



Veritas
International
University

2025 – 2026

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VERITAS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

VERITAS COLLEGE & SEMINARY

VIU SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

VIU NORMAN L. GEISLER SCHOOL OF APOLOGETICS

2025 – 2026

(July 25, 2025 – December 31, 2026)

Academic Catalog

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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).

No Debt Policy: VIU operates on a no-debt policy and has not filed a pending petition in bankruptcy, is not operating as a debtor in possession, has not filed a petition within the preceding five years, and no entity has filed an involuntary petition to put it into bankruptcy that resulted in reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

TRACS has authorized VIU to offer the following accredited degrees:

- Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought (A.A.B.C)
- Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought (B.A.B.C)
- 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 Philosophy & Apologetics (M.A.P.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

Graduate level Certificate Programs are identical to their respective MA/MDiv programs. Those who complete the BACS degree without completing general education are awarded the Certificate of Christian Studies (CCS) until the general ed requirements are complete. At that time, it is converted to a BACS. Students may convert a certificate to a degree by submitting an official transcript to the VIU Registrar. The following comprise VIU certificate offerings:

- Certificate of Christian Studies (CCS/60 units)
- 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 Philosophy & Apologetics (CPA/60 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 New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) has reviewed and approved the exemption status of Veritas International University, pursuant to the Post-secondary Educational Institution Act, 21-23-1 et seq. NMSA 1978. This was based on Section A.6, pursuant to 21-23-4 Exceptions and the NMAC 5.100.5.6 A (3)(f), which states “chartered, nonprofit religious non-degree and degree granting institutions whose sole purpose is to train students in religious disciplines to prepare them to assume a vocational objective relating primarily to religion”.

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 other 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).

NOTICE CONCERNING TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS/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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A Word from Our President – Dr. Joseph M. Holden

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

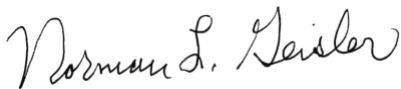
A WORD FROM OUR CO-FOUNDER

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)

ABOUT VIU

Our Vision

We believe the purpose of all creation is to know God and make Him known. We aim to discover the depths of God's nature and let that knowledge guide every relationship and activity.

Jeremiah 29:13 — "And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart."

Acts 17:26-28 — "And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being..."

Our Mission

We are an accredited Classical Christian university offering programs in biblical studies and exposition, theology, apologetics, and archaeology, among others. We connect with the community through conferring degrees, offering symposiums, archaeological excavation, publication, and producing media.

Nehemiah 8:8 — "So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading."

2 Timothy 2:15 — "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Our Values

Truth. We believe truth is what reflects reality and is, therefore, the anchor of all human experience, expression, and thought. We are committed to the pursuit and defense of truth and the authentic, accurate, and responsible transmission of it.

Psalms 119:160 — "The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever."

John 8:32 — "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Formation. We believe whole-life transformation is the supernatural byproduct of knowing God and is one of the most eloquent declarations of His power. We are

committed to nurturing and encouraging every person God places in our path as they are transformed into His likeness.

Psalm 139:14 — "I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well."

2 Corinthians 3:18 — "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

Dignity. We believe every person bears the image of God and is worthy of being seen, heard, and valued. We are committed to honoring the uniqueness of each person and helping them discover and develop their Divine calling.

Genesis 1:27 — "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

Ephesians 2:10 — "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

Faithfulness. We believe unwavering commitment is the currency of trust and the foundation of fruitfulness. We will be consistent and courageous in our work, worship and relationships.

Proverbs 3:3-4 — "Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man."

1 Corinthians 4:2 — "Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful."

Wonder. We believe all creation clearly reflects the attributes of God, and those who learn to see them are drawn into deeper intimacy, worship, awe and humility. We are committed to approaching every idea, person, and experience with joyful and reverent curiosity.

Psalm 19:1-2 — "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge."

Romans 1:20 — "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."

Therefore, we approach fulfilling our vision, mission, and values by providing an environment that encourages all students to *Explore, Examine, and Engage*.

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 the student's expositional skill and worldview understanding for communicating (i.e. teaching, preaching, and living) God's Word.
- 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.

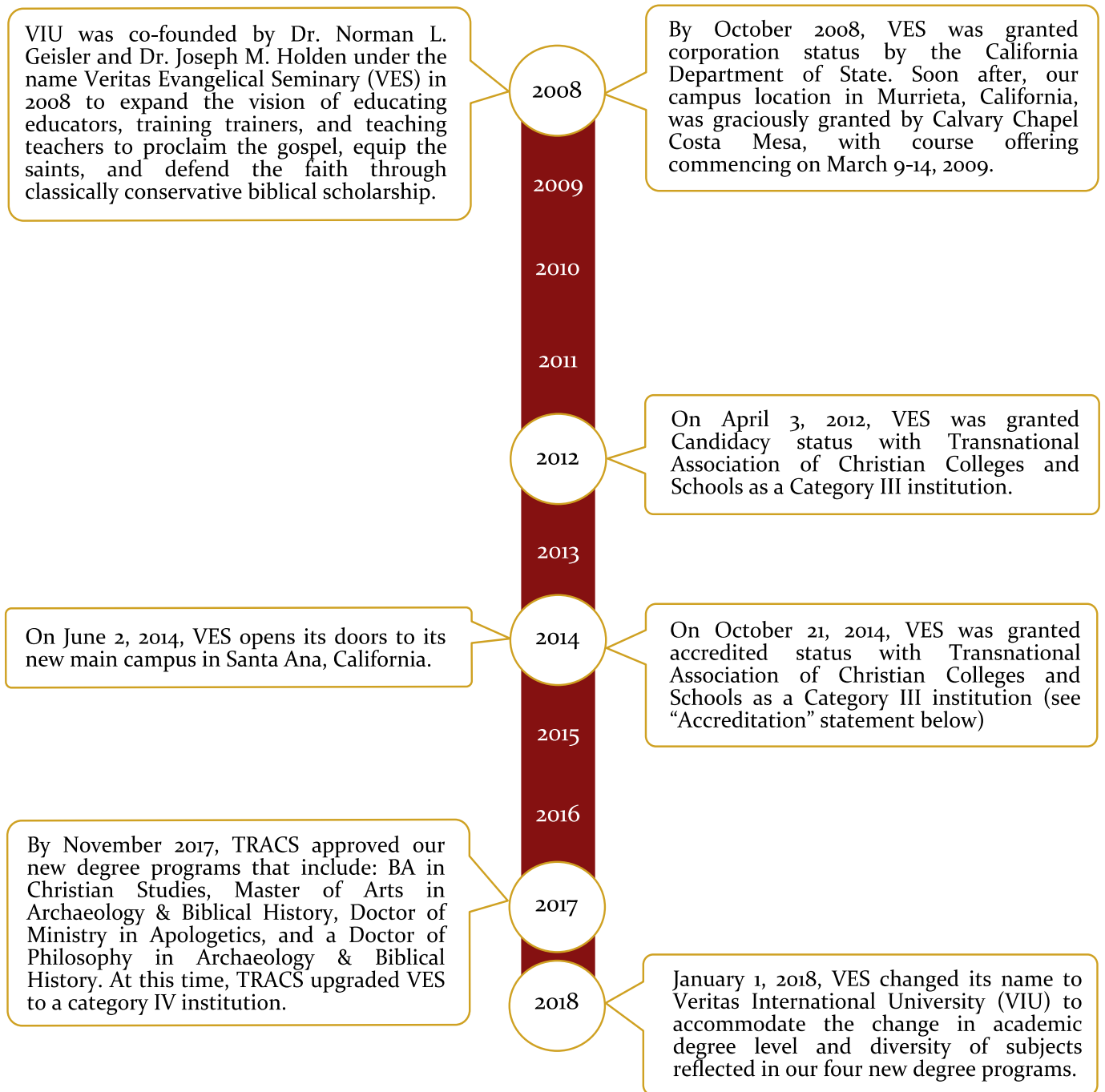
Servant Leadership

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

Admission to VIU programs requires agreement with the essential doctrines of the Christian faith listed below (1–12). Secondary and tertiary issues (such as the age of the earth, spiritual gifts, and the order and timing of eschatological events, etc) do not affect admission. Subject to administrative approval, exceptions to this doctrinal requirement may be made for archaeology programs, given the universal nature of the scientific methodologies, skills, and techniques employed.

Essential Doctrines

1. God is a Trinity, existing eternally in three distinct persons—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—who share one divine nature.
2. God created both the animate and inanimate universe.
3. The virgin conception of Christ.
4. The full deity and full humanity of Christ, two distinct natures united in one person (the Messiah, the Son of God).
5. The sinlessness of Christ.
6. The depravity of humanity.
7. The necessity of God's grace and personal faith in Christ alone for salvation.
8. The full inspiration of the Old and New Testaments (the Bible as the Word of God).
9. Christ's complete and final atoning death for sin.
10. Christ's physical resurrection from the dead.
11. Christ's bodily ascension to the presence of God the Father.
12. Christ's future physical return to the earth.

The following doctrinal statement provides applicants with a fuller understanding of VIU's theological framework for its degree programs and course content.

I. Scripture

We believe that the 66 books of the Bible constitute the Word of God, comprising the entirety of Holy Scripture. They are verbally inspired and inerrant in the original text. Scripture is true in all that it affirms or implies—including matters of faith, history, and science—and contains everything necessary for understanding God's redemptive plan, salvation, faith, morality, and practice. Because God cannot err and Scripture is His Word, the Bible is without error. Therefore, it is the supreme, final, and authoritative standard for Christian doctrine, fellowship, and spiritual growth. VIU affirms the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy (CSBI).

II. Historicity

We affirm the full historicity and intelligibility of the biblical record, including the Genesis account of primeval history: the literal existence of Adam and Eve as the first humans, the fall in the Garden of Eden, the resulting curse on creation, the global flood, and the origin of nations and languages at the Tower of Babel.

