

# GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## LEVELING COURSES

### BIBLE 1303. INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT.

An introductory survey of the Old Testament with special attention to the institutions, religious and national life of the Hebrews. Fall, Spring, Summer.

*Prerequisite: None.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 1304. INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT.

An introductory survey of the New Testament, including its background, the Gospels, the Acts and Epistles and the Apocalypse. Fall, Spring, Summer.

*Prerequisite: None.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 3391. BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION.

A study of the principles of biblical interpretation and the application of these principles to selected portions of the Bible. Fall

*Prerequisite: BIB 1303 and BIB 1304.*

*Three semester hours*

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 3380. THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS.

This course is designed to introduce the methods, sources, and doctrines of Christian theology with the goal to prepare students for graduate coursework in theology. PTH 3380 is a leveling course for graduate students who have not completed a similar course during an undergraduate program. Offered on demand.

*Prerequisite: None.*

*Three semester hours*

### YOUTH MINISTRY 3380. INTRODUCTION TO YOUTH MINISTRY.

A study of the basic purposes and principles effective in ministering to contemporary teenagers. Attention will be given to youth ministry and education through the local church. YMN 3380 is a leveling course for graduate students only. Offered on demand.

*Prerequisite: None.*

*Three semester hours*

## BIBLE

Bible courses are offered in full semester format during the semesters listed. In addition, one Old Testament course will be offered in Spring, even years, and one New Testament course will be offered in Spring, odd years, in modular format.

### BIBLE 5304. SPECIAL TOPICS IN BIBLICAL STUDIES.

A study of selected topics related to study of the Old or New Testaments. Offered on demand.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the Graduate Program*

*Three semester hours.*

### BIBLE 5311. OLD TESTAMENT POETRY.

A study of the poetical portions of the Old Testament with emphasis on Job, the Psalms, and Proverbs. Attention will be given to the literary aspects, the message and the interpretation of these books. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 5321. INTERBIBLICAL PERIOD.

A study of the background and texts of the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical books of the Interbiblical period. Attention will be given to their relationship to the canonical texts. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 5331. HEBREW PROPHETS.

An intensive study of the Old Testament Prophetic Books: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and the twelve minor prophets. Attention is given to the historical and literary contexts, the message, and the interpretation of these books. Fall, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 5341. GENERAL EPISTLES.

A careful study of the epistles of James, Peter, Jude and the Epistle to the Hebrews. Special attention will be given to the historical background of each epistle. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 5342. LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS.

A careful study of the life and teachings of Jesus based on the gospels. Special attention will be given to the philosophical, historical, and literary background to the first century A.D. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 5351. JOHN AND HIS WRITINGS.

An intensive study of the background, content, purpose, and theology of the Fourth Gospel and the Johannine epistles. Emphasis will be given to the historical context of these writings. Fall, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

### BIBLE 5352. LIFE AND LETTERS OF PAUL.

A careful study of the life and letters of the Apostle Paul including the philosophical, historical and theological background to first century Christianity. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**BIBLE 5361. REVELATION.**

An intensive study of the content and doctrinal teachings of the book of Revelation. Special attention will be given to its historical background and relationship to Jewish apocalyptic literature. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**BIBLE 5381. THE PENTATEUCH.**

An intensive study of the first five books of the Bible. Attention is given to the historical and literary contexts, the message, and the interpretation of these books. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**BIBLE 5391. BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION.**

A study of the principles of biblical interpretation and the application of these principles to selected portions of the Bible. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 6311. TEACHING IN CONTEXT.**

A study of the various aspects involved in the teaching/learning process. With the example of Christ, attention will be given to effective teaching methods, as well as how individuals learn. Principles of teaching and how those are transferred will also be discussed. [Communication prerequisite: students who have not previously taken a preaching or teaching course will need to demonstrate competency in communicating biblical truth to contemporary hearers through a satisfactory evaluation of student-prepared sermons or lessons.] Fall, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 6314: EDUCATION AND FAITH DEVELOPMENT.**

A study of the historical, philosophical, and theological dimensions in Christian education, with an emphasis on how groups, families, and individuals learn and grow in their faith. Special attention will be given to the integration and implementation of theology and Christian doctrine within the structure of a church and its organization. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

## **PRACTICAL THEOLOGY**

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 5300. RESEARCH AND WRITING.**

A course designed to prepare the student for research and writing at a graduate level. Emphasis will be given to identifying, evaluating, and utilizing appropriate resources in research, and to developing excellence in content, form, and style. Fall.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 5311. BAPTIST IDENTITY.**

A study of the nature, mission, and organizations of the local Baptist church, Baptist associations, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the Southern Baptist Convention, and other statewide, nationwide, and worldwide Baptist entities. Required of all students who receive ministerial financial aid from the BGCT. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 5312. CHRISTIAN PROCLAMATION.**

A study of the principles of expository sermon preparation with a focus on the effective use of narrative elements in communicating the Gospel to a postmodern world. The course will explore a variety of sermon forms and the use of media and sensory materials. Emphasis will be on sermon preparation and other vital issues relating to the preaching task. [Communication prerequisite: students who have not previously taken a preaching or teaching course will need to demonstrate competency in communicating biblical truth to

contemporary hearers through a satisfactory evaluation of student-prepared sermons or lessons.] Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 5331. HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY.**

A general survey of the Christian movement from its beginning to the present time. Special attention will be given to significant individuals, selected ideas, movements and institutions, which have influenced Christian theology.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 5322. CHRISTIAN ETHICS: THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE.**

A course designed to provide a biblical model for responding to ethical issues in a postmodern world.

