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2021-2022

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VERITAS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

VERITAS COLLEGE & SEMINARY

VIU SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

VIU NORMAN L. GEISLER SCHOOL OF APOLOGETICS

2021-2022 Academic Catalog

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Last Revised: 12/17/2021

Accreditation

Veritas International University is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) [15935 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551; email info@tracs.org] having been awarded Reaffirmation of its Accredited Status as a Category IV institution by TRACS Accreditation Commission on November 5, 2019. This status is effective for a period of ten years. TRACS is recognized by both the United States Department of Education (USDOE), the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE).

*This catalog was prepared with the best information available as of the aforementioned date. During the 2020-2021 academic year changes may occur in tuition, fees, course offerings, admission requirements, curriculum, faculty, and other areas covered in this publication. All provisions herein contained are subject to change without notice or obligation.

TRACS has authorized VIU to offer the following accredited degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (B.A.C.S.)
- Master of Arts in Theological Studies (M.A.T.S.)
- Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (M.A.B.S.)
- Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics (M.A.C.A.)
- Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam (M.A.P.I.)
- Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History (M.A.A.)
- Master of Divinity in Biblical Studies (M.Div.)
- Master of Divinity in Apologetics (M.Div.)
- Doctor of Ministry in Apologetics (D.Min.)
- Doctor of Ministry (w/concentrations) (D.Min.)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology & Biblical History (Ph.D.)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy of Religion (Ph.D.)

Certificate Programs

Certificate Programs are identical to the Masters degree programs. Those who will earn a Bachelors degree in the future may convert the certificate to a Masters degree by submitting an official undergraduate transcript to the VIU Registrar. The following comprise VIU certificate offerings:

- Certificate of Theological Studies (CTS/36 units)
- Certificate of Biblical Studies (CBS/48 units)
- Certificate of Archaeology & Biblical History (CABH/48 units)
- Certificate of Christian Apologetics (CCA/48 units)
- Certificate of Polemics & Apologetics to Islam (CCPI/48 units)
- Certificate of Archaeology & Biblical History (CABH/48 units)
- Certificate of Divinity (either Apologetics or Biblical Studies) CDiv/78 units)

Degree Granting Institution

The California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE), the state body regulating postsecondary education in California, has approved VIU to operate and grant degrees as an accredited institution. This approval will continue until such time as there is a change to the organization of the Institution, Institution's offerings or degrees or diplomas awarded, or accreditation status.

Institution & Affiliation

Veritas International University (VIU) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) independent religious corporation with its own Board of Directors, and without affiliation to any particular church organization, denomination, or another institution.

Institution-Wide Non-Discrimination Policy

Veritas International University is committed to equality of educational and employment opportunity and will not discriminate against applicants, the retention of students, or the selection, retention, and advancement of VIU personnel on the basis of race, sex, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, prior military service, or any other basis prohibited by law (Rom. 2:11; 12:1-2; Gal. 3:28). Federal guidelines (Sections 702-703 of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act) clearly recognize the right of private non-profit religious institutions to seek personnel who will support the mission, educational goals, and doctrinal statement of the institution. Being an applicant, student, or employee at Veritas International University requires a commitment and lifestyle consistent with the institution's mission, goals, and doctrinal statement. VIU reserves the right to deny admission, advancement, or retention of individuals, who by past academic experience or job performance, or lifestyle decisions, demonstrate they are not in harmony with the mission, goals, and content published in the VIU handbooks or the doctrinal statement of the institution (Jam. 3:1; 1 Tim. 3:1-16; 2 Tim. 3:5).

VIU Catalog and Transferability

(A) Any questions a student may have regarding this catalog that have not been satisfactorily answered by the institution may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education at: P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA, 95798, (<https://bppe.ca.gov/>), (888) 370-7589. (B) As a prospective student, you are encouraged to review this catalog prior to signing an enrollment agreement. You are also encouraged to review the School Performance Fact Sheet, which must be provided to you prior to signing an enrollment agreement. (C) A student or any member of the public may file a complaint about this institution with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education by calling (888) 370-7589 or by completing a complaint form, which can be obtained on the bureau's Internet Web site (<https://bppe.ca.gov/>).

NOTICE CONCERNING TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS AND CREDENTIALS EARNED

The transferability of credits you earn at Veritas International University (VIU) is at the complete discretion of an institution to which you may seek to transfer. Acceptance of the degree or certificate you earn in your chosen subject area is also at the complete discretion of the institution to which you may seek to transfer. If the (credits or degree, diploma, or certificate) that you earn at this institution are not accepted at the institution to which you seek to transfer, you may be required to repeat some or all of your coursework at that institution. For this reason, you should make certain that your attendance at this institution will meet your educational goals. This may include contacting an institution to which you may seek to transfer after attending VIU to determine if your credits or degree, diploma, or certificate will transfer.

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WHY Choose VIU?

Welcome to Veritas International University! Choosing the right learning environment is an important decision. After all, ideas do have consequences. Instead of campus “safe spaces”, “cry-ins”, campus chaos, overpriced tuition, biased liberal faculty, intolerance for conservative ideas, and excused student absences because of the inability to cope with political and cultural change, person, mind, spirit, and body. As an independent private Christian university, we strive to offer a well-rounded educational and spiritual experience that emerges from the inspired, infallible, and inerrant truth of the Bible.

With every passing day, it is apparent we live in a world where the Christian worldview is being challenged, reinterpreted, marginalized or altogether discarded. For this reason, our academic programs are fashioned for those seeking a solid education that prepares graduates to make a difference in a lost and searching world. At VIU, students have access to a stellar faculty who draw upon a medley of subjects crucial to a classical Christian education such as archaeology, biblical history, apologetics, history, Bible, biblical languages, theology, philosophy, religion, logic, and more. Our uncompromising commitment to the classical doctrines of Christianity, and high view of Scripture, will be a refreshing reprieve from the steady threats on the Bible so often experienced in higher education. At Veritas, you don’t have to wonder whether your professor believes the Bible is the Word of God, every instructor has a personal relationship with Christ and views the Bible as the sole and final arbitrator of faith and practice.

Our faculty has been carefully selected, each having a passion for sharing the good news and defending the Faith in a cultural milieu that is becoming increasingly hostile to people of faith. With more than 200 books and hundreds of articles published, some of which are standard textbooks in universities, colleges, and seminaries across the country, our instructors offer students a wealth of experience accompanied by humility that has been tested by time and practice through decades of research, writing, and peer review. What is more, our faculty is firmly committed to the great commission of making disciples, teaching them not only the “what” and “how” of the Christian faith, but also “why” we believe.

Each academic program is designed to equip you with the knowledge, character, and skill necessary to achieve your goals as a Christian leader and to fulfill your calling. VIU courses are offered through a variety of formats including traditional 15-week residential semesters that meet in the evening, 7-week distance learning courses, and in convenient 1-week residential module course format.

Whatever your course of study may be, by the time you complete your program at VIU you will have greatly enhanced your relationship, appreciation, and worship of our Lord Jesus Christ. Moreover, you should expect to see greater boldness and effectiveness in your ministry, evangelism, and defense of the faith to the glory of God. My hope and prayer is that your studies will help you intimately comprehend and experience the love God has for His people!

Until the Whole World Hears!

Joseph M. Holden, PhD, President & Co-founder

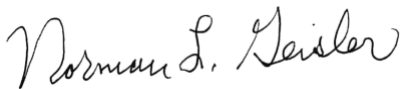
A WORD FROM OUR LATE CO-FOUNDER

If you are looking for a Bible-based, Christ-centered, and apologetically oriented training, Veritas International University offers classes from some of the best teachers in the field in the country. At VIU your faith will be grounded in the inerrancy of Scripture and nurtured in a relationship with Christ that will be modeled after His example of humility and self-sacrifice. Hosea said, my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). And this sad state in much of the church today is totally unnecessary. For at VIU you will be given knowledge of God, His Word, and understanding of the world in which we proclaim it.

It is our firm conviction that the church today must be both biblical and practical. It would be both anchored to the Rock and geared to the times. It should proclaim God's changeless truth in these changing times. We take seriously Paul's statement that, "I am put here for the defense of the gospel" (Philip. 1:16). In a day when serious doctrinal declension rocks the church, we are convinced that in the spiritual realm too, we cannot recognize a counterfeit unless we know the genuine.

With this in view, VIU offers a complete understanding of the whole counsel of God in Scripture and a systematic understanding of "sound doctrine" that the apostle Paul urged the church to pursue (2 Tim. 1:3; 4:3-4). For we are firmly convinced that we cannot recognize error unless we know the truth. Jesus said, "Your Word is truth" (Jn. 17:17). Indeed, he added, "I am the truth" (Jn. 14:6). So, whether it is in propositional form or in personal form, VIU is committed to convey and apply the truth of God to the church of God.

In His Service,



Norman L. Geisler, PhD
Co-founder
(1932 – 2019)



**VERITAS
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY**

ABOUT VIU

Statement of Purpose

Veritas International University has been established as an undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate institution seeking to honor Jesus Christ and His word through conservative scholarship and biblical exposition for the sole purpose of developing competent Christian men and women for spiritual leadership.

To fulfill this purpose, we seek to establish a community of learners who are devoted to Jesus Christ and His Body, the Church, within a Christian context of instruction of the inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God. This will provide student-learners with an academic opportunity that enables them to fulfill his or her goals as a Christian leader while developing a more profound worship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mission

Our mission is to equip Christian men and women to evangelize the world and defend the historic Christian faith through rigorous academic and devotional study of the inspired Scriptures. To accomplish this mission, all graduate instruction will emphasize the formation of a Christ-centered and biblical worldview based on God's truth as revealed in the Bible.

As a community of learners devoted to the mission of Jesus Christ and the furtherance of His Church, we seek to proclaim Christ's death and resurrection in a classical, biblically based environment. As our name suggests, we seek to create an educational atmosphere that fosters our mission.

Discovering truth (Veritas) in both general and special revelation, teaching the truth of the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God, defending the truth, and longing to cultivate a Christian worldview within all students who will in turn communicate these truths to others.

Our vision is to prepare a generation of spiritually mature, biblically equipped, academically advanced, and socially developed individuals for a life of opportunity and service to the glory of God.

VIU exists to help students develop their relationship with God through Jesus Christ, to discover and encourage their gifts, and to inspire each student to realize his or her full

potential in serving God in spirit and in truth. Therefore, our vision for VIU and for each student is conveyed through quality academic programs by:

- **Proclaiming** the good news of Jesus Christ through sound theological scholarship, expository teaching, and evangelism.
- **Equipping** those whom God has called for a life of service unto Him, cultivating a Christ-centered and biblical worldview.
- **Defending** the Christian faith against ancient and contemporary challenges to its viability, veracity, sufficiency, and reliability.

Philosophy of Education

Veritas International University believes that all truth finds its source in God (Jn. 14:6), whether it is discovered in general revelation (Ps. 19:1-6; Rom. 1:19-20; 2:15) or special revelation (Jn. 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16). Therefore, any education which seeks to discover the source and foundation for truth must have as its primary focus God Himself, since “in Him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col. 2:3). Therefore, Christian education integrates God’s truth into every discipline of life, so that there is not a dichotomy between secular truth and religious truth (Phil. 4:8). As redeemed individuals, we may know biblical and extra-biblical truth which provides spiritual and intellectual freedom (Jn. 8:32), while offering a bulwark against any tyranny over the minds and hearts of man (2 Cor. 10:4-5).

Christian education deals with teaching and learning based on the inspired Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16) and continual submission under the authority of the Bible; conducted by Christian teachers primarily for Christian students and empowered by the Holy Spirit bringing all truth into living relationship with the truth of the Word of God. Christian education integrates the whole of the student’s personality with a Bible-centered Christian worldview to enable the student to better serve and glorify God.

A Christian worldview acknowledges the existence of the triune personal God, the Maker of heaven and earth; man’s creation in the image of God, an image ruined by the fall beyond human power to repair, but not beyond God’s power to regenerate; the incarnation of God the Son, His death, burial and bodily resurrection; the Holy Spirit calling out of this present world a community of believers which is Christ’s Body, the Church; and the end of earthly history via the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

There is no Christian education without Christian teachers. Every teacher has a worldview that expresses the convictions by which he or she lives. The worldview of the teacher will gradually influence the worldview of the student. It is for this reason that good Christian

models are an absolute necessity for Christian education. Jesus spoke of fully developed disciples being like their teachers (Lk. 6:40). Therefore, a Christian teacher is one redeemed through Jesus Christ; conducting a pure life enabled by His Spirit; called and gifted to teach; and demonstrates the fruit of the Spirit.

Institutional Educational Objectives

- To develop the student's spiritual, moral, intellectual, and devotional understanding of God, His Son Jesus Christ, and the doctrines of orthodox Christianity.
- To develop in the student an awareness that worship of God involves the total life of faith and practice independent of one's circumstances or environment.
- To develop in the student a sense of awareness, responsibility, and engagement in church planting, evangelism, and global missions.
- To equip the student with the understanding necessary to skillfully and humbly defend the Christian faith and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world.
- To assist the student in developing a biblical worldview centered in Christ that will provide the interpretive framework through which to understand the world and provide enduring solutions to its problems.
- To increase the student's understanding of church and para-church ministry related to biblical studies, theological studies, and apologetics.
- To assist students in gaining an appreciation for Godly knowledge and wisdom, not as an end in itself, but as a means to clarifying, defending, and sharing the gospel with skill, and to help the student live the Christian life as a thoughtful individual.
- To help students embrace a life of Christian humility and sacrificial love, which are the greatest visible and relational testimonies one could offer fellow Christians and the world.

In order to achieve our goals, VIU will offer the student knowledge of God, His Word, and the world in which we proclaim it. It is our firm conviction that the church today must be both biblical and practical. That it would be both anchored to the Rock and geared to the times. It should proclaim God's changeless truth in these changing times. We take seriously, Paul's statement that "I am put here for the defense of the gospel" (Philip. 1:16). In a day when serious doctrinal declension permeates the church, we are convinced that in the spiritual realm too, we cannot recognize a counterfeit unless we know the genuine.

With this in view, we offer students a complete understanding of the whole counsel of God in Scripture and a systematic understanding of "sound doctrine" that the apostle Paul urged the church to pursue (2 Tim. 1:3; 4:3-4). For we are firmly convinced that we cannot recognize error or enable personal transformation unless we know and receive the truth.

Jesus said, "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth" (Jn. 17:17). Indeed, He added, "I am the truth" (Jn. 14:6). So, whether it is in propositional form or in personal form, VIU is committed to convey and apply the truth of God to the church of God.

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be prepared:

1. To interpret the Word of God in its own literary, historical, and theological settings with the relevance and meaning which leads to the formation of a biblical worldview.
2. To develop an apologetic response to the philosophies and movements that threaten the welfare of Christ's Church in the modern age.
3. To evaluate for biblical accuracy the theological resources of the church, including the creeds, confessions, sermons, and other historic documents.
4. To clearly articulate, debate, and teach sound theological beliefs in language consistent with Scripture for the purpose of spiritual growth, teaching, convincing, correcting, and instructing in righteousness.

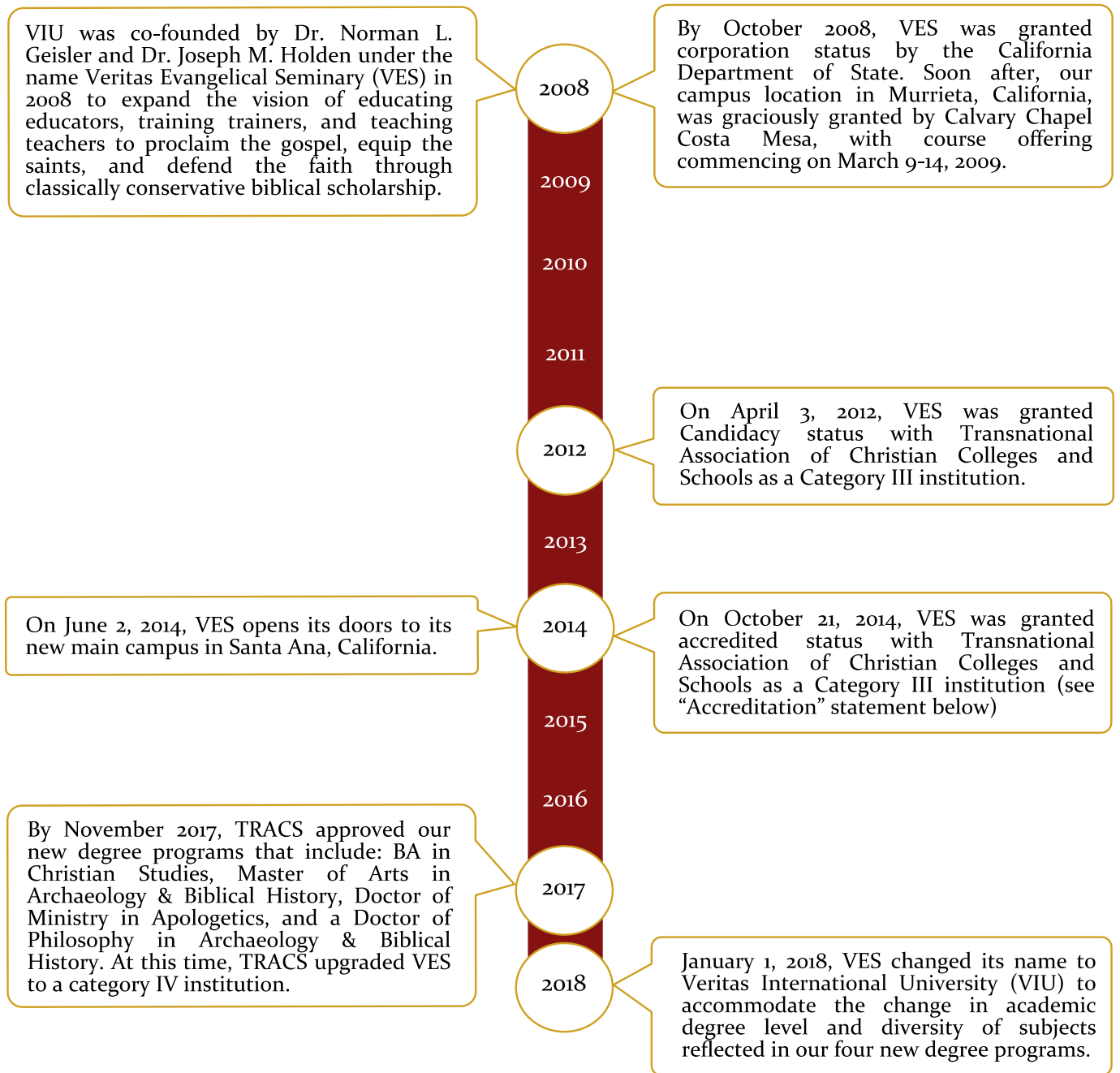
Servant Leadership

VIU emphasizes servant leadership among its faculty and students that is modeled after Jesus Christ and enabled by the Holy Spirit. A servant leader is one who has built his life on a biblical foundation and has developed character traits of sacrificial love and service to others (Mt. 23:11-12; Philip. 2:1-8; Jn. 13:12-17). Our conviction is that Veritas International University belongs to Jesus Christ. Therefore, we believe that faculty and students regardless of their academic pursuits must place love as their top priority (1 Cor. 13:1-2).

Servant leadership includes:

- Sacrificial love and respect for others.
- A commitment to both truth and love equally.
- Love that demonstrates in practical godly action and gracious communication.
- Genuine humility that flows from love.

VIU History



DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

I. Scripture

We believe the Bible is the Word of God, comprising the totality of Holy Scripture, is verbally inerrant in the original text, and remains inerrant, inspired, infallible, and sufficient in all its substance for salvation, sanctification, life and practice. Therefore, it is the supreme, final, and authoritative standard for faith, theology, and moral decisions. We seek to teach the Word of God in such a way that its message can be applied to an individual's life, leading that person to greater maturity in Christ. (VIU affirms the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy)

II. Historicity

We believe in the full historicity and comprehensibility of the biblical record of primeval history, including the literal existence of Adam and Eve as the progenitors of all people, the literal fall in the Garden of Eden and resultant divine curse on creation, the worldwide cataclysmic deluge, and the origin of the nations and languages at the tower of Babel.

III. God

We believe that the triune God eternally exists in one essence and three distinct persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; that He is essentially Spirit, personal, transcendent, sovereign, life, love, truth, almighty, simple (i.e., essentially one without parts), timelessly eternal, unchangeable, wise, just, holy, relational, pure actuality, dynamic, infallible in all things, including His foreknowledge of all future decisions and events, and that He created the heavens and the earth in six historical days.

IV. Creation

God is the Creator and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth and of every basic form of life according to the six historic days described in the book of Genesis (Gen. 1:1-2:3). The creation account is factual, historical, and is the foundation of our understanding of the created universe, God's power, and his glory (Psa. 19:1). Further, God exercises providential care for every life form in His creation (Mt. 6:25-33). And Christ is the conserving Cause of all things (Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:17). We reject theistic and naturalistic macroevolution as unbiblical, unjustifiable, and based on naturalistic assumptions. Further, by its denial of the biblical teaching on creation, it undermines many essential doctrines of the Christian Faith (cf. Gen. 1:27; Mt. 19:4-6; Rom. 5:12-14; 1 Cor. 11:8-9; 15:45). We also believe in a literal,

worldwide flood that destroyed the earth, animal life, and the human race, except for Noah and those he took in the ark with him (Gen. 6-9; Mt. 24:37-39; 1 Pet. 3:20).

V. Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human, possessing two distinct natures which are co-joined in one person; that He was miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless and miraculous life, provided for the atonement of our sins by His vicarious substitutionary death on the Cross, was physically resurrected in the same body that was buried in the tomb by the power of the Holy Spirit; that Jesus Christ physically ascended back to the right hand of God the Father in heaven, and ever lives to make intercession for us. After Jesus ascended to Heaven, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the believers in Jerusalem, enabling them to fulfill His command to preach the gospel to the entire world, an obligation shared by all believers today. (VIU affirms the Apostle's, Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds).

VI. Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead who seals, indwells, sanctifies, baptizes, teaches, empowers, reveals, and guides the believer into all truth. The Holy Spirit gives gifts to whom He wills, and ought to be exercised within scriptural guidelines. We as believers are to earnestly desire the best gifts, seeking to exercise them in love that the whole Body of Christ might be edified. We believe that love is more important than the most spectacular gifts, and without this love all exercise of spiritual gifts are worthless.

VII. Mankind

We believe that man is created in the image of God; however, after the fall of Adam and Eve, all people are by nature separated from God and responsible for their own sin, but that salvation, redemption, and forgiveness are offered as a free gift by the Lord Jesus Christ to all based on His grace alone. When a person repents of sin and receives Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord, trusting Him to save, that person is immediately born again and sealed by the Holy Spirit, all his/her sins are forgiven, and that person becomes a child of God, destined to spend eternity with the Lord.

VIII. Salvation

Salvation is initiated, attained, and procured by God through the death of Christ on the cross for our sins and His resurrection from the dead. The salvation Christ offers is available

to all and is received freely by grace alone and through faith in Christ alone, apart from good works, thereby justifying and sealing the believer by the Holy Spirit.

IX. The Church

The universal Church is an organic body composed of all believers, both living and dead, who have been sealed by the Holy Spirit through faith in Jesus Christ for salvation. The church has the responsibility to worship the Lord and share the good news of Christ's death and resurrection to the world, making disciples, baptizing believers, and teaching them to observe sound doctrine and live a morally pure life. We believe church government should be simple rather than a complex bureaucracy, with the utmost dependence upon the Holy Spirit to lead, rather than on fleshly promotion or worldly wisdom. The Lord has given the church two ordinances which are to continue until He returns — adult baptism by immersion and Holy Communion. Water baptism is not necessary for salvation, and cannot remove sins, but is a picture of the salvation already received by the believer. We believe the only true basis of Christian fellowship is Christ's sacrificial agape love, which is greater than any secondary differences we possess, and without which we have no right to claim ourselves Christians.

X. Worship

We believe worship of God should be spiritual. Therefore, we remain flexible and yielded to the leading of the Holy Spirit to direct our worship. We believe worship of God should be inspirational. Therefore, we give great place to music in our worship. We believe worship of God should be intelligent. Therefore, our gatherings are designed with great emphasis upon the teaching of the Word of God that He might instruct us how He should be worshiped. We believe the worship of God should be fruitful. Therefore, we look for His love in our lives as the supreme manifestation that we have been truly worshiping God in spirit and truth.

XI. Christ's Return

We await the imminent rapture of the church and the second coming of Christ which will be physical, personal, visible, and premillennial. This motivates us to evangelism, holy living, heart-felt worship, committed service, diligent study of God's Word, and regular fellowship.

XII. Eternity

We believe those who are saved by Jesus Christ will spend eternity with Christ in heaven in a conscious state of blessedness, reward, and satisfaction; that those who do not personally receive the finished work of Christ by faith will spend eternity separated from God in a state of conscious torment.

XIII. Satan

We believe there is a real personal devil of great malevolence, cunning and power, who seeks to deceive, tempt, kill, steal and destroy, yet his power is limited by God to only what God permits him to do; that the devil has been defeated positionally at the cross of Christ, and will be defeated practically at Christ's glorious second coming which will eventuate in the permanent quarantine and punishment of the Devil, Beast, and False Prophet, in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone.

XIV. Marriage and Sexuality

We believe marriage is between one biological man and one biological woman only, and the marriage bed is undefiled. Sexual relationships outside the bonds of heterosexual marriage are both unbiblical and immoral. We also believe that the intentional confusion/blurring of genders and functions/manners naturally and uniquely given to men and women distort God's established order - which functionally places man as the head of woman, Christ the head of man, and God the Father the head of Christ.

XV. We Reject:

1. The belief that true Christians can be demon possessed and are helpless against the craft and wiles of the Devil;
2. Any philosophy or theology which denies that human freewill can be exercised in the receiving of Christ's free gift of salvation; specifically, we reject the belief that Jesus's atonement was limited in its extent, instead, we believe that He died for all unrighteous people and that any perceived limitation rests in one's free rejection of Christ's finished work of atonement, and we reject the assertion that God's wooing grace cannot be resisted or that He has elected some people to go to hell; instead we believe that anyone who wills to come to Christ may do so freely as a result of the Holy Spirit's conviction and wooing persuasion of the heart;
3. "Positive confession," (e.g., the Faith Movement, that views faith as a force that can create one's own reality or that God can be commanded to heal or work miracles according to man's will and faith);
4. Human prophecy that supersedes, or is contrary to, the Scripture;

5. Any introduction of psychology and philosophy which is contrary to Scripture and is in substance “according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ” into biblical teaching;
6. “Open Theism” or “Freewill Theism” which reduces God’s timeless, unchanging, dynamic nature, and exhaustive foreknowledge of future free decisions, to creaturely modes of being and operation;
7. The “Emergent Church” movement insofar as it departs from the historic orthodox Christian doctrines in favor of postmodernism;
8. The Contemplative Prayer (CP) and Spirituality movement insofar as it incorporates alien eastern philosophies of religion, pantheism, and panentheism into a believer's communication with God, or the "emptying" of the mind and the vain repetition of words;
9. The overemphasis of spiritual gifts, experiential signs and wonders to the exclusion of biblical teaching.
10. The attempt by anyone (including Christian scholars and academic institutions) to utilize critical theories of understanding and genre classification of the Scriptures which leads to relativizing and/or dehistoricizing of the biblical text.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Veritas International University is committed to education for Christian leadership. The University also aims to encourage students to develop spiritually with an awareness of ethical and moral issues, and to be resolute regarding their own responsibility for upholding and strengthening Christian standards of behavior. Students are expected to live a life that reflects a firm commitment to Jesus Christ and the Word of God and students should be maturing in Christ and manifesting the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22, 23). VIU expects tangible evidence of mature Christian convictions and discerning judgment.

Students are expected to obey applicable local, state, and federal laws as well as the policies of the University. As they desire rights and responsibilities for themselves, they are expected to respect the rights and responsibilities of others. For infractions of laws, regulations, policies, and standards, students may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the institution. Such disciplinary action may be imposed for violations that occur off campus (including through social media) when the violation may have an adverse effect on the educational mission of the University.

