



A U S T I N
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF THEOLOGY



Catalogue
2011-2012

Greetings:

It's an exciting time at Austin Grad. In January of 2008, our school moved to a beautiful and more spacious building. For years our work was done in cramped quarters with no student parking.

We are blessed by God to be in this place because it not only gives us the opportunity to do our work much better, but also opens new doors for broader programs and greater service. Although our location has changed, our mission remains the same: educating Christian servants and edifying churches.

It has been said that a theological education should "enable believers to think the faith in order to more fully live the faith." I believe Austin Grad does this very well and it is why I accepted the call to serve as its president after 25 years of church ministry.

As a theological seminary we integrate our academic work with our life of faith. All of our faculty and staff are actively involved in the life of a local congregation. We encourage our students to likewise be actively involved in the life of a church.

During my years of church ministry, I came to appreciate the importance of having church leaders who are thoroughly prepared to be witnesses of the faith in the church and the world. We strive to nurture the faith and lives of those who lead and serve in the name of Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to the glory of God.

We invite you to join us on this adventure in theological education as we seek to know, understand, practice, and pass on the faith.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley G. Reid". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stanley" being the most prominent part.

Stanley G. Reid
President

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion:

*He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated in the Spirit,
seen by angels,
preached among the nations,
believed on in the world,
taken up in glory.*

1 Timothy 3:16

Then as I looked I heard the voices of countless angels. These were all round the throne and the living creatures and the elders. Myriads upon myriads there were, thousands upon thousands, and they cried aloud:

'Worthy is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain, to receive all power and wealth, wisdom and might, honour and glory and praise!'

Revelation 5:11-12



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ACADEMIC CALENDAR

2011-2012

Fall Semester, 2011

Classes Begin	August 24
Holiday	September 5
Holidays	November 24-25
Classes End	December 2
Final Exams	December 5-9
Official Graduation (No Public Ceremony)	December 18

Spring Semester, 2012

Classes Begin	January 17
Spring Break	March 12-16
Holiday	April 6
Classes End	May 4
Final Exams	May 7-11
Commencement	May 20

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

*Mission
Statement*

The Austin Graduate School of Theology is a seminary associated with the Churches of Christ and in conversation with all who confess Jesus as Lord. Our mission is to promote knowledge, understanding, and practice of the Christian faith by equipping Christians and churches for service in the Kingdom of God.

Purpose

The Austin Graduate School of Theology (Austin Grad) discharges its mission through a single focus of theological studies that is represented in its two degree programs, the Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies and the Master of Arts in Theological Studies, as well as through a variety of programs and activities. Courses of study provide instruction for those preparing for service as ministers, missionaries, or other vocations, as well as for university students and other interested persons who may not wish to pursue a degree. Seminars and lecture series provide continuing education for churches and church leaders. Publications incorporating faculty research extend the services of Austin Grad to a wider audience. Regular occasions for community worship, such as chapel services and student association events, place all of these programs and activities in a context of commitment to the glory of God.

*Faculty
Theological
Statement*

We acknowledge one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, revealed in the Old and New Testaments as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe in the uniqueness and finality of God's revelation in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and in the ultimate triumph of his kingdom. We believe that the risen Christ continues his ministry to the world through his Spirit in the community of faith; we believe

that membership in the body of Christ nurtures Christian faith, is essential to Christian growth, and is necessary for salvation. We acknowledge the Bible as the only rule for Christian faith and practice. We maintain the centrality and importance of Christian preaching to the mission of the church. In continuity with the Restoration tradition of Christian faith and practice, in matters of faith we seek unity; in matters of opinion, liberty; in all things, charity.

History

The Austin Graduate School of Theology traces its origins to 1917, when the University Avenue Church of Christ established a Bible Chair at the University of Texas. In 1975 this program was expanded with the offering of a bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies by arrangement with Abilene Christian University. That same year, the Bible Chair was incorporated as the Institute for Christian Studies (ICS). In 1978 an undergraduate program in ministry was initiated for the purpose of training ministers, teachers, and missionaries.

Independent accreditation was granted in 1987, and since that time over 200 students have earned an undergraduate degree and are serving throughout North America and five other continents. Graduate theological education was incorporated into ICS's mission in 1992 when a master's degree was offered by arrangement with Abilene Christian University.

In the fall of 2001, ICS launched its own graduate program, and the Institute for Christian Studies became the Austin Graduate School of Theology. At the same time, the needs of undergraduate students continue to be met

through Austin Grad's Bachelor of Arts program. More than 100 graduate degrees have been conferred by Austin Grad. In 2007-2008, Austin Grad relocated, moving from its historic site near the University Avenue Church of Christ and the University of Texas to north-central Austin. The new location allowed for expansion to meet the needs of a growing enrollment and the addition of future programs. Austin Grad's alumni offer Christian witness in both churches and the broader society in a variety of capacities including ministry, mission work, teaching, and business.

Facilities

Austin Grad's campus is located near several of central Texas's major transportation arteries, including Interstate 35, Highway 183, and Loop 1 (MoPac). The campus houses administrative and academic offices, classrooms, a student activity center, and the Bookstore. It also affords a large theological library with access to technology resources and a comprehensive collection of databases for religious studies. The campus has ample parking and includes space for future growth.

Accreditation

Austin Graduate School of Theology is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor and master degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions regarding the school's accreditation status, to file a third-party comment at the time of its decennial review, or to file a complaint for alleged non-compliance with accreditation standards or requirements.

GENERAL INFORMATION, *Continued*

Please direct all other inquiries to Austin Graduate School of Theology.

*The City of
Austin*

Founded in 1835 as Waterloo and later renamed for Stephen F. Austin, the city has grown to over 700,000 inhabitants, with over 1.5 million in the surrounding 5-county area.

As the state capital, Austin is the location of numerous state and federal offices. Many colleges and universities stand within a 35-mile radius of the business district.

Numerous museums, historic sites, and tourist attractions make Austin an interesting place to visit and live. The city is located on the Colorado River in the foothills of the Texas Hill Country. From Austin the highland lakes stretch upriver for over 150 miles, providing for numerous resort and recreation facilities. Central Texas has many campgrounds, large park areas, and athletic facilities. Other cultural resources, such as performing arts, countless festivals, and sports events contribute to the diversity to which students can be exposed in their theological training.

II. ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

AN INVITATION

If you are considering serious study of the Bible, ministry, or theology, we invite and encourage you to visit Austin Graduate School of Theology. Please contact the Admissions Office to arrange for an on-campus visit. Such a visit may include attending a class, a campus tour, and conversations with faculty, staff, and students. All prospective students are invited to have an on-campus conference with a member of the Admissions Committee.

TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Austin Graduate School of Theology, as a school of the church desiring to serve the church, is not merely an institution for academic study. As such, Austin Grad reserves the right to exercise discretion in granting or denying admission of applicants to any program, including enrollment through Special Admission, on any grounds consistent with its educational standards, its stated purpose and mission, and its understanding of itself as a community of faith.

