



**ASCENT**  
COLLEGE

# **Academic Catalog**

**2024 – 2025**

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**14525 John Marshall Highway  
Gainesville, VA 20155  
[www.ascent.edu](http://www.ascent.edu)**

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# ACCREDITATION AND ENDORSEMENTS

Legal Authorization to Operate as Incorporated in Virginia

Incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia as non-profit corporation – April 29, 2005

IRS Designation 501(c)(3)

Certified by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to operate in Virginia - May 23, 2005 and certified annually after that.

Ascent College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Biblical Higher Education, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education. The Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE), 5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Suite 26, Orlando, FL 32822-1781, 407-207-0808.

The Association for Biblical Higher Education is a North American agency that comprises over 200 postsecondary institutions throughout North America specializing in Biblical ministry formation and professional leadership education. It is an officially recognized “national accrediting association” by the U.S. Department of Education ([www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)). ABHE is an officially recognized “faith-based” accrediting agency by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation ([www.chea.org](http://www.chea.org)), and is a part of a global network that relates to regional or continental higher educational agencies through the International Council for Evangelical Theological Education ([www.iceteedu.org](http://www.iceteedu.org)).

Approved by the Potomac District Assemblies of God to provide educational requirements for credentialed ministers with the Assemblies of God.

Ascent College is endorsed by the Assemblies of God, and is a member of the Assemblies of God’s Alliance for AG Higher Education.

Approved to offer G.I. Bill® educational benefits by the Virginia State Approving Agency. G.I. Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about educational benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>

Approved as an Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) Continuing Education Unit Provider.

# FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



Ascent College is all about “Cultivating the Call” in people’s lives. Ephesians 2:10 says, that we are “God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works.” At Ascent College, we prepare people for the work God has created them to do. You’ll find Ascent College to be...

## **PASSIONATE**

At Ascent College, we strive to create an atmosphere where students can grow into passionate followers of Jesus Christ. That environment includes chapel services, small groups, and personal interaction with instructors.

## **PRACTICAL**

Students don’t have to wait until they graduate to put what they learn into practice. Through Christian service, practicums, and internships, students have a variety of experiences to help them learn by doing.

## **PURPOSEFUL**

Everything we do at Ascent College is about cultivating the call to ministry. As such, our curriculum focuses on ministry-related courses and programs. Many of our faculty are pastors of local churches and bring this pastoral experience into the classroom. Our prime mission is to cultivate your call into Christian ministry!

Please visit our website at [www.ascent.edu](http://www.ascent.edu). If I can assist you in any way, please don’t hesitate to contact me at [rrhoden@ascent.edu](mailto:rrhoden@ascent.edu). We look forward to serving you at Ascent College.

Dreaming together,

Dr. Rob Rhoden  
President Ascent College

# INTRODUCTION

## **The Ascent College Story**

Bethel Bible Institute (BBI) was founded by Dr. John Mannion in 1996 for the purpose of training missionaries and church leaders. Pastor Ron Johnson, who was a sectional presbyter with the Potomac District, assumed the presidency. By 1997, BBI was approved by the Potomac District of the Assemblies of God as a training institute to provide the educational requirements for credentialing ministers at the certification and licensing level with the Assemblies of God.

In 1998, Rev. Stuart Ross was appointed as director to lead the school for training pastors, evangelists, missionaries, Christian education workers, and lay ministers. Rev. Ross was instrumental in positioning the school for the training of Hampton Master's Commission students and local pastors.

In 2002, Pastor Ron Johnson appointed Dr. Terry Minter as President of Bethel Bible Institute. Pastor Johnson and Dr. Minter envisioned a four-year college and began the transition from a Bible Institute into a college that awards both bachelor and associate degrees. In 2005, Bethel College was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia as a non-profit corporation (501(c)(3) and was certified to operate as an in-state, non-profit college by Virginia. In 2013 Bethel College was granted accreditation by The Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE), 5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Suite 26, Orlando, FL 32822-1781, 407-207-0808.

In 2006, Bethel College moved into a new facility with a new library and several new classrooms to be shared with Bethel Temple Church. In May 2017, Dr. Mark Wootton became the third president of Bethel College. In March 2019, Dr. Ron DeBerry was appointed by the board as the Interim President. In November 2019, Dr. Rob Rhoden became the president of Bethel College. Soon afterward the college changed its name to Antioch College of the Assemblies of God and established an increased relationship with the Potomac Ministry Network. The name was changed again to our current name, Ascent College.

## **Location**

Ascent College is centrally administered in northern Virginia at the Potomac Ministry Center at 14525 John Marshall Highway in Gainesville, Virginia. It has connection with local churches, called Partner Sites, where students can experience community, spiritual formation, practicums, and Christian service. Ascent College currently has on-campus courses at one Partner Site, Word of Life Church, in Springfield, Virginia, as well as at the main campus at the Potomac Ministry Center.

## **Mission Statement**

Ascent College equips Spirit-empowered leaders to be passionate, principled, and practical ministers through Biblical education and leadership formation.

## **Philosophy of Education**

Ascent College intends for students to leave the school with the character evident of mature Christians and excellent academic training. Ascent College is able to provide comprehensive theological training, as well as the excellent practical tools necessary to equip students for a maximized ministry and life experience. It is the desire of Ascent College for each student to experience both the spirit of local church engagement and the academic training of the College. All the school's course offerings are consistent with this stated philosophy and purpose. The school focuses on instruction with no research or public service opportunities.

Our delivery model is best described as online education in the context of community. Students simultaneously enjoy the freedom of digital access as well as the benefits of face-to-face interaction with peers. This learning synergy takes place at our Partner Sites. Students are actively involved, learning, and

serving at a Partner Site, where mentoring relationships between students and Partner Site leaders are established. All program offerings may be taken in an online format.

### **Governance**

Ascent College is a not-for-profit, private college governed by a constitution and bylaws providing the basis for institutional administration and governance. A Board of Control exercises legal and fiduciary responsibility for oversight of institutional integrity, policies, resource development, and ongoing operations. The President of the College provides administrative leadership for the institution. The President has an administrative staff who provides guidance and oversees the day-to-day operations.

The school offers the following concentrations in a Bachelor of Ministry degree:

- Biblical Studies (on campus and online)
- Ministerial Leadership (on campus and online)
- Children's Ministry Leadership (on campus and online)
- Youth Ministry Leadership (on campus and online)
- Intercultural Studies (on campus and online)
- Worship Leadership (on campus and online)
- Christian Counseling with a Focus on Psychology (on campus and online)
- Christian Counseling with a Focus on Pastoral Ministry (on campus and online)
- Digital Ministry (online)

All students are required to complete core courses in general education and general ministry in order to provide well-rounded training. This structure allows students to achieve broad academic and practical outcomes that are important in every aspect of ministry.

### **Statement of Faith**

Faith in God should be understood and talked about knowledgeably. The leadership and faculty of Ascent College offer these articles to represent our faith commitment.

- I. We believe the Bible is the inspired, infallible, and authoritative written Word of God.  
*2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:21*
- II. We believe there is One God, eternally existent in three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. *Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19*
- III. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years. *Matthew 1:23; Philippians 2:9-11*
- IV. We believe in the blessed hope - the rapture of the Church at Christ's coming.  
*1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Titus 2:13*
- V. We believe the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. *Romans 3:22-26; Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 1:9*
- VI. We believe regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation.  
*Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8*
- VII. We believe in water baptism by immersion. *Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16*



- VIII. We believe the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body in answer to believing prayer. *Isaiah 53:4, 5; James 5:14-16*
- IX. We believe the baptism in the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. *Corinthians 12:4-10, 28*
- X. We believe in the indwelling and sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit who enables the Christian to live a holy life. *Romans 8:11-13; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 John 5:18*
- XI. We believe in the resurrection of the saved to everlasting life and the lost to everlasting damnation. *Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:11-15*

### **Christ-Honoring Conduct**

Students, faculty, and staff of Ascent College are expected to maintain high standards of Christian conduct both on and off campus. Morally and Biblically, certain practices are clearly wrong and should be avoided. These include substance abuse, stealing, slanderous or profane language, dishonesty, occult practices, addictions (mutilation, sexual addictions, eating disorders, drug addiction-both illegal and prescription), and sexual sins (premarital sex, adultery, pornography, and homosexuality). Attitudes such as greed, jealousy, pride, lust, bitterness, needless anger, an unforgiving spirit, discrimination, and prejudice are unacceptable at Ascent College. However, if you find that you are genuinely struggling with such issues, we advise you to seek the counsel of a faculty member.

The Bible does not provide specific teaching on all social practices, but advocates self-restraint in behavior toward others. Therefore, any behavior that is considered detrimental to Christian character and witness is disapproved of strongly, and disciplinary action will be taken accordingly.

### **Institutional Goals**

1. Nurture students with skills and knowledge for Biblical competence.
2. Develop students with broad knowledge in general education for a Christian worldview.
3. Equip students to be servant-leaders with practical ministry skills.
4. Guide students in Spirit-empowered formation for Christian mission with their local church communities.
5. Provide institutional support to students, faculty, and staff through administrative excellence, financial management, services, and learning resources.
6. Cultivate growth in Ascent College financial resources and assets.

# ADMISSIONS

## Admissions Policy

In accordance with our mission to prepare students spiritually, practically, and academically for professional and lay ministry, Ascent College's requirements for admission consider each prospective student's relationship with Christ and His Church, calling to ministry, commitment to Christian service, and scholastic aptitude for post-secondary education. The application process requires the submission of documentation demonstrating the applicant's suitability/aptitude in each of these areas.

While maintaining high standards for admission to Ascent College, our admissions policy does not discriminate between prospective students based on race, color, nationality, ethnic origin, or gender. Ascent College does not discriminate against disabled persons who are otherwise eligible for admission to the College. Furthermore, all students granted admission have the right to participate in all programs and activities available to the student body.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis for the fall, spring, and summer semesters, and are accepted as early as 12 months before the requested entry semester. To allow adequate time for processing, all applications should be submitted at least one month prior to the beginning of official registration. All applications should be directed to the admission office. Once Ascent College receives and processes an application, notification of status will be sent to the student. If accepted, the student will also receive an enrollment packet which will include additional required information for enrollment and registration.

## General Admission Requirements

Prospective students applying to Ascent College must submit a completed Application for Admission and a non-refundable application fee of \$25.00.

The following requirements must be submitted for admission consideration:

Official high school transcripts or a high school equivalency diploma (GED) with test score;

OR

In lieu of high school transcripts, transfer students may submit official transcripts from any accredited postsecondary institution attended;

AND

Any additional documentation requested by the admissions office. If the College determines that the high school completion documentation may not be valid or was not obtained from an entity that provides secondary school education, the College will complete the following:

1. Receive documentation from the secondary school that the completion is valid, and
2. Receive documentation from the relevant department or agency in the state in which the secondary school is located that the secondary school is recognized as a provider of secondary school education, if applicable.

## Academic Requirements

The following requirements are designed to determine academic record and scholastic aptitude. All applicants must show that they have maintained a grade point average of 2.0, equivalent to a grade of "C".

## Conditional Status

Students may be placed on conditional status if all requirements for full acceptance (all official and unofficial documents have not been submitted) are not fulfilled and approved by the Registrar. Conditional students cannot be enrolled in future classes until cleared by the Registrar.

### **Provisional Status**

Students may be placed on provisional status if requirements for full acceptance (GPA at or above 2.0) are not met. The provisional status will be removed if the student achieves a cumulative GPA of 2.0 during the first semester of enrollment. If the provisional student does not achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 during the first semester of enrollment, the student will be subject to academic dismissal.

### **Home-schooled Applicants**

Home-schooled applicants must submit the following academic documentation in lieu of official high school transcripts:

1. Transcripts of all courses taken in secondary education reflecting the grades attained and the date of graduation;
2. A letter signed by the prospective student's parents indicating that all home-schooling standards required by the state in which the home schooling occurred have been met.
3. If these two submissions cannot be made, it will be necessary to obtain GED test scores.

### **Early College Admittance**

The Ascent College early college admittance program allows high school students to receive high school credit for Ascent College courses, or to take college courses before completing high school. To continue and complete an academic program, students must graduate from high school and submit official, completed high school transcripts. Students must be at least 16 years old, have a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher, and be able to demonstrate good Christian character and maturity to enroll in 100 and 200 level courses at Ascent College. The first college course will be tuition-free. Each class after that will be offered at 50% off the tuition price as long as the student is enrolled as an Early College student. Applications are available at <https://ascent.edu/early-college/>.

### **International Students**

International students must submit the following additional requirements:

1. Evidence of completion of a secondary school program with a certified English translation. The academic credentials should indicate marks of good to excellent.
2. A demonstration of reasonable mastery of the English language.
3. If English is not the prospective student's first language, it is required that the applicant takes the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) unless a waiver is granted. A minimum score of 500 must be obtained, and an official report of this score must be forwarded to Ascent College before an admissions decision can be reached or other documentation to demonstrate mastery of the English language.
4. A valid passport and proper medical documentation are required for leaving the home country and for issuance of a student visa upon entering the United States.
5. Demonstrate financial resources for one full academic year.

\*Due to additional requirements, international students should allow a minimum of one year to complete the admissions process.

### **Audit Students**

Policy for Audit Students: An applicant applying for admission as an audit student must submit an application with the two reference forms along with payment of the application fee. No record of previous academic work is required for audit students, and no application essay is required. No enrollment deposit is required. A record of classes audited will be maintained, but no academic credits will be granted. If a student later desires to be admitted as a regular student all admission requirements must be fulfilled. Nonrefundable tuition must be paid in advance before an audit student is registered for a class.

### **Spiritual Requirements**

All students must submit the following requirements, which are designed to demonstrate the applicant's faith, character, and involvement in ministry within the local church and community:

1. Two references, one pastoral and one personal
2. A written testimony of personal Christian faith and growth, ministry experience, expectations, and goals.

### **Enrollment Deposit Requirement**

Upon acceptance, students are required to submit a deposit to hold their place. This is non-refundable and will be applied toward the first semester's tuition. Refer to the Finance Section of this catalog for the current tuition and fee schedule. If the student decides to cancel their enrollment within the month prior to the start date they will not be entitled to a refund of the tuition deposit.

### **Transferability of Ascent College Credits**

While Ascent College is accredited by a national accrediting agency, every college or university has its own policies on accepting credits or degrees earned at another institution. It is best to review the policy of the college or university to which you may be considering the transfer of credits.

### **Student Record Maintenance**

Ascent College permanently maintains all information relating to student transcripts, courses, and academic progress. Ascent College maintains student financial transactions for at least 3 years after the student separates from the college.

# POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

## Nondiscriminatory Policy

Ascent College admits students of any race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, handicap, national, and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, and other school-administered programs. The college reserves the right to withdraw a student for what it considers to be a necessary cause at any time.

