



School of Theology (English)
Course Descriptions

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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

Hermeneutics is an introduction to the interpretation of both the Old and the New Testaments based on the different literary genres such as History, Law, Poetry, Prophets, Wisdom, Gospel, Book of Acts (History), Epistles (Letters), and the Apocalypse (the Book of Revelation). The course aims to set the books of the Bible in the world of their authors and their historical audience and explore the author's intended meaning for his original readers. The course will also provide the basic skills with which students can read, truthfully interpret, and diligently and discretely apply the findings of their exegesis to their world.

Old Testament Survey / Old Testament Foundations

TESBO100 / TESBO500 / TELBO500

Throughout this course, students will analyze the Old Testament's chief events, characters, chronological development, and formation of canonical books. By studying the Old Testament in relation to the ongoing revelation of God's plan for ancient Israel and humanity, students will gain a nuanced understanding of the text's significance. Furthermore, this course will examine the historical, geographical, and cultural contexts of the Old Testament, providing students with a deeper understanding of the time period in which the text was written. This contextual analysis will also include a focus on the Old Testament's literary forms, such as poetry, prophecy, and narrative. Through different assignments, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the Old Testament and its relevance to contemporary theological issues. By the end of the course, students will have developed a deep appreciation for the complexity and richness of the Old Testament, with a particular emphasis on its historical, geographical, cultural, and literary contexts.

Hebrew I

TESBO351 / TESBO551

Hebrew I is the first course in a three-part series designed to provide students with a strong foundation in Basic Biblical Hebrew Grammar. This course focuses on morphology, phonology, syntax, and vocabulary to help students understand the essentials of biblical Hebrew. The primary goal of the course is to teach students the core building blocks of the Hebrew language, including the alphabet, vowel and consonant sounds, and basic grammatical structures. Throughout the course, students engage in exercises and assignments that foster the acquisition and mastery of these essential elements, including noun and verb forms, word roots, and grammatical structures. Additionally, the course emphasizes building a strong biblical vocabulary. The goal is to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to progress to more advanced studies in the language.

Hebrew II

TESBO352 / TESBO552

(Pre-requisite: Hebrew I)

Hebrew II is the second course in a three-part series that focuses on Basic Biblical Hebrew Grammar. The course builds on the foundational knowledge gained in Hebrew I and emphasizes morphology, phonology, syntax, and vocabulary to provide students with a more advanced understanding of the Hebrew language. Students will analyze and translate various biblical texts, allowing them to develop a deeper understanding of Hebrew grammar and syntax. Additionally, the course places a strong emphasis on expanding students' biblical vocabulary to facilitate comprehension of more complex texts. Overall, Hebrew II equips students with the tools they need to engage more deeply with the Hebrew Bible, building on the foundational knowledge and skills acquired in Hebrew I.

Hebrew III

TESBO353 / TESBO553

(Pre-requisites: Hebrew I and II)

Hebrew III is the final course in a three-part series focused on Basic Biblical Hebrew Grammar. This advanced course is designed to provide students who have already completed Hebrew I and Hebrew II with a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the Hebrew language and grammar. The course utilizes a combination of deductive and inductive methods of linguistic learning to help students develop their skills in reading, writing, and interpreting complex biblical texts. Through a series of exercises, readings, and discussions, students will engage with the finer points of Hebrew grammar and syntax. By the end of Hebrew III, students will have achieved a high level of proficiency in reading and interpreting biblical Hebrew, as well as developing a foundation for further study in Hebrew language and biblical scholarship.

Hebrew Exegesis

TESBO354 / TESBO554

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

This course builds on the foundational knowledge acquired in Hebrew I, II, and III by equipping students with the necessary methods to carefully and responsibly exegete the different genres of the Hebrew Bible. Students will engage in practical applications such as creating syntactical outlines and conducting linguistic word studies to deepen their understanding of biblical language and grammar. The course covers a variety of critical approaches such as Old Testament criticism, historical context, and theological interpretation. Through these topics, students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the Hebrew Bible and be better equipped to exegete its texts accurately. The practical applications of exegetical skills are also emphasized, preparing students for tasks such as biblical research, teaching, and sermon preparation. By the end of the course, students will have a deeper understanding of the different genres of the Hebrew Bible and the skills necessary to exegete these texts with care and precision.

