

The core curriculum consists of **48 credits over 4 years, including 3 credits of internship**, which will culminate in the completion of a ***Certificate in Pastoral Ministry*** program. Courses will consist of both 2 credit and 1 credit courses (*1 credit courses in practical theology and ministry skills*). The curriculum includes these **4 areas of concentration**:

- Biblical Studies – BI – 16 credits
- Doctrinal Studies – TH – 17 credits
- Practical Ministry Studies – PM – 12 credits
- Pastoral Internship – INT – (*supervised by home church pastoral mentors*) – 3 credits

**Biblical Studies – BI Course list: Total 16 credits**

- BI-1 Old Testament Survey – 2 credits (*year 1*)
- BI-2 New Testament Survey – 2 credits (*year 1*)
- BI-3 Genesis – 2 credits (*year 2&3*)
- BI-4 Isaiah – 2 credits (*year 2&3*)
- BI-5 Romans – 2 credits (*year 3*)
- BI-6 Daniel / Revelation – 2 credits (*year 4*)
- BI-7 Pastoral Epistles – 2 credits (*year 4*)
- BI-8 Intro to NT Greek Study Tools – 1 credit (*year 4*)
- BI-9 NT Greek Study Methods – 1 credit (*year 4*)

**Doctrinal Studies – TH Course list: Total 17 credits**

- TH-1 Theology Proper, Angelology, Anthropology/Hamartiology – 2 cr (*year 2*)
- TH-2 Bibliology – 2 credits (*year 2*)
- TH-3 Christology / Soteriology – 2 credits (*year 3*)
- TH-4 Pneumatology & Cessationism – 2 credits (*year 3*)
- TH-5 Ecclesiology & Baptist Distinctives – 2 credits (*year 4*)
- TH-6 Dispensational Foundations – 2 credits (*year 1*)
- TH-7 Eschatology, Pre-tribulation & Pre-millennial theology – 2 credits (*year 4*)
- TH-8 Apologetics Primer – 1 credit (*year 2*)
- TH-9 Contemporary Theological Issues – 1 credit (*year 1&2*)
- TH-10 Theology & Practice of Worship – 1 credit (*year 4*)

**Practical Ministry Studies – PM Course list: Total 12 credits**

- PM-1 Principles of Bible Study & Hermeneutics – 1 credit (*year 1*)
- **PM-2 Effective Leadership Qualities & Practice – 1 credit (*year 1*)**
- PM-3 Personal Evangelism – 1 credit (*year 1*)
- **PM-4 Principles of Church Health & Growth - 1 credit (*year 1*)**
- **PM-5 Church Administration – 1 credit (*year 2*)**
- **PM-6 Local Church Outreach & Discipleship Strategies – 1 credit (*year 1&3*)**
- **PM-7 Strategic Planning & Change Management – 1 credit (*year 1*)**
- **PM-8 Intro to Expository Preaching 1 – 1 credit (*year 1*)**
- PM-9 Communication & Conflict Resolution Skills – 1 credit (*year 1&2*)
- **PM-10 Pastoral Ethics – 1 credit (*year 3*)**
- **PM-11 Expository Preaching 2 – 1 credit (*year 2*)**
- **PM-12 Expository Preaching 3 – 1 credit (*year 3*)**

**Pastoral Internship (*supervised by home church pastoral mentors*) – Total 3 credits**

- INT-1 Supervised Ministry Project – 1 1 credit (*year 2*)
- INT-2 Supervised Ministry Project – 2 1 credit (*year 3*)
- **INT-3 Ordination Doctrinal Statement 1 credit (*year 4*)**

**\*Courses in BOLD TYPE are for men only.**

# NSTM Course Descriptions

6-21-21

## **Biblical Studies – BI Course list: Total 16 credits**

### **BI-1 Old Testament Survey – 2 credits**

This course is a chronological survey of the Old Testament, which focuses on the story of redemption. The course will survey the major people, places, dates, and events in the Old Testament history. Students will learn the historical context, theme, and date of writing of each of the books of the Old Testament. Students will see the big picture of the scriptures and learn how God reveals Himself and His plan for our lives in the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament.