Code of Conduct

Student conduct must conform to VIU rules and regulations. If a Student Code of Conduct violation occurs while a student is enrolled, he or she may be disciplined for one or more of the following causes that are University related. These categories of behavior are not exhaustive, but are examples of sufficient grounds for discipline, including but not limited to the removal, suspension, or expulsion of the student. Other misconduct not listed may also result in discipline if reasonable cause exists.

- Academic dishonesty, such as cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University.
- Forgery, alteration or misuse of University documents, records, or identification.
- Obstruction or disruption of instructional, counseling, administrative, or other authorized University activities.
- Assault or battery, abuse or any threat of force or violence or hazing directed toward any person on VIU owned or leased property, or VIU sponsored or supervised functions, or conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person anywhere.
- Theft of or willful damage to VIU property or theft of or willful damage to property of a member of the VIU community, such as visitors, students, or employees of the University on University property or at an authorized VIU activity.

- Unauthorized entry onto or use of VIU facilities.
- Violation of University rules or regulations including University policies concerning student organization, use of VIU facilities, or the time, place, and manner of student expression.
- Use, possession, or distribution of alcoholic beverages, illicit narcotics, or controlled substances on campus or presence on University property or at a VIU authorized event while under the influence thereof.
- Willful failure to comply with directions of VIU officials, including faculty and staff action in the performance of their duties.
- Disorderly, lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct, expression, or language on VIU owned or leased property or at University sponsored or supervised functions.
- Verbal abuse in any way that causes defamation or character assassination.
- Possession or use of any item used to threaten bodily harm to any person on VIU property or at a University function.
- Misrepresentation of oneself or an organization to be an agent of the University.
- Conduct that is in violation of federal, state, or local laws or ordinances while on University premises or at VIU sponsored activities.
- Abuse of computer facilities or use of computers for anything other than authorized course related work.
- Failure to return school properties such as projectors, screens, books, teaching materials and any such things that had been loaned for the purpose of teaching or other use after receiving three notices of such failure to return such items.
- Students are required to adhere to VIU “zero-tolerance” sexual harassment policy.

Student Complaint Policy

Informal complaints. The purpose of the informal complaint process is to encourage a student who has a complaint to speak directly with the University employee most responsible for the situation that is the cause of complaint. The student should do this in a timely manner (within 14 days) and it is the hope of VIU that the problem may be solved with dialogue. A majority of issues are resolved at this stage with calm, rational dialogue and Christ-like demeanor. If the conversation does not bring a satisfactory response, or if it is not appropriate for the student to speak with the employee, the student should speak with the Dean of Students or the Academic Dean, who can assist them in presenting their informal complaint.

Formal complaints. The purpose of filing a formal complaint is to allow both parties due process in resolving an issue that has not been settled informally. The Dean of Students or the Academic Dean serve as the Student complaint officers for VIU and will advise the student through the formal complaint process.

Writing the formal complaint letter. Formal complaints must be addressed in writing to the Dean of Students or the Academic Dean. It is advisable (although not required) for

students to meet with one of the deans to discuss the matter prior to writing the letter. The written complaint must be clear and organized, explain the situation in detail and must be dated and signed.

The dean will send a copy of the complaint letter to the person named in the complaint (the respondent) and the respondent's supervisor. The respondent is normally required to respond in writing to the dean about the student complaint within 10 working days of receiving the letter.

After the dean receives the response from the respondent, a written decision from the dean will be sent to the student as well as the respondent. Both letters, and any other documentation, will be used in the decision-making process.

Meeting together to reach a solution. If the written response does not resolve the complaint, the Dean of Students or the Academic Dean can call the parties together for a conference where the two parties can talk face to face (or if this is not practical, over the phone) in an atmosphere of fairness and cooperative problem solving. This meeting will include the student, the respondent, the respondent's supervisor, and the dean. The student may bring an advocate if desired.

Appeals process. The student may request a meeting with the President, if the complaint is not resolved at the conference level. The president will be given a copy of all documentation related to the situation prior to the meeting. A written decision from the President's office normally will be rendered within 10 working days of the meeting and will be sent to the student. The decision of the President is final.

It is important to note that the complaint policy is only for complaints not addressed by other stated policies. For information regarding issues or concerns that are not covered by this process (such as issues of sexual harassment, grade appeals, etc.) please refer to the VIU Student Handbook.

Outside Assistance

Should a student need further assistance or clarification regarding a complaint, or should they need to inform the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), they may contact TRACS at: TRACS 15935 Forest Road Forest, VA 24551 Tel: (434) 525-9539.

Sexual Harassment

Veritas International University strives to maintain an environment where students and employees can study, work, and live free of harassment. All complaints of harassment should be reported promptly to the President. A full investigation will be conducted immediately and confidentially, and a determination of appropriate action will be made.

Veritas International University (interchangeably referred to herein as “VIU” or “the University”) is committed to providing a work environment free of “unlawful harassment.” VIU policy prohibits “unlawful harassment” as specifically defined and limited to sexual harassment or harassment based on pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, color, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, or any other basis protected by federal, state, or local law or ordinance or regulation, except as permissible and exempt under such laws, ordinances or regulations for religious organizations or seminaries such as VIU.

The VIU anti-harassment policy applies to all persons involved in the operation of the University and its ministries and prohibits unlawful harassment by any employee of VIU, including supervisors and coworkers. It also prohibits unlawful harassment based on the perception that anyone has any of those defined characteristics or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those defined characteristics.

Prohibited unlawful harassment includes, but is not limited to, the following behavior:

Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, slurs or unwanted sexual advances, invitations, or comments; Visual displays such as derogatory and/or sexually-oriented posters, photography, cartoons, drawings, or gestures; Physical conduct including assault, unwanted touching, intentionally blocking normal movement or interfering with work because of sex, race, or any other protected and non-exempt basis; Threats and demands to submit to sexual requests as a condition of continued employment, or to avoid some other loss, and offers of employment benefits in return for sexual favors; and Retaliation for reporting or threatening to report harassment.

If you believe that you have been unlawfully harassed, submit a written complaint to your own or any other University supervisor, the president, or the administration department of VIU as soon as possible after the incident. Your complaint should include details of the incident or incidents, names of the individuals involved, and names of any witnesses. Supervisors will refer all harassment complaints to the administration department, or the president of the University. The University will immediately undertake an effective, thorough, and objective investigation of the harassment allegations.

If VIU determines that unlawful harassment has occurred, effective remedial action will be taken in accordance with the circumstances involved. Any employee determined by VIU to be responsible for unlawful harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, up to, and including termination. A University representative will advise all parties concerned of the results of the investigation. VIU will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint and will not tolerate or permit retaliation by leadership, employees or coworkers.

VIU Main Campus

Residential classrooms and VIU administrative offices are located in heart of Orange County at 3000 W. Macarthur Blvd., KWAVE Building, Second Floor, Santa Ana, CA 92704. The site is strategically located between the 405 and 55 freeways, just 10 minutes from John Wayne Airport (SNA), minutes from South Coast Plaza, hotels, and only 20 minutes to the white-sand shores of Newport Beach. Each residential course offered on the main campus will be held in a classroom equipped with projectors, whiteboard, desks and chairs, and recording and/or streaming capabilities.

Satellite Teaching Site

VIU has one approved satellite teaching site where up to 49% of your degree program may be completed. The remaining portion of your degree program may be fulfilled through distance learning or in residence at the VIU main campus. The site is located at Trinity Southwest University (76 Jefferson NE Suite 28, Albuquerque, NM 87109). Schedules are posted on the VIU website prior to the semester, and course offerings at this site are limited.

Disability Accommodations at the Facility

The VIU main campus provides ample handicap parking throughout the facility as well as elevators and ramps for wheelchair access. All buildings at the main campus are handicapped accessible, including parking sidewalks, library, administrative offices, computer lab, auditorium/sanctuary, and classrooms. Should you have any questions regarding handicap access at the VIU main campus please contact the Student Services Department directly (info@ves.edu).

ADMISSION POLICY

VIU seeks to admit students who have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as their Savior. Each applicant must read, understand, and agree with the current Doctrinal Statement of Faith, respecting its statements and commitments. Enrollment into the VIU's academic programs is open to any Christian student who is academically and spiritually qualified to pursue rigorous study to better serve the church in Christian ministry and engage in academic research.

Degree Programs. The prerequisite for admission to the undergraduate program is a high school diploma or GED. Entry to the VIU graduate program requires a Bachelors degree in any subject. Admission to the doctoral programs is an appropriate Masters degree as delineated in the program's description. The student's undergraduate grade point average should be above average, at least 3.0 G.P.A. for graduate and post-graduate admission. The spiritual requirements for admission involve demonstrating an unwavering commitment to Christ and the inspired and inerrant Scriptures, having consistent Christian character, utilizing one's spiritual gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ and your professional vocation, and yielding to the Holy Spirit's call to service and Christian growth.

Certificate Programs. The certificate programs are available to those who do not meet the academic criteria, or who do not desire admission into the degree programs. If students in the certificate program eventually fulfill the undergraduate requirements for admission into the degree program after they have begun (or graduating from) the certificate program, all certificate units earned will be transferable into the student's degree program upon (1) the payment of any difference between graduate and certificate tuition and (2) the submission of the student's official transcripts to the VIU Registrar. Students seeking admission to the certificate program should have demonstrated previous pastoral or leadership skills for Christian ministry. In addition, applicants should have completed approximately two years of an undergraduate program or the equivalent. Admission into a program does not automatically mean acceptance into candidacy for the degree/certificate. The student must satisfactorily complete their respective programs according to academic catalog guidelines with a grade point average of 2.5 or better. Then, the student may apply for candidacy in their degree or certificate program.

Candidacy must be applied for no later than January 1 in the year of your graduation.

Academic Periods of Enrollment/Terms

Courses begun during the calendar year (January through December) are designated by their respective semester "Term" listed as follows:

- Winter Term: second week of December through the end of January
- Spring Term: February through May
- Summer Term: June through August
- Fall Term: last week of August through the second week of December

Residential courses. Residential courses will be offered 1-week residential module courses up to ten times per year (see Academic Calendar for dates) on campus from 6:00pm – 9:30pm. After the module’s 1-week of in-class instruction is complete, the student has 14 additional weeks to complete all remaining coursework at a distance. All courses will be held at our Orange County Campus located at: 3000 W. MacArthur Blvd, Suite 207, Santa Ana, CA 92704 or at our satellite teaching site in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Distance Learning. All distance-learning fall and spring terms (except the DMin, PhD, and arranged courses, which are 15-weeks in length) are fulfilled through two 7-week terms each semester (e.g., Fall 1 and Fall 2, and Spring 1 and Spring 2). Each 7-week term acts as an accelerated semester. An enrollment period of one-week will always immediately precede the beginning of the 7-week term.

Admission and Application Procedures

Prior to enrolling for courses at Veritas International University, all prospective students must complete and submit an application for admission packet and have been admitted into the University. Applications for admission will be considered when all of the following materials have been received:

1. An original completed application form (no copies) which includes signature, one passport style photo, liability waiver, official academic transcripts, and three references (one from your pastor and two others from non-family members).
2. Personal biography of approximately 1000 words describing your conversion, personal strengths and weaknesses, spiritual gifts, and purpose for attending VIU. In addition, include in your essay a description of your understanding of the: 1) nature of God, 2) the nature of Christ and 3) the necessary requirements for salvation.
3. Non-refundable admission application fee of \$50.00 (*payable to: Veritas International University*) for each application submitted.

Though applications may be submitted at any time during the year, once the application is complete, allow for two-four weeks to process. The applicant will be notified by letter and/or email of the status of acceptance into a specific program. The student is responsible for periodically checking the Academic Calendar for course offerings and time-periods.

VIU 2021-2022 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall 2021	
Fall Semester Orientation & Final Registration (Residential)	August 19
Fall Semester Courses Begin	August 30
Distance Learning (DL) Term 1 Begins	August 30 – October 15 (7-weeks)
Residential Module Course	August 30 – September 3
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL Term 1	September 6
Last Day to Officially Withdraw Residential Courses	September 17
Residential Module Course	October 11-16
Distance Learning Term 2 Registration	October 18-22
Distance Learning Term 2 Begins	October 25 (7-weeks)
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL Term 2	November 12
Residential Module	November 15-20
Thanksgiving Break	November 24–26
Last Day of Fall Classes	December 17
Graduation Commencement	December 17 (if necessary)
Winter 2022	
Residential Module Course	January 10–15
Spring 2022	
Spring Final Registration (Residential)	January 28
Spring Semester Begins	January 31
Distance Learning Term 1 Begins	January 31 (7-weeks)
Residential Module Course	January 31-February 5
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL Term 1	February 7
Last Day to Officially Withdraw	February 18
Residential Module Course	February 28 – March 5
Distance Learning Term 2 Registration	March 21–25
Distance Learning Term 2 Begins	March 28 (7-weeks)
Residential Module Course	March 28 – April 2
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL Term 2	April 4
Easter Break	April 18–22
VIU National Apologetics Conference	March/April TBD
Last Day of Class/Graduation	May 27/May 27
Summer 2022	
Distance Education (DE) Summer Term	June 20–July 23 (7-weeks)
Distance Education (DE) Summer Term	June 20-October 3 (15-weeks)
Residential Summer Module Courses	July 11-16 (1-week in class/15-weeks total)

Application checklist for all students:

- Completed admission application with signature
- One passport-style photo
- Signed VIU Liability Waiver
- VIU Student Handbook Signature Page
- Official academic transcripts (academic credit/certificate students only)
- Three references (one from your pastor and two others from non-family members)
- Personal statements of conversion, your strengths, weaknesses, gifts, doctrinal essay and purpose for attending VIU (c. 1000 words max)
- Non-refundable admission application fee of \$50.00 for each application submitted (make check payable to: Veritas International University)

Send completed application to:

Veritas International University
C/O Admissions Department
3000 W. MacArthur Blvd
KWAVE Building, Suite 207
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Audit and Personal Enrichment

Students who do not desire to take a course for graduate credit or who do not meet the academic prerequisites may audit any course upon payment of the course fee in addition to the registration fee. “Academic Audit” students (which means the “Audit” mark will be placed on the student’s official transcripts) are required to complete the admission packet and submit their \$50.00 application fee, though they are not required to complete a personal biography, nor send references or transcripts of prior academic study. Academic Audit students may enroll in courses at the rate of \$215.00 per course and \$30 per course registration fee. If you are a “Personal Enrichment” student (means no academic mark of “Audit” will be recorded), you do not need to complete the application for admission, but simply enroll in the desired course at a rate of \$165.00 per course and \$30.00 per course registration fee. Personal Enrichment courses may also be fulfilled at a distance by requesting set of the lectures on a USB flash drive, the cost per course is \$325.00 per course. Only the USB drive will be sent to the learner, no instructor interaction is provided.

Audit students may attend residential course lectures but may not participate in class discussions, ask questions, participate in exams, or submit coursework for grading unless otherwise stated by the professor. All distance learning Academic Audit students must

submit notes taken from video lectures in order to receive audit credit. Academic Audit resident students must attend at least 80% of the course lectures to receive credit.

Non-Degree Credit Applicants

Prospective students not desiring admission into a graduate degree program and are seeking graduate credit may apply for non-degree credit status. Admission to the non-degree credit status requires the same application requirements as audit student applications. Students admitted under this provision may complete a maximum of three (3) courses under this status before they must apply for a graduate program to continue courses. Credits earned under this provision are valid for six (6) years before entering a degree program. Before full admission to the graduate program is granted, the student must submit academic transcripts, references, and full personal biography.

Limitation on Acceptance

After acceptance into the University, each student has approximately one year to begin taking courses (enrollment). If the year expires prior to enrolling in your first course, the student must submit a new application for admission with fees.

Provisional Admission

Any prospective student who does not meet the undergraduate or graduate G.P.A. or admission requirements may be granted a provisional admission. The student must maintain a minimal 2.5 G.P.A. (undergraduate level) and 3.0 (graduate and doctoral level) for nine (9) units of course instruction in order to be granted full admission to the program.

English Language Requirement

Applicants who are not native English speakers are required to submit satisfactory TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) scores taken within the last two years prior to the date of application. Satisfactory scores for computer-based test is 265 or better, and the paper-based score should be 600 or better. Please have official scores sent to the University. More information regarding TOEFL can be obtained at TOEFL, P.O. Box 61512, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151, USA or www.toefl.org.

Foreign Students

VIU is currently not accepting foreign students into the resident program due to governmental visa restrictions. However, foreign students are encouraged to apply to the distance learning program. VIU is moving towards gaining authorization to admit foreign students on campus. Foreign students who have been naturalized in the United States as evidence by the possession of a “Green Card” may apply for admission to the residence program.

Evaluation of Foreign Undergraduate Degrees

Students who have received their undergraduate degrees from a foreign college or university, and who wish to be admitted to VIU graduate programs, may have their credit units considered for transfer on an individual basis by the Registrar. However, students must submit to the VIU Registrar a full evaluation of their foreign undergraduate degree from: Foreign Credential Service of America or International Educational Equivalency Evaluation Services, Inc. Students may obtain transcript evaluation forms at foreigncredentials.org or iacei.net. The criteria for accepting transfer credits will be to ascertain, as nearly as possible, the course equivalents at an American University, using the policies stated in this catalog.

International Student Relief Program (ISRP)

In an effort to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ worldwide and to equip the saints to defend the faith abroad VIU has established the International Student Program (ISRP). The ISP Fund has been established to provide tuition reduction for prospective foreign students who desire to pursue a graduate or certificate program at Veritas International University through completing external studies courses from their home country. The ISRP program is made possible by the generous support of those who desire to partner with VIU to equip financially underprivileged Christians worldwide, including those living in Mexico, Africa, India, and the Far and Middle East. Eligible foreign students must reside in third-world countries or territories characterized by poverty and have a financial need. Students desiring to be admitted to VIU under this program must submit 1) a completed application for admission 2) proof of foreign residence/ citizenship (birth certificate or passport) and 3) financial need by submitting a detailed explanation of your personal finances 4) pastoral and general references. Admission to this program does not constitute admission to the resident program. All ISRP course should be completed through distance learning online unless otherwise approved due to lack of internet capabilities.

The current 2020-2021 ISRP graduate tuition and fees schedule is \$320.00 per course plus registration (\$30) and technology fees (\$50). This includes tuition and registration fees. ISRP students are responsible for acquiring their own textbooks and research materials. All transactions are in U.S. dollars and there are no refunds.

Visiting Student Status

Visiting Student status is granted to those students who seek to take courses for credit at VIU for the sole purpose of transferring course credit to another institution. The visiting student application does not require references, personal biography, or transcripts. It is the sole responsibility of the student to discover the transferability of course credit to their desired school. Visiting student status should not be construed as admission into any VIU academic program.

Re-entering Student

Those students who have officially withdrawn from VIU, or those who have otherwise become inactive for twelve (12) consecutive months, may return to classes within one year of the official or unofficial withdraw without the required reinstating procedures or the \$50.00 fee. If the student returns within three (3) years after withdrawing, he/she may enter under the same catalog he/she was originally under. After three years absence, the returning student must re-apply for admission under the current catalog.

Leave of Absence

A student in good academic standing and intending to take a leave of absence may petition the faculty via the Academic Dean's Office. Please obtain a "Leave of Absence Form" from the Registrar. The student should also schedule an appointment with the Registrar at the time of submission of the form to ensure that all matters are in order. A leave may be granted for up to two semesters. Leaves are not normally granted for more than one academic year.

A Leave of Absence may be granted for personal, financial, medical, or other reasons, but the expectation is that the student will return to his or her program within the timeframe indicated on the form. A Leave of Absence beyond one academic year is considered withdrawal from the University, and the student must reapply with no guarantee of readmission or continuance under the former academic catalog.

Dismissal and Re-Admission Policies

VIU reserves the right at any time to place on probation, suspend, or dismiss a student whose academic standing, financial obligations, progress, doctrinal position, social media

interaction, or conduct is not deemed as satisfactory by the administration. If for whatever reason a student is dismissed by the institution and subsequently desires to reenter the University, he/she must resubmit his application to VIU.

VIU DEGREE PROGRAMS

Veritas International University academic programs are open to mature Christian men and women who are academically and spiritually qualified. Spiritual qualifications are demonstrated through pastoral and general references included in the student's admission packet as well as their signed agreement with the VIU Doctrinal Statement. The program involves research and study in specified fields pertaining to Bible, theology, archaeology, apologetics, philosophy, and pastoral studies, which requires the student's time and diligence in order to complete (2 Tim. 2:15).

Each program of study emphasizes an evangelical understanding of classical theology and biblical inerrancy in line with the Chicago Statements produced by the International Council of Biblical Inerrancy (ICBI).

Students will be admitted to a VIU degree/certificate program which offers a number of academic outcomes depending on your chosen course of study that may be completed in as little as two, three or four years of study. Each degree program offered at VIU concentrates on the evangelistic and apologetic nature of each major studied. Veritas approaches apologetics and theology from a classical perspective, bringing all truth discovered in special and general revelation to each topic studied. Ultimately, during the student's time at VIU, he/she is expected to develop and strengthen a comprehensive biblical worldview that unites the head (mind) and heart (will) together under Christ and His word.

Resident Program

The resident program requirements are primarily fulfilled at our Orange County (CA) campus, though there are a limited number of courses offered at our satellite teaching site (Albuquerque). All 2 and 3-unit courses are primarily taught in traditional 15-week fall and spring semesters, supplemented by one-week module courses four times per year. Traditional semester courses meet once per week, in the evening from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. No more than one (1) module course will be offered during the fall and spring semesters, the other two modules will be offered during the winter and summer breaks. Unlike our intensive module courses that meet for four hours each evening for one week, Monday through Friday (6:00pm—10:00pm), and seven hours on Saturday (9:00am—4:00pm). Each module course has 27 hours of in-class meeting time, with the remainder of the course being fulfilled over the next 14-weeks through distance learning (outside the classroom) research and testing through substantive and regular interaction with the professor. All

assignments are outlined in the course syllabus. By the end of your course all assignments must be postmarked and submitted to your professor for grading.

Distance Learning Program (Non-Resident)

VIU offers interactive graduate distance learning courses through an online 7-week format (DMin program is 15-weeks). The non-resident distance program consists of two 7-week modules per semester (Fall 1 and 2, and Spring 1 and 2) and one 7-week term per summer. The two terms held in fall or in spring are separated by a one-week enrollment period. Distance courses are fulfilled through the VIU online learning platform POPULI.

Undergraduate. The undergraduate (Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies) may be completed entirely by distance learning without residency requirement, though undergraduate students are welcome to enroll in on-campus graduate courses (though students would receive an undergraduate syllabus). In addition to coursework, the undergraduate distance program relies on substantive interaction and discussion opportunities with the instructor and peers as coursework is completed over a 7-week period. After each 7-week period (one week) is complete an enrollment period follows.

Graduate. Graduate level distance learning courses include pre-recorded streaming video lectures with the exact same lectures given in the residential courses, as well as weekly discussion board interaction with peers and instructor. Students may enroll in distance learning courses during set enrollment periods before each term begins. Like the undergraduate distance program, the graduate level distance program follows the two 7-week terms each fall (Fall 1 and 2) and two 7-week terms in spring (Spring 1 and 2) format. Graduate programs may be completed entirely through distance education.

Doctoral. Doctor of Ministry courses may be completed entirely at a distance as well. Unlike the undergraduate and graduate level distance courses, all Doctor of Ministry distance courses are 15-weeks in length. PhD courses can also be completed at a distance (except fieldwork excavation courses) and will also be 15-weeks in length.

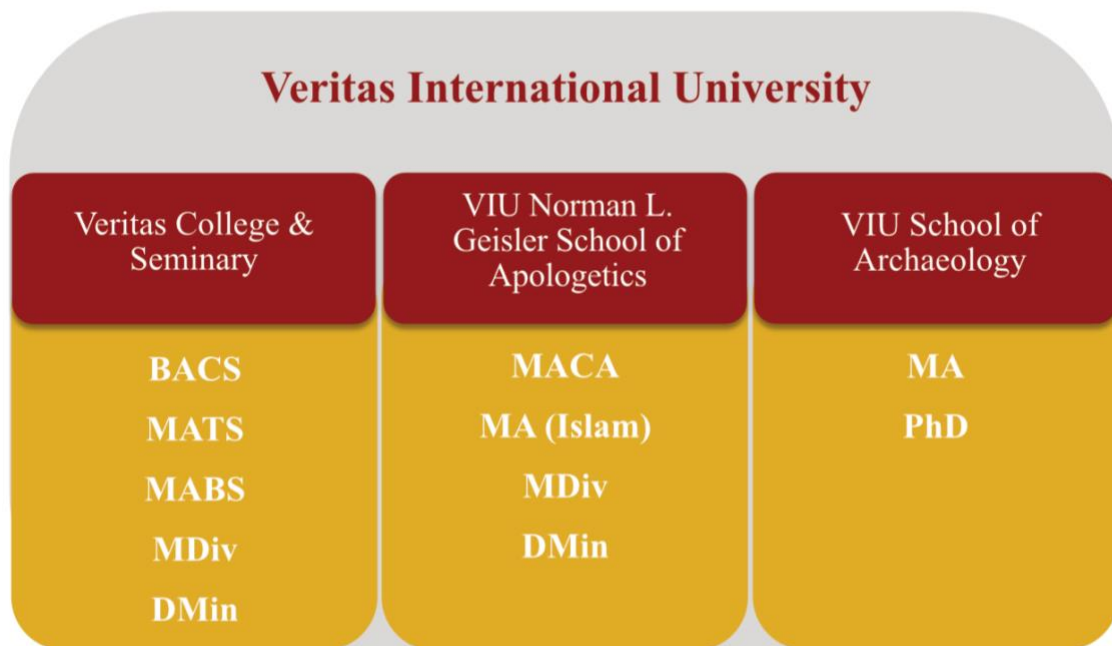
Arranged courses are also available to all students (on every level of study) who need certain courses not offered regularly. Contact the Registrar to arrange these special courses.

VIU Degrees & Academic Flow Chart

VIU contains three schools in which eleven (11) undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate degree programs are offered. They are Veritas College & Seminary, VIU School of Archaeology, and the VIU Norman L. Geisler School of Apologetics. Each school is part of the university, emphasizing their respective areas of study that includes Christian studies, biblical studies, theological studies, near eastern archaeology and biblical history, apologetics, and pastoral studies. Offering residential and distance learning options for each program makes VIU courses of study flexible, affordable and convenient. VIU offers the following degree programs:

- **Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (BACS)** – 120 semester credit hours
- **Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS)** – 36 semester credit hours
- **Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History (MAABH)** – 48 semester credit hours
- **Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics (MACA)** – 48 semester credit hours
- **Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam (MAPI)** – 36 semester credit hours
- **Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (MABS)** – 48 semester credit hours
- **Master of Divinity in Biblical Studies (MDiv)** – 78 semester credit hours
- **Master of Divinity in Apologetics (MDiv)** – 78 semester credit hours
- **Doctor of Ministry (w/concentration) (DMin)** – 36 semester credit hours
- **Doctor of Ministry in Apologetics (DMin)** – 36 semester credit hours
- **Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology & Biblical History (PhD)** – 42 semester credit hours

VIU Institutional & Academic Flow





Veritas College & Seminary



VERITAS COLLEGE & SEMINARY

The Veritas College & Seminary (VCA) offers four academic degree programs:

- **Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (B.A.C.S)**
- **Master of Arts in Theological Studies (M.A.T.S.)**
- **Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (M.A.B.S.)**
- **Master of Divinity in Biblical Studies (M.Div.)**
- **Doctor of Ministry (w/concentration)(D.Min.)**

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies

Program Description

This highly flexible Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (BACS) program is a 120-unit professional degree designed to be completed in 4-years of full-time study entirely from your own home without residency requirement. The program provides basic undergraduate knowledge to those seeking to be involved in church and/or missionary related ministry, and to those who seek to pursue a graduate degree in the future.