Pentateuch

TESBO201 / TESBO511 / TELBO511

(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 provides a comprehensive survey of the wisdom books of the Old Testament, with a specific focus on the books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. Through this survey, students will develop a deeper understanding of the nature of biblical poetry and the major theological themes present in these books. The course will cover the key features of biblical poetry, including structure, imagery, and parallelism. Students will learn how to exegete selected passages, analyzing the nuances of language and grammar to uncover the deeper meaning of the text. They will also explore the cultural and historical context of these books, and the ways in which they speak to contemporary issues and concerns. Throughout the course, major theological themes in the wisdom books will be examined, including the nature of God, human suffering, wisdom, and the relationship between God and humanity. By the end of the course, students will have a deep understanding of the wisdom books of the Old Testament, and how they continue to speak to the human experience today.

The 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.

The 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.

Genesis

TESBO221/ TESBO521

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course surveys the book of Genesis tracing the themes of “Blessing” and of “the Seed” in lives of the major story-characters against the background of God’s salvation plan for the world that transpires through the Abrahamic Covenant. The study employs the socio-historical-literary hermeneutics in the exposition of the biblical text.

Deuteronomy

TESBO225/ TESBO525

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course is an interpretation of the book of Deuteronomy in view of its key background elements. One, its historical context at the reiteration of laws to a new generation of Israelites about to enter the land of Canaan promised to Abraham. Two, the content of Moses’ instructions against the backdrop of covenant God established with the Hebrew people. Three, its literary nature as speech and song that reflects salient features of Ancient Near Eastern treaties.

Judges

TESBO227/ TESBO527

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

As is well acknowledged, the book of Judges showed a period of Israelite history when the people lived in an age of moral declivity in which little positive morality was said about or attributed to them. Yet amid the appalling accounts of apostasy, murder, and anarchy resulting in foreign oppression, Yahweh raised judges to deliver the Israelites from their enemies. His intervention at critical junctures of the text revealed his sovereignty and grace over the affairs of his people. This course will examine the book of Judges in its historical, cultural, literary, and theological contexts with the intent to uncover the theological themes and contemporary significance.

Ezra-Nehemiah

TESBO235 / TESBO535

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

Ezra-Nehemiah, treated as a single book by the early Jewish communities, is a post-exilic text depicting events on the return of the Jews to Yehud/Judah, from their exile in Babylon. Ezra-Nehemiah contains some of the most difficult mysteries in biblical studies. Since theology can only be meaningful in its contexts, then students shall delve into the political,

economic, and social world of Ezra-Nehemiah to uncover and appreciate its significant messages.

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.

Jeremiah

TESBO244 / TESBO544

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The book of Jeremiah comprises stories about the prophet Jeremiah and his exchanges with Yahweh, and messages given to him by Yahweh. Jeremiah brings God's indictment against the Israelites for repeated and egregious covenant violations with a call to repentance lest they incur the wrath and judgement of God. More than that, the prophet includes a message of hope for future restoration of the people of God through a new covenant that will also bless the other nations. Students will learn about the content of the book, its dominant theological themes, and the application of its key-messages for the Church.

Old Testament Theology

TESBO301 / TESBO601

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

Through this course, students will be able to analyze and understand the various theological perspectives and interpretations of the Old Testament over time. The course will provide a detailed examination of the key theological themes of the Old Testament, including creation, covenant, redemption, and eschatology. Furthermore, this course will offer a critical examination of the methods, principles, and theories employed by major Old Testament theologians, such as Walter Eichrodt, Gerhard von Rad, and Brevard S. Childs. Students will be challenged to evaluate and critique the various approaches to Old Testament Theology and develop their own perspectives on the subject matter. By the end of the course, students will have developed a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter and be better equipped to engage in thoughtful and informed discussions on the topic.

New Testament Survey / New Testament Foundations

TESBN100 / TESBN500 / TELBN500

The course *New Testament Survey/Foundations* 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.

The Prison Epistles

TESBN203 / TESBN513

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course investigates the Prison Epistles, namely, the letters of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon written by Paul probably during his imprisonment in Rome. The course will explore the historical background of the letters and several of its main themes with a view of eliciting meaning to celebrate life beyond suffering and leave a legacy.

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)

The course *The Gospel of John* 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 / TELBN516

(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 / TELBN517

(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)

The course *1 & 2 Corinthians* will investigate the issues and dynamics that characterized the church at Corinth, issues that could potentially break her and by implication, any Christian community. The challenges also highlight the possibilities for transformation and growth. The Corinthian letters deal with intensely practical issues that are highly relevant that the

contemporary church should seriously consider 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 *Letter to the Hebrews* takes an in-depth approach to the literary intricacies and the carefully crafted homilies in the Epistle together with a view to drawing lessons to encourage faithful perseverance in the Word, God had spoken normatively in Jesus.