### **BI-2 New Testament Survey – 2 credits**

A continuation of BI-1, this course is a chronological survey of the New Testament, which focuses on the story of redemption. The course will survey the major people, places, dates, and events in the New Testament record. Students will learn the historical context, theme, and date of writing of each of the books of the New Testament. Students will see the big picture of the scriptures and learn how God reveals Himself and His plan for our lives in the twenty-seven books of the New Testament.

### **BI-3 Genesis – 2 credits**

This course examines the structure, content, and theology of the first book of the Bible in relation to the first 5 books (Pentateuch), as the initial component of biblical revelation. Special attention will be given to an examination of Biblical creationism and the initial understanding of covenants.

### **BI-4 Isaiah – 2 credits**

This course serves as an example of exposition of prophetic literature in the Hebrew Bible. Selected portions of Isaiah will be analyzed and studied in their historical, literary and theological contexts. Special attention will be given to the exposition of selected texts to a contemporary audience.

### **BI-5 Romans – 2 credits**

The course is a study of this epistle in order to understand its argument and content. The student will examine the various theological themes presented in this letter; particular attention will be given to the soteriological aspects of the book. Attention will be given to the background and occasion for the writing of Romans.

### **BI-6 Daniel / Revelation – 2 credits**

The books of Daniel and Revelation will be surveyed for their historical and prophetic significance. Prophetic issues which coalesce between these premier OT and NT statements concerning the eschaton will be given special attention. The specialized aspects of literary genre and hermeneutics which affect the interpretation of these books will be surveyed. The variety of interpretive approaches to the Book of Revelation will be highlighted.

### **BI-7 Pastoral Epistles – 2 credits**

An expository study of the Pastoral Epistles with a focus on Timothy. Paragraph and grammatical structure analyses and outlining procedures as a means of exposing the meaning of the text will be a major focus. The unique contribution of the pastoral epistles to the nature and order of the Church will be especially highlighted.

### **BI-8 Intro to NT Greek Study Tools – 1 credit**

This is an introductory course that will present to the student various tools to use for Greek language study, with an emphasis on enhanced computer software programs for study in New Testament Greek. Basic element of Greek grammar and syntax will also be presented.

### **BI-9 NT Greek Study Methods – 1 credit**

A continuation of BI-8, this course will give further exposure and training in methods that a pastoral student can utilize in the study of the Greek New Testament. Further discussions of Greek grammar and syntax will be included.

## **Doctrinal Studies – TH Course list: Total 17 credits**

### **TH-1 Theology Proper, Angelology, Anthropology/Hamartiology – 2 credits**

This course presents an introduction to four areas. First, the correct scope and method of doing theology is presented, including the definitions of Biblical and Systematic Theology. Second, the doctrine of God is surveyed, including God's attributes, acts in history, and triune identity. Third, the doctrine of Hamartiology (Sin) is presented including the nature and results of sin. Fourth, the doctrine of Anthropology (Man) is presented, including the creation/origin of man and the nature of man.

### **TH-2 Bibliology – 2 credits**

In this course, the study of bibliology is covered, including a review of the doctrine of various aspects of revelation, the nature of the Bible as to its inspiration, inerrancy, authority, and clarity, and special issues such as canonicity and illumination.

### **TH-3 Christology / Soteriology – 2 credits**

The first section considers the deity of Christ, the two natures and the hypostatic union in the person of Christ, the ontological and economic aspects of the Trinity, and the work of Christ. The second section considers the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection and the application of these benefits to the believer.

### **TH-4 Pneumatology & Cessationism – 2 credits**

An intensive study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit is undertaken. An emphasis on the Holy Spirit's relation to revelation, the spiritual life, spiritual gifts, and His ministries in the Old Testament are analyzed. In addition, an examination of the Biblical evidence for the cessationist view of temporary spiritual gifts will be presented.

### **TH-5 Ecclesiology & Baptist Distinctives – 2 credits**

Included are the origin and nature of the Church, the Body of Christ, and the identity, organization, ordinances, and ministry of the local church. Contemporary issues, such as multiple elder-ship, will receive special attention. The Baptist distinctives are taught as an integral part of the biblical doctrine of the church and other major areas of theology.

