



School of Theology (English)
Course Descriptions
(updated Jun 2020)

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Guide to Course Codes

TCA College uses an 8-digit alphanumeric code for all its courses. Please use this legend to understand the course codes.

For example: **Old Testament Survey TESBO100**

T	C = School of Counseling L = School of Leadership T = School of Theology
E	E = English C = Chinese
S	S = Onsite course L = Online course
B	Area of study.
O	Bible BG / BO / BN Theology TG / TH Ministry MC / ME / MM / ML / MP / MW / MT
1	100 to 499 = Undergraduate courses
0	500 to 799 = Graduate courses
0	

The course codes listed in this catalog are mostly for onsite courses.

Bible

Hermeneutics

TESBG101 / TESBG501 / TELBG501

This course is an introduction to the interpretation of the Bible, with a view to providing a historical perspective and practical helps with which to study, interpret and apply Scripture.

Old Testament Survey / Old Testament Foundations

TESBO100 / TESBO500 / TELBO500

A study of the Old Testament in its context: history, geography and culture. The chief events, characters and teachings of each book are studied in relation to their place in the ongoing revelation of God's plan.

Hebrew I

TESBO351 / TESBO551

Hebrew I is the first of the three-part course in Basic Biblical Hebrew Grammar designed to give the beginning Hebrew student a firm and confident grasp of the essentials of biblical Hebrew – with an emphasis on morphology, phonology, syntax, and vocabulary.

Hebrew II

TESBO352 / TESBO552

(Pre-requisite: Hebrew I)

Hebrew II is the second of the three-part course in Basic Biblical Hebrew Grammar designed to give the beginning Hebrew student a firm and coherent grasp of the essentials of biblical Hebrew – with an emphasis on morphology, phonology, syntax, and vocabulary.

Hebrew III

TESBO353 / TESBO553

(Pre-requisites: Hebrew I and II)

Hebrew III is the final of the three-part course in Basic Biblical Hebrew Grammar. The teaching employs a combination of the deductive and inductive methods in linguistic learning.

Hebrew Exegesis

TESBO354 / TESBO554

(Pre-requisites: Hebrew I, II and III)

This course equips the Hebrew student with methods to carefully and responsibly exegete the different genres of the Hebrew Bible. It will benefit the student in the task of biblical research, teaching, and sermon preparation.

Pentateuch

TESBO201 / TESBO511

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The Pentateuch is fundamental to the faith of both Christians and Jews. The first five books of the Bible contain the familiar stories of creation, the fall, and the flood. They tell of the origins of the human race and of the Jewish people. They include laws as basic as the Ten Commandments and as complex as the regulations for food and sacrifices. These books relate the call of Israel to be God's chosen people, yet hold out the prospect of universal salvation for all humankind.

Wisdom Literature

TESBO203 / TESBO513

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course is an introduction to biblical poetry: the nature, purpose and form of the poetical books of the Old Testament (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs).

Major Prophets

TESBO204 / TESBO514

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The Major Prophets course examines the nature of Old Testament prophecy as expressed through the variety of prophetic literature such as oracles, visions, apocalypses and narratives. It also explores the role of the writing prophets and how the message of the major prophetic books contributed to the spiritual formation of God's people in their specific socio-political circumstances of life.

Minor Prophets

TESBO205 / TESBO515

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The Minor Prophets course examines the nature and contents of Old Testament prophecy as expressed through the variety of prophetic forms such as oracles, visions, apocalypses and narratives. It also explores the role of the writing prophets and how the message of the minor prophetic books contributed to the spiritual formation of God's people in their specific socio-political circumstances of life and also for the modern world.

Isaiah

TESBO243 / TESBO543

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course is an interpretation of the book of Isaiah in view of its key background elements. One, its historical context that largely reflects realities in 8th century BC brought about by the emergence of Mesopotamian nations as world powers. Two, its theological themes that highlights God's person and acts, reality and impact of idolatry, experience and expectations of salvation, corporate and individual servanthood, and coming Messiah. A study of each section of the book shall lead to reflection on impact to life and ministry in the present.