A. ADMISSION TO DEGREE PROGRAMS

Procedures for Admission

A prospective student should first contact the Director of Admissions, who will provide admission forms and acquaint him or her with procedures for admission. The Admissions Office will assemble the student's transcript(s), letters of recommendation, test scores (where appropriate), and admission forms to complete the applicant's folder. The student's application will be reviewed and evaluated by the faculty committee on admissions, which seeks to ensure that each student is prepared to engage in

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
Continued

theological study and further preparation for ministry. The student will receive notification of the committee's decision by a letter from the Director of Admissions.

Priority consideration is given to students who apply for admission no later than July 1 for the Fall semester and no later than December 1 for the Spring semester.

Transcripts All prospective degree students must provide official transcripts of all credits attempted and earned through all previously attended institutions of higher education. The student should request each of these institutions to send transcripts directly to Austin Grad rather than the student.

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies Students must have completed at least 24 hours of general education requirements (transferable credits) before being admitted into the Bachelor of Arts degree program, including at least 3 hours in English Language and Literature. Foreign students must complete 54 hours of the non-elective portion of general education requirements before being admitted into the Bachelor of Arts degree program. Admission to the BACS program requires official transcripts of all credits previously attempted, three letters of reference (including one from a professor and one from a minister of the congregation where the applicant is actively involved), and an application for admission including an essay stating the applicant's goals in ministry and reasons for pursuing the BACS. Students for whom English is a second language must document a score of 530 or higher on the TOEFL.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
Continued

A minimum of 36 hours of coursework must be completed in residence at Austin Grad for students in the BACS degree program.

Entering students who have earned less than 35 semester hours of credit at another accredited institution are also required to submit their official high school transcript and an official report of scores achieved on the ACT or SAT. ACT/SAT scores and academic records are considered jointly in evaluating the eligibility of an applicant. Low grades may be offset by higher ACT/SAT scores; high grades may compensate for low ACT/SAT scores.

All students entering the BACS program are required to take the College Basic Academic Subject Examination (College BASE) to assess competencies in general education subjects. Normally scheduled at New Student Orientation, students will be tested in 3 subject areas: Math, English, and Social Studies. Students not achieving a satisfactory score may be referred for additional coursework in the relevant subject or for tutoring sessions (typically a score in the 50th percentile of that year's College BASE User Norms is considered satisfactory).

*Transfer of
Credits for
the BACS
Degree*

Austin Grad accepts transfer hours from regionally accredited institutions. In addition, up to 15 semester hours of credit from other institutions may be accepted in transfer toward the BACS degree in cases where Austin Grad assesses this as equivalent to college-level work. Transfer credit applied to major coursework must be upper-division (Junior, Senior) level. No transfer credit under the grade of C will be accepted.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
Continued

Austin Grad will accept up to 30 hours of advanced placement through the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or the College Board Advanced Placement (AP). Minimum credit-granting scores are: CLEP - 50 and AP - 4. All students who request credit through CLEP or AP must have official test scores sent directly to the Registrar's office.

*Master
of Arts in
Theological
Studies*

Admission to the MATS degree program requires a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution verified by an official copy of the student's transcript, three letters of reference (including one from a professor and one from a minister of the congregation where the applicant is actively involved), and an application for admission including an essay stating the applicant's goals in ministry and reasons for pursuing the MATS degree. There is a \$25 application fee. Students for whom English is a second language must document a score of 550 or higher on the TOEFL.

A minimum of 24 hours of graduate-level coursework must be completed in residence at Austin Grad for students in the MATS degree program.

*Transfer of
Credits for
the MATS
Degree*

Austin Grad accepts transfer hours from regionally accredited institutions. No transfer credit under the grade of B will be accepted.

B. PROVISIONAL ADMISSION

An applicant to a degree program who does not meet all the academic qualifications for that program may be permitted to enroll in the regular course of study on a conditional basis known as Provisional Admission. A Provisional

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
Continued

Student must enroll in required coursework for their degree program and must achieve at least a 2.0 GPA their first full-time semester or on their first twelve hours (MATS students must include one language course). Upon successful completion of these hours, a Provisional student will attain full admission status. Provisional Students who do not achieve this requirement will be involuntarily withdrawn (see 'Discontinuance' on page 31). Provisionally admitted students are encouraged to take advantage of the Tutoring Program (see page 28).

C. SPECIAL ADMISSION

Special Admission is granted to students taking courses for credit but not enrolled in a degree program at Austin Grad. These include residents of the Austin area who desire to increase their understanding of the Bible and Christian faith and their potential contribution to the teaching ministry of the church, as well as students currently enrolled in the University of Texas or another college in the area. Students wishing to take more than twelve credit hours through Special Admission status are encouraged to contact the Registrar prior to registration (see 'To Prospective Students' on page 5). The Faculty awards the Certificate in Biblical and Theological Studies to Special Admission students who satisfactorily complete thirty credit hours.

D. AUDITORS

Students wishing to take courses at Austin Grad without enrolling for academic credit may do so as auditors. Auditors will be required to fill out a special registration form before attending a class.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
Continued

Students wishing to audit a graduate-level course must have an undergraduate degree or instructor approval.

E. NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

Austin Grad does not discriminate in the administration of its educational or admissions policies, in the award of financial aid through scholarships, grants, work-study or loan programs, or in any other school program. In accordance with federal law, and in the conviction that all people are created in the image of God, Austin Grad admits men and women of all racial, national, and ethnic backgrounds to the rights, privileges, programs and activities accorded and available to all students.

F. DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

The possession, use, or distribution of any controlled substance on or off campus, or the contribution to its use by others will not be tolerated. Austin Grad respects all laws of the United States and the State of Texas concerning the regulation of alcoholic beverages and the manufacture, possession, use, or distribution of any controlled substance by any and all students and employees. All students should be aware of the serious health risks associated with the use of alcohol and illegal drugs. A student voluntarily disclosing an alcohol or drug-related problem will not be automatically dismissed or terminated, but will be considered on an individual basis in a confidential, just manner. A student with an alcohol or drug-related problem may be permitted to remain in school on the condition

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
Continued

of participating in an approved counseling and rehabilitation program.

G. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Austin Grad is committed to due process in all student matters. Fairness and reasonable consideration of student needs is a benchmark of all administrative, faculty and financial interaction with students.

Any student with a grievance regarding academic, student, or financial matters, or any issue related to their life and work at Austin Grad, is encouraged to pursue the following course of action:

1. Attempt to resolve the issue at the primary level first, i.e. speak directly with the person involved or with the administrative officer or faculty member who is responsible for implementing the policy(ies) causing the grievance. If for any reason a student prefers not to resolve the issue in this manner, they may submit their grievance in writing following the procedure outlined in item 2.
2. If the student does not find satisfactory resolution of the situation through direct conversation as described in item 1, then (s)he may submit a written complaint to the Vice President in the case of grievances involving financial or administrative matters, to the Faculty Chair in the case of academic grievances, or to the Dean of Students in the case of student and all other grievances. Within thirty (30) days, the relevant officer will investigate the matter and respond to the student in writing.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
Continued

3. A student who remains dissatisfied may appeal the decision of the Vice President, Faculty Chair, or Dean of Students to the President within fourteen (14) days. The President will review the matter and respond to the student within thirty (30) days. The decision of the President is final in all matters of student grievance.