Christianity is a historical faith grounded in real people, places, and events. Doctrine flows from history; the two are inseparable. For example, without the historical death of Christ, there is no basis for the doctrine of forgiveness of sins, and without His bodily resurrection, there is no justification (Romans 4:25; 10:9–10).

III. God

We believe in one God, eternally existing as a Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, sharing one divine nature. God is personal and essentially spirit. His attributes include, but are not limited to, being transcendent, infinite, unchanging, eternal, without parts, omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, perfectly good, loving, wise, just, holy, sovereign, and worthy of all worship. He is the Creator and sustainer of all things.

IV. Creation

God is the Creator and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth and all forms of life, as recorded in Genesis 1–2. The creation account is factual and historical, not myth or legend, and provides the foundation for understanding the universe and God’s power and glory (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:19–21).

God continues to exercise providential care over His creation (Matthew 6:25–33). Christ is preeminent over creation, the agent of creation, and the sustainer of all things (Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:17).

We reject macroevolution and theistic evolution as incompatible with Scripture, while allowing for limited variation within created kinds (microevolution). We affirm that the natural world cannot account for its own existence and therefore points to a supernatural cause beyond nature.

V. Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is the incarnation of God—fully God and fully man—with two distinct, unconfused natures united in one person. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, and performed miracles.

Through His substitutionary death on the cross, He provided atonement for sin. He was physically resurrected in the same body that was buried, appeared to many witnesses, and ascended bodily to the right hand of the Father, where He intercedes for believers.

Following His ascension, the Holy Spirit was given to empower believers to proclaim the gospel to all nations—a mission that continues today.

VI. Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, possessing personality, intellect, will, and emotions. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment; indwells, sanctifies, teaches, empowers, and guides believers into truth.

Salvation is impossible apart from the Spirit's work. He distributes spiritual gifts according to His will. Love is the highest virtue, and without it, all spiritual gifts are meaningless.

VII. Mankind

Human beings are created in the image of God, possessing body, soul, and spirit. Through the fall of Adam and Eve, all humanity is born spiritually dead, separated from God, and under condemnation.

Sin affects every aspect of human nature, distorting—but not destroying—the image of God. All people retain the capacity to respond to the gospel. Through Christ's atonement, salvation is offered to all as a gift of grace received by faith.

VIII. Salvation

Salvation is initiated, attained, and procured by God through the substitutionary atoning death of Christ on the cross for our sins and His physical 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. At salvation, the believer is forgiven, justified, reconciled to God, and adopted into His family. The Holy Spirit indwells and seals the believer, enabling growth in holiness and guaranteeing future glorification.

IX. The Church

The universal Church consists of all believers, both living and deceased, united in Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit.

The Church is called to worship God, grow in maturity, and proclaim the gospel—making disciples, baptizing believers, and teaching obedience to Christ.

Two ordinances have been given to the Church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is an outward expression of inward faith and is not required for salvation. Communion serves as a continual remembrance of Christ's sacrificial death.

X. Christ's Return

We believe in the personal, visible, and physical return of Jesus Christ to the earth. He will defeat His enemies and establish His millennial kingdom.

We anticipate the imminent return of Christ, which motivates holy living, faithful service, and gospel proclamation.

XI. Eternity

Those who are saved by Jesus Christ will spend eternity in conscious fellowship with Him, experiencing joy and reward. Those who reject Christ will spend eternity separated from God in conscious judgment.

XII. Satan

We believe in a real, personal devil who opposes God and seeks to deceive and destroy. His power is limited by God. Though defeated at the cross, he will ultimately be judged and eternally punished along with his followers.

XIII. Marriage and Sexuality

We believe marriage is ordained by God as the union of one biological man and one biological woman. Sexual relations are reserved for heterosexual marriage.

We affirm that one's biological sex is God-given, and rejecting or redefining it distorts God's created order.

XIV. We Affirm

The Early Creeds: VIU affirms the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds as early historic expressions of orthodox Christian belief. While not binding, they serve as valuable doctrinal guides.

Classical and Evidential Approach: VIU affirms the evangelical-friendly classical approach to apologetics, theology, philosophy, and worldview formation in the tradition of Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas. In the contemporary period, this was exemplified through the teaching and publications of our late VIU co-founder and evangelical Thomist, Norman L. Geisler.

In addition, VIU affirms the use of legal and evidential arguments as a critical component in support of, and in defense of, the Christian worldview. This evidence-based approach was exemplified in the contemporary period through the teaching and publications of the legal and human rights scholar, John Warwick Montgomery.

XV. We Reject:

1. The Emergent Church Movement
2. Aberrant Spiritual Practices (such as New Age-infused prayer exercises)
3. Open Theism, Freewill Theism, and Neotheism
4. Genre criticism that denies biblical historicity or limits inerrancy
5. Anti-supernatural assumptions in biblical scholarship
6. The denial of meaningful human free will in spiritual decisions
7. The Health, Wealth, and Prosperity Gospel

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.

1. Academic dishonesty, such as cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University.
2. Forgery, alteration or misuse of University documents, records, or identification.
3. Obstruction or disruption of instructional, counseling, administrative, or other authorized University activities.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Unauthorized entry onto or use of VIU facilities.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. Willful failure to comply with directions of VIU officials, including faculty and staff action in the performance of their duties.
10. Disorderly, lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct, expression, or language on VIU owned or leased property or at University sponsored or supervised functions.
11. Verbal abuse in any way that causes defamation or character assassination.
12. Possession or use of any item used to threaten bodily harm to any person on VIU property or at a University function.
13. Misrepresentation of oneself or an organization to be an agent of the University.
14. Conduct that is in violation of federal, state, or local laws or ordinances while on University premises or at VIU sponsored activities.
15. Abuse of computer facilities or use of computers for anything other than authorized course related work.
16. 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.
17. Students are required to adhere to VIU “zero-tolerance” sexual harassment policy.
18. Disrespectfulness, including but not limited to, failure or refusal to obey the instructions of staff, faculty, or the use of abusive, profane, disrespectful, or demeaning language toward staff, faculty, or other students.
19. Undermining the purpose and mission of the school or other staff, faculty or administrators by one’s behavior or conversation: either by interference with administration and faculty or an open disrespectful attitude towards staff, faculty, or other students
20. Deceptive behavior to staff, faculty, or other students.

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 www.tracs.org. VIU ensures students that all staff and faculty members will fully cooperate with TRACS in the event of any complaint proceedings.

Student Complaint Process for Distance Education Students

The National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) is an agreement among member states, districts and territories that sets national standards for interstate offering of post-secondary distance education courses and programs. Veritas International University is a NC-SARA approved institution and the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) is the NC-SARA Portal Entity for New Mexico. Distance Education students attending VIU who would like to resolve a grievance should follow VIU's established Student Complaint Process. However, if an issue cannot be resolved internally, you may file a NC-SARA complaint with the New Mexico Higher Education Department. Complaints regarding grades and student conduct violations shall not be reviewed by NMHED. Please visit <https://hed.nm.gov/students-parents/nc-sara> for more information.

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, including students, participating in the University and its ministries. The policy prohibits unlawful harassment (or in some cases behavior whether verbal or physical that is deemed by VIU to be abusive or harassing

but not unlawful) by anyone, including supervisors, coworkers, students, and faculty. 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, verbal abuse, disrespectful demands, 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 or student determined by VIU to be responsible for unlawful harassment that does not violate the law) will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, up to, and including suspension, expulsion, or 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, students, employees or coworkers.

VIU Main Campus

VIU administrative offices are located in heart of New Mexico at 7600 Jefferson St. NE, Suite 24, Albuquerque, NM 87109. The site is strategically located off the I-25 freeway, just a short drive from the Albuquerque International Sunport (ABQ), minutes from hotels and restaurants, and only 50 minutes to the state capital of Santa Fe.

In addition to our main campus site, we also utilize three adjacent suites shared with Trinity Southwest University as our satellite location for laboratory work for our MA/PhD Archaeology and Biblical History program

Disability Accommodations at the Facility

The VIU main campus provides ample handicap parking throughout the facility. All buildings at the main campus are handicapped accessible, including the library, administrative offices, lab, and classrooms. Should you have any questions regarding handicap access at the VIU main campus please contact the Student Services Department directly at info@ves.edu.

Housing

VIU has no dormitory facilities under our control. Locating housing is the sole responsibility of the student. Renters make up 45.1% of the Albuquerque (zip 87109, 87114) population and 0.8% of houses and apartments in Albuquerque (zip 87109, 87114), are available to rent. Estimated average rents range from \$1000-\$2200 per month (depending on quantity of bedrooms and size).

