



**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**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>T</b> | C = School of Counseling<br>L = School of Leadership<br>T = School of Theology                             |
| <b>E</b> | E = English <span style="float: right;">C = Chinese</span>   |
| <b>S</b> | S = Onsite course<br>L = Online course   |
| <b>B</b> | Area of study.   |
| <b>O</b> | Bible           BG / BO / BN<br>Theology       TG / TH<br>Ministry        MC / ME / MM / ML / MP / MW / MT |
| <b>1</b> | 100 to 499 = Undergraduate courses   |
| <b>0</b> | 500 to 799 = Graduate courses  |
| <b>0</b> |  |

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 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 engage in exercises and assignments that foster the acquisition and mastery of verb forms 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. Students will continue to engage in exercises and assignments that foster the acquisition and mastery of more verb forms and translate complex biblical texts. Through these 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 exegesis 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 course *Pentateuch* is a study of the first five books of the Old Testament (Genesis-Deuteronomy) in their historical and literary contexts. The course will consider the Pentateuch as a unified literary narrative and will seek to gain an in-depth understanding of the five books by studying their basic contents and main themes. As a corollary, the course will seek to understand and explore the different ways the world we now have can become a temple city where God will live with and among human beings.

## 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.

## Joshua

TESBO226/ TESBO526

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course Joshua, taking a narrative approach to the text, investigates the book from the point of view of identity formation. The course explores the theme "What does it mean to be the people of the God of Israel," by raising some important questions such as: i) What are the essential marks of Israelite identity in Joshua? ii) What differentiates Israel from all other peoples? In order to answer these questions, the course will explore themes such as obedience (to the commandments of Moses), ethnic separation (extermination of the Canaanite tribes), and the conquest and the distribution of the land.

## Judges

TESBO227/ TESBO527

(Pre-requisite: Old Testament Survey/Foundations)

The book of Judges is widely recognized as depicting a significant era in Israelite history marked by moral decline, where little positive morality is attributed to the people. Despite the distressing narratives of apostasy, violence, and disorder leading to foreign oppression, Yahweh raised judges to rescue the Israelites from their adversaries. His intervention during pivotal moments in the text showcased his sovereignty and grace in guiding his people's destiny. This course aims to explore the book of Judges within its historical, cultural, literary,

and theological contexts, seeking to unveil its theological themes and relevance to 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)

This course will enable students to analyze and understand the diverse theological perspectives and interpretations of the Old Testament throughout history. It will provide an in-depth exploration of key theological themes, including creation, covenant, redemption, and eschatology. Additionally, the course will critically examine the methods, principles, and

theories of prominent Old Testament scholars such as Walter Eichrodt, Gerhard von Rad, and Brevard S. Childs. Students will be encouraged to assess and critique these various approaches, fostering the development of their own perspectives on the subject. By the end of the course, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of Old Testament theology and be well-prepared to engage in informed, thoughtful discussions on each topic.

## New Testament Survey / New Testament Foundations

TESBN100 / TESBN500 / TELBN500

The course *New Testament Survey/Foundations* systematically treats the different books of the New Testament, belonging to different literary genres, in their historical, cultural, economic, religious, and political settings in the world of the New Testament, both Palestinian and Greco-Roman. This is to understand why the different authors said what they said and what it is likely to have meant to their original audience and readers in their world. The course will also explore the main themes and teachings of each book with a view to studying them as part of the ongoing revelation of God's plan for our world today.

## 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* studies the life of Jesus in the historical, religious, political, social, and economic contexts of the first century Graeco-Roman world and based on the four different accounts or the versions or the interpretations of the person and work of Jesus by the four Evangelists. The course will seek to answer the question, “Who is the Jesus of the four Gospels?” by closely examining the key public events in Jesus’ public ministry and mission, their likely meaning for the original audience, with a view also to identifying their relevance for discipleship, ministry, and mission today.