The program also offers a broad foundation for ministry involving theology, church history, biblical studies, apologetics, general education and interdisciplinary elective courses. In addition to the academic curriculum, practical ministry Church/Mission (CM) experiences are required during the program (see catalog).

Student Learning Outcomes

- To describe the basic contents and message of each Old and New Testament book.
- To describe the basic doctrines of Christianity and the major events of church history.
- To describe and defend an understanding of the Christian worldview, especially as it relates to other philosophical worldviews and religions.
- To describe the basic elements of general education courses.

Degree Completion Program

The FLEX degree completion program is designed for students with prior college credit but do not possess a Bachelors degree. Mature students without college credit, but who have prior learning are also encouraged to apply. Applicants may seek Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) that may be evaluated through Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) for a fee (\$75 per

course). Those with sufficient prior learning must demonstrate their knowledge by completing an undergraduate exam(s) administered by VIU covering the various block areas of study within the BACS program such as Religion and Culture, Theology, and Biblical Studies. Successful completion of the exam(s) would result in the award of up to 18 semester credits per block. Sometimes there may be more than one exam for a given block of courses.

Admission Requirements

The academic prerequisite for this degree program is a high school diploma, GED or equivalent with a minimum GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. The BACS degree program calls for students who demonstrate a potential for ministry, a faithful commitment to the Word of God, a heart for Christian service, and the personal discipline necessary to complete degree requirements. See the Application for Admission for further requirements.

Program Requirements

Each student is required to successfully complete the 120-unit program with a GPA of 2.0 or better and be recommended by the faculty for graduation. In addition, a minimum of 30 semester units must be successfully completed through VIU.

Transfer Credit

Students may transfer into the program up to 90 semester units previously earned at VIU or another institution. These units may be transferred at any time by sending official academic transcripts to the VIU Registrar. Only comparable courses, not specifically vocational or technical, that are 100 level and higher with a grade of C- or better, are eligible for transfer. VIU also accepts A.C.E. transcripts, CLEP and AP exams for alternative credit. Additional admission requirements are found in the VIU Academic Catalog and on the Application for Admission.

Advanced Standing

Graduates of the BACS program will have advanced standing (i.e., receive up to 12-units of courses applied to your VIU MACA, MABS, MDiv, and up to 9 units toward the MATS degree) upon admission into the VIU graduate program. The courses that qualify are listed below with an asterisk. Students may also attend these courses *in residence* as they are offered in the graduate program at the OC campus.

Mode of Delivery and Time to Complete

The BACS program is fulfilled through distance-learning format without a residency requirement. Though not mandatory, students may register for optional on-campus graduate courses. In this case, the student would receive an undergraduate syllabus.

A typical distance-learning course may include:

1. Reading assignments
2. Discussion posts/responses
3. Research paper
4. Exam and/or quizzes
5. Some courses may require you to view pre-recorded video (or audio) lectures

Students will have two enrollment periods to register for Fall courses (Fall 1 and Fall 2) and two enrollment periods for Spring courses (Spring 1 and Spring 2). Summer terms are also available. Each Fall 1 and 2 and Spring 1 and 2 terms are 7-weeks in length to complete all coursework, followed by a 1-week enrollment period (see below). Courses may be completed in any order (only biblical language courses have prerequisites; e.g. Greek I must be completed prior to Greek II). Coursework must be submitted to your instructor by the published syllabus course end date. Students will have a maximum of 8-years to complete BACS the program.

Course Enrollment Periods

Students may register for courses during the open enrollment periods that precede the term.

- **Fall 1:** 7-week term starting in August
Fall 2 Enrollment Period (1-week)
- **Fall 2:** 7-week term starting in October
Spring 1 Enrollment Period
- **Spring 1:** 7-week term starting in February
Spring 2 Enrollment Period (1-week)
- **Spring 2:** 7-week term starting in April
Summer Enrollment Period
- **Summer term:** 7-week term starting in June/July
Fall 1 Enrollment Period

BACS Program Content

General Education – 36 units

In North American higher education, general education courses are required for all Bachelors degrees. Students may transfer these courses to VIU from another accredited institution or complete them through VIU.

Transferrable courses must be:

- 1) College-level (typically listed as 100-level), not remedial or preparatory.
- 2) “General” in nature, not specifically vocational or technical.
- 3) Passed with a grade of C- or better.

The following list shows representative courses under each general education category.

English Communication & Critical Thinking (6 units)

- English Composition
- Research Writing
- Creative Writing
- Speech Communication
- Interpersonal/Intercultural Communication
- Critical Thinking

Arts & Humanities (6 units)

- Art Appreciation
- Music Appreciation
- Theatre Appreciation
- Literature
- Philosophy
- Ethics
- Physical Education
- Foreign Language

Natural Sciences & Mathematics (6 units)

- Life Science (Biology)
- Physical Geography
- Astronomy
- Health Science
- College Mathematics
- Statistics

Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 units)

- History of World Civilization
- Cultural Anthropology
- Human Behavior and Mental Processes (Psychology)
- Sociology
- Government
- Economics

Additional General Studies/Liberal Arts Courses (12 units)

- To gain a broad understanding of God's world, these should not be technical or vocational courses, but may include general courses such as Business Administration, Accounting, Personal Finance, Computer Science, or Engineering.

Christian Studies – 60 units

Religion and Culture – 18 units

- *AP301 Introduction to Christian Apologetics (3)
- PH301 Introduction to Philosophy (3)
- *RE304 World Religions (3)
- *PH302 Critical Thinking/Logic (3)
- RE305 Cults and New Religious Movements (3)
- *FC410 Gospel and Culture (3)

Theology – 18 Units

- TH301 Introduction to Theology (3)
- TH320 Bible Study Methods and Interpretation (3)
- *TH330 Introduction to the Bible (3)
- TH440 Christ and the Holy Spirit (3)
- TH460 Sin and Salvation (3)
- TH470 Church and Last Things (3)

Biblical Studies and Church History – 18 Units

- *OT/NT400s Book Study (6) (or *BLG401 Biblical Greek I and *BLG402 Biblical Greek II; or *BLH401 Biblical Hebrew I and *BLH402 Biblical Hebrew II)
- *OT310 Old Testament Survey (3)
- NT320 New Testament Survey (3)
- **CH480 Church History I (3)
- **CH490 Church History II (3)

Ministry – 6 Units

- ME401 Missions and Evangelism (3)
- PM302 Christian Leadership (3)

Electives – 24 units

Choose 8 courses from the following list to fulfill your elective requirements.

- *AP300 Introduction to CS Lewis (3)
- AP302 Introduction to Islam (3)
- AP303 Worldviews (3)
- AP308 Conversational Apologetic (3)
- AP309 Art and Ethics of Persuasion (3)
- AP401 Archaeology and the Bible (3)
- AP402 Apologetics and the Law (3)
- *AP404 Christian Ethics (3)
- *AP407 The Problem of Evil (3)
- *BLG401 Biblical Greek I (3)
- *BLG402 Biblical Greek II (3)
- *BLH401 Biblical Hebrew I (3)
- *BLH402 Biblical Hebrew II (3)
- *CE401 Christian Education (3)
- CH470 American Christianity (3)
- ME400 Mission, Contextualization, and Diversity (3)
- PH401 Philosophy of Religion (3)
- PH440 Introduction to Christian Metaphysics (3)
- PH450 Introduction to Christian Epistemology (3)
- *PM303 Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)
- *TH480 Historical Theology (3)

Research Skills and Church/Mission Requirement - (P/F)

- *RW499 Research Methods, Writing and Technology Skills - (P/F)
- CM401 Church/Mission Experience 1 - (P/F)
- CM402 Church/Mission Experience 2 - (P/F)
- CM403 Church/Mission Experience 3 - (P/F)

*Denotes courses you may attend in residence alongside graduate students at the OC campus and may be applied as advanced standing to your VIU Masters degree program. For BACS program inquires contact the Academic Dean, Dr. Frank Correa, fcorrea@ves.edu

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies Program Schedule	
Year 1	
Fall 1 – 9 units	Spring 1 – 9 units
General Education – 3	General Education – 3
New Testament Survey – 3	Old Testament Survey – 3
Critical Thinking/Logic – 3	Bible Study Methods & Interpretation – 3
Fall 2 – 6 units	Spring 2 – 6 units
Intro to the Bible – 3	Intro to Theology – 3
Elective – 3	Elective – 3
Year 2	
Fall 1 – 9 units	Spring 1 – 9 units
General Education – 3	General Education – 3
General Education – 3	General Education – 3
Intro to Philosophy – 3	Christian Apologetics – 3
Fall 2 – 6 units	Spring 2 – 6 units
*Bible Book Study – 3	*Bible Book Study – 3
Elective – 3	Elective – 3
Year 3	
Fall 1 – 9 units	Spring 1 – 9 units
General Education – 3	General Education – 3
General Education – 3	General Education – 3
Gospel and Culture – 3	Christ and the Holy Spirit – 3
Fall 2 – 6 units	Spring 2 – 6 units
Church History I – 3	Church History II – 3
Elective – 3	Elective – 3
Year 4	
Fall 1 – 9 units	Spring 1 – 9 units
General Education – 3	General Education – 3
Missions and Evangelism – 3	World Religions – 3
Sin and Salvation – 3	Christian Leadership – 3
Fall 1 – 6 units	Fall 2 – 6 units
Cults and New Religious Movements – 3	Church and Last Things – 3
Elective – 3	Elective – 3
Summer Term (7 weeks) – If Necessary	
Total Semester Hours: 120	
Note: Students may use the 7-week summer term to lighten their academic load during the Fall and Spring terms.	
*Biblical languages courses (Greek or Hebrew) may be substituted in lieu of Bible Book Study course.	

Master of Arts in Theological Studies

The Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) is an entry level 36-unit program that may be completed in as little as two (2) years of full-time study (9 units per semester). Students may also complete the same program as a Certificate in Theological Studies (CTS).

This course of study contains an emphasis on classical theology. It is especially suited for lay persons seeking to engage in non-professional Christian ministry by developing a theological and apologetic understanding of the doctrines of Christianity. The program provides foundational theological training for those who desire greater effectiveness in church ministry, evangelism, theological education, missions, apologetics and personal study of God's Word. Upon completion of the MATS degree, the student will have demonstrated knowledge in systematic theology, Christian apologetics and competence in Old and New Testament content. The MATS student learning outcomes are:

- To effectively explain the fundamental classical theological doctrines.
- To evaluate theological claims in terms of whether they are hermeneutically and theologically sound.
- To assess and respond to issues that arises within the church, para-church, and other ministry venues in a hermeneutically and theologically sound manner.
- To compose well-researched, hermeneutically and theologically sound research essays.

The MATS program serves as the core course requirements for all other degrees, making it foundational to all other VIU graduate programs.

Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS)	
Core Requirements — 36 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	AP501 Introduction to Apologetics (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	Elective (3)
NT510 Survey of the Gospels and Acts (3)	Elective (3)
NT520 Survey of the Epistles and Revelation (3)	Elective (3)
TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)	RW499 Research Methods and Technology (P/F)
TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH551 Christ, Sin, Salvation (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
TH561 Spirit, Church, Last Things (3)	
Complete Comprehensive Exam - Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Credits: 36	

Master of Arts in Biblical Studies

The Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (MABS) course of study is a 48-unit course of study that may be completed in as little as two (2-3) years but is designed for 36 months of full-time study (9 units per semester). Students may also complete this same program as a Certificate in Biblical Studies (CBS). This program builds upon the core requirements offered in the MATS degree by adding 21 units of biblical studies courses with either 1) a languages track (Hebrew and Greek), or 2) non-languages track.

This route is designed for those individuals who seek to be prepared to lead and teach the Scriptures in the church such as pastors, para-church leaders, or for those engaged in other ministry related activities. The MABS student learning outcomes are:

- To specify the introductory matters (authorship, date, recipients, major theme) of each book of the Bible.
- To identify the historical setting and theological contribution of each Old and New Testament book to the Bible.
- To describe the history and progressive revelation contained in the Old and New Testament scriptures.
- To explain and defend the most plausible interpretation of difficult Old and New Testament passages.
- To serve the church and/or para-church or other ministry venues by teaching and applying the scriptures to their own personal lives and to the lives of others.
- To biblically defend and explain the major classical (orthodox) doctrines of the Bible.

Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (MABS)	
Core Requirements — 27 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	AP501 Introduction to Apologetics (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	TH551 Christ, Sin, Salvation (3)
NT510 Survey of the Gospels and Acts (3)	TH561 Spirit, Church, Last Things (3)
NT520 Survey of the Epistles and Revelation (3)	RW499 Research Methods and Technology (P/F)
TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
Major Requirements – 18 units	
Languages Track	Non-Languages Track
BLH501 Biblical Hebrew I (3)	NT501 Gospel Literature (3)
BLH502 Biblical Hebrew II (3)	NT504 Revelation (3)
BLH503B Exegesis in the Old Testament (3)	NT530 NT Research & Methodology (3)
BLG501 Biblical Greek I (3)	OT505 Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls (3)
BLG502 Biblical Greek II (3)	OT506 Daniel (3) or OT519 Ruth & Esther (3)
BLG503B Exegesis in the New Testament (3)	AR621B Archaeology and the Bible: Historical & Cultural Synchronisms (3)
	CM503 CM Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)
Elective (3) (Choose AR, OT, NT, TH category) or RW501 Thesis Research & Writing (3 units)	
Complete Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 48	

Master of Divinity in Biblical Studies

The Master of Divinity course of study is a 78-unit program that may be completed in as little as three to four (3-4) years of full-time study (9 units per semester) including summer terms. In addition to the learning objectives for the Master of Arts in Theological Studies, and either the learning objectives for the Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics or Biblical Studies, the MDiv student (biblical studies and apologetics) will be able to:

- Describe both the events and individuals who have shaped the church over the centuries
- Formulate a theological framework for counseling biblically.
- Articulate a philosophy of ministry in relation to both classical and contemporary Western culture.
- Identify the foundational ingredients in biblical theory and practice necessary to equip God's people to do the work of the ministry.
- Analyze the nature of biblical preaching as how it relates to the church.

The following courses comprise the courses required to graduate with the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) with the biblical studies major:

Master of Divinity in Biblical Studies (MDiv)	
Core Requirements – 27 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	AP501 Introduction to Apologetics (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	TH551 Christ, Sin, Salvation (3)
NT510 Survey of the Gospels and Acts (3)	TH561 Spirit, Church, Last Things (3)
NT520 Survey of the Epistles and Revelation (3)	RW499 Research Methods and Technology (P/F)
TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
Major Requirements – 18 units	
Languages Track	Non-Languages Track
BLH501 Biblical Hebrew I (3)	NT501 Gospel Literature (3)
BLH502 Biblical Hebrew II (3)	NT504 Revelation (3)
BLH503 Exegesis in the Old Testament (3)	NT530 NT Research & Methodology (3)
BLG501 Biblical Greek I (3)	OT505 Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls (3)
BLG502 Biblical Greek II (3)	OT506 Daniel (3) or OT519 Ruth & Esther (3)
BLG503 Exegesis in the New Testament (3)	AR621B Archaeology and the Bible: Historical & Cultural Synchronisms (3)
Choose one elective in AR, OT, NT, TH, BLG/BLH category (3)	
Divinity Requirements (18 units)	
CH580 History of the Church (3)	Choose one: PH500 Philosophy of Christian Education (3) or PM550 Principles & Theology of Missions (3) or PM530 Pastoral Care (3) or CP560 Chaplaincy Principles (3)
PM560 Teaching Scripture (3)	
FC510 Gospel and Culture (3)	
PM510 Christian Leadership Principles (3)	CM503 Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)
PM520 Biblical Counseling (3)	CM504 Church/Mission Experience IV (P/F)
Electives (12 units)	
Complete Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 78	
Electives include but are not limited to CP560 Chaplaincy Principles and one of the following courses: CP560M Military Chaplaincy, CP560H Hospital/Hospice Chaplaincy, CP560F First Responders Chaplaincy (law enforcement and fire).	

Doctor of Ministry (choose one concentration)

The Doctor of Ministry degree consists of 36 credit hours which includes a 6-unit ministry project that will give the student the opportunity to apply what they have learned in a practical ministry context. This course of study is a professional program designed for distance learners in full-time Christian ministry. Though the program may be completed in as little as two (2-3) years of full-time study, students will have up to five (5) years to finish. Students will have the opportunity for academic, personal, and professional growth while completing the degree entirely through distance education without residency requirement. The program's goal is to equip pastors, Christian educators, missionaries, counselors, and other ministry leaders to be more effective in their ministries through advanced study and training in the theory and practice of a biblically grounded ministry.

The degree offers a choice of four distinct concentrations:

- Pastoral Studies
- Christian Education
- Ministry Administration and Leadership
- Interdisciplinary Ministry and Leadership

Program Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

1. Articulate and apply theological truth in a variety of ministry contexts.
2. Demonstrate leadership in their own ministry setting or career field.
3. Develop and implement a practical ministry project to address a specific ministry need.

Admission Requirements

1. VIU graduates holding an MDiv degree or an MA of at least 48 units will receive advanced standing for direct admission into the program with no further requirements.
2. Non-VIU applicants holding an MDiv degree or a Masters degree in a related field of at least 48 units are encouraged to apply for admission. The MA applicant may be required to complete additional graduate level courses (up to 12 units) to address any curricular deficiencies as determined by the Registrar/Academic Dean. The MA applicant may be admitted to the DMin program while simultaneously fulfilling these additional graduate level courses, and concurrently may fulfill up to 15 units of DMin core requirements.
3. All applicants should have a minimum of 3 years ministry experience.

Doctor of Ministry Program Overview (D.Min.)	
Required Core Courses (21 units)	
PM900 Cultivating a Christian Mind (3)	RP900 Research Practicum I (3)
TH901 Practical Theology for Ministry (3)	RP901 Research Practicum II (3)
PH900 Principles of Truth, Unity, Beauty and Goodness (3)	MP900 Ministry Project & Defense (6)
Choose a Program Concentration (15 units)	
Pastoral Studies	Christian Education
PM910 Reaching the Post-Christian Culture (3) PM940 Principles of Expository Preach/Teach (3) PM930 Principles of Family Ministry (3) PM920 Advanced Pastoral Counseling (3) PM950 Pastoral Self Care (3)	CE901 Education in the Church (3) CE902 Curriculum Development (3) CE903 Assessing Student Learning (3) CE904 Learning Theories (3) CE905 Teaching Children and Youth (3)
Ministry Administration and Leadership	Interdisciplinary Ministry & Leadership
CL910 Advancing Transformational Leadership (3) CL920 Building Team Leadership (3) CL930 Managing Organizational Conflict (3) CL940 Change Theory (3) CL950 Christian Business Ethics (3)	Choose 5 courses from the concentrations above. No more than two courses may be chosen from one concentration.
Total Semester Hours: 36	

Ministry Project and Defense – 6 semester credit hours

The Ministry Project and Defense (MP900) offers an opportunity for the student to make a unique and practical contribution related to ministry. The contribution and presentation are unique to the student's ministry gifting and practical ministry goals that will benefit the body of Christ. The actual presentation and defense of the Ministry Project is fulfilled either online or on campus and scheduled by appointment with your supervisor. *PREREQUISITE:* The DMin project can be approved and begun once a minimum of 18 units of DMin course work has been completed.

Program Schedule		
Year 1 (12 units)		
Fall	Spring	Summer
2 Courses – 6 units	2 Course – 6 units	Optional
Year 2 (12 units)		
Fall	Spring	Summer
2 Courses – 6 units	2 Course – 6 units	Optional
Year 3 (12 units)		
Fall	Spring	Summer
2 Courses – 6 units	2 Courses – 6 units	Optional
Ministry Project Research, Presentation, and Defense – 6 units		
Total Semester Hours: 36		

VIU School of Archaeology



VIU SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

The VIU School of Archaeology offers a graduate and postgraduate program:

- **Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History (MAABH)**
- **Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology & Biblical History (PhD)**

The mission of the VIU School of Archaeology (VSA) is to study the organic, cause-and-effect relationships between biblical and ancient Near Eastern history discernable from archaeological, anthropological, and comparative literary inquiry, with the purpose of developing competent, biblically grounded and Christ-centered archaeologists who are able to:

- Perform and/or direct methodologically-sound archaeological research, exploration, and excavation in the field.
- Demonstrate the historical authenticity and veracity of biblical narratives via professional publication and media.
- Contribute to a hermeneutical framework that comprehends the biblical record in the light of ancient Near Eastern contexts.

To accomplish these objectives, the VSA offers two programs of study (graduate/postgraduate) in the field of archaeology and biblical history. In addition to academic research and laboratory analysis in the United States, students will engage in hands-on archaeological fieldwork in the Middle East (Tal el-Hammam Excavation Project/Sodom, or another site approved by the director) led by doctoral program director, Dr. Steven Collins. After more than 15 seasons of excavation at the site, VSA archaeology students are in a prime position to excavate, research, evaluate and contribute to publishing the material data (see *The Tall el-Hammam Excavations, Volume One* (Eisenbrauns, 2015) and *Discovering the City of Sodom* (Simon & Schuster, 2013).

The historical and apologetic value of our students' archaeological research of the ancient Near East positions each student to contribute to the discussion on biblical reliability based on primary research. Those students who seek admission to the MA or PhD VSA programs, but do not meet the doctrinal requirements, may by special written request make petition to the Academic Dean for probationary admission (info@ves.edu).

50% Tuition Discount for Full Program Payment and Refund Policy

In addition to our regular tuition waivers, there is alternative option for substantial savings afforded to archaeology students designed to offset the additional costs involved in fulfilling archaeology courses, fieldwork and travel. By paying your entire archaeology degree program tuition and fees in advance, VIU will substantially discount (by 50%) the tuition portion of the program immediately. This deep discount applies to all archaeology (AR) and biblical language (BL) courses in both the MA and PhD programs. The amount will be prorated based on the number of units (courses) needed to graduate. After making this one-time payment of tuition and fees, upon subsequent registrations for each course the student would only need to contact the Registrar to register for courses. This discount option requires no additional paperwork, application or approval process. Simply inform the VIU Registrar of your intention to exercise this option for substantial savings and you will be invoiced accordingly. **There will be no refund if you use this discount option.** If after payment you decide to transfer to a different non-archaeology degree program you would be expected to pay the difference between your discounted tuition and the new program tuition price. If your degree program is not completed in the timeframe required, additional charges may be assessed to complete the remaining portion.

For program inquiries, contact the VIU Registrar's office or email info@ves.edu.

Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History

The Master of Arts in Archaeology and Biblical History program is a flexible 48-unit course of study that may be completed in as little as two-three (2-3) years but is designed for 36 months of full-time study (an average of 9 units per semester). The student may complete the course of study either through distance education or residential attendance (or a combination of both) according to institutional policy regarding VIU units, transfer credits, timeframe for completion (up to 6-years), and allowances for advanced standing based on a portfolio as applicable. The student will also have the option to write a scholarly master's thesis (6 units) in lieu of three courses (6 units) as specified in the "Required Courses" grouping listed below.

The program takes an interdisciplinary approach emphasizing organic, cause-and-effect relationships between biblical and ancient Near Eastern history discernable from archaeological, anthropological, and comparative literary inquiry, with the purpose of developing competent, biblically-grounded archaeologists who are able to:

- Perform and/or direct methodologically-sound archaeological research, exploration, and excavation in the field.
- Demonstrate the historical reliability of biblical narratives via professional publication and media.
- Contribute to a hermeneutical framework that seeks to comprehend biblical texts in the light of ancient Near Eastern contexts.

Courses may be fulfilled through several options:

- Authorized VIU campus locations
- VIU distance learning.
- Required fieldwork performed at an authorized archaeological excavation.
- Arranged distance courses.

Student Learning Outcomes

- To investigate and demonstrate that ancient Near Eastern history and biblical history, properly understood, constitute the same reality.
- To develop archaeological research and fieldwork skills to a significant level of competency.
- To apply dialogical analysis in the interpretation and application of archaeological data vis-à-vis the Bible.
- To articulate the value of archaeological data in defending the historical authenticity and accuracy of the Bible.
- To interpret biblical narratives from ancient Near Eastern contexts, including material culture and literature.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History program requires applicants to:

- Hold a Bachelors degree from an accredited institution, or its equivalent, in any subject.
- Applicants should have the ability to handle graduate level work in the English language. For non-native English speakers, a TOEFL exam may be required.

Admission to the program as a non-degree ‘certificate’ student requires no previously earned degree. However, other standard admission requirements in the application for admission must be met.

Required Courses in Archaeology/History – 22 units

The following graduate courses in archaeology/history are completed by fulfilling the requirements set forth in a given course syllabus. Courses can be taken either through a residential classroom, distance learning, or arranged courses (independent studies) format, or by a combination of these approaches. *Upon commencing your program, the following three courses are prerequisites and should be your first courses completed in this order: AR511, AR611, and AR621*

Required Courses in Historical Geography – 4 units

The following graduate courses in historical geography are completed by fulfilling the requirements set forth in a given course syllabus. Courses can be taken either through a residential classroom, distance learning, or arranged courses (independent studies) format, or by a combination of these approaches.

Required Fieldwork and Laboratory Courses – 7 units

The following courses are on-site, hands-on experience in Near Eastern archaeology at an excavation site approved by the graduate program director. Generally held in Israel and/or Jordan, this field experience brings the student into direct contact with applied archaeological methods and techniques, and also includes the exploration and study of historical/biblical sites.

Fieldwork courses are part of the Major Requirement courses completed in conjunction with an approved archaeological excavation and field school, either for course credit or modular (assignment) credit. The student has multiple options for the completion of fieldwork requirements. A minimum of one field season (3-week minimum) at an approved excavation project in the Near East is a base requirement.

Additional study tours or related archaeological projects and/or activities can also be pursued. Generally, 1 unit is allowed for each week (5-day work week) of participation. For example, three weeks participating in fieldwork (excavation) would fulfill 3 units. Additional units can be given based on project rigor and related items such as associated research and writing. Select Bible Lands Expedition itineraries may also qualify under this course title.

In addition to this, opportunity for the student to gain valuable experience in an archaeological laboratory setting, performing a variety of tasks such as: cleaning and

processing excavated pottery and objects; object and ceramic preservation and restoration; field, square, locus, and period sorting of diagnostic pottery sherds; comparative analysis of diagnostic ceramics; object and ceramic drawing; specialized photography; analysis of faunal and human remains; floatation and identification of cultigens and natural vegetation (seeds and pollens); preparation of organic samples for radiocarbon dating; and related analytical processes.

Required Courses in Biblical Languages – 12 units

BLH501 Biblical Hebrew I (3 units)

BLH502 Biblical Hebrew II (3 units)

BLG501 Biblical Greek I (3 units)

BLG502 Biblical Greek II (3 units)

Required Courses in Apologetics – 3 units

AP501 Introduction to Christian Apologetics (3 units)

Required Course in Research Methods – P/F

RW499 Research Methods and Technology Skills

Comprehensive Examination

A comprehensive exam must be completed in order to determine the student's proficiency in archaeology and biblical history, archaeological analysis, and the relevant literature. The comprehensive exam may be scheduled with the program director after all coursework and fieldwork have been completed. After the comprehensive exam is complete, the student may enroll in AR699 Thesis.

Time Limits

Students must complete all coursework, fieldwork, comprehensive exams, and thesis (if chosen) within 6 years of first registration into the program.

Masters Thesis Procedure/Guidelines – 6 units

The student has the option to write a scholarly thesis in lieu of three courses (6 units) as specified from the "Required Courses" grouping. Under consultation with the Director and/or Assistant Director, the student will select an acceptable topic on which to research and write a master's thesis. The thesis shall conform to SBL or Turabian format, with the text-proper being no less than 90 pages (not including bibliography, appendices, charts, tables, figures, etc.), and not exceeding 150 pages. Two VIU archaeology faculty members

and one external reader shall constitute the student's thesis committee. The topic must incorporate aspects of both archaeology and biblical history. (See the AR699 syllabus for details.)

Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History Program Overview	
Research Skills – (P/F)	
RW499 Research Methods and Technology Skills – (P/F)	
Archaeology/History – 22 units	
AR511 Near Eastern Archaeology: Background & Methods (2 units)	
AR521 Archaeology & History of Ancient Egypt (2 units)	
AR531 Archaeology & History of Ancient Mesopotamia (2 units)	
AR562 Archaeology of the New Testament Period (2 units)	
AR621 Archaeology & the Bible: Historical & Cultural Synchronisms (2 units)	
AR641 Levantine Ceramic Typology (2 units)	
AR671 Bronze Age & Biblical History (2 units)	
AR672 Iron Age & Biblical History (2 units)	
<i>Select 6 units from the following:</i>	
AR542 Archaeology & History of the Jerusalem Area (2 units)	
AR552 Archaeology & History of the Jerusalem Temple (2 units)	
AR661 Evolution of Warfare & Fortification Systems in the Ancient Near East (2 units)	
AR670 Archaeological Video-Cinematography & Photography (2 units)	
AR699 Thesis (6 units) <i>*Must complete comprehensive exam prior to beginning thesis.</i>	
Historical Geography – 4 units	
AR611 Historical Geography of Bible Lands (2 units)	
AR631 Languages & Cultures of the Ancient Near East (2 units)	
Fieldwork and Laboratory – 7 units	
AR541 Excavation Practicum & Field School (3 units)	
AR651 Archaeological Field Methods (2 units)	
AR655 Archaeological Laboratory (2 units)	
Biblical Languages & Apologetics – 15 units	
Biblical Languages – 12 units	
BLH501 Biblical Hebrew I (3 units)	
BLH502 Biblical Hebrew II (3 units)	
BLG501 Biblical Greek I (3 units)	
BLG502 Biblical Greek II (3 units)	
Apologetics – 3 units	
AP501 Introduction to Christian Apologetics (3 units)	
Comprehensive Exam – (Pass/Fail)	
Total Semester Hours: 48	

Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology & Biblical History

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Archaeology & Biblical History is a highly flexible program comprised of a 42-unit course of study that may be completed in as little as 3 years but is designed for 48 months of full-time study (approximately 6 units per semester). The student must complete a total of 42 units above a qualifying master's degree according to institutional policy regarding VIU credits, transfer credits, and allowances for advanced standing based on a portfolio as applicable.

The 42 units are divided into three 14-unit sections which may be completed through distance education or residential: (Section One) courses, workshop, laboratory, and/or arranged (distance) study courses, (Section Two) fieldwork at archaeological excavations, and (Section Three) dissertation.

Section One – Courses. The 14 units of courses are completed by fulfilling the requirements set forth in a given syllabus. Courses can be taken either through a residential classroom, distance or arranged course, or by a combination of the two approaches. *

Section Two – Fieldwork. The 14 units of fieldwork courses are 2 units each and must be completed in conjunction with an approved archaeological excavation, field school, or study tour.

Section Three – Dissertation. The student will complete a doctoral dissertation (14 units) comprised of original research. The 14-unit dissertation process is designed so that the student makes a significant contribution to the disciplines of archaeology *and* biblical studies/history.

***Note:** A course of the same title taken at the graduate level *cannot* be repeated at the doctoral level. However, a more advanced, follow-on course can be designed as an arranged course. If the doctoral student has already satisfied the core major requirements at the graduate level, then he/she may complete individually-designed arranged courses or seminars based on the desired focus, in consultation with faculty and approved by the program director.

The three sections combine to form an interdisciplinary program emphasizing organic, cause-and-effect relationships between biblical and ancient Near Eastern history discernable from archaeological, anthropological, and comparative literary inquiry, with the purpose of developing competent, biblically-grounded archaeologists who are able to:

- Perform and/or direct methodologically sound archaeological research, exploration, and excavation in the field.
- Demonstrate the historical reliability of biblical narratives via professional publication and media.
- Contribute to a hermeneutical framework that seeks to comprehend biblical texts in the light of ancient Near Eastern contexts.

This is accomplished by coursework and program requirements completed through:

- Authorized VIU campus locations (program offered at southern California and Albuquerque, NM, campus).
- VIU distance learning.
- Mandatory fieldwork performed at an authorized archaeological excavation and/or field school in Israel or Jordan.
- Arranged distance courses (when appropriate).

Student Learning Outcomes

- To investigate and demonstrate that ancient Near Eastern history and biblical history, properly understood, constitute the same reality.
- To develop archaeological research and fieldwork skills to a significant level of competency.
- To apply dialogical analysis in the interpretation and application of archaeological data vis-à-vis the Bible.
- To articulate the value of archaeological data in defending the historical authenticity and accuracy of the Bible.
- To interpret biblical narratives from ancient Near Eastern contexts, including material culture and literature.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Doctoral program requires applicants to:

- Hold a Masters degree (or its equivalent) from an accredited institution in an appropriate field (ancient Near Eastern history and/or archaeology, biblical history, anthropology, etc).

- Show high promise of future usefulness to the church and/or society as evidenced by a 500-word essay describing your archaeological goals, past accomplishments in the field, and potential benefit to society and/or the church.
- Submit a writing sample of a previously completed paper on a topic relating to archaeology and/or biblical history or ancient Near Eastern history.
- Have reading proficiency in biblical languages (Greek I and II/Hebrew I and II). If applicants have deficiency in biblical languages, admission may still be granted though additional language coursework may be required.
- Have the ability to handle doctoral level work in the English language. For non-native English speakers, a TOEFL exam may be required.

PhD Program Prerequisites

If the student enters the Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology and Biblical History (PhD) program from the 48-unit VIU Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History, then the PhD program will consist of 42 units: 14 units of workshop, laboratory, and/or independent study courses (Section One); 14 units of fieldwork (Section Two), and the 14-unit dissertation (Section Three).

If the student enters the PhD program with less than 48 units in their archaeology graduate program from another institution, then the number of required PhD program units may be raised accordingly to satisfy any curricular deficiency. The PhD program director and VIU Academic Dean will review the student's degree program, academic portfolio, fieldwork experience, and doctoral transfer credits (if any) in order to determine the configuration of the individual PhD program.

Section One: Course Requirements – 14 Units

The student will complete seven of the following workshops, laboratory, and arranged courses for a total of 14 units. These courses may be fulfilled either through distance learning or at the VIU Albuquerque site in short intensive modules (3 days).

- AR1020 Workshop: Ceramic Sorting: Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (2 units)
- AR1021 Workshop: Advanced Ceramic Typology (2 units)
- AR1022 Workshop: Archaeological Drawing Techniques (2 units)
- AR1023 Workshop: Architectural Reconstruction Drawing in Archaeology (2 units)
- AR1050 Laboratory: Floatation Sample Analysis (2 units)
- AR1051 Laboratory: Faunal and Human Bone Analysis (2 units)
- AR1052 Laboratory: Object and Ceramic Conservation (2 units)
- AR1180 Arranged Course (2 units)
- AR1181 Arranged Course (2 units)

Section Two: Fieldwork Requirements – 14 Units

The student will complete the following seven archaeological fieldwork and methods requirements for a total of 14 units (2 units each):

AR1151, AR1152, AR1153, AR1154, AR1155, AR1156, AR1157

The rigor and procedures of archaeological data collection and the fundamentals of excavation methods and techniques are covered in these courses of study. Practical instruction in archaeological protocol(s) are discussed and evaluated. The use of current and emerging technologies, the integration of relevant disciplines, archaeometric techniques, and modern cultural protocols are topics of discussion in the Field School accompanying any approved archaeological excavation. The student will come away with a good sense of how an excavation project is organized, operated, and funded. The student will also gain a wealth of excavation experience, including experience at the supervisory level.

The student has multiple options for the completion of fieldwork requirements. A minimum of two field seasons at an approved excavation project in the Near East is a base requirement. Unit evaluations are based on the number of ACH of experience gained. Generally, 1 unit is allowed for each week (45 ACH) of participation. Additional assignment credit can be given based on project rigor and related items such as associated research, writing, and publication. A total of 14 units of excavation and related experience is required to fulfill the 14 units of this Section.

Section Three: Dissertation and Procedure/Guidelines – 14 Units

Under consultation of the Program Director, the student will select an acceptable topic on which to perform original research and write a doctoral dissertation (AR1551 Dissertation). The dissertation shall conform to SBL or Turabian format, with the text-proper being no less than 250 pages (not including bibliography, appendices, charts, tables, figures, etc.), and not exceeding 500 pages. Three VIU PhD faculty members and one external reader shall constitute the student's dissertation committee. The topic must be: 1) a unique contribution to the field of study and 2) incorporate aspects of both archaeology and biblical history. The dissertation shall be defended before the committee and other members of the VIU postgraduate faculty. (See the AR1551 syllabus for details).

Comprehensive Examination

A comprehensive exam must be completed in order to determine the student's proficiency in archaeology and biblical history, archaeological analysis, and the relevant literature. The comprehensive exam may be scheduled with the program director after all coursework and fieldwork have been completed. After the comprehensive exam is complete, the student may enroll in AR1551 Dissertation.

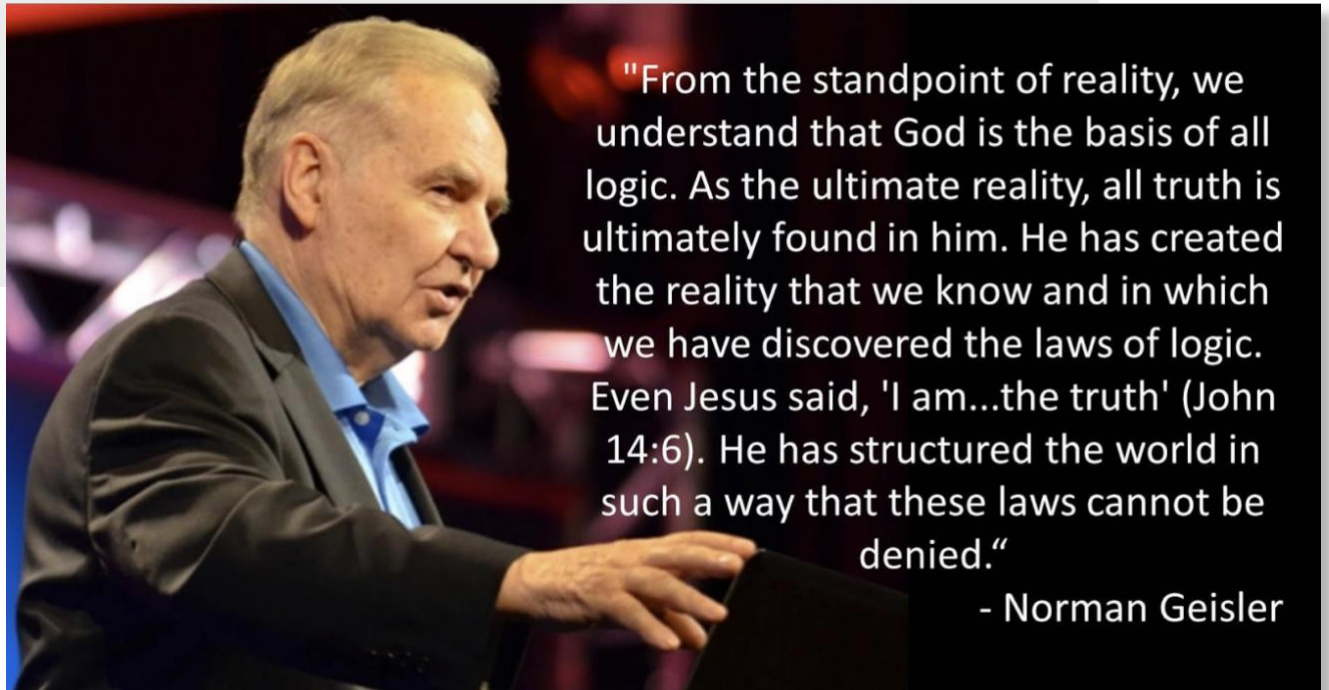
Time Limits

Students must complete the program within 8 years. All coursework, field study, and comprehensive exams within 5 years of first registration into the program. Students will then have 3 years from completing the comprehensive exam to complete the dissertation and live defense (Viva Voce) along with subsequent revisions. For VSA program inquires, contact VIU Registrar's office or email info@ves.edu.

Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology & Biblical History Program Overview (PhD)	
Section One: Required Courses – 14 Units (choose seven courses)	
AR1020 Workshop: Ceramic Sorting – Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (2 units)	Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center, working with diagnostic pottery sherds. The student will learn and practice ceramic sorting by field, square, locus, and archaeological period, according to TeHEP needs and protocols.
AR1021 Workshop: Advanced Ceramic Typology (2 units)	Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center, working with diagnostic pottery sherds. The student will learn and practice advanced techniques for period and sub-period ceramic types based on vessel morphology, fabric (paste), surface treatment, decoration, and firing.
AR1022 Workshop: Archaeological Drawing Techniques (2 units)	Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn techniques for producing drawings of artifacts (objects and pottery) for publication.
AR1023 Workshop: Architectural Reconstruction Drawing in Archaeology (2 units)	Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn techniques for making archaeological reconstruction drawings of ANE architecture for publication.

<p>AR1050 Laboratory: Floatation Sample Analysis (2 units) Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn methods of isolating organic material from excavated soil samples by floatation, and slide preparation for microscopic analysis.</p>	
<p>AR1051 Laboratory: Faunal and Human Bone Analysis (2 units) Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn methods of identifying animal and human bones (and teeth), the proper means of recording the data, and analytical approaches to the collected data.</p>	
<p>AR1052 Laboratory: Object and Ceramic Conservation (2 units) Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn methods and skills for cleaning, conserving, and preserving excavated artifacts, including objects of stone, metal, wood, bone, ivory, ceramic, clay (unfired), glass, and other materials.</p>	
<p>AR1180 Arranged Course (2 units) This is a custom-designed course of study determined by the student in consultation with faculty and approved by the PhD Program Director.</p>	
<p>AR1181 Arranged Course (2 units) This is a custom-designed course of study determined by the student in consultation with faculty and approved by the PhD Program Director.</p>	
<p>Section Two: Archaeological Fieldwork & Methods - 14 Units</p>	
<p>One 5-day participation week (= 45 Academic Contact Hours) in the field is equivalent to 1 credit hour.</p>	
AR1151	AR1152
AR1153	AR1154
AR1155	AR1156
AR1157	
<p>Comprehensive Exam - Pass/Fail</p>	
<p>Complete and pass the written comprehensive exam prior to AR1551 Dissertation.</p>	
<p>Section Three: Dissertation - 14 Units</p>	
<p>AR1551 Dissertation After the comprehensive exam is complete, the student may enroll into AR1551 Dissertation. The topic must be: 1) a unique contribution to the field of study, 2) incorporate aspects of both archaeology and biblical history, and 3) provide a logically reason, methodologically sound, and readable account of the student's investigation, analysis, findings, conclusions and implications of the study. The length of the dissertation shall be 250-500 pages and shall be defended before the committee and other members of the VIU faculty. (See the AR1551 syllabus for details).</p>	
<p>Total Semester Hours: 42</p>	

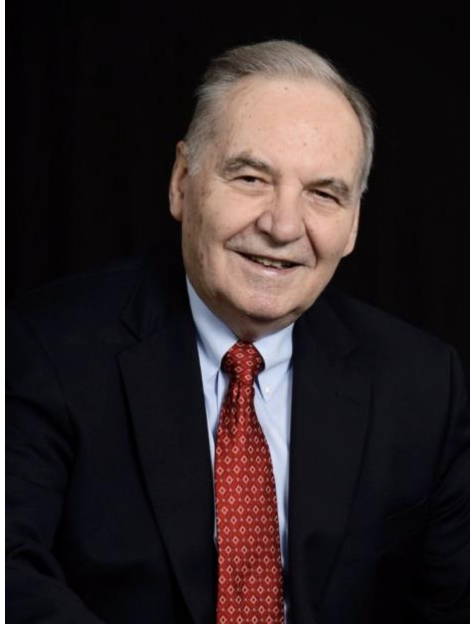
VIU Norman L. Geisler School of Apologetics



"From the standpoint of reality, we understand that God is the basis of all logic. As the ultimate reality, all truth is ultimately found in him. He has created the reality that we know and in which we have discovered the laws of logic. Even Jesus said, 'I am...the truth' (John 14:6). He has structured the world in such a way that these laws cannot be denied."

- Norman Geisler

VIU NORMAN L. GEISLER SCHOOL OF APOLOGETICS



The VIU Norman L. Geisler School of Apologetics is named after our beloved Distinguished Professor of Theology and Apologetics, Chancellor, and co-founder of Veritas International University. Dr. Geisler's life (1932 – 2019) and legacy stretches far and wide. He has authored or co-authored 127 books and hundreds of articles, has debated scores of atheists and skeptics, has shared the gospel around the world, and has taught theology, philosophy, and classical Christian apologetics on the undergraduate and graduate level for nearly 60 years. His emphasis on classical theology, philosophy and apologetics, in the tradition of Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas, is a distinguishing characteristic of VIU apologetics. What is more, Dr.

Geisler's love of Christ, priority of evangelism, high view of Scripture, and defense of biblical inerrancy as described in the *Chicago Statements* produced by the International Council on Biblical Inerrancy (ICBI, 1977-1989), are the driving forces behind an education at VIU.

The VIU Norman L. Geisler School of Apologetics offers two graduate and one postgraduate degree program:

- **Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics (M.A.C.A.)**
- **Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam (M.A.P.I.)**
- **Master of Divinity in Apologetics (M.Div.)**
- **Doctor of Ministry in Apologetics (D.Min.)**
- **Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy of Religion (Ph.D.)**

The mission of the VIU Norman L. Geisler School of Apologetics is to educate students to defend the Christian worldview from a classical/evidential perspective, rooted in the inerrancy of the Bible. The VIU faculty of scholars have collectively authored more than 200 books on various subjects including apologetics, philosophy, biblical studies, archaeology, Islam, religion, theology and more.

Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics

The Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics (MACA) is a 48-unit program that may be completed in as little as two (2) years of full-time study if summer and winter terms are utilized. The program must be completed within 6 years of first enrollment. This course of study builds on the core requirements described under the MATS degree by adding 21 units in the area of Christian apologetics, religion, and philosophy. The program emphasizes a classical/evidential approach to apologetics. This degree is designed for those in discernment ministries, who are engaged in non-pastoral ministry activities, and those seeking to pursue doctoral studies. Of particular importance is the program's focus on educating students to train those in the local church or who seek to be in leadership roles involving apologetics and philosophical skills, including teaching. Upon completion of the program, each student will have demonstrated knowledge in the areas of theological studies, Old and New Testament, Christian apologetics, alternative religious perspectives and worldviews, Christian ethics, and philosophy as it relates to proclaiming and defending Christian doctrine. **The MACA learning student learning outcomes are:**

- To defend Christian doctrine from ancient and contemporary challenges.
- Analyze and explain the major beliefs of non-Christian religions and contemporary cults.
- To understand apologetic research, writing, communication, and how to defend the Christian worldview.

Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics (MACA)	
Core Requirements — 27 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	AP501 Introduction to Apologetics (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	TH551 Christ, Sin, Salvation (3)
NT510 Survey of the Gospels and Acts (3)	TH561 Spirit, Church, Last Things (3)
NT520 Survey of the Epistles and Revelation (3)	RW499 Research Methods and Technology (P/F)
TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
Major Requirements – 18 units	
AP503 Apologetics to Islam (3)	RE505 Contemporary Cults (3)
AP504 Christian Ethics (3)	PH500 History of Philosophy & Christian Thought (3)
RE504 World Religions (3)	PH560 Theistic Metaphysics and Epistemology (3)
Prerequisite: Undergraduate Logic or PH510 Logic	CM503 CM Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)
Elective (3 units)	
Choose one of the following electives: AP507 Problem of Evil, AP508 Resurrection of Jesus, AP500 Scientific Apologetics (3) or RW501 Thesis Research Writing (3)	
Complete Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 48	

Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam

The Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam (for Christians only) is a 36-unit graduate degree designed to be completed in 2 years (24 months) of full-time study (9 units per term). This unique program examines and critically assesses the origins, basic doctrines, and practices of Islam, including its beliefs about Christianity, the Bible and Christ. Additional emphasis will be placed on equipping students in special polemics and apologetics to engage with Islam, as well as evaluating various methods employed by Christians when engaging with Muslims.

This program may be fulfilled entirely through distance learning without a residency requirement, having 6-years to complete the course of study. For those who would desire to attend a residential course may do so, simply check the semester course schedule for dates and times. Residential courses will also be offered in 6-day intensive modules that meet on a specific week Monday through Friday in the evening and all-day Saturday. Following the one-week lecture period, there will be 14 additional weeks to complete coursework through the VIU Populi learning management system.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon completion of the course of study the student will be able to:

- 1) Understand the origins, basic doctrines, and practices of Islam, including its beliefs about Christianity;
- 2) Defend their Christian Faith when engaging with Muslims;
- 3) Explain the two foundations of Islam, the Qur'an and Muhammad;
- 4) Introduce and assess some of the methods employed by Christians engaging with Muslims.

Program Prerequisites

- 1) RW499 Research Methods & Technology Skills (P/F)
- 2) Undergraduate logic course or PH510 Logic
- 3) undergraduate or graduate course (PH501) in introduction to philosophy
Note: undergrad courses will be accepted if already taken as part of undergrad degree but not if already accepted into graduate degree program.

If the above prerequisites are not met prior to applying for the program, students may still be admitted and complete them concurrently with their pursuit of the degree.

Program Faculty

Among the faculty are some of the most distinguished and recognizable evangelical scholars in this field of study. With many years of experience, ministry, engagement, public debate, research and publishing, each student will be exposed to the latest research materials. Program director, Dr. Jay Smith, has assembled a motivated faculty for this unique degree program which include those involved in the recent research of the rare Quranic manuscripts. They include Dr. Daniel Janosik, Dr. Daniel Brubaker, Dr. Sasan Tavassoli, and Professor Al Fadi.

Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam (MAPI)	
Core Requirements – 6 units	
TH530 Prolegomena & Bibliology (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH540 Theology Proper & Creation (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
RW499 Research Methods and Technology Skills (P/F)	Prerequisite: Undergraduate Logic or PH510 Logic
Major Requirements – 30 units	
IS501 Introduction to Islam in the 21 st Century (3)	IS506 Historical Assessment of the Qur'an (3)
IS502 Deen (Practices) & Iman (Beliefs) (3)	IS507 Apologetics and Polemics to Islam (3)
IS503 Assessment of Muhammad (3)	IS508 Responding to Islamic Christology (3)
IS504 Historical Assessment of Islam's beginnings (3)	IS509 Responding to Islamic Bibliology (3)
IS505 History of Islam (3)	IS510 Methodology of Ministry to Muslims (3)
Complete Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 36	

Program Sequence	
Year One	
Fall 1 Distance	IS501 Introduction to Islam in the 21 st Cent (3)
Fall 2 Distance	IS502 Deen (Practices) & Iman (Beliefs) (3)
Fall Residential Module (15-weeks)	IS504 Historical Assessment of Islam's beginnings (3)
Spring 1 Distance	IS503 Assessment of Muhammad (3)
Spring 2 Distance	IS507 Apologetics and Polemics to Islam (3)
Spring Residential Module (15-weeks)	IS506 Historical Assessment of the Qur'an (3)
Summer Distance	IS505 History of Islam (3)
Summer Residential Module (15-weeks)	IS508 Responding to Islamic Christology (3)
Year Two	
Fall 1 Distance	IS509 Responding to Islamic Bibliology (3)
Fall 2 Distance	IS510 Methodology of Ministry to Muslims (3)
Fall Residential Module (15-weeks)	IS504 Historical Assessment of Islam's beginnings (3)
Spring 1 Distance	IS501 Introduction to Islam in the 21 st Cent (3)
Spring 2 Distance	IS502 Deen (Practices) & Iman (Beliefs) (3)
Spring Residential Module (15-weeks)	IS506 Historical Assessment of the Qur'an (3)
Summer Term Distance	IS505 History of Islam (3)
Summer Residential Module (15-weeks)	IS507 Apologetics and Polemics to Islam (3)

Master of Divinity in Apologetics

The Master of Divinity in Apologetics (MDiv) is a 78-unit course of study that may be completed in as little as three to four (3-4) years of study (9 units per semester) by using occasional summer and winter breaks to supplement your fall and spring academic load. In addition to the learning objectives for the Master of Arts in Theological Studies and either the learning objectives for the Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics or Biblical Studies the student will be able to:

- Describe both the events and individuals who have shaped the church over the centuries
- Formulate a theological framework for counseling biblically.
- Articulate a philosophy of ministry in relation to both classical and contemporary Western culture.
- Identify the foundational ingredients in Biblical theory and practice necessary to equip God's people to do the work of the ministry.
- Analyze the nature of Biblical preaching as how it relates to the church.

The following courses comprise the Master of Divinity (MDiv) with the apologetics major:

Master of Divinity in Apologetics (MDiv)	
Core Requirements (27 units)	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	AP501 Introduction to Apologetics (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	TH551 Christ, Sin, Salvation (3)
NT510 Survey of the Gospels and Acts (3)	TH561 Spirit, Church, Last Things (3)
NT520 Survey of the Epistles and Revelation (3)	RW499 Research Methods and Technology (P/F)
TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
Major Requirements (21 units)	
AP503 Apologetics to Islam (3)	RE505 Contemporary Cults (3)
AP504 Christian Ethics (3)	PH500 History of Philosophy & Christian Thought (3)
RE504 World Religions (3)	PH560 Theistic Metaphysics and Epistemology (3)
Prerequisite: Undergraduate Logic or PH510 Logic	CM503 CM Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)
Elective (3 units)	
Choose one of the following electives: AP507 Problem of Evil, AP508 Resurrection of Jesus, AP500 Scientific Apologetics (3)	
Divinity Requirements (18 units)	
CH580 History of the Church (3)	Choose one: PH500 Philosophy of Christian Education (3) or PM550 Principles & Theology of Missions (3) or PM530 Pastoral Care (3) or CP560 Chaplaincy Principles (3)
PM560 Teaching Scripture (3)	
FC510 Gospel and Culture (3)	
PM510 Christian Leadership Principles (3)	CM504 Church/Mission Experience IV (P/F)
PM520 Biblical Counseling (3)	
Electives (12 units)	
Elective (3)	Elective (3)
Elective (3)	Elective (3) or RW501 Thesis Research & Writing (3)
Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 78	

Doctor of Ministry in Christian Apologetics

This unique distance learning program may be completed within five (5) years from first enrollment. Full-time status is 6 units per semester. The Doctor of Ministry (DMin) is a professional degree comprised of 36 semester credit hours. The program is designed for those in ministry, or those seeking additional knowledge and practical competency in apologetics on the doctoral level. You may also take courses in the summer.

The program may be completed entirely through distance learning except for the Ministry Project and Defense (one day on campus by arrangement). However, there will be opportunities to take residential one-week or one-semester courses. In addition, opportunities for synchronous (interactive live-streaming) courses will be offered. Incorporating distance-learning courses without residency requirement provides busy students with a convenient and affordable program without interrupting their professional career or requiring relocation to southern California.

Student Learning Outcomes

- To learn how to defend the historic Christian faith theologically.
- To learn how to defend the Christian worldview through critical thinking methods.
- To develop a more robust Christian Worldview.
- To learn how to identify, plan, research and defend an apologetic project for use within a specific ministry application related to a church, ministry, or school.

Requirements for Admission

VIU graduates holding an MDiv degree or an MA of at least 48 units will receive advanced standing for direct admission into the program with no further requirements. Non-VIU applicants holding an MDiv degree or a Masters degree in a related field (e.g. theology, religion, apologetics, Bible, etc) of at least 48 units are encouraged to apply for admission. The MA applicant may be required to complete additional graduate level courses (up to 12 units) to address any curricular deficiencies as determined by the Registrar/Academic Dean. The MA applicant may be admitted to the DMin program while simultaneously fulfilling these additional graduate level courses, and concurrently may fulfill up to 15 units of DMin requirements. All applicants should have a minimum of 3 years ministry experience.