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.

The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era

TESBN242 / TESBN542

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era explores the historical, social, cultural, political, economic, and religious aspects of the Greco-Roman world crucial for the understanding of the New Testament and the early Christian communities. A broader understanding of the Greco-Roman world will help in hermeneutically sound interpretation of the New Testament and its intelligent application to the present-day contexts.

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)

Greek 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.

Money and Mission

TESTG231 / TESTG531

(Pre-requisite for TESTG231: Christian Doctrine)

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.

Dreams, Spiritual Discernment, and the Church

TESTG232/ TESTG532

(Pre-requisite for TESTG232: Christian Doctrine)

This course will examine the content, interpretation, and practical significance of dreams and similar experiences, such as visions, with respect to Christianity and other religious traditions. Religious, psychological, and anthropological theories of dreams and revelatory experiences will also be discussed. Through comparison of various theories and cases, students will develop their own understanding of dreams and associated phenomena as they relate to divine revelation, Christian mission, conversion, and spirituality.

Pentecostal Foundations / Pentecostal Studies

TESTH100 / TESTH500 / TELTH500

Pentecostal-Charismatic Christianity is the fastest-growing movement in the history of the church. This course will cover the historical development of the global movement with attention to the Asian and local contexts. The course will also examine distinctive beliefs such as the baptism in the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, divine healing, and other grace-gifts of the Spirit. Students will gain an understanding of Pentecostal spirituality and its influence on church practices and ministry.

Christian Doctrine

TESTH110

Christian Doctrine will provide an introduction to 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 goals of this course are to ground our theological understanding, strengthen our witness and to encourage our devotion.

Theology I / Systematic Theology I

TESTH201 / TESTH501 / TELTH501

(Pre-requisite for TESTH201: Christian Doctrine)

This course will provide students with a general introduction to the theological enterprise and the study of God, both who God is and what God does. We will begin by examining the importance and role of theological method, continue with the doctrines of revelation and Scripture and conclude with an examination of God's attributes and actions. The student will also be introduced to some major theologians who have wrestled with these issues throughout the history of the church.

Theology II / Systematic Theology II

TESTH202 / TESTH502 / TELTH502

(Pre-requisite for TESTH201: Christian Doctrine)

Who is Christ? What is the significance of the cross? What is salvation, and why is it necessary for human beings to be saved? These and other crucial theological questions will be addressed in this course, which introduces students to the study of Christ (Christology), the human person (anthropology), sin (hamartiology), and salvation (soteriology). Throughout the course students will encounter a variety of theologians and their ideas, which, alongside the Bible, will provide a context for critical discussion and development of one's Christian worldview.

Theology III / Systematic Theology III

TESTH203 / TESTH503 / TELTH503

(Pre-requisite for TESTH201: Christian Doctrine)

Who is the Holy Spirit, and what functions does he have? What is the Church, and how does it relate to Israel and the kingdom of God? When will Jesus return, and what will happen to the world when he does? These are just a few of the questions that will be addressed in this course, which introduces students to the study of the Holy Spirit (pneumatology), Church (ecclesiology), and End Times (eschatology). Students will be exposed to biblical, classical, and contemporary engagements with these theological subjects, and thereby encounter key theologians and controversies that have shaped Christian understanding and contributed to denominational boundaries.

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

(Pre-requisite for TESTH231: Christian Doctrine)

Ethical decision-making is an everyday feature of people's lives, which has consequences for the individual and community. In this vein Christians have a challenge of relating their decisions to the Bible and most especially the teachings and ministry of Jesus Christ. This course addresses that challenge by discussing several biblical principles for ethical decisions, alongside input from philosophy and science. Course discussion will include various models of ethical decision-making, and will ultimately entail careful consideration of a variety of contemporary personal and social issues.

Apologetics

TESTH232 / TESTH532

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

This course is a platform of intellectual argument for making sense of the Christian faith and defending its reason for being. We will explore the Christian Theistic worldview and the importance of worldviews, evidence and arguments for the existence of God, as well as the reliability of the Scriptures and evidence for Jesus and the resurrection. Apologetic approaches differ, though, in order to address the particular issues of the day. To this end, we will approach our study in light of contemporary theological, philosophical and cultural concerns.