The study will construct a definition of "Christian Ethics," examine

biblical foundations, explore methods and approaches to ethical decision making, and make application to

contemporary issues in personal lifestyle, Christian mission, and the current socio-political milieu. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 5370. CHURCH AND PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.**

A course of study relating to building and maintaining a budget for a local church youth ministry, with emphasis given to managing the money entrusted to the youth minister. Additional emphases include budgeting and

managing personal finances, including an emphasis on insurance, investments, real estate, and retirement. Cross-

credited with YMN 5370. Only three hours credit will be awarded for YMN 5370 or PTH 5370. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 6261 - 6269. MENTORSHIPS. (Choose three 2-hour courses)**

Opportunities will be provided for students to receive practical on-the-job training and supervision from a leader who has expertise in the field. Students will choose 3 from the following list of internships. Additional mentorships may be proposed, but must be approved by the dean. Evaluation and assessment will be performed at the conclusion of each mentorship. Cross-credited with YMN 6261-6269. Only two hours credit will be awarded for YMN 6261-6269 or PTH 6261-6269.

PTH 6261 Christian Care and Counseling

PTH 6262 Family Ministries

PTH 6263 Church Leadership and Administration PTH 6264 Preaching

PTH 6265 Teaching

PTH 6266 Leading a Missional Church

PTH 6267 Community Ministries

PTH 6268 Christian Higher Education

PTH 6269 Selected Experiences in Christian Ministry\*

\*(Course may be repeated for credit if field experiences differ.)

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Two semester hours each*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 6312. THEOLOGY OF CHURCH AND ITS MISSION.**

An intensive study of the biblical, historical and theological doctrines concerning the local and universal Christian church as to its purpose, mission in the context of the twenty-first century, authentic worship and complete ministries. In addition, attention will be given to the work of local Baptist churches in light of historic Baptist Distinctives, global missions, evangelism, with an emphasis on the discipleship of believers. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 6321. LEADERSHIP: THEORY AND PRACTICE.**

A course that will include basic elements of leadership including setting goals, vision, recruitment and what it means to follow. Advanced areas to be examined will include affecting change, dealing with conflict, as well as strategic planning within the life of a church or ministry organization. The theory and practice of biblical leadership addressed will be applicable to a local or global context. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 6331. THE CHURCH: ITS CULTURE AND CONTEXT.**

A course designed to understand the church as a body of believers with a basis of Scripture and consideration of culture. Special focus will be given to the church in a local, as well as international context. Current church models will be examined and evaluated with a present and future perspective. Fall, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 6340. GLOBAL THEOLOGIES.**

Emerging from contemporary shifts in population and capital, the spread of Christianity throughout the world, as well as the call for the "catholicity" of the church, this course introduces students to the diverse voices within the whole spectrum of the Christian tradition, especially those previously marginalized from the theological conversation. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY 6395. THE MINISTER'S PERSONAL WORLD.**

A careful look at all the relationships that impact a minister and his/her life, including relationships with God, family, a network of professional colleagues, and groups within the church. Emphasis will be placed on moving toward spiritual, physical, emotional, and professional health. Cross-credited with YMN 6395. Only three hours credit will be awarded for YMN 6395 or PTH 6395. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program*

*Three semester hours*

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

**YOUTH MINISTRY 5300. RESEARCH AND WRITING.**

A course designed to prepare the student for research and writing at a graduate level, essential for success in graduate course work, particularly YMN 6305, 6340, 6375, and 6390. Emphasis will be given to identifying, evaluating, and utilizing appropriate resources in research, and to developing good form and style in writing research documents. Fall.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 5310. PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR YOUTH MINISTRY.**

An examination of the models and philosophies which generate and undergird youth ministry in contemporary society. Emphasis will be given to the development of a personal philosophy based upon biblical principles. This course is offered only in full semester format. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 5320. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY.**

An experiential learning course that involves preparation, implementation, and evaluation of a ministry trip to a location outside the United States. Attention will be given to understanding the culture and interacting with persons within that culture.

*Prerequisite: None.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 5350. SURVEY OF YOUTH EDUCATION.**

A study of the historical background and development of youth education in the local church. Emphasis will be given to program organizations, literature, and methods of religious education for youth. This course is offered only in full semester format. Spring.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

#### YOUTH MINISTRY 5370. CHURCH AND PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.

A course of study relating to building and maintaining a budget for a local church youth ministry, with emphasis given to managing the money entrusted to the youth minister. Additional emphases include budgeting and managing personal finances, including an emphasis on insurance, investments, real estate, and retirement.