III. TUITION AND FINANCIAL POLICIES

A. TUITION AND FEES

Tuition Graduate and undergraduate tuition is \$310.00 per semester hour. Auditors are charged \$50.00.

Fees In addition to tuition, a Facility Use Fee of \$75.00 per semester is added at the time of registration. Students who are ‘auditing only’ (taking no courses for credit) pay a reduced Facility Use Fee of \$25.00 per semester. Only one fee applies regardless of the number of courses being taken.

Students also bear costs of textbooks and class materials.

B. PAYMENT PROCESS AND PLAN

Payment Process Payments may be made by mail or at the receptionist’s desk at Austin Grad’s main office in one of the following ways: cash, check, money order, or credit card.

All students are required to make payment arrangements prior to being officially enrolled in classes. If prior semester charges have not been paid in full, the student will not be allowed to register until satisfactory arrangements have been made.

Payment Plan Students may request to pay tuition charges through Austin Grad’s payment plan. This requires a minimum payment of one-third of tuition charges (less financial aid) due at registration. The remaining balance will be due in three (3) monthly installments. Students are responsible to track payment dates and

TUITION AND FINANCIAL POLICIES, *Continued*

make payments on time. There is a \$15.00 late fee for payments over five (5) days late. At its discretion, Austin Grad may revoke the payment plan option for students who repeatedly make late payments. The payment plan is intended for fall and spring semester courses only. Payment for short or summer courses must be made in full prior to the first day of classes.

C. REFUND POLICY AND FEES

*Traditional
Fall and
Spring
Semesters*

The following refund schedule applies when dropping or withdrawing from a course:

First 10 class days (Add/Drop Period)	100% refund
Days 11-15	50% refund
Days 16-20	25% refund
After 20th day	No refund

*Short or
Intensive
Courses*

The following refund schedule and fees apply when dropping or withdrawing from a short course:

All Short or Intensive Courses:	
More than 1 week before class starts:	100% refund
1 week before class starts through first day:	100% refund, less \$25.00 drop fee
2-Week Courses:	
Days 2-3:	50% refund
After 3rd class day:	No refund
4-Week Courses:	
Days 2-5:	50% refund
After 5th class day:	No refund

General

Schedule additions or changes after the Add/Drop Period are subject to a \$25.00 administrative fee.

TUITION AND FINANCIAL POLICIES, *Continued*

Tuition for Auditors and Facility Use Fees for all students are non-refundable after the Add/Drop Period.

Dates for the Add/Drop Periods and refund schedules are published on the Austin Grad calendar each year.

D. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Austin Grad maintains a policy of financial responsibility. All students, including those receiving financial assistance, must make financial arrangements to settle their financial obligations for tuition, books, and loans as those expenses are due. Students may not be allowed to enroll from semester to semester when tuition and other costs from prior semesters are unpaid. Students will not be allowed to graduate until all financial obligations to Austin Grad are discharged. Transcripts will not be issued to students who have outstanding financial obligations to Austin Grad.

E. NOTICE

Austin Graduate School of Theology reserves the right to amend information contained in this catalogue at any time, including admissions and financial aid policies and procedures and charges for tuition, fees, and other institutional services, at the discretion of the administration or when mandated by regulatory agencies. When such changes do occur, every effort will be made to provide adequate notice to all affected by the changes. In addition, check for updates on our website at www.austingrad.edu.

IV. FINANCIAL AID

Austin Graduate School of Theology is committed to practicing and encouraging good stewardship. To foster this, a number of financial aid programs are available to assist students in minimizing or eliminating the need to incur debt while working toward their degree. We invite prospective and continuing students to contact our Financial Aid Office at finaid@austingrad.edu to discuss options and eligibility.

A. SOURCES OF FUNDING

Personal Funds

Personal Funds are those from you or your family. Many of our students work in area churches or secular jobs while working toward their degree. If you are relocating to the Austin area to attend, check with the Dean of Students for potential openings/internships in local churches.

Austin Grad Scholarships

Through the generosity of supporters, a number of endowments have been established to assist students preparing for service in full-time or lay ministry. Individual funds are described in this Catalogue. Eligibility is based upon enrollment in a degree program, financial need, academic history, and ministry involvement or potential. Priority is given to full-time students, but part-time students may also be eligible. To apply, students must complete the Austin Grad Financial Aid Application. Priority is given to applications received by July 1 for fall semesters and November 15 for spring semesters.

The Austin Grad Financial Aid Application is available in the Financial Aid Office or on our website at www.austingrad.edu. Submit

FINANCIAL AID, *Continued*

completed application to the Austin Grad Financial Aid Office.

Church or Employer Matching

Students often have supporting churches that pay all or part of their tuition. Austin Grad may match a portion of this support – up to 25% of your full tuition payment. When a matching award is combined with another scholarship award, the total of both may not exceed 25% of tuition. Contact our Financial Aid Office for details. If you plan to work in a secular job while in school, check with your employer for programs that may help fund your education.

Federal Financial Aid Programs

Austin Grad participates in a number of Title IV Federal Student Aid programs. All require the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA - see below).

- Federal Pell and Supplemental Equal Opportunity Grants are based on financial need and available to students working toward their first undergraduate degree.
- Federal Stafford Loan Programs are available to both undergraduate and graduate students. All federal loan programs defer payments while enrolled at least half-time in a degree program. For details on Federal Stafford Loans see section under ‘Direct Loans’ below.
- Federal Work-Study positions are available to both undergraduate and graduate degree students. Eligibility is based on financial need. Work hours can be adjusted to fit course schedules, however, are usually limited from 3 to 10 hours per week.

FINANCIAL AID, *Continued*

FAFSA Complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.FAFSA.ed.gov each academic year (fall-spring). Austin Grad's school code is 017322.

Applying for a PIN number allows you to electronically sign your FAFSA and to be able to quickly renew your FAFSA each year. Your PIN Number also allows you to view information about past federal aid received. Go to www.pin.ed.gov.

FAFSA Priority Deadlines Students should complete the FAFSA online at least 45 days prior to start of classes. This allows time to determine eligibility and for any award to be applied as payment at registration. Students submitting their FAFSA after this date may be required to make other payment arrangements to register.

Student Eligibility Students must meet certain eligibility requirements to participate in Federal Aid programs. These are outlined in the handbook, "Financial Aid at Austin Grad: Overview and Policies." The handbook can be obtained through the Financial Aid Office or on Austin Grad's website.

Return of Federal Aid Awards All students receiving Title IV (Federal) student aid are subject to return a portion of that aid if withdrawing prior to the 60% point of any enrollment period. The amount of funds to be returned, if any, is calculated according to the date of withdrawal and federal guidelines. Federal Work-Study funds already paid are not subject to this policy.

