or a related topic plus any second master's degree that provides a total of 72 hours of graduate work. Both degrees must be from an accredited institution. Minimum of three years of full-time ministry or five years of part-time ministry (paid or volunteer).

For students applying with an M.Div. equivalency, the minimum requirement is 5 years of full-time ministry or 8 years of part-time ministry (paid or volunteer). An essay by the applicant explaining their philosophy of ministry and goals for the program. (Minimum of 700 words).

- Recommendation letter from one church leader.
- Cooperating Congregation letter.
- Recommendation letter from one academic professional (if not an NationsU alumnus)

If required, English proficiency score of 65 on TOEFL PBT, 80 on the iBT, 6.5 on the IELTS, or 58 on the Pearson Test. Other tests may be accepted if approved by accrediting agency.

Application Process

1. Review the D.Min. website at www.nationsu.edu.
2. Review the NationsUniversity catalog at www.nationsu.edu/catalog for additional information.
3. Email the Director of the D.Min. program at dmin@nationsu.edu with any questions.
4. Complete the online application at https://elearning.nationsu.edu.
5. Submit official transcripts and English proficiency test to registrar@nationsu.edu.
6. Email the following documents to dmin@nationsu.edu:
   a. Resumé or C.V.,
   b. Essay on ministry philosophy and educational goals,
   c. Recommendation letters from one church leader and one academic professional, and
   d. Letter of cooperation from your local congregation.
7. Application will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee. Only fully completed applications will be considered by the committee. The

committee meets in early May and early August, and you will be notified afterwards.

Course Attendance Requirements

The D.Min. program is a combination of asynchronous components with weekly class meetings. Each term, though 16 weeks in duration, consists of approximately 10 class meetings, including student presentations. Students must attend in-person at least 70% of all class meetings and 70% of student presentations. Class meetings will be recorded, and absent students will be expected to review the recorded meetings. A student who writes a brief summary of the recorded class meeting will be given half-credit for attendance for up to two missed sessions.

Graduation Requirements

- Completion of all 30 hours of coursework with a 3.0 GPA or higher.
- Successful completion of a professional ministry project and paper (100-page minimum).
- Successful oral defense of the project.
- Fulfillment of all financial obligations to the university.

Committee Selection

All students will select and receive approval for a D.Min. committee consisting of three members, at least two of which must be from NationsUniversity. A Committee Chair must be identified from the NationsUniversity members of the committee. The committee will guide and evaluate the student's work throughout the program and make final recommendations as to successful completion after hearing the oral defense.

Tuition & Fee Structure:

$600/term tuition
$100/term for books, technology, or Logos fees (Not needed for all terms.)

Sample

9 terms* x $600/term	$5,400
6 terms x $100/term for books	$600
3 Annual Campaigns**	$7,000
Total for on-time degree:	$13,000

** There will be no charge for final term if student is completed but awaiting assessment.*

Curriculum
Undergraduate Courses—General Education

(All courses are valued at 3-semester credit)

Freshman:	**All 100 numbered courses**
Sophomore:	**All 200 numbered courses**
Junior:	**All 300 numbered courses**
Senior:	**All 400 numbered courses**

Com 3 Exploring Communication Models

Theory and experience in human communication. The course examines five forms of human communication: interviewing, public speaking, prayer, visionary presentations, and conflict recognition. Included are (1) techniques of field interviewing, public speaking, prayer, visionary presentations, and conflict detection, (2) training in the ability to interview, speak publicly, pray, cast a vision, and detect potential violent situations, and (3) interpreting non-verbal communication.

Objectives
- Understand principles of communication and public speaking.
- Research, organize, and conduct interviews. Summarize the results in essays.
- Apply and/or assess principles of public speaking in a religious presentation.
- Research, organize, and compose a report assuming a leadership role.
- Apply communication skills suitable to topic, purpose, and audience.

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the theoretical bases of various communication media.
2. Draw from communication theory principles that will help solve communication issues.
3. Write a clear, organized report on an activity to demonstrate competency in written communication.

Eng 1 English Comprehension

Grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and sentence structure. The course is equivalent to that offered throughout the United States for students entering the university. It is not designed for students who know little or no English. The study offers an opportunity to build a stronger foundation for reading, speaking, and writing in the English language. Modules: (1) Grammar, (2) Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension, and (3) Punctuation and Sentence Structure.

Objectives
- Demonstrate how the components of English grammar function
- Identify and define English vocabulary needed for reading at the university level
- Demonstrate proper sentence and paragraph structure

Learning Outcomes
1. Determine correct usage of English grammar
2. Demonstrate acquaintance with English vocabulary suitable for reading at the university level
3. Choose sentences and paragraphs with correct spelling and punctuation

Eng 2 English Composition

Effective writing technique. The course assumes the student comprehends English grammar and vocabulary sufficient for composing written communication (Eng 1). It concentrates on strengthening written communication skills in a variety of styles and forms. Course components include elements of composition, data collection, and formal writing procedures. Prerequisite: English 1 or equivalent.

Objectives
- Demonstrate elements of formal composition
- Describe types of formal essays
- Synthesize diverse research into a congruent essay

Learning Outcomes
1. Write an essay that demonstrates good grammar and writing skills
2. Construct a personal letter or detailed e-mail message that follows proper use of English grammar and style
3. Compose a research paper using correct citations according to research writing standards

Grk 100 Biblical Greek I

The language of the New Testament, with illustrations of its usefulness in the study of Scripture. An introduction to the Greek language, biblical sources, and issues related to textual analysis. Modules: (1) The System, (2) Sources, and (3) Textual criticism. No credit allowed with former BRS 8.

Objectives
- Describe the Greek writing system
- Analyze Greek transcripts of the New Testament
- Evaluate Greek New Testament manuscripts through techniques of textual criticism

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the characteristics of the language of the New Testament
2. Analyze the sources that support the Greek New Testament
3. Judge the value of linguistic study for exegesis

Grk 200 Biblical Greek II

Greek grammar, vocabulary, translation, and application. An introduction to Greek grammar, vocabulary, and issues related to translation and exegesis of the New Testament. Modules: (1) Grammar, (2) Working with New Testament texts, and (3) Translation, Exegesis, and Application. Prerequisite: Grk 100. No credit allowed with former BRS 8.

Objectives
- Identify and analyze vocabulary and parts of speech in Greek
- Apply the rules of grammar to translate Greek texts
- Evaluate translations and exegesis of Greek texts

Learning Outcomes
1. Recognize the basic structure of the Greek language
2. Demonstrate how to exegete Greek texts
3. Combine the tasks of exegesis and application

Heb 100 Biblical Hebrew I

The language of the Old Testament, with illustrations of its usefulness to a study of the Old Testament. An introduction to the Hebrew language, its basic grammar and vocabulary, and issues related to translation and exegesis of original biblical texts. Modules: (1) First Encounter, (2) Working with Hebrew Texts, and (3) The Dead Sea Scrolls. Credit not allowed with former BRS 9.

Objectives
- Describe the primary language of the Old Testament)
- Discuss critical tools for working with a Hebrew text
- Analyze the Dead Sea Scrolls

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the characteristics of the primary language of the Old Testament
2. Write an essay on critical tools for working with Hebrew texts
3. Evaluate the value of the Dead Sea Scrolls for Old Testament study

Heb 200 Biblical Hebrew II

Hebrew grammar, vocabulary, translation, and application. An introduction to Hebrew grammar, vocabulary, and issues of translation and exegesis of the Old Testament. Modules: (1) Grammar, (2) Working with Biblical Hebrew Texts, and (3) Translation, Exegesis, and Application. Prerequisite: Heb 100. No credit awarded with former BRS 9.

Objectives
- Explain the grammar of biblical Hebrew
- Analyze the structure of a Hebrew text
- Demonstrate the relationship of linguistic study to exegesis

Learning Outcomes
1. Recognize the basic structure of the Hebrew language
2. Judge the value of linguistic study for exegesis
3. Demonstrate how to exegete Hebrew texts

Hum 220 Ethics

The formation of values. The course deals with moral principles or rules of conduct. The quest is concerned primarily with the content of different ethical systems and the foundation upon which each rests. Modules: (1) Introduction to Ethical Systems, (2) Biblical Ethics, (3) Buddhist Ethics, (4) Hindu Ethics, and (5) Islamic Ethics. No credit allowed with Hum 2.

Objectives
- Identify the principles and issues in four ethical systems
- Demonstrate how to evaluate an ethical system
- Compare and contrast Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, and Islamic ethical systems

Learning Outcomes
1. Develop examples of multiple ethical systems
2. Express the significance of ethical questions
3. Compare the theoretical basis for Christian, Muslim, and Eastern ethical systems

Hum 230 Worldview

An overview of various outlooks on life, including the concept of God, human existence, and beyond death. The course proposes to equip the student with a better understanding of the attitudes and beliefs that shape one's view of life. This is done through an introductory module on "Contexts for Creating a Worldview," and then illustrating a variety of outlooks that people have adopted.

Objectives
- Conceptualize basic worldviews that underlie the way people think about themselves, others, the natural world, and ultimate reality
- Contrast the foundational assumptions of different worldviews
- Evaluate different worldviews for what they offer and the evidence for what they propose to deliver

Learning Outcomes
1. Critique different worldviews

2. Analyze the foundations of contrasting worldviews
3. Craft a personal worldview

Hum 240 The Bible and Spirituality

How a spiritual dimension affects one's values and relations. Modules: (1) Discovering Worth through the Loss of Dignity: Reflections from The Torah, (2) Discovering the Difference Commitment Can Make: Reflections from The Prophets, (3) Discovering Character in Non-Conformity: Reflections from The Writings, (4) Discovering Strength through Weakness: Reflections from The Gospels and Acts, and (5) Discovering Encouragement through Unusual Sources: Reflections from The Epistles and The Apocalypse.

Objectives

- Analyze biblical texts that relate to spiritual dimensions
- Evaluate the incongruence between biblical principles and cultural expectations
- Discover how others find comfort in times of despair, loneliness, or loss of freedom

Learning Outcomes

1. Interpret biblical texts that relate to spiritual dimensions
2. Demonstrate an awareness of principles that lead to spiritual wholeness
3. Construct a personal plan to spiritually

Lit 215 Tanakh Literature

Formation of the Old Testament canon, the composition of the Old Testament books, and critical issues relating to Old Testament documents. The course assumes the student has a working understanding of the Old Testament. The task at hand shall be less concerned with content and theological meaning than with matters that enlighten the study of the biblical text. The study introduces issues which the modern student faces when reading the Old Testament. The investigation heightens awareness of the existence of extra-biblical material and alerts the student to the challenges of current Old Testament study. Modules: (1) The Torah, 2) תּוֹרָה, (2) The Nevi'im (Prophets), נְבִיאִים, and (3) The Ketuvim (Writings), כְּתוּבִים. Prerequisites: BRS 121, BRS 123. Credit not allowed if the student has completed BRS 5.

Objectives

- Explain the diversity of literary genre in the Tanakh
- Solve perceived textual problems located in the Tanakh
- Apply literary analysis to interpret the content of the Tanakh

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate understanding of the Bible as a literary composition
2. Analyze the Tanakh, using its literary conventions to isolate particular concerns
3. Formulate essays that combine the elements of the Tanakh into a meaningful whole

Mat 1 The World of Mathematics

Making the connections: how and why mathematics affects the whole world. A basic understanding of the development and use of mathematics and its modern applications. Modules: (1) Mathematics History, (2) Pure in Mathematics, and (3) Applied Mathematics.

Objectives

- Identify major mathematicians and recognize their contributions to the development of mathematics
- Recognize function of mathematics properties, mathematics logic, and advanced mathematics
- Explain the relationship between pure math and applied mathematics

Learning Outcomes

1. Relate the development of mathematics
2. Describe the functions of various branches of mathematics
3. Analyze the application of mathematical principles

Sci 1 Discovering Your World

Plant and animal life forms in their physical environments. The study will integrate a basic overview of botany, zoology, and physical geography to examine how climatic factors shape plant and animal communities as they adapt to different landforms and topography. Modules: (1) Botany: Exploring the Plant World, (2) Zoology: Exploring the Animal World, and (3) The Physical Universe: Our Environment.

Objectives

- Differentiate between algae, fungi, mosses, ferns, gymnosperms (cone-bearing plants), and angiosperms (flowering plants)
- Distinguish between arthropods (crustaceans and insects), fishes (cartilaginous fishes, bony fishes), amphibians (frogs, toads, salamanders, newts), reptiles (lizards, snakes, turtles, crocodilians), birds, and mammals (monotremes, marsupials, placental mammals)
- Analyze the characteristics of the following biomes: desert, rain-forest, deciduous forest, coniferous (boreal forest, grasslands, savannas, tundra

Learning Outcomes

1. Define biological and zoological classifications
2. Use the scientific method
3. Integrate scientific learning in practical living

Soc 200 Family

The formation of a wholesome marriage and a strong family. The key to a healthy marriage and family lies in the foundation on which the marriage rests. The course falls within the limits of the discipline of "sociology" but assumes a Christian perspective. It demonstrates how that perspective can contribute to a sense of contentment and fulfillment. Modules: (1) The Marriage Ideal, (2) The Husband, (3) The Wife, (4) The Children, and (5) Freedom and Fulfillment. Not open to students with credit for BRS 12 or Soc 1.

Objectives

- Summarize the forces that shape the dynamics of family life
- Differentiate the different family roles
- Appraise family member relationships with other people, institutions, and events

Learning Outcomes

1. Formulate a scheme for solving family problems
2. Discriminate between Christian and non-Christian values as they pertain to family life
3. Apply principles that contribute to strengthening relationships

SSc 205 Ancient Near East Culture

Contextualizing the Old Testament. The course deals with archaeology, geography, history, and social life found among the people who dwelt in Mesopotamia, Anatolia, the Levant, and Egypt prior to the coming of Christ. The investigation raises awareness of extra-biblical material and demonstrates the value of the Near East culture to the study of the Old Testament. The course is organized in three modules. Modules: (1) History of the Ancient Near East, (2) Ancient Near East People Groups, and (3) The Social World of Ancient Israel. (May not be taken if credit has been earned for BRS 5 Old Testament Backgrounds.)

Objectives

- Interrelate primary areas to form a portrait of life in the Ancient Near East
- Demonstrate the contribution of Ancient Near East culture to the study of the Old Testament
- Evaluate the contributions of archaeology and extra-biblical written sources

Learning Outcomes

1. Evaluate the influence of Ancient Middle East culture on the life and faith of Israel
2. Theorize as to the influence of Ancient Middle East sources on the Old Testament
3. Apply insights from Ancient Middle East culture to critical issues in the Old Testament

Undergraduate Courses—Religious Studies

(All courses are valued at 3-semester credit)

BRS 100 A Search for Spirituality

A consideration of spirituality. Laid out as a journey, the course explores that inquisitive spirit that causes one to look beyond the physical universe and claim the blessing that spirituality makes available. Beginning with the reasonableness of spirituality, the journey considers the connection of spirituality with the sacred and its actualization. The course is organized in five modules: (1) The Concept of Spirituality, (2) A Sense of the Sacred, (3) Spirituality Actualized, (4) A Spiritual Community, and (5) The Spiritual Life. A Spiritual Inventory is required before beginning the course.

Objectives

- Explain spirituality in terms of faith, reason, and emotion
- Analyze the life of the spiritual person within the spiritual community
- Evaluate how a spiritual person applies ethical principles to all aspects of his/her life

Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize the foundational assumptions and concepts embraced by the term "spirituality"
2. Analyze the relationship of faith and reason
3. Formulate the components of sacred functions

BRS 121 The Hebrew Scriptures

Factual content of the Old Testament. The course introduces the people, places, and events found within the Old Testament, including a minimum of 100 personalities, major geographical sites, stories, events, and prophetic discourses. Moreover, an introduction to the different types of literary genres contained in the Old Testament will be given. Normally, this is the second course in an undergraduate certificate and/or degree program at NationsUniversity. The course is organized in five modules: (1) The Torah, (2) The Former Prophets, (3) The Latter Prophets, (4) The Writings: History, and (5) The Writings: Wisdom and Worship. 3 semester hours of undergraduate credit. No credit allowed with former BRS 1.

Objectives

- Relate people to geographical locations, events, and institutions listed in the Old Testament
- Compare and contrast the different types of literary genre contained in the Old Testament
- Arrange important Old Testament events in chronological order

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and evaluate the significance of Old Testament characters and sites
2. Relate events surrounding Old Testament characters and sites
3. Read the Old Testament with a sense of continuity and integration

BRS 122 The Greek Scriptures

Factual content of the New Testament. The course includes the people, places, and events found in the New Testament, including a minimum of 75 personalities, major geographical sites, stories, events, and discourses. Normally, this is the third course in an undergraduate certificate and/or degree program at NationsUniversity. Modules: (1) The Gospels, (2) Acts of Apostles, (3) The Pauline Epistles, and (4) General Epistles and the Apocalypse. BRS 121 is recommended as a prerequisite. If the student chooses to take BRS 122 before BRS 121, the obvious handicap will be a lack of Old Testament background to the New Testament.

Objectives

- Relate people to geographical locations, events, and institutions found in the New Testament
- Recognize the unique qualities and roles of Jesus Christ
- Demonstrate a sense of continuity and integration in the New Testament compositions

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and evaluate the significance of New Testament characters and sites.
2. Relate events surrounding New Testament characters and sites.
3. Read the New Testament with a sense of continuity and integration

BRS 123 Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures

The story of the Old Testament in view of the activity of God. The study deals with core Old Testament concepts, where God is the central figure. Assuming a unified view of God, the course considers the function of Scripture, ways God works, and how God's activity interfaces with culture. Included is the faith of Israel, essential elements of Old Testament theology, the theological relationship of the Old and New Testaments, and the relevance of the Old Testament to modern life. The three modules of the course are designed to increase the student's knowledge of the basic elements of Old Testament theology and build on the student's general acquaintance with the Scriptures. Moreover, the course further develops the student's critical thinking and writing skills. Modules: (1) Discovery, (2) Themes in Old Testament Theology, and (3) Messianic Themes. BRS 121 and 122 are recommended prerequisites.