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, professionally, 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 Albuquerque Campus located at: 7600 Jefferson Street NE, Suite 24, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

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 \$75.00 (*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 2025–2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR	
Fall 2025	
Fall Semester Orientation & Final Registration (External / Residential)	August 18
Fall Semester Courses Begin	August 25
Distance Learning (DL) Term 1 Begins	August 25 – October 12 (7-weeks)
Residential Module Course	August 26 – August 31 (TBD)
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL Term 1 (7-week courses)	September 1 (Labor Day)
Last Day to Officially Withdraw from 15-week Courses	September 8
Distance Learning Term 2 Registration	October 13-19
Distance Learning Term 2 Begins	October 20 – December 14 (7-weeks)
Residential Module Course	October 21-26 (TBD)
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL Term 2 Courses	October 27
Thanksgiving Break	November 26-28
Last Day of Fall Classes	December 14
Graduation Commencement	December 18 (if necessary)
Spring 2026	
Spring Final Registration	January 5-25
Spring Semester Begins	January 26
Distance Learning Term 1 Begins	January 26 (7-weeks)
Residential Module Course	January 27 - February 1 (TBD)
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL SP Term 1	February 2
Last Day to Officially Withdraw from SP 15-week Courses	February 9
Last Day of SP 1 Courses (7-week)	March 15
Distance Learning SP Term 2 Registration	March 16–22
Distance Learning SP Term 2 Begins	March 23 (7-weeks)
Residential Module Course	March 24 – March 29 (TBD)
Last Day to Officially Withdraw DL SP 2 Courses	March 30
Easter Break	March 30 – April 3
Last Day of Class/Graduation	May 17/May 29
Summer 2026	
Distance Education (DE) Summer Term	June 15–August 17 (9-weeks)
Residential Summer Module Courses	TBD

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 \$75.00 for each application submitted (make check payable to: Veritas International University)

Send completed application to:

Veritas International University
C/O Admissions Department
7600 Jefferson Street NE, Suite 24, Albuquerque, NM 87109

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 \$75.00 application fee, though they are not required to complete a personal biography, nor send references or transcripts of prior academic study. Students may enroll in courses for academic audit for undergraduate and graduate level at the rate of \$340.00 per course. 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 \$240.00 per course. 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 \$355.00 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 evidenced 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 ISRP graduate tuition and fees schedule is \$440.00 per course plus registration (\$30) and technology fees (\$75). 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 Chief Academic Officer'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

VIU classes are primarily online and may be completed from anywhere. While we do not currently offer a resident program, there are a limited number of courses offered at our VIU campus in Albuquerque, New Mexico. All courses offered at our VIU campus will also be accessible via streaming for students who are not in the area.

VIU does offer occasional in-person intensive module courses that will be listed on the annual course schedule or arranged individually with the professor. Attendance at intensive courses can be in-person or online. All assignments are outlined in the course syllabus. By the end of the course all assignments must be postmarked and submitted to the professor for grading.

Distance Education Program (Non-Resident)

VIU offers interactive distance learning courses through an online 7-week format. The non-resident distance education program consists of two 7-week modules per semester (Fall 1 and 2, and Spring 1 and 2) and one 7-week module 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 (BA in Christian Studies) may be completed entirely by distance learning. 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 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.

Doctoral. All doctoral courses may be completed at a distance, particularly in the Doctor of Ministry (Apologetics) program. Unlike the undergraduate and graduate level distance courses, all Doctor of Ministry distance courses are 15-weeks in length. There are also some PhD courses that qualify as distance learning 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.

Transfer Credit and Prior Learning Experience

No more than 20% of graduate semester units or the equivalent in other units awarded by another institution may be transferred for credit toward a Master's degree. The amount of credit awarded for prior experiential learning at the undergraduate level shall not be related to the amount charged the student for the assessment process. (A) Of the first 60 semester credits awarded a student in an undergraduate program, no more than 15 semester credits may be awarded for prior experiential learning. (B) Of the second 60 semester units (i.e., credits 61 to 120) awarded a student in an undergraduate program, no more than 15 semester credits may be awarded for prior experiential learning. In other words, 30 units maximum for prior experiential learning.

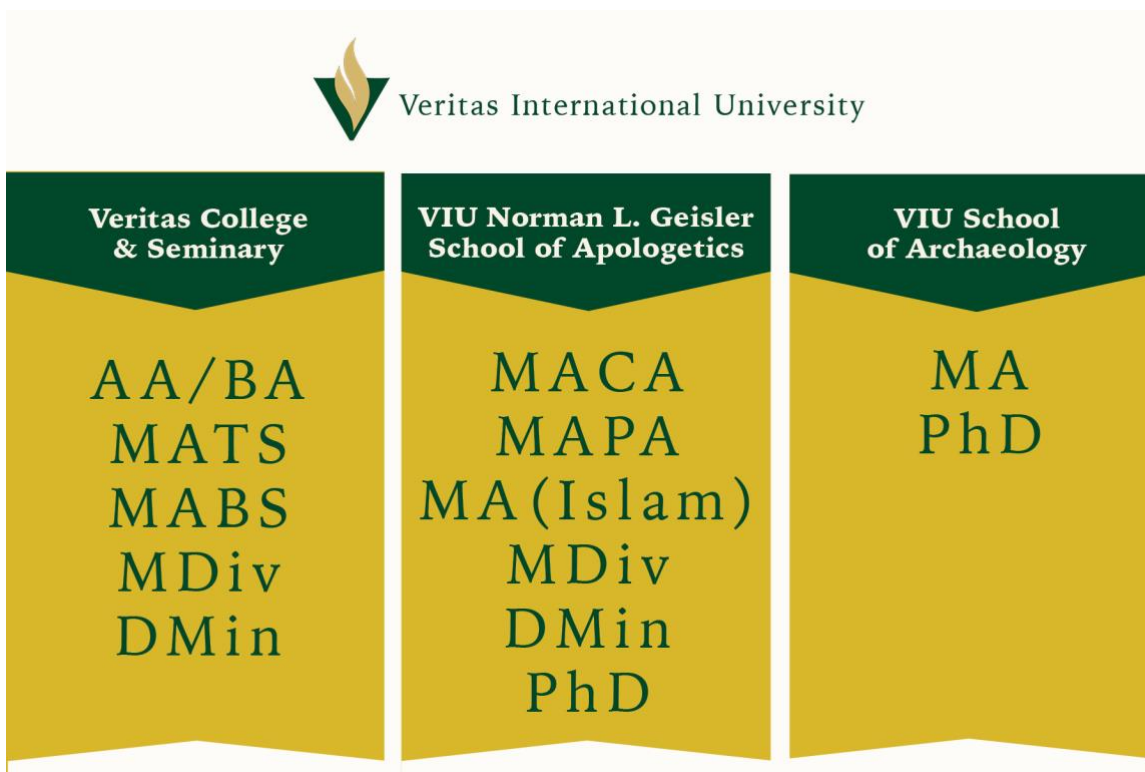
VIU Degrees & Academic Flow Chart

VIU contains three schools in which nine (9) undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate degree programs are offered. They are Veritas College & Seminary, VIU School of Archaeology, and the VIU 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 distance learning options for each program makes VIU courses of study flexible, affordable and convenient. VIU offers the following degree programs:

- **Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought (AABC)** – 63 semester credit hours (15 hours of General education units earned outside VIU)
- **Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought (BABC)** – 120 semester credit hours (45 hours of General education units earned outside VIU)
- **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 Philosophy & Apologetics (MAPA)** – 60 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
- **Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy of Religion (PhD)** – 60 semester credit hours

The degree programs are arranged under three schools within the University as follows:



VERITAS COLLEGE & SEMINARY

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

- Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classic Christian Thought (A.A.B.C.)
- Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classic Christian Thought (B.A.B.C.)
- 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.)

Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought

Program Description

Veritas International University is pleased to announce the newly formed AA in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought program in the evangelical-friendly tradition of Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas. Using primary sources and trusted texts, students will be exposed to the thought and theology of leading classical Christian thinkers and biblical books and familiarize themselves with classical languages.

This program is designed for those desiring to familiarize themselves with the Bible to communicate the Scriptures in a classically informed expositional manner and/or to understand a classically oriented biblical worldview.

Resident students will follow a Paideia form of education, in 15-week semesters, incorporating didactic, Socratic, and project-based learning, using the skills they acquire to impact the culture for Christ as VIU's mission declares: Proclaiming the Gospel, equipping the saints, and defending the faith.¹

Paideia

Rooted in classical, Christian culture, the Paideia form of education is a trusted means to form and inform the whole person. Classical scholar Werner Jaeger defines paideia as “the shaping of a person in the context of culture, the formation of a human soul.” VIU strives to shape student learning within a classical, Christian worldview.

¹ For more information on Paideia, we recommend Dr. Mortimer J. Adler's books *The Paideia Proposal*, *The Paideia Program*, and *Reforming Education*, generally espoused as the Great Books approach.

We find hints of this form of education in Jesus's time as a student, when He sat among the teachers, listened, and asked questions (see Luke 2:46).

Jesus also fostered a Paideia form of education as a teacher, using broad methodology in His instruction. He encouraged His followers to love God with their hearts, minds, souls, and strength, a holistic approach to learning (see Matthew 22:37).

Furthermore, the Apostle Paul uses paideia to describe a holistic way of life in the context of the training, nurture, and instruction of students (see Ephesians 6:4 and 2 Timothy 3:16). Later, the church adopted this form of education, using it throughout the centuries via a Classical education, a broad and all-encompassing pedagogy.

With a Paideia form of education, in-person students will be exposed to the following methods:

- Didactic: Classroom instruction rooted in a classical, Christian thought.
- Socratic: Discuss primary texts and sources.
- Project-Based: Apply their knowledge in practical, penetrating ways.

Features of the Program

Bible Exposition Track: Using key biblical books, the Bible Exposition Track introduces students to specific books of the Bible, highlighting authorship, historical background, Christological theme, core theological messages and historical/chronological flow. Furthermore, students will learn to exposit the text with a grammatical-historical approach, upholding a high view of textual interpretation. Each book will be faithfully expounded in consistent with the perspective of full biblical inspiration and inerrancy.

Classical Christian Thought Track: Using Paideia methodology,² the Classical Christian Thought Track introduces students to leading thinkers in Classical Christianity in the evangelical-friendly tradition of Augustine, Anselm, Aquinas, and other great thinkers from the western world. This is accomplished by reading and discussing pivotal texts that are consistent and supportive of evangelical Christianity, familiarizing students with the larger scope of patristic thought (the study of the early Church Fathers). Furthermore, students will learn elements of classical philosophy (with a focus on the transcendentals: simplicity, truth, beauty, and goodness) and historic, classical theology and apologetics in the classical Thomistic tradition of Norman L. Geisler and the evidential tradition of John Warwick Montgomery.

² Paideia methodology includes didactic instruction, Socratic discussion of primary source material, and practical projects.

Biblical Languages Track: Over the course of four semesters, the student will become familiar with the foundational vocabulary and grammar of Koine Greek and biblical Hebrew for reading the Old and New Testaments. This will allow the student to gain firsthand experience translating the text of primary documents with the aid of basic primary language skills as well as having a working knowledge of the dynamics involved.