FINANCIAL AID, *Continued*

B. DIRECT LOANS

Types of Direct Loans

The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program provides for Stafford Subsidized and Unsubsidized loans. Repayment of these loans may be deferred while you are attending at least half-time in a degree program.

- *Subsidized* loans are awarded according to demonstrated financial need. The federal government pays interest while the borrower is enrolled at least half-time in a degree program and during a six-month grace period. Repayment of the loan begins at the end of the six-month grace period after leaving school or dropping below half-time.
- *Unsubsidized* loans are awarded regardless of demonstrated need. Interest begins accruing from the date of disbursement. By making interest payments while in school, capitalization of the interest can be avoided. When interest is capitalized, it is added to the principal amount of the loan upon which further interest charges are based.
- PLUS loans (Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students) are for parents of dependent students. These can be used to supplement other financial aid awarded to a student, such as the Direct Stafford Loan. Repayment of the Direct PLUS Loan is not deferrable. Parents must begin repayment within 60 days after the entire loan has been disbursed.
- Students accepting a loan award through the Direct Loan Program must complete and electronically sign a Master Promissory Note

Master Promissory Note

FINANCIAL AID, *Continued*

(MPN) with the federal government before any loans will be processed or disbursed (paid) to their account.

- **Loan Counseling:** All Direct Loan borrowers must complete electronic *Entrance* and *Exit* Counseling as a requirement of their loan agreement. These sessions are intended to provide borrowers with an understanding of their rights and responsibilities under the Direct Loan Program. Entrance Counseling must be completed before the student's first loan is processed. Exit Counseling is to be completed upon graduation or withdrawal from the program.
- To complete an MPN and Entrance Counseling students should log into the Federal Loan website, StudentLoans.gov, using the PIN number used for their FAFSA.

V. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION

A. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHRISTIAN STUDIES

The Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (BACS), a liberal arts degree, is especially suited for those pursuing a life of service in the church and for those planning to enter seminary or graduate theological studies. Based on a foundation grounded in the classical liberal arts tradition, it seeks to bring the student through informed study of the Bible and historic Christian faith to mature development of a coherent world view whereby they may function well in the contemporary world.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will show mastery of the biblical story and familiarity with various genres of biblical literature (law, wisdom, gospel, epistle, etc.) and basic methods and principles of biblical exegesis.
2. The student will state the fundamental doctrines of historic Christian faith as summarized in the Apostles' and Nicene creeds and demonstrate familiarity with major persons and events in the history of Christianity.
3. The student will articulate major elements of a coherent Christian world view and be able to communicate this effectively in a local church or parachurch setting.
4. The student will demonstrate knowledge and use of word processing skills, internet study resources, subscription databases, Bible software, etc.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

5. The student will attain the necessary foundations for lifelong learning and competent writing through acquiring broad-based knowledge and skills in the liberal arts.

*Course of
Study*

A minimum of 120 semester hours is required for the BACS, which includes 69 hours of general education courses and 51 hours of major requirements. Students may use undergraduate courses offered at Austin Grad to meet general education elective requirements. Students must complete all other General Education coursework at regionally accredited institutions as transfer credit. In addition, all BACS candidates must pass a Bible content examination prepared by Austin Grad faculty prior to graduation.

I. General Education Requirements (69 hours)

- English Language and Literature - 12 hours (not including Public Speaking; see below)
- Fine Arts - 3 hours
- Natural Science - 6 hours
- Mathematics - 3 hours
- History - 12 hours (6 Western Civilization; 6 U.S. History)
- Public Speaking - 3 hours
- Computer Science - 3 hours
- Philosophy or Classics - 6 hours
- Social Science - 6 hours
- Electives - 15 hours (Austin Grad offers a number of courses that may be used as electives)

II. Major Requirements (51 semester hours)

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

- CS 3350 Research and Writing in Theology
- OT 3310 The Story of Israel
- NT 3320 Life and Teachings of Jesus
- NT 3321 Life and Letters of Paul
- NT 4313 Interpreting the Bible
- 3 hours Elective in Bible
- GRK 3351-GRK 3352 New Testament Greek (6 hours)
- CH 3312 Church History
- TH 4322 Introduction to Theological Thinking
- TH 4313 Christian Ethics
- NT 4335 Biblical Theology
- CS 4362 Church in the Contemporary World
- CS 4363 Christian Encounter with Other Cultures

Pick Three:

- MIN 4320 Ministries in the Local Church
- MIN 4340 Ministry in Social Programs
- MIN 4306 Teaching and Preaching
- MIN 4360 Ministry in a Medical Setting
- MIN 4350i Christian Counseling
- MIN 3310 Marriage and Family

Additional Requirements

- Successful completion of the BA Bible Content Exam.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

- Participation in the Festival of Preaching.
- Completion of the Graduating Student Survey and Assessment.

MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

*Student
Learning
Outcomes*

The Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) provides a foundation in biblical and theological studies essential to the responsible practice of Christian ministry. The degree is especially appropriate for persons seeking a specialized ministry in the congregational setting and for those wishing to enhance the effectiveness of their volunteer or lay ministries.

1. The student will interpret passages of the Old and New Testaments in light of their literary, historical, and theological contexts.
2. The student will articulate the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith reflecting knowledge of major theological traditions (e.g., Catholic, Orthodox, Lutheran, Reformed, Methodist, Baptist, Stone-Campbell).
3. The student will demonstrate a readiness to serve as a minister or lay teacher informed by a biblical and theological understanding of ministry.
4. The student will prepare papers, sermons, classes, and other assignments employing research tools such as bibliographic indices and databases in biblical and theological studies (ATLA Religion Index, NT/OT Abstracts, etc.).

*Course of
Study*

The MATS consists of 36 semester hours of graduate-level coursework, distributed among

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

biblical studies, history and theology, and ministry. The course of study is intended to be completed in two (2) years of full-time study, but part-time students may take as many as five (5) years for completion.

The MATS requires the following 15 semester hours of Background Coursework, or their equivalent, which must be satisfactorily completed at the undergraduate or graduate level:

- GRK 3351- New Testament Greek
GRK 3352 (6 hours)
- CH 3312 Church History
- CS 3350 Research and Writing in
Theology

3 hours in **either**:

- NT 4335 Biblical Theology
- NT 4313 Interpreting the Bible

MATS Degree Plan (must be graduate-level coursework):

Biblical Studies (15 hours)

- OT 6301 **Reading the Old Testament**
- NT 6301 **Reading the New Testament**
- 6 hours of exegetically intensive text
electives, one in each Testament
- 3 additional hours in the division

Church History and Theology (12 hours)

- CH 6303 Traditions in Christian
Theology and Ethics
- CH 6302 Christianity in America

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

- **TH 6301 Introduction to Theology**
- 3 additional hours in the division

Christian Ministry (9 hours)

- **MIN 6301 Introduction to Christian Ministry**

3 hours in **either**:

- MIN 6302 The Ministry of Preaching
- MIN 6304 Christian Worship
- 3 additional hours in the division

The courses above in **bold text** serve as an introduction to each division's curriculum.