Objectives
- Formulate conclusions about the theological content of specific biblical texts
- Appraise the theological relationship of the Old and New Testaments
- Determine the application of Old Testament theology for Christians

Learning Outcomes
1. Summarize fundamental theological themes in the Old Testament
2. Interpret passages that produce theological conclusions about the Old Testament
3. Analyze the significance of theological topics

BRS 124 Theology of the Greek Scriptures

The story of the New Testament in view of the activity of God. The study deals with core New Testament concepts, where God is the initiator of spiritual blessings which he brings to the world in Jesus Christ. While BRS 122 deals with the people, places, and events of the Greek Scriptures, BRS 124 carries the student beyond the particulars of the text and searches for meaning. Modules: (1) The Greek Scriptures and Theology, (2) Core Content, (3) God and Man. BRS 121, 122, and 123 are recommended prerequisites.

Objectives
- Formulate conclusions about the theological content of specific biblical texts
- Appraise the theological relationship of the Old and New Testaments
- Determine the acts of God and man's expected response

Learning Outcomes
1. Summarize fundamental theological themes in the New Testament
2. Interpret passages that produce theological conclusions
3. Apply theological insights in modern day situations

BRS 125 Exegesis of the Hebrew Scriptures

Principles for responsible interpretation of the Old Testament. The primary task of the course is to determine how select texts of scripture should be studied in order to understand the author's original intent. BRS 125 assumes the student has a working knowledge of the nature and content of the Old Testament. Modules: (1) Interpreting Old Testament Literature, (2) Narrative and History, (3) Law, (4) Prophetic Announcements, and (5) Lament, Praise, and Wisdom. Recommended prerequisites: BRS 121 and 123.

Objectives
- Formulate the mechanics of biblical interpretation
- Apply rules of interpretation to biblical literature
- Recognize, evaluate, and use rules of interpretation in various literary genre

Learning Outcomes
1. Relate key factors in interpreting Old Testament literature
2. Analyze the role of literary genre in interpreting the Bible
3. Apply principles of interpretation to biblical passages

BRS 126 Exegesis of the Greek Scriptures

The principles for responsible interpretation of the New Testament. BRS 122 deals with the people, places, and events of the Greek Scriptures and BRS 124 asked, "What do these things mean?" This course in exegesis is concerned with the student's own ability to interpret New Testament texts. The need to do personal interpretation presupposes that spiritual maturity rests upon good interpretation. In turn, the course contributes to a goal of the B.R.S. program by preparing the student to handle the biblical text responsibly. The course moves beyond theory to the techniques of independent study. May not be taken if student has credit for BRS 21. BRS 126 assumes the student has a good understanding of the nature and content of the New Testament. The task here is to select samples of biblical texts and consider how they should be studied and what application can be made for the present day. Modules: (1) Interpreting the New Testament, (2) Matthew and Mark, (3) Acts and the Modern Church, and (4) The Book of Revelation. Recommended Prerequisites: BRS 122 and BRS 124

Objectives
- Recognize the nature of New Testament compositions
- Identify rules, vocabulary, and principles for interpreting New Testament genres
- Apply New Testament texts to contemporary situations

Learning Outcomes
1. Recognize the literary genre of biblical passages
2. Compose an exegesis of a biblical passage using standard rules
3. Demonstrate the relevance of the New Testament for modern application

BRS 216 New Testament Backgrounds I

Problematic concerns related to New Testament studies. This course examines a variety of topics, such as the formation of the New Testament canon, the New Testament compositions, and critical issues relating to the New Testament documents. Modules: (1) The Gospels and Jesus, (2) Acts and the Early Church, and (3) The Epistles and the Apocalypse. No credit available with former BRS 6.

Objectives
- Analyze the uniqueness of the Four Gospels
- Describe the setting of the New Testament documents
- Compare the New Testament compositions

Learning Outcomes
1. Synthesize the accounts in the Four Gospels
2. Demonstrate the connection between New Testament compositions and background settings
3. Evaluate the value of non-biblical sources and critical analysis for New Testament studies

BRS 217 New Testament Backgrounds II

Surrounding environment of the New Testament. The course examines the historical and social setting of the New Testament, the geography of Bible lands, archaeological contributions, and special groups. Modules: (1) Historical Background, (2) The World of the New Testament, and (3) Pharisees, Scribes, and Sadducees. No credit with the former BRS 6.

Objectives
- Describe New Testament events against the history of the Greek and Roman empires
- Evaluate the relationship between the gospel and Roman culture
- Compare Jewish groups and institutions with Jesus and the early church

Learning Objectives
1. Assess New Testament events against the history of the Greek and Roman empires
2. Analyze Roman culture in light of the gospel
3. Compare Jewish groups and institutions

BRS 225 The Minor Prophets

This course introduces students to the period of Jewish history from the Divided Kingdoms to approximately 400 years B.C.E. Students will survey characters and events that were relevant to Israel's history, successes, and failures and assess their implications for modern Christianity. The course is composed of four modules: (1) Introduction, Joel, Jonah, Amos; (2) Hosea, Micah, Nahum; (3) Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Obadiah; and (4) Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi. Credit: 3 semester hours of undergraduate credit.

Objectives
- Identify characters, places, events, issues, and themes noted in each of the twelve minor prophets
- Describe God's interaction with his chosen people and the countries surrounding them
- Assess the implications of God's actions and interactions for modern Christianity (obedience, sacrifice, justice, mercy, wrath, discipline, lovingkindness, etc.)

Learning Objectives
1. Demonstrate an awareness of the content and meaning of the biblical canon
2. Apply the tools of sound exegesis
3. Critique and use information from a wide range of sources

BRS 311 Church History to 1500

The story of the church to the Protestant Reformation. Modules: (1) Without Roman Recognition, (2) From Recognition to the Crusades, and (3) From the Crusades to Reformation. It addresses challenges faced by the church and the church's response to its challenges. Church fathers, apologists, and significant thinkers are introduced, along with theological reflection and the emergence of the Protestant Reformation. No credit with former BRS 11.

Objectives
- Trace the development of the church in various global venues during its first fifteen centuries
- Discuss significant personalities (church fathers, apologists, teachers, political figures, etc.)
- Identify major challenges faced by the church and describe the church's response

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate understanding of personalities and their significance
2. Illustrate the value of the study of church history by examining an historically-developed issue or doctrine
3. Analyze central doctrines and events

BRS 312 Church History since 1500

The story of the church during and after the Protestant and Catholic Reformations. Modules: (1) The Reformation, (2) The Church and the Age of Reason, and (3) The Church in the Age of Revolution. It addresses challenges faced by the church and the church's response to these challenges from 1500 to the present.

Objectives
- Identify major challenges faced by the church and the church's response to its challenges
- Locate reformers, theologians, and secularists who have impacted the church according to time periods
- Evaluate significant thinkers and doctrines advanced throughout the last six centuries

Learning Objectives
1. Trace the general story of the church in the Western Hemisphere from 1500
2. Describe the development of central doctrines
3. Evaluate the effect of Enlightenment

BRS 313 The Church of the First Five Decades

Understanding the early church. The course is an analysis of the sources that reveal the history and nature of the church from its inception in about 29 C.E. to the end of its fifth decade, 79 C.E. It deals with events that surrounded the formation of the church, the essential theological concepts contained in New Testament documents, and responsible application of the content found in the New Testament. Modules treat the church by decade: (1) The 30s, (2) The 40s, (3) The 50s, (4) The 60s, and (5) The 70s.

Objectives

- Analyze the features of a true Christian community
- Explain how disputed issues faced by early Christians were resolved
- Appraise the theological significance of early Christian practices

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop a synthesis of how expectant Christian behavior functions within a secular environment
2. Judge how New Testament teaching and practice are applicable in a modern age
3. Explain the significance of the roles of apostles, elders, deacons, prophets, and teachers, and the implication of these functions beyond the 1st century

BRS 323 Theology in Law, Wisdom, and Psalms

Meaning in Old Testament law, wisdom, and psalms literature. The study deals with principal theological concepts found in three different kinds of Old Testament literature: legal, wisdom, and praise. The course considers essential elements in the covenant God established with Israel at Sinai and the relevance of those elements to modern life. The three modules of the course are designed to increase the student's knowledge of the basic elements of Old Testament theology and build on the student's general acquaintance with the Scriptures, especially those covered in BRS 123. Moreover, the course further develops the student's critical thinking and writing skills. Modules: (1) Theology in Law, (2) Theology in Wisdom, and (3) Theology in Psalms. BRS 121 and 123 are recommended prerequisites. Not open to students with credit for BRS 3.

Objectives

- Formulate conclusions about the relevance of law, wisdom, and praise to the Sinai covenant
- Synthesize theological elements that appear in the Old Testament
- Determine the modern application of theological concepts found in the Hebrew Scriptures

Learning Objectives

1. Summarize theological ideals that relate to the Sinai covenant
2. Determine the theological implications of Old Testament passages
3. Apply theological ideas in modern situations

BRS 324 Theology of the Greek Scriptures II

Outcome of the activity of God. The study deals with core New Testament concepts, where God is the initiator of spiritual blessings which he brings to the world in Jesus Christ. BRS 324 carries the discussion of theological concepts beyond that of BRS 124. Modules: (1) Jesus Christ, (2) The Holy Spirit, the Christian Life, and Ethics, and (3) The Church, the Future, and Scripture. Prerequisite: BRS 124. Credit may not be earned with credit for BRS 4.

Objectives

- Analyze the person and mission of Jesus
- Examine the role of the Holy Spirit
- Demonstrate how ecclesiology and eschatology relate to God's act of redemption

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze various approaches to creating New Testament theology
2. Interpret fundamental theological themes in the New Testament
3. Apply theological insights in modern day situations

BRS 351 Christian Theology I

The use of theological inquiry in constructing a view of reality. BRS 351 and 352 are junior-level courses that move beyond the foundation courses in theology of the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures (BRS 123 and 124). BRS 351 and 352 treat familiar themes but deepen understanding of these themes. They aim at equipping the student to analyze and evaluate modern speculative concepts relative to these themes. Modules: (1) Scripture and Theology, (2) God, and (3) Man. Prerequisite: BRS 126. No credit awarded with former BRS 14.

Objectives

- Detect the coherency between the Old and New Testaments
- Reflect on the nature and acts of God from a biblical point of view
- Consider the nature of man and his spiritual needs

Learning Outcomes

1. Appraise theological inquiry
2. Analyze the human attempt to understand God and his acts
3. Formulate a theological statement that reflects the coherency of biblical content

BRS 352 Christian Theology II

The use of theological inquiry in constructing a view of reality. BRS 352 is an extension of BRS 351. Like its predecessor, BRS 352 treats familiar themes but deepens understanding of these themes. It aims at equipping the student to analyze and evaluate modern speculative concepts relative to these themes. Modules: (1) Christ, (2) Fullness of Life, and (3) The Kingdom of God.Recommended prerequisite: BRS 351.

Objectives
- Interpret the biblical portrayal of Jesus Christ
- Explain the fullness of life that rests in Christ
- Describe the Kingdom of God

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate the relationship between Jesus, the fullness of life, and the Kingdom of God.
2. Evaluate expectant Christian behavior and attitudes against human tendencies to act otherwise.
3. Analyze the Kingdom of God against modern concepts

BRS 401 Comparative Religion: Eastern

A survey of Eastern religious faith systems including history, beliefs, and analysis. Modules: (1) Hinduism, (2) Buddhism, and (3) Other Eastern Religions. Credit will not be awarded if the student has completed BRS 17.

Objectives
- Discover the origins, history, and spread of select Eastern religions
- Detect common themes and contrasting ideals among Eastern religions
- Contrast Eastern religious systems
- Analyze essential tenets of Eastern religions

Learning Outcomes
1. Differentiate between major Far Eastern religions
2. Analyze and synthesize Far Eastern religions
3. Discuss the basic assumptions upon which Far Eastern religions rest

BRS 424 Comparative Religion: Abrahamic Faiths

History, beliefs, and analysis of the three faith systems that claim connection with Abraham. The course is a study in comparisons and contrasts, with attention given to the assumptions that underlie the theoretical structure of each faith and features that make each unique. It is organized in three modules: (1) Judaism, (2) Christianity, and (3) Islam. 3 semester hours of undergraduate credit. Credit will not be awarded if the student has completed BRS 17.

Objectives
- Discover the origins, history, and spread of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Detect common underlying themes of the Abrahamic faith systems
- Analyze essential tenets of the Abrahamic faith systems

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the theological foundations of each Abrahamic faith
2. Evaluate diverse ideologies when formulating a personal worldview
3. Compare and contrast religious thought found in the Abrahamic faiths

BRS 431 Exegesis: Torah and Prophets

Exodus, Joshua, Judges, Isaiah, and Obadiah. The overarching goal for this course is proficiency in applying exegetical and hermeneutical principles with reference to books of The Torah and The Prophets. Primary attention is given to historico-grammatical exegesis and underlying theological and historical significance of select biblical books. The course is intended for upper division B.R.S. students. Modules: (1) Exodus, (2) Joshua and Judges, and (3) Isaiah and Obadiah. Prerequisite: BRS 125 Exegesis of the Hebrew Scriptures. Not open to students with credit for BRS 20.

Objectives
- Analyze a selection of Old Testament books with a view toward establishing their unique contributions to the corpus of scripture
- Employ sound exegetical and hermeneutical principles to analyze the significance of select Old Testament compositions for Israel and for modern Christians
- Demonstrate the impact of culture, politics, religion, and social practices on the life of Israel

Learning Outcomes
1. Interpret the Old Testament in keeping with fundamental guidelines
2. Demonstrate through writing an awareness of critical issues related to Old Testament material
3. Delineate application appropriate to a Christian setting

BRS 432 Exegesis: Job, Ruth, and Chronicles

The texts of Job, Ruth, and Chronicles. The overarching goal for this course is that the student will attain proficiency in applying exegetical and hermeneutical principles and use those skills in the future. Primary attention is given to historico-grammatical exegesis and underlying theological and historical significance of select biblical books. Modules: (1) Job, (2) Ruth, and (3) Chronicles. The course is intended for the upper division B.R.S. student. Prerequisite: BRS 125 Exegesis of the Hebrew Scriptures.

Objectives
- Analyze a selection of Old Testament books with a view toward establishing their unique contributions to the corpus of scripture
- Employ sound exegetical and hermeneutical principles to analyze the significance of select Old Testament compositions for Israel and for modern Christians
- Demonstrate the impact of literary criticism on the study of select biblical compositions

Learning Outcomes
1. Appraise the unique contributions made by the authors of select Old Testament compositions
2. Interpret Old Testament compositions in keeping with fundamental guidelines
3. Demonstrate through writing an awareness of critical issues related to select Old Testament material

BRS 433 New Testament Exegesis I

The text of Acts of Apostles. Primary attention is given to discovering the message of Acts of Apostles through historico-grammatical exegesis. Modules: (1) Acts 1:1-9:31, (2) Acts 9:32-18:22, and (3) Acts 18:23-28:31. Credit not allowed with BRS 21.

Objectives
- Utilize the principles that govern the interpretation of Acts of Apostles
- Relate the personalities, places, and events pertinent to the content of Acts
- Analyze the primary message and underlying themes of Acts

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the content of Acts of Apostles
2. Recognize people, places, and events in Acts
3. Construct a set of guidelines for interpreting Acts and for making modern application

BRS 434 New Testament Exegesis II

The texts of Luke, Romans, Galatians, and the Epistles of John. Primary attention is given to historico-grammatical exegesis. The course is organized in five modules: (1) Luke, (2) Romans and Galatians, and (3) The Epistles of John. 3 undergraduate semester credits. Credit not allowed with BRS 22.

Objectives
- Utilize the principles that govern the interpretation of a Gospel and select New Testament Epistles
- Relate the themes that are pertinent to the Gospel of Luke and select New Testament Epistles
- Decide how New Testament Scriptures apply today

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the content of Luke, Romans, Galatians, and the Epistles of John
2. Recognizing the literary genre of biblical passages, compose an exegesis of a biblical passage using standard rules
3. Demonstrate the relevance of the writings of Paul and John

BRS 435 The Prison Epistles

The New Testament epistles of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. The course analyzes the four epistles commonly called "The Prison Epistles," because they were written by the apostle Paul while he was imprisoned for his faith. Concentration is on introductory matters and exegesis. Modules: (1) Ephesians, (2) Philippians, and (3) Colossians and Philemon.

Objectives
- Explain and analyze issues, themes, events, characters, purposes, occasions for writing, and places in connection with the history of the New Testament church
- Synthesize the teaching in the Prison Epistles
- Assess the value of known background for exegesis and application

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the purpose and theme of each epistle included in the course
2. Discuss the teaching and intended application of the letters for believers today
3. Demonstrate the connection between the Prison Epistles

BRS 443 Foundations of Ministry

Insights into Christian ministry. The course analyzes of the concept and forms of ministry within the context of the New Testament against its Jewish background and post-apostolic activity. The study offers critical analysis for ministry in today's world, identifies models of ministry from the Scriptures, explains the purpose and mission of the church and the dynamics of church life, presents the biblical basis of the priesthood of believers in the development of people toward Christian maturity and ministry, and notes how the church comprises the people of God--gifted, divers, commissioned, and Christ-centers. Modules: (1) Background to Christian Ministry, (2) Ministry in the New Testament: Overview, (3) Ministry in the New Testament: Detail, (4) Ministry in the Ante-Nicean Church, and (5) Theory and Practice of Modern Ministry. No credit allowed with BRS 23.