Cross-credited with PTH 5370. Only three hours credit will be awarded for PTH 5370 or YMN 5370. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

#### YOUTH MINISTRY 6261 - 6269. INTERNSHIPS. (Choose three 2-hour courses)

Opportunities will be provided for students to receive practical on-the-job training and supervision from a leader who has expertise in the field. Students will choose 3 from the following list of internships. Additional internships may be proposed, but must be approved by the dean. Evaluation and assessment will be performed at the conclusion of each internship. Cross-credited with PTH 6261-6269. Only two hours credit will be awarded for PTH 6261-6269 or YMN 6261-6269.

YMN 6261 Youth Ministry in Multicultural settings

YMN 6262 Crisis Management/Intervention

YMN 6263 Local Church Youth Ministry

YMN 6264 Youth Ministry in Urban Settings

YMN 6265 Youth Ministry in Camp/Retreat/ Recreation Settings

YMN 6266 Youth Ministry in Suburban Settings

YMN 6267 Youth Ministry in Rural Settings

YMN 6268 Youth Ministry in Parachurch Settings

YMN 6269 Selected Experiences in Christian Ministry\*

\*(Course may be repeated for credit if field experiences differ.)

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Two semester hours each*

#### YOUTH MINISTRY 6305. EVANGELIZING/DISCIPLING THE 21ST CENTURY TEEN.

A thorough examination of the evangelism/discipleship continuum from the time a person is first introduced to the idea of God until that person becomes a mature, discipling Christian. There will be an in-depth study of the various models of evangelism and discipleship to discern their validity and/or effectiveness in guiding the 21st century teenager toward spiritual maturity. Fall, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

#### YOUTH MINISTRY 6320. YOUTH MINISTRY AND LEADERSHIP.

A study of the meaning and value of effective youth ministry leadership, especially as it relates to the local church, including the basic functions along with additional principles of organization and management. Emphasis will be given not only to leadership styles and how these relate to efficiency in group situations, but also to the development of personal leadership skills and how to equip adult youth leaders and parents in the development as leaders. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

#### YOUTH MINISTRY 6330. ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT.

An intensive study of the developmental process from youth to adulthood in order to determine their characteristics and needs. Emphasis will be given to principles for designing a ministry that will address the individual needs of teens at their various developmental stages. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

#### YOUTH MINISTRY 6335. COUNSELING YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES.

An in-depth study of the field of counseling as it relates to ministering to youth and their families with specific focus being given to the theological, practical, and philosophical distinctives of counseling from the Christian world view. Particular attention will be given to the scope and limitations of the non-certified, non-credentialed counselor, especially as it relates to the legal ramifications of caring for the 21st century teen and his/her family, including when, and to whom, to refer. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 6340. MINISTERING TO YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

Statistically, parents spend more time with their youth than any other single category of adults. Students will research family models in the 21st century and receive instruction on relating to families as well as to the youth in those families. Principles for constructing a thorough and efficient ministry to families will be shared. Fall, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 6370. YOUTH MINISTRY INSTITUTE.**

Week-long classes offered each January at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Each day, guest speakers will address a topic within the discipline of youth ministry. Time for questions, debriefing, discussion, and suggestions for implementation in the local church will follow presentations. Topics will rotate annually. May be repeated once for credit. Spring.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 6375. RESEARCHING YOUTH CULTURE.**

A course designed to cultivate the student's ability to research and present finding on various aspects of contemporary youth culture. Attention will be given to the development of such skills for lifelong learning. Fall, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 6380. YOUTH MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY.**

A course designed to explore the importance of a solid theological base as a foundation for effective youth ministry. Emphasis will be given to the examination of biblical/theological themes and their application in the life and work of a minister. Fall, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 6385. COMMUNICATING WITH YOUTH AUDIENCES.**

A course designed to equip the student to communicate effectively with youth audiences. Emphasis will be given to the preparation and delivery of biblical and relevant messages to teenagers. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 6390. ADVANCED YOUTH MINISTRY.**

An advanced examination of the various models of youth ministry with additional emphasis placed on the ministry to parents of youth, the development of adult youth leaders, the development of relationships with teenagers, the development of an administration manual to help govern local church youth ministry, and a particular emphasis on emerging legal issues that affect ministry with teens in the 21st century. Spring, even years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*

**YOUTH MINISTRY 6395. THE MINISTER'S PERSONAL WORLD.**

A careful look at all the relationships that impact a youth minister and his/her life, including relationships with God, with family, with a network of professional colleagues, and with groups within the church. Emphasis will be placed on moving toward spiritual, physical, emotional, mental, and professional health. Cross-credited with PTH 6395. Only three hours credit will be awarded for PTH 6395 or YMN 6395. Spring, odd years.

*Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program.*

*Three semester hours*