## Disclaimer Policy

The college reserves the right to make necessary changes without further notice. The regulations, courses, personnel, and costs listed herein are subject to change after date of publication of this catalog through established procedures. In such cases, the college will attempt to communicate such changes to all students, faculty, and staff through written means. It is important that students familiarize themselves with the regulations set forth in this catalog and assume their proper responsibilities concerning the regulations.

## Registration

Prior to registration, all requirements for admission or re-admission must be completed. Pre-registration may be available for returning students the final weeks of each semester. Official registration is held for all students three weeks prior to the start of each semester. Late registration is available during the add/drop period, but a late fee will be charged to all students registering during this time. All registration dates are posted on the official calendar.

## Students Needing Additional Educational Support

Students needing additional educational support may be considered underprepared and need additional resources to enhance their educational success. Students will be evaluated during the admissions process prior to starting classes. Students identified as needing additional educational support should be referred to the Dean of Students. When students are identified during their admission process, the potential student can only be admitted on a *PROVISIONAL* basis.

## Orientation

All first-time students are required to participate in orientation at the beginning of their first semester of enrollment. Orientation serves to assist students in adjusting to college life and includes an overview of policies, procedures, and services of the college.

## Learning and Educational Resources

The Ascent College Minter Library provides an excellent learning resource for the college. The entire library staff is dedicated to supporting the academic mission of Ascent College by teaching and helping students discover how to access, evaluate, and ethically use information. The library houses over 15,000 items including books, e-books, and audio-visual materials. All materials are indexed in the library's internet-accessible library catalog. Over 100 research electronic databases are provided to support the major disciplines with thousands of full text scholarly journal articles and research documents. Additional sources are available through a fast and efficient interlibrary loan system. The library houses the Ascent College Writing Center and information to access various online writing resources.

## Definition of Credit Hour

**Federal Definition:** All Ascent College courses must adhere to the Federal definition of credit hour. The Federal definition states that "A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than:

- One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks
- Or at least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other activities as established by an institution, including laboratory work, internships, practicums, studio work and other academic work leading toward the awarding of credit hours.”

**The Ascent College Equivalencies of the Credit Hour:** The institutionally established equivalencies to the Federal definition of the credit hour at Ascent College are below.

1. Face-to-Face format (on-campus courses): For each semester hour of credit, classes that meet in a face-to-face format must include a 50-minute period with the instructor and two hours of outside class work for at least 15 weeks. 1 credit hour = 50 minutes contact + 120 minutes outside work over 15 weeks for a total of 2,550 minutes of student effort.
2. Distance Education (online courses): Credit hours awarded from courses taught via distance education or in some other non-traditional setting follow the same rules when determining the number of credit hours awarded. For each semester hour of credit, classes must include three hours of work per week for at least 15 weeks. The three hours include the interactions with faculty and other students in online discussion forums and other interactive formats and the additional course work required outside this interactive format. 1 credit hour = assignments equaling 170 minutes per week over 15 weeks for a total of 2,550 minutes of student effort.

Any off-cycle course (i.e., 8-week course) must be equivalent in both contact and outside work totals as a semester-length course.

### Academic Advising

Students will be assigned an academic advisor. The academic advisor will assist the student in course selection and planning, as well as be available for advice at any time throughout the year. The academic advisor approves scheduling, but the student must assume responsibility for fulfilling all degree requirements. It is recommended that all students meet with their academic advisor prior to registration each semester. The student will be provided the contact information of his or her academic advisor at the time of orientation. Academic advisors may be contacted by email and will respond within 48 hours during the workweek.

### Course Load

The full-time academic load is 12 credit hours per semester. Students should be aware that 12 credits per semester will require approximately five years for completion of a bachelor’s degree. For a completion time of four years, students will need to take at least 16 credits per semester and/or attend summer sessions. A student on academic probation may only enroll for a maximum of 12 hours. Students are expected to work with their academic advisors to avoid scheduling problems and deficiencies.

### Course Selection for Students Abroad

Students enrolled in Ascent College outside the United States are required to limit their course selection to the courses within the program of study in which they are currently enrolled. Taking elective courses is not permitted.

### Course Schedules

Course schedules are published each semester. Students should contact their academic advisors to assure they take courses within their respective degree plans.

### Class Attendance

Students are expected and encouraged to attend class regularly. A student who misses more than 20% of classes for any reason is subject to automatic failure in the class. He or she may be dropped from the course

and can receive a grade of “F” for the course, unless the Academic Dean has granted a waiver. This waiver will be considered only when the student provides adequate justification of a medical or personal emergency that necessitated the class absences. Even with the waiver, it is expected that the student and the instructor would meet one-on-one at the discretion of the instructor, and as necessary, to review the material missed.

Likewise, students attending an online class are expected to engage in online courses weekly and meet assignment due dates and discussion forum due dates. Students should be aware that a failing grade may result from lack of participation in discussion forums for online classes.

An audit student who misses more than 20% of the classes of an on-campus course or fails to view more than 20% of the lessons in an online course will be withdrawn from the course.

### **Practicums**

Practicums are included in the approved curriculum for a program as defined in that program’s degree plan. The practicum’s syllabus contains the expected learning outcomes and training plan. These are provided at the time of enrollment in the practicum.

### **Office Hours for Instructors**

All instructors have virtual office hours outside the normal class meeting or online discussion forums. These office hours are posted in the course syllabus.

### **Course Add/Drop and Withdraw**

A student may add or drop a class up to seven days after the start of the term without financial penalties. Class withdrawal forms are available on the ascent.edu website on the Student Forms page. No student is allowed to change a class without completing the add/drop procedures. Withdrawal from a class will result in a withdrawal on the student's transcript. Failure to follow proper procedures when withdrawing from a class may result in automatic failure for that course.

### **Cancellation of Enrollment**

Cancellation requests must be in writing. When the student has enrolled in the college and before the session begins, the student has three (3) business days to cancel the enrollment and receive a full refund of all tuition and fees paid for the current session except for the non-refundable Enrollment Fee. After the session begins, during the seven (7) day Add/Drop period, the student may submit a cancellation of enrollment request in writing and receive a full refund of all tuition and fees paid for the current session except for the non-refundable Enrollment Fee. Refund request must be in writing and will be processed according to the refund policy.

### **Complaint/Grievance Procedure**

Students are encouraged to follow the Biblical principles found in Matthew 18 to resolve conflicts, concerns or complaints. Written complaints shall be responded to in writing within 10 days of receipt of the complaint. If the complaint is rejected, the student shall be notified of the reasons for the rejection. None of the student’s rights or remedies shall be limited by participating in the complaint procedure. In addition, a student participating in the complaint process will not be subjected to retaliation or adverse action.

If the student is not satisfied with the outcome of this complaint process, they have the right to contact the State Council for Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), which provides a webpage for students who may have complaints against a college (<https://www.schev.edu/index/students-and-parents/resources/student-complaints>). If you are a resident of a state other than Virginia, you may also contact the office in your state for filing complaints against the college. Please contact the Student Affairs Office for further information. Student may also contact The Association for Biblical Higher Education



(ABHE) 5575 S. Semoran Blvd. Suite 26, Orlando, Florida 32822-1781 Phone: 407-207-0808 to file a complaint against a college. The student complaint will follow these steps below:

1. Students will be encouraged to resolve the complaint themselves by speaking directly to the person involved. If no resolution can be made, then the student is encouraged to complete the next step.
2. Complete the Student Grievance Form (download from [ascent.edu](http://ascent.edu)) and submit to the Student Dean. The administration will acknowledge receipt of the form to the student within 48 hours.
3. If necessary, a meeting will be set-up to include the parties involved.
4. If no resolution is achieved the complaint shall be transmitted to the President for review and resolution.

The Virginia State Approving Agency (SAA) is the approving authority of education and training programs for Virginia. This office investigates complaints of G.I. Bill® beneficiaries. While most complaints should initially follow the school grievance policy, if the situation cannot be resolved at the school, the beneficiary should contact the SAA office via email [saa@dvs.virginia.gov](mailto:saa@dvs.virginia.gov). G.I. Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about educational benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>

### **Leave of Absence Policy**

In the case of prolonged illness or accident or other special circumstances that require a student to pause their studies, a leave of absence may be granted to a student who submits the Leave of Absence request form through that student's academic advisor. The leave of absence form requires an anticipated return date that must be within 180 days of the start of the leave of absence. If a student has not returned as an active student in that time frame, that student will be administratively withdrawn and will need to reapply to continue their studies. If a student would like to resume taking courses within those 180 days, they may do so as long as their student account balance has been fully satisfied and they have satisfied any academic disciplinary measures required. No additional fees will be incurred during a leave of absence. Upon the student's return from the leave of absence, he or she will be permitted to resume taking courses in their program of study. A leave of absence is not permitted to extend beyond 180 days within a 12-month period.

### **Withdrawal from College**

A student must submit a form with the Registrar's office to officially withdraw from college. Failure to attend classes is not considered an official notice and could result in a grade of "F" for all courses in progress at the time the student ceases attendance. An official withdrawal is recorded after the student completes all exit interviews and surrenders the student ID.

### **Re-Admission Policy**

A student who has withdrawn from the college, has been on a leave of absence that extends past 180 days must apply for re-admission. Such students must submit the application fee, an application, both references, a letter explaining why he/she wishes to re-enroll, and official transcripts for any transfer credits earned in the interim. The student will be re-admitted with the same academic standing held at the time of the withdrawal from the college. All admissions requirements in effect at the time of re-enrollment must be met.

### **Classification of Students**

Year status Freshman: 1-30 semester hours completed; Sophomore: 31-60 semester hours completed; Junior: 61-90 semester hours completed; Senior: 91 and above semester hours completed.

#### *Full-time status*

Students carrying at least 12 hours per semester are designated as full-time students.



### *Part-time status*

Students taking less than 12 hours per semester are part-time.

### **Audit Status**

The definition of audit is to attend a class as a listener, completing no work and receiving no credit. Ascent College will permit audits subject to the following regulations:

1. The academic dean in consultation with the instructor grants the student permission.
2. Auditors do not receive grades or credits for classes attended but are eligible to receive continuing education units (CEU) as documented by a transcript.

### **Transfer of Credits**

Credits may be accepted from Advanced Placement (AP) programs, the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), credit for experience, and military education, on a case-by-case evaluation.

Credits from a postsecondary institution accredited by both the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) are transferable to Ascent College if the classes are comparable and applicable to the degree plan. Credits from other postsecondary institutions may be transferable and are evaluated on a course-by-course basis. Every effort is made by administration to transfer as many hours as possible to avoid loss of academic credit. For more detail, please refer to the transfer credit policy on our website, [www.ascent.edu](http://www.ascent.edu), under the Student tab, Policies and Procedures link.

#### *Policy on Credits Earned at less than “C” Level:*

Transfer credit will not be granted for a grade below a “C”.

#### *Policy on Credits for Military Experience:*

Veterans who have successfully completed courses in the military service-training program may submit a record of the courses to the Registrar for review.

#### *Policy on Credits for Experience:*

Ascent College awards credit for life experience. No more than 30% of the credit in a student’s program may be awarded for life or work experience. For more detail, please refer to the transfer credit policy on our website, [www.ascent.edu](http://www.ascent.edu), under the Student tab, Policies and Procedures link.

### **Grading Scale**

Evaluation of Course Work

<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>
100-98	A+	4.0
97-94	A	4.0
93-90	A-	3.75
89-87	B+	3.25
86-83	B	3.0
82-80	B-	2.75
79-77	C+	2.5
76-73	C	2.0
72-70	C-	1.75
69-67	D+	1.5
66-63	D	1.0

62-60	D-	.75
59 & below	F	0

To remain in good academic standing, all students are expected to maintain a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average. A student whose semester GPA falls below 2.0 will be placed on academic warning. A student whose semester GPA falls below 2.0 for the second consecutive semester will be placed on academic probation. If the student's semester GPA falls below 2.0 for a third consecutive semester and/or the cumulative GPA is below 2.0, the student may be placed on academic dismissal from the school and must wait for one semester before applying for readmission. The student will no longer be certified for GI Bill® benefits when the semester GPA falls below 2.0 for the third consecutive semester. For GI Bill® benefits to be restored, the student must be under a monitoring program that requires the student to maintain a semester GPA of 2.0.

### **Policy for Online Courses**

Online courses are comparable in content, faculty, educational objectives, and resources to those offered on campus. These objectives are stated in the syllabus for the course.

Online courses include regular student-faculty and student-student interaction through discussion forums, email, and zoom meetings. Faculty have virtual office hours for additional student-faculty interaction.

All online courses use the online learning platform, Populi, which provides training modules and support to faculty and students. Ascent College personnel also provide training sessions for both faculty and students as needed.

Students and faculty should be aware of the minimum technology specifications for engaging in online courses:

- a. Broadband Internet
- b. Modern Updated Web Browser
- c. PC or Mac with Monitor
- d. Microsoft Word and Adobe Acrobat Reader

For additional information regarding these requirements for online students, refer to <https://ascent.edu/>

### **Policy for Generative Artificial Intelligence Usage**

Unless clearly specified by an instructor, Generative Artificial Intelligence (Gen AI) tools such as Chat GPT may only be used for brainstorming and idea generation. Students may also use Grammarly's Gen AI functionality to aid in idea generation, paraphrasing, and citations. Students must ensure that all submitted work reflects their own understanding and creativity. Gen AI tools are never to be used for tests, quizzes, and assessments or to produce any of the written content you submit for grading. If students do use Gen AI tools for the planning phase of papers and essays or for help with paraphrasing, students will need to cite it fully and properly, using Turabian AI citation guidelines (note that Grammarly's Gen AI functions include a citation generator). Using an AI tool without proper attribution would be a violation of the Ascent College student code of conduct. Use of Gen AI beyond what is stated above is equal to plagiarism and a violation of the Ascent College student code of conduct.

## **SPIRITUAL LIFE POLICY**

### **The Word of God and Prayer**

Inasmuch as the Bible is inspired by God and is God's revelation to humankind, all students are expected to study its contents daily in personal devotions. Likewise, students are expected to pray daily as an act of worship that glorifies God, reinforces our need for Him, and advances God's purposes in the earth. Daily Bible study and prayer are the foundations upon which Ascent College builds a culture of academic excellence and leadership development.

### **Chapel Services**

Chapel services are a key component of our commitment to build a community of faith that is supportive, encouraging, and enduring. Each student is required to attend online chapel services and other spiritual formation activities, including student body prayer meetings.

### **Church Attendance Policy**

Ascent College supports and is committed to instilling the Biblical concept of the local church into the school's framework. Thus, church attendance is mandatory for all with the expectation that students are actively engaged in their local services. Students involved with a Partner Site will attend the Partner Site church services and other spiritual activities as described by the Partner Site. Students not connected with a Partner Site will engage in practical ministry and spiritual development at a local church in their area.