Objectives
- Compare leadership organization found in the Old Testament, ancient times, and Jewish institutions
- Analyze the concept of ministry by function, organization, roles, and purpose
- Evaluate the development of ministry in the Ante-Nicean period of church history

Learning Outcomes
1. Describe how different manifestations of ministry developed in the early church
2. Identify New Testament principles that define ministry for a modern church
3. Explain how the purpose and mission of the church are connected to the dynamics of church life

BRS 444 Worship

The awe of praise. Explores the concept of worship and introduces the student to the awesome activity of offering honor to God. No matter how much one may know of the Bible's content or develop the skills of ministry, unless the spiritual dimensions of awe and praise are present, one's energies may be spent in vain. BRS 444 Worship assumes the student has a good understanding of the nature and content of the New Testament. The task is to capture the spirit of worship and observe its place in the life of the redeemed. The leading question is, What does God ask in terms of adoration in appreciation of his gracious acts? Modules: (1) Worship in the Old Testament, (2) Worship in the Early Church, (3) Worship as Adoration, (4) The Essence of Worship, and (5) Implementation. Succeeds the former BRS 24; therefore, double credit is not allowed.

Objectives
- Describe the foundation for true worship as articulated in the Bible and compare the practice of worship in the Old Testament with that of the early church
- Evaluate the influences of theology and history on worship, demonstrating the relationship between praise, tradition, ethics, and evangelism
- Apply worship ideals in a contemporary situation

Learning Outcomes
1. Analyze Christian worship from a biblical perspective
2. Evaluate the impact of culture and historical theology on Christian worship
3. Create a worship service that reflects New Testament concepts

BRS 450 The Pastoral Ministry

This course introduces undergraduate students to the foundations of pastoral leadership in the context of Christian ministry. The pastoral ministry can be complex depending on the size of the congregation and ministry staff. However, the three key elements included in this course are deemed essential to effective Christian ministry and pastoral leadership. This course is divided into three modules. Module 1 discusses the scriptural foundation of discipleship. Module 2 addresses basic concepts of pastoral care and provides the student with a broad range of topics and scriptures needed. Module 3 discusses the tasks of leading a growing church. In all modules, students will assess their current setting, personal views, and practical knowledge. (Prerequisite: BRS 443 Foundations of Ministry).

Objectives
- Understand the fundamental principles of discipleship from evangelism to assimilation
- Effectively communicate biblical concepts to provide pastoral care to members
- Evaluate personal and community factors inhibiting and contributing to effective Christian ministry
- Develop a personal action plan for improving knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to effectively lead a church or ministry

Learning Outcomes
1. Develop Christians' abilities to make life decisions through all stages of discipleship
2. Provide effective Christian leadership to congregations and individual members
3. Assess personal, congregational, and community factors related to Christian ministry and spiritual growth.

Graduate Courses

(All courses are valued at 3-semester credit)

- **Foundations/Spirituality (MRS 622, 633)**
- **General Foundations (M 1–M 4)**
- **Research Foundations (M 11, M 17)**
- **Ministry (M 12–M 606)**
- **Biblical Backgrounds (MRS 100s)**
- **The Hebrew Scriptures (MRS 200s)**
- **The Greek Scriptures (MRS 300s)**
- **Church History (MRS 400s)**
- **Theology (MRS 500s)**
- **Comparative Religion (MRS 700s)**
- **Final Project Courses (MFI 5, M 14)**
- **Doctor of Ministry (DMIN 900s)**

M 1 Critical Introduction to the Old Testament

The content of the Old Testament and pertinent issues in Old Testament studies. The course lays the foundation for an in-depth study of the Old Testament by exposing the student to the people, places, events, and ideas that contribute to its makeup. Modules: (1) The Torah, (2) The Prophets, and (3) The Writings. No credit with discontinued MRS 001. Recommended prerequisite: MRS 622 *A Search for Spirituality or* MRS 622E *Encountering Biblical Spirituality*.

Objectives

- Identify leading characters and events within a sequential timeline
- Analyze the assumptions underlying critical study of human encounters with the Bible
- Explore defensible decisions regarding critical issues such as documentary hypothesis, creation and flood, dating the exodus

Learning Outcomes

1. Compare Old Testament characters and sites
2. Analyze the Old Testament with a sense of continuity and integration
3. Demonstrate through an essay a critical analysis of how the Old Testament may function in today's world

M 2 Critical Introduction to the New Testament

The New Testament in context. The course lays the foundation for in-depth study of the New Testament by surveying its contents, identifying pertinent issues in New Testament studies, and analyzing the relevance of the New Testament in a modern world. Emphasis is on original source material. Modules: (1) Biblical Studies, the Gospels and Acts, (2) The Epistles and The Apocalypse, and (3) Message, Response, and Interpretation. No credit with discontinued MRS 006. Recommended prerequisite: M 1.

Objectives

- Identify characters, issues, events, places, and themes noted in the New Testament
- Judge underlying assumptions in the critical study of the New Testament
- Analyze New Testament content for application to contemporary life

Learning Outcomes

1. Relate New Testament characters and sites
2. Analyze the New Testament with a sense of continuity and integration
3. Demonstrate through an essay a critical analysis of how the New Testament may function in today's world

M 3 Biblical Theology

A synopsis of biblical themes and teaching. The study deals with core Old and New Testament concepts, where God is the center and the initiator of spiritual blessings, which he brings to the world in Jesus Christ. It shall be assumed that the student is acquainted with the general content of both the Old Testament and the New Testament. The task here is to inquire of the meaning of this factual knowledge. Modules: (1) Theological Inquiry, (2) The Divine Encounter, and (3) Salvation, the Church, and Last Things. No credit with discontinued MRS 004 and 009 or a former course with the name Systematic Theology. Prerequisites: M 1 and 2.

Objectives

- Define the processes of biblical theology
- Investigate topics such as the nature of God, humanity, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, the kingdom of God, the church, and end times
- Develop an intellectual understanding of the Christian faith and deepen spiritual awareness

Learning Outcomes

1. Use theological tools
2. Discuss major theological themes
3. Demonstrate awareness of the Christian faith

M 4 Biblical Hermeneutics

Exegesis and the skill of applying the message of biblical scripture. The course introduces techniques for studying the Old and New Testaments in view of application to current life. It assumes the student has a working knowledge of the nature and content of the Old and New Testaments. The primary task is to determine how select texts of scripture should be studied to understand the author's original intent. Modules: (1) The Art of Interpretation, (2) Interpreting

the Hebrew Scriptures, and (3) Interpreting the Greek Scriptures. Prerequisites: M 1 and 2.

Objectives
- Analyze texts by applying rules of exegesis
- Apply appropriate principles, tools, and methods to interpret a biblical passage
- Construct principles and tools for interpreting biblical passages to modern situations

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain the theoretical bases of various literary genres and illustrate them
2. Recognize the literary genre of biblical passages
3. Demonstrate exegetical skills for achieving the intended meaning of biblical scripture and modern application

M 11 Critical Analysis in Biblical Studies

Applying critical thinking in the study of the biblical text. The course is a "capstone" type course in that it aims to measure the student's ability to demonstrate critical thinking with respect to biblical content and theology. It is a "bridge" to the M.T.S. and M.Div. programs. The course consists of discussion of the idea behind critical analysis and discourse on predispositions that can hinder objectivity when undergoing biblical studies. Finally, the course considers the application of ancient biblical texts to today's world. Modules: (1) A Critical Thinking Approach to Religion, (2) Perspectives on the Authority of Scripture, (3) Authority and Tradition, (4) Text and Message, and (5) Theology and the Modern World. Prerequisites: MRS 622/622E, M 1, 2, 3, and 4. This is the first recommended course for students pursuing a Master of Divinity.

Objectives
- Discover the techniques of analysis
- Demonstrate how traditional predispositions filter interpretations of biblical texts
- Synthesize the content of the foundation courses

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate how critical analysis functions in biblical studies
2. Analyze the Gospels in view of their nature and application
3. Construct a personal theology

M 12 Ministry

An historical, biblical, and analytical survey of the history of ministry, with practical application. The course examines various biblical and non-biblical references which deal with the concept of ministry/leadership among Jews and Christians. From this foundation, the student is guided in application through live ministry. Modules: (1) Ministry within a Biblical Context, (2) Ministry within an Historical Context, and (3) Ministry within a Contemporary Context. Following completion of the third exam, the student shall undertake a three-month long supervised field project, which shall culminate in a written report. The course may be taken if the student completed BRS 23, but not if the student has taken discontinued M 603. This course is a *Supervised Ministry Experience*. The student is responsible for finding a local supervisor. Open only to M.Div. students.

Objectives
- Explain the function, organization, roles, and purpose of ministry from contextual and biblical perspectives
- Examine the development of ministry in the Ante-Nicean period of church history
- Relate the mission of the church and the dynamics of church life to modern situations

Learning Outcomes
1. Discuss the form and function of ministry as it appears in the early church
2. Critique the emerging forms of ministry in the post-apostolic church
3. Apply ministry ideals and forms in the modern age

M 13 Worship

The awe of praise. The course cultivates an awareness of worship and offers training in how to create positive worship experiences. This advanced course assumes the student has a good understanding of the nature and content of the New Testament. Modules: (1) Worship from a Biblical Perspective, (2) Christian Worship in Historical Development, and (3) Implementing Worship in the Modern Church. This course is a Supervised Ministry Experience. The student is responsible for finding a local supervisor. Open only to M.Div. students.

Objectives
- Appraise the nature and practice of worship in the Old Testament and in the early church
- Recognize the influences of theology, biblical backgrounds, and history on worship
- Synthesize the relationship between praise, tradition, ethics, and evangelism

Learning Outcomes
1. Describe Christian worship as it appears in the New Testament
2. Critique underlying assumptions relative to Christian worship
3. Plan and execute a worship service that reflects New Testament concepts

M 14 M.Div. Final Project

Application of theology and ministry in the real world. M 14 M.Div. Final Project is the second of two concluding courses in the Master of Divinity program. Prior to beginning the M 14 project, students must complete the project proposal as part of the first concluding course, MFI 5 Church and Society. This course consists of a project that demonstrates your understanding of the interchange between the theological and practical elements of ministry. M 14 begins where MFI 5 ended and requires the student to engage in three separate tasks: implementation, assessment, and writing. The syllabus outlines three actions described in three modules: (1) Implementation, (2) Evaluation, and (3) Concluding Paper. 3 graduate semester credits. This course is a *Supervised Ministry Experience*. The student is responsible for finding a local supervisor. Prerequisites: Open only to M.Div. students who have completed MFI 5.

Objectives

- Implement a ministry project based on an identified need and prepared ministry plan
- Evaluate the processes and outcomes of the ministry project
- Use self-evaluation to provide insights into future ministry
- Write a comprehensive concluding paper that details the project from planning to evaluation

Learning Outcomes

1. Implement and manage a service project plan that involves multiple people
2. Evaluate the processes and outcome for both the project and the student
3. Write a project report using a Concluding Paper Template

M 15 Communicating the Gospel

Connecting truths inherent within biblical scripture with a contemporary audience in a manner that is consistent with the intent of scripture. Modules: (1) The Science and Art of Communicating the Gospel, (2) Preparation, and (3) Presentation. The first module provides a theoretical foundation for a variety of means appropriate for communicating the gospel. Module 2 works on crafting formal presentations. Module 3 is given to field experience. Credit may be applied to the M.Div. degree only.

Objectives

- Examine the theoretical foundations of religious communication
- Utilize basic principles relating to effective oral presentation of religious communication
- Engage in planned communication relative to spiritual issues

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the theoretical foundations of religious communication
2. Develop a planned religious message suited to a modern audience
3. Communicate a religious message effectively

M 16 Family Counsel

The formation of a wholesome marriage and a strong family. The key to a healthy marriage and contented family lies in the foundation on which the marriage rests. Since a spiritual relationship with God is the only basis for meaning, the marriage must reflect the ideals God established for marriage and family life. The course assumes a Christian perspective and demonstrates how that perspective can contribute to a sense of contentment and fulfillment. Modules: (1) The Marriage Ideal, (2) Husband and Wife, (3) Children, Freedom, and Fulfillment. Open to M.Div. students only.

Objectives

- Lay the foundation for healthy family life through an evaluation of Christian and secular family values
- Differentiate the different family roles
- Recognize the need for balance between freedom and responsible Christian behavior

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the foundation blocks for a good marriage
2. Appreciation principles involved in family building
3. Possess the skill to assist others to have a healthy family

M 17 Research and Writing

A venture in research and writing on a religious topic. The research and writing course allows a student to explore topics of personal interest. The research part of the course provides the student an opportunity to explore a single topic in some depth. The writing assignment develops the student's skill in making a coherent presentation of research findings. Research shall focus on an issue or problem related to religion. It shall be serious, exacting, and based on credible sources and conducted in keeping with accepted standards of data gathering and reporting. The project will require access to resources that provide essential information demanded by the endeavor. Methodology, assumptions, evidence, and conclusions shall be reported in a formal paper of 20 double-spaced typewritten (computer generated) pages. Prerequisites: MRS 622, M 1, 2, 3, and 4. This course is the first course required of all M.T.S. students upon formal admission. M.Div. students without an equivalent course in another graduate degree must take M 17 in the first nine hours.

Objectives
- Refine research techniques
- Analyze the components of a research topic and the evidence to support a conclusion
- Synthesize primary and secondary sources

Learning Outcomes
1. Evaluate the usefulness of data in view of the objectives of research
2. Solve problems by applying acquired data through research methodology
3. Present research findings in a coherent original written presentation

M 20 Introduction to Pastoral Care

This course introduces Master of Divinity students to the foundations of pastoral care. Ministers, whether paid professional or laity, encounter struggling individuals regularly. This course seeks to provide ministry students with a sufficient understanding of their role as pastoral care providers regardless of the circumstances. Modules: (1) Foundations of Pastoral Care, (2) Effective Communication in Pastoral Context, and (3) Supervised Ministry Experience. Prerequisites: Admission into the Master of Divinity program and completion of all foundation courses. A student must secure a supervisor for this course. (3 Credits)

Objectives
- Understand the scriptural foundations of pastoral care
- Identify key scriptures related to a variety of topics
- Effectively listen and communicate in a variety of setting
- Develop a personal theology of pastoral care

Learning Outcomes

1. Provide Christian leadership in times of crisis.
2. Explain the benefits of a spiritual worldview to others.
3. Demonstrate the biblical model for pastoral care in daily life.

Prerequisites. Admission into the Master of Divinity program and completion of all foundation courses.

M 606 Missions

A field-based course that encompasses planning, execution, and evaluation of mission activity. Designed for the Master of Divinity student, the course can be adapted to fit (1) the formation or reformation of a local church missions committee, (2) the development of a new church, or (3) a projected individual or team mission effort. Modules: (1) The Christian and the World, (2) Mission Strategies, and (3) Undertaking Missions. Following completion of the third exam, the student shall undertake a project that is designed to bring the course to a synthesis.

Objectives
- Evaluate the use of dialogue and service in missions
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of cross-cultural evangelism
- Analyze the relationship between evangelism, education, worship, and counseling

Learning Outcomes
1. Discuss the concept of missions as it appears in the early church
2. Critique the emerging forms of missions in the post-apostolic church
3. Apply mission ideals and forms in the modern age

MFI 5 Church and Society

Identifying the challenges of ministry within contemporary culture. MFI 5 is the first of two concluding courses, followed by M 14 M.Div. Final Project, in the Master of Divinity program. The work in the two courses will culminate in a single Final Project Paper. Through the use of live personal interview techniques, the course aims at extracting specific information that can yield useful analysis and learning about contemporary ministry. The study is area-specific and relates to the way the modern church responds to its environment. The three modules of the course are organized into three activity blocks. These are titled (1) General Ministry, (2) Ministry and Society, and (3) Ministry Project Questions. Each block includes three independent topics and consists of research preparation, research activity, and a research summary. Each activity block requires 20 interviews; thus 60 interviews will be conducted for the completion of the course. Each block is a different topic but uses the same methodology. At the end of the course, the student must prepare a project proposal to be implemented in M 14 M.Div. Final Project.
Open only to M.Div. students who have completed all coursework and who have passed a final comprehensive examination. 3 credits: may apply only toward completion of the M.Div. degree.

Objectives
- Determine the environment (nature and form) of your interviewees' church life
- Identify the perceptions of your interviewees on the specific topics
- Identify how the interviews' perceptions are influenced by or are a product of their society
- Compare your findings with scripture to determine discrepancies, needs, and insights for ministry focus
- Develop recommendations for ministry in which you use the findings of your research to create a better church environment

- Develop a project proposal for a ministry project to be implemented in M 14 M.Div. Project. M 14 M.Div. Project will begin with implementation of the project you propose at the end of this course

Learning Outcomes

1. Effectively use research techniques to develop "best practices" in ministry
2. Demonstrate competency in developing and evaluating interpersonal relationships
3. Evaluate and communicate complex ideas through the use of oral and written communication

MRS 101 The Ancient Near East

An investigation into the world of the Ancient Near East. The course focuses on the economic, geographical, literary, political, religious, and social environment in which the events recorded in the Old Testament transpired. Included is a synopsis of early civilizations: Sumerian, Akkadian, Amorite, Assyrian, Babylonian, Egyptian, Hittite, Hurrian, Israelite, Kassite, and Persian. Modules: (1) Mesopotamia, (2) Beyond Mesopotamia, and (3) Palestine and Israel.

Objectives

- Recognize major personalities and events within a geographical and historical framework
- Analyze ancient sources and the role of archaeology in understanding the history of the Ancient Near East
- Compare Ancient Near Eastern history with the biblical record

Learning Outcomes

1. Compare ancient Near Eastern societies
2. Judge the value of ancient Near Eastern history and culture to biblical study
3. Demonstrate in writing a critical analysis of ancient Near Eastern religion

MRS 140 New Testament Environment

The political, religious, and social circumstances that surrounded the events described in the New Testament. Modules: (1) Early Christian Backgrounds, with units on the political and social world, the religious world, and philosophy and Christianity, (2) Jewish Backgrounds of the New Testament, with units on crisis and response in Intertestamental Judaism, Judaism, and religious thought in Intertestamental Judaism, and (3) Archaeology and the New Testament, with units on the setting, Herod and the ministry of Jesus, and archaeology and the church.