## The Gospel of John

TESBN205 / TESBN515

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

Keeping in view the uniqueness of the Gospel of John in contrast to the Synoptic Gospels, the course will take a Christological approach in order to throw a fresh light on the person and life of Jesus in the fourth Gospel. Further, it will seek to explore the various historical, literary, and theological aspects of the Gospel of John and theological themes such as God, the Christ, salvation, the Spirit, the Christ-Community, and last things, etc. Throughout, the course will highlight the unique aspects of John’s story in continuum with the Hebrew scriptures that demonstrates God’s salvific act through Jesus.

## Acts

TESBN206 / TESBN516 / TELBN516

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course *Acts* deals with the historical and theological content of the Book of Acts. While following a thoroughgoing exegetical framework for interpreting Acts in its historical, literary, rhetorical, and theological contexts, in course of its progression, the course will highlight some of the book's theological themes such as the Holy Spirit, church, and mission, church polity, and table-fellowship, etc. In addition, the course will extrapolate the homiletical or the preaching insights of the book so that any reader—a student, or a preacher—can intelligently make Acts come alive by identifying possibilities for sermons based on texts and themes.

## Romans

TESBN207 / TESBN517 / TELBN517

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

The course *Romans* studies the letter in the light of questions vis-à-vis how Paul and Romans should be read. The course investigates both the Reformation approach and the new perspective approach for interpreting Romans with a view to identifying the most apt approach that best befits Paul's teaching in the letter. It addresses the preliminary issues necessary for understanding Romans such as the first-century contexts, the life-setting of Paul and his Roman audience, the key themes, and the purpose of the book. Throughout, the course will keenly and intentionally deliberate on the relevance of Romans to offer theological resolution to social conflicts.

## 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)

Beginning from the introductory issues (historical backgrounds, authorship, audience, date, purpose, provenance, structure, genre, and the dominant themes such as heavenly archetypes and earthly copies, the use of the Old Testament, etc.), the course *Letter to the Hebrews* takes an in-depth approach to the literary intricacies and the carefully crafted homilies in the Epistle together by analyzing and expositing every chapter with a view first, to guide the students to the issues of paramount importance for the study of the book and second, to draw lessons to strengthen faithful perseverance in the Word, God had spoken fully, finally, and normatively in Jesus.

## Revelation

TESBN210 / TESBN520

(Pre-requisite: New Testament Survey/Foundations)

This course, an introductory study of the Book of Revelation, explores the way God overcomes the cosmic conflict and the forces of destruction in order to make all things new and defeat terror with the messages of hope. The course engages with social, religious, and economic issues of the times that shaped the worldview of the author and the audience of the book of Revelation and addresses the book's long and volatile history of interpretation and its impact with a view to gaining new insights about the book itself and use them for a continued appreciation and application of this religious text.

## 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 course *The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era* explores the Greco-Roman world during the formative years of the Jesus movement with a view to offering glimpses of the Greco-Roman world ranging from legal codes to foods, from social hierarchy to apartment living, from education to family dynamics. The course will scrupulously identify ideas and points where the New Testament and the Greco-Roman world intersect and throw light on each other so that a broader understanding of the Greco-Roman world will facilitate both a 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 serves as an introductory course to the foundational aspects of koiné New Testament Greek. The course is designed to familiarize students with the essential grammar and vocabulary necessary for reading and understanding the original Greek text of the New Testament. Through a combination of theoretical instruction and practical application, students will engage with basic grammatical structures and vocabulary in the context of actual New Testament verses and passages. This approach not only enhances comprehension but also provides a deeper appreciation of the linguistic nuances present in the New Testament.

## Greek II

TESBN352 / TESBN552

(Pre-requisite: Greek I)

Greek II is the second course in a three-part series introducing students to the essential elements of koiné Greek, the language of the New Testament. This course builds on the foundational knowledge gained in Greek I, deepening students' understanding and application of basic grammar and expanding their vocabulary. Through rigorous engagement with actual New Testament verses and passages, students will enhance their proficiency in reading and interpreting the original Greek text. Greek II emphasizes the continued development of grammatical skills and vocabulary acquisition, aiming to strengthen students' ability to comprehend and analyze scriptural texts.