### **Practicums**

These connections and involvements at the Partner Sites or the local church will be documented through the Practicum programs. These Practicum programs are integrated into the curriculum and students receive spiritual mentoring as well as practical experience through the required Practicums. These Practicums have an element of spiritual development via local church involvement and mentoring from local church leaders. Refer to the Ascent College Practicum Manual for a detailed description of these mentoring elements.

### **Code of Conduct**

All students are expected to maintain high standards of Christian conduct both on and off campus. Morally and Biblically, certain practices are clearly wrong. Students should abstain from such behavior. These include substance abuse, stealing, slanderous or profane language, dishonesty, occult practices, addictions (mutilation, sexual addictions, eating disorders, drug addiction-both illegal and prescription), and sexual sins (premarital sex, adultery, pornography, and homosexuality). Refer to the Student Handbook for additional information about the Ascent College Code of Conduct.

## **FINANCES**

### **Enrollment Fee**

A non-refundable Enrollment Fee of \$100 and a \$50 fee student services fee is due and payable at the time of enrollment. Auditors do not need to pay the enrollment fee.

### **Tuition and Other Fees**

Payment for tuition and other fees is due and payable at the time of registration for courses. Payment may be in cash, check, credit card (MasterCard, Visa, American Express, or Discover), approved scholarships, or a combination of these methods.

### **Tuition and Fees at Ascent College**

- \$350 per college credit
- \$ 50 per college credit for auditing, due before class begins

- \$100 enrollment fee required to begin taking courses
- \$ 50 student services fee required to begin taking courses
- \$125 fee for library resources course (no credit) required of all new students
- \$125 fee for Senior Seminar course (no credit) required before bachelor's program completion

### **Textbooks and Logos One**

Textbook purchases are not included in Ascent College tuition and fees. Students will be responsible to purchase books from any source they choose.

Logos One is Ascent College's official digital textbook provider. Logos provides selected course textbooks through its robust digital platform along with a small package of free resources. The price of textbooks varies by semester. Logos textbooks are accessed through a link on the syllabus page of Populi courses that offer Logos textbooks. In these courses, students must either opt-in or opt-out of receiving Logos textbooks by the add/drop date of that session. Students that have not opted out of receiving textbooks by the add/drop date are automatically opted in, and their student account charged the session's nonrefundable textbook fee. Customer support is available through Logos:

**Phone Number:** 800-875-6467  
**Instant Chat:** support.logos.com  
**Email:** customerservice@faithlife.com

Links to articles addressing common issues:

- [Finding page numbers in Logos: \(for citations\)](#)
- [Enterprise Partner Student Training | Logos Bible Software](#)
- [Enterprise Partner Faculty Training | Logos Bible Software](#)

### **Paying for College**

Tuition and fee payments will be due prior to semester registration. Students who still have outstanding bills will not be allowed to register for classes. Ascent College does provide payment plans for students to pay their bill in installments throughout a semester. A student's account must be at a zero balance by December 31 to be able to register for the Spring semester.

Ascent College does offer some institutional scholarships to qualified students. For more information, refer to: [ascent.edu/scholarships](http://ascent.edu/scholarships). There are several options for paying for college; to name a few, there are Personal Funds, Private Scholarships and Grants, Federal Grants and Loans as well as Private Loans. Please visit our website at [www.ascent.edu](http://www.ascent.edu) for information about paying for your college education. Applications for these additional resources can take several weeks to process so they need to be started at least twelve weeks before the semester begins. In fact, many private scholarships and grants have their own specific deadlines for application submission. It is imperative that students initiate financial applications along with their academic application in order to assure financial resources are available prior to the beginning of the semester. Please refer to our website for information concerning the percentage of students receiving Federal Student Aid and the average student indebtedness at graduation (<https://ascent.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/>)

### **Special Provisions for Veterans Administration Covered Individuals**

A covered individual is any individual entitled to educational assistance under chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment or chapter 33, Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. Covered individuals will be permitted to attend or participate in the course of education during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides to the educational institution a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 31 or 33 (a certificate of eligibility can also include a Statement of

Benefits obtained from the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) website – eBenefits, or a VAF 28-1905 form for chapter 31 authorization purposes) and ending on the earlier of the following dates:

1. The date on which payment from VA is made to the institution.
2. 90 days after the date the institution certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the certificate of eligibility.

Ascent College will not impose any penalty, including assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds, on any covered individual because of the individual's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under chapter 31 or 33.

### **Refunds, Credits, and Reinstatement as a Result of Military Service**

Pursuant to 23-9.6:2 of the Code of Virginia, and corresponding State Council on Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) Guidelines, Ascent College has developed this policy providing for the tuition relief, refund, and reinstatement of students whose service in the uniformed services has required their sudden withdrawal or prolonged absence from their enrollment. Service in the uniformed services is defined as service (whether voluntary or involuntary) on active duty in the Armed Forces, including such service by a member of the National Guard or Reserve, for a period of more than 30 days under call or order to active duty of more than 30 days. Ascent College shall provide for the following:

a. Tuition and Required Fees

Should a student be ordered to active duty (for reservists) or be mobilized (active military) as described in the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9.6:2 and the State Council's Virginia Tuition Relief, Refund, and Reinstatement Guidelines and he/she requests to be withdrawn from the college after the ADD/DROP date, the student may elect either to be deleted from the registration file and be awarded a full refund or to be administratively withdrawn with no refund and assigned a grade of "W". This policy also applies to refunds of fees to students.

Ascent College shall provide, at the option of the student refunds of deposits to be retained and to be applicable to tuition and fees charged in the semester or term in which the student returns to study.

b. Textbooks

Ascent College shall process refunds for textbooks according to contractual arrangement with vendors.

c. Academic Credits and Grades

Students who are called to active duty or are mobilized, meaning serving in the uniformed services, as described in Virginia Tuition Relief, Refund, and Reinstatement Guidelines, will have the opportunity to receive an incomplete grade ("I") until released from active duty (for reservists) or mobilization (for active military personnel). All course requirements shall be completed within one year from the date of release from active duty or mobilization.

Students may be given the option of taking their examinations prior to regularly scheduled times as an exception to Ascent College policy in accordance with the Virginia Tuition Relief, Refund, and Reinstatement Guidelines.

Careful consideration will be given and special options are available for students who receive student financial aid or Veterans Administration benefits.

d. Deposits

Ascent College shall provide, at the option of the student, deposits to be retained and to be

applicable to tuition, or fees charged in the semester or term in which the student returns to study.

e. Reinstatement

Students who are called to active duty or are mobilized will be provided a reasonable opportunity to be reinstated in the same programs of study without having to re-apply for admission if they return to Ascent College after a cumulative absence of not more than five years so long as the student provides notice of intent to return to the institution not later than three years after the completion of the period of service.

f. Dissemination of Information

In accordance with the requirements of the Code of Virginia, Section 23-9.6:2, and the Virginia Tuition Relief, Refund, and Reinstatement Guidelines, Ascent College will make every effort to ensure that the aforementioned policies relative to tuition relief, refund, academic credit and reinstatement are well disseminated and carefully explained. Ascent College has designated the Office of Student Services as the office to ensure that these policies are properly disseminated and administered.

### **Refund Policy for Regular Students**

The Enrollment Fee is non-refundable. Refund requests must be submitted in writing. No refunds are given after the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of classes. It is preferred that refunds be given in the form of credit toward a future course(s). However, the student may elect to receive a refund check. Tuition refunds are pro-rated according to the following table for our 8-week sessions:

- 0-7 days of the class: 100%
- 8-12 days of the class: 50%
- 13-17 days of the class: 35%
- 18-22 days of the class: 25%
- After 22<sup>nd</sup> day of the class: 0%

Refund policies for online students may differ depending on the state in which the student resides. Please contact the business office (703-753-2791) for the refund policy for your state. Class schedules for less than 8 weeks or more than 8 weeks will follow the same schedule as above with adjustment being made for the number of weeks of the class.

### **College Housing**

Ascent College can refer students to housing options during their attendance at Ascent College. Any student desiring housing should contact the office for further information.

### **Returned Checks**

A processing charge of \$35.00 is assessed when a check is returned by the bank for any reason.

### **Student Insurance**

Full coverage health insurance is not available through the college. It is recommended that each student review dependent health coverage (parental health insurance) to see if such coverage continues while the student is attending college. The college can suggest an insurance carrier that will offer primary or supplemental insurance coverage. The supplemental coverage is not full coverage but is designed to supplement an existing policy.

### **Federal Title IV Refund Calculation**

For students who are eligible and/or receiving Federal Title IV funds, the college must calculate the percentage of federal aid a student has earned. This percentage is based on the number of calendar days attended versus the total calendar days for the semester. Once this percentage is calculated, it is used to determine the amount Federal Title IV aid that may be retained to cover prorated charges on a student's account. The college must return any unearned aid to the federal government on a timely basis. This percentage is also used to determine the prorated charges for the semester. This procedure will enable Ascent College to refund the maximum possible institutional charges. Students who withdraw who are neither eligible nor receiving Federal Title IV aid will be subject to the institutional refund policy only.

Order of Refund Distribution Prescribed by Law and Regulation (Total Refund and Repayment):

- Unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan
- Subsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan
- Federal Perkins Loan
- Federal Direct PLUS Loan
- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal SEOG
- Federal ACG
- Other federal, state, private or institutional aid



# PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Ascent College offers four different levels of study (Certificate, Diploma, Associate, and Bachelor) to prepare students for their chosen field of ministry. These programs not only equip students professionally, but also assist them in viewing academic and professional subjects in light of their Christian faith. Program objectives in each of these programs assist the administration in assuring that Ascent College maintains its stated objectives for preparing students with academic proficiency, practical ministry skills, and opportunities for spiritual maturity.

## **Ministry Formation Programs**

Ascent College places high priority on providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student’s chosen career focus. Students in Associate, and Bachelor degree programs are required to take ministry formation courses designated as practicum courses in the degree plans.

Ministry Formation Programs Objectives for graduates from Ascent College will be:

- Capable of performing professional ministry functions at the introductory level
- Develop mentorship relationships with ministers actually engaged in the work of the ministry

## **CHILDREN’S MINISTRY LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE (12 credits)**

### **(Part 1 of 2 Certificate Programs)**

The Children’s Ministry Certificate Program is a twelve-credit series of four courses to provide children’s ministry leaders with foundational learning and leadership relationships.

Upon completion, graduates of the Children’s Ministry Certificate Program will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective children’s ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for children’s ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to cultivating intergenerational communities of faith that emerges from their own spiritual formation.

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Children’s Ministry Leadership Certificate Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
GEN 102	Orientation and Library Resources	0
MIN 250	Intro to Children’s Ministry	3
MIN 356	Teaching and Learning in Children’s Ministry	3
MIN 340	Children and Worship	3
MIN 459	Leadership Development in Children’s Ministry	3
	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>12</b>

## **CHILDREN’S MINISTRY PASTORAL LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE (12 credits)**

### **(Part 2 of 2 Certificate Programs)**

The Children’s Ministry Pastoral Leadership Certificate is designed to equip ministry leaders with specialized skills to minister to children and families in the church as well as in outreach to one’s larger community. These unique skills include ministry in camp and retreat settings, thinking intergenerationally in ministry contexts, serving children in pastoral care settings (such as hospital visits and prayer counseling), and fostering an environment of care and inclusivity for children with disabilities. This certificate differs from the Children’s Ministry Leadership Certificate, which is more foundational and general in its scope. This Children’s Ministry Pastoral Leadership Certificate is designed as a “Part 2” to the Children’s Ministry Leadership Certificate and should be taken after the first is completed.



Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective children’s ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for children’s ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to cultivating intergenerational communities of faith that emerges from their own spiritual formation.

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Children’s Ministry Pastoral Leadership Certificate Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
GEN102	Orientation and Library Resources	0
PSY351	Developmental Theory for Children	3
MIN 380	Camp Ministry	2
MIN 440	Formation of the Children’s Worship Leader	2
MIN 450	Intergenerational Ministry	2
MIN 465	Accessibility and Inclusivity for Children with Disabilities	2
MIN481	Pastoral Care of Children	1
	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>12</b>

### **DIGITAL MINISTRY CERTIFICATE (12 Credits)**

The Certificate in Digital Ministry is a one-year program designed to prepare the student for engaging in digital ministry online. The program not only equips the student to understand the missional potential of the internet, but also specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in digital ministry engagement. This certificate requires 12 credits, taken in four courses.

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate theories and methods for effective digital ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for digital ministry.
3. Students will embody a commitment to digital ministry that emerges from their own spiritual development.

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Digital Ministry Certificate</b>	<b>Credits</b>
GEN102	Orientation and Library Resources	0
MIS107	Introduction to Digital Missiology	3
MIN293	Digital Cultures and Communities	3
MIN395	Contemporary Issues in Digital Ministry	3
MIN495	Principles for Digital Church Planting and Multiplication	3
	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>12</b>

### **YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE (12 Credits)**

The Youth Ministry Leadership Certificate Program is a twelve-credit series of four courses to provide a foundational understanding of gospel centered ministry to teenagers. It will cover the unique ministry challenges of working with Gen Z students while grounding all we do in Biblical literacy, Gospel fluency, Biblical community, and Holy Spirit dependency.

Upon completion, graduates of the Youth Ministry Leadership Certificate Program will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective youth ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for youth ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving young people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Children’s Ministry Leadership Certificate Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
GEN102	Orientation and Library Resources	0
MIN 330	Gospel Centered Youth Ministry	3
MIN 343	Discipleship Strategy in Youth Ministry	3
MIN 322	Understanding Adolescent Culture	3
MIN 412	Youth Ministry in the Local Church	3
	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>12</b>

### **WOMEN IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE (12 credits)**

The Women in Ministry Leadership Certificate Program is a twelve-credit series of four courses to provide women leaders with foundational learning and leadership relationships.

Upon completion, graduates of the Women in Ministry Leadership Certificate Program will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective ministry by women.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate effective skills for ministry by women.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving that emerges from their own spiritual development.

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Women in Ministry Leadership Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
GEN 102	Orientation and Library Resources	0
MIN 242	Collective Journey: Leadership Health for Next-Gen Female Leaders	3
MIN 243	Communicating for Transformation	3
MIN 244	Biblical Theology of Women in Leadership: Why Not Women?	3
MIN 342	How Remarkable Women Lead: A Breakthrough Model for Life and Work	3
	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>12</b>

### **DIPLOMA IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP (33 credits)**

The Diploma in Ministry Leadership is a one-year program that will provide the student with basic educational courses to prepare for entry-level ministry in various fields.