Required Distance Learning (DL) Courses – 30 semester credit hours

* **Prerequisite Courses:** Each student must complete the following prerequisite courses: Introduction to Philosophy or History of Philosophy & Christian Thought and Logic. These courses may be fulfilled *after* admission into the Doctor of Ministry program.
 ***Note:** A course of the same title taken at the graduate level *cannot* be repeated at the doctoral level. However, a more advanced, follow-on course can be designed as an arranged course. If the doctoral student has already satisfied the core major requirements at the graduate level, then he/she may complete individually-designed arranged courses or based on the desired focus, in consultation with faculty and approved by the program director.

The following courses are fulfilled through distance learning (DL) in a 15-week semester. *

- | | |
|--|--|
| AP901 Advanced Christian Apologetics (3) | AP906 Advanced Resurrection of Christ (3) |
| AP902 Advanced Scientific Apologetics (3) | AP907 Apologetics and the Art of Persuasion (3) |
| AP903 Advanced Islamic Apologetics (3) | AP908 Conversational Apologetics (3) |
| AP904 Advanced World Religions (3) | AP909 Apologetics and Contemporary Issues I (3) |
| AP905 Advanced New Religious Movements (3) | AP910 Apologetics for Contemporary Issues II (3) |

Ministry Project and Defense – 6 semester credit hours

The Ministry Project and Defense (MP900) offers an opportunity for the student to make a unique and practical contribution related to apologetics. The contribution and presentation are unique to the student’s apologetic gifting and practical ministry goals that will benefit the body of Christ. The actual presentation and defense of the Ministry Project is fulfilled on campus and scheduled by appointment with your supervisor.

PREREQUISITE: The DMin project can be approved and begun once a minimum of 18 units of DMin course work has been completed.

Doctor of Ministry Program Schedule (D.Min.)		
Year 1 (12 units)		
Fall	Spring	Summer
2 Courses – 6 units	2 Course – 6 units	Optional
Year 2 (12 units)		
Fall	Spring	Summer
2 Courses – 6 units	2 Course – 6 units	Optional
Year 3 (12 units)		
Fall	Spring	Summer
2 Courses – 6 units	2 Courses – 6 units	Optional
MP900 Ministry Project Research, Presentation, and Defense – 6 units		
Total Semester Hours: 36		

PhD in Philosophy of Religion

Program Director: Thomas Baker, PhD (tbaker@ves.edu)

The PhD in Philosophy of Religion is a 60-unit program designed for mature Christian postgraduates who desire in-depth academic study in the area of philosophy of religion. Its approach, in the tradition of classical theism and Thomistic philosophy, is designed for those who appreciate the full inspiration and inerrancy of the Word of God. We encourage applications for admission from those who desire to cultivate a scholar's mind and a pastor's heart, and conduct advanced research in the areas of philosophical theology, philosophy of religion, philosophical apologetics and moral philosophy.

The program's design is suitable for those who cannot relocate, take leave of employment and desire the flexibility.

- No residency requirement (the oral defense may be required to be in residence)
- International students are welcome
- Choose between part-time and full-time study
- 4-7 years for full-time study, and 5-9 years to complete your part-time PhD
- Regular contact with your research professors

Program Learning Outcomes

VIU is committed to quality education with the following program objectives:

- To learn how to analyze and defend the historic Christian faith against philosophical objections.
- To articulate advanced knowledge of philosophy, theology, apologetics, and Biblical studies.
- To demonstrate the ability to perform advanced and original research in the areas of philosophy, theology, apologetics, and Biblical studies.
- To communicate and defend the Christian faith effectively in both academic and ministry settings.
- To demonstrate a love for the truth of God and the willingness to reach people from various backgrounds with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Admission Requirements

The applicant should possess an academic graduate degree from an accredited institution (or equivalent) of at least 60-units (or the MDiv with apologetics and/or philosophy) in an area related to their proposed research. (VIU and SES graduates may be granted advanced standing with a graduate degree of 48-units or more which would waive the 60-unit minimal requirement). The applicant's graduate program should contain a minimum of the following set of fulfilled graduate level courses:

- Four systematic theology courses (12 semester units)
- One logic/critical thinking/symbolic logic course (3 semester units)
- 15 semester units of philosophy courses (these may include a logic course)
- 15 additional semester units in the areas of *either* philosophy, apologetics, theology, or religious studies or a combination of these.

If these prerequisites are not satisfied at the time of admission, the candidate may be accepted into the PhD program with the provision these prerequisite courses will be fulfilled prior to achieving candidature status. If the applicant holds an undergraduate degree in philosophy or closely related field, this also will be considered in the admissions process.

The applicant must also submit a writing sample not co-authored that is greater than 15 pages. The sample should be in the subject matter of philosophy and exemplify graduate level writing and research with footnotes. In addition, letters of recommendation from previous faculty and clergy are required

Though the GRE and MAT exams are not required, after applying to the program, the student may be invited for an interview and subsequent written entrance exam prior to acceptance. The entrance exam will allow the student a limited preparation time and then test the student's ability to respond to graduate level philosophy questions.

Transfer Credit

The PhD in Philosophy of Religion program may allow, upon successful review of official transcripts, up to 6-units of previously earned doctoral credit to be transferred from another accredited institution. This credit will be evaluated by the Registrar and Academic Dean for suitability of transfer. Please send official academic transcripts to the VIU Registrar.

Continued Enrollment Requirements

All PhD students prior to candidature are required to take a minimum of three courses per year. Exceptions can only be granted by the Academic Dean.

Candidature Requirements

The student will be promoted from PhD Student to PhD Candidate by action of the faculty only when all classwork, language requirements, and comprehensive exams have been completed successfully with an overall GPA of 3.50. The student must also be in good overall standing with evidence of Christian character. This is also when the student will be deemed ABD (all-but-dissertation). Only after achieving PhD Candidacy will the student be able to begin the dissertation process.

Dissertation

The dissertation process involves submitting a dissertation prospectus for approval. Upon approval, the student will be guided by the dissertation supervisor until the dissertation is completed and passes the oral defense. The student's dissertation must constitute an original contribution to learning, give evidence of systematic study, and ability to relate the results of such study to the general body of knowledge in the subject area. The dissertation must be written in Turabian style formatting with a minimum length of 80,000 words.

Oral Defense (*Viva Voce*)

After submitting an acceptable dissertation, the candidate will be required to give a live in-residence oral defense of their research to no less than three faculty readers/examiners, one of which may be from another institution. This will give opportunity to the candidate to explain and correct any misunderstanding of their research, and offer the examiners a chance to test the knowledge and research contained in the dissertation.

Program Curriculum and Stages

The PhD course of study is completed in 4 stages as described below.

Stage 1 – PhD Coursework (51 units)

Philosophy Coursework (45 units)

Student will complete courses in the field of philosophy of religion, philosophical apologetics, and philosophical theology.

Electives Coursework (6 units)

Students must complete two elective doctoral courses of their choice, which may either be two independent research classes directed by the faculty or approved doctoral courses from the catalog.

Stage 2 – Language and Comprehensive Exams (P/F)

Language

The student will be required to pass a language competency exam of an approved language related to their dissertation research. This exam will test the student's ability to translate within a specified time limit using only an approved lexicon. Preparation for the exam will be through independent study.

Comprehensive Exams

There will be three timed written competency exams and one oral examination for the program.

Stage 3 – Dissertation Prospectus, Research and Writing (9 units)

Students will submit to the program director a comprehensive proposal for their dissertation research. Upon approval, students may commence research and writing of the dissertation.

Stage 4 Dissertation Oral Defense (P/F)

Students will be required to orally defend their dissertation before a minimum of 3 examiners.

Degree Award

Upon successful completion of the program courses with at least a 3.5 GPA, competency exams, research language, written dissertation, oral defense, and a positive faculty recommendation for graduation, the candidate will receive the PhD in Philosophy of Religion granted by Veritas International University.

PhD in Philosophy of Religion (PhD)	
STAGE 1: Philosophy of Religion — 27 units	
PH1010 Thomistic Metaphysics (3)	PH1035 Moral Philosophy (3)
PH1015 Thomistic Epistemology (3)	PH1040 Philosophy of Science (3)
PH1020 Religious Epistemology (3)	PH1045 Influential Philosophers & Philosophies (3)
PH1025 Natural Theology (3)	PH1050 Philosophical Problems (3)
PH1030 Philosophy of Mind and Body (3)	PR: RW499 Research Methods & Technology (P/F)
Philosophical Apologetics/Theology – 18 units	
AP1010 Theodicy: The Problem of Evil (3)	AP1030 Philosophical Apologetics (3)
AP1015 Socialism, Diversity, Justice, and Bible (3)	TH1010 Theological Problems (3)
AP1025 Issues in Biblical Criticism (3)	CE1010 Teaching in Higher Education (3)
Electives – 6 units	
PHR1010 Directed Research in Philosophy of Religion I (3) or Elective (3)	PHR1015 Directed Research in Philosophy of Religion II (3) or Elective (3)
STAGE 2: Language Competency – Pass/Fail	
PHR1100 Language Competency Preparation and Examination	
Comprehensive Exams Prior to Dissertation – Pass/Fail	
PHR1105 Metaphysics and Epistemology Written Competency Exam	PHR1115 Philosophical/Theological Problems Written Competency Exam
PHR1110 Moral Philosophy Written Competency Exam	PHR1120 Philosophy of Religion Oral Competency Exam
STAGE 3: Dissertation – 9 units	
PHR1200 Dissertation Prospectus (P/F)	
PHR1300 Dissertation Research and Writing (9)	
STAGE 4: Oral Defense – Pass/Fail	
PHR1400 Oral Defense (3 examiner minimum)	
Total Semester Hours: 60	

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

The distance-learning program is designed for those who do not live in the immediate vicinity of the main campus in Orange County. The program offers interactive distance education courses through a internet-based 7-week modular format. This delivery option will benefit distance students who would like to access their course lectures from any location, as long as a computer and intranet connection are available.

The distance-learning program follows an academic calendar with spring, summer and fall terms, and therefore, courses may be taken twice a semester or once each summer during a 7-week term. A typical graduate course includes pre-recorded streaming video (or in some rare cases audio) lectures completed over a 7-week period. For example, a course which began on September 24 will be completed by October 9. Courses may be taken in any sequence unless there are stated prerequisites. For more information about distance learning visit the “Distance Learning” menu on the VIU website (www.ves.edu).

All admission requirements are the same as other University resident programs as well as degree program course requirements. The distance-learning program is open to foreign and U.S. citizens without a residency requirement in order to graduate. Distance students may attend residential courses upon further approval from VIU Admissions Department. International students must comply with all government requirements if they wish to attend residential courses.

After being admitted to VIU, distance students may complete their chosen major without a residency requirement (except for Archaeology majors). The major benefits of the interactive external studies format are regular, meaningful professor-to-student interaction, student-to-student interaction, and classroom-like structure that encourage the development of thriving community of online learners. Distance learning courses typically include the following elements:

- **Set Enrollment Periods:** Enrollment periods will precede each of the two 7-week semester terms in fall and spring, and prior to the 7-week summer module (see semester schedule).
- **Semester Course Schedule:** Distance learning courses are offered in two 7-week terms per semester and one 7-week module per summer. Students can choose courses from a pre-planned semester schedule.
- **Discussion Boards:** Distance learning courses have discussion incorporated into the course to allow students to encourage each other and work through key concepts together. The discussion boards occur weekly in order to encourage community, creativity, substantive interaction with the instructor, and academic growth for each student.
- **Classroom Structure, Course Assignments and Grading:** Course will be fully completed within the 7-week time period. The professors will provide a weekly schedule of assignments and reading to guide students in the learning

- process. In addition, professors will be grading your weekly work and providing timely feedback on assignments throughout the course.
- **Exam/quiz Proctor Form:** Occasionally, your professor will require you to take a quiz or an exam. In order to complete exams you will first need to submit a proctor form, which identifies a qualified individual (e.g. professor, pastor, counselor, librarian, teacher, educational administrator, or an individual employed by a professional learning center), who is not a family member to ensure accountability and administer and return your exam/ quiz to VIU for grading.

Each distance education course includes materials (data):

- A course syllabus, which contains course objectives and requirements, and course instructions that offer special guidance
 - Course materials: electronic handouts, PowerPoint slides, etc. that are provided by the professors
 - Streaming video (or audio in rare occasions) lectures, taught by VIU professors
- *Distance students are responsible for obtaining any textbooks required for their courses.

When distance-learning courses are not offered during the semester and the course is needed to complete your degree, it may be completed through an arranged course upon request in the Registrar's Office. It is our commitment to students that they will be able to finish their degree in a timely manner. If a certain course is needed to complete their degree that is not offered in a pre-scheduled module, we will work with you to facilitate your need. However, if the course is offered in a module, students are required to enroll in the course as a first choice.

Technology Requirements for Distance Learning

Students fulfilling their courses through pre-recorded streaming video must have access to a working computer with the following minimum requirements:

- Broadband internet connection of at least 1mbps or more (recommended)
- Speakers or operable headphone jack in order to listen to audio
- Monitor with minimum of 800x600 resolution (1028x780 or higher recommended)
- Word processing program (i.e. MS Word, Notepad, WordPad, Pages, etc.)
- Available battery life of three or more hours, or connection to power in order to view each lecture

Tuition and Fees

Distance learning graduate tuition is among the most affordable in the country and is identical to on-campus credit courses. In addition, each distance course will be assessed a \$50 technology fee.

Beginning Your Distance Courses

A new student seeking to begin taking classes through distance learning must complete the following:

- Complete and submit the Application for Admission to Veritas International University. The application may be downloaded from the University website at www.ves.edu. Admission to the distance program does not constitute admission to the residence program.
- Once you receive your admission acceptance notification, you may register for courses by either registering online, contacting the Registrar with your course selections (714.966.8500), or email your completed registration form as an attachment to registrar@ves.edu. The registration form may be downloaded from the VIU website at www.ves.edu.

Tuition and fees must be paid in full at the time of registration. If payments are made by check mail to:

Veritas International University
ATTN: Distance Learning
3000 W. MacArthur Blvd
KWave Building, Suite 207
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Time to Complete the Distance Degree and Certificate Programs

- Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (BACS) – 8 years
- Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) – 5 years
- Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics (MACA/MAABH) – 6 years
- Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam (MAPI) – 5 years
- Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (MABS) - 6 years
- Master of Divinity (in Apologetics or Biblical Studies)(MDiv) – 9 years
- Doctor of Ministry in Apologetics (DMin) – 5 years
- Doctor of Ministry (w/concentration)(DMin) – 5 years
- Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology and Biblical History (PhD) – 8 years
- Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy of Religion (PhD) – 9 years

The same time schedules apply to the respective certificate programs.

Individual distance courses must be completed on or prior to the course due date at the end of the term (7-weeks, DMin program is 15-weeks). If you need a 60-day extension, you may request one in writing, utilizing the *VIU Extension/Incomplete Request Form* found on the VIU Website, prior to the course expiration date for a \$50 fee. A second and final 60-day extension may be granted for an additional \$50 fee. There are no extensions to this timeframe except in extraordinary circumstances. If it's medical or life and death in the family, sickness, and anything not under the student's control, there is no reduction. If the student just needs more time for no extraordinary reason beyond their control, it is 1/2 grade reduction.

Textbooks

Distance-learning students are responsible for obtaining their own textbooks for each course. VIU does not sell textbooks.

Resident Students Taking Distance Courses

Resident students may complete courses for their degree program leading to graduation. Students admitted to all VIU degree programs may complete the entire program through distance learning. The MA/PhD in Archaeology & Biblical History have resident laboratory components. However, a significant portion may be completed at a distance or by arranged courses. Archaeological fieldwork does not constitute as a distance-learning course.

Distance Audit Students

Audit students may attend course lectures but may not participate in class discussions, ask questions, participate in exams, or submit coursework for grading unless otherwise stated by the professor. All external studies audit students must submit their notes taken from video lectures in order to receive audit credit. Resident students must attend at least 80% of the course lectures to receive audit credit.

Graduate Certificate Program

Only graduate level programs are eligible to be considered a "Certificate of Completion" program. The graduate certificate program is available to all students who do not desire to pursue graduate credit or who do not meet the academic prerequisites for admission to the graduate degree programs. In addition, the certificate program is ideal for those who are concurrently fulfilling their undergraduate requirements but wish to begin their VIU graduate studies immediately. All certificate students will complete the identical program of study and assigned coursework as graduate students. The students may at any time present official transcripts to the VIU Registrar demonstrating an earned Bachelors degree

from an accredited institution in order to convert all certificate credit to Masters degree credit.

Each certificate student must declare a major during the admission process. If in the future the student's academic undergraduate (Bachelor's degree) prerequisites are fulfilled, he/she may be admitted to a graduate program, and/or convert all certificate credit into graduate credit/degree by: (1) petitioning the Academic Committee and faculty, and (2) paying any difference in tuition costs between the graduate and certificate programs, and (3) submitting official undergraduate transcripts identifying their earned Bachelor degree. If more than five (5) years have passed since graduating from VIU, the student may need to complete supplemental coursework before being granted a degree.

Students seeking admission to the certificate program should have demonstrated previous pastoral or leadership skills for Christian ministry. In addition, applicants should have completed approximately two years of undergraduate study or the equivalent. The admission procedures for certificate applicants is identical to the graduate admission procedures. The completion of the certificate course of study leads to either the CTS/CBS/CCA/CABH/CDiv. The certificate program follows the exact same curriculum and graduation requirements as the graduate program.

Application checklist for certificate students:

- Completed admission application with signature
- One passport-style photo
- VIU Liability Waiver of Damages Responsibility
- Official academic transcripts
- Three references (one from your pastor and two others from non-family members)
- Personal statements of conversion, personal strengths and weaknesses, spiritual gifts, doctrines of God, Christ and salvation and purpose for attending VIU (c. 1000 words)
- Non-refundable admission application fee of \$50.00 for each application submitted (make check payable to: Veritas International University)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The registration of a student assumes a definite obligation between the student and VIU. It is an agreement by the student to fulfill all financial obligations stated in this catalog. Unpaid student accounts may delay or postpone graduation, the issuance of course credit, transcripts, and the student will not be permitted to take the final examination of any courses taken during the term unless arrangements are made with the business manager.

Application Fee

A non-refundable \$50.00 application for admission fee is required with each application submitted.

VIU Tuition	
Program	Resident/Distance Tuition
Undergraduate Credit	\$250 per semester credit hour
Graduate Credit	\$320 per semester credit hour
Graduate Certificate Credit	\$320 per semester credit hour
Doctor of Ministry Credit	\$425 per semester credit hour
Doctor of Philosophy Credit (Philosophy)	\$425 per semester credit hour
Doctor of Philosophy Credit (Archaeology)	\$525 per semester credit hour
Audit	\$215 per course
Research Methods/Tech Skills Course	\$50 per course
Personal Enrichment (USB Flash Drive)	\$325 per course
Personal Enrichment (open to the public)	\$185 per course
Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)	\$75 per course

Course Registration Fee

In addition to tuition, each resident and distance learning course will be assessed a non-refundable \$30.00 registration fee. An arranged course includes an additional \$50.00 fee.

Technology Fee

In addition to tuition, all distance-learning courses are assessed a \$50.00 non-refundable technology fee per course.

Administrative Fee

In addition to the tuition and registration fee, there will be assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee once per year upon the student's first registration of the year.

Arranged Course Fee

Arranged courses may be used by students for greater flexibility and will be charged a fee of \$100 per course. If the student wishes to begin their arranged course on a custom date (any start date other than the regular 1st and 15th of the month) will incur an additional \$75 fee.

Church and Mission Experience Fee

For each required church and mission experience completed the fee is \$50.00. This non-refundable fee must be submitted with your completed service log sheets and supervisor evaluation form.

RW501 Thesis Research & Writing Fee

In addition to the normal tuition charge, the RW501 Thesis Writing course shall be a 12-month course and have a fee of \$840 to cover additional expenses associated with faculty reading and examination.

Graduation Fee

A graduation fee of \$150.00 is required for all students graduating. Doctoral students who participate in graduation ceremony the fee is \$250. All students must submit the required Graduation Petition Form in a timely fashion. Students may not be considered a candidate for graduation without a completed form or fee payment.

Spousal Tuition Waiver

If spouses of VIU students wish to register for academic credit courses, they may do so at a 50% tuition discount. Each spouse may attend the identical number of courses the full-paying student has attended (or is currently attending) at the discounted tuition rate. The tuition discount does not apply to administrative, technology, or registration fees. If your spouse does not wish to earn academic credit they may “sit-in” on all courses the VIU student is attending for credit at no charge. All other fees and policies remain the same.

Refund Policy

The following refund policy is for those who officially drop courses. Failure to attend class does not constitute a withdrawal from a course. Courses are officially dropped when the student completes an Add/Drop form and is signed by the instructor and submitted to the Registrar’s office. Please allow up to two weeks for the refund to be processed. There are no refunds of course fees. VIU does not charge a fee to process a refund.

Refund Schedule
Module Tuition Refund Schedule
Courses dropped by the end of the first class session—100% refund
Courses dropped by the end of the second class session—50% refund
Courses dropped after the second class session—no refund
Semester Resident Tuition Refund Schedule
Courses dropped by the end of the second week—100% refund
Courses dropped before the end of the fourth week—50% refund
Courses dropped after the end of the fourth week—no refund
Distance Learning Refund Schedule
Courses dropped by the end of the first week—100% refund
Courses dropped by the end of the second week—50% refund
Courses dropped after the second week will not receive a refund.
Arranged Courses
*There is no refund for Arranged Courses.

VIU Tuition Waiver

At this time, VIU does not offer Federal Student Aid (FSA). However, VIU tuition waivers are available to qualified students. Waivers are not loans; they do not need to be repaid by the student. Waivers are limited to the availability of funds and will be awarded annually to any student based on moral/spiritual character, financial need, ministry, and GPA. Waivers are valid for one calendar year (January through December), expiring on December 31 of each year. Each year the student must re-apply for benefits and submit updated financial information. If approved for benefits, the student must enroll in at least 9 units per year to be eligible to apply for waiver benefits for the following year. Mandatory enrollments are prorated based on time of year your waiver application is submitted. In addition, Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) must be maintained in order to retain benefits. If the student's GPA falls below 3.0 during a calendar year, all waiver/scholarship benefits will be forfeited. The following policies and procedures are in place to ensure fair, accurate and timely awards of waivers:

Checks and Balances. The VIU Financial Aid Committee has been established to authorize the distribution of waivers to qualified students. The authorizer (VIU Financial Aid Committee) shall not be of the same office as the disbursing office. This authorizing Financial Aid Committee shall be comprised of the President and the Academic Dean, and the Disbursing Office shall be a designated member of the Business/Accounting Office.

Office Procedure. The student should complete and submit a Tuition Waiver Application Form to the Business Office/Registrar for consideration. The Business Office/Registrar will forward the application to the Financial Aid Committee for evaluation and authorization.

The Committee's decision shall not be longer than three (3) weeks from the time of submittal. The Financial Aid Committee will vote to approve or deny the application. This decision will be forwarded to the Registrar and a copy of award will be placed in the students file.

The Registrar will then notify the student of the Committee's decision and amount of award (usually listed as a percent of tuition waived, e.g. 30%, or in the case of funds being authorized it will be listed as a dollar figure, e.g. \$2000) in writing, this letter will also be placed in the student's file. The student may receive the award when he/she enrolls in a respective course(s).

The Registrar will note the amount of award applied to the tuition on the enrollment form which is then forwarded to the Business Office for processing. The Financial Aid Committee will forward a second copy of the award to the Business Office to be recorded for budget tracking purposes and confirmation of the Registrar's data recorded on the student's enrollment form.

Priority of Disbursement. All awarded waivers shall be credited to student tuition at the time of enrollment in a timely manner to ensure that the student will have immediate access to credit awarded for immediate use.

Student Application Process. VIU does not accept federal student loans or other federal aid programs. VIU operates on a no-debt policy and encourages students to approach their tuition in like manner. Inquire at the Business Office for availability of VIU institutional scholarships/waivers. They are available to degree/certificate students who have usually completed a minimum of nine (9) graduate units of coursework with a GPA of 3.0 or better, ministry worker, missionary, or who have current financial hardship. Scholarship/waiver applications may be requested from the Business Office and returned to the Financial Aid Committee (at the Business Office) for evaluation. Each scholarship award is based on financial need, Christian character, GPA, ministry involvement, and academic status. Awards are distributed prior to the registration period. Students who receive tuition waivers and scholarships shall not be required to repay the funds or its value to the institution. All Financial Aid Committee decisions are final. VIU tuition waivers do not have to be repaid by the student. Award recipients whose semester GPA falls below 3.0 in a calendar year (January—December) or do not complete at least 9 units per award year are considered lacking Satisfactory Academic Progress, meaning the award may be revoked.

VIU Tuition Waiver Award Schedule

- Full-time Pastors/Missionary/Ministry/Veterans—30% Flat Waiver
- Part-time Ministry Workers—10% Flat Waiver
- Non-professional Ministry and Need Based—Up to 30%
- *All unpaid tuition balances will be assessed a \$50.00 late fee (see Student Handbook for details).

Ministry workers need a letter from their ministry verifying the full-time nature of your employment (senior pastors must submit their verification letter with at least one other Elder/Business Manager signature), copy of your ordination certificate (if your certificate is not readily available you may complete up to nine (9) units by submitting a signed letter from the ordaining body. Registration into further courses requires an ordination certificate), and two paystubs reflecting full-time employment (32+ hours per week).

Pay As-You-Go Program

In VIU's quest for affordable education, qualified students may choose to pay for their tuition using this incremental program that allows students to break up the cost of tuition into four (4) scheduled payments each semester the student registers for courses.

To initiate this program, complete the Tuition Waiver Form and check the Pay As-You-Go box. Once approved, at the time of registration for courses the student will pay the equivalent of one unit of tuition (plus any fees), then schedule the three remaining dates of payment that will be due throughout your current semester.

If you are a tuition waiver recipient, you may use Pay As-You-Go program following the same procedures of payment described above. However, instead of scheduling four payments, students will schedule a total of two payments, half the amount due at registration, and the second half due on your scheduled second pay date. The Tuition Waiver Form may be obtained on the VIU website.

Veteran's Tuition Benefit

Though Selected academic programs of study at VIU are approved for students who qualify for veterans' benefits and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program, VA Vocational Rehabilitation, Post 9/11 GI Bill®, and Tuition Assistance. Each program depends on a person's eligibility and duty status and is administered differently. Please contact the University's VA Certification Officer (714.966.8500/pdiaz@ves.edu) for general information. Prospective students can also be served by contacting the Admissions Office at the same number or emailing info@ves.edu. VIU facility code is: **31-0157-05**

To apply for GI Bill® Education Benefits, contact the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and speak with a Veterans Benefits Counselor at 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) or visit their website at benefits.va.gov/gibill. The website contains a wealth of information about the various education benefits administered by the US Department of Veterans Affairs. The VA is responsible for determining eligibility and making decisions regarding payment of education benefits. Once you have applied for benefits, the VA will mail you a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility after they have determined your eligibility. Upon its availability, provide a copy to the institution as well as a copy of your DD-214 (if applicable). A student must be admitted to the institution and registered for courses in an approved degree-seeking program in order to be certified for veteran's and dependent education benefits. To get started contact the Department of Veterans Affairs in your local area or at the website above.

Credit for previous education and training. Credit for prior education or training must be evaluated and reported to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) prior to the start of week 25 of enrollment. The DVA may not always pay DVA education benefits after week 24 if the DVA records indicate the student has a large amount of transfer credits.

Please ensure all prior education transcripts, DD-295, DD-214, Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS), Coast Guard institute transcripts, and Sailor/ Marine/American Council on Education Registry transcripts are submitted for evaluation in a timely manner. The student is responsible for ensuring all transcripts are submitted to the University. Academic credits earned for courses appearing on an official transcript from a regionally or nationally accredited or candidate-for-accreditation college or university will be evaluated according to VIU policies, and accepted subject to the approval of the Registrar's Office. Transfer credits based on a different unit of credit than the one prescribed by VIU are subject to conversion before being transferred. Only the official transcript and course evaluations performed by the Registrar's Office are final. Any preliminary reviews by campus personnel are unofficial, not binding, and subject to change.