## Greek III

TESBN353 / TESBN553

(Pre-requisites: Greek I and II)

Greek III is the final course in a comprehensive three-part series designed to introduce students to the essential elements of koiné Greek, the language of the New Testament. This course builds upon the foundations established in Greek I and II, providing an in-depth exploration of more advanced grammatical structures and a broader vocabulary. Students will engage extensively with New Testament verses and passages, applying their accumulated knowledge to more complex texts. The course will also introduce students to exegetical techniques, enabling them to critically evaluate and interpret New Testament writings.

## Greek Exegesis

TESBN354 / TESBN554

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

Greek Exegesis provides an in-depth study of the Greek New Testament (GNT) through genre analysis, contextual examination, textual criticism, lexical studies, grammatical and syntactical analysis, and interpretative challenges. The course guides students in using the GNT for theological formulation, personal spiritual growth, and ministry tasks. By the end, participants will have developed advanced exegetical skills for comprehensive engagement with the GNT.



## Theology and History

### Church History

TESTG100 / TESTG500 / TELTG500

This course will explore the rich tapestry of Christianity's history, tracing the development of the faith from the time of the New Testament to the 20th century. From its humble origins to global prominence, students will examine key events, personalities, and movements that shape the faith, and analyze pivotal moments such as the rise of Christian councils and creeds, the Great Schism, Reformation, Vatican Council II, and the emergence of the World Council of Churches. By the end of the course, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the historical roots of Christianity and its ongoing relevance in today's world.

### 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 other revelatory and mystical 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 offers an exploration of the historical development of the global movement with attention to the Asian and Singapore contexts. Students will delve into the distinctive theological beliefs and practices that characterize Pentecostal spirituality, including the baptism in the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, divine healing, spiritual gifts, and more. The course also examines how these beliefs influence the praxis of the church, equipping students to engage with this dynamic tradition in a deeper way.

### 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 provides students with a general introduction to the discipline of theology and devotes attention to several areas of theoretical and practical concern. These include theological method, the doctrines of scripture and revelation, and the doctrine of God. Our study of the latter encompasses God's nature and acts, such as creation and providence, and will beget discussions around human free will and the concept of evil. Throughout the course students will be introduced to some major theologians and their ideas, which, alongside biblical exposition, will provide a foundation for thinking through key issues in theology.

## Theology II / Systematic Theology II

TESTH202 / TESTH502 / TELTH502

(Pre-requisite for TESTH202: 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 TESTH203: 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 for Undergraduates: Either Theology 1, 2, or 3;  
for Graduates: Either Systematic Theology 1, 2, or 3)

Is the Christian faith reasonable? How does it compare to alternative ideologies? How can Christian doctrine be communicated faithfully and effectively in the contemporary era? These are some of the fundamental questions that animate the discipline of apologetics. To equip students to address these questions, this course will introduce different methods of apologetic communication as well as arguments for and against the reliability of the Scriptures, the existence of God, Jesus, the resurrection, etc. Additionally, the meaning and grounds of rival religious and philosophical ideas will be discussed and analyzed.

## 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-judgment, 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 for TESTH306: Christian Doctrine)

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.

## Christian Theology of Non-Christian Religions

TESTH308 / TESTH608

(Pre-requisite for TESTH308: Christian Doctrine)

Apart from Christianity, many great religions and philosophies have captivated humanity with their ideas and associated texts. For Christians, this situation begs several questions. To what extent is Christianity unique in terms of its understanding of God and salvation? Do non-Christian religions offer equally valid paths to God? Can Christians learn from other religious traditions? Two unique theological subdisciplines have risen to address such questions – the theology of religions and comparative theology. This course introduces students to both of these lines of inquiry along with prominent non-Christian religious texts, thereby equipping students to address the aforementioned questions and more.

## Ministry and General

### Theological Research and Writing

TELGE100 / TELGE500

In this course, students will be introduced to the nature and process of theological research and writing. They will develop essential skills for "thinking theologically," understanding research methodology, academic writing, proper source usage, citation techniques, and avoiding plagiarism. Moreover, they will learn to utilize academic style and formatting. Through this course, students will receive valuable assistance in navigating the vast array of online and library resources, enabling them to craft well-written essays. Additionally, they will be guided on how to find, evaluate, and cite various digital sources.