Upon completion, graduates of the Diploma in Ministry Leadership will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for ministry.

- Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 33 credits

- 18 hours Biblical and Theological Studies
- 6 hours General Studies
- 9 hours Professional Studies

Course ID	Course Name	Credits
GEN 102	Orientation & Library Resources	0
ENG 101	Grammar & Composition	3
ENG 105	Academic Writing & Critical Research	3
BIB 100	Bible Review I	0
BIB 105	Old Testament Survey	3
BIB 110	New Testament Survey	3
BIB 150	Hermeneutics	3
BIB 215	Luke and Acts	3
MIN 103	Spiritual Formation I	3
MIN 112	Relational Outreach & Personal Evangelism	3
MIN 245	Principles of Christian Leadership Development	3
THE 212	Theology I: Spirit-Empowered Theology	3
MIS 220	The Biblical and Theological Basis for Missions	3
	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS:</b>	<b>33</b>

### ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP: Two-Year Degree (63 credits)

The Associate of Science in Ministry Leadership degree is a two-year, 63 credit hour degree program for students interested in pursuing a foundational education in ministry leadership. This program also incorporates general education requirements which prepare the student for further study toward the bachelor's degree.

Upon completion, graduates of the Associates of Science in Ministry Leadership program will be able to:

- Students will emerge with broad knowledge in various academic disciplines.
- Students will be able to demonstrate effective communication skills.
- Students will engage through a Christian worldview
- Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective ministry.
- Students will demonstrate effective skills for ministry.
- Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 63 credits

- 24 hours Biblical and Theological Studies
- 12 hours Professional Studies
- 24 hours General Studies
- 3 hours Practicums

Course ID	General Education Courses	Credits
GEN 102	Orientation & Library Resources	0
ENG 101	Grammar & Composition	3

ENG 105	Academic Writing & Critical Research	3
MAT 115	Elements of Math	3
HIS 220	History of the Christian Church	3
PSY 202	Intro to Psychology and Christian Counseling	3
COM 101	Speech Communication	3
MIS 303	Cross-Cultural Anthropology	3
HUM 301	Contemporary Moral Issues	3
COM 201	Church Communications, Social Media, and Digital Discipleship	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>General Ministry Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
BIB 105	Old Testament Survey	3
BIB 110	New Testament Survey	3
BIB 150	Hermeneutics	3
BIB 215	Luke and Acts	3
BIB 200	Bible Review II	0
THE 230	Eschatology	3
THE 212	Theology I: Spirit-Empowered Theology	3
MIN 103	Spiritual Formation I	3
MIN 112	Relational Outreach & Personal Evangelism	3
MIN 212	Personal Christian Ethics	3
MIN 245	Principles of Christian Leadership Development	3
MIS 220	The Biblical and Theological Basis for Missions	3
PRA 100	Practicum I	3
	<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP 120-124 credits**

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership is a four-year program designed to prepare the student for leadership positions in their chosen field in ministry. The program not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student's chosen career concentration. The core general education and general ministry course requirements are 84 credit hours, with additional required credits in the student's chosen concentration.

Upon completion, graduates of the Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership program will be able to:

1. Students will emerge with broad knowledge in various academic disciplines.
2. Students will demonstrate effective communication skills.
3. Students will engage through a Christian worldview.
4. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective ministry.
5. Students will demonstrate effective skills for ministry.
6. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>General Education Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
GEN 102	Orientation & Library Resources	0
ENG 101	Grammar & Composition	3

ENG 102	Composition & Literature	3
ENG 105	Academic Writing & Critical Research	3
MAT 115	Elements of Math	3
SCI 101	Life Science	3
HIS 220	History of the Christian Church	3
PSY 202	Intro to Psychology and Christian Counseling	3
COM 101	Speech Communication	3
COM 201	Church Communications, Social Media, and Digital Discipleship	3
HUM 301	Contemporary Moral Issues	3
SOC 400	Marriage & Family	3
MIN 275	Non-Profit Financial Management	3
MIS 303	Cross-Cultural Anthropology	3
LAN 201	Intro to Biblical Languages (Greek & Hebrew)	3
GEN 401	Senior Seminar & Career Preparedness	0
	<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>

Course ID	General Ministry Courses	Credits
BIB 105	Old Testament Survey	3
BIB 110	New Testament Survey	3
BIB 150	Hermeneutics	3
BIB 400	Bible Review III	0
BIB 215	Luke and Acts	3
BIB 313	Pauline Epistles	3
MIN 103	Spiritual Formation I	3
MIN 104	Spiritual Formation II	3
MIN 112	Relational Outreach & Personal Evangelism	3
MIN 212	Personal Christian Ethics	3
MIN 245	Principles of Christian Leadership Development	3
THE 212	Theology I: Spirit-Empowered Theology	3
THE 230	Eschatology	3
THE 301	Theology II: Word and Doctrine	3
MIS 220	The Biblical and Theological Basis for Missions	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>

## FLOW OF COURSES FOR 120 CREDIT PROGRAMS

Below is the pace of courses to complete the bachelor's in ministry leadership in four years.

### YEAR 1 (30 credits per year)

Fall Session A – 2 courses

Fall Session B – 3 courses (see Option)

Spring Session A – 2 courses

Spring Session B – 2 courses

*Practicum I offered in Spring only. Students must have completed 12 credits to begin taking practicums.*

### YEAR 2 (30 credits per year)

Fall Session A – 2 courses

Fall Session B – 2 courses  
 Spring Session A – 2 courses  
 Spring Session B – 2 courses  
*Practicums II & III offered in Fall & Spring.*

**YEAR 3 (30 credits per year)**

Fall Session A – 2 courses  
 Fall Session B – 2 courses  
 Spring Session A – 2 courses  
 Spring Session B – 2 courses  
*Practicums IV & V offered in Fall & Spring.*

**YEAR 4 (30 credits per year)**

Fall Session A – 2 courses  
 Fall Session B – 2 courses  
 Spring Session A – 3 courses (see Option)  
 Spring Session B – 2 courses  
*Practicum VI offered in Fall only.*

**Option:** To avoid taking three courses at a time (Year 1 Fall Session B and Year 4 Spring Session A), students can two or more courses during a Summer A or Summer B session and still complete the degree in four years.

**Biblical Studies Concentration (40 credits)**

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Biblical Studies is a four-year program that is designed to prepare the student for teaching positions in the Biblical/theological fields in a church ministry and for further graduate studies in Biblical/theological fields. The program not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student’s chosen career focus. This concentration is 40 additional credit hours, for a total of 124 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Biblical Studies Concentration will:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective Bible study.
2. Students demonstrate effective skills for interpreting and applying each canonical book of the Bible.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving in ministry that emerges from their own spiritual development through in-depth and effective Bible study.

Curriculum Requirements – 124 credit hours

58 credit hours      Biblical and Theological Studies  
 18 credit hours      Professional Studies  
 36 credit hours      General Studies  
 12 credit hours      Practicums

Course ID	Biblical Studies Concentration Courses	Credits (124 total)
MIN 264	Apologetics	3
BIB 210	Life and Teachings of Christ	2
BIB 214	Book of Romans	2
BIB 303	OT Historical Literature	3

BIB 304	OT Poetic Literature	3
BIB 305	OT Prophetic Literature	3
BIB 315	General Epistles	3
BIB 320	OT & NT Apocalyptic Literature	3
BIB 450	Hermeneutics II	3
THE 401	Theology III: History of Christian Theology	3
PRA 100	Practicum I	3
PRA 200	Practicum II	3
PRA 304	Practicum III	3
PRA 306	Practicum IV	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>

### Children's Ministry Leadership Concentration (37 credits)

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Children's Ministry Leadership is a four-year program designed to prepare the student for leadership positions in children's ministry. The program not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student's chosen career focus. This concentration is 37 additional credit hours, for a total of 121 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Children's Ministry Leadership Concentration will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective children's ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for children's ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to cultivating intergenerational communities of faith that emerges from their own spiritual formation.

Curriculum Requirements – 121 credits

30 credit hours	Biblical and Theological Studies
36 credit hours	General Studies
40 credit hours	Professional Studies
15 credit hours	Practicums

Course ID	Children's Ministry Leadership Concentration Courses	Credits (121 total)
MIN 250	Intro to Children's Ministry	3
MIN 340	Children and Worship	3
PSY 351	Developmental Theory for Children	3
MIN 356	Teaching and Learning for Children's Ministry	3
MIN 380	Camp Ministry	2
MIN 450	Intergenerational Ministry	2
MIN 459	Leadership Development in Children's Ministry	3
MIN 481	Pastoral Care of Children	1
MIN 465	Accessibility and Inclusivity for Children with Disabilities	2
PRA 100	Practicum I	3
PRA 200	Practicum II	3
PRA 304	Practicum III	3
PRA 306	Practicum IV	3
PRA 401	Practicum V	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>

### Christian Counseling Concentration with a Focus in Psychology (36 credits)

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Christian Counseling with a focus on Psychology is a non-licensure, non-clinical four-year program that is designed to prepare the student for advanced studies in the Christian Counseling field or for pastoral care positions. It not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the field of Christian Counseling with the expectation that students would pursue additional studies for licensure or would be prepared for pastoral care positions. The program does not meet the requirements for a professional counseling license. This concentration is 36 additional credit hours, for a total of 120 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Christian Counseling Concentration with a Focus on Psychology will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective Christian counseling.
2. Students demonstrate effective skills for Christian counseling.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 120 credits

- 30 hours Biblical and Theological Studies
- 36 hours General Studies
- 48 hours Professional Studies
- 6 hours Practicums

Course ID	Christian Counseling Concentration with a Focus in Psychology Courses	Credits (120 total)
PSY 205	Social Psychology and Cultural Issues in Counseling	3
PSY 310	Lifespan Development	3
PSY 341	Psychology of Personality	3
PSY 354	Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences	3
PSY 355	Introduction to Research Methods	3
PSY 371	Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy	3
PSY 430	Abnormal Psychology	3
PRA 101	Psychology Practicum I	3
PRA 201	Psychology Practicum II	3
	Elective from Pastoral Ministry concentration I	3
	Elective from Pastoral Ministry concentration II	3
	Elective from Pastoral Ministry concentration III	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>

### Christian Counseling Concentration with a Focus in Pastoral Ministry (36 credits)

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Christian Counseling with a Focus on Pastoral Ministry is a non-licensure, non-clinical four-year program that is designed to prepare for pastoral care-focused ministry positions. It not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in



the field of Christian Counseling. The program does not meet the requirements for a professional counseling license. This concentration is 36 additional credit hours, for a total of 120 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Christian Counseling Concentration with a Focus on Pastoral Ministry will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective Christian counseling.
2. Students demonstrate effective skills for Christian counseling.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 120 credits

30 hours	Biblical and Theological Studies
36 hours	General Studies
48 hours	Professional Studies
6 hours	Practicums

Course ID	Christian Counseling Concentration with a Focus in Pastoral Ministry Courses	Credits (120 total)
COUN 203	Issues in Christian Counseling	3
COUN 303	Christian Counseling for Marriage and Family	3
PSY 205	Social Psychology and Cultural Issues in Counseling	3
COUN 350	Grief and Trauma Counseling	3
COUN 400	Conflict Resolution Counseling	3
PRA 102	Counseling Practicum I	3
PRA 202	Counseling Practicum II	3
	Elective from Psychology concentration I	3
	Elective from Psychology concentration II	3
	Elective from Psychology concentration III	3
	Elective from Psychology concentration IV	3
	Elective from Psychology concentration V	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>

### Digital Ministry Concentration (36 hours)

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministerial Leadership with a Concentration in Digital Ministry is a four-year program designed to prepare the student for engaging in digital ministry online. The program not only equips the student to understand the missional potential of the internet, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in digital ministry engagement. The core general education and general ministry course requirements are 84 credit hours, with an additional 36 required credit hours in the digital ministry concentration.

Upon completion, graduates of the Digital Ministry Concentration will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate theories and methods for effective digital ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for digital ministry.
3. Students will embody a commitment to digital ministry that emerges from their own spiritual development.

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Digital Ministry Concentration</b>	<b>Credits</b>
MIS107	Introduction to Digital Missiology	3
MIN293	Digital Cultures and Communities	3
MIN390	Digital Hospitality	3
MIN393	Evangelism and Discipleship in the Digital Age	3
MIN395	Contemporary Issues in Digital Ministry	3
MIN490	AI Ethics and Ministry Implications	3
MIN495	Principles for Digital Church Planting and Multiplication	3
PRA100	Practicum I	3
PRA200	Practicum II	3
PRA304	Practicum III	3
PRA350	Digital Ministry Practicum IV	3
PRA410	Digital Ministry Practicum V	3
PRA430	Digital Ministry Practicum VI	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>

### **Intercultural Studies Concentration (36 hours)**

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Intercultural Studies is a four-year program that is designed to prepare the student for a career on the mission field. The program not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student's chosen career focus. This concentration is 36 additional credit hours, for a total of 120 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Intercultural Studies Concentration will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective intercultural ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for intercultural ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving interculturally that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 120 credit hours

30 credit hours	Biblical and Theological Studies
45 credit hours	Professional Studies
36 credit hours	General Studies
9 credit hours	Practicums

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Intercultural Studies Concentration Courses</b>	<b>Credits (120 total)</b>
MIS 103	World Religions	3
MIS 105	Missions and the Local Church	3

MIS 205	Relation Dynamics in Missions	3
MIS 301	History of Missions	3
MIS 302	Mission Call and Preparation	3
MIS 305	Introduction to Urban Missions	3
MIS 405	Leadership and Strategy of Missions	3
MIS 421	Contemporary Missions Issues	3
MIS 410	Contextualized Theology	3
PRA 100	Practicum I	3
PRA 200	Practicum II	3
PRA 312	Missions Practicum	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>

### Ministerial Leadership Concentration (36 credits)

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Ministerial Leadership is a four-year program designed to prepare the student for leadership positions and preaching and teaching responsibilities in ministry. The program not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student's chosen career focus. This concentration is 36 additional credit hours, for a total of 120 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Ministerial Leadership Concentration will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective ministry.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 120 credits

36 hours	Biblical and Theological Studies
30 hours	Professional Studies
36 hours	General Studies
18 hours	Practicums

Course ID	Ministerial Leadership Concentration Courses	Credits (120 total)
PRA 100	Practicum I	3
PRA 200	Practicum II	3
PRA 304	Practicum III	3
PRA 306	Practicum IV	3
PRA 401	Practicum V	3
PRA 402	Practicum VI	3
MIN 220	Homiletics	3
MIN 230	Pastoral Counseling	3
MIN 264	Apologetics	3
MIN 301	Leadership Theory & Practice	3
MIN 362	Church & Law	3
THE 406	Pastoral Theology	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>

## Worship Leadership Concentration (39 hours)

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Worship Leadership prepares the student for a leadership position in worship in a church ministry. The program not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student's chosen career focus. This concentration is 39 additional credit hours, for a total of 123 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Worship Leadership Concentration will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective worship ministry leadership.
2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for worship ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving in worship that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 123 credit hours

30 credit hours	Biblical and Theological Studies
45 credit hours	Professional Studies
36 credit hours	General Studies
12 credit hours	Practicums

Course ID	Worship Leadership Concentration Courses	Credits (123 total)
WOR 201	Heart of a Worshipper	3
WOR 203	Role of a Worship Leader	3
WOR 211	Technology for Worship I: Music Production	2
WOR 302	The Role of the Arts in Worship	3
WOR 310	Technology for Worship II: Live Stage Production	2
WOR 312	Leading a Worship Ministry	3
WOR 330	History of Renewal Worship	3
WOR 340	Basic Conducting	2
WOR 405	Musicianship I: Fundamental Awareness	2
WOR 406	Musicianship II: Working Knowledge	2
WOR 407	Musicianship III: Skills for Worship Leading	2
PRA 100	Practicum I	3
PRA 210	Musical Instrument Practicum	3
PRA 310	Worship Team Practicum	3
PRA 403	Vocal Skills Practicum	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>39</b>

## Youth Ministry Leadership Concentration (36 credits)

The Bachelor of Arts in Ministry Leadership with a concentration in Youth Ministry Leadership is a four-year program designed to prepare the student for leadership positions and preaching responsibilities in youth ministry. The program not only equips the student academically, but also is designed to prepare the student spiritually and practically with various Christian service requirements and mentoring opportunities. This program specializes in providing opportunities for practical experience and training in the student's chosen career focus. This concentration is 36 additional credit hours, for a total of 120 credit hours.