Unsatisfactory Progress. If an eligible person ceases to make satisfactory progress, they may be placed on Academic Probation. No more than two terms (one year) on probation are permitted. At this point, the student's VA educational benefits will be discontinued.

VIU VA Benefit Policy Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018, 38 U.S.C. § 3679. VIU permits any covered individual to attend or participate in the course of education during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides to VIU a certificate of eligibility (COE) for entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 31 or 33 and ending on the earlier of the following dates:

- 1) The date on which the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) provides payment for a course of education to an institution.
- 2) The date that is 90 days after the date on which VIU certifies for tuition and fees following receipt of the COE from the student.

VIU will not impose any penalty, including the 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 VIU due to the delayed disbursement funding from the DVA under chapter 31 or 33. The covered individual is required to: 1) submit a written request to VIU to use such entitlement, 2) VIU may also require additional payment or impose a fee for the amount that is the difference between the amount of the student's financial obligation and the amount of the VA education benefit disbursement. **NOTE: A Covered Individual is any individual who is entitled to educational assistance under chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation, or chapter 33, Post 9/11 GI Bill® benefits.**

Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF)

Students must pay the state-imposed assessment for the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) if all below applies to you:

1. You are a student in an educational program, who is a California resident, or are enrolled in a residency program, and prepay all or part of your tuition either by cash, guaranteed student loans, or personal loans, and...
2. Your total charges are not paid by any third-party payer such as an employer, government program or other payer unless you have a separate agreement to repay the third party. **You are not eligible for protection from the STRF and you are not required to pay the STRF assessment, if either of the following applies:**
 - 1) You are not a California resident, or are not enrolled in a residency program, or,
 - 2) Your total charges are paid by a third party, such as an employer, government program or other payer, and you have no separate agreement to repay the third party.

The State of California created the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) to relieve or mitigate economic losses suffered by students in educational programs who are California residents, or are enrolled in a residency programs attending certain schools regulated by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education. You may be eligible for STRF if you are a California resident or are enrolled in a residency program, prepaid tuition, paid the STRF assessment, and suffered an economic loss as a result of any of the following:

1. The school closed before the course of instruction was completed.
2. The school's failure to pay refunds or charges on behalf of a student to a third party for license fees or any other purpose, or to provide equipment or materials for which a charge was collected within 180 days before the closure of the school. The school's failure to pay or reimburse loan proceeds under a federally guaranteed student loan program as required by law or to pay or reimburse proceeds received by the school prior to closure in excess of tuition and other costs.
3. There was a material failure to comply with the Act or this Division within 30 days before the school closed or, if the material failure began earlier than 30 days prior to closure, the period determined by the Bureau.
4. An inability after diligent efforts to prosecute, prove, and collect on a judgment against the institution for a violation of the Act.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

The following grading symbols to describe the various levels of academic achievement.

A and A-	= Exceptional
B+, B, B-	= Above average
C+, C, C-	= Average
D+, D, D-	= Below Average
F	= Failure
AU	= Audit
WP	= Withdraw Passing
WF	= Withdraw Failing
I	= Incomplete
P	= Pass
IP	= In Progress

Undergraduate level grade percentage and point scale based on semester credit hours:

A = 94.50-100 / 4.0 points
A- = 89.50 / 3.7 points
B+ = 86.50 / 3.3 points
B = 82.50 / 3.0 points
B- = 79.50 / 2.7 points
C+ = 76.50 / 2.3 points
C = 72.50 / 2.0 points
C- = 69.50 / 1.7 points
D+ = 66.50 / 1.3 points
D = 62.50 / 1.0 points
D- = 59.50 / 0.7 points
F = 00 / 0.0 points
AU = Audit
WP = Does Not affect GPA
WF = 0.0 points Counted in GPA
I = Incomplete (student must submit request form prior to course end date)
P = No credit is awarded, only fulfillment status (doesn't affect GPA)

Graduate and doctoral level grade percentage and point scale based on semester credit hours:

A = 97-100 / 4.0 points
A- = 94-96 / 3.7 points
B+ = 91-93 / 3.3 points
B = 88-90 / 3.0 points
B- = 86-87 / 2.7 points
C+ = 83-85 / 2.3 points
C = 80-82 / 2.0 points
C- = 78-79 / 1.7 points
D+ = 75-77 / 1.3 points
D = 72-74 / 1.0 points
D- = 70-71 / 0.7 points
F = 69 and below / 0.0 points
AU = Audit
WP = Does Not affect GPA
WF = 0.0 points Counted in GPA
I = Incomplete (student must submit request form prior to course end date)
P = No credit is awarded, only fulfillment status (doesn't affect GPA)

Final Grades

No grade reports, transcripts, or official documents will be issued from the Registrar to any student who has not met all financial obligations to the University. Under normal circumstances, all grades will be distributed by the Registrar to the student within 3 weeks of the course end date.

Research Papers

Each research paper, including the student's thesis, are to be submitted in a format consistent with the latest edition of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* unless the instructor indicates otherwise.

Transcripts Fee

Each academic transcript request of courses taken, and grades received must be received by the Registrar in writing on the “Transcript Request Form” and accompanied with a payment of \$10.00. Upon graduation, a student may request one free official transcript for their records.

Full Time Student

Though all VIU degree programs may be completed at a faster rate, an undergraduate full-time academic load consists of 12 semester credit hours. Graduate and doctoral full-time student consists of enrolling in at least 9 and 6 semester credit hours per term respectively. Anything less than these academic load amounts is considered part-time.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children’s education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are “eligible students.”

Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student’s education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.

Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.

Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student’s education record. However, FERPA allows

schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):

- School officials with legitimate educational interest
- Other schools to which a student is transferring
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the University
- Accrediting organizations
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law

Schools may disclose, without consent, “directory” information such as a student’s name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

For additional information or technical assistance, you may call (202) 260-3887 (voice). Individuals who use TDD may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. Or you may contact us at the following address:

Family Policy Compliance Office

U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Exams

Each student must be present and complete at the scheduled time all examinations unless previous arrangements have been made with the instructor. On occasion, the student may be required to secure a qualified Proctor to administer an exam or quiz.

Attendance and Tardiness

In order to attend class, students must be registered for their desired course. Students are expected to attend 100% of class lectures in person, unless he/she is taking the course

through external studies. If any student is absent, he/she must make-up the missed lecture through listening to the recorded lecture and submitting written notes of the same lecture to VIU. Any unfilled class lectures may result in grade reductions and even course failure. Visitors are welcome to attend one (1) class session after receiving permission from the Registrar and instructor.

VIU requires a commitment to regular and punctual attendance, which is essential to successful scholarship. Attendance in all classes for which a student is registered is expected. In order to be excused from class, a student must have extenuating circumstances, which require the immediate attention of the student and is communicated with the University office or instructor as soon as possible. Students are expected to be in class at the appointed time. As noted with absentees, only extenuating circumstances will be excused. Students share the responsibility for their own education. As part of this responsibility, they are expected to attend classes on time and be prepared spiritually for the lessons. Tardiness is not to be equated with attendance. VIU credit may be withheld for flagrant tardiness. Three tardies are equivalent to an absence. (A tardy is defined as nonattendance amounting to 15 minutes or less, whether the nonattendance occurs at the beginning, middle, or end of the class period.) Non-attendance of more than 30 minutes is counted as an absence. Students are responsible to notify professors by the end of the class if they are tardy.

Add/Drop and Credit/Audit Changes

Changes to the student's class load or academic status must be documented in writing on the appropriate Add/Drop and Credit/Audit forms. Courses may be added up to the third week of a semester course and the third class of a module course. Any missed classes must be made up through listening to lecture and submitting notes of the same lecture. Academic status changes may be made within three weeks of beginning your course. All forms may be obtained on the VIU website or from the Registrar's Office.

Withdraw Policy

Any student seeking to withdraw from a course by the end of the second class session will receive a Withdraw-Passing (WP) grade. Those seeking to withdraw after the second week will be at the discretion of the instructor as to Withdraw-Passing (WP) or Withdraw-Failing (WF), which will depend on the instructor's assessment of the student progress. Any withdraw after the last day of class will be an automatic Withdraw-Failure (WF).

Incomplete Grade

An “Incomplete” (I) grade may be awarded by the instructor at the request of the student in cases of serious illness or other emergency circumstances, but the Incomplete Grade Form must be completed and submitted to the Registrar prior to the end of the course term. Forms are available in the Registrar’s office. An Incomplete (I) automatically becomes a failure 60 days after the course end date if the course requirements are not satisfied and the instructor assigns a new grade. There is a \$50.00 fee upon submission of the form.

Only in extreme extenuating circumstances will this time period be extended. To extend this period the student must submit a request in writing with a written statement from the instructor approving such an extension. This extension must also be approved/declined by an officer of the University. No more than two consecutive Incomplete Grade Request may be issued.

Repeating Courses

No course may be taken for credit a second time if the student’s previous grade was D– or better. One may repeat a course only if their previous grade was an “F” or “WF.” All previously completed courses along with their grade points will be reflected on the student’s transcript. All students may repeat a course under “audit” status at any time. All regular tuition and fees will apply to any repeated courses.

Academic Probation

For undergraduate students, grade point averages that fall below 2.0 (3.0 for graduate/doctoral students) after twelve (12) semester hours of completed coursework will be placed on academic restriction the following enrollment period. This restriction allows the student to take no more than six (6) semester hours of course load. If the GPA of 2.0 (3.0 for graduate/doctoral) or above is not achieved while on restriction during the next enrollment period, the student will be placed on academic probation. If the student does not achieve at least a 2.0 (3.0 for graduate/doctoral) or above GPA the student may be suspended by the Academic Committee from the University. The student may apply for re-admission after a period of four (4) consecutive months after suspension.

Withdrawal from VIU

Official withdraw from the institution must be given in writing (and contain your signature) and be addressed to the Registrar. You will be considered officially withdrawn from the University when the Registrar receives your withdraw letter. Those who do not inform the University of withdraw become automatically inactive if they fail to enroll in

courses over twelve (12) consecutive months. To re-enter the institution, follow the directions given under “Re-Entering the University” and “Leave of Absence” section.

Transfer Credit Policy

VIU reserves the right to evaluate each transfer student’s proficiency and knowledge gained from postsecondary courses taken at other institutions. VIU reserves the right to evaluate the contents of the applicant’s academic record and the educational institution where that record came when considering the transfer credit equivalency of any particular course.

To initiate the transfer of credit the student is responsible for sending a written request along with the appropriate sealed official transcripts to the Registrar for evaluation. Upon written request, the Registrar will evaluate the transcript and any other necessary documentation. Then the student will be informed of the credit that may be transferred. All course transfer credits are recorded on the student’s permanent record after he/she is officially matriculated.

Students may transfer credits earned at other accredited schools, even if a previous degree was awarded for these same credits. For undergraduate students, transfer credit may be up to 90 semester credit hours. For Graduate Degrees students may transfer credits as follows:

MATS, MAPI: 9 units

MACA, MABS, MAABH: 12 units

MDiv: 18 units

DMin and PhD students must complete at least 50% of his/her degree program at VIU to be eligible for graduation.

To be eligible for transfer credit the courses in question must have received a grade of “C-” or better in a subject appropriate to the VIU course of study and should have been awarded by an accredited institution or its equivalent. An approved school is one authorized by a state, federal, and/or recognized accrediting body. Credits completed at the undergraduate level are not eligible for transfer into graduate level programs. Some reasons for transfer credit refusal include, but are not limited to: a grade of “C-“ or lower, course not awarded by an accredited institution or its equivalent, and the course is evaluated as inadequate to any particular VIU course of study.

Upon a refusal of acceptance of transfer credits, the student may appeal the refusal. The student is responsible for sending a written appeal along with any other necessary documentation substantiating their appeal to the Academic Dean. The Academic Dean will review the appeal and re-evaluate the appealed course. Then the student will be notified of

the outcome of the appeal. All successful appeals are recorded on the student's permanent record.

Students desiring to transfer from Veritas International University to another institution may request assistance from the Registrar. It is the student's responsibility to request the Registrar to send their official transcripts to the desired institution. Unofficial transcripts are available electronically for print on Populi, the VIU online student database.

Graduation Requirements

All candidates for a residential or distance learning degree at VIU must have completed the following requirements:

- Successfully complete the entire course of study for a particular degree as set out in this catalog (and VIU Handbooks) with a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 (undergraduate) or 3.0 (graduate/doctoral) or better within VIU specified time limits.
- Complete all program requirements.
- A successfully written and defended thesis/dissertation (where one is required).
- Complete the specified amount of credits in your degree program
- Completely pay all tuitions, fees, and other financial obligations to the University.
- Maintain evidence of Christian character in all areas of life, including social media.
- Successfully recommended for the degree by the faculty and/or the Academic Committee.
- Complete all comprehensive exams (if required)

Timeframe for Completion from First Enrollment

BACA – 8 years

MATS – 5 years

MAPI – 5 years

MACA – 6 years

MABS – 6 years

MAABH – 6 years

MDiv (Biblical Studies or Apologetics) – 9 years

DMin – 5 years

PhD (Archaeology) – 8 years, PhD (Philosophy) – 9 years

The Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology and Biblical History Philosophy (PhD) must complete all coursework, field study, and comprehensive exams within 5 years of first registration into the program. Students will then have 3 years from completing the

comprehensive exam to complete the dissertation and live defense (Viva Voce) along with subsequent revisions. Students will have 8 years to complete the program.

Academic Honors

There are differing levels of academic honor reflecting the student's grade point average. All GPA scores are determined on April 1 immediately prior to graduation. The final grade will determine which mark will be recorded on the student's transcript. The following GPA scores which correspond to the student's honor are as follows: *Summa Cum Laude* requires a G.P.A. of 3.90 or better; *Magna Cum Laude* requires a minimum GPA of 3.75; *Cum Laude* requires a minimum GPA of 3.50.

Defining Credit Hour

VIU defines credit hour as 1-hour in-class instruction for every 1 credit. The national standard required a 3-credit hour course to include a total of 45 hours of instruction. The federal standard requires at least 2-hours of out-of-class work per credit hour (a total of 6 hours of work per week per course). The federal standard requires a 3-credit hour course to include the equivalent of 90 hours of out-of-class work per course.

Graduation Ceremony

Graduation will take place on the VIU campus unless otherwise scheduled. All resident students who are currently enrolled for credit are strongly encouraged to attend graduation exercises.

Student Character and Conduct

As a Christian university that prepares students for leadership, there is a demand on each student to maintain excellent Christian character and conduct as measured by the Scriptures. Students, who in the opinion of the faculty and/or the Academic Committee do not demonstrate Christian character qualities will not be recommended for graduation. If any student does not exemplify Christian character during their respective programs, the faculty and/or the Academic Committee may suspend or expel the student from VIU programs and campus.

Arranged Courses

Arranged courses are offered on an individual basis. All arranged courses must be approved by the Registrar and the course professor. Students desiring to take an arranged course must fill out the "Arranged Study Registration Form" and submit it 30 days prior to starting the course. The form is available in the Registrar's office or online. No student may take more than three (3) arranged study courses in a semester unless approval is granted for

special circumstances by the Academic Dean. In order for a student to be eligible to take a class as an arranged study, the student must have taken at least one traditional residential or distance education course at VIU and the student must have a GPA of 3.0 or better. The assigned faculty member will provide a course syllabus and work with the student throughout a 7 - 15-week period or its equivalent. Arranged courses start on the 1st and the 15th of each month. All fees and policies remain the same as regular courses of study.

Change of Academic Status

Students may change their academic status from credit to audit, or audit to credit by the end of the second-class meeting. To accomplish this, submit to the Registrar the Change of Academic Status form which may be obtained on the website or at the Admissions Office.

Student Government Association (SGA)

The Student Government Association (SGA) elects officers who work closely with the University administration in matters of interest to students. The purpose of the Student Government Association is to provide opportunities for student self-governing. The SGA is a voice for the student body in matters of concern to the university, and it provides opportunities to aid the administration wherever possible. The Cabinet of the SGA shall consist of: 1) President, 2) Vice President, and 3) The Secretary/Treasurer

These officials are elected each January (see the Student Handbook for the SGA Bylaws and Constitution).

VIU Alumni Association (VIUAA)

The VIUAA is administrated by the Student Services department, thus any inquiries related to the Alumni Association should be directed to the Director of Student Services.

The mission of the Veritas International University Alumni Association is:

- To encourage alumni to regularly pray for and promote the mission of the University.
- To educate Christian men and women to Proclaim the Gospel, Equip the Saints, and Defend the Faith.
- To provide continuing faculty and staff support for VIU alumni in their post-graduate ministry and educational endeavors.
- To raise awareness among VIU alumni of the University's reliance on charitable giving to ensure that our educational program remains affordable for all current and prospective students.

The benefits available to all graduates of VIU include:

- Updates on upcoming University programs and events
- Access to the Alumni Directory
- Ministry job listings by email
- Campus Library privileges

In addition, VIU graduates are eligible to become VIU Alumni Association members by paying the annual membership fee of \$40. Membership benefits include:

- One free residential or online “refresher” course per year as personal enrichment.
- Free admission to all VIU conferences and or special lectures.
- Free admission to all VIU conferences and or special lectures.
- One free “for credit” class of equal or lesser value for every student the alumnus brings to VIU and enrolls in a degree or certificate program for credit.
- Receive a 60% discount off the retail price of any VIU USB course.
- Receive a 10% discount off the price of all VIU Learning Resources purchased through the VIU website.

THESIS/MINISTRY PROJECT/DISSERTATION COMPLETION, SUBMISSION AND DEFENSE

After completing your comprehensive examination, the student may officially enroll in the thesis/dissertation research and writing course. All theses, dissertations, and ministry projects must be defended on campus. However, before this time (at least eight months for graduate level), you must enlist an appropriate (i.e., competent in your subject matter) member of the resident faculty who is willing to serve as the student’s Thesis/Project/Dissertation supervisor. The supervisor shall be responsible for approving the student’s topic of research as well as overseeing and directing the research.

Submission and Acceptance of Thesis Topic

All research topics must have prior approval by your Supervisor at least eight (8) months prior to your intended graduation date. Students shall submit to their supervisor in writing a clearly articulated proposed topic of research along with a bibliography listing titles that will be used in the research. Your topic should be narrow in focus and substantial enough to be considered a publishable work. Your proposal should be accompanied by a brief abstract explaining why you believe the topic is worthy of research. In addition, include an outline of sub-topics to be included in your research how you propose to treat/research the topic.

Submission of the Work

All research must be submitted to VIU with appropriate form, style, and content. The following are the necessary requirements for all theses and Dissertations, Ministry Projects may vary due to the practical nature of the project.

Form and Style

Each work must be submitted according to the form and style described in the latest edition of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers, Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Be sure to proof read work several times and check for accuracy of all citations. If there are an excessive number of errors, you may be asked to reprint and resubmit your work that may result in delays. A Turabian Helper with examples can be obtained from the VIU website.

Doctoral Dissertation and Procedure Guidelines

Doctoral students should follow the above guidelines except where they differ from those given in this section (or in the AR1551 syllabus) on dissertation procedure. Students will have three (3) years from completing their comprehensive exam to complete the dissertation and live defense (Viva Voce) along with subsequent revisions. Under consultation of the program director, the student will select an acceptable topic on which to perform original research and write a doctoral dissertation (AR1551 Dissertation). The dissertation shall conform to SBL or Turabian format, with the text-proper being no less than 250 pages (not including bibliography, appendices, charts, tables, figures, etc.), and not exceeding 500 pages. Three VIU faculty members and one external reader shall constitute the student's dissertation committee. The topic must be: 1) a unique contribution to the field of study and 2) incorporate aspects of both archaeology and biblical history. The dissertation shall be defended before the committee and other members of the VIU postgraduate faculty. (See the AR1551 syllabus for details).

Number of Copies and Binding

The student shall submit three (3) copies of his/her work to VIU in temporary spiral or coil binding for review by the Thesis Committee Evaluators. After reviewing the thesis (allow up to 8 weeks for review), your evaluators will schedule a live oral defense of the work.

Live Oral Defense (Viva Voce)

The live oral defense will be scheduled by your supervisor who will choose two additional faculty members (one may be an external reader from another institution) to serve as your evaluation committee. The oral defense will usually take place through live online media

or on the VIU campus (or satellite teaching site). The purpose of your defense is to: 1) allow faculty review of your research, 2) to enquire of points which are unclear, 3) to give you the opportunity to set right any misconceptions about your work, 4) to ensure you have really written the thesis yourself, 5) to discover whether further work needs to be done. After your oral defense is complete, the evaluators will deliberate in private for a short time. At this time, the evaluators may recommend to the student revisions and/or corrections to the work and give the student a grade. There are five possible grade outcomes for the student:

- Pass (with no corrections or revisions)
- Pass (normally with minor corrections). You have up to two (2) weeks to complete.
- Pass (with major revisions). You have up to four (4) weeks to complete.
- Resubmit the thesis for further evaluation. Graduate students have up to six (6) months to complete. PhD students have 3 years (36 months) from the completion of their comprehensive exam(s) to complete all writing, live oral defense, and revisions.
- Fail, without resubmission.

After corrections are made the work must again be submitted in hard board permanent binding that is capable of standing erect on a library shelf. It is essential that the permanently bound thesis contain the following information on the spine. Beginning at the lower portion of the spine, include:

- The initials of the student's first and middle name, and the full last name of the author (e.g., D.J. Smith).
- Name of the degree for which the thesis is being submitted (e.g. M.Div. or Ph.D.).
- The year thesis is submitted.
- Full title of the Thesis.

It is essential that on the face of the permanently hard bound copy the following appears centered beginning at the top cover:

- Two inches below the top cover, include the full name of the University (e.g. Veritas International University).
- Allow for three inches of space from the University name to write the full title of your thesis/dissertation.
- One inch below your title, write out the full name of your degree (e.g. Master of Divinity).
- Two inches up from the bottom of cover spell out your full name with middle initial.
- Directly under your name place the year the thesis was submitted.

DMin Ministry Project and Defense

At least one (1) year prior to graduation, the student must enlist a Project supervisor from the VIU faculty. The Ministry Project and Defense (MP900) offers an opportunity for the student to make a unique and practical contribution related to apologetics. The contribution and presentation is unique to the student's apologetic gifting and practical ministry goals that will benefit the body of Christ. Since the DMin project is practical in nature, format and guidelines will be determined by your supervisor.

The actual presentation and defense of the Ministry Project is fulfilled on campus and scheduled by appointment with your supervisor. A total of three (3) faculty members will comprise the student's Ministry Project Committee during the presentation and defense. After the defense, the student will have no more than six (6) months to complete all revisions. DMin students should follow the guidelines list above unless they differ from specific DMin syllabus or VIU literature.

CHURCH AND MISSION EXPERIENCE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Because VIU views its graduate programs as a means to equip Christian leaders, it has implemented the Church/Mission Experience program (CM501-504) for all resident and distance-learning students (except for the Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History). The program provides field experience opportunities for students to practically use their education in service to Christ and His church. Participation in the program requires regular personal involvement in ministry of some kind (e.g. teaching, assisting, cleaning, ushering, parking lot attendee, children's ministry, Bible study group, youth ministry, etc) in the student's home (or any orthodox local) church for at least two hours per week for 15 weeks (total of 30 hours). Though you may serve more than two hours per week, clustering hours of more than three (3) hours per week is prohibited. Each degree program has their unique length of service requirements. Lengths of service are as follows:

- Master/Certificate of Theological Studies (MATS/CTS) Church/Mission Experience I, II
- Master/Certificate of Christian Apologetics (MACA/CCA) Church/Mission Experience I, II, III
- Master/Certificate of Biblical Studies (MABS/CBS) Church/Mission Experience I, II, III
- Master of Divinity/Certificate of Divinity (MDiv/CDiv) Church/Mission Experience I, II, III, IV

Students arrange their own church or mission experience service that must be overseen by a pastor, elder, mission supervisor, or staff member of the church or mission staff.

Students are required to maintain and submit a log at the conclusion of their service which documents the date, time, and nature of ministry service, as well as the signature of church supervisor, and supervisor evaluation of ministry service statement. On the basis of this detailed report and the supervisor's evaluation of the student's service, a pass/fail grade will be recorded for each term of field experience. Field experience forms may be obtained at the Registrar's office or downloaded from the VIU website at www.ves.edu. The fee cost for Church/Mission Experience is \$50, payable at the time the field experience report is submitted to the Registrar for evaluation.

The Church/Mission Experience program is an essential part of the student's practical education. The program is designed to assist the student to cultivate and practice what is learned in the classroom either through didactic or practical means of service, and seeks to develop in the student the following characteristics:

Humility. The Christian life is not only intellectual, it is practical. Service to others is viewed as another acceptable form of communication to believers and unbelievers of the character and disposition of our Lord Jesus Christ who came not to be served but to serve others.

Skill/Gift Discovery and Cultivation. Each student must discover and cultivate his/her own skills and gifts to the edification and equipping of the Body of Christ. These skills are not always recognized in a classroom setting but can surface when placed in a relational or service-oriented environment. The student may also become aware of the Holy Spirit's necessary involvement and assistance in practical service.

Practical Theological Integration and Demonstration. The characteristics of a sound leader involve the agreement between doctrine and behavior, and beliefs and practices. Through their service, students should understand the difference between a profession and a calling to Christian service by exploring their motivation for ministry and understanding their role in fulfilling the great needs of the church. Ultimately, VIU desires the student to view Christian service as flowing from self-sacrifice driven by Christ's unconditional love for His people. The demonstration of this love in practical service is a means of convincing/confirming the student in his/her own mind of the desirability and truthfulness of the Christian doctrine studied in the classroom. In addition, theological demonstration may serve as the catalyst for discovering if the student desires a life-long commitment to Christian leadership and service.

Accountability. Supervised ministry encourages an environment of personal accountability in Christian service as well as gaining a deep spiritual satisfaction of serving God's people in excellence.

Mission Trips

Students may fulfill field experience hours by participating in a mission trip to a destination outside the United States. In this case, the 30 hours needed may be clustered over a period of several days or weeks but may only be applied to one (1) term period. The same forms, procedures, and evaluations would apply.

Fulfillment of Field Experience Hours

A maximum of two (2) church/mission experience terms may be fulfilled per academic year.

Previous Ministry Experience

Previous church/mission experiences may not be used to fulfill current field experience requirements.

Types of Service Not Allowable

We encourage you to find opportunities to serve the Body of Christ, however, there are several services not accepted as fulfillment of your church/mission experience requirements. The following list describes some of them:

1. Unsupervised ministry functions.
2. Services rendered to yourself.
3. Attending meetings with no practical function (you must *do* something).
4. Any practical service that is not supervised by a pastor or elder of a church body.
5. Attending church services and Bible studies (but you can teach them).
6. Any service that is not practically measurable.
7. Any service for which you are being paid. Your service must be volunteer.
8. Professional (paid) clergy and ministry workers are exempted from this rule.

Timeframe for Completion

The Church/Mission Experience term begins on the first day of your ministry service and terminates nineteen (19) weeks later. Though only fifteen (15) weeks of service is necessary, all log sheets, supervisor evaluation, and manual must be received by VIU no later than the nineteenth (19) week. Late coursework will not be accepted for grading.

After grading has been completed, you will receive a “Pass” (P) or “Fail” (F) grade mark that will not be calculated in your GPA. Return the Following Items for Grading.

Return your course guide intact with:

1. Log Sheets (do not detach sheets from this guide) (50% of your final grade).
2. Supervisor Evaluation Form in an envelope sealed by your supervisor (50% of your final grade).