Old Testament Theology

TESBO301 / TESBO601

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

A study of the history and approaches to Old Testament Theology. The course will explore major theological themes of the Old Testament and its relationships with the New Testament.

New Testament Survey / New Testament Foundations

TESBN100 / TESBN500 / TELBN500

This course is a study of the New Testament in the context of the history and culture of its time. The main themes and teachings of each book will be explored in relation to the ongoing revelation of God's plan.

Parables of Jesus

TESBN200 / TESBN510

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course is an introduction to the interpretation of the parables of Jesus of Nazareth with critical regard to its nuance-rich parable genre, its literary-theological context in the New Testament Gospels and its historical-cultural-religious-socio-political background in the first

century Roman Province of Judea. Significant hermeneutical approaches, past and present, shall be considered in the study and practical implications for current life contexts and ministry shall be drawn from emerging lessons of parables selected according to their thematic emphasis.

The Synoptic Gospels

TESBN201 / TESBN511

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The Synoptic Gospels is an overview of the first three Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—with a view to gaining an integrated understanding of the Synoptic issue, the historical setting, the purpose, and the message of each Synoptic Gospel. The course will highlight the literary features, the different characters, Jesus, and the Community implied in each Gospel. An attempt will also be made to have some critical engagement with the material in terms of application to the students' contexts.

The Pastoral Epistles

TESBN202 / TESBN512

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

An analysis and exposition of the books of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus with an emphasis on the instructions given to ministers concerning governing the church.

Life of Christ

TESBN204 / TESBN514 / TELBN514

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course, Life of Christ, aims to get in touch with the human, historical Jesus in the context of the first century. The question, "Who was Jesus?" precedes the question, "Who is Jesus?" The course will examine the key public events in Jesus' earthly ministry and mission, their significance in the first century, and their relevance for discipleship, ministry and mission today.

The Gospel of John

TESBN205 / TESBN515

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course will explore various historical, literary, and theological aspects of the Fourth Gospel. Students will study the structure, themes, symbols and terminology of John's Good News. They will also learn John's unique portrait of Jesus and His teaching for Christian living.

Acts

TESBN206 / TESBN516

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course is a study of the historical and theological content of the Book of Acts with emphasis on some important themes such as the Holy Spirit, church, and mission, etc. The course will also explore the relevance of the book for the present times and attempt to relate it to the specific mission and ministry contexts and needs of the students.

Romans

TESBN207 / TESBN517

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course comprises an examination of the background of Paul's letter to the Romans, an exposition of the letter and analysis of its argument, and a discussion of the major themes.

1 & 2 Corinthians

TESBN208 / TESBN518 / TELBN518

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

A close look at a less-than-ideal church reveals issues and dynamics that make or break Christian community. The Corinthian letters deal with intensely practical issues that are highly relevant today: disunity, women in ministry, marriage, charismatic excess, spiritual elitism, heresy, and more.

Letter to the Hebrews

TESBN209 / TESBN519

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The study of the Letter to the Hebrews is a context-driven analysis of how the book is put together, its inter-textual dynamics, what it meant for the original audience, and what it can mean for the present readers in their faith-journey.

Revelation

TESBN210 / TESBN520

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course is an introductory study of the Book of Revelation. The book will be looked at against its first century background, especially that of apocalyptic writings of the period. There will be an exegetical study of the text together with an overview of the theology of the book.

The New Testament Use of the Old Testament

TESBN240 / TESBN540

(Pre-requisite: Old and New Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course seeks to clarify and understand the phenomenon of the use of the Old Testament in the New in the light of previous and recent academic discussions, research on the practice of reading and citing texts in the NT environment, and actual references to the OT in the NT. Emerging insights from the study shall be used as basis for exegesis of NT passages where OT presence is detected. Inputs from exegesis shall then be utilized as foundational resource for preaching and teaching.

The World of the New Testament

TESBN241 / TESBN541

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course will introduce Jewish, Hellenistic, and Roman backgrounds crucial for understanding the New Testament and the early Christian community in the post-Easter era. The backgrounds of the events and the writings in these secondary sources help the student better appreciate and apply the message of the New Testament.