Upon completion, graduates of the Youth Ministry Leadership Concentration will be able to:

1. Students will be able to articulate methods and theories of effective youth ministry.

2. Students will demonstrate effective skills for youth ministry.
3. Students will demonstrate a commitment to serving young people that emerges from their own spiritual development.

Curriculum Requirements – 120 credit hours

- 33 credit hours     Biblical and Theological Studies
- 36 credit hours     General Studies
- 33 credit hours     Professional Studies
- 18 credit hours     Practicums

<b>Course ID</b>	<b>Youth Ministry Leadership Concentration Courses</b>	<b>Credits (120 total)</b>
MIN 330	Gospel-Centered Youth Ministry	3
MIN 343	Discipleship Strategy in Youth Ministry	3
MIN 322	Understanding Adolescent Culture	3
MIN 412	Youth Ministry in the Local Church	3
MIN 422	Teaching a Biblical Worldview to Teenagers	3
MIN 472	Leadership Skills for Youth Ministry	3
PRA 100	Practicum I	3
PRA 200	Practicum II	3
PRA 304	Practicum III	3
PRA 306	Practicum IV	3
PRA 401	Practicum V	3
PRA 402	Practicum VI	3
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>

### **NON-DEGREE PROGRAMS**

Non-degree seeking students are individuals who wish to take advantage of coursework offered through Ascent College’s accredited or non-accredited programs. These students are not interested in fulfilling the requirements for a degree from Ascent College but are interested in study for personal development and professional integrity.

Ascent College offers two ways to approach additional personal and professional development in a non-degree setting:

**1. *Courses taken for academic credit.***

Students may be interested in taking specific courses being offered by Ascent College for college credit, even though the intent is not to work toward fulfilling the requirements for a degree. Students need to identify this approach in the application process. After acceptance into this non-degree program, students may register for any courses in which they are interested in order to enhance personal or professional goals.

**2. *Courses taken for audit credit only.***

Students who are only interested in audit credit for courses should contact the admission’s office for further guidance on applying for this specific program. After acceptance at the audit level, students may register for any courses in which they are interested in order to enhance personal or professional goals.

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## GENERAL STUDIES

### **COM 101 Speech Communication (3)**

Study and practice in communicating ideas competently in public speaking. Students are also given a foundation for development of communication contexts, including dyadic and small group communication.

### **COM 201 Church Communications, Social Media, and Digital Discipleship (3)**

This course introduces students to principles of effective church communications and digital discipleship and provides an awareness of the resources and tools required to do it well. Students learn how to leverage the various social media platforms for digital ministry purposes.

### **ENG 010 Fundamentals of English (0)**

This course is designed to provide basic instruction in English to students who enter college with below expected English proficiency skills. This course should prepare the student for college-level English composition courses. Students are approved for entry into this course and no college credit is given.

### **ENG 011 Fundamentals of English II (0)**

This course is designed to provide basic instruction in English to students who enter college with below expected English proficiency skills. This course should prepare the student for college-level English composition courses. Students are approved for entry into this course and no college credit is given.

### **ENG 100 Elementary English (3)**

This course is reserved for students who need a basic course to improve their English skills for college. Enrollment must be approved by the office of the Academic Dean.

### **ENG 101 Grammar and Composition (3)**

A comprehensive study of English grammar designed to remedy deficiencies in the knowledge and correct use of the English language.

### **ENG 102 Composition and Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: ENG 101

A culmination of English fundamentals with emphasis on the finer points of writing through the correct use of all grammatical procedures.

### **ENG 103 Effective Writing (2)**

This course is designed to provide an intensive review of the writing and composition skills needed to become a proficient writer. The course focuses on writing experiences in the following genres: essays, and research papers.

### **ENG 105 Academic Writing and Critical Research (3)**

Prerequisites: ENG 101

This course will focus on the fundamentals of academic writing with the goal of sharpening students' critical thinking and writing skills, with special attention to reasoning, formulating and developing arguments and explanations. Attention will also be paid to handling the citing of sources.

### **GEN 102 Orientation and Library Resources (0)**

This course is required for every student enrolling in Ascent College in any program, taken in the first eight-week session of classes alongside other courses. This course orients students with college life and academics and provides access and training for using Ascent College study tools and resources.

**GEN 401 Senior Seminar and Career Preparedness (0)**

Senior Seminar & Career Preparedness is required to complete a bachelor's degree and graduate. In this course, students process their transition out of Ascent College with a bachelor's degree. This course serves as a capstone for the senior student completing their required program. It is designed to prepare the student for entry into the Christian professional arena through systematic reflection upon their practical and academic experiences. The course requires the student to formulate a professional portfolio to include a comprehensive visionary plan.

**HIS 201 American History I (3)**

An exploration of major social, political, economic, and diplomatic developments in American History from colonial times through the Reconstruction period.

**HIS 202 American History II (3)**

An exploration of major social, political, economic, and diplomatic developments in the United States since the Reconstruction period.

**HIS 220 History of the Christian Church (3)**

A study of the expansion and growth of the Church through a concentrated examination of key historical movements of revival and renewal within the history of Christianity.

**HUM 301 Contemporary Moral Issues (3)**

This course explores current issues affecting both American society and the international community from a Christian perspective. It includes topics such as the Christian response to current events and politics, Christians in government, civil responsibility, and social action.

**LAN 201 Intro to Biblical Languages (3)**

A basic course introducing students to rudiments of classical Hebrew and Koine Greek. Designed to help students in the use of various study tools and/or to prepare them for more advanced study of the Biblical languages.

**MAT 010 Fundamentals of Math (0)**

This course is designed to provide basic instruction in Math to students who enter college with below expected Math proficiency skills. This course should prepare the student for college-level Math courses. Students are approved for entry into this course and no college credit is given.

**MAT 101 Foundations of Mathematics (3)**

A foundational course in math that reviews basic math concepts to include algebra in order to prepare students for higher level math courses.

**MAT 115 Elements of Mathematics (3)**

A survey course including a review of algebra and an introduction to logic, probability and statistics, mathematical structure, problem solving, number theory, geometry, and consumer applications.

**MIN 275 Non-Profit Financial Management**

This course provides an understanding of how to manage a Christian nonprofit organization, including best practices for donor development, banking, hiring employees, capital campaigns, and budgets. In addition, it provides a Biblical theology of financial stewardship.

**MIS 303 Cross-cultural Anthropology (3)**

Designed to give an understanding of the cultural implications associated with ministry in and to people of another culture in order to communicate Christ more effectively and reach them with the gospel.

**PSY 200 Introduction to General Psychology (3)**

Designed to introduce students to the field as a scientific discipline concerned with the study of behavior. Consideration will be given to such topics as human development, motivation, emotion, perception, learning, personality, intelligence, measurement, and applied areas.

**PSY 202/COUN201 Introduction to Psychology and Christian Counseling (3)**

This class is designed to introduce students to the field as a scientific discipline concerned with the study of behavior and expose them to basic counseling techniques and the theoretical approaches to counseling. It also provides an overview of the counseling process with the intent of experiencing the counselor's role in the counseling process. Consideration will be given to such topics as human development, motivation, emotion, perception, learning, personality, intelligence, measurement, and applied areas.

**PSY 310 Developmental Psychology (3)**

An introductory course, which focuses on the development of childhood and adolescent years. Emphasis will be placed on psychological and developmental issues that occur in the physical, cognitive, and social domains.

**PSY 205 / SOC 205 Social Psychology (3)**

The course explores the scientific study of how the thoughts, feelings, and actions of a person are influenced by personal interactions, experiences, and social situations. Topics include the self, beliefs, attitudes, individual and group behavior, and relationships.

**SCI 100 General Health and Wellness (1)**

This course is designed to provide a Christian perspective toward physical fitness, wellness, personal health, and lifestyle choices. The course will also provide basic nutrition guidelines and will include lectures and out of the classroom activities.

**SCI 101 Life Science (3)**

Explores fundamental characteristics of living matter from the molecular level to the ecological community with emphasis on general biological principles. Develops a basic understanding of plant and animal form, function, and relationships.

**SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology (3)**

A study of social theories, their histories, social structures, functions, and conflict emphasizing human, institutional, and group interactions. The course provides an overview of political, economic and other cultural phenomena and methodologies of the results of scientific social research. In addition, it seeks to expand ideas, concepts, and theoretical and practical orientations by utilizing a comparative perspective.

**SOC 210 Social Problems (3)**

This course examines the definition and development of social problems in modern American society. The course discusses sociological issues such as poverty, education, and crime and deviance, and their impact on today's society.

**SOC 215 Urban Sociology (3)**



An introductory look at the urban community. Topics to be discussed include urban development, characteristics, and problems to include social segregation, inequality, and social conditions specific to urban areas. This course will also explore social characteristics of fringe and suburban areas.

### **SOC 220 Human Growth and Development (3)**

This course examines the human growth process as it relates to learning. Students should expect to gain fundamental knowledge of human growth and development through psychosocial theories, cognitive development, educational and sociological observations, fundamentals of counseling, case management and basic cognitive and educational foundations. A theological perspective will be investigated throughout the studies in this course.

### **SOC 400 Marriage and Family (3)**

The application of sociological and Biblical approaches to the study of marriage and family. This course examines mate selection, marriage, life-course and functions of the family, as well as changing patterns of family life in contemporary American society.

### **SPA 100 Conversational Spanish (2)**

This minimal grammar class concentrates on conversational techniques and basic word phrases. Emphasis will be placed on pronunciation and oral exercises.

### **SPA 101 Introduction to Spanish (3)**

This course introduces the students to basic vocabulary and fundamental sentence structure. Basis oral and reading comprehension is developed and students hold simple conversations and write short compositions about present and past actions.

## **GENERAL MINISTRY STUDIES**

### **BIB 100 Bible Review (0)**

The course is a Bible review course designed to prepare graduating students in the Diploma program for passing the Bible Knowledge exam required for graduation.

### **BIB 101 Parables in the New Testament (1)**

This course explores the Parables in the New Testament. The class is a seminar format based on guest lectures and student practical exercises. The classes are facilitated by staff and guest instructors.

### **BIB 105 Old Testament Survey (3)**

A study of the nature, contents and history of the Old Testament, providing an overview of its background and key themes.

### **BIB 107 Seminar on the Book of Psalms (1)**

This course explores the book of Psalms from a Christian Perspective. The class is a seminar format based on guest lectures and student practical exercises. The classes are facilitated by staff and guest instructors.

### **BIB 110 New Testament Survey (3)**

A study of the nature, contents, and history of the New Testament providing an overview of its background and key themes.

### **BIB 150 Hermeneutics I (3)**

Prerequisite: LAN 201 or permission of instructor.

The practice of the principles of inductive Bible study with a focus on asking and answering interpretative questions of the Biblical text and on the application of the truths gained in Bible study in the preparation of sermons or lessons.

**BIB 200 Bible Review (0)**

This course is a Bible review course designed to prepare graduating students in the Associate program for passing Bible Knowledge exam required for graduation.

**BIB 202 Pentateuch (2)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, or permission of instructor.

An inductive study of the first five books of the Old Testament emphasizing the development of an understanding of the overall theme of the OT.

**BIB 210 Life & Teachings of Christ (2)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, or permission of instructor.

A study of the biography & teachings of Jesus Christ as distinctly presented in each of the Gospels, focusing on the theological and practical teachings of Jesus.

**BIB 213 The Book of Acts (2)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, or permission of instructor.

A study of Luke's unique understanding of the mission, founding, and growth of the early church, for the purpose of developing a Biblical understanding of the apostolic nature of the church.

**BIB 214 The Book of Romans (2)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, or permission of instructor.

An exegetical exposition of the book of Romans with special attention given to the major themes of the book and aspects of practical Christianity.

**BIB 215 Luke and Acts (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, or permission of the instructor.

This course examines the narratives of Luke as he engages the person and ministry of Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the nature and work of the Church in the books of Luke and Acts.

**BIB 303 Old Testament Historical Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, or permission of instructor.

An analysis of the second section of the canon known as the "historical books": Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther.

**BIB 304 Old Testament Poetic Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, or permission of instructor.

A study of poetry in the Old Testament with special emphasis on Psalms, Proverbs, and Song of Solomon.

**BIB 305 Old Testament Prophetic Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, or permission of instructor.

An inductive study of the messages and messengers of one or more of the major prophetic books of the Old Testament: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel.

**BIB 313 Pauline Epistles (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, or permission of instructor.

A study of the letters of Paul with special emphasis given to historical background, his journeys, style, and distinctive themes of each book.

**BIB 320 OT & NT Apocalyptic Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105 & 110, or permission of instructor.

A study of the apocalyptic literature of the Old Testament and New Testament and the nature of apocalyptic literature. Special emphasis is given to the apocalyptic literature of Daniel and Revelation.

**BIB 315 The General Epistles (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, or permission of instructor.

An analytical study of the letters of James, Peter, John, and Jude, with special emphasis given to historical background, structure, and distinctive teachings of each book.