Program Objectives

The AA in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought program will:

1. Present the core biblical texts for study and exposition, focusing on the historic-grammatical method of interpretation emphasizing expositional communication of the Scriptures (All Tracks).
2. Familiarize students to the various personages associated with a classical, Christian worldview, with special emphasis placed on Augustine, Anslem, and Aquinas and core metaphysical concepts such as truth, beauty, and goodness (Classical Christian Thought Track).
3. Defend the significance of this corpus for New Testament studies and the contemporary Church (Biblical Studies track).
4. Provide students the opportunity to learn vocabulary and grammar of biblical languages (Hebrew and Greek) as a foundation for reading the Old and New Testaments (Biblical Languages Track).
5. The students will learn the classical case for Christianity. Specifically, they will be required to memorize the 12 points that show Christianity is true. This will be part of the final exam and will constitute most of the time of the semester (Apologetics track).
6. Introduce students to key theological and philosophical works, using primary sources within a Socratic discussion format, preparing them to think critically and biblically about various theological and philosophical themes addressed within Classical, Christian thought (All tracks).
7. Instill within students the proper tools/methods to support and defend the historic Christian faith by offering an outlet for students to write—and/or speak—in a manner that is hermeneutically and theologically sound (All tracks), thereby articulating a Biblical and classical Christian theology (All tracks).

Admission to the Program

Admission to the AA program requires either a high school diploma, or GED, or equivalent with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. The AA degree program calls for students who demonstrate a desire to understand and communicate God's Word, possess a potential for academic research, desire for primary research, a faithful commitment to the Word of God, and the personal discipline and commitment necessary to complete the degree requirements. No prior earned undergraduate credit is necessary to begin the AA program.

The Associate of Arts program constitutes about half (50%) of the BA program in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought. Therefore, the curriculum of the 63-unit AA program is designed to seamlessly transition into the 120-unit BA program.

Associate of Arts – 63 total units	
Major Requirements – 48 units	
General Education Requirements – 15 units*	
Year 1	
Prerequisite: RW499 Research & Writing Skills (P/F)	
Fall – 12 units (15-weeks)	Spring – 12 units (15-weeks)
OT310/SH-310: Survey of the Old Testament 3	NT320/SH-320: Survey of the New Testament 3
OT217: Esther 3	NT202/204: Gospel of John or Mark 3
TH320: Bible Study Methods & Interpretation 3	TH202: Classical Systematic Theology 3
BLG401: Greek I 3 OR CCT200: Life and Thought of Augustine 3	BLG402: Greek II 3 OR CCT201: Survey of the Great Patristic Thinkers 3
Year 2	
Fall – 12 units (15-weeks)	Spring – 12 units (15-weeks)
OT227: Daniel 3	NT218: Epistles of John 3
OT216: Nehemiah 3	NT217: Epistles of Peter 3
AP301: Christian Apologetics 3	CCT204: Truth, Beauty, and Goodness 3
BLH401: Hebrew I 3 Or CCT202: Life and Thought of Aquinas 3	BLH402: Hebrew II 3 Or CCT203: Life and Thought of Anselm 3
*15 units of general education courses must be earned at another institution and transferred to VIU to receive the VIU AA degree. These additional units may be earned while pursuing your VIU program.	

Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought

Program Description

Veritas International University is pleased to announce the newly formed BA in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought program in the evangelical-friendly tradition of Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas. Using primary sources and trusted texts, students will be exposed to the thought and theology of leading classical Christian thinkers and biblical books and familiarize themselves with classical languages.

This program is designed for those desiring to familiarize themselves with the Bible to communicate the Scriptures in a classically informed expositional manner and/or to understand a classically oriented biblical worldview.

Resident students will follow a Paideia form of education, in 15-week semesters, incorporating didactic, Socratic, and project-based learning, using the skills they acquire to impact the culture for Christ as VIU's mission declares: Proclaiming the Gospel, equipping the saints, and defending the faith.³

Paideia

Rooted in classical, Christian culture, the Paideia form of education is a trusted means to form and inform the whole person. Classical scholar Werner Jaeger defines paideia as “the shaping of a person in the context of culture, the formation of a human soul.” VIU strives to shape student learning within a classical, Christian worldview.

We find hints of this form of education in Jesus's time as a student, when He sat among the teachers, listened, and asked questions (see Luke 2:46).

Jesus also fostered a Paideia form of education as a teacher, using broad methodology in His instruction. He encouraged His followers to love God with their hearts, minds, souls, and strength, a holistic approach to learning (see Matthew 22:37).

Furthermore, the Apostle Paul uses paideia to describe a holistic way of life in the context of students' training, nurture, and instruction (see Ephesians 6:4 and 2 Timothy 3:16).

Later, the church adopted this form of education, using it throughout the centuries as a Classical education, a broad and all-encompassing pedagogy.

With a Paideia form of education, in-person students will be exposed to the following methods:

- Didactic: Classroom instruction rooted in a classical, Christian thought.
- Socratic: Discuss primary texts and sources.
- Project-Based: Apply their knowledge in practical, penetrating ways.

Features of the BA Program

Bible Exposition Track: Using key biblical books, the Bible Exposition Track introduces students to specific books of the Bible, highlighting authorship, historical background, Christological theme, core theological messages and historical/chronological flow. Furthermore, students will learn to exposit the text with a grammatical-historical approach, upholding a high view of textual interpretation. Each book will be faithfully expounded in consistent with the perspective of full biblical inspiration and inerrancy.

³ For more information on Paideia, we recommend Dr. Mortimer J. Adler's books *The Paideia Proposal*, *The Paideia Program*, and *Reforming Education*, generally espoused as the Great Books approach.

Classical Christian Thought Track: Using Paideia methodology,⁴ the Classical Christian Thought Track introduces students to leading thinkers in Classical Christianity in the evangelical-friendly tradition of Augustine, Anselm, Aquinas, and other great thinkers from the western world. This is accomplished by reading and discussing pivotal texts that are consistent and supportive of evangelical Christianity, familiarizing students with the larger scope of patristic thought (the study of the early Church Fathers). Furthermore, students will learn elements of classical philosophy (with a focus on the transcendentals: simplicity, truth, beauty, and goodness) and historic, classical theology and apologetics in the classical Thomistic tradition of Norman L. Geisler and the evidential tradition of John Warwick Montgomery.

Biblical Languages Track: Over the course of four semesters, the student will become familiar with the foundational vocabulary and grammar of Koine Greek and biblical Hebrew for reading the Old and New Testaments. This will allow the student to gain firsthand experience translating the text of primary documents with the aid of basic primary language skills as well as having a working knowledge of the dynamics involved.

Program Objectives

The BA in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought program will:

1. Present the core biblical texts for study and exposition, focusing on the historic-grammatical method of interpretation emphasizing expository communication of the Scriptures (All Tracks).
2. Familiarize students to the various personages associated with a classical, Christian worldview, with special emphasis placed on Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas and core metaphysical concepts such as truth, beauty, and goodness (Classical Christian Thought Track).
3. Defend the significance of this corpus for New Testament studies and the contemporary Church (Biblical Studies track).
4. Provide students the opportunity to learn vocabulary and grammar of biblical languages (Hebrew and Greek) as a foundation for reading the Old and New Testaments (Biblical Languages Track).
5. The students will learn the classical case for Christianity. Specifically, they will be required to memorize the 12 points that show Christianity is true. This will be part of the final exam and will constitute most of the time of the semester (Apologetics track).
6. Introduce students to key theological and philosophical works, using primary sources within a Socratic discussion format, preparing them to think critically and biblically about various theological and philosophical themes addressed within Classical, Christian thought (All tracks).
7. Instill within students the proper tools/methods to support and defend the historic Christian faith by offering an outlet for students to write—and/or speak—

⁴ Paideia methodology includes didactic instruction, Socratic discussion of primary source material, and practical projects.

in a manner that is hermeneutically and theologically sound (All tracks), thereby articulating a Biblical and classical Christian theology (All tracks).

Admissions

Admission to the BA program requires either a high school diploma, or GED, or equivalent with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. The BA degree program calls for students who demonstrate a desire to understand and communicate God's Word, possess a potential for academic research, desire for primary research, a faithful commitment to the Word of God, and the personal discipline and commitment necessary to complete the degree requirements.

Bachelor of Arts – 120 units	
Major Requirements – 75 units	
General Education Requirements – 45 units*	
Year 1	
Fall – 12 units	Spring – 12 units
OT310/SH-310: Survey of the OT 3	NT320/SH-320: Survey of the NT 3
OT217: Esther 3	NT202/204: Gospel of John or Mark 3
TH320: Bible Study Methods & Interpretation 3	TH202: Classical Systematic Theology 3
BLG401: Greek I 3 Or CCT200: Life and Thought of Augustine 3	BLG402: Greek II 3 Or CCT201: Survey of the Great Patristic Thinkers 3
Year 2	
Fall – 12 units	Spring – 12 units
OT227: Daniel 3	NT218: Epistles of John 3
OT216: Nehemiah 3	NT217: Epistles of Peter & Jude 3
AP301: Christian Apologetics 3	CCT204: Truth, Beauty, and Goodness 3
BLH401: Hebrew I 3 Or CCT202: Life and Thought of Aquinas 3	BLH402: Hebrew II 3 Or CCT203: Life and Thought of Anslem 3
Summer Term – 3 units	
PH402: God and Philosophy 3	
Year 3	
Fall – 12 units	Spring – 12units
OT308: Ruth 3	OT438: Zechariah 3
OT315: Ezra 3	NT411: Philippians 3
NT312: Colossians 3	NT406: Romans 3
PM340: Expository Teaching/Preaching 3	PM440: Homiletics 3
*45 units of general education courses must be earned at another institution and transferred to VIU to receive the VIU BA degree. These additional units may be earned concurrently with your VIU program.	