Historical Theology

TESTH301 / TESTH601

(Pre-requisite for TESTH301: Christian Doctrine)

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

(Pre-requisite for TESTH303: Christian Doctrine)

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, without any prejudice or pre-judgement, will seek to hear and listen to the various interpretive voices that have endeavored 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

(Pre-requisite for TESTH304: Christian Doctrine)

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.

The Reformation

TESTH305 / TESTH605

(Pre-requisite for TESTH305: Christian Doctrine)

The Protestant Reformation of the 16th century is one of the defining movements of Christian history, indeed of all human history. More than just a single person, idea, event or year, the Reformation was and is a theological mindset or way of thinking which began in the 16th century and still reverberates and resonates across the globe today. This course will focus on the theology of the Reformation by placing it in its historical, theological, political, and cultural context. To this end we will investigate the roots of the Reformation as a response to and protest against Medieval Roman Catholicism. We will focus on theologians like Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, Menno Simons and Tyndale, movements like the English Reformation, the Radical Reformation and the Roman Catholic Counter Reformation, and the political, economic, and social impact of the Reformation, including church-state relations, the rise of capitalism and science, and the devastating 30 Years War. To understand Protestant theology and its impact on the church today, we need to understand its origins in the Reformation.

Science and Christian Theology

TESTH306 / TESTH606

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

Evolution. Climate change. The Big Bang. These and other scientific concepts have profound implications for understanding the world and humanity's place within it. At the same time, scientific notions present both challenge and opportunity for Christians. To what extent are scientific and traditional Christian claims compatible? Do Christian claims need to be revised, elaborated, or expunged in the light of science? This course will address these questions and more as it surveys a variety of scientific disciplines – such as cosmology, psychology, and archaeology – and topics ranging from scientific method to divine action.

Kierkegaard and Theology

TESTH307 / TESTH607

(Pre-requisite for TESTH307: Christian Doctrine)

The Danish Christian writer Søren Aabye Kierkegaard (1813-1855)'s thought and voluminous writings continue to impact us today. Familiar catchphrases such as “a leap of faith”, “the establishment” and “truth is subjectivity” have their genesis in Kierkegaard's profound and highly original thinking. Kierkegaard's writings were seminal for modern theologians including Karl Barth and Ludwig Wittgenstein. Central to Kierkegaard's thesis is the individual's responsibility to live a truly Christian life. This course serves as an introduction to theological themes in Kierkegaard and their influence on modern theology, as well as a personal challenge to individual Christians to undertake the task of living an authentic Christian existence.

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.

Church Administration

TESMG100 / TESMG500

Church administration is a crucial part of the local church’s call to make disciples. It ensures a stable and reliable structure to support and facilitate church growth and progress. A strategic administration owns the vision of the church, operates with the values of the church, and facilitates the fulfilment of her mission. Students will gain an overview of the purpose, principles, and practices of church administration in this course.

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 offer a comprehensive analysis of the life and work of a pastor, with an emphasis on the biblical and theological foundations of ministry. Through this course, students will gain a deep understanding of the nature of pastoral ministry, its essential elements, and the key responsibilities associated with it. By the end of this course, students will have gained a deeper appreciation for the role of pastors in the church and a greater understanding of the practical skills and knowledge needed to be an effective pastor. They will also be better equipped to respond to the unique challenges and opportunities that come with serving as a spiritual leader in today's world.

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.

Homiletical Coaching

TESMP202 / TESMP512

(Pre-requisite: Homiletics)

This course is essentially a practicum-clinic where the lecturer functions as a coach to help students sharpen their sermon preparation. It examines major traits and discipleship needs of various generation-groups, developing preaching outlines, illustrating the sermon, and finally delivering a challenge to inspire listeners to apply God's word. Additional components include the basics of posture, non-verbal dynamics and stage-presentation skills and online preaching. The course is built upon the lecturer's experience and model of preaching. Readings will also broaden the student's exposure and thinking to the various components of preaching.

Christian Discipleship

TESMP231 / TESMP531 / TELMP531

This course discusses the foundations of Christian Discipleship drawing from biblical foundations, origins of discipleship, and historical traditions. It provides students with the opportunity to explore individual as well as corporate discipleship models to make application to their life and ministry. Remembering Jesus as the core figure of a believer's discipleship, students will also reflect on their personal discipleship journey and re-examine disciple-making practices.

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.

Inner Healing and Wholeness

TESMC203 / TESMC504

This course introduces the ministry of Inner Healing and Wholeness. 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.

