

Diploma in Bible and Theology

Requirement: 68 credit hours

This diploma program, designed for those whom God has called to leadership and ministry, helps develop the emerging leader/minister to be able to fulfill his/her leadership or ministry calling. It also satisfies the academic requirements for ministerial credentials with various denominations. The student is urged to check with his/her denomination concerning specific requirements.

MIN201: Church Leadership: Becoming the Leader God Wants You to Be

The student is encouraged to examine his/her life and discover the means that God has used and continues to use to develop him/her as a leader. Emphasis is placed on the great importance of the character of leaders and their life-long development.

2 hours

THE202: Ecclesiology: The Church in the 21st Century

A theological study of the Church with emphasis on the Church as the community of the people of God. The Church is studied in relation to the kingdom of God, its nature, structure, and mission.

2 hours

HIS203: Church History 1: From Pentecost to Protestantism

An introduction to the history of the first fifteen centuries of the Church. Emphasis is placed on the fulfillment of the mission of the Church through two structures, modalities and sodalities. We also deal with nine principles that have affected the renewal and expansion of the Church throughout the centuries.

2 hours

HIS204: Church History 2: Renewal and Expansion in the Modern Age

A continuation of the previous course, from the great mission century to the end of the twentieth century. The worldwide expansion of the Church is stressed. *2 hours*

THE205: Christology: Our Great Salvation

A theological study of the person and work of Jesus Christ. The course is divided into three parts: The eternal Christ, the incarnate Christ, and the exalted Christ. The Christology found in the Gospels is emphasized. *2 hours*

BIB206: Luke-Acts: To the Ends of the Earth

An inductive study of Luke's writings. This course underscores the fact that Luke-Acts is the continuation of the salvation history of the Old Testament. It deals with the development of the Church from its unique beginnings to its emergence as the universal people of God through the moving of the Holy Spirit.

2 hours

BIB207: John and His Epistles: The Universal Savior

A hermeneutical study of John and his Epistles. The course begins with an introduction to the principles of inductive Bible study which are illustrated and practiced throughout the study. Emphasis is placed on the person and work of Jesus Christ, the One sent from God. The course ends with an inductive analysis of the Epistles of John.

2 hours

BIB208: Colossians and Ephesians: The Christological Epistles

This course begins with an introduction to Paul's epistles. Also presented are hermeneutical principles for the interpretation of epistolary literature, with a special focus on the Christology of the twin epistles.

2 hours

THE301: Soteriology: Our Great Salvation

A theological study of the three phases of salvation from the moment of new birth until the glorious reunion with our Lord. The focus of this course is both missiological and soteriological. It includes a study of sanctification as an essential part of salvation.

2 hours

BIB302: Romans and Galatians: Justified by Faith

An inductive study of the soteriological epistles par excellence of the New Testament. Using the hermeneutical principles learned in earlier courses, the great themes of Galatians and Romans are studied in detail, with emphasis on the universality of the Gospel.

2 hours

BIB303: Hebrews: Jesus Our Great High Priest

An introduction to the letters written to the Jewish Christians, with special attention to the Epistle to the Hebrews. The theme of the course points to Jesus Christ as the final revelation of God to humanity. Special emphasis is given to the hermeneutics of Hebrews in relation to the Old Testament.

MIN304: Teaching the Bible: Principles for Change

Although teaching methods are determined both culturally and temporally, there are certain biblical principles that are universally applicable; these are the principles that form the basis of this course. We include principles for teaching children, youth, and adults.

2 hours

THE305: Theology and Pneumatology: The Doctrine of God and of the Holy Spirit

This course begins with a study of theology from an apologetic perspective and deals with the Fatherhood of God and His Word, with a basic introduction to hermeneutics. The second part of the course deals with Pneumatology, i.e., the study of the Person and work of the Holy Spirit. Included in this section is an introduction to the Pentecostal / Charismatic movement.

2 hours

BIB306: The Pentateuch: The Books of the Law

The study of the first five books of the Old Testament, with special emphasis on the first eleven chapters of Genesis. This course includes a thematic study of the Law of Moses, the Tabernacle in the desert, and the feasts prescribed in the Law as they relate to the New Testament.

2 hours

BIB307: Hebrew History: The Historical Books of the Old Testament

An inductive study of the historical books of the Old Testament. Leadership lessons found in this portion of Scripture are stressed.

2 hours

MIN308: Homiletics: Practical Principles of Preaching

An introduction to the principles of sermon preparation and presentation. The students practice preaching skills in their churches and learn to use homiletical principles in the construction of three types of sermons: topical, textual and expository.

2 hours

THE401: Anthropology and Hamartiology: Man and Sin

Two related themes are developed in this course: The uniqueness of man-made in the image of God and the human tragedy caused by sin. The destiny of man is also studied. The student develops a biblical perspective of man and his need for salvation.

2 hours

REL402: Cults and Religions: Man's Answer to Sin's Dilemma

The major religions and cults are analyzed historically and apologetically, with the purpose of sharing the gospel in an effective way with their adherents. Special attention is given to Islam. Traits that cults have in common are also presented.

2 hours

BIB403: Poetic Books: Expressions from the Heart

A hermeneutical study of the poetic literature of the Old Testament. Since a third of the Bible is written in poetic form, an understanding of the rules of interpretation of poetic literature is imperative for every spiritual leader. Also emphasized is the private and public use of poetic literature in the Christian community.

2 hours

MIN404: Counseling: How to be a People Helper

This course teaches skills for ministering to people who need emotional and spiritual help. The student develops skills such as listening and questioning. Emphasis is placed on the work of the Holy Spirit and the Word both in the counselor and in the counselee.

2 hours

THE405: Eschatology: Living in the Last Days

The study of the theology of last things. This course presents the various hermeneutical systems that have been used throughout the history of the church. Emphasis is placed on the relation of eschatology to the Great Commission. Both the personal and corporate aspects of eschatology are studied.

2 hours

BIB406: Daniel and Revelation: Windows to the Future

An inductive study of Daniel and Revelation. The course begins with a study of the hermeneutical methods of interpretation of apocalyptic literature followed by an inductive study of these two books. Discipleship and leadership lessons found in Daniel and Revelation are discussed.

2 hours

BIB407: Prophets and Prophecy: Proclaiming God's Word to the World

An introduction to the Prophets of the Old Testament. Relevant hermeneutical principles are applied to prophetic literature. Leadership principles are drawn from these books. The content of each book is overviewed.

2 hours

MIN408: Church Administration: Principles for Responsible Stewardship

An introduction to the skills required for the healthy functioning of the church. Emphasis is placed on teamwork, the services and ceremonies of the church, how to prepare and maintain financial information and other important documents of the church, ministry ethics, and many other practical topics.

2 hours