### 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

Becoming like Christ and being shaped in Christian character is a lifelong process. This course provides students the opportunity to gain perspectives of spiritual formation from six Christian traditions in relation to different dimensions of spiritual life – inward and outward aspects. Acknowledging the Holy Spirit as the source of empowerment and the Scriptures as the foundation for believers to be transformed, students will participate in course activities that include thoughtful self-examination, and prayerful engagement with the Spirit.

### 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 sermon preparation and preaching. This course aims to help students gain a deep appreciation for the significance of sound biblical preaching and become familiar with various sermon types. Additionally, students will acquire the skills needed to effectively prepare and deliver sermons that are faithful to Scripture, well-organized, engaging, and relevant to the congregation. Practical sessions are a crucial component of the course, allowing students to gain experience in delivering both topical and expository messages to their peers. During these sessions, students will receive valuable feedback from the course lecturer and fellow classmates, which will significantly help them improve their homiletical ability.

## Christian Discipleship

TESMP231 / TESMP531 / TELMP531

Who are you really following? This course engages students in examining the biblical origins and historical portraits of discipleship while reflecting on their journey as a disciple of Jesus Christ. It also explores personal and corporate approaches to discipleship; and models of ministry that provide structures for discipleship within one's context. Discussion includes the characteristics, environment, community, and process of discipleship. Besides the textbook, students will gain a wider perspective of how discipleship takes place in other churches and from other sources.

## Pastoral Counseling

TESMC101 / TESMC501

This course will provide a comprehensive interdisciplinary approach to pastoral counseling, integrating biblical and theological principles with psychological insights to develop an understanding of the theories and processes essential for helping individuals through various emotional, spiritual, and relational needs and crises. In addition to examining the foundational models and methods of pastoral counseling, the course will also focus on the critical counseling skills needed for effective intervention. It will explore current issues and challenges faced by pastoral counselors, including ethical dilemmas, cultural considerations, and the complexities of addressing mental health concerns within faith-based contexts.

## 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 provides students with both a theoretical and practical foundation for understanding God's global mission. It challenges students to embrace a holistic vision of mission, where the boundaries are not confined to a specific location or role, but rather sees mission as a dynamic and integral part of every believer's life. This vision of mission is expansive, inclusive, and practical, and the course seeks to instill in students a deep sense of purpose and urgency in their participation in God's redemptive work wherever they are, in every sphere of life.

## Cultural Anthropology

TESMM203 / TESMM503

This course aims to provide anthropological insights, skills, and practical applications for living a fruitful Christian life and serving effectively in one's own culture, in cross-cultural settings, or in multi-cultural environments. Our approach integrates biblical theology, anthropological insights, and communication dynamics. Throughout this course, students will



explore the implications of cultural anthropology for addressing practical problems in missions. They will read case studies and actively engage in discussions that highlight the application of anthropological insights to various missionary contexts. Additionally, students will participate in cross-cultural fieldwork and discussions that emphasize the practical application of insights gained from these experiences.

## Asian Church History and Missions

TESMM205 / TESMM505

The course provides a comprehensive exploration of the historical development and impact of Christianity in Asia. Students will examine the rich tapestry of Asian Christian traditions, examining key events, personalities, and movements that have shaped the understanding of the Christian experience and its expression among the peoples of Asia. Additionally, the course will explore the dynamic interplay between historical and cultural contexts, addressing issues of indigenous expressions of faith. Through a combination of case studies, lectures, and readings, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the challenges and opportunities faced by the Asian Church in its mission to proclaim the Gospel.

## 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.

## 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 delves into the religious faith of our neighbors and co-workers, exploring its historical, textual, and lived dimensions within major and minor religions. The focus will be on religions such as Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Chinese religions. Special attention will be given to the study of formal religious teachings and how these religions are experienced in everyday life. Students will engage with these world religions through case studies, interviews, and visits to places of worship. This hands-on approach aims to foster an appreciation and understanding of these religions in the context of contemporary cultures.