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.

Skills in Inner Healing and Wholeness

TESMC206 / TESMC506

This course will equip students with theories of Inner Healing and Wholeness (IHW) ministry, a framework for case analysis, and skills for ministering IHW to hurting persons. Students will acquire skills ministering to persons with issues related to rejection, sexual, grief, generational, and spiritual oppression. Under a team of trained IHW supervisors, students will also practice actual ministry with each other. Because of the nature of the course, students must submit a ministry consent form and receive approval from the School Dean.

Principles of Missions

TESMM201 / TESMM501 / TELMM501

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.

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.

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.

Gospel and Culture

TESMM211 / TESMM511

This course explores culture and its different dimensions in relation to the beliefs and practices of Christianity. It will investigate the concept and practice of contextualization in relation to (1) cross-cultural mission, and (2) the local church in a world of changing cultural norms and postmodernity. It will hence facilitate students in effectively interacting in cross-cultural contexts, as well as to engage meaningfully with their own cultural contexts.

Ministry Among Diaspora Peoples

TESMM212 / TESMM512

This course seeks to acquaint students with the phenomenon of global people movements (diaspora). Students will learn the theoretical and biblical foundations, and practical approaches of ministry to, within, and by diaspora communities. Students will also discover the determinant factors behind people's geographic and demographic mobility, study the trends in international migration, and identify some of the challenges and opportunities of ministry to and beyond people on the move.

The Christian Engagement in Spiritual Warfare

TESMM213 / TESMM513

This course introduces students to the subject of Christian engagement in spiritual warfare at the personal, corporate, and territorial cosmic levels. It will explore biblical, historical, and contemporary models and practices. There will be discussions on the rules of engagement, strategies, tactics, and weapons that Christians can choose to employ in ongoing spiritual warfare.

World Religions

TESMM214 / TESMM514 / TELMM514

This course explores the historical, textual, and lived dimensions of world religions including Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Chinese religions. Special emphasis includes the study of both the formal religious teachings and the experiential aspects for students to critically appreciate and appropriately engage these world religions in everyday life.

New Religious Movements

TESMM216 / TESMM516

This course seeks to explore and critically analyze the history and distinctive beliefs and practices of several “new religious movements” (NRM). In this class, students will be introduced to the teachings and practices of prominent NRMs such as Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormonism, the Unification Church, Scientology to less known groups such as the Eastern Lightning, the Theosophical Society. We will study how these groups are formed in order to better understand their relationships with more traditional mainstream religions and society at large.

Instructional Design

TESME100 / TESME500

Learning should be thoughtfully planned and designed so that believers may understand and live the Word of God. Students will apply principles, explore design frameworks, and employ instructional strategies towards an in-class teaching exercise. Every class is designed to be a formative and scaffolded learning experience. Applications can be made to the context of a local church or the mission field.

Learning Theories and Lifelong Learning

TESME203 / TESME503 / TELME503

Learning is a lifelong transformational process. The disciple of Christ is a lifelong learner-follower. This course seeks to explore concepts from educational psychology as it applies to human learning and development. As learning is not limited to certain stages of life, how do we equip believers to become responsible for their own learning in a multitude of environments? Concepts, and qualities related to lifelong learning will also be discussed in this course.

Curriculum Development for Christian Education

TESME204 / TESME604

The church is as strong as the people in the congregation. Hence curriculum for Christian education ought to be intentionally developed for the formation and equipping of the “faithful” in our church or ministry. Besides giving attention to biblical, historical, and philosophical foundations of Christian education, this course introduces the student to curriculum mapping and development. Students will practice developing a curriculum to foster faith development in their ministry context.

Principles of Leadership

TESML301 / TESML501 / TELML501

This course is designed to help students explore, understand, and apply foundational principles of leadership in their journey as Christian leaders and in their ministry context. It will examine major leadership theories, leadership characteristics and styles, and the leadership process needed for effective Christian leadership.

Servant Leadership

TESML302 / TESML502 / TELML502

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.

Facets of Spiritual Leadership

TESML303 / TESML503

Leadership is a gift that is received and grown. It is something God imparts into a believer before even the believer knows it. With increasing awareness, the believer hones and sharpens it in partnership with God. This course seeks to introduce a definition of leadership, educate on frameworks for the various facets, and provide handles in application and growth in both skill and character. The course will cover the call and purpose of a leader, God's empowerment for leadership, vision casting, building united teams and other leadership facets.

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.