New Testament Theology

TESBN301 / TESBN601

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course is a guide to the theology(s) of the New Testament. The authors of the individual books speak for themselves on matters concerning the early Christian communities both within Palestine and in diaspora. There will also be an attempt to synthesize their teachings.

Greek I

TESBN351 / TESBN551

Greek I is an introduction to the essential elements of *koiné* New Testament Greek through familiarization with, understanding, and application of basic grammar and vocabulary utilized in actual verses or passages.

Greek II

TESBN352 / TESBN552

(Pre-requisite: Greek I)

Greek II is the second of a three-part introduction to the essential elements of *koiné* Greek New Testament through familiarization with, understanding, and application of basic grammar and vocabulary utilized in actual verses or passages.

Greek III

TESBN353 / TESBN553

(Pre-requisites: Greek I and II)

Greek III is the third of a three-part introduction to the essential elements of *koiné* Greek New Testament through familiarization with, understanding, and application of basic grammar and vocabulary utilized in actual verses or passages.

Greek Exegesis

TESBN354 / TESBN554

(Pre-requisites: Greek I, II and III)

New Testament Exegesis provides exercises in analyzing the Greek New Testament (GNT) with regards to genre, context, textual, lexical, grammatical, syntactical and interpretative issues. Further, participants shall be guided through a detailed process of using the GNT as source foundation for theological formulation, personal formation and ministry tasks.

Theology and History

Church History

TESTG100 / TESTG500 / TELTG500

This course examines the dynamic period in the life of the Church from the early beginnings in Jerusalem to the end of the 20th Century. It introduces the key personalities and the major events that shaped the Church and establishes these developments, people, and events as the spiritual heritage of all Christians.

Vocation, Work and Ministry

TESTG230 / TESTG530

This course explores elements of the biblical worldview of vocation, work and ministry on the basis of which is founded a marketplace spirituality that underpins catalytic Christian public engagement. Further, it strategizes how the church through its leadership can become an intentional hub for empowering the people of God as they live for and serve Christ in the world.

Money and Mission

TESTG231 / TESTG531

A course designed to explore the socio-cultural and theological aspects of money as it relates to people and the mission of the Church locally and globally. Topics discussed include key themes in missiology related to money (such as support-raising, dependency-self-sufficiency, partnership, development) as well as the historical and anthropological/cultural dimensions of status and power (in giving/receiving, patron-client relationships and traditional/modern economies). Emphasis is given towards constructing sound theological and culturally appropriate practices of money in mission.

Pentecostal Foundations / Pentecostal Studies

TESTH100 / TESTH500 / TELTH500

This course will acquaint students with the Pentecostal heritage and survey the historical development of the Pentecostal movement. Doctrinal issues pertaining to Pentecostalism will be explored.

Christian Doctrine

TESTH110

Christian Doctrine will provide comprehensive coverage of core Christian beliefs. From theological method, sin, and redemption, to our future hope of glory, this course covers all the essential beliefs of the Christian faith. We will establish the biblical basis for these

beliefs, but also explore balanced discussions of areas where Christians may disagree. The goal of this course is to both further our theological understanding and to encourage our devotion.

Theology I / Systematic Theology I

TESTH201 / TESTH501 / TELTH501

This course will provide students with a general introduction to theological methods, the doctrines of and relating to Scripture and revelation, and some major theologians who have wrestled with these issues throughout the history of the church.

Theology II / Systematic Theology II

TESTH202 / TESTH502 / TELTH502

This course will introduce students to the person and work of Jesus Christ, the nature of the human person, sin, and the concept of salvation. Toward these goals, the course will examine important Christological controversies of the fourth and fifth centuries, as well as an understanding of the Protestant Reformers. Students will be equipped with an understanding of the objective work of Christ in redemption as it relates to the human condition and an understanding of the subjective work of salvation.