**BIB 400 Bible Review (0)**

This course is a Bible review course designed to prepare graduating students in the Bachelor program for passing the Bible Knowledge exam required for graduation.

**BIB 450 Principles of Bible Study II (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

An advanced study of the principles of inductive Bible study with a focus on asking and answering interpretative questions of the Biblical text and on the application of the truths gained in Bible study in the preparation of sermons or lessons.

**BIB 480 Biblical Studies Independent Studies (1), (2), or (3)**

This is an independent study under the direct supervision of an instructor. The student researches a topic in Biblical studies and culminates the research with a report or paper as approved by the instructor. This course is open only to senior level students.

**MIN 103 Spiritual Formation I (3)**

A foundational process to encourage spiritual growth & renewal in one's daily relationship with God. Biblical principles of spiritual growth and development will be examined.

**MIN 104 Spiritual Formation II (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 103, or permission of instructor

A comprehensive, integrated study of the Biblical meaning and theology of spirituality; the historical development of and the contemporary practice of spirituality that encompasses Christian faith, life and ministry. The traditional streams of Christian spirituality will be examined by reading, reflection and discussion of the Christian classic writings.

**MIN 107 Seminar on Jesus of the New Testament (1)**

This course explores the personage and divinity of Jesus as presented in the New Testament. The class is a seminar format where students discuss this topic using the New Testament and supplementary texts. The classes are facilitated by staff and guest instructors.

**MIN 112 Relational Outreach and Personal Evangelism (3)**

A study of the principles of evangelism and the development of a personal lifestyle of one-on-one evangelism in the context of personal relationships.

**MIN 212 Personal Christian Ethics (3)**

A study of the theological and Biblical foundations of Christian morality with a specific study of ethics in ministry. Selected contemporary moral issues will be examined in the light of Biblical teachings.

**MIN 245 Principles of Christian Leadership Development (3)**

A study and application of leadership development principles and strategies in the growth and exercise of Biblical leadership, focusing on personal development first. Students learn leadership from the second chair, and how to identify and develop other leaders. Includes modules on relationships, ethics, and conflict resolution in a ministry context.

### **MIS 100 World Christian Perspectives (3)**

A study of the Biblical, historical and cultural dimensions of world evangelization.

Attention is given to the state of the unevangelized peoples and how to strategically complete the Great Commission.

### **MIS 220 The Biblical and Theological Basis for Missions and Contemporary Issues (3)**

This introductory course consists of an in-depth study of the mission of God and God's heart for the nations as revealed in the entirety of the Biblical text. Missions and the interpretation of Scripture within the Bible is analyzed in terms of history, culture, philosophy and the progressive development of Biblical theology as new cultures and peoples were engaged by Israel and the Church. The application of Biblical missiology to the contemporary world is evaluated in light of the modes of missions and ministry evidenced in the Bible. Emphasis includes mobilizing and personalizing missions in the local church and life of every believer.

### **THE 100 Seminar on The Spirit in Pauline Theology (1)**

In a five-night seminar format, this course investigates Paul's understanding of the Holy Spirit and the role He plays in God's plan and purposes for the children of God.

### **THE 212 Theology 1: Spirit-Empowered Theology (3)**

What is theology, where does theology come from, why are Christians called to theologize, and how does the Holy Spirit empower all of this? This course will focus on how we craft theology and utilize the theological method to further discipleship and ministry.

### **THE 230 Eschatology (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB150

This course is a study of prophetic and apocalyptic literature in Scripture and how we use it to establish Eschatology, a theology of end times. Our primary focus will be on thinking eschatologically and how this shapes our Christian living in the present.

### **THE 301 Theology II: Word and Doctrine (3)**

Prerequisite: THE 212, or permission of the instructor.

What defines Christianity, what are the core doctrines of the Christian faith, and how do we systematically develop beliefs from the Word of God? This course will cover doctrines of Scripture, Creation, Sin, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, the Church, and the Last Things.

## **PRACTICUMS**

### **PRA 100 Practicum I (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings.

### **PRA 101 Psychology Practicum I**

In this practicum, the student will volunteer for eight weeks at a help center (e.g. Pregnancy Care Center, Teen Challenge). The institution must have Ascent approval before the student can start. The student will be given reading assignments and will write a final capstone paper for an Ascent professor.

**PRA 102 Counseling Practicum I**

In this practicum, the student will find a church or ministry situation that has a pastoral counselor. After approval by Ascent and the pastoral counselor mentor, the student will spend a semester in this mentoring relationship. The student will be given reading assignments and will write a final capstone paper for an Ascent professor.

**PRA 200 Practicum II (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings.

**PRA 201 Psychology Practicum II**

In this practicum, the student will volunteer for eight weeks at a help center (e.g. Pregnancy Care Center, Teen Challenge). The institution must have Ascent approval before the student can start. The student will be given reading assignments and will write a final capstone paper for an Ascent professor.

**PRA 202 Counseling Practicum II**

In this practicum, the student will find a church or ministry situation that has a pastoral counselor. After approval by Ascent and the pastoral counselor mentor, the student will spend a semester in this mentoring relationship. The student will be given reading assignments and will write a final capstone paper.

**PRA 210 Musical Instrument Practicum (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings focused on a musical instrument.

**PRA 304 Practicum III (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings.

**PRA 306 Practicum IV (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings.

**PRA 310 Worship Team Practicum (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings focused on supporting a worship team.

**PRA 312 Mission Practicum (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides mentored ministry experience through a cross-cultural missionary experience in another national context, integrating cross-cultural ministry, learning, leadership and spiritual development in a practical ministry setting.

**PRA 350 Digital Ministry Practicum IV (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings focused on supporting a digital ministry team.

**PRA 401 Practicum V (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings.

**PRA 402 Practicum VI (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings.

**PRA 403 Vocal Skills Practicum (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings focused on vocal singing skills.

**PRA 410 Digital Ministry Practicum V (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings focused on supporting a digital ministry team.

**PRA 430 Digital Ministry Practicum VI (3)**

A practical ministry project that provides ministry experience through mentoring, while integrating faith and learning in practical ministry settings focused on supporting a digital ministry team.

**BIBLICAL STUDIES****BIB 210 Life & Teachings of Christ (2)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

A study of the biography & teachings of Jesus Christ as distinctly presented in each of the Gospels, focusing on the theological and practical teachings of Jesus.

**BIB 214 The Book of Romans (2)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

An exegetical exposition of the book of Romans with special attention given to the major themes of the book and aspects of practical Christianity.

**BIB 303 Old Testament Historical Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

An analysis of the second section of the canon known as the "historical books": Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther.

**BIB 304 Old Testament Poetic Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

A study of poetry in the Old Testament with special emphasis on Psalms, Proverbs, and Song of Solomon.

**BIB 305 Old Testament Prophetic Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

This course is an exposition of the pre-exilic, exilic, and postexilic prophets, Isaiah, through Malachi.

**BIB 315 The General Epistles (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

An analytical study of the letters of James, Peter, John, and Jude, with special emphasis given to historical background, structure, and distinctive teachings of each book.

**BIB 320 OT & NT Apocalyptic Literature (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 105, BIB 110, BIB 150, or permission of instructor.

A study of the apocalyptic literature of the Old Testament and New Testament and the nature of apocalyptic literature. Special emphasis is given to the apocalyptic literature of Daniel and Revelation.

**BIB 450 Hermeneutics II (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 150, LAN 201, or permission of instructor.

An advanced study of the principles of inductive Bible study with a focus on asking and answering interpretative questions of the Biblical text and on the application of the truths gained in Bible study in the preparation of sermons or lessons.

**MIN 264 Apologetics (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 110, or permission of instructor.

A philosophical study of the Christian faith as it is related to secular humanism with emphasis on the deity of Christ, the incarnation, substitutionary death, and physical resurrection. Attention will be given to practical, everyday application.

**THE 401 Theology III: History of Christian Theology (3)**

Prerequisite: THE 212, THE 301, or permission of instructor.

How has God used theologians throughout history to form and refine Christianity and why does this theology still matter today? This course will introduce you to the writing of some of the significant theologians who have shaped Christian belief from the time of Jesus until now.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY LEADERSHIP**

**MIN 250 Intro to Children's Ministry (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 240, or permission of instructor

Fundamentals of leading ministry with children in the local church context.

**MIN 340 Children and Worship (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, or permission of instructor

Focus on leading children and children's leaders into a deeper understanding of worship, including music, the creative arts, prayer, worship response stations, and leading children in the ways of Pentecostal/charismatic worship styles.

**MIN 355 Communicating with Children (2)**

A study in the development of skills to communicate with children in various effective ways including storytelling, puppets, ventriloquism, human video, and audio/visual means. Sound system basics will also be covered.

**MIN 356 Teaching and Learning for Children (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, or permission of instructor

Focus on pedagogy: how children learn, and how to effectively teach the Bible and theology to young people.

**MIN 375 Communicating with Adolescents (2)**

A study in the development of skills to communicate with youth in various effective ways including storytelling, illustrated sermons, human video, and audio/visual means. Sound system basics will also be covered.

**MIN 380 Camp Ministry (2)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, or permission of instructor

This course will explore the fundamentals of Christian camp and retreat ministry. Students will learn the foundational principles that undergird Christian camp ministry best practices. This includes the themes of relationship-building, unplugging, faith-focused formational experiences, learning through outdoor activities, and topics around safety (physically, socially, and spiritually).

### **MIN440 Formation of the Children's Worship Leader (2)**

Prerequisite: MIN340

This course builds on the foundations of the Children and Worship course (MIN340). Students will learn to develop in their own personal growth and spiritual formation as worship leaders. Students will learn about leading teams in children's worship and how to steward the stage well, strengthening them as communicators and shaping their hearts to shepherd those they are leading in worship.

### **MIN 450 Intergenerational Ministry (2)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, SOC 400, or permission of instructor

This course will explore the emerging topic of intergenerational ministry. Students will learn what it means for a congregation to think and act in ways that bring various age groups together in worship, learning, and outreach. This includes themes of reciprocity in community, understanding generational differences and similarities, and creativity in thinking and living intergenerationally in the life of the congregation.

### **MIN 457 Holistic Children's Ministry (3)**

Focus is placed on providing ministry to children that is balanced in evangelism, discipleship, and worship. Priority will be given to educating children cognitively, affectively, and behaviorally so that their head, heart, and hands are impacted. Curriculum development will also be covered.

### **MIN 459 Leadership Development in Children's Ministry (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, or permission of instructor

Focus on developing teams, volunteers, children in leadership, and developing the self as a leader in children's ministry.

### **MIN 465 Accessibility and Inclusivity for Children with Disabilities (2)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, PSY 350, or permission of instructor

This course will explore how ministry leaders can best serve children and youth with disabilities. Students will learn about the various experiences of young people with disabilities (physical, neurological, and otherwise) and how to design children's church environments that provide inclusivity, accessibility and growth for young people with disabilities.

### **MIN 481 Pastoral Care of Children (1)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, PSY 200, PSY 350, or permission of instructor

This course will explore the basic skills of ministering to children in pastoral care contexts. This includes prayer counseling, hospital visits, baptism preparation, funerals, and other specialized pastoral care needs.

### **PSY 351 Developmental Theory for Children (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 250, PSY 200, or permission of instructor

Focus on sociological, psychological, and spiritual developmental theories that help inform ministering to children and youth.

## **CHRISTIAN COUNSELING**



**COUN 201 Introduction to Christian Counseling (3)**

This class introduces students to psychology and Christian counseling as a scientific discipline concerned with the study of behavior and exposes them to basic techniques and theoretical approaches to counseling. Consideration will be given to such topics as: human development, motivation, emotion, perception, learning, personality, intelligence, measurements, and other applicable areas.

**COUN 203 Issues in Christian Counseling (3)**

Prerequisite PSY 202, or permission of the instructor.

This course helps students become knowledgeable about the inner conflicts and insecurities faced by those being counseled. It teaches the different aspects of physiology, theology, and sin to help establish the connections needed to counsel individuals.

**COUN 302 Christian Counseling for Children (3)**

This class will provide training which is specifically focused on the unique needs of children and adolescents in order to help them grow emotionally, socially, mentally, and spiritually. It provides instructions on parental involvement and guidelines to enhance a Christ-centered relationship among family members. It will explore a variety of treatment interventions to include play therapy, individual, and family counseling.

**COUN 303 Christian Counseling for Marriage & Family (3)**

This course considers the dynamics of marriage and family relationships from a systems perspective. It emphasizes the Christian counseling perspective in understanding family and other systems theories, the structure and function of marriage, various aspects of the marital relationship and family systems, and models of family and systemic interventions.

**COUN 304 Christian Counseling for Women (3)**

This study provides counseling techniques to enhance positive life approaches to the varied roles and life functions faced by women. The class targets the spiritual as well as the emotional aspects of counseling with women.

**COUN 350 Grief and Trauma Counseling (3)**

Prerequisite PSY 202, or permission of the instructor.

This class will provide training to help students develop skills to deal with the issues of trauma, death, grief, and loss. It examines the Biblical view of trauma, grief, death, dying. It offers a cognitive and pragmatic investigation of the skills necessary to address a wide variety of crisis counseling situations.

**COUN 400 Conflict Resolution Counseling (3)**

Prerequisite PSY 202, or permission of the instructor.

This course will investigate a Biblical and practical understanding of conflict. It analyses the conflict cycle and styles of conflict management and intervention strategies to help students comprehend how to use conflict for positive change.

**PSY 205 Social Psychology and Cultural Issues in Counseling (3)**

Prerequisite PSY 202, or permission of the instructor.

This course explores the scientific study of how the thoughts, feelings, and actions of a person are influenced by personal interactions, experiences, and social situations. It also examines counseling religiously and culturally diverse populations through a psychological and Christian lens. It emphasizes

the need for counselors to understand the multiplicity of culture and change their counseling technique accordingly. Topics include the self, beliefs, attitudes, individual and group behavior, and relationships.

**PSY 310 Lifespan Development (3)**

Prerequisite PSY 202, or permission of the instructor.

An introductory course which focuses on the development of people from childhood to senior adulthood. Emphasis will be placed on the psychological and developmental issues that occur in the physical, cognitive, and social domains of each age group (childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, middle adulthood, and senior adulthood).

**PSY 341 Psychology of Personality (3)**

Prerequisite PSY 202, or permission of the instructor.

This course reviews the basic concepts and principles of the major theories of personality. It also assesses the scientific worth and validity of these theories and includes case studies that show how they apply to the treatment of psychological disorders. Detailed descriptions of healthy and unhealthy personality types will be stressed. Students will be challenged to evaluate their personality, as it relates to the theory being presented.

**PSY 350 Child Development (3)**

This course will cover the physical, mental, and spiritual development of a child from birth through sixth grade. One unit will also survey common learning disabilities of children often faced by those ministering to children.