- Students seeking to take coursework prior to completing that division's introductory course must have instructor approval.
- Students with undergraduate work deemed adequate as an introduction to a division's curriculum must substitute the equivalent number of semester hours of graduate-level coursework within the same division.

Additional Requirements

- Attendance at six meetings of the Student-Faculty Roundtable.
- Successful completion of the MATS Bible Content Exam.
- Participation in the Festival of Preaching.
- Completion of the Graduating Student Survey and Assessment.

B. GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

*Full-Time,
Part-Time
Status*

Any undergraduate student taking at least twelve hours per semester is considered a full-time student. Any student taking fewer than twelve hours is considered part-time. Six hours is considered full-time in the Summer Session.

Any graduate student taking at least nine hours per semester is considered a full-time student. Any student taking fewer than nine hours is considered part-time. Six hours is considered full-time in the Summer Session.

*Student
Employment*

The faculty and administration of Austin Grad expect full-time students to maintain a high level of discipline and quality in their academic pursuits. To achieve these goals, full-time employment is discouraged. Students having financial needs may find it necessary to work in order to meet their expenses. To that end, Austin Grad recommends that full-time students be employed no more than 20 hours per week.

*Health
Insurance*

The School strongly recommends that all students have comprehensive health insurance for themselves and their families. To assist students, the Financial Aid Office makes available information on a college student health insurance plan. Part-time and full-time students are eligible for this plan. Austin Grad makes this plan available as a service to students and is not affiliated with any health plan provider. All students bear the sole responsibility for assessing this plan or others as providing for their particular needs. International students requesting an F-1 Student Visa must obtain mandated minimum health insurance coverage and proof of coverage prior to commencing enrollment in classes.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

*Resources
for Learning*

The David Worley Library is located on the first floor of Austin Grad and currently has 30,000 items in its collection. The collection is highly specialized, with a focus on biblical studies, theology, church history, and practical ministry. The library subscribes to about 130 journals and maintains an up-to-date reference collection.

The Jim Beyer Computer Lab provides access to Macs and PCs. Computers are equipped with the latest Bible search software, including Accordance, Gramcord for Windows, Logos, and Bible Windows.

The library maintains membership in the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) and TexShare, the consortium of academic and public libraries in the state of Texas. Through TexShare, students have access to numerous online full-text databases and also have borrowing privileges at most public and academic libraries throughout Texas. In addition, students have access to the ATLA Religion Database and the ATLA Serials (ATLAS) Database. Through ATLAS, students can access more than 211,000 full-text digital articles and book reviews combined.

*Tutoring
Program*

The Tutoring Program is available in order to help ensure the greatest academic success for all students. At any time during the year, a student may contact either the Faculty Chairman or Registrar's Office for information.

Grading

The work done by students in courses is evaluated and reported by the use of traditional letter grades.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

A is the highest grade given; it is reserved for work of the highest excellence.

B is given for work of high quality though below the level of highest excellence.

C is given for acceptable work.

D is given for work which, while not demonstrating proficiency in the subject, enables the student to receive credit for the course.

F is given for failure and indicates that no credit can be received for the course except by repetition and achievement of satisfactory work.

I is given when the assigned work for a course remains incomplete. If the work is not finished by the end of the subsequent semester plus one week, the grade automatically changes to F. The summer term counts as one semester for this purpose.

WF/WP (Withdraw Failing or Withdraw Passing) is given when a student withdraws from a course prior to the posted deadlines for that semester.

*Transcript
Requests*

To request an Austin Grad transcript, contact the Registrar's Office. Requests must be in writing and include the signature of the person whose record is being requested. Cost is \$5.00 per request (first request free for graduates). Transcripts are not issued until all overdue balances with Austin Grad are paid in full.

Withdrawal

A student who withdraws from school after the official add/drop period is required to submit a written withdrawal request to the Registrar. If the student does not request approval, a grade of

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

F may be recorded for the courses in which they are registered. A student voluntarily withdrawing may return without reapplying within one year following the last work in residence, provided the withdrawal occurred after completion of work at the close of a semester or was arranged with official approval.

*Academic
Probation*

A student's continued enrollment is a privilege based not only on scholastic performance, but also upon a student's health. If it is determined that withdrawal is in the best interest of the student and Austin Grad, a student shall be asked to withdraw. In such cases, there shall normally be no academic penalty for the semester in which the student is enrolled. The Dean of Students shall inform the student in writing of the effective date of the involuntary withdrawal and shall explain the procedure for readmission.

Students admitted into a degree program, as well as any student admitted on conditional status, are placed on academic probation for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA
- Receiving two grades of F in a given semester
- Receiving one F in each of two consecutive semesters

A student receiving two grades of F in a given semester will also be liable for dismissal.

The Registrar monitors each student's progress. Students placed on academic probation are notified of their status by the Registrar, and a copy of the notice is placed in the student's file

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

in the Registrar's office. During the period of academic probation students are not allowed to assume duties in the student association.

To be removed from academic probation a student must achieve a cumulative 2.0 grade point average and complete satisfactorily all coursework in the subsequent fall or spring semester in which the student is enrolled. Any student who has been on academic probation in a previous semester and is placed again on academic probation will be liable to dismissal by the faculty.

Should a student become liable for dismissal by the faculty, the Registrar shall notify both the student and Dean of Students.

Discontinuance A student who has not achieved the required cumulative GPA of 2.0 after two consecutive semesters of academic probation will be discontinued. Discontinuance implies no irregularity of conduct or breach of discipline. A student may be readmitted to his or her program of studies after one semester of discontinuance. Readmission will be granted if the student offers satisfactory evidence that their difficulty, academic or otherwise, has been removed. If the student remains on probation after the first semester of readmission, they are permanently discontinued from Austin Grad.

Dismissal Any breach in discipline or action contrary to the best interests of Austin Grad may lead to disciplinary probation or immediate dismissal.

Applying for Graduation A graduation application must be submitted early in the semester in which the student plans

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION,
Continued

to graduate. Required coursework for any Incomplete(s) must be fulfilled by the first school day after Spring Break in order to graduate and participate in graduation exercises in May. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required for graduation.

Comprehensive Assessments Each student completing the BACS and MATS degree programs preaches an Exit Sermon, integrating the competencies the student has gained in biblical exegesis, theological reflection, and ministry through the spoken word. The sermons are shared with the AGST community in the School's annual Festival of Preaching, in which graduating students come together for a time of fellowship in the Word and faculty offer written evaluation and constructive suggestions.

In addition, every student finishing a degree program completes the Graduating Student Survey and Assessment, which affords an opportunity to evaluate knowledge gained through the student's course of study.

VI. COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

The academic level of a course is indicated by the first digit of the course number: 3 for junior-level courses, 4 for senior-level courses, 6 for master's-level courses. The second digit of the course number indicates the number of semester hours of credit awarded for the course (usually three).