Objectives

- Show cultural aspects of the ancient Greco-Roman world that benefit New Testament studies
- Recognize the significance of the history and thought of Judaism for New Testament studies
- Apply insights gained from archaeological finds to the study of the New Testament

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze the ancient Greco-Roman and Jewish world in relation to Christianity
2. Synthesize archaeological findings with the New Testament considering limits and contributions of the science of archaeology
3. Using the New Testament environment as a prototype, construct principles along with a rational for determining how the tenets of the gospel should interact with the modern environment

MRS 200 The Torah

Interpretation and application of the texts of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. The course is given to historical-grammatical exegesis but includes an added element related to fitting application in a modern setting. Modules: Introduction to The Torah and (1) Genesis, (2) Exodus, (3) Leviticus, (4) Numbers, and (5) Deuteronomy.

Objectives

- Analyze the relationship between the biblical text and cultural, political, religious, and social contexts
- Formulate a paradigm for interpreting and applying The Torah
- Judge the consistency with which conclusions are drawn from methodology commonly used to interpret and apply The Torah
- Evaluate the Torah in relation to the New Testament.

Learning Outcomes

1. Interpret the books of The Torah
2. Evaluate The Torah in relation to the New Testament
3. Differentiate the general content and major themes in the books of The Torah

MRS 226 Biblical Hebrew

The language of the Old Testament, with illustrations of its usefulness to a study of the Old Testament. An introduction to the Hebrew language, its grammar and vocabulary, and issues of translation and exegesis related to working with original biblical texts of the Old Testament. Modules: (1) First Encounter, (2) Grammar, and (3) The Hebrew Scriptures and Modernity. Credit not allowed with undergraduate BRS 9/Heb 100, 200.

Objectives

- Explain the grammar and structure of biblical Hebrew
- Discuss critical tools for working with a Hebrew text
- Demonstrate the relationship of linguistic study to exegesis

Learning Outcomes
1. Recognize basic structure and vocabulary of the Hebrew language
2. Write a well-organized paper on critical tools for working with Hebrew texts
3. Judge the value of linguistic study for exegesis

MRS 240 The Writings

Interpretation and application of the Writings: Ruth, Lamentations, the Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Daniel. The course is given to historical-grammatical exegesis but includes an added element related to fitting application in a modern setting. Modules: (1) The Five Scrolls, (2) Job, Psalms, and Proverbs, and (3) Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Daniel.

Objectives
- Distinguish the contents of each composition included in The Writings
- Synthesize The Writings as to purpose and themes
- Interpret the books of The Writings
- Judge the value of The Writings for Christian use

Learning Outcomes
1. Describe the general contents of each composition included in The Writings
2. Synthesize the purposes and themes of individual compositions within The Writings
3. Evaluate The Writings for Christian use

MRS 250 The Prophets

Interpretation and application of the Former and Latter Prophets. The course is given to historical-grammatical exegesis but includes an added element related to fitting application in a modern setting. Modules: (1) The Former Prophets, (2) Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, and (3) The Book of the Twelve.

Objectives
- Analyze Israel's condition in relation to the covenant with Yahweh and cultural, political, religious, and social contexts
- Distinguish the contents of each composition included in The Prophets
- Judge the value of The Prophets for Christian use

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate how cultural, political, and social backgrounds affect the study of The Prophets
2. Determine how messages of The Prophets apply today
3. Interpret any of the books belonging to the Former or Latter Prophets

MRS 306 The Gospel of John

That you may have life. A study of the Fourth Gospel, including purpose, interpretation, authorship, literary composition, and general content. The course is organized in three modules, which are further divided into three units each. Modules: (1) Introduction to the Gospel of John, (2) John 1-10, and (3) John 11-21.

Objectives
- Describe critical matters that pertain to the Fourth Gospel
- Explain the text of the Fourth Gospel and its theological message
- Demonstrate how the message the Fourth Gospel applies today

Learning Outcomes
1. Use principles of exegesis to interpret the text of John
2. Analyze key theological concepts of the Gospel
3. Apply the message of the Fourth Gospel to a modern audience

MRS 319 Hebrews, James, Peter, and Jude

The New Testament epistles of Hebrews, James, Peter, and Jude, with concentration on exegesis and application. Modules: (1) Hebrews, (2) James and Jude, and (3) 1 and 2 Peter.

Objectives
- Discuss the intended audience, purpose of writing, and setting for each composition
- Recognize key theological concepts of the compositions and how the writer applied them
- Analyze the meaning of each literary work for both original and later audiences

Learning Outcomes
1. Describe the key theological concepts of specific biblical compositions
2. Evaluate Christian behavior in view of biblical precedent
3. Demonstrate contemporary applicability of specific biblical compositions

MRS 320 The Apocalypse

The Book of Revelation, with concentration on introductory matters and exegesis. The student shall be able to apply the content of Revelation to personal and church situations where there is a need to strengthen faith. Modules: (1) Interpreting the Apocalypse, (2) Revelation 1-3, and (3) Revelation 4-22.

Objectives
- Identify the audience, intent of writing, nature of the genre, and overall message of the Book of Revelation
- Analyze the historical and present meaning of the letters to the seven churches
- Analyze the meaning of the apocalyptic visions in the body of Revelation

Learning Outcomes
1. Evaluate various modern approaches used to interpret The Apocalypse
2. Formulate a viable construct for interpreting The Apocalypse in view of its literary genre and connectivity to other biblical Scripture
3. Apply the Book of Revelation to modern situations by applying hermeneutical principles and tools

MRS 323 Pauline Epistles I

The New Testament epistles of Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon, with concentration on introductory matters and exegesis. Modules: (1) Romans and Galatians, (2) Ephesians, and (3) Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

Objectives
- Summarize the audience, occasion, purpose of writing, and setting for each church addressed
- Relate key theological concepts of each epistle and show how the writer applied them to life situations
- Analyzethe epistles in view of their meaning for contemporary believers

Learning Outcomes
1. Synthesize information from epistles that have a different purpose and audience
2. Describe and evaluate modern issues related to select Pauline epistles
3. Apply the content of the Pauline Epistles to modern life

MRS 324 Pauline Epistles II

A study of the New Testament epistles of 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Corinthians, 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus, with attention to introductory matters, exegesis, and application. Modules: (1) The Thessalonian Correspondence, (2) The Corinthians Correspondence, and (3) The Pastoral Epistles.

Objectives
- Analyze the historical setting for each epistle
- Exegete each epistle within its historical setting
- Construct an appropriate rubric for applying the content of the epistles

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate an awareness of the historical setting and content of seven Pauline epistles
2. Use sound exegetical principles to draw the intended message from a New Testament epistle
3. Develop and use guidelines for interpreting problematic passages

MRS 325 Acts of Apostles

An introduction to the study of Acts of Apostles, with attention given to exegesis and background material. Module 1 concentrates on exegesis. Module 2 is given literary features in view of other relevant ancient compositions. Module 3 examines Palestinian and Diaspora settings for Acts and addresses culture, Roman policy, geography, names, synagogues, population personalities, proselytism, and Jewish diaspora communities. Credit may not be earned in this course if the student has taken its predecessor—MRS 315.

Objectives
- Analyze the text of Acts of Apostles with respect to purpose, structure, content, issues, and themes
- Recognize the significance of the literary and cultural background of Acts
- Evaluate Acts for modern application

Learning Outcomes
1. Describe and evaluate the life of the early church
2. Formulate a model for the church in the modern age
3. Predict the impact of cultural and political forces on the church under various circumstances

MRS 326 Koiné Greek

The language of the New Testament, with illustrations of its usefulness to study of the New Testament. This course includes an introduction to the Greek language, its basic grammar and vocabulary, and issues of translation and exegesis related to working with original biblical texts of the New Testament. Modules: (1) The System, (2) Grammar, and (3) Sources, Translation, Exegesis, and Application. May not be taken if the student has credit for BRS 8 or MRS 321.

Objectives
- Introduce the structure of Koiné Greek
- Explain Greek grammar
- Demonstrate the relationship of linguistic study and exegesis

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate acquaintance with Greek grammar
2. Describe the tasks of translation and exegesis
3. Synthesize the acts of translating, exegeting, and applying the Greek New Testament

MRS 411 The Reformation

The Protestant Reformation and the Catholic response: causes, events, distinctive theology, and personalities. Modules: (1) Historical Survey, (2) Insights into the Reformation, and (3) Consequences of the Reformation. Recommended prerequisites: MRS 540, MRS 541, MRS 440.

Objectives
- Analyze the factors that led to the Protestant Reformation
- Recognize distinctive marks of the various reform movements
- Appraise the effect of the Protestant Reformation

Learning Outcomes
1. Discern causes relative to the development of the Reformation
2. Judge the impact of the Reformation
3. Formulate a plan for handling Scripture amid divergent historical interpretations and practices

MRS 417 Christianity in Africa

Major forms of Christianity on the African continent. An historical and analytical survey of the history of Christianity in Africa, including missionary endeavor and the indigenous form of Christianity that arose in Africa following the Colonial Period. Modules: (1) Christianity in North Africa, (2) Christianity in Sub-Sahara Africa, and (3) The Contemporary Scene.

Objectives
- Examine the spread of Christianity in Africa
- Identify significant personalities in African church history
- Recognize the character of African Christianity

Learning Outcomes
1. Relate the history of Christianity in Africa
2. Compare present and past forms of Christianity in Africa
3. Describe the state of African Christianity

MRS 418 Christianity in Asia

A review of Christianity in Asia and its subsequent history. The course addresses the history, theological underpinnings, and attitudes that have shaped the church in the East from inception to the present and concludes with observations regarding future evangelistic activity. The Modules: (1) Christianity in Asia to 1500, (2) Christianity in Asia 1500-1900, and (3) Christianity in Asia Since 1900.

Objectives
- Identify and evaluate theological issues in early Christian missions in the East
- Analyze the political, social, and religious environment in Asian missions
- Discuss issues in modern Asian missions

Learning Outcomes
1. Evaluate theological issues in Asian missions
2. Analyze the political, social, and religious environments that affect Asian missions
3. Synthesize New Testament teaching with a viable mission strategy for Asia

MRS 419 North American Religious History

Christianity in North America. An overview of religion on the North American continent from the Native American period to the present. Modules: (1) Beginning to the Mid-19th Century, (2) The Mid-19th Century to the Present, (3) Protestantism and Catholicism in North America.

Objectives
- Relate the story of Christianity in North America
- Identify characters, issues, events, and theological concepts found in the history of Christianity in North America
- Contrast the current state of Christianity in Canada, the United States, and Central America

Learning Outcomes
1. Evaluate currents in North American Christianity
2. Analyze the political, social, and religious environments that affect North American church history
3. Synthesize New Testament teaching with a viable mission strategy for North America

MRS 420 Latin American Religious History

Native religion, Christian endeavor, and the current religious scene in South America. Modules: (1) Native Religion in Latin America, (2) The Changing Face of the Church in Latin America, and (3) Protestants, Pentecostals, and Catholic Renewal.

Objectives
- Relate the story of Christianity in Latin America
- Identify characters, issues, events, and theological concepts found in the history of Christianity in Latin America
- Contrast the current state of Christianity in Latin America

Learning Outcomes
1. Evaluate currents in Latin American Christianity
2. Analyze the political, social, and religious environments that affect Latin American church history
3. Synthesize New Testament teaching with a viable mission strategy for Latin America

MRS 440 Early and Medieval Church History

The church during its first fifteen centuries. Modules: (1) The First Six Centuries, (2) The Medieval Church, and (3) The Crusades and Intellectual Religious History. Recommended prerequisites: MRS 540, MRS 541.

Objectives
- Analyze the force of significant thinkers, monastic culture, and Scholasticism
- Explain issues faced by the church during its first fifteen centuries and the results
- Summarize the major crusades

Learning Outcomes
1. Explain changes in belief and practice in the church through the Middle Ages

2. Construct intellectual developments across the Middle Ages
3. Evaluate the goals and results of the Crusades

MRS 491 Independent Study in the Stone-Campbell Movement

The independent study in the Stone-Campbell Movement. This course is designed to provide students interested in the Stone-Campbell Movement with the opportunity to do personalized, in-depth study on several important points in the movement.

This course is further designed to assist students seeking U.S. Military Chaplaincy endorsement with the Chaplaincy Endorsement Commission who need a course on the Stone-Campbell Movement. Completion of this course does not guarantee endorsement but will provide, as part of the M.Div. program, the necessary coursework to apply for endorsement. The final decision to endorse a candidate is completely within the purview of the Chaplaincy Endorsement Commission (www.cec-chap.org).

The independent study course is structured around five key elements of the Stone-Campbell Movement: (1) key personalities, (2) key theological perspectives, (3) hermeneutical principle, (4) practical concerns, and (5) contemporary challenges to the historical movement. In each of these five elements, the student will do independent research following the guidelines below. Five papers representing these five elements will be submitted throughout the duration of the course. Each paper will represent 20% of the course grade. Credit: 3 graduate credits. Prerequisites: Open to M.Div. students only.

Objectives

- Understand the historical roots of the Stone-Campbell Movement
- Evaluate the contribution of key figures in the Stone-Campbell Movement
- Critically assess the theological and practical decisions made from its inception to the present
- Defend and apply the Stone-Campbell Movement's philosophies to modern church challenges

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to justify the social-historical-grammatical approach to biblical interpretation
2. Students will be able to evaluate the philosophical assumptions underlying interpretive variations in major biblical texts
3. Students will be able to appraise opposing arguments regarding the existence and implications of spirituality
4. Students will be able to summarize the history, philosophies, and doctrines of major world religions

MRS 520 Roman Catholic Theology

Characteristics of the Roman Catholic Church. The course addresses the Catholic view of authoritative sources and critical theological themes such as God, Jesus, revelation, church, liturgy, morality, and spirituality.

Objectives

- Explain the Catholic approach to sources of authority
- Identify distinguishing marks of Roman Catholicism
- Discuss critical issues in Catholic theology

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an awareness of Catholic teaching
2. Analyze assumptions that underlie Catholic theology
3. Evaluate Catholic theology in relation to a single source—the New Testament

MRS 530 Old Testament Theology

Basic theological concepts found in the Old Testament. Beginning with God as the center, the course introduces the student to a unified view of God, scripture, and God's work. The person and activity of Yahweh as revealed to Israel provides the focus of attention. The course also deals with how God's activity interfaces with culture. Modules: (1) Introduction to Old Testament Theology, (2) The Life and Faith of Israel, and (3) Old Testament Theology: Israel's Gospel.

Objectives

- Describe the methodology of Old Testament theology as it relates to interpreting Scripture in a contemporary context
- Examine theological concepts that appear in the Old Testament
- Appraise the Old Testament's diverse theological contours with respect to unity

Learning Outcomes

1. Interpret Old Testament theological concepts
2. Formulate a coherent, cohesive theology of the Old Testament
3. Judge the usefulness of Old Testament theology for the present age

MRS 540 The Church to 120 C.E.

Understanding the early church. An analysis of the sources that reveal the history and nature of the church from its inception in about 29 C.E. to the end of its ninth decade, 119 C.E. The course focuses on the history of the church, the events that surrounded its formation, theological concepts and application of the content found in New Testament documents. Modules: (1) The Church from 29-59, (2) The Church from 60-89, and (3) The Church from 90-119.

Objectives
- Relate the story of the church through succeeding decades from 29-120 C.E.
- Evaluate the impact of the political, social, and religious environment on the early church
- Analyze challenges to the church as it spread across the Roman world

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the church from 29-120 C.E.
2. Judge the role of the New Testament in formulating church doctrine and practice
3. Formulate a position paper that describes how underlying assumptions influence application of the New Testament to modern church life

MRS 541 The Church from 120-209

Understanding the early church from 120 to 209. An analysis of the sources that reveal the history and nature of the church during the ninety year period from 120 through the year 209. The course presents the political, social, and religious environment, the general condition of the church, and theological positions. Modules: (1) The Church from 120-149, (2) The Church from 150-179, and (3) The Church from 180-209. Prerequisite: MRS 540.

Objectives
- Describe the political, social, and religious environment in the Roman Empire
- Summarize the issues that impacted the church and relate these to appropriate personalities
- Recognize the points of continuity and discontinuity with respect to the preceding decades

Learning Outcomes
1. Show how insights derived from the 2nd century church can benefit the 21st century church
2. Demonstrate how the church's past experiences inform the modern church relative to persecution
3. Analyze the continuity and discontinuity of the modern church with the characterization drawn from the New Testament

MRS 550 Ecclesiology and Church Leadership

The church has changed much since the first century, yet its mission has remained the same. In this course, students will discover how the view of the church has changed over the last 2,000 years and the implications of those changes of church organization and leadership. In particular, the student will learn to assess the relationship between modern ecclesiological views and church polities on the church's mission. 3 hours of graduate credit.

Objectives
- Explain the function, organization, roles, and purpose of church leadership from a biblical perspective
- Examine the development of ecclesiology in the Ante-Nicene period of church history
- Critique the development of modern ecclesiologies as developed through the period of the Reformation to modern times
- Relate the mission of the church and the dynamics of church life to modern church polity

Learning Outcomes
1. Distinguish cultural and historical developments from biblical doctrines
2. Propose and evaluate modern applications of Scripture based on critical analysis of texts
3. Summarize the history, philosophies, and doctrines of major world religions
4. Evaluate the philosophical assumptions underlying interpretative variations in major biblical text

MRS 622 Encountering Biblical Spirituality

The course defines spirituality in the context of reality and makes application that reflects the Christian worldview. Students will explore and encounter biblical spirituality at the metaphysical, biblical, and personal levels. The course is organized in five modules: (1) The Concept of Spirituality, (2) The Nature of Spirituality, (3) Spirituality Actualized, (4) Embracing Spirituality, and (5) Spirituality in Christian Living. (Students who took MRS 622 A Search for Spirituality may not take this course.) 3 semester hours of graduate credit.