Send log sheets and supervisor evaluation with fee payment (\$50) to:

Veritas International University
3000 W. MacArthur Blvd, Suite 207
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Arranging Where and How to Serve

Due to the nature of this course, it is important to have a pastor, elder, or church staff personnel, who keeps you accountable and who acknowledges that you are volunteering your time for credit with VIU. Your ministry is to be an activity that is fulfilled on a volunteer basis. This means your service cannot be a part of your regular profession, or something for which you are being paid. The following steps are helpful suggestions to assist you in arranging your ministry service:

1. Arrange with your pastor (assistant/elder/mission supervisor) the task(s) that you are able to perform as well as a timeframe.
2. The following are suggestions that you may choose to do to assist your church: teaching, youth ministry, general maintenance, carpentry, cleaning, cooking, driving, office/clerical work, teaching Sunday school, or working in the nursery at the church, etc. Ask your pastor (supervisor) for a suggestion as to what ministry is needed for the church Body.
3. Record your hours legibly on the log sheet enclosed in this manual.
 - a. To receive credit for hours worked, you must turn in your hours on the log sheets provided. Each task must be clearly described/abbreviated on the log sheet.
 - b. The log sheet must have the supervisor’s signature for each job completed. If the supervisor is different for each job, have each entry initialed.
4. When your term of service is completed, be sure to have your supervisor complete and seal in an envelope the “Supervisor Evaluation Form” enclosed in the Church/ Missions Manual.

Student Services

VIU Student Services is here to serve and assist you with any needs during your time at VIU. The main objective of Student Services is to enhance and support the educational experience of each student by offering services and opportunities that will encourage development both spiritually and intellectually. Some of these services include:

- Coordinate the Student Government.
- Coordinate the Alumni Association.
- Provide news and updates to students.
- Informing students and alumni of job placement opportunities.
- Aid students in transition by offering orientation, information, and campus tours.

Exempt Degree Programs

The MA and PhD in Archaeology & Biblical History program and the DMin in Apologetics program are exempt from the Church/Mission requirements stated above.

FACULTY

Undergraduate – Full-Time

Kevin Conover

Associate Professor of Apologetics

B.A. University of California, San Diego; M.Div. Trinity Biblical University; M.A. Biola University

David Haines

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion

B.Th. Covington Theological Seminary; M.A. Southern Evangelical Seminary;

Ph.D. Universite' Laval, Quebec, QC

James Lee

Director of General Education

Professor of English Composition and Literature

B.A. University of California, Los Angeles; M.A. Northern Arizona University; M.A.T.S. (IP)

Veritas International University

Wendy L. Patrick

Professor of Theology, Law and Culture

B.A. University of California Los Angeles; J.D. California Western School of Law; M.Div. Bethel Seminary (San Diego) Ph.D. University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UK)

Scott Wilson

Associate Professor of Biblical Studies

B.A. Vanguard University; M.Div. Veritas Evangelical Seminary

Undergraduate – Part-Time

Frank Correa

Academic Dean

Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Assessment

Professor of Theological and Apologetics

B.S. Graceland College; M.A.T.S. Veritas Evangelical Seminary; M.A.C.A. Veritas International University;

D.Min. Veritas International University

Miguel Angel Endara

Director, BA in Christian Studies

Professor of Philosophy and Religion

B.S. California State University Los Angeles; M.A. Fuller Theological Seminary; M.A. Simon Greenleaf University/Trinity International University; Ph.D. Saint Luis University

Phil Fernandes

Director, Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics

Professor of Apologetics and Religion

B.Th. Columbia Evangelical Seminary; M.A.R. Liberty University; Ph.D. Greenwich University

Skip Heitzig

Associate Professor of Pastoral and Biblical Studies

B.A./M.S.L. Trinity College of the Bible & Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Trinity Southwest University

Graduate & Postgraduate Faculty – Full-Time

Charles Allers

Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Religion

Director, Doctor of Ministry (w/concentrations) Program

B.A. University of Oklahoma; M.Div. Azusa Pacific University; D.Min. Azusa Pacific University; Ph.D. University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UK)

Steven Collins

Director of VIU School of Archaeology/PhD Program

Professor of Archaeology and Biblical History

B.A. University of New Mexico; M.Div. Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; D.Min. Luther Rice University; Ph.D. Trinity Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Trinity Southwest University

Phil Fernandes

Director, Doctor of Ministry in Apologetics Program

Professor of Apologetics and Religion

B.Th. Columbia Evangelical Seminary; M.A.R. Liberty University; Ph.D. Greenwich University

Mark M. Hanna

Director, Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics Program

Professor of Philosophy and Religion

B.A. American University of Beirut, Lebanon; M.A. University of Southern California; Ph.D. University of Southern California

Brian Janeway

Director, Master of Arts Archaeology & Biblical History Program

Professor of Archaeology & Biblical History

B.A. University of Kentucky, Lexington; M.A. Wheaton College; Ph.D. University of Toronto

Daniel Janosik

Professor of Islamic Studies

Assistant Director, MA in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam

B.A. College of William and Mary; M.A.; M.Div. Columbia Biblical Seminary; Ph.D. Brunel University (UK)

David A. Miller

Director of Master of Divinity Program

Professor of Biblical and Theological Studies

B.A. Hope International University; M.Div., Th.M. Talbot School of Theology; Ph.D. Brunel University/London School of Theology (UK)

Jay H. Smith

Professor of Islamic Studies

Director, Master of Arts in Polemics & Apologetics to Islam Program

B.A. Messiah College; M.Div. Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary; M.Th. Fuller Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Melbourne School of Theology

Forrest Weiland

Director of Master of Arts in Biblical Studies Program

Professor of Biblical Studies

B.A. California State University, Chico; Th.M. Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Dallas Theological Seminary

Graduate & Postgraduate Faculty – Part-Time

Thomas W. Baker

Professor of Philosophy and Theology

Director, PhD in Philosophy of Religion Program

B.S. San Diego State University; M.A. Southern Evangelical Seminary; Ph.D. (ABD) Southern Evangelical Seminary

Daniel Alan Brubaker

Professor of Islamic Studies

B.A.; B.S. University of Washington; M.A. Rice University; Ph.D. Rice University

Jeannine Bulot

Assistant Professor of Archaeology & Biblical History

Archaeology Program Administrator

A.D.N. Navarro College; M.A. Trinity Southwest University; PhD (IP) Veritas International University

Christopher Burke

Assistant Professor of Apologetics and Law

B.A. State University of New York, Stony Brook; J.D. University of San Diego; LL.M. University of San Diego; M.A.C.A./D.Min. (in progress) Veritas International University

Dillon Burroughs

Associate Professor of Apologetics and Religion

B.S. Indiana State University; Th.M. Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Piedmont International University; Ph.D. University of Aberdeen (ABD)

Frank Correa

Academic Dean

Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Assessment

Professor of Theology and Apologetics

B.S. Graceland College; M.A.T.S. Veritas Evangelical Seminary; M.A.C.A. Veritas International University; D.Min. Veritas International University

Miguel Angel Endara

Professor of Philosophy and Religion

Director, Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies Program

B.S. California State University Los Angeles; M.A. Fuller Theological Seminary; M.A. Simon Greenleaf University/Trinity International University; Ph.D. Saint Louis University

Al Fadi

Associate Professor of Islamic Studies

B.S. King Abdulaziz University (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia); M.S. Arizona State University; M.Div. Phoenix Seminary; Ph.D. Melbourne School of Theology (IP)

David Haines

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion

B.Th. Covington Theological Seminary; M.A. Southern Evangelical Seminary; Ph.D. Universite' Laval, Quebec, QC

Joseph M. Holden

President, Professor of Theology and Apologetics

B.A. Western Illinois University; B.B.S. Calvary Chapel Bible College; M.A./M.Div. Southern Evangelical Seminary; Ph.D. University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UK)

H. Wayne House

Professor of Biblical Studies and Apologetics

B.A. Hardin-Simmons University; M.A. Abilene Christian University; M.Div., Th.M. Western Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.D. Concordia Seminary; J.D. Coburn School of Law

Patrick Marks

Associate Professor of Theology and Biblical Studies

B.A. San Diego State University; M.A.C.A. Veritas International University; D.Min. Veritas International University

Terry L. Miethe

Professor of Philosophy and Religion

A.M. University of Southern California; M.A. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; M.Div. McCormick Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Saint Louis University; Ph.D. University of Southern California; D.Phil. (Oxon. Cand.) The University of Oxford (UK)

William E. Nix

Professor of Historical and Theological Studies

A.B. Wayne State University; A.M. University of Michigan; Ph.D. University of Oklahoma

Wendy L. Patrick

Professor of Theology, Law and Culture

B.A. University of California Los Angeles; J.D., California Western School of Law; M.Div., Bethel Seminary (San Diego); Ph.D., University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UK)

William C. Roach

Associate Professor of Theology and Biblical Languages

Director, Master of Arts in Theological Studies Program

B.A. Southern Evangelical Bible College; M.A. Southern Evangelical Seminary; Th.M. Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Claude (Mickey) Stonier

Professor of Pastoral Studies and Counseling

B.S. San Diego State University; M.Div. Azusa Pacific University; Ph.D. Fuller Theological Seminary

Sasan Tavassoli

Professor of Islamic Studies

B.A. Washington Bible College; M.A. Reformed Theological Seminary; Th. M. Columbia Theological Seminary; Ph.D. University of Birmingham (UK)

Graduate and Postgraduate Adjunct Faculty

David Geisler

Professor of Apologetics and Evangelism

B.A. Southern Illinois University; Th.M. Dallas Theological Seminary; D.Min. Southern Evangelical Seminary

Winfried Corduan

Professor of Philosophy and Religion

B.S. University of Maryland; M.A. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Ph. D. Rice University

F. David Farnell

Professor of New Testament

B.A. Christian Heritage College; M.Div. Talbot School of Theology; Th.M. Talbot School of Theology; Ph.D. Dallas Theological Seminary

Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Professor of Old Testament

B.A. Cedarville College; M.A. Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D. New York University

Ed Hindson

Professor of Biblical Studies and Religion

B.A. William Tyndale College; M.A. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Th.M. Grace Theological Seminary; Th.D. Trinity Graduate School of Theology; D.Min. Westminster Theological Seminary; Ph.D. University of South Africa

Adeeb F. Mickhail

Professor of Biblical Literature and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

B.Div. The Evangelical Theological Seminary (Cairo, Egypt); B.A. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; Th.M. Grace Theological Seminary; Ph.D. Baltimore Hebrew University

J. Randall Price

Professor of Archaeology and Old Testament Literature

B.A. Texas State University; Th.M. Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D. University of Texas, Austin

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Professor of Theology and Apologetics

B.A. Houston Baptist University; Th.M. Dallas Theological Seminary; Th.D. Dallas Theological Seminary

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VIU Board of Directors

Joseph M. Holden – President

David Shirley – Secretary

John Cook – Treasurer/CFO

Brian Nixon – Chairman

Luman Wing – Board Member

COURSES DESCRIPTIONS

Course numbering ranges from 100-400s level (undergraduate), 500-700s level (graduate), 900s level (Doctor of Ministry), 1000-1500s level (Doctor of Philosophy). Some 400-504 courses range are graded on a pass/fail basis.

UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL COURSES – 100-400s

1. APOLOGETICS

AP302 Introduction to Islam (3)

This course will be a study of the origins, basic doctrines, and practices of Islam.

AP303 Worldviews (3)

This is an introductory survey of major world views, such as Deism and polytheism.

AP404 Christian Ethics (3)

This course will introduce various ethical theories and issues.

AP301 Introduction to Christian Apologetics (3)

This course covers the systematic and rational defense of the basic elements of the Christian Faith.

AP401 Archaeology and the Bible (3)

This course examines the material and cultural remains from the Ancient Near East and compares them with the biblical narrative in order to discover historical synchronism.

AP410 Conversational Apologetics (3)

This course examines relational and verbal approaches to communicating the gospel and defending the Christian Faith.

AP411 The Art and Ethics of Persuasion (3)

This course will explore the art of persuasive preaching, the art of persuasion in Christian outreach, the ethics of using persuasion in spreading the Gospel, or any combination of the preceding.

2. BIBLICAL LANGUAGES

BLG401 Biblical Greek I (3)

This introductory course is designed to teach the student the elements of New Testament Greek.

BLG402 Biblical Greek II (3)

This course builds upon the foundations of the Greek I course.

BLH401 Biblical Hebrew I (3)

This introductory course is designed to equip the student with a basic reading and translation knowledge of Biblical Hebrew.

BLH402 Biblical Hebrew II (3)

This course builds upon the foundations of the Hebrew I course.

3. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**CE401 Christian Education (3)**

In this class the student will examine the development of Christian education from a biblical and Christ-centered perspective.

4. CHURCH HISTORY**CH480 Church History I: Apostolic Age up to the Reformation (3)**

This study will cover church history from Pentecost to events leading up to the Reformation in AD 1517.

CH490 Church History II: Reformation and the Modern Church (3)

This study will cover church history from the Reformation in 1517 A.D to the present time.

CH470 American Christianity (3)

This course will cover the major events shaping Christianity in North America.

5. FAITH & CULTURE**FC410 Gospel and Culture (3)**

A study of the relationship between the Christian gospel and its original and contemporary culture.

6. MISSIONS & EVANGELISM**ME401 Missions and Evangelism (3)**

This course will cover the challenges involved with sharing the gospel and the task of engaging in intentional Christian witness within diverse groups of people.

7. OLD / NEW TESTAMENT**NT320 New Testament Survey (3)**

An introduction to the authorship and contents of the New Testament books.

OT310 Old Testament Survey (3)

An introduction to the authorship and contents of the Old Testament books.

8. PHILOSOPHY

PH301 Introduction to Philosophy (3)

This course will introduce the student to the major concepts and basic issues of philosophy.

PH302 Critical Thinking/Logic (3)

This course will introduce and explore critical thinking and logic within a Christian apologetics context.

PH401 Philosophy of Religion (3)

The course introduces the philosophical tradition of reasoned, systematic, and critical reflection on classical Christian doctrine.

PH440 Introduction to Metaphysics (3)

This course offers an introduction to the study of reality and being with emphasis on its relationship to theology, epistemology, and the nature of God.

PH450 Introduction to Epistemology (3)

This course is an introduction to the nature of knowledge and the knowing process with emphasis on its relation to metaphysics, theology, and other theories of knowledge.

9. PASTORAL MINISTRY

PM303 Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)

This course covers the sufficiency of Scripture and its application to life's problems. It introduces the general principles involved in biblical counseling.

PM302 Christian Leadership (3)

A biblical and practical study of the principles of Christian leadership found in the Bible.

10. RELIGION

RE305 Cults and New Religious Movements (3)

An introduction to the major cults; their origins, doctrinal differences, and misinterpretation of Scripture.

RE304 World Religions (3)

This course will survey the major religions of the world, with emphasis on their original, doctrines and worldview.

11. THEOLOGY

TH301 Introduction to Theology (3)

This course will introduce the branches of theology and the existence and attributes of God.

TH320 Bible Study Methods and Interpretation (3)

An introduction to interpreting and understanding scripture in context.

TH330 Introduction to the Bible (3)

This course will cover the basics of inspiration, inerrancy, infallibility, and canonization of the Bible.

TH440 Christ & the Holy Spirit (3)

This course involves a study of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, the second and third persons of the Trinity.

TH460 Sin & Salvation (3)

This course will examine the doctrine of sin and salvation, stressing the work of Christ and its application to believers.

TH470 Church & Last Things (3)

This course is a study of the doctrine of the body of Christ and the local Church, including its organization, ordinances, and government. Eschatology will include an introduction to different views of the millennium and the rapture.

TH480 Historical Theology (3)

An introduction to the development of Christian doctrines over time starting with the Apostolic Fathers.

12. CHURCH/MISSION EXPERIENCE

CM401 Church/Mission Experience 1 - (o) P/F

CM402 Church/Mission Experience 2 - (o) P/F

CM403 Church/Mission Experience 3 - (o) P/F

13. RESEARCH METHODS AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

RW499 Research Methods and Technology Skills – (o) P/F

An introduction to research and writing skills.

GRADUATE LEVEL COURSES – 500-700s

1. APOLOGETICS

AP500 Scientific Apologetics

This course consists of an analysis of scientific issues and topics that relate to the Christian worldview. Emphasis will be placed on examining the scientific evidence for the truth of theism and the use of science in the field of apologetics.

AP501 Introduction to Christian Apologetics (3)

This course will consist of an examination and evaluation of the overall argument for the truthfulness of Christianity by offering a systematic and rational defense of the basic elements of the Christian Faith, including the nature of truth, existence of God, miracles, the deity of Christ, the reliability of the Bible, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

AP515 Archaeology and Bible History (3)

This course seeks to identify such cause/effect synchronisms between biblical and ancient Near Eastern histories—Egypt, Hatti, Mitanni, Assyria, Babylonia and the Levant—as well as elements of cultural specificity embedded in the biblical narratives.

AP503 Apologetics to Islam (3)

This course will be a study of the origins, basic doctrines, and practices of Islam including its beliefs about Christianity and defense of the Christian Faith in light of these beliefs.

AP504 Christian Ethics (3)

This course will examine the various ethical theories that have provided the framework for understanding and interpreting what is moral and immoral, as well as addressing applied ethics dealing with options and issues facing the church specifically and society in general.

AP505 Church and State (3)

A study of the relationship between the Church and State from a Christian perspective.

AP506 Bioethics (3)

An examination and evaluation of the moral issues and alternatives in the biomedical field such as cloning, reproductive technologies, and stem-cell research from a biblical perspective.

AP507 Problem of Evil (3)

This course will survey the various arguments proposed against the Christian view of evil and its relation to the world along with Christian responses to such arguments.

AP508 Resurrection of Jesus (3)

A study of the evidence and issues surrounding the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, with a view to developing an apologetic for the event.

AP509 Introduction to C.S. Lewis (3)

Clive Staples Lewis is arguably one of the greatest Christian apologists of the twentieth-century. This course will examine the life, select writings, and theological perspectives of Lewis's career as a writer and philosopher.

2. ARCHAEOLOGY

AR511 Near Eastern Archaeology: Background & Methods (2)

This course examines the historical relationship between archaeology and the Bible, including: important personalities in, and contributors to, the field of Near Eastern and biblical archaeology; synchronizing ancient Near Eastern and biblical chronologies; important archaeological discoveries relating to the Bible; the foundations of archaeological methods and protocols; ascertaining the difference between archaeological realities and hoaxes; and the necessity of a dialogical relationship between archaeology and biblical studies.

AR521 Archaeology & History of Ancient Egypt (2)

This course presents an overview of the history and archaeology of ancient Egypt as they relate to the history and archaeology of the ancient Near East in general, and to the Bible in particular. Significant focus is placed on Egypt's Middle Kingdom, the Hyksos Period, the New Kingdom, and the pharaohs of the Late Period contemporaneous with the kings of Israel and Judah. Along the way, the Israelite Exodus is examined in its New Kingdom context, with various theories attempting to identify the pharaoh(s) who interacted with Moses.

AR531 Archaeology & History of Ancient Mesopotamia (2)

In the light of the Mesopotamian origins of the Hebrew patriarchs, this course overviews the history and archaeology of ancient Mesopotamia as a cultural backdrop for much of the OT narrative. Significant focus is placed on the rise and fall of the Mesopotamian kingdoms of Sumer, Akkad, Babylonia, Mittani, and Assyria. By examining details of ancient Mesopotamian history and culture, light is shed on many sections of biblical narrative.

AR562 Archaeology of the New Testament Period (2)

This course examines the material culture of the New Testament era as revealed through the archaeological record of the Early Roman Period Levant, Asia Minor, and other important Roman sites mentioned in Scripture. Socio-cultural phenomena, as well as art, architecture and political structures are introduced. Emphasis is placed on archaeological data illuminating the text of the New Testament.

AR621 Archaeology & the Bible: Historical & Cultural Synchronisms (2)

Integrating biblical history into the histories of ancient Near Eastern kingdoms has often been generic and minimalistic, frequently emphasizing general cultural phenomena without substantive cause/effect correlations. This course identifies and details cause/effect synchronisms between biblical and ancient Near Eastern histories—Egypt, Hatti, Mittani, Assyria, Babylonia, and the Levant—as well as elements of cultural specificity embedded in the biblical narratives, all of which demonstrate the historical authenticity and veracity of the Old Testament, with particular focus on the Torah, Joshua, and Judges.

AR641 Levantine Ceramic Typology (2)

This course examines the chronological sequencing of ancient Levantine (Israel, Lebanon, Syria and the Transjordan) pottery types founded on both form-based and function-based methodologies that analyzes the general morphology, clay-body (fabric), and surface treatment of

period and regional ceramics, yielding a reasonably reliable system of dating pottery-bearing archaeological strata. Hands-on inspection of whole vessels and sherds (rims, handles, bases and body sherds) provides support of textbook information.

AR671 Bronze Age & Biblical History (2)

The Early and Intermediate Bronze Age world of the pre-Abrahamic patriarchs; the Middle Bronze Age of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph; the Late Bronze backdrop of Moses, the Exodus, and the Israelite Conquest of Canaan—these are examined in this course which puts emphasis on ancient Near Eastern material culture, predominantly in the southern Levant. Topics include settlement dynamics, sedentary vs. nomadic populations, utilization of natural resources, city-state development, architecture, sanitation, burial customs, and how biblical history meshes with the Levantine Bronze Age.

AR672 Iron Age & Biblical History (2)

The Iron Age 1 world of the early Israelite occupation of Canaan and the latter Judges; the Iron Age 2 world of Israel's United and Divided Monarchy; the rise of Neo-Assyria, Neo-Babylonia, and Persia—these are examined in this course which puts emphasis on ancient Near Eastern material culture, predominantly in the southern Levant. Topics include settlement dynamics, sedentary vs. nomadic populations, utilization of natural resources, city-state development, architecture, sanitation, burial customs, and how biblical history meshes with the Levantine Iron Age.

AR541 Excavation Practicum & Field School (3)

On-site, hands-on experience in Near Eastern archaeology at an excavation project approved by the TSU College of Archaeology & Biblical History. Generally held in Israel and/or Jordan, this field experience brings the student into direct contact with applied archaeological methods and techniques, and also includes the exploration and study of historical/biblical sites in selected regions. Select Bible Lands Expedition itineraries may also qualify under this course title.

AR542 Archaeology & History of the Jerusalem Area (2)

Jerusalem, the City of the Ages, has a history unlike any other in the Near East. Jerusalem's complex archaeological record—a still-unfolding saga—is a subject of intense interest and heated controversy. Through this course the student will gain a glimpse into the fascinating history and archaeology of Jerusalem and its environs from its beginnings through the Crusader Period.

AR552 Archaeology & History of the Jerusalem Temple (2)

The Temple Mount in Old Jerusalem is probably the most controversial piece of real estate in the history of the world. Its history and archaeology are partly historical fact, partly reasoned speculation, with a smattering of urban legend. This course traces the successive control and/or use of this sacred precinct by the ancient Canaanites, Jebusites, Israelites, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Selucids, Hasmoneans, Herodians, Romans, Byzantines, Moslems, and Crusaders, with particular emphasis on the history, architecture and archaeology of the First (Solomonic) and Second (Herodian) Temple Periods.

AR611 Historical Geography of Bible Lands (2)

This course offers a detailed examination of the geographical areas of the Bible Lands from an historical perspective, including important geographical, geological and topographical features of major regions and sub-locales. How the land affected population movements and cultural

developments will also be addressed. Biblical events will be set amidst the geo-politico-cultural milieus of the ancient Near East. Select Bible Land Expedition itineraries may also qualify under this course title.

AR631 Languages & Cultures of the Ancient Near East (2)

The biblical landscape is populated with diverse cultures and people groups and are an integral part of that history. This course introduces the student to the languages and writing systems of the ancient Near East (this is not a language course, but aimed at general familiarization), as well as to the peoples and kingdoms of the region, such as the Egyptians, Mesopotamians, Hittites, Mittanians, Hurrians, Canaanites, Amorites, Philistines, and others.

AR651 Archaeological Field Methods (2)

The rigor and procedures of archaeological data collection and the fundamentals of excavation methods and techniques are covered in this course of study. Practical instruction in archaeological protocol(s) are discussed and evaluated. The use of current and emerging technologies, the integration of relevant disciplines, archaeometric techniques, and modern cultural protocols are topics of discussion. The student will come away with a good sense of how an excavation project is organized, operated, and funded.

AR655 Archaeological Laboratory (2)

This course provides an opportunity for the student to gain valuable experience in an archaeological laboratory setting, performing a variety of tasks such as: cleaning and processing excavated pottery and objects; object and ceramic preservation and restoration; field, square, locus, and period sorting of diagnostic pottery sherds; comparative analysis of diagnostic ceramics; object and ceramic drawing; specialized photography; analysis of faunal and human remains; floatation and identification of cultigens and natural vegetation (seeds and pollens); preparation of organic samples for radiocarbon dating; and related analytical processes.

AR661 Evolution of Warfare & Fortification Systems in the Ancient Near East (2)

Both biblical and ancient Near Eastern history are filled with stories of war and how cities and towns respond to the realities of such conflicts. This course focuses on the evolution of warfare tactics and methods through the history of the ANE. The interplay between weapons, battle strategies, and defensive architecture are examined in detail. Segments of biblical and ANE texts dealing with weapons, warfare, and defensive architecture are examined and compared.

AR670 Archaeological Video-Cinematography & Photography (2)

This course focuses on video-cinematography and photography as a means of scientific documentation of archaeological excavations, and the presentation of archaeological research, exploration, and discovery both in an academic and public setting. The student will gain experience in production practices, lighting, field audio recording, video editing, documentary style, graphic design, general photography, good photo habits, and several facets of archaeological photography. The production of a short documentary film will give the student hands-on experience in the art of video-cinematography.

AR699 Thesis (6)

The MA Thesis is designed to allow the student to pursue a focused subject of interest beyond what is offered in the general curriculum. The thesis will integrate aspects of both archaeology and biblical history. (See the "Thesis Procedure/Guidelines" below.)

3. BIBLICAL LANGUAGES

BL500 Biblical Languages (3)

This course is an overview of the biblical languages (Greek and Hebrew) with an emphasis on developing proficiency in the employment of the standard biblical language reference tools in the study of the Bible and defense of the Christian Faith. (3 hours)

BLG501 Biblical Greek I (3)

This course is designed to teach the student all of the elements of New Testament Greek. Consequently, it covers the basics of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. The objective is to allow the student to begin a study of New Testament Greek as a foundation for advanced reading courses.

BLG502 Biblical Greek II (3)

This course is designed to teach the student all of the elements of New Testament Greek. Consequently, it covers the basics of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. The objective is to allow the student to begin a study of New Testament Greek as a foundation for advanced reading courses.

BLG502B Exegesis in the New Testament (3)

A targeted study in exegesis in the Greek New Testament with a view to exercising knowledge gained in Greek I and II. Prerequisites are Greek I and II.

BLG503 Biblical Greek III (3)

A continuation of Biblical Greek II which will include exegesis and syntax of selected portions of the Greek New Testament. This course is completed by independent study.

BLH501 Biblical Hebrew I (3)

This course is designed to equip the student with a basic reading and translation knowledge of Biblical Hebrew. This immersion model is based upon studies in human language acquisition in which a language is typically first (and best) learned through exposure to the language inductively before being fully introduced to all of the deductive principles that help describe it. This course offers an introduction to the fundamentals of classical Hebrew that includes alphabet, pronunciation, basic grammar and vocabulary.

BLH502 Biblical Hebrew II (3)

This course is a continuation of Hebrew I, including basic grammar, vocabulary, and verbal stems. Biblical Hebrew II will provide a more adequate grammatical framework for understanding language necessary for advanced linguistic analysis of the Hebrew Bible.

BLH502B Exegesis in the Old Testament (3)

A targeted study in exegesis in the Hebrew Old Testament with a view to exercising knowledge gained in Hebrew I and II. Prerequisites are Hebrew I and II.

BLH503 Biblical Hebrew III (3)

A study in exegesis and readings in the Hebrew Old Testament with a view to understanding the syntax structure of biblical Hebrew.

4. CHURCH AND MISSION EXPERIENCE

CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)

A field study in the local Church or mission field that provides student with an opportunity to integrate their theological instruction into practical ministry service.

CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)

A continuation of ministry service in the local Church or mission field.

CM503 Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)

A continuation of ministry service in the local Church or mission field.

CM504 Church/Mission Experience IV (P/F)

A continuation of ministry service in the local Church or mission field.

5. CHURCH HISTORY

CH580 History of the Church (3)

A study of the historical development of the church from its origins, its doctrines, and significant events that contributed to its form in the contemporary period.