Under certain circumstances, courses listed below as undergraduate courses may be taken as a graduate-level course and will be given a 5000-level designation. Students enrolled in such courses for graduate credit must have the Registrar's approval and will be required to complete assignments in addition to those required of undergraduates.

A. DIVISION OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

- GRK 3351 *Elementary New Testament Greek 1*
Introduction of basic elements of Greek grammar and reading of 1 John in Greek.
- GRK 3352 *Elementary New Testament Greek 2*
Translation and exegesis of selected passages of the Greek New Testament, with emphasis on building vocabulary and introduction of exegetical tools and principles. Prerequisite: GRK 3351.
- GRK 4399 *Directed Study in Greek*
Translation and exegesis of selected passages of the Greek New Testament and other relevant literature, with attention to exegetical tools and principles.
- HEB 4399 *Directed Study in Hebrew*
Introduction of basic elements of Hebrew grammar and reading of selected passages of the Hebrew Old Testament.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

- HEB 6310 *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew 1*
Introduction to the basic elements of Hebrew grammar. Introduction to the Hebrew Bible with readings and translation of selected passages.
- HEB 6311 *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew 2*
Continued introduction to Hebrew grammar. Translation and exegesis of selected passages of the Hebrew Old Testament. Emphasis on exegetical principles and tools, including lexica, concordances, and theological dictionaries. Prerequisite: HEB 6310.
- OT 3310 *The Story of Israel*
A survey of the books of Genesis through 2 Kings. Attention is given to the theological themes of creation, promise, covenant, and judgment introduced in this foundational narrative of Scripture.
- OT 3311 *The Old Testament Prophets*
The prophetic books of the Old Testament, with attention to the literary arrangement, the historical setting, and the theological significance of the prophetic compositions.
- OT 4312 *Old Testament Psalms and Wisdom*
The books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, together with poetic passages found elsewhere in the Old Testament. Attention to the forms of the literature and to theological import.
- OT 4350 *Elective in Old Testament*
Focused treatment of a text or topic in Old Testament studies. Course may be repeated for credit when the subject varies.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

- OT 4399 *Directed Study in Old Testament*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.
- OT 6301 *Reading the Old Testament*
Exegetical introduction to the Scriptures of the Old Testament, with attention given to their literary, historical, and theological dimensions. Emphasis on information foundational to responsible interpretation.
- OT 6302 *Torah*
Exegetical and theological investigation of one or more books of the Pentateuch, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- OT 6303 *Historical Books*
Exegetical and theological investigation of one or more of the books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- OT 6304 *The Prophets*
Exegetical and theological investigation of one or more of the prophetic books, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- OT 6305 *Psalms and Wisdom Books*
Exegetical and theological investigation of one or more of the books of Psalms, Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, and Lamentations, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

- OT 6306 *Old Testament Theology*
Systematic survey of Old Testament teaching on God, the creation, the election of Israel, covenant, redemption, and other major topics.
- OT 6308 *Seminar in Biblical Archaeology*
An introduction to the methods, terminology and tools of archaeology in Israel. This course is offered in conjunction with an archaeological study tour of Israel.
- OT 6309 *Special Topics in Old Testament Studies*
Treatment of an issue or issues of importance for the interpretation of the Old Testament. Course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies.
- OT 6399 *Directed Study in Old Testament*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.
- NT 3320 *Life and Teachings of Jesus*
A survey of the ministry of Jesus Christ as presented in the four Gospels. Emphasis will be given to the historical context of Jesus' ministry in ancient Judaism, the literary character of each of the canonical witnesses, and the theological significance of their testimony.
- NT 3321 *Life and Letters of Paul*
A survey of the canonical letters of Paul within the framework of his apostolic ministry. Attention to the character and structure of each of Paul's canonical letters, the historical circumstances of their composition and preservation, and the theological significance of these earliest examples of Christian exhortation.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

- NT 4313 *Interpreting the Bible*
Introduction to resources and methods for the independent study of Scripture. Use of English versions of the Greek and Hebrew Scriptures, Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias, concordances and commentaries. Exercises designed to develop students' interpretive skills.
- NT 4320 *The Apostolic Witness*
A study of the Book of Acts and General Letters (referred to collectively in the ancient church as the Apostolicon) and the Revelation, with emphasis on the continuation of Jesus' ministry through the Spirit in the apostolic church. Attention to the literary character of these New Testament writings, their historical value, and their theological significance.
- NT 4335 *Biblical Theology*
An examination of major themes uniting the Old and New Testaments as one canon of Scripture. Prerequisites for undergraduate students: OT 3311, NT 3320, and NT 3321.
- NT 4350 *Elective in New Testament*
Focused treatment of a text or topic in New Testament studies. Course may be repeated for credit when the subject varies.
- NT 4399 *Directed Study in New Testament*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.
- NT 6301 *Reading the New Testament*
Exegetical introduction to the Scriptures of the New Testament, with attention given to their literary, historical, and theological dimensions. Emphasis on information foundational to responsible interpretation.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

- NT 6302 *Synoptic Gospels*
Exegetical and theological investigation of one or more of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- NT 6303 *Johannine Literature*
Exegetical and theological investigation of the Gospel and Letters of John, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- NT 6304 *Acts*
Exegetical and theological investigation of the sequel to Luke's Gospel, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- NT 6305 *Pauline Letters*
Exegetical and theological investigation of one or more letters of Paul, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- NT 6306 *General Letters*
Exegetical and theological investigation of one or more of the books of Hebrews, James, Peter, and Jude, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- NT 6307 *Revelation*
Exegetical and theological investigation of the Apocalypse, with attention to possibilities for preaching and teaching in the church.
- NT 6308 *New Testament Theology*
Systematic survey of the major theological complexes of the New Testament (Paul, John, Synoptics, etc.).

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

NT 6309 *Special Topics in New Testament Studies.*
Treatment of an issue or issues of importance for the interpretation of the New Testament. Course may be repeated when topic varies.

NT 6399 *Directed Study in New Testament*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.

B. DIVISION OF CHURCH HISTORY AND THEOLOGY

CH 3312 *The History of the Church*
An overview of the history of Christianity from its beginnings to the present, highlighting major developments.

CH 4350 *Elective in Church History*
Focused treatment of a topic in the history of the Christian church. Course may be repeated for credit when the subject varies.

CH 4399 *Directed Study in Church History*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.

CH 6301 *From Early Church to Reformation*
The story of the Christian Church from its beginnings through the sixteenth-century reforms of Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, the Anabaptists, and Trent.