**PSY 354 Introduction to Statistics for Social Sciences (3)**

Prerequisite: MAT 115

This course investigates descriptive and inferential statistics and introduces multiple techniques for statistical analysis. It explores formulas for presenting and evaluating data in accordance with generally accepted protocol for statistical analysis.

**PSY 355 Introduction to Research (3)**

Prerequisite: PSY 354

This course introduces the foundations of research methodology, design, and analysis. It explores and evaluates the basic principles of qualitative and quantitative research. This curriculum focuses on understanding the results of statistical analysis as it applies to research.

**PSY 370 Adolescent Development (3)**

This course will cover the physical, mental, and spiritual development of an adolescent from teenager through young adult. One unit will also survey common learning disabilities often faced by those ministering to youth.

**PSY 371 Theories of Counseling & Psychotherapy (3)**

This class introduces the major schools of counseling and psychotherapy. It investigates the topics of: theoretical orientation to the field of psychotherapy, the underlying theory and assumptions of each approach, and instruction on how to use and interpret the psychological tests frequently used to facilitate counseling and psychotherapy.

**PSY 430 Abnormal Psychology (3)**

The course entails a study of the diagnosis, causes, treatment, and prevention of psychological disorders. Problems with the reliability and validity of the American Psychiatric Association system for diagnosing psychological disorders will be discussed, and various alternative systems will be introduced.

## **DIGITAL MINISTRY**

### **MIS 107 Introduction to Digital Missiology (3)**

This course covers a broad overview of basic ministry implications in digital space, including anthropology, community development, and digital ecclesiology. This will include an exploration of digital environments as destinations of missional engagement.

### **MIN 293 Digital Cultures and Community (3)**

This course explores how culture is formed online and the cosmology of digital environments. It introduces digital cultures and UdPGs (e.g. gamer and fandom cultures, etc.). Students will learn practices for digital exegesis.

### **MIN 390 Digital Hospitality (3)**

This course examines the urgent need to cultivate digitally hospitable Christians, and explores how hospitality functions in digital evangelism and discipleship. Students will learn skills for discipling others into rhythms of digital hospitality.

### **MIN 393 Evangelism and Discipleship in the Digital Age (3)**

This course examines opportunities for evangelism in the digital age, and models of discipleship in online spaces with online tools.

### **MIN 395 Contemporary Issues in Digital Ministry (3)**

This course explores emerging issues in digital ministry, including Web 3.0, livestreaming and digital churches, data stewardship and integrity. Students will learn skills for using digital technology.

### **MIN 490 AI Ethics and Ministry Implications (3)**

This course explores AI as an emerging field, considering issues of ethics and anthropology, as well as implications for ministry. Students will learn strategies for AI usage in ministry settings.

### **MIN 495 Principles in Digital Church Planting and Multiplication (3)**

This course applies principles of digital ministry to digitally specific considerations in church planting. This includes launching digital-only and digital-first churches, digital church planting in restrictive contexts, building launch teams with internet tech, and launching online campuses.

## **INTERCULTURAL STUDIES**

### **MIS 103 World Religions (3)**

Designed to equip students with an overview of various major world religions, this course seeks to stir a passion for communicating Christ more effectively and demonstrate the value of building bridges with people of other religions.

**MIS 105 Missions in the Local Church (3)**

This course will explore God's missionary nature as revealed in His word and lived out through His people. In doing so this course will examine the overarching redemptive narrative of scripture, the role of the local church as sender, the current state of world evangelization, and the missionary task as carried out by those who are sent.

**MIS 205 Relational Dynamics in Missions (3)**

In light of the pressures of acculturation, this course assists the student in understanding his/her own personality and how this affects developing and maintaining healthy relationships by examining the dynamics of significant relationships in the life of the missionary including those with his/her marriage, family, fellow missionary teammates, and the national church.

**MIS 301 History of Missions (3)**

Beginning with the New Testament Church this course evaluates movements and leaders throughout missions history providing a rubric and guide for present and future missionary endeavors. Special consideration focuses on the history of Assemblies of God and Pentecostal missions.

**MIS 302 The Missionary Call & Preparation (3)**

A study of the motive, objective, call, qualifications, and opportunities for missionaries today with particular attention to the practical issues of personal, spiritual, and administrative preparation for missionary service constitutes the purpose and content of this course.

**MIS 303 Cross-Cultural Dynamics (3)**

This course of study is designed to provide tools to address anthropologically the cultural implications associated with ministry to people of another culture in order to communicate the gospel of Christ more effectively.

**MIS 305 Introduction to Urban Missions (3)**

An examination of the Biblical and theological basis for urban missions and Biblical perspectives on urban issues such as poverty, leadership, and globalization constitute the content of this course.

**MIS 404 Practical Intercultural Ministries (3)**

Designed to provide a Biblical perspective on the cities of the world and strategies for relevant urban ministry, church planting, and releasing urban missionaries through servant and power evangelism.

**MIS 405 Leadership & Strategy in Missions (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 240, or permission of the instructor.

An explanation of the process of leadership development in the life of the student and how to select and This course addresses theological and strategic issues related to personal and indigenous church leadership development from a Pentecostal perspective with special attention to spiritual formation, moral issues, social/organizational structures in a missional context, and cross-cultural church planting movements.

**MIS 410 Contextualized Theology (3)**

Prerequisite: THE 212, THE 301, or permission of instructor

Contextual theology and the process of contextualization relates to the knowledge of God, an unchanging God who reveals himself uniquely within specific contexts. God assures authentic knowledge of Himself through His action in *missio Dei*. Guided by the Holy Spirit God's missionary people communicate gospel truth in an ever-changing world. This course explores the ways in which culture intersects with and informs

the task of theology and examines both the theoretical and practical aspects of contextualization as related to Biblical interpretation, theology, missiology and leadership development. Contextualization is reviewed and evaluated in terms of its bearing on the communication of the gospel, the varied expressions of the Christian faith and its spread in various cultural settings.

### **MIS 421 Contemporary Mission Issues (3)**

Prerequisite: MIS 302, or permission of instructor.

A Pentecostal approach to the unique challenges and opportunities facing missionaries today guide the content of this course. Spirit-empowered missiological thinking, grounded in Biblical truth, is applied to diverse contemporary missions issues to assist the church and the missionary to communicate Christ to the world.

### **MIS 460 Studies in Unreached People Groups (3)**

An in-depth research study of a particular mission field and/or people groups for the preparation of evangelization strategies or as advance preparation for cultural adaptation. Offered as an independent study project.

## **MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP**

### **COUN 301 Family Systems and Counseling (3)**

This course is designed as a psychological as well as a sociological view of the family system and how it affects Biblical worldview. The course will address family structure, rituals and cultural diversity within the system. Course content includes the gathering of information to prepare the student's own genogram in order to analyze his/her own family dynamics. Family Systems and Counseling will integrate the dynamics of the family systems with counseling models for the church setting.

### **COUN 310 Fundamentals of Crisis Intervention for Pastoral Care (3)**

This course examines the ethical implications of pastoral care and counseling reviewing the Christian Counseling Code of Ethics as currently promulgated. The course also investigates basic crisis intervention skills for use by pastors and ministers.

### **MIN 105 Leadership Lab (1)**

This course is designed to explore three areas of Christian leadership: positioning the church to grow, building high performance teams, and releasing the potential of those around the leader.

### **MIN 106 Seminar on Christian Topics (1)**

This course explores various Christian topics of current interest. The class is a seminar format where students discuss the topic for the class. The classes are facilitated by staff and guest instructors.

### **MIN 220 Homiletics (3)**

Prerequisite: BIB 110, or permission of the instructor.

The application of the principles of inductive Bible study in the development of Biblical expository messages, both for sermons and teaching. Also includes a study of the theology, theory, & practice of preaching and teaching, with emphasis on expository preaching, as well as classroom methods for teaching.

### **MIN 221 Expository Preaching Seminar (1)**

This course explores the discipline of expository preaching. The class is a seminar format based on guest lectures and student practical exercises. The classes are facilitated by staff and guest instructors

**MIN 230 Pastoral Counseling (3)**

Prerequisite: PSY 200, or permission of instructor.

Emphasis on the development of basic skills in addressing people's needs for emotional and spiritual healing through (1) basic analysis of people's needs, (2) the use of the Bible in care and counseling, (3) acquiring skills in interpersonal relationships, and (4) utilizing resources in diagnosis and referral of pastoral care and Christian therapy.

**MIN 241 The Leader's Foundation (3)**

Designed to aid in the formation of a godly self-image and proper foundation for leadership.

**MIN 242 Collective Journey: Leadership Health for Next-Gen Female Leaders**

God calls leaders to finish well and multiply. Using the passage in 2 Timothy 1:1-18, the student will discover four foundations for leadership development and sustainability; personal leadership development (core-self), the power of story (communication), skillsets (calling), and a sustainable network (community). This class enforces that women grow stronger by being together; this is especially true when women connect intergenerationally and learn from one another.

**MIN 243 Communicating for Transformation (3)**

This course helps women sharpen their communications skills in multiple settings and allow participants to explore how gender potentially affects communication and develops tools for speaking effectively to mixed-gender audiences. They will learn how to develop talks and messages that are Biblically accurate and relevant, and applicable to their audience.

**MIN 244 Biblical Theology of Women in Leadership (3)**

This course tells the stories of women throughout the Bible and history. The use of Scripture and history provides two bookends that the issues concerning the ministry and leadership of women can be discussed and can help the student locate her story within the context of God's story.

**MIN 264 Apologetics (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 110, or permission of instructor.

A philosophical study of the Christian faith as it is related to secular humanism with emphasis on the deity of Christ, the incarnation, substitutionary death, and physical resurrection. Attention will be given to practical, every day application.

**MIN 280 Gifts (2)**

Analysis of the New Testament focuses on spiritual gifts as found in Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12-14, Ephesians 4, and 1 Peter 4. Class examines the role of spiritual gifts in an ecclesial community and the practical application of these principles.

**MIN 301 Leadership Theory and Practice (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 240, or permission of instructor.

This course focuses upon the theoretical development and challenges of effective leadership by reviewing the historical development of various leadership theories. This includes leader traits, skills, and behaviors; models; and other approaches to leadership.

**MIN 310 The Ministry of Prayer (3)**

A study of the Biblical principles and practices of prayer and intercession as part of the ministry of the body of Christ.

**MIN 312 Church Planting I (3)**

A practical study of the principles of church planting and development, focusing on the various challenges and considerations of planting and growing a church.

**MIN 332 Church Planting II (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 312, or permission of the instructor.

A continuing study of the principles of church planting and development, focusing on the various challenges and considerations of planting and growing a church.

**MIN342 How Remarkable Women Lead: A Breakthrough Model for Work and Life (3)**

Based on a five-year research study by McKinsey & Company, consultants Joanna Barsh and Susie Cranston linked five elements to all successful female leaders: meaning, framing, connecting, engaging, and energizing. This course is designed to bring definition and personal story to each trait and allow the students time for personal assessment to develop a strategic leadership growth plan for each element and enhance their lifelong leadership journey.

**MIN 362 Church and Law (3)**

Prerequisite: MIN 270, or permission of instructor.

A study of the laws in various administrative areas affecting clergymen, religious institutions, and churches.

**MIN 370 Five-Fold Ministry (3)**

A study of the Biblical organization and techniques of the church. The course teaches how to mature the church for service through a team-leadership strategy.

**MIN 372 Understanding Apostolic Ministry (3)**

A presentation of the Biblical plan and strategy for the expansion of the church. Emphasis will be given to the role of the apostle, and various dimensions of the apostolic church will be examined.

**MIN 374 Understanding Prophetic Ministry (3)**

A study of the Biblical office of the prophet and the gift of prophecy, with a practical emphasis on the place of the prophetic in church life.

**MIN 430 Pastoral Care & Counseling (3)**

A study of the Biblical basis for pastoral counseling, the basic techniques of pastoral care, a general introduction to the major areas of pastoral concern, counseling the sick, the grief-stricken, teenagers, the aged, and those in crises. This course requires careful study of and reflection upon the appropriate Biblical texts.

**THE 406 Pastoral Theology (3)**

Prerequisite: THE 212, THE 301, or permission of the instructor.

A study of the Biblical materials as they relate to the pastoral ministry. The course includes an overview of the pastor's call, the church's call, the pastor's personal life, general administrative duties, church community, district responsibilities, and Assembly of God polity.

**WOMEN IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP**

**MIN 242 Collective Journey: Leadership Health for Next-Gen Female Leaders (3)**

God calls leaders to finish well and multiply. Using the passage in 2 Timothy 1:1-18, the student will discover four foundations for leadership development and sustainability; personal leadership development (core-self), the power of story (communication), skillsets (calling), and a sustainable network

(community). This class demonstrates how women grow stronger by being together; this is especially true when women connect intergenerationally and learn from one another.

**MIN 243 Communicating for Transformation (3)**

This course helps women sharpen their communications skills in multiple settings and allow participants to explore how gender potentially affects communication and develops tools for speaking effectively to mixed-gender audiences. They will learn how to develop talks and messages that are Biblically accurate and relevant, and applicable to their audience.

**MIN 244 Biblical Theology of Women in Leadership: Why Not Women? (3)**

This course tells the stories of women throughout the Bible and history. The use of Scripture and history provides two bookends that the issues concerning the ministry and leadership of women can be discussed and can help the student locate her story within the context of God's story.

**MIN 342 How Remarkable Women Lead: A Breakthrough Model for Life and Work (3)**

Based on a five-year research study by McKinsey & Company, consultants Joanna Barsh and Susie Cranston linked five elements to all successful female leaders: meaning, framing, connecting, engaging, and energizing. This course is designed to bring definition and personal story to each trait and allow the students time for personal assessment to develop a strategic leadership growth plan for each element and enhance their lifelong leadership journey.

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

**WOR 201 Heart of a Worshipper (3)**

To have a heart of worship and to be a leader of worship requires a lifestyle of daily worship. We can only lead where we have been. This course is designed to deepen the call and guard the passion of personal worship.

**WOR 203 The Role of the Worship Leader (3)**

This course is a study of the motive, objective, call and qualifications for leading worship. It is designed to study the many and varied roles of a worship leader with special emphasis placed on the relationship between the worship leader and the lead pastor, other staff members, worship team vocalists/instrumentalists, creative team, and the congregation.

**WOR 204 Worship in the Psalms (3)**

An in-depth study of the book of Psalms examining the structure, history, and nature of the Psalter. Discover the use of the Psalms in Old Testament times and in modern application.

**WOR 211 Technology for Worship I: Music Production (2)**

Training and application to enhance the production of creative worship settings utilizing midi, click tracks, in-ear monitors, and music production, recording, and playback software. (Specialized technology required.)