6. FAITH AND CULTURE

FC510 Gospel and Culture (3)

A study of the relationship between the Christian gospel and its original and contemporary culture, including its verbal and linguistic expressions.

7. NEW TESTAMENT

NT500 The New Testament in its Jewish and Greco-Roman Contexts (3)

The course is designed to provide the student with a foundational knowledge of the social, cultural and historical contexts out of which early Christianity and its sacred literature emerged. This goal is facilitated by detailed consideration of the two social matrixes that provided these contexts: Jewish and Greco-Roman society.

NT501 Gospel Literature (3)

An in-depth study of the key theological contents and apologetic value of the four gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

NT502 Acts (3)

An exegetical study of the authorship, theology, historical context, and narrative of the book of Acts.

NT503 New Testament Epistles (3)

An exegetical study of the key theological contents and apologetic value of the Pauline and General Epistles.

NT504 Revelation (3)

This course will survey the author, date, and interpretive approaches and issues in the final book of the biblical canon. The instructor will conduct an analytical study of Revelation with consideration of the many questions of interpretation and application and interact with their place in God's end-time plan for history.

NT505 Hebrews (3)

An exegetical study of the authorship, theology, historical context, and relationship to Old Testament theology, of the epistle to the Hebrews.

NT510 Jesus and the Early Church: Gospels and Acts (3)

This course will be an introduction into the backgrounds, authorship, date, recipients, themes, and place of Jesus' ministry as described in the major texts of the four Gospels and the Book of Acts.

NT520 Paul and the Later Church: New Testament Letters and Revelation (3)

This course will entail a study of Paul and the New Testament from Romans through the Revelation of John, giving due consideration to the correlation of the Acts of the Apostles with the NT Epistles. The course will include matters relating to backgrounds, authorship, date, recipients, theme, and other introductory questions, as well as the general content of each book.

NT530 New Testament Research & Methodology (3)

An examination of the strategic impact of philosophical ideologies on the study and interpretation of the New Testament. Includes a critical, historical review of the history of interpretation of the New Testament with an emphasis on the modern period (from Spinoza to Nihilism), from the Reformation through the Enlightenment to contemporary issues of NT theology and hermeneutics. The course will also contrast the grammatical-historical hermeneutic with that of historical-criticism (e.g. source, form, redaction, tradition criticism) with special attention on the growing impact of historical-criticism in evangelical, New Testament interpretation.

8. ISLAM, APOLOGETICS & POLEMICS**IS501 Introduction to Islam in the 21st Cent (3)**

Survey of the Islam in our present day, looking at its makeup, as well as its strategies for evangelism, and what a Christian response should be.

IS502 Deen (Practices) & Iman (Beliefs) (3)

Study of the 5 Practices (known in Arabic as 'Deen'), and the 6 Beliefs (known in Arabic as 'Iman') of Islam, and a Christian response to each.

IS503 Assessment of Muhammad (3)

Study of the prophet of Islam, Muhammad, including the classical account of his life, the historical problems surrounding that account, a Christian assessment of his prophet-hood, and the modern controversies surrounding him today.

IS504 Historical Assessment of Islam's Origins (3)

This course will be a historical study of the first two centuries of Islam (i.e. the 7th and 8th

centuries), observing how Islam really began from an historical critical standpoint. We will be employing some of the newest and best historical research available, much of which confronts the classical (traditional) account taught in schools today.

IS505 History of Islam (3)

This course is a survey of the history of Islam from the time of Muhammad to the present, with an emphasis on key persons and events that impact Christian evangelism and apologetics.

IS506 Historical Assessment of the Qur'an (3)

This course is designed to give an overview of the Qur'an, including its history, contents, and uses in the Islamic religion from a position that seeks to accurately understand Islamic viewpoints while also critically interacting with them. The history, contents, and Christian uses of the Bible will serve as a mainly implicit backdrop that will be brought into the discussion in order to clarify understanding for Christian students. In the process of the course, we will discuss the most recent scholarship relating to early history and textual criticism of the Qur'an. Taken as a whole, the material covered in this course will serve as a basis for understanding Muslim claims for the Qur'an's divine nature and authority so as to inform personal discussions and Christian ministry.

IS507 Apologetics and Polemics to Islam (3)

This course will ascertain whether there is room for both Christian/Muslim Apologetics and Polemics in the evangelistic task. We will look at the two missiological methods employed today, assess them both, and then give a Biblical support for both apologetics and polemics. We will look at the historical and modern examples of both, and then review the 20 best questions to ask Christians (apologetics), as well as the 20 best questions to ask Muslims (polemics)

IS508 Responding to Islamic Christology (3)

This course responds specifically to the challenges by Muslims today against both the historic divinity of Christ and the doctrine of the Trinity, engaging with both the Bible and the Qur'an to support not only the doctrines of Christ's divinity and the Trinity in the Bible but to simultaneously confront the doctrine of Tawhid in the Qur'an.

IS509 Responding to Islamic Bibliology (3)

This course will compare how Christianity and Islam view the revelation, inspiration, and the authority of Scripture. Islam claims that their Scripture, the Qur'an, is the direct word from Allah dictated to Muhammad, while Christians claim that their Scripture, the Bible, was written by chosen men who were inspired by the Spirit of God. Since these books form the foundations of the two religions, and since their beliefs are sometimes diametrically opposite, it is imperative that the transmission, inerrancy, canonicity, and authority of these Scriptures are examined to determine which one supports the claim to be the actual Word of God.

IS510 A Critical Assessment of the Insider Movement & MITs (3)

This course is a survey of the Insider Movement (sometimes referred to as the C-5 paradigm), looking at its historical beginnings, and the controversies surrounding 'Allah vs Yahweh', and the Muslim Idiomatic Translations (MITs).

9. OLD TESTAMENT

OT500 Ancient Near Eastern Contexts for the Old Testament (3)

This course surveys the culture, customs, archaeology, literature, and historical backgrounds of the Hebrew Bible with a special attention to OT apologetics. It introduces the student to the historical and literary evidence for the Old Testament found in the greater context of the ancient Near East and involves overview of the history and literature of the Sumerians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Egyptians, Hurrians and Hittites, Canaanites, Phoenicians, Arameans, Medes and Persians. The course will discuss selected readings from ancient Near Eastern texts, as well as the current scholarly debate.

OT501 Pentateuch (3)

An in-depth exegetical study of the key theological contents and apologetic value of Genesis through Deuteronomy.

OT502 Old Testament Historical Literature (3)

An in-depth exegetical study of the key theological contents and apologetic value of historical books of the Old Testament.

OT503 Old Testament Wisdom Literature (3)

An in-depth exegetical study of the key theological contents and apologetic value of the wisdom books of the Old Testament.

OT504 Old Testament Prophetic Literature (3)

An in-depth exegetical study of the key theological contents and apologetic value of the major and minor prophets.

OT505 Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls (3)

This course is an examination of the historical, theological, eschatological, and archaeological significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls in relation to the Bible (Old Testament and New Testament) and Jewish Apocryphal and Pseudepigraphal Literature of the Second Temple period with a special focus on the scrolls Messianic perspective and contribution to Christian interpretation.

OT506 OT Book Study: Daniel (3)

A study of the Book of Daniel which will include both the historical background and a survey of the book as a whole. This course will cover the book as a whole with some parts detailed and some parts summarized. This course will especially focus on the messianic prophecies of the First Coming of the Messiah, and the influence of the book on New Testament writings.

OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)

An introduction to the authorship and contents of the Old Testament books. Special attention will be given to important persons, places and events of the Old Testament (Genesis-Malachi). It will also survey the wisdom and prophetic books of the Bible (Job-Malachi) providing the content of each book, the historical backgrounds from ancient near eastern sources.

OT520A Old Testament Survey (3)

An introduction to the authorship and contents of the Old Testament books. Special attention will be given to important persons, places and events of the Old Testament (Genesis-Malachi).

OT520B Old Testament Survey II (3)

This course will survey the wisdom and prophetic books of the Bible (Job-Malachi) providing the content of each book, the historical backgrounds from ancient near eastern sources.

10. PASTORAL MINISTRY**CP560 Chaplaincy Principles (3)**

An introduction to chaplaincy principles used in public ministry service.

CP560F First Responders Chaplaincy (3)

An introduction to chaplaincy principles used in fire and police ministry service.

CP560H Hospital/Hospice Chaplaincy (3)

An introduction to chaplaincy principles used in medical and health ministry service.

CP560M Military Chaplaincy (3)

An introduction to chaplaincy principles used in military ministry service.

PM520 Biblical Counseling (3)

An exegetical and practical course in counseling from the biblical text, with emphasis on the sufficiency of Scripture and Christ as the Counselor.

PM530 Pastoral Care (3)

This course explores the varied and many roles and aspects of pastoral care ministry. Emphasis is given to the Biblical strategies necessary in handling the responsibilities of family, church, and community in a pastoral setting. Student will develop a personal ministry strategy as it relates to the responsibilities of one's calling in relation to pastoral care.

PM510 Christian Leadership Principles (3)

A biblical and practical study of the principles of Christian leadership found in the Bible.

PM540 Homiletics (3)

A preaching practicum in how to prepare and deliver a sermon.

PM550 Principles and Theology of Missions (3)

An exegetical study in the principles and theological basis and nature of Christian world missions.

11. PHILOSOPHY**PH500 Philosophy of Christian Education (3)**

This course is designed to investigate the Biblical, theological, historical, and philosophical foundations that underlie Christian education. In this class the student will examine the development of Christian education from a biblical and Christ-centered perspective.

PH510 Logic (3)

As an undeniable first principle, logic is indispensable. It serves as the basis for all other studies and communication including math, science, interpretation, thought, and writing. In our modern society, sometimes feelings and thinking are placed on the same par in helping us discover truth, however, they are very different. Logic is a way to think so we can come to correct conclusions by understanding implications and mistakes people often make in their thinking. This course is a study of right reason, valid inferences, and attending fallacies, formal and informal, including their relation to the nature of God.

PH520 History of Philosophy and Christian Thought I (3)

This course will survey the significant figures and their philosophies spanning from what is known as the ancient period beginning with the pre-Socratics in the sixth-century B.C. and concluding with the philosophical thought of the high middle-ages. Each philosophy will be described and critiqued from a biblical and Christian philosophical worldview, with emphasis on its relation to Christian theology and apologetics.

PH521 History of Philosophy & Christian Thought (3)

This course will be a general survey the select figures and their philosophies spanning the centuries and their relation to the worldview of Christian theism.

PH530 History of Philosophy and Christian Thought II (3)

This course will survey the significant figures and their philosophies spanning what is known as the modern and contemporary period beginning with Rene Descartes in the sixteenth-century through the contemporary period. Each philosophy will be described and critiqued from a biblical and Christian philosophical worldview, with emphasis on its relation to theology and apologetics.

PH540 Theistic Metaphysics (3)

This course is comprised of a study of the nature of reality with emphasis on its relation to theology and epistemology.

PH550 Theistic Epistemology (3)

This course is comprised of a study of the nature of knowledge with emphasis on its relation to theology, metaphysics and to other primary theories of knowledge.

PH560 Theistic Metaphysics and Epistemology (3)

This course is comprised of a joint study of the nature of reality and the nature of knowing/knowledge with emphasis on its coherence for theism.

12. RELIGION**RE504 World Religions (3)**

This course is a study of major religions in order to provide a sound knowledge base for the sake of apologetics and evangelism. Readings include primary and secondary texts on Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism among others. To a certain extent, students are able to focus their work on particular areas of content according to their interest or calling.

RE505 Contemporary Cults (3)

This course involves the study of the historical origins, doctrinal emphases, and scriptural misinterpretations of significant cults in the contemporary era. An apologetic response is offered for each cult.

13. THESIS, RESEARCH METHODS AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

RW499 Research Methods and Technology Skills (0 hours/P/F)

An introduction to research and writing skills.

RW501 Thesis Research and Writing (3)

A 12-month course of directed program for research and the completion of writing a thesis that includes a final thesis and oral defense before VIU faculty.

14. THEOLOGY

TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)

This course explores the nature of Scripture and God's communication to humanity, the history of the interpretative enterprise, the nature of meaning and significance in the use of language, and the method of literal-grammatical-historical interpretation.

TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)

This course will offer an introduction to the study of theology along with an examination of the prerequisites for conducting such studies, with a view to defending and analyzing the inspiration, inerrancy, infallibility, and canonization of the Bible.

TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)

This course will be a study of the triune nature of God, His existence and attributes, along with His creation of the world, angels human beings, and His relation to them, with a view to establishing and defending the classical/biblical perspective of the divine attributes.

TH550 Christology and Pneumatology (3)

This course involves a study of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, the second and third persons of the Trinity. The course focuses on the person of Jesus Christ, including His absolute deity, His preincarnate state, the Incarnation (including a special focus on the humanity of Christ, the "self-emptying" of Christ, and the relationship of the two natures in one person), the debate on the impeccability of Christ, His relationship to the Trinity. In addition, the study will also address the historical development of the doctrine, person, work, and deity of the Holy Spirit along with relevant passages from the biblical text.

TH551 Christ, Sin, Salvation (3)

This course examines the doctrines of Christ, sin and salvation and their relationship to mankind and to believers.

TH560 Hamartiology and Soteriology (3)

This course will examine the doctrine of sin and salvation, stressing the work of Christ and its application to believers. The study will involve an analysis of the origin, nature, effects and final

defeat of sin, followed by a treatment of different theories, nature, evidence, and assurance of Christ's salvation.

TH561 Spirit, Church, Last Things (3)

This course examines the doctrines of Holy Spirit, the Church and end times/personal eschatology and their relationship to mankind and to believers.

TH570 Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)

This course is a study of the doctrine of the body of Christ and the local Church, including its organization, ministry, ordinances, government, and purpose. Eschatology will include a study of the various systems, history of pre-millennialism, major themes and problems in eschatology, the order of predicted events, and the rapture question.

TH580 Historical Theology (3)

The course will consist of an overview of the development of Christian Doctrine from the Apostolic Fathers to the end of the Reformation Era with emphasis on what the church believes, teaches, and confesses on the basis of the word of God.

POSTGRADUATE COURSES – 900-1500s

1. APOLOGETICS

AP901 Advanced Christian Apologetics (3)

This course will consist of an advanced examination and evaluation of the overall argument for the truthfulness of Christianity by offering a systematic and rational defense of the basic elements of the Christian Faith.

AP902 Advanced Scientific Apologetics (3)

This course will consist of an advanced examination and evaluation of scientific arguments relating to the Christian worldview.

AP903 Advanced Islamic Apologetics (3)

This course will be an advanced study of the origins, basic doctrines, and practices of Islam including its beliefs about Christianity and defense of the Christian Faith in light of these beliefs.

AP904 Advanced World Religions (3)

This course is an advanced study of major religions in order to provide a sound knowledge base for the sake of apologetics and evangelism. Readings include primary and secondary texts on Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism among others.

AP905 Advanced New Religious Movements (3)

This course involves the advanced study of the historical origins, doctrinal emphases, and scriptural misinterpretations of significant new religious movements in the contemporary era. An apologetic response is offered for each group.

AP906 Advanced Resurrection of Christ (3)

This course is an advanced study of the evidence and issues surrounding the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, with a view to developing an apologetic for the event.

AP907 Apologetics and the Art of Persuasion (3)

This course is an advanced study that explores the art of persuasive preaching, the art of persuasion in Christian outreach, the ethics of using persuasion in spreading the Gospel, or any combination of the preceding.

AP908 Pre-evangelism and Conversational Apologetics (3)

This course is an advanced exploration of how to address foundational worldview beliefs as a means to clear a pathway to understanding and subsequently receiving the Gospel.

AP909 Apologetics and Contemporary Issues I (3)

This course will address select current events related to morality, theology, apologetics, religion, politics, and law.

AP910 Apologetics for Contemporary Issues II (3)

This course will be a continuation of AP909, and address select current events related to morality, theology, apologetics, religion, politics, and law.

MP900 Ministry Project and Defense (6)

The Ministry Project and Defense offers an opportunity for the student to make a unique and practical contribution related to apologetics. The contribution and presentation is unique to the student's apologetic gifting and practical ministry goals that will benefit the body of Christ. The actual presentation and defense of the Ministry Project is fulfilled on campus and scheduled by appointment with your supervisor. Resident Seminars are a good time to discuss the Ministry Project with your supervisor.

AP1010 Theodicy: The Problem of Evil (3)

An advanced and in-depth philosophical and theological study of the problem of evil, pain, and suffering and its impact on theology, apologetics, and the Christian Church.

AP1015 Socialism, Diversity, Justice, and the Bible (3)

A study into the principles and influential ideas of political, social, and economic philosophies and their relationship to contemporary issues of diversity and justice as it affects areas of Biblical studies, theology, apologetics and the Christian Church.

AP1025 Issues in Biblical Criticism (3)

A study of both lower and higher textual criticism of the Old and New Testaments, their philosophical principles and impact on issues related to theology and hermeneutics.

AP1030 Philosophical Apologetics (3)

An advanced study of one or more selected philosophical objections to Christianity in which the student will choose one for deep study and research in primary sources for purposes of critical examination and defense.

2. ARCHAEOLOGY

AR1020 Workshop: Ceramic Sorting – Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (2)

Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center, working with diagnostic pottery sherds. The student will learn and practice ceramic sorting by field, square, locus, and archaeological period, according to TeHEP needs and protocols.

AR1021 Workshop: Advanced Ceramic Typology (2)

Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center, working with diagnostic pottery sherds. The student will learn and practice advanced techniques for period and sub-period ceramic types based on vessel morphology, fabric (paste), surface treatment, decoration, and firing.

AR1022 Workshop: Archaeological Drawing Techniques (2)

Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn techniques for producing drawings of artifacts (objects and pottery) for publication.

AR1023 Workshop: Architectural Reconstruction Drawing in Archaeology (2)

Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn techniques for making archaeological reconstruction drawings of ANE architecture for publication.

AR1050 Laboratory: Floatation Sample Analysis (2)

Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn methods of isolating organic material from excavated soil samples by floatation, and slide preparation for microscopic analysis.

AR1051 Laboratory: Faunal and Human Bone Analysis (2)

Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn methods of identifying animal & human bones (and teeth), the proper means of recording the data, and analytical approaches to the collected data.

AR1052 Laboratory: Object and Ceramic Conservation (2)

Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn methods and skills for cleaning, conserving, and preserving excavated artifacts, including objects of stone, metal, wood, bone, ivory, ceramic, clay (unfired), glass, and other materials.

AR1151, AR1152, AR1153, AR1154, AR1155, AR1156, AR1157 Fieldwork

Fieldwork at an approved excavation.

AR1180 Arranged Course (2)

This is a custom-designed course of study determined by the student in consultation with faculty and approved by the PhD Program Director.

AR1181 Arranged Course (2)

This is a custom-designed course of study determined by the student in consultation with faculty and approved by the PhD Program Director.

AR1551 Dissertation

After the comprehensive exam is complete, the student may enroll into AR1551 Dissertation. The topic must be: 1) a unique contribution to the field of study, 2) incorporate aspects of both archaeology and biblical history, and 3) provide a logically reason, methodologically sound, and readable account of the student's investigation, analysis, findings, conclusions and implications of the study. The length of the dissertation shall be 250-500 pages and shall be defended before the committee and other members of the VIU faculty. (See the AR1551 syllabus for details).

3. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CE901 Education in the Church (3)

This course provides an examination of how the church implemented educational programs. Emphasis will be placed on mission, objectives, data collection, delivery methods, curriculum development and content in ministry settings.

CE902 Curriculum Development (3)

This course addresses the formation and evaluation of curriculum and standards for its development for ministry and teaching.

CE903 Assessing Student Learning (3)

This course addresses methods of evaluating student learning. Emphasis will be placed on research and collecting data sets that lead to a more efficient learning experience in the church and academic settings.

CE904 Learning Theories (3)

This course provides various ways in which instructors deliver content to enhance the learning experience.

CE905 Teaching Children and Youth (3)

This course addresses methods, instruments, and paradigms that lead to affective instruction of young learners in the ministry context.

CE1010 Teaching in Higher Education (3)

This course will offer an in-depth study into the theory and practice of effective teaching in Christian higher education for purposes of preparing graduates for careers in teaching Christian theology, philosophy, and apologetics. Emphasis will also be given to the presentation of materials, use of media, and integration with Learning Management Systems (LMS).

4. CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

CL910 Advancing Transformational Leadership (3)

This course addresses teaching and modeling leadership in ministry contexts that focus on personal change.

CL920 Building Team Leadership (3)

This course addresses the role of the personal character and integrity in the communication and decision-making process in the context of Christian ministry.

CL930 Managing Organizational Conflict (3)

This course provides those in Christian leadership an awareness and solutions for potential areas of conflict in the ministry organizational structure.

CL940 Change Theory (3)

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the theories, process, and practice of leading successful change in organizations. Topics include the problem with change and its solution, the eight-stage process for effective change, what the organization of the future will look like, and the importance of change for lifelong learning.

CL950 Christian Business Ethics (3)

This course provides an analysis of ethical standards and Christian responsibility for conducting Christian business and ministry.

5. PHILOSOPHY**PH900 Principles of Truth, Unity, Beauty and Goodness (3)**

This course will be an examination of truth, beauty, unity and goodness in the context of the Christian witness and thought. Emphasis will be placed on an understanding of these concepts in context of teaching, messaging, preaching, and evangelism.

PH1010 Thomistic Metaphysics (3)

A thorough study of the nature of reality, being, and causation in the thought of Thomas Aquinas with emphasis on its relationship to theology, epistemology, the nature of God and other theories of metaphysics.

PH1015 Thomistic Epistemology (3)

An in-depth study of the nature of knowledge and the knowing process in the thought of Thomas Aquinas with emphasis on its relation to metaphysics, theology, and other theories of knowledge.

PH1020 Religious Epistemology (3)

A study regarding the issues and implications of epistemology as it relates to theology and other religious claims. Related topics include God-Talk, warrant, justified-true-belief, faith and reason, and religious experience.

PH1025 Natural Theology (3)

A study of God from what can be known from general revelation. Related topics include the arguments for the existence of God, the nature and attributes of God, first principles, God's relationship to creation, divine causation and concurrence, providence, and the problem of evil.

PH1030 Philosophy of Mind and Body (3)

A study into the philosophy of mind and body with emphasis on the historical positions, issues, and its relationship to theology and apologetics.

PH1035 Moral Philosophy (3)

An in-depth study of morality, its grounding, principles, distinctions, knowledge and recognition of, ethical theories, and its historical positions.

PH1040 Philosophy of Science (3)

A study of the definition, principles, and theories of science and its relationship with religion. Topics include the theories of realism, anti-realism, instrumentalism, and the philosophy involved in evolutionary biology and intelligent design.

PH1045 Influential Philosophers and Philosophies (3)

This course is a study in the major philosophers and philosophies that have impacted human thought and how they have influenced the Christian Church and theology.

PH1050 Philosophical Problems (3)

This course will present one or more philosophical problems or current debates that affects theology or apologetics in which the student will choose one for deep study and research in primary sources for purposes of critical examination and possible defense of a position.

PHR1010 Directed Research in Philosophy of Religion I (3) or elective (3)

This is part one of a doctoral seminar guided and directed by the student's advisor for critical research in specific areas related to Christian philosophy, theology, or apologetics. This seminar class will be used to begin narrowing and preparing the student for choices in their dissertation area.

PHR1015 Directed Research in Philosophy of Religion II (3) or elective (3)

This is part two of a doctoral seminar guided and directed by the student's advisor for critical research in specific areas related to Christian philosophy, theology, or apologetics. This seminar class will be used to begin narrowing and preparing the student for choices in their dissertation area.

PHR1100 Language Competency Preparation and Examination (P/F)

The student will be required to pass a language competency exam of an approved language related to their dissertation research. This exam will test the student's ability to translate within a specified time limit using only an approved lexicon. Preparation for the exam will be through independent study.

PHR1105 Metaphysics and Epistemology Written Competency Exam (P/F)

This exam covers the philosophical areas of metaphysics and epistemology that affect Christianity. The student will be given a set of possible exam questions and will have two weeks to prepare for the exam. Then, the student will be given a timed essay exam.

PHR1110 Moral Philosophy Written Competency Exam (P/F)

This exam covers the philosophical area of moral philosophy that affect Christianity. The student will be given a set of possible exam questions and will have two weeks to prepare for the exam. Then, the student will be given a timed essay exam.

PHR115 Philosophical/Theological Problems Written Competency Exam (P/F)

This exam covers philosophical and theological problems that impact Christianity. The student will be given a set of possible exam questions and will have two weeks to prepare for the exam. Then, the student will be given a timed essay exam.

PHR120 Philosophy of Religion Oral Competency Exam (P/F)

This exam covers topics related to the philosophy of religion. The student will be given a set of possible exam questions and will have two weeks to prepare for the oral exam. Then, the student will appear before his advisor and one or more faculty members for examination. This may be conducted either in-person or over video conferencing.

PHR1200 Dissertation Prospectus (0 units)

The student will prepare the dissertation prospectus according to the guidelines specified by the program. This is the dissertation proposal that has to be approved before the student can begin writing their dissertation.

PHR1300 Dissertation Research and Writing (9 units)

The student will maintain continual enrollment in this course during the entire time of their research and writing of their dissertation. The student will be guided by the dissertation supervisor until the dissertation and subsequent defense is completed. The student's dissertation must constitute an original contribution to learning, give evidence of systematic study, and ability to relate the results of such study to the general body of knowledge in the subject area. The dissertation must be written in Turabian style formatting with a minimum length of 80,000 words.

PHR1400 Dissertation Oral Defense (minimum of 3 examiners)

After submitting an acceptable dissertation, the candidate will be required to give a live in-residence oral defense of their research to no less than three faculty readers/examiners, one of which may be from another institution. This will give opportunity to the candidate to explain and correct any misunderstanding of their research and offer the examiners a chance to test the knowledge and research contained in the dissertation.

7. PASTORAL MINISTRY**PM900 Cultivating a Christian Mind (3)**

This course will examine the issue of developing an intellectual life in order to discover what it means to love God with all our minds. In doing so, how to lead an intellectual life that pleases God, for he is at the center of it. Emphasis would be placed on examining various perspectives on how to love God with all our minds.

PM910 Reaching the Post-Christian Culture (3)

This course examines how to reach our culture for Christ by following the model of Paul preaching on Mars Hill to the Athenians. Emphasis will be placed on Paul's method, message, and techniques used to reach his audience, with relevant application to controversial social issues.

PM940 Principles of Expository Preaching/Teaching (3)

This course will examine and review core principles of expository preaching and teaching from Scripture.

PM930 Principles of Youth Ministry (3)

This course will examine biblical principles which guide youth ministry and understand relevant ways ministry has been conducted in various contexts for effective ministry.

PM920 Advanced Pastoral Counseling (3)

This course will examine various methods of counseling in the church with a view to understanding biblical principles as a guide to effective counseling.

PM950 Crisis Counseling (3)

This course will examine the principles and methods by which the Christian counselor can be effective in stressful and/or crisis situations.

8. RESEARCH PRACTICUM

RP900 Research Practicum I (3)

This course offering is designed to give the student an opportunity for flexible research in a specific area of study leading to some practical engagement or project where data is collected. The research topic is discovered in consultation between the student and instructor.

RP901 Research Practicum II (3)

This course offering is designed to give the student an opportunity for flexible research in a specific area of study leading to some practical engagement or project where data is collected and reviewed. The research topic is discovered in consultation between the student and instructor.

9. THEOLOGY

TH901 Practical Theology for Ministry (3)

This course emphasizes the application of theological truth to all of life, particularly the life and work of the church. The course seeks to develop in students the skills and wisdom for preaching, teaching, counseling, church leadership, evangelism, church planting, and mercy and cross-cultural ministries. In addition to training students for professional competence, practical theology seeks to encourage and foster spiritual development in students preparing for and engaging in Christian ministry and service.

TH1010 Theological Problems (3)

This course will present one or more theological problems or debates in theology. The student will choose one for deep study and research for purposes of critical examination and possible defense of a position.