Theology III / Systematic Theology III

TESTH203 / TESTH503 / TELTH503

This course will introduce students to pneumatology (the Holy Spirit), ecclesiology (the Church), and eschatology (the end times) – exploring biblical, classical, contemporary, and liturgical expressions of these areas of theology. Connections between these doctrines will be made, providing insight on the various understandings and traditions held by the Church.

Pneumatology

TESTH220 / TESTH520

(Pre-requisite: Theology III/Systematic Theology III)

Pneumatology is a study of the person, work, gifts, and ministry of the Holy Spirit from biblical, theological, and historical perspectives. This involves examining various theological and denominational approaches to the understanding of the Spirit, specifically identifying the views of some leading theologians. We will also discuss doctrinal issues within pneumatology and other theological issues impacted by pneumatology, providing a survey and critique of the various theological orientations to the Spirit in the global church today.

Christian Ethics

TESTH231 / TESTH531 / TELTH531

This course will provide students with the foundation of Christian ethics and its underlying theological convictions, its understanding of the nature of the good and of the moral self, and the criteria for ethical judgments. These Christian ethical components are examined against the background of both historic and contemporary philosophical alternatives. Careful attention is then given to the application of Christian ethical principles and models to specific contemporary ethical issues, both personal and social.

Apologetics

TESTH232 / TESTH532

Making the case for the Christian faith has always been a part of the Church's mission. Approaches differ according to the needs of respective times and framing arguments to address the particular issues of their day. This course serves to be a platform of intellectual argument for making sense of the Christian faith and defending its *raison d'être*. It will also examine the practice and importance of Christian apologetics in light of theological, historical, scientific, philosophical and cultural concerns.

Historical Theology

TESTH301 / TESTH601

Historical Theology surveys major theological issues, developments, and thinkers in the church on a historical path from the apostolic fathers and the creedal crises, through the Scholastics, the Reformation, the Enlightenment and Modern periods, to the present day. Special attention is given to some prominent theologians and their works, for example, St. Augustine, St. Anselm, and Martin Luther. The course will also examine the different methodologies and approaches to theology that emerged from time to time in the historical development of Christian thought.

Asian Christian Thought

TESTH303 / TESTH603

Given the fact of cultural, socio-political, economic, and religious diversities in Asia and that there cannot be one theology that fits all contexts, particularly with its Western garb, Asian Christian Thought, as a course, will examine the various interpretive endeavors to make Christian theology intelligible in the contexts of different pluralisms. Therefore, various contextualization approaches such as Missiological theology, ecumenical theologies, and evangelical or conservative theologies will be closely considered. Finally, the course will seek to evolve certain pointers for future Christian reflective-praxis.

Theology and the Arts

TESTH304 / TESTH604

The arts are a prominent feature of contemporary culture and reflect our human capacity for creativity. Our artistic expressions can glorify God, celebrate beauty and pursue truth, or they can exalt the self and all things worldly and materialistic. Taking the arts seriously and making sense of them as Christians today is not easy. Yet, how Christians respond to and engage with literature, movies, music, visual art and dance is a major part of our cultural mandate. In this course we will thoughtfully investigate and humbly address engagement with the arts from an intentionally Christian theological perspective.

Ministry and General

Theological Research and Writing

TELGE100 / TELGE500

This course introduces students to the nature and process of theological research and writing. Students will learn about “thinking theologically”, research methodology, academic writing, proper use and citation of sources, avoiding plagiarism, and academic style.

Spiritual Formation and Christian Character

TESMP100 / TESMP500 / TELMP500

This course addresses the need for a biblically guided process of Christian spiritual formation in today’s multi-faceted world. Inputs from Scriptures as regards definitions, principles, and practices will be gathered. On that theological foundation, relevant models in the life of the past and present church will be examined leading to application in one’s personal and community context.

Pastoral Ministries / Pastoral Theology and Leadership

TESMP101 / TESMP501

This course will examine the life and work of the pastor. It will examine the biblical and theological foundations of ministry as well as the nature of the ministry itself. It will also give special attention to specific duties such as preaching, teaching, counseling and leadership.