Objectives
- Explain spirituality in terms of faith, reason, and emotion
- Analyze the life of the spiritual person within the spiritual community
- Evaluate how a spiritual person applies ethical principles to all aspects of his/her life

Learning Outcomes
1. Develop a personal spiritual worldview
2. Appraise opposing arguments regarding the existence and implications of spirituality
3. Defend the rationality of seeking a mature spiritual life
4. Commit to personal spiritual formation and development

MRS 633 Being Christian in a Secular Society

Living as a Christian within the environment of unspiritual forces. Drawing upon theological concepts of Scripture, the course aims at presenting the case for the Christian life within a secular environment. The Christian life is described in ideal terms and then set against the background of common society. The course is also a culminating experience for those in the two graduate degrees offered by NU in self-evaluation of spiritual growth. Modules: (1) The

Foundation for Spiritual Formation, (2) A Brief History of the Search for Spirituality, (3) Applied Spirituality, and (4) Spiritual Outlook. Prerequisite: MRS 622 and M 17.

Objectives
- Analyze the foundation for spiritual formation
- Determine influences of one's environment on a quest for spirituality
- Model ways to meet challenges to spiritual formation

Learning Objectives
1. Recognize God's intentional relationship with humanity from biblical scripture
2. Evaluate spiritual formation in view of a personal environment
3. Evaluate spiritual formation in view of a personal environment
4. Create action plans to meet challenges to spiritual formation
5. Justify the Christian worldview associated with spirituality

MRS 701 Traditional Religion

Worldview concepts in Traditional Religion. "Comparative religion" usually implies that two or more religious systems are described and analyzed, without reference to value judgment. This course provides both description and analysis, but it will take a decidedly different path. Systems of Traditional Religion will be analyzed in view of the gospel of Jesus Christ as presented in the Bible. Hopefully, the points made will represent each system fairly.

The course offers an opportunity to the student to become more conversant with Traditional Religion, especially in contrast with the Christian belief system. Included are some historical background and missiological methods for interacting with Traditional groups in the interest of the gospel. Modules: (1) Worldview and Traditional Religion, (2) African Traditional Religion, and (3) Divination in Traditional Religion.

Objectives
- Evaluate the common beliefs and practices in Traditional Religion
- Recognize the nature of spiritism and the importance it has in Traditional Religion
- Compare and contrast points of view between Traditional Religion with Christianity

Learning Objectives
1. Recognize and articulate the foundational assumptions of Traditional Religion
2. Recite the general worldview found in Traditional Religion
3. Contrast Traditional Religion and Christianity in at least five different areas of belief and/or practice

MRS 710 Buddhism and Christianity

A comparative study. A survey of the history of Buddhism, including beliefs, practices, and scriptures, along with a comparison to basic Christian ideals. Modules: (1) The History of Buddhism, (2) Buddhism: Belief and Practice, and (3) Sacred Writings.

Objectives
- Summarize the general history of Buddhism, along with its spiritual, socio-historical, and ethnocentric dimensions
- Assess key issues essential to understanding the distinctions between Buddhism and Christianity
- Compare and contrast the sacred scriptures and specific concepts of Buddhism and Christianity

Learning Objectives
1. Articulate the foundational assumptions of Buddhism
2. Evaluate the Buddhist worldview
3. Assess key issues essential to understanding the distinctions between Buddhism and Christianity

MRS 712 Hinduism and Christianity

Major tenets of Hinduism, with comparisons to the Christian faith. The course provides both description and analysis of the Hindu faith system. Modules: (1) The Essence of Hinduism, (2) The Vedas, and (3) Analyzing Hinduism.

Objectives
- Summarize underlying assumptions, and major tenets of Hinduism
- Contrast concepts of God and human destiny within Hindu and Christian faiths
- Evaluate the contrasting beliefs and practices found in Hinduism and Christianity

Learning Outcomes
1. Recognize the foundational assumptions, beliefs, and practices of Hinduism
2. Explain differences in concepts of God and human destiny within Hinduism and Christianity
3. Identify key issues in a comparative study of Hindu and Christian worldviews

MRS 718 Islam and Christianity

A comparative study. The course identifies and analyzes key issues in the encounter between Christianity and Islam. Modules: (1) Foundations for Comparative Study, (2) Foundations for Encounter, and (3) Theological Issues.

Objectives
- Apply critical analysis in a comparative study of Islam and Christianity

- Explain foundational elements in Islamic history and doctrine
- Recognize concepts that distinguish Islamic and Christian doctrine relative to God, Jesus, and salvation

Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize and articulate the foundational assumptions of Islam
2. Judge the logical consistency of comparisons and contrasts between Islam and Christianity
3. Formulate a written synopsis of Islam's central concepts in relation to the central concepts of the Christian gospel

MRS 800 Thesis Development and Proposal

This first course of the two which comprise the thesis option serves to guide the student in the development of a research topic, thesis, and research plan. The student will work independently, with guidance from his or her committee, to produce a prospectus, bibliography, literature review, proposal, and project design and methodology. Approval of all documents is necessary prior to advancing to the next course. Credit: 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: M 17 and Approval of Professor.

Objectives

- Refine research skills and abilities.
- Write effective literature reviews.
- Develop research goals and strategies.
- Analyze and synthesize large amounts of information related to a narrow topic.
- Related Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

1. Appraise opposing arguments surrounding a specific theological question
2. Analyze texts by applying rules of exegesis and contrasting points of view
3. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of doctrines, tenets of faith, and/or philosophies related to the study of theology

MRS 810 Thesis Completion and Defense

This second course of the thesis option will result in the final preparation of the thesis and an oral defense. Students will produce a minimal 10,000-word thesis on the topic of their choice under the guidance of their committee. After submission and approval of the thesis, students will then make an oral presentation and defense of their findings. Credit: 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Completion of MRS 800 and approval of committee.

Objectives

- Refine research skills and abilities.
- Write effective literature reviews.
- Develop research goals and strategies.
- Analyze and synthesize large amounts of information related to a narrow topic.
- Write coherent, well-defended arguments supporting a research
- Present a concise, well-reasoned oral defense of research findings, conclusions, and proposed solution

Learning Outcomes

1. Appraise opposing arguments surrounding a specific theological question
2. Analyze texts by applying rules of exegesis and contrasting points of view
3. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of doctrines, tenets of faith, and/or philosophies related to the study of theology the study of theology

D.Min. Program Course Descriptions

DMIN 901 Research Methodology for Ministry

Students will build on their initial understanding of ministry research developed in the M.Div. program or master's degree. Students will learn to develop more in-depth process and outcome goals, to properly operationalize objectives, and to analyze data using both descriptive and inferential statistics. Students will learn to develop research projects that provide for the best possible outcomes testable by solid statistical analysis. (1 credit)

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop initial skills in research for ministry
2. Demonstrate familiarity with the research process as it relates to ministry
3. Understand the risks involved in ministry research involving human subjects.

DMIN 903 Research Project I

Students will research a given aspect of ministry and/or evangelism that relates directly to their educational goals. Students will use the techniques and skills developed in DMIN 901 to ensure their design is rigorous and aligned with best practices. Students will produce a thorough review of related literature and a complete project prospectus. (2 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will construct a research project based on a critical engagement with current theory and theology of ministry.
2. Through academic research and critical analysis, students will increase their understanding of ministry skills needed in evangelistic ministries.

3. Students will utilize contemporary research methods in support of and in the evaluation of ministry goals.
4. Students will utilize information drawn from a variety of sources to develop an effective research model for their ministry project.

DMIN 904 Research Project II

Students will complete their project design and, after implementing the project as part of DMIN 934, will complete a thorough evaluation of their project based on process and outcome goals previously established. The student will produce a final project paper with analysis of the project, comparison to research and expected outcomes, conclusions, and recommendations for future research and ministry. (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Evaluate the efficacy of the theology of ministry employed in their evangelism project.
2. Analyze and evaluate impact of ministry plan using sound research methodology.
3. Produce guidance or recommendations for other researchers in related fields.
4. Evaluate their personal efficacy in utilizing ministry skills in evangelistic ministries as part of the process assessment.

DMIN 910 Theology of the Evangelist

A biblical and theological study of the evangelist, the gospel, and the work of evangelism. An in-depth study of the biblical text and terms in relationship to the content of the gospel, preaching, the evangelists and the role of the evangelist in the life and work of the church in fulfilling the Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20). (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Thoroughly study the biblical text and terms that relate specifically to the evangelists, the gospel and the work of evangelism
2. Critically engage with other hermeneutical systems of the interpretation of Scripture
3. Reflect upon and develop a process of adaption and application of biblical principles to the area of ministry focus.
4. Conduct critical assessment of various theologies of evangelism.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of other theologies and cultural adaptations of evangelism
6. Develop a system of personal reflection and application of the biblical principles discovered in this process of study

DMIN 912 The Evangelist's Life, Work, and Development

The course discusses the roles and responsibilities of an evangelist as a servant, a church member, a family member, and a community member. Work expectations and demands are discussed in a congregational and missional context. Students will explore opportunities for professional and spiritual development to ensure long-lasting ministries. (2 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Assess personal call, preparation, and readiness for evangelistic ministry.
2. Critique the various contexts of evangelistic ministry to determine appropriateness for personal ministry.
3. Evaluate the impact of cross-cultural contexts on reintegration of ministers into "home" culture.
4. Evaluate leadership theories for application in evangelistic ministry settings.
5. Develop a strategy and plan for personal spiritual health and maturity.

DMIN 914 Evangelist as Communicator

The course will further equip the student to effectively communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ both personally and publicly. It focuses on the Evangelist as a communicator in various means primarily as a preacher and public speaker. In addition, focus will be given to one-to-one communication, social media, and the written forms of communication. The emphasis of the course will be on clear and persuasive communication as the Gospel is a message that demands a response of personal faith. (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the essential elements of the gospel in order to present it with Biblical integrity
2. Grow specifically and significantly in the preparation and delivery of the gospel in public proclamation
3. Understand the necessity of various forms of communication.
4. Gain a practical perspective of each form of communication in various cultural settings.
5. Develop new skills: story-telling, exposition, social media, app's for communication, writing, illustration, and invitation
6. Develop a comprehensive personal plan for extensive application of communication principles in all forms of private and public communication
7. Learn appropriate ways to share personal story as a means of authentic and genuine communication

DMIN 916 Historical Context of the Evangelist

This course will research the many lessons addressed from the study of evangelists in their historical and cultural context. Lessons on personal call, holiness,

faith, persecution, methodologies, the leading of God, sacrifice, and most of all impacting their world with the Gospel will be addressed. (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain KEY principles derived from the study of historical theology that inform a practical theology of evangelism.
2. Utilize principles gained from the study of historical and contemporary evangelists to assess contemporary cultures, domestic and foreign, for proper evangelistic models and messages.
3. Understand how the historical context and cultural issues challenged the evangelist in their era.
4. Describe techniques of decision-making, communication, and leadership used cross-culturally by successful evangelists.
5. Assess how economic, social, and political issues shape ministry.
6. Develop a personal paradigm for adapting style, message, method and/or process of ministry to faithfully proclaim the gospel without compromise.
7. Critically assess one's personal call, mission, and ministry in light of the principles demonstrated by historical evangelists.

DMIN 918 Evangelist as Apologist

An introduction to apologetics, including its biblical mandate, use of apologetics in the New Testament, and its role in evangelism today. Emphasis on the use of evidence, reason and persuasion in "making a case" for Christianity in our increasingly secular world, and how to train believers to defend the faith. (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the meaning, purpose, and practice of apologetics in a biblical and historical context.
2. Develop and articulate a philosophy of evangelism that incorporates apologetics
3. Develop effective methods to reach skeptics and non-Christian faiths with intelligently presented truth
4. Develop a strategy to reach young people with a contextualized presentation of biblical truth in general and the Gospel in particular
5. Develop strategies and methods to incorporate the use of evidence, reason, and persuasion in teaching, preaching, and training believers
6. Become equipped to engage the secular culture with evidence for God's existence, the reliability of Scripture as God's revelation to humanity, and the historical death and resurrection of Jesus
7. Enhance personal assurance of the truth of Christianity that will strengthen character and leadership abilities and motivate evangelistic engagement

DMIN 920 Evangelist as Equipper

This course examines the role of the Evangelist as an Equipper/Trainer/Teacher. It will examine those biblical texts which describe the equipping of the Christian and the called Evangelists to effectively communicate the Gospel and the call to following Jesus Christ. In addition, this course will consider questions such as: How is training to be done in the current cultural settings? What approaches and techniques are relevant today for equipping the Church, individual Christians and Evangelist? (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. The student will identify the basic biblical texts and principles that apply to the training of Christians and called Evangelists.
2. The Evangelist will develop a personal philosophy of equipping the Christian, Church and Evangelists in the theology and skills needed to be effective and fruitful in Evangelism.
3. The student will gain an understanding of educational methodologies and styles which will be a foundation to developing a program of training.
4. . Teaching skills and methodologies will be studied and developed into a ministry model and strategy for training.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the gospel and how to translate it into each culture.
6. Develop an understanding of and apply methodologies informing biblical training in restricted countries
7. Develop specific materials based on the age, gender, and social context to determine the most appropriate training methodologies
8. Be active in sharing one's faith so that spiritual maturity results.

DMIN 922 Evangelist as Leader

The unique role of the Evangelist as Leader is the focus of this course. The Evangelist has a unique and significant role in the life of the Church in fulfilling the Great Commission. What is that leadership role? How does each Evangelist step into this responsibility? What is important for the Evangelist to know and do as a Leader for the Church in evangelism? (3 credits)

Learning Outcomes

1. Define and explain the role of the Evangelist as leader of Evangelism with, for, and through the Church.
2. Analyze leadership skills unique to ministry that are needed for the Evangelist as leader of fulfilling the Great Commission with, through and for the church.

3. Critique the impact of the Global Evangelist on the church when navigating various cultures in unique times.
4. Assess the benefits and drawbacks the Global Evangelist brings to the fulfillment of the Great Commission in unique cultures.
5. Describe how common leadership principles bring empowerment to the Evangelist's ministry.
6. Assess resource development ideas, strategies, and processes to be implemented to building an evangelistic organization.
7. Assess the contribution of communication, media, and technology to the development of an evangelistic team in the 21st century
8. Self-evaluate the student's organizational leadership skills and identify growth areas.
9. Discuss the definition and development of spiritual leadership and how it can be measured
10. Identify disciplines needed to continue spiritual growth through a lifetime of ministry.

DMIN 930 Observation & Participation in Evangelism (SME)

Students will work with an experienced missionary or faculty member to observe the planning of an evangelistic campaign. The students will prepare a detailed evaluation of the campaign's strengths and weaknesses upon completion. Students will participate in cohort-based discussions during and after the campaign. (1 credit)

Learning Outcomes

1. Document evangelistic activities in light of current theories and practices.
2. Evaluate evangelistic activities against theories of evangelism
3. Propose improvements or corrections to observed activities based on current theories and practices.

DMIN 932 Planning & Participations in Evangelism (SME)

Students will work with an experienced missionary or faculty member to assist in the planning of an evangelistic campaign. The students will prepare a detailed evaluation of the campaign's strengths and weaknesses. Students will participate in cohort-based discussions during and after the campaign. (1 credit)

Learning Outcomes

1. Participate in the creation of an evangelistic ministry plan offering insights from current theories and practices.
2. Participate in and document the implementation of an evangelistic ministry plan.
3. Evaluate the implementation of an evangelistic ministry based on current theories and practices
4. Propose improvements or corrections to observed activities based on current theories and practices
5. Reflect on and evaluate personal growth opportunities experienced during the implementation of the plan.

DMIN 934 Leadership & Development in Evangelism (SME)

This course serves as a capstone experience for all D.Min. students. Students will work either independently or in a team with other students serving in a similar geographic region and under the supervision of a faculty member to develop an evangelistic campaign to be led and conducted by the student(s). Students will learn to lead and develop other participants as leaders within the mission context. The evangelistic campaign will be evaluated by the student and faculty member and will be incorporated into the students' final project paper. (2 credit)

Learning Outcomes

1. Create an evangelistic ministry plan based on specific theory and practice of evangelism
2. Organize and coordinate the implementation of an evangelistic ministry plan, including training, logistics, and follow-up
3. Conduct an evangelistic ministry campaign
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of the ministry plan as implemented
5. Reflect on and evaluate personal growth opportunities experienced during the implementation of the plan

Academic Policies

Academic Platforms

NationsUniversity uses two platforms for managing a student's educational experience. The student's first encounter will be with **elearning.nationsu.edu**, which is hosted by Maestro. The eLearning site holds all of the student's academic and financial information. Students will use this site to apply to the university, request courses, pay tuition and fees (if applicable), and monitor their progress in their plans of study.

The eLearning site is directly connected to Moodle, our virtual classroom site managed by Remote-Learner. There is no direct access to Moodle; students must access all courses and materials through their individual dashboard on the elearning.nationsu.edu site.

Application

Since NationsUniversity is a year-round university and does not operate on a calibrated calendar, one may apply and begin at any time. To apply, potential students simply click on the blue "PROCEED" button of the opening page, https://elearning.nationsu.edu, fill out their information, and pay the one-time application fee of $25. Should a student be unable to pay this fee by credit card through their student application ledger, he or she may write to the Registrar, registrar@nationsu.edu, for alternative ways to pay this fee. Your application may be cancelled if this fee is not paid within 90 days of application submission.

Each step in this process is confirmed by automated emails. The applicant will receive an email after completing the first part of the application. This email will contain a University-assigned username to be used with the student-generated password. This username and password will be used to log into the website to complete the remainder of the application and pay the application fee. The same username and password will be used to access the student's account information once the application is completed.

Upon completion of the application, including payment, the student will receive an email that includes a unique NationsU Student Client Code in the form of the student's country code and six random numbers (i.e. **us654321**, **eg123456**, etc.). This Client Code must be used when communicating with NU personnel including all faculty and staff. Do not share this Client Code with others.

