



Program of Study:

Christian Studies Undergraduate Concentrations

Program Description

Students seeking to enhance their undergraduate experience, by taking more course work within their majors or by venturing into other disciplines, may select from among a range of concentrations. Concentrations offered by the College of Liberal Arts are comprised of a minimum of 12 specifically defined credits and will be noted on the student's transcript.

Biblical/Theological Studies Concentration:

BIB 453	Old Testament Poetry	A study of the poetical books of the Old Testament, with reference to their literary style, occasion of writing, authorship, content, an interpretation. Prerequisites: BIB 113 and BIB 123.	3
BIB 423	General Epistle and the Revelation	A study of the historical background, authorship, and exegetical analysis of the General Epistles (Hebrew; James; I and II Peter; I, II, and III John; and Jude) and The Revelation.	3
HTH 303	History of Christianity in America	This course is a study of Christianity in its American context. It is a historical inquiry that examines the relationship between Christianity and culture in order to answer how and why the political and social, and intellectual traditions in American culture shaped Christianity and were, in turn, shaped by Christianity.	3

Choose one of the following courses:

HTH 365	Historical Theology	This course is a study of the story of the main highlights of the development from the second century a.d. to the present, of Christian beliefs, doctrines, and theories. Special concentration is given to how these beliefs, doctrines and theories are connected with concrete events and real persons to show why they mattered and how they developed. The study includes an understanding of the role of heresy, philosophy, and culture as factors in the shaping of Christian theology. Special concentration is also given to a deeper look at the place of evangelical theology.	3
PHI 351	Christian Apologetics	To Be Determined	3

Total Biblical/Theological Studies Concentration Credits: 12

Christian Leadership Studies Concentration:

CHL 432	Leadership Theory and Praxis	Definitions of leadership are explored and various models and styles for leadership are identified. Students assess their own skill sets, learn new ones, and develop strategies for being a more effective leader in various contexts. The influence of values on decision-making is examined. Students compare their own skills with the needs of their context.	3
CHL 436	Administrative Aspects of Leadership	Students will become familiar with the administrative skills necessary for more effectively leading a successful organization. Students explore management of financial and marketing systems and human resources, as well as learn to network and to understand change and transition.	3

MIN 412	Organizational Development and Change	Ministerial organizational development and change encompasses the study of individual and group behavior in church organization settings. An introductory study of the basic structures of Christian organizations, the course focuses on an overview of the typical processes and decisions that lead to healthy organizational development and change. Managing organizational development and change challenges individuals to understand and embrace audience diversity, elements of change, effective communication, and performance systems. A comprehensive review of these organizational processes will allow students to examine their role in ministerial organizations in the new millennium. This course will include review of effective structures for ministry.	3
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Choose one of the following courses:

CHL 444	Ethical Challenges for the Christian Leader	Specific ethical issues will be raised which students will examine how their Christian values influence their actions and decisions as they live out their faith in their vocations and positions. After an introduction to Christian ethics, issues are investigated through the use of case studies.	3
CHL 435	Biblical Leadership	Leaders in the Bible, including Old and New Testament examples, form the basis for exploring models of biblical leadership. Students will learn valuable lessons from the struggles and successes of significant men and women in the Bible. Students will propose their own leadership project, which they will develop in CHL 445 and complete in CHL 450.	3

Total Christian Leadership Concentration Credits: 12

Pastoral Ministry Concentration:

PSY 341	Lifespan Development	A course in developmental psychology with an concentration on the physical, social, cognitive, personality, and moral developments within an individual. The course is designed to provide an understanding of the transitions of life from conception to death. May not be taken with prior credit in Child Psychology (PSY 353). Prerequisite: PSY 101.	3
MIN 373	Intro to Pastoral Ministry	A study of the philosophy and practice of pastoral work. Emphasis is given to the caring and nurturing practices involved in ministry. A special focus is given to assist students in their ability to synthesize pastoral work with their place of service.	3
CHL 446	Issues in Counseling	This course is an introduction to counseling. Specific personal, social and psychological issues will be discussed. Appropriate use of networks and referral to trained resource professionals will be explored. Limitations and implications of counseling for untrained practitioners are stressed.	3

Choose one of the following courses:

CHL 442	Coaching and Mentoring	Coaching and mentoring are important dimensions of effective leadership. This course will reinforce the personal leadership effectiveness of the students by helping them to improve the personal, interpersonal and leadership effectiveness of those with whom they work. Students will build on the foundations of servant leadership and mutual accountability as they identify potential team-building experiences and persons to begin to mentor.	3
COM 410	Effective Ministerial Communication	The theory and practice of effective ministerial communications including preaching, writing, and teaching techniques that spread the gospel will be the basis of this course. An application of theory through problem solving and case study of current effective ministerial speakers. The student will learn the tools and preparation needed to communicate with a variety of audiences, to employ creative pedagogy that challenges and engages the audience, and to develop a message that is culturally relevant and biblically accurate.	3

Total Christian Leadership Concentration Credits: 12

Youth Ministry Concentration:

PSY 373	Adolescent Psychology	An examination of the meaning and significance of adolescence; physical, mental, moral, and religious development; adolescent impulses, interests, and social tendencies; the hygiene of adolescence; and the guidance and control of adolescent behavior.	3
MIN 343	Teaching and Guiding Youth	This course equips students to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences, to employ creative pedagogy that challenges and engages youth, and to develop curriculum that is culturally relevant and biblically accurate.	3
BIB 410	Interpreting the Bible for Youth	Future youth leaders in interpreting and communicating the Bible to a youth audience to develop the necessary skills in exegesis, scripture outline, and content analysis throughout the course. The majority of the course will focus on developing the skills necessary to assist others to relate the Bible to modern situations facing youth and their families. Successful completion of the course will entail interpreting assigned Scripture and relating it to current situations.	3

Choose one of the following courses:

MIN 476	Issues in Contemporary Youth Ministry	Examining current movements, trends, leaders, and perspectives affecting youth ministry and youth ministry strategies is paramount to foreseeing future trends within the youth culture. Topics will include a review of the efforts being made in the local church, regional service centers, and national ministries to develop unique youth ministry programs. Focus will be also given to churches and Christian ministries which are reaching youth in different settings such as urban, suburban, and rural locations.	3
CHL 430	The Dynamics of Groups	The social and communication characteristics of groups that drive organizations are studied with regard to their special leader and member roles and relational culture. Students will identify their Worldview as it compares with others. Special attention is given to development of the gifts and skills of members. Students assess the specific leadership needs for their own context.	3

Total Youth Ministry Concentration Credits: 12