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies

Program Description

This highly flexible Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (BACS) program is a 60-unit professional degree designed to be completed in 2-years of full-time study. Courses are offered both by streaming while some may be completed entirely by syllabus-textbook instruction at your own pace.

The program offers a broad foundation drawing from the classical Christian tradition characterized by Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas, for ministry and teaching involving theology, church history, biblical studies, apologetics, religion, and elective courses.

The VIU program provides undergraduate instruction for those seeking to be involved in church and/or missionary related ministry, teaching at the elementary and high school level, and to those who seek to pursue a graduate degree in the future. Additional teaching credentials may be required.

Program Objectives

- 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.

FLEX Degree Completion Program for Mature Students

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. 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 admission to 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. No prior earned undergraduate credit is necessary to begin the BACS.

Program Requirements

Each student is required to successfully complete the 60-unit (or more if needed) program with a GPA of 2.0 or better and be recommended by the faculty for graduation. In addition, a minimum of 12 semester units must be successfully completed through VIU courses. These 60 units of VIU courses are designed to be added to an earned associate degree with a minimum of 15 general education units previously earned at another institution. Cumulatively, the BACS is 120 units when combined with previously earned general education (i.e. 31 units)/elective units (i.e. 29 units that may be taken at another institution or at VIU). However, prior to the award of the VIU BACS degree, at least 31 units of general education courses must be completed at another institution; any courses above these 31 units of general education may be taken at VIU as electives if needed and will be added to the 60 units of required courses fulfilled at VIU. See the Application for Admission for further requirements.

Transfer Credit

Students may transfer into the program up to 108 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.

Mode of Delivery and Time to Complete

The BACS program is fulfilled through distance-learning format. In the case of graduate enrollment as an undergraduate student, the student would receive a syllabus appropriate for undergraduate coursework.

A typical distance-learning course may include:

- 1) Reading assignments
- 2) Discussion posts/responses
- 3) Research paper
- 4) Exam and/or quizzes
- 5) Courses will be offered by live streaming. Some courses may be syllabus/textbook-based and completed at your own pace.

Students will have three enrollment periods to register for Fall, Spring, and Summer semester courses. Fall and Spring semester's terms is 15-weeks in length (see schedule below). Summer terms are either 7 or 10-weeks which are determined by the student. 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 7-years to complete the VIU portion BACS program. After that time, students may have to fulfill additional courses work consistent with the current Academic Catalog.

Course Enrollment Periods

Students may register for Fall, Spring and Summer courses during open enrollment period immediately prior to the semester. 12 units is considered full-time enrollment. In addition, special arranged courses may be requested if needed. Additional fees apply (see Tuition and Fees section of this Catalog).

Fall Semester – 15-weeks

Spring Semester – 15-weeks

Summer Semester – 7 or 10-weeks

Program Content

General Education and Electives – 60 units (31 of these units should be general education courses that are transferred from another institution to VIU. An additional 29 units of assorted elective courses may be transferred to VIU as well, or you may complete these elective units at VIU if needed. In North American higher education, general education courses are required for all B.A./B.S. degrees. Students may transfer these courses to VIU from another accredited institution or complete them at another institution while attending VIU.

Transferrable undergraduate general education courses must be distributed as follows:

- 1) College-level (typically listed as 100-400 level), not remedial or preparatory.
- 2) “General” in nature, not specifically vocational or technical.
- 3) Passed with a grade of C– or better.

At least 31 units of course credit in the following six content areas must be completed:

- Communications (6 units)
- Mathematics (3 units)
- Science (4 units)
- Social and Behavioral Science (3 units)
- Humanities (3 units)
- Creative and Fine Arts (3 units)

*Choose 9 additional units from the six content areas above.

Creative/Fine Arts & Humanities

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

Science & Mathematics

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

Social & Behavioral Sciences

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

Additional General Studies/Liberal Arts Courses

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 (completed at VIU)

Religion and Culture – 18 units

AP301 Christian Apologetics (3)*
PH301 Survey of 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 Philosophical Theology (3)
TH320 Bible Study Methods and Interpretation (3)
TH330 Bibliology (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 (3)* or Biblical Language course (3)*
OT310 Old Testament Survey (3)*
NT320 New Testament Survey (3)
CH480 Church History I (3)*
CH490 Church History II (3)*
Biblical Studies Elective (3)

Ministry – 6 Units

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

Electives – If needed, electives may be completed through VIU by choosing no more than 29 units of elective courses from this list to round out your 120 required units.

****Advanced Standing Courses.** Contact the Registrar with any questions.

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies Program Schedule	
Year 1	
Fall – 12 units (15-weeks)	Spring – 12 units (15-weeks)
Bibliology – 3	Christian Apologetics – 3
New Testament Survey – 3	Old Testament Survey – 3
Bible Study Methods & Interpretation – 3	Christ & the Holy Spirit – 3
Critical Thinking/Logic – 3	Missions and Evangelism – 3
Summer – 12 units (choice of 7-weeks or 10-weeks)	
Gospel and Culture – 3	
Cults and New Religious Movements – 3	
Sin and Salvation – 3	
Biblical Studies Elective – 3	
Year 2	
Fall – 12 units (15-weeks)	Spring – 12 units (15-weeks)
Church and Last Things – 3	World Religions – 3
Christian Leadership – 3	*OT or NT Bible Book Study or Biblical Language Course – 3
Survey of Philosophy – 3	Philosophical Theology – 3
Church History I – 3	Church History II – 3
Electives – If needed, complete at VIU (Choose up to 10 courses)	
Total Semester Hours: 60 units (Plus 31 transferred units of general education courses. Plus 29 units of assorted electives that can be earned at VIU if necessary)	
Note: At least 31 additional general education units must be earned at another institution and transferred to VIU to receive the BACS degree. These additional units may be earned while pursuing your VIU BACS program. Students completing their VIU portion of the required number of units without earning the additional general education units will graduate with the Certificate of Christian Studies (CCS) until the remaining general education units are completed. At that time, when official transcripts are submitted to verify completion, the CCS will be upgraded to a BA in Christian Studies (BACS).	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

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)	
Prerequisite Requirement	
RW499 Research & Writing Skills (P/F)	
Core Requirements — 36 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	TH570 Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)
NT515 New Testament Survey (3)	AP501 Christian Apologetics (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	Elective (3)
TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)	Elective (3)
TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)	Elective (3)
TH550 Christology and Pneumatology (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH560 Anthropology, Hamartiology, Soteriology (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
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:

- 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 OT/NT passages.

Master of Arts in Biblical Studies (MABS)	
Prerequisite Requirement	
RW499 Research & Writing Skills (P/F)	
Core Requirements — 27 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	TH570 Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)
NT515 New Testament Survey (3)	Elective or RW501 Thesis Research & Writing (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)
TH530 Prolegomena and Bibliology (3)	CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)
TH540 Theology Proper and Creation (3)	CM503 CM Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)
TH550 Christology and Pneumatology (3)	
TH560 Anthropology, Hamartiology, Soteriology (3)	
Apologetics Requirement – 3 units	
AP501 Christian Apologetics (3)	
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 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)
Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 48	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

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.

Master of Divinity in Biblical Studies (MDiv)	
Core Requirements – 27 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	TH560 Anthropology, Hamartiology, Soteriology (3)
NT515 New Testament Survey (3)	TH570 Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	Elective or RW501 Thesis Research & Writing (3)
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)
TH550 Christology and Pneumatology (3)	
Apologetics Requirement – 3 units	
AP501 Christian Apologetics (3)	
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 Dead Sea Scrolls (3)
BLG502 Biblical Greek II (3)	AR621b Archaeological Historical & Cultural Synchronisms (3)
BLG503 Exegesis in the New Testament (3)	Choose one biblical studies elective (3)
Divinity Requirements (18 units)	
CH580 History of the Church (3)	Choose one: PH500, PM550, PM530, PM560 Chaplaincy Emphasis: In addition to the one elective above, choose two courses: CP560 and one elective.
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)	
Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 78	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

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 addressing 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/CAO. 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.

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 and can be 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 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 & Goodness (3)	MP900 Ministry Project & Defense (6)
Choose a Program Concentration (15 units)	
Pastoral Studies	Christian Education
PM910 Reaching the Post-Christian Culture (3)	CE901 Education in the Church (3)
PM940 Principles of Expository Preach/Teach (3)	CE902 Curriculum Development (3)
PM930 Principles of Family Ministry (3)	CE903 Assessing Student Learning (3)
PM920 Advanced Pastoral Counseling (3)	CE904 Learning Theories (3)
PM950 Pastoral Self Care (3)	CE905 Teaching Children and Youth (3)
Ministry Administration and Leadership	Interdisciplinary Ministry & Leadership
CL910 Advancing Transformational Leadership (3)	Choose 5 courses from the concentrations above. No more than two courses may be chosen from one concentration.
CL920 Building Team Leadership (3)	
CL930 Managing Organizational Conflict (3)	
CL940 Change Theory (3)	
CL950 Christian Business Ethics (3)	
Total Semester Hours: 36	

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		

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.



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VIU SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

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

- Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History (MAABH)
(choose between the Fieldwork & Non-Fieldwork Track)
- 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 have the opportunity to conduct 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 16 seasons of excavation at the site, VSA archaeology students are in a prime position to 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 Chief Academic Officer for probationary admission (info@ves.edu).

Tuition Discount for Full Program Payment and Refund Policy

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 in advance by Jan 1, 2023, VIU will substantially discount (50%) the tuition portion of the program immediately. If paid after this date the discount will be 40%. This deep tuition-only discount applies to all archaeology (AR) and biblical language (BL) courses in both the MA and PhD archaeology programs. The amount will be prorated based on the number of units (courses) needed to graduate. After making this one-time up-front payment of tuition (semester Registration/Tech/Admin fees paid separately upon enrollment of each course with the Registrar), subsequent course registrations and fee payment would be processed by the Registrar. 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. **Please note that no refund will be issued if you choose to 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 price. If your degree program is not completed in the timeframe required, additional tuition charges, which make up the difference between the previously paid rate and the current rate, will be assessed to complete your remaining courses. There are no ministry tuition waivers available for the archaeology programs. Contact the VIU Registrar's office for details.