Homiletics

TESMP201 / TESMP511

(Pre-requisite: Hermeneutics)

Homiletics is the art and science of preparing sermons and preaching. This course will present the various forms of sermons and cover how to plan, prepare and deliver these sermons. Substantial time will be devoted to the actual delivery of sermons and peer critique.

Evangelism and Assimilation

TESMP212 / TESMP522

As followers of Jesus Christ, our exercise of leadership as well as our responsibility to be His true witnesses finds its basis in the Great Commission (Mathew 28:19-20). This course dynamically discusses both the theoretical and practical understanding of evangelism. It seeks to equip the students to engage pre-believers of different faiths and cultural backgrounds in order to influence the pre-believers towards Jesus Christ.

Christian Discipleship

TESMP231 / TESMP531 / TELMP531

This course explores the foundations of Christian Discipleship drawing from biblical foundations, origins of discipleship, and theological perspectives. It examines personal and corporate approaches to discipleship; and develops incarnational models of ministry that provide structures for discipleship within one's context.

Pastoral Counseling

TESMC101 / TESMC501

This course will provide an interdisciplinary approach to pastoral counseling, integrating biblical-theological principles with psychological insights to the theories and processes needed to help people through various needs and crises. The course will also look into the models and means of pastoral counseling, the skills needed to be effective, as well as issues and concerns faced by pastoral counselors today.

Issues in Pastoral Counseling

TESMC102 / TESMC502

This course will look at practical strategies to address the common issues encountered in Pastoral Counseling. It will look at understanding counseling issues frequently attended to, making assessment interviews, providing counsel and biblical insights to the counselee, and action steps that can be taken by the counselee.

Skills in Pastoral Counseling

TESMC204 / TESMC505

This course aims to develop and train students in their counseling skills relevant to pastoral counseling. Students will be introduced to skills necessary in the Encounter Stage, Engagement Stage and Disengagement Stage of counseling. These skills include attending, listening, empathy, interrogation, confrontation, self-disclosure, inner-healing and immediacy skills.

Inner Healing and Wholeness

TESMC203 / TESMC504

This course introduces the ministry of Inner Healing and Deliverance (IHD). It will help students to understand the relevance and healthy boundaries of this ministry for believers through lectures, readings and discussion on the biblical, theological, historical development and current practices of this ministry. This is not a skill course although some basic skills will be discussed.

Principles of Missions

TESMM201 / TESMM501

This course explores the meaning of ministry and missions in the life of the student and in the modern world. It also clarifies the role of the local church as a missionary sending base and gives the student an overview of the modern missionary movement and its current trends. The calling, qualifications and making of a missionary, and practical implications for discovering the student's role in God's mission to the nations will be discussed and evaluated.

Biblical Theology of Missions

TESMM202 / TESMM502 / TELMM502

This course explores the entire Bible to understand one of its most central themes: God's covenanted mission to all nations, peoples and languages. The student will discover theological principles and foundations for ministry and cross-cultural missions. "Biblical Theology" is approached as a task-oriented discipline that equips people to serve effectively in God's mission to the world.

Cultural Anthropology

TESMM203 / TESMM503

This course aims at providing anthropological insights, skills, and practical application for effective witness and ministry in one's own culture, in a foreign culture, or in a multi-cultural setting. Our approach integrates Biblical theology, anthropological insights, and communication dynamics.

Current Issues in Missiology

TESMM204 / TESMM504

Dramatic changes taking place both globally and in the church have implications for how the church engages missions in the 21st century. Trends such as church-mission relationships, rise of post-modernism, shifting center of Christianity, mass migrations of populations, urban challenge, diaspora missiology, and the impact of technology on society will be discussed.

Asian Church History and Missions

TESMM205 / TESMM505

Christianity has impacted Asian cultures and these cultures have in turn also shaped Christianity. This course chronicles the history of Christian missions in Asia, and seeks to broaden and deepen the understanding of the Christian experience and its expression among the peoples of Asia.