New Applicants are immediately assigned to a Start-Up advisor, who will be available via email to answer questions and offer counsel on the academic process. The advisor, in turn, e-mails the student with instructions on how to proceed by starting with the Orientation and first course. Application completion does NOT admit one to a degree program. Soon AFTER application, please request official academic documents to be sent from the issuing institution to the NU Registrar. Admission to a credit/degree program of study comes with the evaluation of these entry credentials.

Incarcerated students can only be admitted from prisons that have certified proctors, and NU must limit the number of new applicants. For this reason, the potential incarcerated students should take care to complete an application in every detail including the signed Proctor Agreement. Those applicants accepted will be informed by postal mail and will receive a Student Client Code, Username, and Password. The Student Client Code must be used when communicating with NU. ***Incarcerated students must pay their application fee before a second course will be sent.***

Admission to an Academic Program (Certificate or Degree)

Admission to a certificate or a degree program requires applicants to possess the educational background, intellectual capabilities, and language skills necessary for college-level study. The following academic achievement is the standard that must be met for formal admission into a certificate or degree program. For specifics, see under each academic offering in the Academics section of this catalog.

More specific information relative to admission into a particular program (C.B.S., C.C.M., B.R.S., G.C.B.S., M.T.S., M.Div., D.Min.) may be found in the academic section under each program featured. Below are general regulations.

1. High school students are permitted to enroll in college level courses at NationsU provided they are in their last two years of high school. A High School student may register and take up to four college credit courses at NationsUniversity, IF they provide an official HS transcript, a letter of permission from a parent or guardian and a letter of recommendation from their HS counselor or principal. High school students taking NU courses during their senior year must still submit proof of graduation in order to be officially admitted to a degree program at NationsUniversity. The school does not specifically target or promote itself to compulsory school aged youths.
2. No student is formally admitted into an academic program prior to receipt of an official transcript (or other official certification of the highest education level attained), except in documented special circumstances (see #8).

3. A 3.00 cumulative grade point average C.G.P.A. is required on undergraduate work for admission into a graduate program. If a student has less than a 3.00 C.G.P.A., he/she may be given permission to attempt 6 semester credits of graduate work as a probationary student to prove he/she can perform at the graduate level.
4. Students are required to have an official academic credential sent directly from the issuing institution (or when not available in certain countries, an authenticated or notarized copy) before an evaluation can be made. If a student wishes to enter the C.B.S. or B.R.S. programs, these credentials must indicate that the student has graduated from secondary school or high school. If a student wishes to enter a master's level program, his or her credentials must indicate a four-year bachelor's (or higher) degree or the equivalent from an accredited or nationally approved institution.
5. Following an evaluation of the student's credentials by the Registrar, the student is notified of admission to a particular degree program and how many, if any, credits are accepted in transfer. The Letter of Admission is prepared and sent along with an Enrollment Agreement to the appropriate NU certificate or degree program. The student then signs the enrollment agreement and sends back this document along with his or her photo ID. The identification of the student is then assessed and compared with his or her signatures, documentation, and student file information. Once the enrollment agreement is signed by the Registrar as well and the student identification has been checked, a new fully signed letter is sent back to the student for personal record keeping. The information is recorded on the student's online record so all authorized parties—administrators, the student's advisor, and the student—will know the student's official status.
6. Quarter credits are converted to semester units. Official descriptions of credit allowances and degree requirements are sought for foreign institutions, knowing that foreign institutions are not always equivalent to U.S. standards.
7. The principal reasons a student is denied admission to a degree program are (1) a lack of appropriate credential documentation, (2) weakness in language skills, and (3) a low G.P.A. on an undergraduate degree.
8. In the case a student's transcript is not available due to living in a hostile country, natural disaster, or other circumstances deemed worthy, NU may ask for extra outside documentation. For example, the Registrar may document a newspaper article for the natural disaster or refugee papers for someone fleeing a hostile country, etc. At NU we understand that there are a lot of different kinds of international credentials and with different situations. If you have any questions on any of the requirements, please email, registrar@nationsu.edu.
9. Students without official credentials, due to the above situations, may be granted conditional admission as a case exception (CEW status) to a Certificate program (though some form of Bachelor's degree documentation is still necessary for CEW admission into the Graduate Certificate). Once a student has successfully completed either Certificate program, they can be admitted into the corresponding degree program. The University does not allow more than 10% of it's Certificate students to be admitted under this policy.

Applicants to NationsUniversity's certificate or degree programs whose native language is not English and who have not earned a high school diploma or college/university degree from an approved institution where English is the primary language of instruction must demonstrate college-level proficiency in English through one of the following:

1. Test of English As a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Test (IELTS)
2. Undergraduate: A minimum score of 500 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL PBT), or 58 on the Internet Based Test (iBT), (TOEFL CBT) score of 165. Or a 6.0 on the International English Language Test (IELTS) or 42 on the PTE** Academic Score Report;
3. Master's Degree: A minimum score of 530 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL PBT) or 70 on the Internet Based Test (iBT), (TOEFL CBT) score of 190, or a 6.5 on the International English Language Test (IELTS) or 50 on the PTE Academic Score Report;
4. A minimum grade of Level 3 on the ACT COMPASS's English as a Second Language Placement Test;
5. A minimum grade of Pre-1 on the Eiken English Proficiency Exam;
6. A minimum B1 English proficiency level identified within the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) standards and assessed through various ESOL examinations, including the University of Cambridge;
7. A transcript indicating completion of at least 30 semester hours of credit with an average grade of "C" or higher at an appropriately accredited college or university where the language of instruction was English; "B" or higher for graduate degrees, or
8. Undergraduate only: A high school diploma completed at an appropriately recognized high school (where the instruction is given in English).

The TOEFL iBT® code number **B699** has been assigned to NationsUniversity. Use the code number when indicating NationsUniversity as a score recipient.

Note: Applicants who cannot meet the above requirements due to economic or geo-political hardship or unavailability of testing services may petition to be accepted on a conditional basis with other documented sources of English study. If accepted, the student will be permitted to take a maximum of four courses in a Case Exception Watch (CEW) status. The student must achieve a GPA of 3.0 or higher at the end of the four courses. If the student's GPA is lower than the required 3.0 at the end of the four courses, the student will not be allowed to continue in the certificate or degree program and must establish English proficiency and then re-apply for admission.

Course Enrollment

Enrollment at NationsU refers to undertaking the study of any specific numbered course. The student may begin study immediately after application and fee have been completed, without any further administrative action. However, all students must complete the Orientation to NationsUniversity Online Studies (ONOS) and the appropriately leveled course, *A Search for Spirituality*, before beginning other courses. Enrollment in a course is confirmed and recorded by NU at the time the student takes the first exam required by the course and should be completed within 12 months.

Students may enroll in a course at any time and study at their own pace, taking each module exam whenever they feel they have mastered the material contained in that module. They are encouraged to complete one course before enrollment in another, but this is not required.

The first quarter of tuition begins upon Application acceptance date, since students have open access to all NU resources beginning this date. No course credit will be awarded until specified fees are paid.

1. Online Students request their courses in keeping with their academic plan of study and access them from their dashboard at elearning.nationsu.edu.
2. Prison Students are enrolled by the Director of Prison Services and mailed courses in a predetermined sequence in keeping with their academic plan of study.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

NationsUniversity reviews and advises students regularly regarding their academic progress and encourages them to meet the standards in the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy. This review includes cumulative G.P.A., number of courses taken, and number of courses passed. Students are considered to be making satisfactory academic progress if their grades and course completions will facilitate the student graduating within 150% of the projected time to completion as listed in each program description.

All students at NationsUniversity receive on-going academic coaching by their advisors. Every student receives annual reviews of their academic progress, and advisors work with struggling students to develop a plan for success. This plan may include restructuring or realigning their courses, reducing their course load until they successfully complete a higher percentage, and referral to professors or other resources for additional work or material. Advisors track these students during this time.

Statement of Progress

Degree-seeking students are expected to follow the academic plan of study to which they are assigned. Advisors will offer guidance regarding courses, assignments, and other requirements. Because courses and plans of study are self-paced, students may complete their studies as their circumstances permit.

Students who are not significantly engaged in other activities may expect to complete a degree at the rate noted under each degree. However, the student may extend the period of study if a longer time is needed. If a student wishes to pause or discontinue his studies for any reason, he or she must request a hiatus or officially withdraw by sending an email to the Registrar or to the Director of Advising.

Student Status

A student is considered "Active" for any quarter in which he/she completes an assignment. A student is considered "Inactive" for two consecutive quarters of no assignment completions and no tuition payments. An "Inactive" student who has not been withdrawn may become active again without any academic penalty by contacting his or her advisor. Unless a Hiatus Status has been granted ahead of time by the Director of Student Advising (see next section), tuition shall still be due for the inactive quarters.

The student shall be considered "withdrawn" if there are no assignment completions and no tuition payments during any consecutive 12-month period. A withdrawn student may resume study upon official readmission by the Registrar and will be subject to any changes made to curriculum and/or tuition rates and/or admission/transfer policies. Current tuition rates will apply to student re-admissions from developed countries (Note: The developed countries list at NU for tuition purposes is subject to change from year to year).

Tuition Students Requesting a Hiatus

A student may take a break (hiatus) for up to 365 days. On the 366th day of inactivity, he or she is "Withdrawn" and must be formally readmitted, subject to new admission, tuition and catalog requirements. No payments accumulate if the Director of Student Advising was notified of the hiatus before the first day of the quarter for which the hiatus is requested. Please contact gailh@nationsu.edu for hiatus notifications so that your student file and financials may be marked as such.

If a student does not notify NU in advance and in writing of his or her intent to take a break, any tuition that accumulates during the inactivity must be paid prior to beginning again. If said student reaches 366 days of inactivity, he or she must contact the Registrar to be readmitted and must pay the accumulated year of tuition prior to re-admission. (This last stipulation ONLY applies to those who apply after January 1, 2020. "Inactive" and "Withdrawn" NU students prior to this date may return in the future without paying an accumulated year of tuition.) The calculating of the number of days inactive will begin with the first day following the last fully paid quarter of study.

Non-Tuition Paying Students are also required to inform NU of a hiatus in order to avoid being withdrawn. Non-Tuition paying students who are withdrawn must be re-admitted under current standards.

Credentials

Students must request their former school to submit an official transcript in order to gain admission to a degree program. If a student has multiple degrees, he/she needs only to submit the highest degree received, unless otherwise directed by the Registrar. Official credentials can be sent via post (P.O. Box 3342, Brentwood, TN 37024) or electronically through the issuing institutions' electronic transcript service directly to NationsUniversity. If transcripts are ever sent via email from an issuing institution, they need to be sent from an institutional email address. Contact the Registrar for more information, registrar@nationsu.edu.

ID Verification, *All students must submit a government issued photo ID card along with the signed enrollment agreement.*

Transfer Credits

Transfer credit is recognized in keeping with accreditation standards and commonly accepted academic standards of American universities. However, credit acceptance is at the discretion of NationsUniversity and must be done from official academic documentation, meaning sent to NationsU directly from the issuing institution.

NU can accept in transfer only credits that have been earned in an accredited institution that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or a comparable foreign body. The institution accepts transfer courses for which the student has received a "Pass" or "C" or higher grade for the course. Credits must be unduplicated and must match the specific requirements for a NationsUniversity degree. If a transcript shows quarter credits instead of semester credits, the number of quarter credits is converted by multiplying by 2/3.

You may see previous courses that have transferred into NationsU on the TES (Transfer Evaluation System) page of the website under Office of the Registrar. Every time a new official transcript is sent to NationsU, it receives a fresh evaluation for transfer eligibility. Please note that TES is NOT a list of approved courses. However, it is a place to see what courses were approved for other NU students in the past. This TES page is found here: TES Public View: NATIONSUNIVERSITY (collegesource.com)

NU will also grant a maximum of 30 undergraduate credits for any combination by examination like Cambridge, AP, or CLEP. Cambrigde A-Level credit must be for a C grade or higher to be considered for 6 semester credits. Cambridge AS levels must also be a C grade or higher to be considered for 3 semester credits. AP credits must be a 3 score or higher for the amount of semester credits as identified by College Board and the NU code for SAT and AP score submissions you will need at College Board is 9154. CLEP score requirements are 50 or better to be evaluated and the CLEP score recipient code for NationsUniversity is 8031.

Regardless of transferred credits, each student is required to complete the NU foundational courses or CBS/GCBS courses (there is no transfer eligibility for these NU Certificates, core courses). Also, no credits are given for life experiences. More information on transfer policy can be provided by contacting the NationsU Registrar, registrar@nationsu.edu.

Transfer Credits to Other Institutions

NationsUniversity cannot guarantee that NationsUniversity credits will be accepted for transfer by other institutions. The final judgment in accepting NationsUniversity credits is the sole responsibility of the receiving institution.

Enrollment Agreements

All students who are formally admitted into a certificate or degree program at NationsUniversity sign an Enrollment Agreement stating that the student agrees to the policies and procedures of NationsUniversity. An Enrollment Agreement signed and validated by the registrar will be sent to the student. The student should return a completed and signed copy of the agreement to lindsey@nationsu.edu, or it can be sent by postal mail.

Course Materials

Each course is supported by a syllabus. The syllabus is the student's guide to a particular study. Normally, the syllabus summarizes the material to be covered, then directs the student to resources needed to complete the study. Resources needed to complete all assignments are in electronic format and accessible online without cost to the student.

Grades

Course grades are assigned based on a student's performance on course exams. The grading scale is as follows:

A=Excellent	(90-100%)	4.0 GP
B=Good	(80-89%)	3.0 GP
C=Pass	(70-89%)	2.0 GP

A minimum score of 70% is required to pass a course. For individual assignment grades, 70% is required on all written assignments, and 60% is required on all multiple-choice exams. However, the overall course grade must be at least 70%. A minimum score of 70% is required to pass a course.

Examinations

NationsUniversity courses contain multiple choice exams. Students will get three (3) opportunities to earn at least 60% (passing grade) on an exam. The exam link is under each module on the course menu, and each exam gives specific instructions on how to proceed. The time limit is stated on each exam. Students are not permitted to open an exam and leave it open longer than the time limit while continuing to study. NationsUniversity personnel are able to access student exams and determine what portions of the exams students have completed and the length of time the student takes to complete an exam. Students leaving exams open while studying will receive a "0" on the exam and will have to take it again.

Multiple-choice exam grades are available immediately after the exam is finished and are posted on the student's record within twenty-four (24) hours of completing the exam. The minimum score to receive credit for an exam is 60%. If a student scores less than 60%, he/she will be required to retake the exam after more study (a minimum of five days). Exam answers are not visible to students, and retakes will contain different questions. The first 60% or higher grade a student receives will be the grade recorded on the student's transcript. NU subscribes to the same standard as most educational institutions in that students may not retake exams to improve a score that is already passing. If the score is above 60%, the student should proceed to the next module. For independent students with access to a computer, most exams are taken online without a proctor.

Proctored Exams

1. Proctored comprehensive exams are required in pursuit of various degrees as follows:
   - C.B.S. program—two exams (After BRS123 and BRS126)
   - B.R.S. program—one exams (After BRS444)
   - G.C.B.S. program—two exams (After M2 and M4)
   - M.T.S. program—two qualifying exams and one final comprehensive (After M2, M4, and final course)
   - M.Div. program—three qualifying exams (After M2, M4, and completion of 36 hours)

   (*M.Div. students with a non-NationUniversity master's degree may be exempt from the third exam*)
2. Certificates and degrees are available to prison students only where there is a certified proctor. Generally, all exams taken by incarcerated students are proctored, but not necessarily by a certified proctor.
3. A student is counted as a matriculated, degree-seeking student once they have completed their initial proctored exam.

Procedures

1. If the student is unknown to the certified proctor, he/she shall present the proctor with a government-issued picture ID for verification. An incarcerated student's ID will be established via the prison security process.
2. The proctor will provide the necessary password for the exam once the student has logged into the course. The password is provided to the proctor via email.
3. The proctor remains with the student during the exam according to terms of the Proctor Agreement. Students are allowed to use textbooks, syllabi, or notes when taking exams. Proctors and students should read the instructions carefully before the exam is attempted.
4. Students should have no contact with any exam until they have studied the material and are prepared to sit for the exam.
5. Exams should never be used as study guides, nor should a proctor prepare study guides for their students using exams in their possession.

6. If students are taking exams in a group setting, there is to be no communication between students, no sharing of answers, and no assistance to any student by the proctor.
7. Proctors found to be in violation of any NationsUniversity policy or any of the guidelines in this document will first be issued a warning. Failure to comply following a warning will result in the proctor's dismissal.
8. Students who do not comply with the policies and guidelines of NationsUniversity will first be issued a warning. Failure to comply following a warning will result in expulsion.
9. Proctors must contact the student's advisor to validate and affirm completion of the proctored exam.

Requesting NationsUniversity Trnscripts

Students are able to order official NationsUniversity transcripts for a variety of reasons: potential or current employment, volunteer work, other academic programs, government approvals, personal use, etc. Transcript requests are welcome at NU and can be made through Parchment Exchange.

To make a transcript request click on the **Order Records** button on the "Office of the Registrar" page. This page is found under the **Resources** tab at the top of the NationsU website, nationsu.edu. Students and alumni can also click on Official Transcripts at the footer of each web page. This leads to the NationsUniversity/Parchment ordering website. Students will create a login and follow the prompts for official transcript orders. The fee for electronic transcript processing and delivery is only $10 and this is the most secure and fastest way. For standard delivery printing and mailing, official NationsUniversity transcripts are $12.50 domestic and $15 international. Transcript fees are subject to change.

Official transcripts are printed on secure paper and contain the seal and signature of the Registrar along with a Transcript Guide page. You may order as many transcripts as you like and fees are paid through the Parchment/ NationsU website following the ordering prompts and using a credit card. For additional help or any questions regarding transcript orders, contact registrar@nationsu.edu or write to the Director of Prison Services.