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. The program, which offers two distinct tracks (Fieldwork and Non-fieldwork), 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 two-unit courses (6 units) as specified in the course groupings 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.

Applicants may choose between two graduate-level archaeological tracks:

- Fieldwork Track
- Non-Fieldwork Track

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 Core Courses in Archaeology & Biblical History – 18 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 (custom course) 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

Fieldwork Track: Required Courses – 9 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.

Non-Fieldwork Track: Required Courses – 9 units

This group of courses focuses on archaeological data related to the Intertestamental period, biblical-period ceramics, Bronze Age and biblical history, archaeology of Qumran, and the Dead Sea Scrolls. No fieldwork courses are required.

Required Courses in Biblical Languages – 12 units

AR680 Koine Greek (6 units)

AR690 Biblical Hebrew (6 units)

Required Courses in Apologetics – 3 units

AP501 Christian Apologetics (3 units)

Elective Courses – 6 units

Complete at least 6-units of graduate-level AR, BLG, or BLH courses from the elective course list related to languages, archaeology, and biblical history.

Prerequisite Course in Research Skills/Methods – P/F

RW499 Research Methods and Technology Skills

Comprehensive Examination – P/F

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 Writing.

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

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 Thesis syllabus for details.)

Master of Arts in Archaeology & Biblical History		
Perquisite Research Skills – (P/F)		
RW499 Research Methods and Technology Skills – (P/F)		
Archaeology & Biblical History Core Requirements – 18 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) AR611 Historical Geography of Bible Lands (2 units) AR621 Archaeology & the Bible: Historical & Cultural Synchronisms (2 units) AR631 Languages & Cultures of the Ancient Near East (2 units) AR661 Evolution of Warfare & Fortification Systems in the Ancient Near East (2 units) AR672 Iron Age & Biblical History (2 units)		
Select 6 Elective units from the following graduate level AR, BLG, or BLH courses:		
AR541 Excavation Practicum/Field AR542 Arch/History of Jerusalem Area AR561 Bridging the Testaments AR601 Historical Apologetics AR641 Levantine Ceramic Typology AR642 Ceramics & the Bible AR651 Archaeology Field Methods AR652 Archaeological Fieldwork	AR653 Archaeological Fieldwork AR655 Archaeological Laboratory AR670 Documentary Media AR671 Bronze Age & Biblical History AR673 Archaeology of Qumran & DSS AR674 Guided Research in Archaeology AR675 Guided Research in Archaeology AR699 Thesis* *Must first complete the program Comprehensive exam.	AR681 Akkadian for Bible Students AR682 Ugaritic Grammar & Syntax AR683 Aramaic BLG501 Biblical Greek I BLG502 Biblical Greek II BLG503 Exegesis in Biblical Greek BLH501 Biblical Hebrew I BLH502 Biblical Hebrew II BLH503 Exegesis in Biblical Hebrew
Select Either "Fieldwork" or "Non-Fieldwork" Track of Study:		
Non-Fieldwork Track– 9 units		
AR561 Bridging the Testaments: Studies in the Intertestamental Period (2 units) AR601 Historical Apologetics (2 units) AR642 Ceramics & the Bible (1 unit) AR671 Bronze Age & Biblical History (2 units) AR673 Archaeology of Qumran & the Dead Sea Scrolls (2 units)		
Fieldwork Track – 9 units		
AR541 Excavation Practicum & Field School (3 units) AR641 Levantine Ceramic Typology (2 units) AR651 Archaeological Field Methods (2 units) AR655 Archaeological Laboratory (2 units)		
Biblical Languages– 12 units		
AR680 Koine Greek (6 units) AR690 Biblical Hebrew (6 units)		
Apologetics – 3 units		
AP501 Christian Apologetics (3 units)		
Comprehensive Exam – (Pass/Fail)		
Total Semester Hours: 48		

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Archaeology Teacher 25-1061

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 Chief Academic Officer 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.

The Director of the School of Archaeology will review all applicant's masters degrees from other institutions to determine if any prerequisite courses are required to prepare the student for the VIU doctoral degree.

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

Doctor of Philosophy in Archaeology & Biblical History Program Overview	
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.

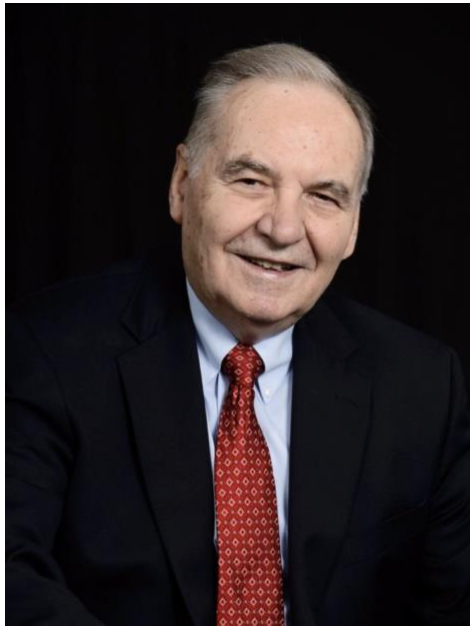
AR1050 Laboratory: Floatation Sample Analysis (2 units) Hands-on experience in the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project (TeHEP) Archaeology Research Center through which the student will learn methods of isolating organic material from excavated soil samples by floatation, and slide preparation for microscopic analysis.	
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.	
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.	
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.	
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.	
Section Two: Archaeological Fieldwork & Methods – 14 Units	
One 5-day participation week (= 45 Academic Contact Hours) in the field is equivalent to 1 credit hour.	
AR1151	AR1152
AR1153	AR1154
AR1155	AR1156
AR1157	
Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Complete and pass the written comprehensive exam prior to AR1551 Dissertation.	
Section Three: Dissertation – 14 Units	
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).	
Total Semester Hours: 42	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes:
Archaeology Teacher 25-1061



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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 Philosophy & Apologetics (M.A.P.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 divine inspiration and 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)	
Prerequisite Requirement – P/F	
RW499 Research & Writing Skills (P/F)	
Core Requirements — 27 units	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	TH560 Anthropology, Hamartiology, Soteriology (3)
NT515 New Testament Survey (3)	TH570 Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	Elective or RW501 Thesis Research & Writing (3)
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)
TH550 Christology and Pneumatology (3)	
Major Requirements – 21 units	
AP501 Christian Apologetics (3)	RE504 World Religions (3)
AP504 Christian Ethics & Moral Philosophy (3)	RE505 Contemporary Cults (3)
AP507 Problem of Evil (3)	PH510 Classical Logic & Beginning Symbolic Logic (3)
AP510 Cultural & Social Apologetics (3)	CM503 CM Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)
Complete Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 48	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics

Program Director: William C. Roach, PhD (broach@ves.edu)

The Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics (MAPA) is a 60-unit program designed to provide training in bible, theology, apologetics, and philosophy with a heavier emphasis on apologetics and philosophy. Optional extensions include thesis and language tracks. This program is specifically designed as a preparation track for the PhD studies in Philosophy of Religion. It is also designed to help prepare students to teach within an academic setting across three disciplines providing 18 credit hours each for theology, apologetics, and philosophy. Its approach follows the tradition of classical theism, classical apologetics, and Thomistic philosophy. We encourage applications for admission from those who desire theology, apologetics, and philosophy and want to prepare for advanced studies in philosophical theology.

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 knowledge of philosophy, theology, apologetics, and Biblical studies.
- To demonstrate the ability to perform 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.

Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics Degrees

The core MAPA program requires an investment of 60 units. There are additional thesis and language tracks enumerated below:

- Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics (60 units)
- Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics with Thesis (63 units)
- Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics with Biblical Languages (78 units)
- Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics with Biblical Languages and Thesis (81 units)

Master of Arts in Philosophy and Apologetics (MAPA)	
Prerequisite Requirement	
RW499 Research & Writing Skills (P/F)	
Bible (6 units)	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	NT515 New Testament Survey (3)
Theology Requirements (18 Units)	
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	TH550 Christology and Pneumatology
TH530 Prolegomena & Bibliology (3)	TH560 Anthropology, Hamartiology, Soteriology (3)
TH540 Theology Proper & Creation (3)	TH570 Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)
Apologetics Requirements (18 Units)	
AP501 Christian Apologetics (3)	AP510 Cultural and Social Apologetics (3)
AP504 Christian Ethics and Moral Philosophy (3)	RE504 World Religions (3)
AP507 Problem of Evil (3)	RE505 Contemporary Cults (3)
Philosophy Requirements (18 Units)	
PH510 Classical Logic & Beginning Symbolic Logic (3)	PH530 History of Philosophy & Christian Thought II (3)
PH515 Philosophy of Religion (3)	PH540 Metaphysics (3)
PH520 History of Philosophy & Christian Thought I (3)	PH550 Epistemology (3)
Spiritual Formation (3 Courses)	
CM501 Church/Mission Experience I (P/F)	
CM502 Church/Mission Experience II (P/F)	
CM503 Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)	
Comprehensive Exam	
MPA599 MAPA Comprehensive Exam (P/F)	
Total Semester Hours: 60 (*Does not include optional biblical languages or thesis extensions)	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

Optional MAPA Extensions

Biblical Languages Extension (18 units)
BLH501 Biblical Hebrew I (3)
BLH502 Biblical Hebrew II (3)
BLH503 Exegesis in the Old Testament (3)
BLG501 Biblical Greek I (3)
BLG502 Biblical Greek II (3)
BLG503 Exegesis in the New Testament (3)

Thesis Extension (3 units)
RW501 Thesis Research & Writing (3)

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	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

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 relating to classical/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.