## 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.

## Issues, Trends, and Challenges in Contemporary Mission

TESMM220 / TESMM520

This course identifies and critically surveys some of the important issues, trends, and challenges in relation to the mission of the Church, especially in Asia, by examining topics such as mission theology and the church, religious pluralism, leadership in mission, and other socio-economic facets of society that affect mission. It will also interact with some historical, economic, and sociological aspects to frame and understand God’s mission for the Church today.

## Raising A Sending Church

TESMM221 / TESMM521

This course focuses on the dynamic process of becoming a strong sending local church in God’s worldwide Mission, by examining the biblical mandate of sending, considering its

cross-cultural implications, its strategic dimension and also the personal preparation involved in sending a short or long-term missionary. It aims to motivate the development of an effective sending strategy and a healthy, viable mission model in local churches to fulfil the Antioch call in today's mission movement. It also encourages a critical evaluation of present mission models so that the local church will be equipped as a sending agency.

## Challenges and Opportunities in Asian Christianity

TESMM222 / TESMM522 / TELMM522

This course explores indigenous expressions of Christianity in the 19th and 20th centuries following the arrival of European Christianity in Asia. Moving beyond narratives of Western missionaries venturing into various Asian regions, it offers a comprehensive examination of the journey of the Christian church in Asia, taking root in diverse cultural contexts and yielding meaningful outcomes. Given Asia's rich diversity and plurality of religions, cultures, and philosophical perspectives, the course emphasizes an approach to Christian mission that respects and engages with this pluralism and diversity. Through a blend of case studies, lectures, and readings, students will delve into the contemporary challenges of mission work in post-colonial, multiethnic, and multireligious Asia, exploring both the complexities and opportunities inherent in such contexts.

## Instructional Design

TESME100 / TESME500

Learning should be intentionally designed and strategically facilitated so that believers may effectively learn the Word of God. To accomplish this, students will discuss and apply core principles of learning and teaching in the context of Christian education. Design frameworks and instructional strategies will also be explored and experienced. The course culminates with every student demonstrating component skills through the instructional design of a lesson and a practical micro-teaching session. Peer evaluation during the practical sessions affords students opportunities to discern application of principles and assess relevance for a given profile of learners and context.

## 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. Equipping believers for works of service and the building of the church should not be done in a random fashion and simply with ideas borrowed from popular programs. Besides giving attention to historical, philosophical, and psychological foundations of Christian education, this course focuses on practical curriculum considerations from a macro corporate church perspective. Discussion on content and components of curriculum development include purpose, people, process, and frameworks. Students will be given the opportunity to propose a model relevant to their Christian education context.

## Principles of Leadership

TESML301 / TESML501 / TELML501

What is leadership? Are some ways of leading better than others? Are leaders born or made? This course will introduce students to the multi-disciplinary nature of leadership and the major leadership approaches. It is designed to help students explore, understand, and apply foundational principles of leadership in their journey as Christian leaders. It will examine major leadership approaches, leadership characteristics and styles, and the leadership process needed for effective Christian leadership. At the end of the course, students will be able to articulate and apply leadership principles suitable for their leadership and ministry contexts.

## 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 based 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.

## Flourishing Followership for Effective Leadership

TESML304 / TESML504 / TELML504

Followers play an integral role in the leadership process and the success of organizations and ministries. Yet, followership has not received as much recognition and attention as leadership because of the heroic view of leadership and traditional notions that followers are passive and lesser than leaders. Growing followership research shows that followers can be active co-producers of leadership outcomes and flourish with the right leadership style and organizational culture. This course will explore the key themes of flourishing followership and how they contribute to effective followership.

## Leadership for Global Mission

TESML305 / TESML505

Effectiveness in leadership is subject to the interactions between leaders, followers, and their unique contexts. This course will explore leadership dynamics from a breadth of organizational and leadership theories in the light of biblical values with an emphasis on

leadership development for global mission. Theories to be explored will include transformational leadership, adaptive leadership, followership, and polycentric mission leadership.

## 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 aims to offer students an extensive exploration and enhanced comprehension of the theology of worship through a biblical lens. By delving into the foundational aspects of worship as depicted in both the Old and New Testaments, students will develop a profound appreciation for the essential components and diverse expressions of worship within the contemporary local church setting.