### **TH-6 Dispensational Foundations – 2 credits**

The leading premises of amillennial and covenant theology are examined in order to contrast them with dispensational premillennialism. The logical and biblical extension of dispensationalism into premillennialism is demonstrated.

### **TH-7 Eschatology, Pre-tribulation & Pre-millennial Theology – 2 credits**

A detailed study of Eschatology (end times) in both the Old and New Testaments is undertaken with a view to providing a comprehensive understanding of the nature, scope, and participants of the seven-year Tribulation period predicted in the Bible for the end time days. In addition, the idea, nature, and timing of the rapture of the Church is extensively reviewed in connection to this seven-year period. A thorough exegetical and theological defense of the pre-tribulational view of the timing of the rapture is presented, as well as the pre-millennial return of Christ.

### **TH-8 Apologetics Primer – 1 credit**

This course examines the biblical and philosophical basis for making a rational defense of the Christian faith. The apologetic approach of a number of apologists in the history of the church and in contemporary times will be studied in the light of biblical teaching. The course is designed to assist the student to communicate effectively the basis for his faith in an intellectually congruent manner. The intersection of the apologetic task with fields such as ethics, science, history, and archaeology will also be examined.

**TH-9 Contemporary Theological Issues – 1 credit**

A study of a variety of contemporary theological issues that are confronting local church leaders and members at this time. A special emphasis is given to the development of a model for evaluating theological issues from a philosophical viewpoint while providing a biblical evaluation in light of the absolute Word of God and the cultural milieu in which they occur.

**TH-10 Theology & Practice of Worship – 1 credit**

This course is designed to help the student gain a greater understanding of the theology, history and practice of corporate community worship. It will be designed to help pastors and musicians to realize the importance of regular communication, for pastors to know what to look for in a worship/music leader and for worship leaders to respect the centrality of preaching in his work to lead the congregation in vital and effective worship. Elements of traditional and contemporary worship patterns will be studied and discussed as they relate to designing appropriate, meaningful and biblical worship.

**Practical Ministry Studies – PM Course list: Total 12 credits****PM-1 Principles of Bible Study & Hermeneutics – 1 credit**

This course is designed to introduce the student to the historical background and development of hermeneutical principle. A particular emphasis will be given to help the student develop the biblical principles and patterns that are the proper foundation for both studying and interpreting the Scriptures.

**PM-2 Effective Leadership Qualities & Practice – 1 credit (*for men only*)**

This course content will include concepts, data, and methods to help the student develop a Bible-based plan for leading others in his ministry. Special attention will be given to motivation, group dynamics, and earning credibility for leading through change. The call and spiritual qualifications of a pastor will also be covered, as well as ways to handle pressure in the ministry.

**PM-3 Personal Evangelism – 1 credit**

You will be equipped to share your faith by learning several methods of presenting the Gospel. Among other things, you will discover how to begin a conversation with a lost person, turn the conversation to spiritual matters, present the Gospel message in a clear and complete manner, lead an individual in a prayer of faith, and conclude your time of ministry with a brief time of follow-up. You will learn by doing. Each student will be given opportunities to participate in evangelism efforts in their local church ministry setting.

**PM-4 Principles of Church Health & Growth - 1 credit (*for men only*)**

The focus of this course is a study of the New Testament concepts that enable a church to grow. Emphasis is placed upon church growth and health as the natural result of Christian maturity and availability to God's direction. The study will include such subjects as hindrances to church growth; building a program that meets spiritual needs; how to disciple and train lay leadership; and reproducing a growth vision in others. Community surveys, self-evaluation methods, goal setting, growth charting projects, and other basics of church growth will be demonstrated.

**PM-5 Church Administration - 1 credit (*for men only*)**

This course is a study of church administration theory and practice as it relates to the development and facilitation of active learning environments. Emphasis will be placed on identifying and evaluating students' personalities and leadership styles, adapting and using leadership approaches, and exploring principles for moving individuals and organizations toward leadership principles to the student's organizational environment.