Master of Divinity in Apologetics (MDiv)	
Prerequisite Requirement (P/F)	
RW499 Research & Writing Skills (P/F)	
Core Requirements (27 units)	
OT515 Old Testament Survey (3)	TH560 Anthropology, Hamartiology, Soteriology (3)
NT515 New Testament Survey (3)	TH570 Ecclesiology and Eschatology (3)
TH520 Biblical Hermeneutics (3)	Elective or RW501 Thesis Research & Writing (3)
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)
TH550 Christology and Pneumatology (3)	
Major Requirements (18 units)	
AP501 Christian Apologetics (3)	RE504 World Religions (3)
AP504 Christian Ethics & Moral Philosophy (3)	RE505 Contemporary Cults (3)
AP507 Problem of Evil (3)	CM503 CM Church/Mission Experience III (P/F)
AP510 Cultural & Social Apologetics (3)	
Philosophy Requirement (3 units)	
PH510 Classical Logic & Beginning Symbolic Logic (3)	
Divinity Requirements (18 units)	
CH580 History of the Church (3)	Choose one: PH500, PM550, PM530, PM560 Chaplaincy Emphasis: In addition to the one elective above, choose two courses: CP560 and one elective.
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)	
Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail	
Total Semester Hours: 78	

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

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/Chief Academic Officer. 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		

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

PhD in Philosophy of Religion

Department Dean: William C. Roach, PhD (broach@ves.edu)

The PhD in Philosophy of Religion is a 45-unit program designed for mature Christian postgraduates who desire in-depth academic research in the area of philosophy of religion. Its approach, in the tradition of classical theism and classical 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, while conducting 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, or take leave of employment, yet desire flexibility.

- No residency requirement
- 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 48-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 in philosophy or apologetics of at least 36 units or more which would waive the 48-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 a closely related field, this also will be considered in the admissions process.

The applicant must also submit a non-coauthored writing sample of more 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 will be required to pass a 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 Chief Academic Officer 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 Chief Academic Officer.

Candidature Requirements

The student will be promoted from PhD Student to PhD Candidate by action of the faculty only when all coursework, language requirements, and comprehensive exam have been completed successfully with an overall GPA of 3.50. The student must also be in good overall standing and demonstrate Christian character. At this time, 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 (PHR1200) for approval. Upon approval, the student will be guided by the dissertation supervisor until the dissertation (PHR1300) is completed and passes the oral defense (PHR1400). 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 (PHR1400) 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 5 stages as described below.

Stage 1 – Philosophy of Religion Coursework (27 units)

Students will complete the required courses in the field of philosophy of religion.

Stage 2 – Language Preparation and Exam (P/F)

The student will be required to pass a language competency preparation and examination (PHR1100) 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 guided research and study.

Stage 3 – Oral Comprehensive Exam (P/F)

There will be one comprehensive exam evaluating program knowledge for the required 27 units of coursework (PHR1105).

Stage 4 – Guided Research and Writing (2 units)

The student will complete two courses in Guided Research and Writing (PHR1108 and PHR1109) on approved topics of interest.

Stage 5 – Prospectus, Dissertation, and Oral Defense (16 units)

Students will submit a comprehensive prospectus for their dissertation research to the program director (PHR1200). Upon completion, students may commence research and writing of the dissertation (PHR1300) and conclude with a successful oral defense before 3 examiners (PHR1400).

Degree Award

Upon successful completion of the program's courses with at least a 3.5 GPA, comprehensive exam, language, guided research and writing, prospectus, written dissertation, oral defense, and a positive faculty recommendation for graduation, the candidate will receive the PhD.

PhD in Philosophy of Religion (PhD)*		
Prerequisite – Pass/Fail		
RW499 Research, Writing & Technology Skills (P/F)		
STAGE 1: Philosophy of Religion Coursework – 27 units		
PH1010 Applied Metaphysics: God, Time, Foreknowledge (3)	PH1040 Philosophy of Science (3)	
PH1015 Applied Epistemology (3)	PH1055 The Problem of Evil (3)	
PH1020 Coherence of Theism (3)	PH1060 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (3)	
PH1030 Philosophy of Mind and Body (3)	PH1065 Modern and Contemporary Philosophy (3)	
PH1035 Moral Philosophy (3)		
STAGE 2: Language Competency – Pass/Fail		
PHR1100 Language Competency Preparation and Examination (P/F)		
STAGE 3: Oral Comprehensive Exam – Pass/Fail		
PHR1105 Comprehensive Exam (P/F)		
STAGE: 4: Guided Research and Writing – 2 units		
PHR1108 Research and Writing I (1)	PHR1109 Research and Writing II (1)	
STAGE 5: Prospectus, Dissertation, and Defense – 16 units		
PHR1200 Dissertation Prospectus (1)	PHR1300 Dissertation Research and Writing (12)	PHR1400 Dissertation Oral Defense (3)
Total Semester Hours: 45		

*This degree can prepare someone for the following California Occupational Codes: Clergy 21-2011; Directors, religious activities and education 21-2021; Religious workers 21-2099.

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

VIU courses follow 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.

All VIU programs are open to foreign and U.S. citizens without a residency requirement in order to graduate (Archaeology program may have some residency labs or fieldwork.)

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 encourages the development of thriving community of online learners. VIU 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 regularly in order to encourage community, creativity, substantive interaction with the instructor, and academic growth for each student.

- *Classroom Structure, Course Assignments and Grading:* Each 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 course includes materials (data):

- A course syllabus, which contains course objections 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

*All students are responsible for obtaining any textbooks required for their courses.

Levels of Study

Undergraduate. The undergraduate (BA in Christian Studies) include streaming video lectures, as well as other course materials provided at the discretion of the professor. 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. Each semester will contain two 7-week periods in which to enroll and earn credit, which are designated as Fall 1 and 2, or Spring 1 and 2. After the first 7-week period is complete an enrollment period follows.

Graduate. Graduate level distance learning courses include pre-recorded streaming video lectures, as well as regular discussion board interaction with peers and instructor. Students may enroll 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.

Doctoral. Doctoral courses include streaming video lectures as well as regular discussion board interaction with peers and instructor. Unlike the undergraduate and graduate level distance courses, all Doctor of Ministry distance courses are 15-weeks in length. PhD are also 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.

When a required course is not offered during the semester, and the course is needed to complete your degree, it may be completed through an arranged course upon request to 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 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 800×600 resolution (1028×780 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

VIU's tuition is among the most affordable in the country. Each distance course will be assessed a \$30 technology fee.

Beginning Your Courses

A new student seeking to begin taking VIU classes 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.
- Once you receive your admission acceptance notification, you may register for courses by either registering online, contacting the Registrar with your course selections (505.407.4307), or by emailing your registration form as an attachment. The registration form may be downloaded from the VIU website at www.ves.edu.

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

Veritas International University
ATTN: Distance Learning
7600 Jefferson St. NE, Suite 24
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Time to Complete the Distance Degree and Certificate Programs from First Enrollment

- Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought – 4 years
- Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Classical Christian Thought – 6 years
- Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (BACS) – 6 years
- Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) – 5 years
- Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics (MACA/MAABH) – 6 years
- Master of Arts in Philosophy & Apologetics (MAPA) – 8 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) (5 years for coursework, 3 years for dissertation) – 8 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). If you need a 60-day extension, you may request one in writing 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 circumstances including death of an immediate family member, a move, or loss of a job.

Textbooks

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

Special Circumstances for Distance Courses

While VIU courses are all online, in the circumstance of the MA/PhD in Archaeology requires fieldwork that cannot be accomplished through distance learning. Fieldwork will be arranged by the professor.

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/weaknesses, spiritual gifts, doctrines of God, Christ and salvation and purpose for attending VIU (c. 1000 words)
- Non-refundable admission application fee of \$75.00 for each application submitted (make check payable to: Veritas International University)

Estimated Total Charges for the Entire Program (subject to change)											
Degrees/ Units	CCS/ BACS 60 u	MATS 36 u	MABS 48 u	MACA 48 u	MAPA 60 u	MDiv 78 u	MAABH 48 u	MAPI 36 u	DMin 36 u	PhD (A) 42	PhD (P) 60
Total Tuition	20,400	15,840	21,120	21,120	26,400	34,320	24,240	15,840	19,440	33,264	32,400
Tuition per credit	\$340	\$440	\$440	\$440	\$440	\$440	\$505	\$440	\$540	\$792	\$540
Technology/Admin Fee \$225 (per semester)	900	900	1350	1350	1800	2250	1350	900	900	1350	1800
Registration Fee \$30 (per course)	600	360	480	480	600	750	600	360	360	450	600
Application Fee \$75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
Graduation Fee	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	250	250	250
RW499 \$50	50	50	50	50	50	50	0	50	0	0	0
Comprehensive Exam	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	n/a	n/a	n/a
Thesis/Project/Dissertation Read Fee	0	0	300*	300*	0	300*	300	0	300	500	500
Totals	22,175	17,475	23,625	23,625	29,175	37,995	26,815	17,475	21,325	35,889	35,625
Full Program Tuition Payment Discount: In order to reduce archaeology program costs for students, there is a 40% tuition discount for MA in Archaeology and PhD in Archaeology students who pay their full program tuition prior to beginning their program. (*If applicable, included in total)											

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.