Graduation

NationsUniversity holds three graduations per year: May 1st, September 1st and December 1st. Students planning to graduate must inform their advisor 6 weeks prior and meet all graduation requirements for their program by two weeks before the above listed times, including graduation fee payment.

If you are nearing graduation, stay in contact with your advisor to work with him or her for program completion. Also, make sure to check your inbox weekly for graduation information and tasks. The Registrar's office will need to confirm your award details and congratulate you for your achievement. Please pay your graduation fee through your student ledger. An invoice will be placed there once all of your academic requirements have been met.

Within two to three weeks after the graduation date, Digital Diplomas are issued by email to graduates (or to the sponsor email for incarcerated graduates) at no extra cost to the graduate. Physical Diplomas are mailed within that same time frame by post to those graduates who have paid their graduation fee and responded to the Graduation Email from the Registrar's Office confirming their correct details and mailing address.

Graduation Ceremony

NationsU has three official graduations each year in May, September, and December. A listing of the names of the graduates appears in the Voice of Nations newsletter after each graduation. The link to Voice of Nations is located in the footer of the website and on the Graduation Ceremony page. The Graduation Ceremony page is updated on the website immediately after the May graduation. The Graduation Ceremony page, which honors all graduates over the last 12 months, includes:

- Videos of the Commencement speech from an NU Administrator or Faculty,
- An encouraging speech from the Alumnus of the Year,
- A benediction from either the Chaplaincy department or the NUAA.

Statute of Limitation

There is no statute of limitations on undergraduate or graduate courses or individual work completed at NationsUniversity® on or after January 1, 2012. Courses and/or coursework completed at NationsUniversity® prior to January 1, 2012, may not be used to satisfy degree requirements for graduation. There is no statute of limitations on a completed degree from NationsUniversity® for the purpose of qualifying for continued studies at the next higher academic level. However, a seven-year statute of limitations is placed on the life of degree program requirements.

Revocation of Academic Award

A degree or certificate may be revoked by the university when a student has been found to have obtained the degree under fraudulent circumstances. Examples include the following.

1. Falsification or omission of application information.
2. Violation of Honor Code which resulted in credit being earned for courses not completed by the student.
3. Financial fraud or misrepresentation of financial facts to obtain financial assistance or discounts.

Student Policies

NationsUniversity is committed to a high level of academic study and personal ethics. NU strives to provide quality education that is accurate, research-based, unbiased, and deserving of respect. Likewise, NationsUniversity personnel are selected because of their personal commitment not only to providing quality service, but also service in the pattern of Christ. NU desires to operate with honesty, integrity, and understanding, providing superior education that emulates the spirit of Christ. As such, NationsUniversity encourages students to pursue their studies with diligence, striving to submit the highest quality of work that they are able to provide. Students are expected to follow the Honor Code below and act in a way that reflects the values that NU upholds.

Non-Discrimination and Disability

Though exempt from regulatory compliance, NationsUniversity follows the intents and purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of and 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the American Disabilities Act of 1990. NationsUniversity does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in its activities and programs. As a faith-based institution, employment practices are exempt from the religion requirement but follow all other non-discriminatory practices.

Learning Differences and Accommodations

NationsUniversity recognizes that learning styles vary, and learning differences exist among students. This can be due to physical or psychological conditions. Any student who requests specific accommodations should submit documentation verifying the need. This documentation should be sent to the NU Registrar and/or Director of Student Services office at least 15 days prior to the beginning of a course or program. Documentation should include:

- The credentials of a qualified professional, such as a physician or licensed psychologist or counselor who can attest to the need for accommodation based on a clinical diagnosis.
- A qualified professional's description of the following:
  1. the nature of the disability and the accommodation requested;
  2. the applicant's current functional limitations; and
  3. projected progression or stability of the disability.
- Recommendations for accommodations.

NU will review all requests for accommodation and will determine if the accommodations can be met reasonably and feasibly. NU will discuss a plan for accommodations with the student and with any involved faculty members. While NU desires to assist all students, certain services are not feasible and cannot be provided by the University. For example, NU is not able to provide personal tutors or assist with technology. It cannot compromise its academic standards or course components. Students may appeal any ruling regarding accommodations by filing a formal grievance using the University's grievance procedure.

Honor Code

NationsUniversity encourages students to act in an ethical manner in their academic studies as defined in the institution's Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code may not be intentional, as students come from a wide range of cultural and academic backgrounds where different standards and definitions of "cheating" exist. However, students are responsible for reading and understanding the Honor Code and will be held to the standards outlined in it.

NationsUniversity requires that all students complete assignments and exams in an ethical manner in keeping with the values of NU and the Honor Code. Honor Code violations include:

1. Unauthorized Assistance: When a student receives help on an assignment or exam from another student or from artificial intelligence platforms when independent work is required. An example of Unauthorized Assistance is taking an exam and asking a fellow student or using the internet to help answer a question. In some cases, students may be allowed to work in groups on an assignment. However, students must follow the guidelines stated in the syllabus regarding the assistance from others.
2. Cheating: Using your own or someone else's work on an assignment/exam when it is not permitted. An example of cheating is using study notes when taking an exam if the syllabus says that no notes are permitted when taking the exam. Cheating is also asking a fellow student, friend, etc., for answers to exam questions.
3. Falsifying: This could also be called lying or not telling the entire truth about a situation. An example of falsifying is a student who did not do an assignment (for example, give a short Bible talk), but writes a paper saying that he/she actually gave the talk.
4. Multiple Submission: Submitting an assignment that a student has previously used for another course. An example of Multiple Submission is submitting an essay for Eng 1 and then submitting the essay again for

Eng 2. Even work that has been changed slightly is considered a multiple submission. Students must do a new assignment each time.

5. Plagiarism: This is the Honor Code violation that occurs most frequently among students. Plagiarism is using someone else's work but saying that it is your own and not giving credit to the source. Students must acknowledge all sources they use for assignments. An example of Plagiarism is using a quote from a book or from the Internet and not saying that it came from a book or Internet. Students cannot copy information from a book or the Internet or other source without saying that it came from that book/Internet/other source. Plagiarism gives credit to the student when the student did not actually think of the ideas.
6. Computer-created content: When a student receives help on an assignment or exam from another student or from artificial intelligence platforms when independent work is required. An example of Unauthorized Assistance is taking an exam and asking a fellow student or using the internet to help answer a question. In some cases, students may be allowed to work in groups on an assignment. However, students must follow the guidelines stated in the syllabus regarding assistance from others.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (ChatGPT and equivalent)

NationsUniversity is built upon several pillars of distance education. Two of those pillars are (1) independent study and (2) academic integrity. The advent of Generative Artificial Intelligence, or better known as ChatGPT, has provided opportunities for the first and challenges for the second. As such, NationsU administration wants to be clear on its expectations.

Generative AI is a great tutor for students. You are encouraged to use this software to explore questions and concepts that you may be struggling with. Working with Generative AI to strengthen your understanding of the materials is a valid use of the software.

Generative AI can also be a source of cheating for students. The use of Generative AI to write papers is different in some ways from plagiarism, but it is equally dishonest. You are using information from the internet and claiming it is your own original work. This form of cheating cannot be tolerated.

Therefore, when you have an assignment that calls for you to write on a topic, YOU must write the paper. The thesis, the organization, the rationale, and the writing must originate with you, the student. However, if you are struggling with how to explain or apply a concept, take advantage of Generative AI's ability to provide clarity. Do not copy it's response directly to your paper, but assimilate the response with the course material to strengthen your own understanding, and then write the essay from your understanding and insights.

Again, NationsU administration recognizes the value of Generative AI. As long as it is used to support and enhance YOUR understanding, it is a wonderful tool. Do not cross the line by allowing it to write your responses to essays and other written assignments.

The policy for handling Honor Code violations is as follows:

1. NationsUniversity advisors and faculty carefully review all student essays and assignments to assure that students are following guidelines and the Honor Code.
2. If an advisor or a faculty member suspects or has reasonable proof that a student has violated the Honor Code, he/ she will contact the student (via e-mail or post) and ask the student about the possible violation. The student may admit or deny he/she violated the Honor Code.
3. Based on the student's comments and the evidence presented, the advisor/faculty member will determine if the Honor Code has been violated. If the student is determined not to have violated the Honor Code, he/ she may proceed with studies.
4. If it is determined that the student did violate the Honor Code, the advisor/faculty member will implement the following consequences depending on the severity of the violation:
    a. Student will not receive a passing grade
    b. Student will be required to do the assignment over
5. The advisor/faculty member will communicate the consequences to the student via e-mail or post, and the violation will be recorded in the student's User Report..
6. A second violation of the Honor Code will be turned over to the Director of Student Services, and the student may be temporarily suspended from taking courses. The Director of Student Services will communicate the findings and the consequences with the student, and the violation will be recorded in the student's User Report.

7. A third violation of the Honor Code will be turned over to the Chancellor, and the student may be permanently suspended from taking courses. The Chancellor will communicate the findings and the consequences with the student, and the violation will be recorded in the student's User Report.

Copyright Policy

NationsUniversity requires compliance with the copyright law of the United States, which prohibits reproduction of copyrighted material, except under certain specified conditions. Acts of copyright infringement include, but are not limited to, misusing copyrighted material in one's coursework and misusing material for which the institution owns the copyright (i.e., website materials, course materials, publications, etc.).

Student Privacy

Under the provisions of the federal law known as the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), eligible students, or where applicable, the parents of the students, are afforded certain rights pertaining to university records and personally identifiable information on file with the institution. An eligible student is defined as any person who is currently enrolled or has been enrolled in the institution's programs. It is the policy of the institution to treat all student information, both personal and academic, as strictly confidential. Student information will only be released after appropriate written permission has been obtained.

Student records are maintained and viewed only by authorized NationsUniversity personnel. Under no circumstance is student information divulged to the general public without the student's consent. Students are not permitted to view other student's personal information. Student data are maintained electronically and/or in hard copy and protected from unauthorized access.

NationsUniversity further protects students from the possibility of arrest and harassment when they live in a country inclined to take action against citizens who engage in unauthorized religious study. In such countries, postal contact is limited or curtailed. Persons assigned to communicate with these students are trained to deal with the delicate situation. NationsUniversity is in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

Students can request to have their names withheld from public view in the online list of graduates. Student names, personal testimonies, and pictures are published only with a student's written (e-mail or post) consent.

Complaints and Grievances

The University encourages all who have complaints to resolve them informally. The complainant shall identify the person responsible for the area of concern, e.g., a professor for grades; the registrar for admissions; the Director of Fiscal Affairs regarding finances. If that person is not responsive within two weeks, the complainant may contact the next level. e.g. grades disputes are directed to the Director of Academic Affairs; dissatisfaction with the Advisor are addressed to the Director of Student Services. If there is no response at the second level, the student may register his complaint with the CEO.

Policy

The University encourages all student or employee complaints to be resolved through informal, interpersonal communications between the parties impacted. Many complaints can be quickly resolved through effective communication and cooperation. However, there may be situations that require a more formal process. Therefore, the University has adopted an informal complaint procedure and a formal grievance procedure in which the student, volunteer, administrator, employee, or any other person can seek assistance from the university to resolve an issue or concern.

Definitions:

1. Complaint—A complaint is the initial effort by students, employees, volunteers, or others to request assistance from the university to resolve a conflict arising from routine operations. Examples of complaints include but are not limited to a student dissatisfied with a professor's application of a grading rubric, an employee who feels a supervisor does not provide sufficient guidance for successful job completion, or a volunteer who is repeatedly left out of critical communications.
2. Grievance—A grievance is the formal process initiated by students, employees, volunteers, or others to seek assistance from the university to resolve a conflict that (a) was not resolved at the informal level or that (b) is a result of the university or one of its representatives violating institutional guidelines, including but not limited to university policy and procedures, federal or state laws, or accreditation standards.

Complaint Procedure:

1. A student may choose any form of written communication to inform the appropriate university representative of his or her complaint. In most cases, the complaint should be filed with one of the following administrators.
    a. Faculty issues: Dean of Faculty
    b. Advising issues: Director of Advising
    c. Student Services issues: Director of Student Services
    d. Admission or records: Registrar
    e. Financial or business issues: Executive Vice-Chancellor
    f. Prisons Student issues: Director of Student Services
    g. In the event the complaint is against one of these university personnel, the complaint should be filed with the Compliance Officer.
2. The person filing the grievance must provide the following information.
    a. Name and ID number,
    b. Name of person or department against whom the complaint is filed,
    c. Date of and reason for Complaint,
    d. Efforts made to resolve problem, and
    e. Desired resolution by complainant.The contact information for DEAC is Distance Education Accrediting
3. The identified supervisor will contact the person or department head against whom the complaint is filed to discuss possible resolutions.
4. The identified supervisor will then contact complainant to work out resolution to the issue.
5. If a resolution is found, the informal complaint process ends.

Grievance Procedure:

1. The grievance procedures are in place to assist students, volunteers, administrators, employees, or others in resolving complaints that (a) were not resolved through the informal complaint procedures or that (b) result from the university or its representatives failing to comply with guidelines, including but not limited to university policy and procedures, federal or state laws, or accreditation standards. Examples of such violations include the following.
    a. Sexual Harassment,
    b. Financial Irresponsibility or Fraud,
    c. Failure to provide acceptable accommodations for disabilities,
    d. Misrepresents the degree, educational services, or expected outcomes, or
    e. Failure to meet university obligations as outlined in Enrollment Agreement,
2. The aggrieved party fills out the NU Grievance Form, which is available for download from NU's website or acquires a hard copy from its office at 650 Poydras St., Suite 1400, PMB 133, New Orleans, LA 70130. The aggrieved party is then required to fax or mail the completed form and all supporting documentation, including previous attempts at resolution, to the University's compliance officer within 60 days from the incident for which he or she is filing a formal grievance.
3. The Compliance officer after receiving the completed grievance form must notify the aggrieved via email or other acceptable method within 3 days that the University has received the completed form and has been assigned a formal grievance process number.
4. Assigning grievance process number is based on the year, the grievance is received, and a sequential number of the total grievances filed with the University, for that year. For example, a grievance is received by the University on December 20, 2018 and it is the sixth grievance received by the University. The compliance officer would assign the following number 2018-6. Thus for a grievance received on February 3, 2017 and it was the third grievance received during the year the compliance officer would assign the official grievance process number 2017-3.

Stage One (Compliance officer)

Compliance officer contacts all parties involved and attempts to resolve the issue. If the compliance officer finds a solution that is acceptable to the aggrieved, the formal grievance process ends, and all forms and paperwork involved

is archived for three years. The compliance officer must photocopy and then return the original grievance form to the aggrieved at which time the aggrieved will send an email to the compliance officer affirming they are now satisfied.

Stage Two (CEO)

If the compliance officer is unsuccessful in resolving or otherwise correcting the problem the compliance officer will forward the complete file to the University's Chief Executive Officer who, in collaboration with the compliance officer and one other NU staff member, will address the grievance. At this time, the CEO can:

1. Reject the grievance as being frivolous, untrue, unfounded, or it is an issue that cannot be grieved.
2. Determine the issue is beyond the scope of the University's grievance procedure process i.e. criminal act, professional malpractice, and civil litigation.
3. Partially accommodate the aggrieved.
4. Fully accommodate the aggrieved.

Stage Three (Board Regents)

Within 10 days of receiving the grievance file, the CEO and Compliance officer will notify the aggrieved in writing of the determination. If the determination is 1, 2, or 3, the aggrieved can appeal and request that two University Regents and one neutral party reconsider the grievance. (It is at the discretion of the Board of Regents how, where and when this will be conducted i.e. telephone, in person or Skype.) The Board chooses the neutral party or can decide to let the aggrieved put forth their own neutral party. Under no circumstances is the University obligated to pay for the aggrieved to have a neutral party present at the conference whether by skype, in person, or telephone.

If the aggrieved is not satisfied with the Board of Regent's conference determination, they may seek whatever action they feel necessary from an outside source. The University will deem the issue beyond the scope of further University grievance process. After which time the University will archive and store all documents and notes pertaining to this particular grievance for ten years.

Note: Under no circumstances will NU use any staff that is named in the grievance as decision makers in the grievance process.

Additional Means of Grievance

At any time before, during or after any complaint or grievance process the aggrieved can contact any counsel, regulatory body, enforcement, judiciary or state department of education concerning his/her issue as they deem necessary.

For complaints related to educational offerings, licensure, and state authorization: Louisiana Board of Regents, P.O. Box 3677, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677

For residents of Tennessee, complaints associated with the Brentwood location of NationsUniversity may be filed with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, 312 Rosa Parks Ave., 9th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243. Any person claiming damage or loss as a result of any act or practice by this institution that may be a violation of the Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 20 or Rule Chapter 1520-01-02 may file a complaint with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC), Division of Postsecondary State Authorization. THEC only investigates complaints that have exhausted an institution's policy and that have not been resolved at the institution level. DPSA's address is Tennessee Tower, 9th Floor, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., Nashville, TN 37243-1102. If you have any questions regarding the complaint process, you may contact Marcie Mills at Marcie.Mills@tn.gov or (615) 253-7458.

For complaints related to accreditation: Distance Education Accrediting Commission, 1101 17th Street NW, Suite 808 Washington, D.C. 20036, telephone (202) 234-5100, fax (202) 332-1386, website at www.deac.org.