Understanding World Religions

TESMM206 / TESMM506 / TELMM506

A course that explores the historical, textual and lived dimensions of various world religions and their followers. This interdisciplinary emphasis includes the study of both the formal religious teachings and the experiential aspects for students to critically appreciate and appropriately engage the world religions in everyday life.

Spiritual Warfare for the Asian Church

TESMM207 / TESMM507

A course exploring the biblical, historical and contemporary perspectives and practices of spiritual warfare for Asians and those serving in Asian contexts. Emphasis will be given towards a survey of its foundational and historical aspects, and various denominational approaches with some advanced studies on the subject to equip church, parachurch and mission workers to develop sound biblical and contextual approaches for ministry.

Leadership in Intercultural Contexts

TESMM208 / TESMM508

This course explores how leadership dynamics and organizational behavior in cross-cultural contexts are impacted by cultural differences. Using biblical and cultural frameworks, it challenges students to reflect and rethink on their personal practices when interacting with the culturally different. It facilitates growth in the knowledge, competencies and skills required for effective interactions across cultural boundaries, leveraging on cultural diversity for personal life, work, and especially, for God's mission.

Christian Encounter with Folk Religions

TESMM209 / TESMM509

This course explores the contemporary church and missiological encounters with popular beliefs and folk religion. Topics discussed include beliefs and uses of charms, potions, magic, spells, curses, fortune-telling, dreams, divination, witchcraft and shamanism. The course emphasizes developing biblically appropriate and missiologically informed Christian approaches for dealing with such phenomena mainly in Southeast Asia.

Persecution, Suffering and Christian Witness

TESMM210 / TESMM510

This course explores the biblical, historical and socio-cultural perspectives of suffering and persecution. It emphasizes the formation of personal, pastoral and missiological responses in contexts of suffering and persecution specific to the life and witness of the Church and mission.

Principles of Teaching

TESME101 / TESME501

This course examines the basics of the teaching-learning process in the context of a local church. The ministry of the teacher, including his/her leadership role and responsibilities, will be examined in detail. Students will also participate in an in-class teaching practicum.

Church Educational Ministries

TESME201 / TESME502 / TELME502

A study on Christian Education: its function, nature, scope and objectives in the total life of the church as determined by an understanding of the nature of the church, its foundation and its relation to other disciplines.

Principles of Leadership

TESML301 / TESML501

This course is designed to help Christian leaders understand and articulate essential biblical concepts, as well as with key insights on the dynamics of Christian leadership, in today's church setting. The course will examine leadership principles, styles, and the process of leadership development for the purpose of advancing God's mission.

Servant Leadership

TESML302 / TESML502

This course caters to those who serve in church and non-church settings. The goal is to journey through principles and practice of servant leadership base on the model of Jesus and inputs from practitioners in various leadership fields. Participants shall craft a personal servant leadership development plan and create a checklist of servant leadership applications for specific contexts, situations, challenges, and needs.

Self-Leadership

TESML304 / TESML504

This course is designed to highlight key principles of Self Leadership from a Biblical perspective. From Luke 2:52, the course will examine the fact that even though Jesus was God in flesh, He intentionally grew intellectually (IQ), physically (PQ), spiritually (SQ) and emotionally (EQ). In Luke 2:52 we have a potential blueprint for every leader who desires to learn to grow on purpose.

Alpha Track

TESMT108/TESMT508

This course covers evangelism and discipleship within a local church. Students will discover biblical foundations and practical skills.

Biblical Worship

TESMW101 / TESMW501 / TELMW501

This course provides students with a deeper understanding of the theology of worship from a biblical perspective. As they explore the fundamentals of worship found in the Old and New Testaments, students will gain an appreciation of the elements required in worship and its various expressions in the local church today.

Worship Leading

TESMW102 / TESMW502

In this practical class, you will discover the keys to dynamic worship leading. It will also focus on worship disciplines and spiritual intimacy with God. Other important aspects in worship leading would also be covered, e.g. personal preparation, selection of songs, planning and learning how to usher-in worshippers into God's presence. Students will also be given the opportunity to lead different types of worship service settings.