**WOR 302 The Role of the Arts in Worship (3)**

A study of how the arts (dance, drama, graphic/visual arts, media, poetry, spoken word, etc.) inform worship, and how engaging with the arts forms worshipers. Drawing from the works of scholars and theologians, a framework of worship arts will be developed based on the belief that all art in worship should be seen as a vehicle for the formation of God's people in Christ. Students will glean from discussions about the various ways in which the arts powerfully contribute to theological formation through aesthetics, logic,



language, metaphor, conversations, and senses. Focus will be given on how the creative worship arts can enhance and impact corporate worship services today.

**WOR 310 Technology for Worship II: Live Stage Production (2)**

Designed to give practical training in systems and technology to support and enhance the worship environment. Student's will gain a basic understanding of audio, lighting, media, video and streaming components along with core technologies and issues in copyright laws. (Hybrid course with a one-day in-person seminar for hands-on practice.)

**WOR 312 Leading a Worship Ministry (3)**

This course is a study of the practical issues involved in planning and facilitating creative corporate worship. Application is made to practical issues of corporate worship, administration, assembling and training a team, rehearsal techniques, worship planning, special services/ordinances of the church, staging, and incorporating creative aspects.

**WOR 321 The Local Church: Cultural Issues (3)**

A study of worship in the post-modern era examining the effects of cultural change on worship style and how worship can be a powerful conduit of change within culture.

**WOR 330 History of Renewal Worship (3)**

This course is a study of the history of worship and the working of the Holy Spirit from the Old Testament, the Tabernacle, the early church, through the modern period. Emphasis is given to changes in worship practices resulting from the Reformation, the Great Awakenings, revival movements, large evangelistic crusades of the 1940-1950s, Jesus Movement, praise and worship movement through to the worship culture of today.

**WOR 340 Basic Conducting (2)**

A rudimentary course in conducting techniques for traditional and non-traditional settings. Knowledge and skills areas addressed include basic conducting gestures and patterns; score interpretation; rehearsal management and technique; programming considerations; and insight into navigating vocal and instrumental issues.

**WOR 405 Musicianship I: Fundamental Awareness (2)**

An introduction to the rudiments of music and theoretical concepts through practical experience with notation, meter, key signatures, scales, intervals, and chord structures. (No previous music background required.)

**WOR 406 Musicianship II: Working Knowledge (2)**

Prerequisite: WOR 405 or equivalent, or permission of the instructor.

Further study of musical rudiments and theoretical concepts; including visual/aural training, musical analysis, transposition, progressions, basic form and composition methods.

**WOR 407 Musicianship III: Skills for Worship Leaders (2)**

Prerequisite: WOR 401, WOR 402, or permission of instructor.

A practical application of harmonic, melodic and rhythmic principles in worship music. Special attention is given to the Nashville Number System and jazz harmony practices to understand chord construction and progressions as the foundation for crafting charts, compositions, and arrangements for worship services.

**WOR 410 Directing & Conducting Principles (3)**

The study of the fundamentals of techniques for conducting instrumentalists and vocalists and development of the skills needed to work with an ensemble, choir, and worship team.

## **YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP**

### **MIN 108 Seminar in Youth Ministry (1)**

Students will learn specific techniques to recruit and develop volunteer staff and to plan and implement youth services. Students will hear from guest speakers and will plan a youth service.

### **MIN 330 Gospel-Centered Youth Ministry (3)**

This course lays a foundation for being a gospel-centered leader, creating a gospel-centered culture, having a good theology on suffering, and creating Biblical literacy and gospel fluency in leaders and students.

### **MIN 343 Discipleship Strategy in Youth Ministry (3)**

This course contributes to forming a philosophy of ministry where students view all of life as discipleship, understand a definition of discipleship. Students learn to leverage all ministry environments for discipleship, develop a culture of disciples making other disciples, and the role of the gospel in discipleship.

### **MIN 322 Understanding Adolescent Culture (3)**

This course helps students be savvy about technology & social media, how to address mental and emotional health matters for adolescents, leading in a post-truth world, and knowing how to exegete culture and use God's truth to address it.

### **MIN 412 Youth Ministry in the Local Church (3)**

This course helps train youth leaders to understand their part in a larger church-wide discipleship strategy, by being a team player, supporting the vision of another, and working with other ministries. This course trains students to equip parents to be disciple-makers.

### **MIN 422 Teaching a Biblical Worldview to Teenagers (3)**

This course trains students to understand and be able to teach on the basic building blocks of a Biblical worldview: there is a righteous Creator to whom we are accountable, the designer is the definer, God's plan for human flourishing and freedom, what it means to be an image bearer, the Fall, the ongoing results of the fall, God's redemptive plan from beginning to end, the person and work of Jesus, the Lordship of Jesus, the mission of God, and the end of the story.

### **MIN 472 Leadership Skills for Youth Ministry (3)**

This course provides students with necessary administrative skills for youth ministry, including implementing and sustaining effective systems, necessary steps for recruiting and on ramping new youth leaders, communicating with parents, planning out a preaching calendar, planning out an event calendar, and budget management.

### **MIN 477 Holistic Youth Ministry (3)**

Focus is placed on providing ministry to youth that is balanced in evangelism, discipleship, and worship. Priority will be given to educating youth cognitively, affectively, and behaviorally so that their head, heart, and hands are impacted. Curriculum development will also be covered.

### **MIN 479 Development of the Youth Ministry Team (2)**

Explores the role, duties, and qualifications of the Youth Ministry Team, including parents, pastoral staff, sponsors, and the entire church. Emphasis will be placed on the Youth Pastor's ability to work with adults, as well as children.

## GRADUATION

Students must complete the course degree requirements applicable at the time of matriculation into the college as specified in the college catalog current at the time. These course requirements may be fulfilled by successfully completing the course (higher than a letter grade of F) at Ascent College, by successfully transferring the course into Ascent College from another postsecondary educational institution as approved by the Registrar's office or experiential learning, or by successfully substituting the course by another course with approval from the Academic Dean's office.

The minimum requirement for graduation is a GPA of 2.0 overall and 2.5 for area of concentration. The final 25 percent of credits for any program must be earned at Ascent College and a minimum of 30 percent of total credits must be earned at Ascent College in order to be awarded a degree from Ascent College.

To graduate, students must submit a personal mission statement as evidenced in the student portfolio prepared by the student and approved by the Dean of Students. Completion of practicums as may be defined in the Academic Catalog. All students must demonstrate Biblical knowledge proficiency by passing the Bible Knowledge exam.

Students with at least a 2.0 who are within twelve semester hours of meeting graduation requirements and who plan to fulfill these requirements in Ascent College's summer session may petition the Registrar to participate in spring commencement exercises. The student will subsequently be granted the degree upon successful completion of the required hours.

Student accounts must be paid in full and cleared by the Registrar before graduation is finalized.

Honors will be awarded to students attaining the following final grade point averages:

- Cum Laude; 3.40 - 3.59
- Magna Cum Laude; 3.60 - 3.79
- Sum Cum Laude; 3.80 - 4.00

Upon graduation from Ascent College, the student will have a quality, academic education and practical ministry experience to aid in ministry. Students should take full advantage of the opportunities this affords.

### **Graduation Activities**

Each year, Ascent College graduates a class of trained leaders that impact the Kingdom of God. Graduation activities include the Commencement Exercise. Graduating students are strongly encouraged to attend all activities.

### **Graduation Policy**

All students anticipating graduation in the Spring must submit a graduation petition form no later than November 5. The forms are available online and through academic advisors.

### **Transcripts**

After a student graduates or for some reason leaves Ascent College he or she may request official transcripts from the Registrar's Office. Ascent College provides transcripts for a fee of \$5.00. Students with an

outstanding balance will not be able to receive their transcript until their balance is paid in full.

### **Career Advising and Placement Services**

Ascent College offers no formalized career advising and placement services. However, the college is connected with local churches throughout the Potomac Network and may assist in providing information regarding current pastoral and local church positions.

## **Ascent College Board Members**

Chairman of the Board: Rev. George Raduano, Pastor Emeritus, Trinity Church

Dr. Jacob Al-Hassan, Pastor, River of Life Worship Center

Dr. Ken Cramer, Lead Pastor, Lighthouse Worship Center

Mr. Robert McDowell, Retired Air Force

Mr. Ken Moreland, Retired Vice President, Financial

Rev. John Rajan, ECPI University

Dr. Rob Rhoden, President, Ascent College

Rev. Lori Ricks, Co-Pastor, Bethel Temple Church

Ms. Sherilynn Tounger, Missionary, Assemblies of God

Rev. Steve Evans, Senior Pastor, Faith Assembly

## **Ascent College Administrative Staff**

Dr. Rob Rhoden, M.Div., D.Min.  
President

Dr. Anna Morgan, M.A.G.L., D.I.S.  
Executive Vice President of Academics

Ms. Sonji Thee, M.Ed.  
Director of Student Services, Registrar

Ms. Amy Piehl, M.T.  
Admissions Director

Ms. Kathryn Calabrese, B.A.B.A.  
Academic Advisor

Ms. Victoria Davis, B.A.  
Assistant Registrar and Student Services

Dr. Donald Kammer, M.Div. Ph.D.  
Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Dr. Ron DeBerry, MLS., M.Div., D.Min.  
Director of Library Resources

Ms. Vanessa B. Willis, B.S.B.A.  
Director of Compliance

Rev. Kevin Willis, M.S.A. M.Div.  
Chaplain

Dr. Jacob Al Hassan, M.Div. D.Min.  
Vice President of African Partnerships

### **PROGRAM DIRECTORS**

Dr. Taehyun Lee, Dean of Biblical Studies  
Ms. Karen Clark, Dean of Worship Leadership  
Dr. Jesse Joyner, Dean of Emerging Generations Leadership  
Dr. Todd Korpi, Dean of Digital Ministry

## **Ascent College Faculty**

### **FACULTY (Full Time Administrators/Part Time Faculty)**

Dr. Anna Morgan, Instructor of Practical Theology, Ministerial, and Missiological Studies  
M.A.G.L., D.I.S., Fuller Theological Seminary

Dr. Taeyhun Lee, Instructor of Biblical Studies and Theology  
M.Div., Ph.D., Regent University

### **FACULTY (Part Time)**

Jenell Sanford, Instructor of English and Communications  
M.A., Ohio University

Kevin Willis, Instructor in Ministerial and Theological Studies  
M.A., Regent University

### **ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS**

Mark Ackerman, Instructor of Biblical Studies and Ministerial Studies  
M.A., Regent University

Dr. Jacob Al Hassan, Instructor of Ministry and Biblical Studies  
M.A., D. Min., Southeastern University

Katie Allred, Instructor of Communications Studies  
M.A., University of Florida

Gloria Bazemore, Instructor of Counseling Studies  
M.A., Regent University

Lisa Brady, Instructor of Ministry and Biblical Studies

M.Div., Duke Divinity School

Jonathan Burtram, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.Div., Regent University

Brian Biondo, Instructor of Worship Ministerial Studies  
M.Div, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, M.A. Music Ed., Peabody Institute, Johns Hopkins University

Jamé Bolds, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.A. Theology, Gordon Conwell

Gary Butler, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.A., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Luisa Castro, Instructor of Counseling Studies  
M. Ed., Strayer University

Dr. Doug Chapman, Instructor of Biblical Studies  
M.A., Ashland Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Michigan State University

Karen Clark, Instructor of Worship Leadership Studies  
M.A., Regent University

Dr. Ron DeBerry, Instructor of Biblical and Ministerial Studies  
M.Div., D. Min., Regent University; MLS, Texas Women's University

Brian Dollar, Instructor of Children's Ministerial Studies  
M.L.M., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

LaDawn Emery, Instructor of Counseling Studies  
M.A., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Mark Freeman, Instructor of Youth Ministerial Studies  
M.Ed., Townson University

Debbie Gillispie, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.Div., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Patrick Grach, Instructor of Ministry and Counseling  
M.A., Regent University

Dr. Greg Hackett, Instructor of Ministry and Biblical Studies  
M.Div., D.Min., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Jayne Harding, Instructor of English Studies  
M.A., Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Jesse Joyner, Instructor of Biblical Studies and Children's Ministerial Studies  
M. Div., Asbury Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Dr. Russell Joyner, Instructor of Biblical Studies  
M.A., Union Seminary; D.Min., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Dr. Donald Kammer, Instructor of Church History and Biblical Studies  
M.Div. Ph.D., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Regent University

Dr. Todd Korpi, Instructor of Missiology and Theological Studies  
M.A.G.L., D.Miss., Fuller Theological Seminary

Dr. Kristi Lemley, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.S.W., D.Min., Saint Louis University, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Dr. Diane McGehee, Instructor of Missiological Studies  
M.A.G.L., D.I.S., Fuller Theological Seminary

Martin Monacell, Instructor of Theological Studies  
M.Div., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Dr. Meghan Musy, Instructor of Biblical Studies  
M.A., Ph.D., Missouri State University, McMaster Divinity College

Dr. Teri Musy, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
Ph.D., Trinity Theological Seminary

Kristin Musy, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.A. Special Education, University of Maryland

Dr. Stephanie Nance, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.Div., D.Min., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Dr. Karina Negron, Instructor of Math and Science Studies  
Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Boniface Odong, Instructor of Biblical Studies, Theology, and Counseling Studies  
M.S.W., M.Div., Ph.D., Radford University, Regent University

Dr. Regina Okine, Instructor of Christian Counseling Studies  
M.A. Human Services, Marriage and Family, Liberty University

Lisa Potter, Instructor of Ministerial Studies  
M.L.M., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Dr. Valerie Rance, Instructor of Counseling and Missiological Studies  
M.A., Ph.D., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

DeLonn Rance, Instructor of Missiological Studies  
M.A., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, M.A., Vanguard University, Ph.D., (Intercultural Studies)  
Fuller Theological Seminary

Dr. Margo Rees, Instructor of Biblical Studies  
M.Div., Ph.D., Union Presbyterian Seminary, University of Cambridge



Yancy Richards, Instructor of Children's Ministry  
Yancy Ministries

Jim Rodriguez, Instructor of Pastoral Ministerial Studies  
M.A., Southeastern University; D.Ed. Min, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Robert Shipley, Instructor in Missiology, Biblical and Ministerial Studies  
Ph.D. Theological Studies, Pan Africa Theological Seminary

Dr. Adrian Schoonmaker, Instructor in Ministerial and Communications Studies  
M.A., M.A.T., D.Min., Regent University, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Dr. Lyle Story, Instructor in Biblical Studies  
M.Div., Ph.D., Fuller Theological Seminary

Dr. Paul Thee, Instructor of Math Studies  
M.S., National Defense University; Ph.D., Air Force Institute of Technology