CH 6302 *Christianity in America*
The story of the Christian Church in the New World, from the establishment of Christian denominations in the colonies to contemporary pluralism.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

- CH 6303 *Traditions in Christian Theology and Ethics*
Survey and evaluation of influential approaches to theology and ethics in the history of Christian theology, including the Augustinian, Thomist, Lutheran, Reformed, and Wesleyan traditions. May also be taken for theology credit; see TH 6303.
- CH 6304 *Special Topics in Church History*
Treatment of an issue or issues of importance in the history of Christianity.
- CH 6399 *Directed Study in Church History*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.
- TH 4312 *Introduction to Theological Thinking*
An introduction to the basic theological task. This will involve a survey of basic Christian concepts and selected Christian doctrines as set forth by theological treatises.
- TH 4313 *Christian Ethics*
An introductory course in Christian ethics. Relevant biblical and historical resources are examined and fundamental themes identified and traced through the Christian moral tradition. The Christian witness on selected issues such as war, racism, and abortion is considered.
- TH 4350 *Elective in Theology*
Focused treatment of a topic of theological study. Course may be repeated for credit when the subject varies.
- TH 4399 *Directed Study in Theology*
Directed study on a topic in theology selected in consultation with the instructor.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

- TH 6301 *Introduction to Theology*
Orientation to the task of doctrinal theology in the life of the Christian Church. Attention given to major issues associated with the doctrine of God, Christ, sin, and the church.
- TH 6302 *Theological Ethics*
Discernment and moral choice in the context of Christian commitment. Attention given to abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, the use of force, and other topical questions.
- TH 6303 *Traditions in Christian Theology and Ethics*
Survey and evaluation of influential approaches to theology and ethics in the history of Christian theology, including the Augustinian, Thomist, Lutheran, Reformed, and Wesleyan traditions. (May also be taken for Church History credit; see CH 6303.)
- TH 6304 *Special Topics in Theology*
Treatment of an issue or issues of importance in the formulation of doctrine. Course may be repeated for credit when topic varies. Prerequisite: TH 6301.
- TH 6399 *Directed Study in Theology*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.

C. DIVISION OF MINISTRY

- MIN 4306 *Teaching and Preaching*
This course provides instruction in the preparation and delivery of lessons based on the Bible with Bible classes and sermons in the local congregation as well as the study of the theology of preaching. Students will be expected

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

to present several lessons and sermons before their peers in class lab situations.

- MIN 4320 *Ministries in the Local Church*
An overview of the educational opportunities available in the local church. Special attention will be paid to the employees of innovational ministries in urban churches. The course will involve visits and interaction with appropriate ministries in the general area.
- MIN 4340 *Ministry in Social Programs*
A survey of vocational opportunities for those who seek to practice ministry in the context of private or public agencies. Special attention will be given to work in the area of counseling and opportunities in mental health and correctional agencies.
- MIN 4350 *Elective in Ministry*
Focused treatment of a topic relevant to Christian ministry. Course may be repeated for credit when the subject varies.
- MIN 4350i *Christian Counseling*
A basic introduction to the task of Christian counseling. This will involve a survey of the history of the development of Christian counseling. Various views of the person that has emerged in modern psychology and an assessment of the values and limitations of spiritual disciplines in developing good mental health in persons.
- MIN 4360 *Ministry in a Medical Setting*
This course will focus upon the growing interaction between theology and the practice of medicine in institutional settings. Students will be instructed about appropriate practices of

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

visitation and ministry in a multitude of settings in modern hospitals and nursing care operations.

- MIN 4399 *Directed Study in Ministry*
A directed study on a special topic or subject selected in consultation with the professor.
- MIN 6301 *Introduction to Christian Ministry*
A comprehensive overview of the work of the Christian minister, including biblical and theological foundations of ministry, aspects of ministerial practice, and disciplines appropriate to the vocation of Christian service.
- MIN 6302 *The Ministry of Preaching*
The work of the preacher in the life of the church introduced through lectures, discussions, and laboratory practice.
- MIN 6303 *From Text to Sermon*
Intensive examination of exegetical preaching, with practice in the identification of a sermon focus from the biblical text, development of the focus into a sermon text incorporating one's exegesis, and delivery of the message in a manner appropriate to the text.
- MIN 6304 *Christian Worship*
The corporate worship of God in the Christian tradition in historical and theological perspective, including practical considerations involved in the planning and organization of congregational worship.
- MIN 6305 *Christian Mission*
History and theological rationale for the mission of the church to the nations, with consideration

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

of the practical requirements of mission in foreign and domestic settings.

- MIN 6306 *Christian Evangelism*
Consideration of the evangelistic mission of the Christian congregation, with emphasis on the role of the minister as facilitating evangelistic witness.
- MIN 6307 *Educating Christians*
Historical, theological, and practical perspectives on the formation of Christians through the teaching ministry of the church.
- MIN 6308 *Pastoral Care and Counseling*
Study of the counseling ministry in and beyond the congregational setting, with attention to the relations and tensions between Christian understandings of the human and current psychological theories of the person, the distinction between spiritual counsel and contemporary varieties of therapy, guidelines for referral, and practical problems in the ministry of counseling.
- MIN 6309 *Special Topics in Ministry*
Treatment of an issue or issues of importance in the history of Christianity.
- MIN 6310 *Ministry Internship*
Supervised practice of ministry in a congregational or extra-congregational setting.
- MIN 6399 *Directed Study in Ministry*
Directed study on a subject selected in consultation with the instructor.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

D. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

- CS 3350 *Research and Writing in Theology*
The course provides an introduction to the knowledge, tools, and skills required for a disciplined study of theology and preparation for ministry. This will include developing reading comprehension and writing skills through assignments and exercises throughout the semester. Students will acquire research skills necessary for theological study. Additionally, students will become familiar with resources (print and other media) for theological research.
- CS 4361 *Christian Studies Seminar*
An intensive consideration of topics in the humanities or the sciences in the light of the biblical world view and the Christian faith. May be repeated for elective credit when the topic varies.
- CS 4362 *Church in The Contemporary World*
As the church enters the third millennium in which Christ has been named as Lord, the tension between the church and the world has seldom been so great. This course prepares students for effective discipleship in the community of faith. Lectures, readings, and class discussions identify significant challenges and opportunities for effective Christian witness in the contemporary world, and class writing projects afford opportunity for students to develop their own perspective on crucial issues facing all churches and all Christians. Prerequisites: NT 4335, CH 3312, and TH 3311.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, *Continued*

CS 4363

Christian Encounter with Other Cultures

An historical and theological study of the encounter between Christianity and other world religions. Christian encounters with Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, and atheistic secularism will be assessed, with particular attention to recent developments in the global south and to the inception and development of Islam and its conflicted relationship with Christianity.

VII. STUDENT LIFE

Chapel Regular chapel services are scheduled during the Fall and Spring semesters. It is expected that students meet regularly for worship in chapel.

Guest Lecturers Special resource people are invited on occasion for public lectures and informal meetings and discussions. Through interaction with these persons who engage in special ministries or have experience in some special area, the students' learning experience is broadened.

Student-Faculty Roundtable Three brown-bag luncheons are held during each fall and spring semester. Faculty and students enjoy fellowship and discuss Christian faith and ministry.

Student Government The Student Government Association exists to foster the spiritual, social, and academic well-being of the student body and is an important part of the life of Austin Grad. The student body elects the Association leadership each spring. Officers meet regularly and represent the concerns of the student body. Some of the activities of the student government include organizing student events, such as the annual Christmas party and the end-of-year picnic, as well as providing feedback from students on such matters as the student commons area, weekly chapel, and the Student-Faculty Roundtables.