**PM-6 Local Church Outreach & Discipleship Strategies – 1 credit (for men only)**

A biblical study of the role and responsibilities of a local church to minister in a global community of churches. Special emphasis will be given to the development of a model of ministry that facilitates the development of partnership with other churches on a global scale. The course will introduce the student to a wide variety of programs and principles for sharing the Gospel more effectively, emphasis is placed on how to help people get involved in appropriate levels of outreach while building confidence and skills. Tips for utilizing existing church activities or opportunities for outreach are also provided.

**PM-7 Strategic Planning & Change Management – 1 credit (for men only)**

Jesus definitely had a plan in mind when He said, *“I will build my church”*. Strategic Planning is a process that is both Biblical and purposeful; it involves the synergy of setting mission, values, vision casting, and leadership that guides individual churches and their leaders to build Christ’s church effectively. A format and procedure will be explained for: 1) evaluating and understanding the context/setting of a ministry, 2) gathering and analyzing data from the student's ministry, and 3) designing goals, strategies and plans to enable the ministry leader to develop a vibrant, growing ministry. The purpose of the course will be to mobilize the human and physical resources of a particular church, mission field, or para-church organization, to see measurable growth in effectiveness.

**PM-8 Intro to Expository Preaching 1 – 1 credit (for men only)**

This course is designed to assist the student in the development and delivery of expository sermons (messages which explain the Scriptures and apply truths to people’s lives). The course includes a study of style, delivery, and the means of achieving variety in expository preaching. A major component of the course involves consideration of the stages involved in the preparation of an expository sermon. Students will be given opportunities to diagram & outline, and preach messages that they will prepare.

**PM-9 Communication & Conflict Resolution Skills – 1 credit (for men only)**

This course deals with identifying the sources of conflict in church ministry, and provides Biblical and practical solutions for resolving conflict within the church and in leadership teams through developing Biblical communication skills.

**PM-10 Pastoral Ethics – 1 credit (for men only)**

Biblical principles are discovered, discussed, and developed in a context of the contemporary world ministry scene. A major concern of the course is to enable the student to evaluate his own ministry manners and motives in light of the values taught in Scripture and to develop his personal convictions and character. Strategies will also be developed to help the leader disciple and influence his followers in manifesting lives of integrity.

**PM-11 Expository Preaching 2 – 1 credit (for men only)**

A continuation of PM-8, this course examines homiletic theory and methods available to students who desire to become expository preachers of the Word of God. Students continue to prepare preaching plans, and preach messages that they have prepared. Sermons will be evaluated by both the instructor and fellow students.

**PM-12 Expository Preaching 3 – 1 credit (for men only)**

A continuation of PM-11, this course is designed to continue to enhance the skills of the man who has already taken the previous two courses in expository preaching at NSTM. Sermon research, organization, and delivery will be the focus. Each student will be involved in preaching as well as evaluating his peers. Preaching skills will be sharpened through instruction, assignments, and evaluation.

## **Pastoral Internship (supervised by home church pastoral mentors) - Total 3 credits**

### **INT-1 Supervised Ministry Project – 1 1 credit**

Under the mentoring and supervision of his local church pastor, each student intern will be required to complete two 1-credit ministry projects during his internship. A file including goals, lesson plans, sample records, and evaluations will be kept and submitted for grading for each project. Each student will be led to sharpen his professional skills and attitudes in ministry. He will accomplish this through developing and administering ministry projects in such areas as: administration in evangelism and outreach ministries; leadership training in Christian education of youth; programming successful ministries for children; education of adults in the local church; implementing effective caring and discipling ministries; developing creative church ministries; or any other ministry project that would be deemed beneficial to the student and the church.

### **INT-2 Supervised Ministry Project – 2 1 credit**

A second ministry project, with the same goals and requirements as INT-1.

### **INT-3 Ordination Doctrinal Statement 1 credit *(for men only)***

Ordination to the Gospel ministry is an ultimate career goal for graduates of the NSTM Certificate in Pastoral Studies and the internship program. During the internship, the church pastoral staff will assist and evaluate the student intern as he articulates his doctrinal position in preparation for an eventual ordination council.

## **Women's Ministry Courses**

### **WM-1 Developing an Effective Biblical Women's Ministry – 1 credit**

### **WM-2 Ministry Communication for Women – 1 credit**