For complaints related to NU's 501(c)3 status: Internal Revenue Service, District Director, P.O. Box 2508, Cincinnati, OH 45201

NC-SARA Student Complaint Process

a. Complaints against an institution operating under SARA policies go first through the institution's own procedures for resolution of grievances. Allegations of criminal offenses or alleged violations of a state's general-purpose laws may be made directly to the relevant state agencies.

b. Complaints regarding student grades or student conduct violations are governed entirely by institutional policy and the laws of the SARA institution's home state.

c. If a person bringing a complaint is not satisfied with the outcome of the institutional process for handling complaints, the complaint (except for complaints about grades or student conduct violations) may be appealed, within two years of the incident about which the complaint is made, to the SARA Portal Entity in the home state of the institution against which the complaint has been lodged. That SARA State Portal Entity shall notify the SARA State Portal Entity for the state in which the student is located of receipt of that appealed complaint. The resolution of the complaint by the institution's home state SARA State Portal Entity, through its SARA complaint resolution process, will be final, except for complaints that fall under the provision "g" below.

d. While the final resolution of the complaint rests with the SARA State Portal Entity in the home state of the institution against which the complaint has been lodged, the SARA State Portal Entity in the complainant's location state may assist as needed. The final disposition of a complaint resolved by the home state shall be communicated to the SARA State Portal Entity in the state where the student lived at the time of the incident leading to the complaint, if known.

e. While final resolution of complaints (for purposes of adjudication of the complaint and enforcement of any resultant remedies or redress) resides in certain cases with institutions (complaints about grades or student conduct violations), or more generally with the relevant institution's home state SARA State Portal Entity (all other complaints), the regional compact(s) administering SARA may consider a disputed complaint as a "case file" if concerns are raised against a SARA member state with regard to whether that state is abiding by SARA policies, as promulgated in the SARA Policy Manual. The regional compact may review such institutional concerns in determining whether a state under its SARA purview is abiding by SARA policies. Similarly, a complaint "case file" may also be reviewed by NC-SARA in considering whether a regional compact is ensuring that its SARA member states are abiding by the SARA policies required for their membership in SARA.

f. SARA State Portal Entities shall report quarterly to NC-SARA the number and disposition of appealed complaints that are not resolved at the institutional level. NC-SARA shall make that information publicly available on its website. Such data will create transparency and can be used in determining whether a regional compact is ensuring that its SARA member states and those states' institutions are abiding by the policies required for state membership and institutional participation in SARA.

g. Nothing in the SARA Policy Manual precludes a state from using its laws of general application to pursue action against an institution that violates those laws.

Student Services

Orientation to NationsUniversity Online Study (ONOS)

A proficient student is one who can *research, think critically, and write at a professional level*. Several tools are needed to reach this goal: resources, writing standard, and language helps.

Each NU student is expected to work through this non-credit Orientation prior to beginning study. If you do, you will save yourself time and frustration. If it becomes evident that you are not using these tools, your professor may stop your progress until you can demonstrate thorough familiarity with ONOS. There is nothing more important to us than to see you succeed!

ONOS can be found at the top of the Courses on the elearning.nationsu.edu homepage. Completing this course will set you on the path to success.

Advising

All students (except incarcerated students) are assigned an advisor to make sure they are able to proceed with their studies. Advisors are assigned to students based on their residence. The advisor provides the personal contact to help students understand NationsUniversity requirements and procedures, develop effective study and exam habits, and understand NationsUniversity course materials. Additionally, advisors support and encourage students to continue in their studies. Students should expect to receive an encouraging letter or e-mail from their advisor several times throughout the year.

Incarcerated students should write to Prison Services and send all email inquiries to prison.services@nationsu.edu. If a student has a question, he/she should first go to the Frequently Asked Questions page at nationsu.edu, then contact his/her advisor. NU offers no services toward job procurement, but is pleased to offer a letter of commendation, if requested.

Transfer Student Admissions

If you have already completed accredited courses at another institution, contact that institution to request your official transcript be sent to NationsU. Either electronic or paper transcripts directly from the institution are acceptable. Transfer credit evaluations are done simultaneously with your official admission; however, you may send new documents at any time after admission for a new transfer credit evaluation. Please email our Registrar at registrar@nationsu.edu if you have questions about this process.

NationsU uses the Transfer Evaluation System (or TES) to record course equivalency decisions. TES helps potential transfer students better determine how transfer credits will be accepted here at NationsU. TES allows anyone to go school by school and look at a list of courses that NationsU has approved at some point in the past and how those courses equate.

Please note that TES is NOT a list of approved courses. TES is a good place to begin a search for a course, because it indicates courses that were approved for other NU students in the past. Every time a new official transcript is sent to NationsU, it receives a fresh evaluation for transfer eligibility. If there is a new course equivalent to an NU course, we let the student know and post this in TES. If a course is no longer equivalent, we advise the student and remove the course from TES.

Service Time to Students

A While NationsU operates year-round and is open to students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, services are limited to actual business days. Business hours are Monday through Friday 8am to 4pm New Orleans Time (except for listed holidays below where NU offices are closed). Typically students can expect Admissions, Advising, Student Services, IT and Registrar departments to get back with them by email within 2 business days. Saturdays and Sundays are not considered NationsU business days.

Faculty response time to students will vary. However, generally students should expect assignment responses from Professors within two to four week's time. If a student feels it is taking too long for a paper to be graded, they should contact the advisor who can check on the grading.

NationsU is open for study 52 weeks per year. However, 8 of those weeks are designated seasonal breaks for the University:

- Spring Break (one week)
- Summer Break (four weeks)
- Thanksgiving or Fall Break (one week) and
- Christmas/Winter Break (2 weeks).

During these 8 weeks, Official Admissions is closed, meaning no official transcript evaluations for transfer students or official letters of admission are sent. Rolling enrollment is still in effect and students can be studying during the official admission process. Student services and advising may also be suspended or slower during these weeks. More specific information can be provided during a break week by writing to registrar@nationsu.edu. Urgent items such as transcript orders and technical issues will still be handled according to normal business day practices unless otherwise notified.

Prison student services is closed in the month of January and other break times may vary for this division. Email prison.services@nationsu.edu with any questions.

There are 3 Graduation Dates per year – May 1st, September 1st, and December 1st. Students planning to graduate with a Certificate or Degree should contact their advisor 6 weeks prior to apply for graduation. They will begin receiving graduation information once a week, during the 6 weeks leading up to graduation. Upcoming graduates must have completed all academic graduation requirements by two weeks prior to a graduation date. Please see page 64 in this handbook for more details.

Study Guide

Our goal is to help the student gain a deeper understanding of God and Scripture. However, courses are offered on a university-level. Students who struggle at this level are urged to give serious attention to the suggestions. This should enable students to pass exams on the first attempt. Begin study each day with these tools: a Bible, pen, outlined below.

1. If possible, print the PDF file for the course. A three-ring binder will be useful to keep the course organized.
2. Read all the introductory material in the syllabus first: Course Summary, Objectives, Procedures, Things to Know, etc. The course objectives will identify the learning that the course anticipates. The procedure page lays out the roadmap of the course. The Things to Know page is designed to pinpoint the key elements over which you will be examined.
3. Look at Module 1. Skim through it to see how it is organized. Notice bold headings, units, and outline numbers. Pay attention to what is important. Many students find highlighters or different colored pens are useful as they underline important points.
4. Read Module 1. If the reading seems easy to understand, read through the whole module first. Take notes at this time or take notes on second reading.
5. Complete all assignments and reflection activities. These activities require thinking deeply about the reading. Write down reflections to solidify the ideas more firmly.
6. Read and study all the Internet links or textbook readings. Examination questions are taken from assigned readings as well as the course syllabus.

Here are some Reading Strategies that may help.

Careful reading that results in higher level thinking makes the difference between success and failure. Good readers often use the following reading strategies.

1. **Question.** A reader needs to ask questions, especially when reading nonfiction material and textbooks. Questioning helps clarify meanings, reveal relationships, and strengthen memory.
2. **Connect.** Good readers find connections to themselves, something in the same text, or something in history. Notice if people, places, or ideas are connected in some way.
3. **Re-Read.** If a section is confusing or does not make sense, put a question mark in the margin. Reading a section again may clear up confusion. Drawing a diagram or chart may be helpful.
4. **Summarize.** Try putting the main points of a section or unit in one well-written sentence. Or identify the main ideas and sub-topics. If the section contains references to events, people, or dates, note on paper why these are important. You may find it useful to place sub-topics in an outline, as, for example,
   The nature of spirituality may be analyzed from the standpoint of
   a. Spirituality awakening
   b. Spiritual elements
   c. Expressing inner spirit

5. **Vocabulary.** Vocabulary is essential in learning new concepts. Make a list of new and important words. Use the context to determine word meanings as well as a dictionary. An excellent website for vocabulary can be found at www.dictionary.com.
6. **Using your Bible.** Look up scriptures listed in your course. Study these passages as much as you study the course syllabus. Some answers are only found within the scriptures assigned.
7. **Taking Exams**. Extra time in study usually deepens a student's understanding of the material. Successful students open exams after they are fully prepared and confident of their ability to score a passing grade. When fully prepared (usually after two-seven days of study and review), click on the exam shown under the module just studied. Instructions will appear. Here are some tips.
    - Read the question and think through each answer choice.
    - Eliminate the ones that are not correct.
    - Carefully weigh each choice.
    - Choose the correct answer to the question.
    - When the exam asks you to mark the INCORRECT statement or response, be sure to look for the one answer that is false. Through the process of elimination, some choices can be discounted.
    - Take time to think through each choice and rationalize why you have chosen a particular answer.

The Professor

A professor is assigned to each course. The extent of professorial involvement is regulated by the nature of the course and the needs of the students. Professors have already been involved in course design and syllabus construction. Your professor will read and grade your submissions and provide feedback for improvement.

Because your advisor is most familiar with general study procedures, your first line of inquiry should go to him/her. The advisor can forward more advanced questions to the appropriate professor if you have not made contact with him/her through routine assignments.

Libraries and Resources

NationsUniversity maintains a significant online library for students who wish to explore sources that are available through electronic media. NationsUniversity is providing without charge EBSCOhost e-book collection which supplies an online research service with 375 full-text databases, a collection of 600,000-plus ebooks, journals, subject indexes, and an array of historical digital archives of necessary books needed for every course.

EBSCO supplies the required textbooks for each course and that textbook is available under the Electronic Collection listed in the menu of each course. These are available immediately to online students with the click of a mouse.

Change of Address

It shall be the student's responsibility to keep his contact information current. He/she may update personal information online or notify the Director of Student Services or the Registrar. Twice each year the university will ask students to confirm their current physical location.

Technologies

NationsUniversity places all courses online. These may be retrieved and downloaded through any electronic device that is capable of reaching the Internet. Adobe Reader Download and Text to Speech Software are accessible through the NU website.

NationsUniversity is providing without charge EBSCOhost e-book collection which supplies an online research service with 375 full-text databases, a collection of 600,000-plus e-books, journals, subject indexes, and an array of historical digital archives of necessary books needed for every course. These are available immediately to online students with the click of a mouse.

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

HARDWARE:

2 GHZ or Higher Processor

4 GB of Memory

150 MB of Hard Disk Space

Monitor and video card with 1024×768 or greater resolution
Keyboard and Mouse is recommended
Speakers/Headphones
Desktop or laptop are preferred – at this time we can not guarantee user experience with a netbook, Chromebook or mobile device, including a tablet.
Printer and Scanner are recommended
SOFTWARE/SERVICES:
Speed Internet Service – connection speed of 1.5 MB/s or better. (Satellite internet may not work well due to the latency of the connection)
Microsoft Windows 7 or higher (10 is recommended)
Apple/Mac OSx 10 or latest version
Microsoft Office for Windows or Mac
Internet Browsers: Mozilla Firefox, Opera, Safari, Internet Explorer or Google Chrome
Up to date version of Adobe Flash or Silverlight
Up to date version of Adobe Reader
MOBILE DEVICES:
Access to website functionality and required course materials may be limited on mobile devices. Use of a mobile device such as a phone or tablet as a secondary means of access is permissible, but submission of assigned papers in the proper format may be difficult.

Translation Tools: NationsUniversity offers translation tools for every course. The Google Translation Tool is able to offer you an instant translation into 103 various languages by simply clicking on the "select language" option and pick your desired language. The Microsoft Translation Tool also offers a variety of translated languages to those who decided to use option. At present they offer their service in 53 various languages.

Tuition History

Date	Tuition Rate	Description
January 1, 2008	$100	Annual technology fee was introduced in 2008 for U.S. students
January 1, 2012	$250	Technology fee increased and $25 registration fee added for U.S. applicants. $25 registration applied to incarcerated, but no annual fee.
July 1, 2013	$480	Technology fee increased for U.S. students
January 1, 2016	$960	Following accreditation in July 2015, annual tuition replaced the Technology fee for U.S. non-incarcerated, and also became applicable to the Top 25 Developed Countries.
January 1, 2018	$1,440	Increase in annual tuition.
March 1, 2018	$360	Tuition was converted to a quarterly subscription model
January 1, 2019	$450	Quarterly Tuition increased. In addition, Top 25 Developed Countries was expanded to Top 35 Developed Countries.
January 2, 2021	n/a	Existing Student, which was no longer applicable, was replaced with 3.e. New Students to reflect the offering of First Quarter Free as a permanent policy.
August 2024	n/a	Tuition policy was updated to indicate that discounts other than space-available faculty discounts do not apply to doctoral programs. Tuition policy was updated to reflect fixed-term program types.

Academic Calendar

NationsUniversity courses are available for study year-round. There are no semesters or quarters. Students may enroll in courses at any time. Although all administrators, staff, and faculty are on duty 365 days a year, students should allow personnel ample time for response to any party. Assignments may be graded on a weekly or monthly schedule. Specific questions may demand some research time. Advisors and Faculty do not keep standard office hours, but they can be reached by e-mail at any time.

The regulations in this edition of the NU catalog are binding on all students who matriculate during the calendar year 2022 (January 1 - December 31). Students who were accepted in a prior year and who have maintained continuous Active status are subject to the requirements of the catalog in place at the time of their acceptance. Students who become Inactive or withdraw from the university are subject to the catalog in force upon their return. A statute of limitations of seven years is placed on the life an any given catalog. v01.01.22.

University Holiday Calendar 2026

- January 1 – New Year's Day, Offices Closed
- January 9 – M.A.P.S. Meeting- Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students *(Seeking God's Direction from All over the World, the NU Alumni Association needs more interest in leading NU students interested in prayer* – email allisonj@nationsu.edu)
- January 19 – Martin Luther King Holiday
- February 7 – P.A.S.S. – Peer and Alumni-led Student Support Quarterly meeting - *All NU Students Welcome To Attend these Quarterly Academic Coaching Sessions! 2 Times for those in Different Zones*, 4am and 10am U.S. CST, New Orleans Time
- February 13– M.A.P.S. Meeting - Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students
- February 16 – President's Day
- March 9-13 – NationsU Spring Break (*Dates Vary Annually*)
- March 13 - M.A.P.S. Meeting - Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students
- March 15 – Apply with Advisor for May 1st Graduation
- April 3 – Good Friday – As Identified on the common US Calendar (*Dates Vary Annually*)
- April 10 – M.A.P.S. Meeting-Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students
- April 15 – Deadline for Completing Academic Graduation Requirements and Paying Grad Fee
- April 30- NationsU Spring Benefit Dinner
- **May 1 – NationsU Spring Graduation Day**
- May 2- Second P.A.S.S. Coaching Session between Alumni and Students - 4am and 10am U.S. CST, New Orleans Time
- May 8 - M.A.P.S. Meeting-Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students
- May 25 – Memorial Day – As Identified on the common US Calendar (*Dates Vary Annually*)
- June 12 - M.A.P.S. monthly prayer Zoom between alumni and students
- July – Official Admissions is Closed this month, Official Transcript Orders Still Filled in 5 Business Days
- July 4 – Independence Day
- July 12 - M.A.P.S. monthly prayer Zoom between alumni and students
- July 15 – Apply with Advisor for September 1st Graduation
- August 1 - P.A.S.S. Quarterly Peer and Alumni Academic Support Meeting
- August 14 - M.A.P.S. monthly prayer Zoom between alumni and students
- August 15 – Deadline for Completing Academic Graduation Requirements and Paying Graduation Fee
- August 15 - Deadline for applying for the D.Min. cohort that begins on September 1, 2026.
- **September 1 – NationsU Summer Graduation Day**
- September 1 - First day of class for the new D.Min. cohort
- September 7 – Labor Day (*As Identified on US Calendar, Dates Vary Annually)*
- September 1 - M.A.P.S. monthly prayer Zoom between alumni and students
- October 9 - M.A.P.S. Monthly prayer Zoom between alumni and students
- October 15 – Apply with Advisor for December 1st Graduation
- October 21 - NUAA Ambassadors Meeting at 9 am (CST)
- November 11th – Veteran's Day
- November 13 - M.A.P.S. Monthly prayer Zoom between alumni and students
- November 7 - P.A.S.S. Meeting at 4 am (CST) and 10 am (CST)
- November 15 – Deadline for Completing Graduation Requirements & Paying Grad Fee
- November 23-27 – Week of Thanksgiving/Fall Break (*Dates Vary Annually*)
- November 26-27– Thanksgiving Day through Friday, Offices Closed (*Dates Vary Annually*)
- **December 1 – NationsU Winter Graduation Day**
- December 11- M.A.P.S. Monthly prayer Zoom between alumni and students
- December 21 - January 3– Winter Break, Official Admissions Closed
- December 24- 25 – Offices Closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
- December 31 – New Year's Eve



What do a Zimbabwean Police Sergeant, a U.S. Nuclear Scientist, a Vietnamese Business Developer, and a French Librarian all have in common?

They all have degrees from NationsUniversity!

The NationsUniversity Alumni Association

The NUAA was foundedd to foster a spirit of loyalty to NationsUniversity and its mission that brings about another source of support, greater awareness for NU and a network for Kingdom Service. Membership is open to all students of NationsUniversity and all graduates regardless of when they graduated

Why Participate?

- Promote Your School – *Get the Word Out, International Ambassadors*
- Support Your School – *Both Financial and Paying it Forward*
- Online Community – *Encouragement to Each Other*
- Networking – *Connecting with Career Opportunities Around the World*
- Kingdom Collaboration – *A Network of Mission Minded People*
- Recruitment - *New Students and Qualified Volunteer Faculty for NationsU*
- School Improvement – *Retention/ Increase Student Involvement / Graduations/Services/Traditions*

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