Commencement Commencement exercises are held in May to honor those who have completed degree programs and recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to the work of Austin Grad.

Placement Students will want to be alert for opportunities to serve upon graduation. In addition, Austin

STUDENT LIFE, *Continued*

Grad is committed to using its influence among its many friends to facilitate placement. The student is responsible for maintaining a placement file with Austin Grad, which may include transcripts, a photograph, letters of recommendation, and record of relevant work experience.

Student Handbook

The student handbook, which fully explains practice, policies, and procedures governing student life, is available to all students from the Administrative Office and on the Austin Grad website.

VIII. KEY ENDOWMENTS

*A. B. Cox
Chair*

This endowed professorship was created in memory of Dr. A. B. Cox (1884-1967), a noted researcher and educator at the University of Texas. In his nearly forty years of service as an elder of the University Avenue Church of Christ and as a vigorous supporter of the Bible Chair Program and the Campus Ministry, Dr. Cox provided leadership for broadening the ministry of the Bible Chair to include training for ministers and missionaries.

*Pat E.
Harrell
Chair*

Dr. Pat Harrell (1930-1978) was Director of the Bible Chair at the University of Texas from 1971 until his death. His vision led to the expansion of that program and laid the foundation for the emergence of the Austin Graduate School of Theology.

*Billy Gunn
Hocott
Chair*

The Hocott professorship was established as a memorial to Billy Gunn Hocott (1916-1979) to honor her years of support of Austin Grad. A graduate of the University of Texas, Mrs. Hocott was widely known for her willing and generous support of many church works, particularly what is now Austin Graduate School of Theology and international missions.

*Claude
R. Hocott
Teaching
Fund*

The Claude R. Hocott Teaching Fund was established in memory of Dr. Hocott in honor of his many years of loyal service and support to the Austin Graduate School of Theology. The Hocott family and friends established the fund to support teaching of the Bible. Dr. Hocott, who served as Chancellor, and his wife, Judy, have been generous friends of Austin Grad.

KEY ENDOWMENTS, *Continued*

Harrison A. Mathews Chair The Mathews Chair was established in 1988 as a memorial to Harrison A. Mathews (1917-1963), who served as minister of the University Avenue Church of Christ from 1956 until his death in 1963. He saw the challenge of the church's ministry of higher education and encouraged the development of a strong academic program in Christian studies for students in the Austin area.

James Lee Weber Endowment Fund This endowment, supporting the office of the President and other administrative activities, was established in 1999 in memory of Jim Weber, who died in 1993. Jim was a spokesman and leader of the Advisory and Development Board (now the Partners and Friends) for more than 10 years and an active participant in many Austin Grad activities. He was also a respected member of the legal community and the Texas Christian Lawyers Association.

Jack C. and Ruth Wright Chair The Wright Chair was established in 1991 to honor Jack and Ruth Wright for their immeasurable service to Austin Graduate School of Theology. The Wrights have been generous financial supporters for many years and have served on the Administrative and Development Board since 1979. After his retirement from industry in 1985, Mr. Wright contributed full-time service to Austin Grad first as Vice President and later as Vice Chancellor. He has also served as a member of Austin Grad's Board of Trustees.

IX. SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER FUNDS

A. SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

- Gunn Scholarship* This fund was established in honor of Lily Turner Gunn.
- Horn Scholarship* In memory of Norman L. Horn, a friend and spiritual supporter of many students at the University of Texas. Mr. Horn gave many hours of volunteer service to Austin Grad.
- Marshburn Scholarship* The Jack Mitchell Marshburn Fund was established in memory of the infant son of Tom and Ann Marshburn, former students of Austin Grad.
- Millican Scholarship* Established in honor of Bill T. Millican, long-time member of Austin Grad's Administrative and Development Board and former Trustee.
- Placke Scholarship* Named in memory of Will and Maude Placke, active leaders in the Church of Christ in Yoakum, Texas.
- Robinson Scholarship* Established to honor Luke Robinson, a long-time executive in state government and supporter of the church and Austin Grad.
- Showalter Scholarship* Established in memory of G. H. P. Showalter, a prominent minister and business leader in Austin and editor of *The Firm Foundation*. Mr. Showalter was one of the founders of the Bible Chair in 1917.
- Sloan Scholarship* Established by family and friends of W. A. Sloan, a long-time elder of the University Avenue Church of Christ and supporter of Austin Grad.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER FUNDS, *Continued*

Sweet Scholarship Named in honor of R. B. and Thelma Sweet, both active members of the University Avenue Church of Christ for many years. Mr. Sweet served as a minister and as an elder for the congregation.

Widener Scholarship Established by Ward and Sarah Widener, long-time members of the University Avenue Church of Christ.

Weed Scholarship Initiated by the Holland Street Church of Christ in San Marcos, Texas, to honor Maurice A. Weed II for his years of faithful service as pulpit minister.

B. OTHER FUNDS AND ENDOWMENTS

Ann Watson Memorial Fund Established in honor of Ann Watson, former Austin Grad librarian and former wife of Dr. Paul Watson, a past faculty member at Austin Grad.

Horstman Library Fund Established in honor of Albert B. Horstman, former elder at the University Avenue Church of Christ.

Jesse Fox Teaching Fund Named in honor of Jesse E. Fox through a bequest. Mr. Fox was a long-time member of the University Avenue Church of Christ.

Lowrie Mission Fund Named in honor of Stewart Lowrie, long-time member of the University Avenue Church of Christ and of its Missions Committee, this fund was created in 1996 to encourage and aid in the proclamation of the Gospel in areas “where Christ has not already been named.”

SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER FUNDS, *Continued*

- Rawlings
Library
Endowment* The Mary Rawlings Library Endowment had its origin in a bequest which was used to create an endowed library fund, the income from which is dedicated to library acquisitions.
- Ben Shilcutt
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Fund* This fund honors the memory of Ben Shilcutt, a loyal member of the Advisory and Development Council until his death in 1996. The fund supports the teaching of Bible and related subjects to those preparing for the ministry, mission work, and other vocations.
- Thompson
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Fund* This fund honors Dr. James Thompson and his wife, Carolyn. Dr. Thompson came to the Bible Chair as a teacher in 1974 and served from 1987 to 1993 as President of the Institute for Christian Studies, now Austin Graduate School of Theology. It is dedicated to the support of teaching Bible and biblical studies at Austin Grad.
- Floy
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Publications
Fund* Named in memory of Mrs. Floy Holland Thompson (1914-1990), mother of Dr. Gary Thompson and Dr. James Thompson and for many years a faithful member of the Glenwood Church of Christ in Tyler, Texas. This endowment supports publication of the faculty journal, *Christian Studies*, and other publications.
- Michael
R. Weed
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Fund* This fund honors the many years of dedicated teaching by Michael R. Weed to the students of Austin Grad.

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