VIU Tuition	
Program	Resident/Distance Tuition
Undergraduate Credit	\$340 per semester credit hour
Graduate Credit (non-archaeology)	\$440 per semester credit hour
Graduate Certificate Credit	\$440 per semester credit hour
MA in Archaeology and Biblical History	\$505 per semester credit hour
Doctor of Ministry Credit	\$540 per semester credit hour
Doctor of Philosophy Credit (Philosophy)	\$540 per semester credit hour
Doctor of Philosophy Credit (Archaeology)	\$792 per semester credit hour
Audit	\$340 per course
Research Methods/Tech Skills Course	\$50 per course
Personal Enrichment (MAPI Program only)	\$240 per course
Personal Enrichment (open to the public)	\$240 per course
Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)	\$75 per course
Full Program Payment Discount: In order to reduce archaeology program costs, there is a 50% tuition discount for MA in Archaeology and PhD in Archaeology students who pay their full program tuition prior to beginning their program by January 1, 2023. After this time, the full program payment discount will be 40%. Existing archaeology program students (who are currently in the program) may take advantage of the 30% discount at the former tuition rate (\$440 per unit/Grad and \$540 per unit/PhD) if the remainder of their program tuition is paid in full by August 29, 2022.	

Estimated Total Semester Charges (subject to change)						
Degree Level/ Full Time Units	Undergraduate 12 units	Graduate 9 units	Graduate (Arch) 9 units	DMin 9 units	PhD (Arch) 9 units	PhD (Phil) 9 units
Total Tuition	4,080	3,960	4,545	4,860	7,128	4,860
Technology/ Admin Fee \$225 (per semester)	225	225	225	225	225	225
Registration Fee \$30 (per course)	120	90	90	90	90	90
Totals	\$4,425	\$4,275	\$4,860	\$5,175	\$7,443	\$5,175
Note: Does not include any special Arranged Course Fee, Extension Fee, or Graduation Fee.						

Application Fee

A non-refundable \$75.00 application for admission fee is required with each application.

Course Registration Fee

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

Technology and Administrative Fee

In addition to tuition and Registration Fees, each semester of enrollment in courses is assessed a flat, non-refundable fee of \$225.00 per semester, regardless of how many courses are taken.

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.

Thesis/Ministry Project (MP900)/Dissertation Fee

In addition to the normal tuition charge, the Thesis and DMin Ministry Project course shall be 12-months long and be assessed a \$300 fee to cover additional expenses associated with abstract, planning, faculty reading, and examination. PhD Dissertation is \$500 fee.

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.

Cancellation, Withdraw and Refund Policy

The student has the right to cancel the enrollment agreement which shall be in writing and that withdrawal can be effectuated by written notice, student conduct or (but not limited to) lack of attendance. A refund of institutional charges (less application fee or reasonable deposit not to exceed \$250) may be obtained if notice of cancellation is made by the first class session or the seventh day after enrollment, whichever is later. Suppose a student, in writing, cancels an enrollment agreement or withdraws from a course during a period of attendance and has completed 60% or less of the period of attendance. In that case, the student shall receive a pro-rata refund. There are no refunds for the full archaeology program tuition payment.

VIU Tuition Waiver

VIU has decided not to participate in Title IV (or any other) federal financial aid programs (FSA) or VA educational benefits. Though we realize student loans can be helpful to some students, we have discovered that participating in these Title IV federal programs would potentially compromise our institutional religious convictions, moral policies, and curriculum. In addition, we seek to limit (or eliminate) student debt for all students. Tuition waivers are available to qualified students to assist them in financing their education and keeping their debts low. Waivers are not loans; they do not need to be repaid by the student. Waivers are limited to the availability of funds. They will be awarded annually to cover student tuition based on moral/spiritual character, financial need, pastor/missionaries, para-church ministry involvement, military service, 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 officer. This authorizing Financial Aid Committee shall be comprised of the President and the Chief Academic Officer, and the Disbursing Officer 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 student's 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 active Pastors/Missionaries/Veterans—20% Flat Waiver
 - Part-time active Pastors/Missionaries—10% Flat Waiver
 - Need-Based Tuition Waiver—up to 20%
 - Advance Full Program tuition payment Waiver (Archaeology programs only—40% Waiver
- *All unpaid tuition balances will be assessed a \$50.00 late fee (see Student Handbook).

Pastors and missionaries need a letter from their ministry verifying the full-time/part-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.

Veterans Tuition

VIU has chosen not to participate in Title IV federal financial student aid assistance (FSA) or VA educational benefits. Though we realize student loans can be helpful to some students, we have found that participating in these Title IV federal programs could compromise our institutional religious convictions, moral policies, and curriculum. VIU has introduced other institutional financial options to help finance tuition and limit (or eliminate) student debt. (See the sections above titled "VIU Tuition Waivers"/"Pay-As-You-Go"/"Spousal Tuition Waiver" for some of the options).

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Grading

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)

Artificial Intelligence Policy

Artificial Intelligence (AI) models, especially Large Language Models (LLMs), are powerful and evolving tools for generating many kinds of text and other content that mimic human compositions. Interacting through a conversational 'chat' interface, users can ask LLMs to answer questions about a topic, summarize sources of information, generate links between topics, suggest ways to improve grammar and style of user-inputted text, compose essays, emails, homilies, poems, etc., and engage in human-like discussion. The impact of generative AI on higher education continues to unfold, with many potential benefits *for* and disruptions *of* traditional pedagogy. We must remember that AI models are a tool, not a replacement for critical thought, rigorous research, persuasive writing, and impactful discussions.

Initial Cautions in Using Generative AI Tools

- **Protect confidential data:** You should not enter confidential or personally identifiable information into publicly available generative AI tools. User inputs and uploaded documents are used to continuously train the tool's AI model. Data that you share should be anonymized.
- **You are responsible for any content that you produce or publish that includes AI-generated material:** AI-generated content can be inaccurate, misleading, or entirely fabricated (sometimes called “hallucinations”) or may contain copyrighted material. Carefully review your AI-generated content before employing it in any fashion.
- **Adhere to current policies on academic integrity** (see below)
- **Be alert for AI-enabled phishing:** Generative AI has made it easier for malicious actors to create convincing and targeted fraudulent messages at a large scale.
- **Contact the IT Director before procuring or installing any generative AI software on School computers:** Beyond the use of AI services hosted on websites, some AI tools can also be installed locally. If you are interested in installing an AI tool on a School computer, or on your personal computer that is connected to the School network, the IT Director should first assess it for network security and privacy concerns.

Teaching & Learning Implications for Academic Integrity

In addition to the opportunities for enhancing teaching and learning, there are also serious concerns about the use of generative AI in academic contexts. Some uses of AI-generated text in assignments are akin to plagiarism and can detract from the intellectual growth that comes from developing ideas and expressing thoughts born of careful consideration and research. At the same time, generative AI can be used in responsible ways. In education, faculty and students continue to discover ways to incorporate these tools in ways that support teaching and learning. At VIU, generative AI may only be used in coursework with the express permission of the instructor of record. Instructors are encouraged to articulate their policies toward generative AI in their syllabi.

AI Policies for Use in Coursework

VIU has instituted the following policy pertaining to the use of AI-enabled tools (including, but not limited to, generative chatbots like ChatGPT and Claude, writing assistants like Grammarly, and other AI-enabled assistants like Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, and Apple Intelligence). It is noted that the policy below *does* allow for a limited use of AI. This will be the default VIU policy. *A professor, however, has the right to modify this policy, including denying the use of AI altogether. Any modifications to these policies*

by a professor for a specific VIU course will be explicitly noted by the professor in his/her syllabus.

Gathering research leads: AI-enabled tools *may* be employed in a manner similar to using Wikipedia, blogs, social media, or other online sources in generating basic raw material (e.g., “What verses in the Old Testament use the word ‘covenant?’”) or leads for further reading (e.g., “What recent books deal with the topic of divine simplicity?”). Such uses *do not generally have to be disclosed*, but the student is encouraged to consult with the professor of record if there are any questions or doubts.

Note: Even the best AI tool is not infallible and often generates junk data; the student is, therefore, fully responsible for vetting the accuracy or validity of any such information generated.

Generating or analyzing content: AI-enabled tools *may* be used to generate small portions of content that would be used in a manner equivalent to quoting a commentary or other written or digital sources. Any use of such information in an assignment, either through direct quotation or indirect summarization, *must be fully disclosed* in keeping with the guidance provided by the Turabian Style, Chicago Manual of Style, APA, and SBL. The following examples illustrate appropriate methods of citation.

Footnoting direct usage (e.g., quotation) of the result generated by an AI tool:

1. Text generated by ChatGPT, Open AI, March 7, 2024 (<https://chat.openai.com>).
2. Text generated by Claude, Anthropic, March 20, 2024 (<https://claude.ai>).

Footnoting indirect use of AI results that are further modified/summarized by student:

3. ChatGPT, response to “What are the differences between Calvinists and Arminians concerning regeneration?” OpenAI, March 12, 2024.
4. When given a prompt of “What is the traditional Reformed view of church discipline,” the Claude-generated text outlined three reasons: “Obedience to God’s word,” “protection of the church,” and “restoration of the sinner” (<https://claude.ai>, April 2, 2024; see Appendix A for the full transcript).

In-Text Citation

The in-text citation would be placed in parentheses: (ChatGPT, August 15, 2025)

Bibliographic Entry

TURABIAN/CMS/SBL: OpenAI, *ChatGPT* [large language model]. March 7, 2024.
<https://chat.openai.com>.

APA: OpenAI (2024). *ChatGPT* (March 7 version). [Large language model].
<https://chat.openai.com>.

Proofreading: AI writing assistants (e.g., Grammarly) *may* be used for standard help with basic spellchecking and grammatical proofreading; such uses *do not have to be disclosed*. However, AI *may not* be used to *fully rewrite* sentences or paragraphs.

Creative process and textual composition: All writing in every course assignment must be, for all intents and purposes, the original work of the student. Thus, AI *may not* be used to generate key components of a writing project that are aimed at cultivating certain competencies in the student, such as thesis/topic sentences, outlines, critical engagement with other views, and so forth. In addition, AI *may not* be used to write full sentences or paragraphs.

Other: AI-enabled tools *may not* be used in any way for online-discussion forum posts (e.g., Discussion responses), response papers, quizzes, and examinations.

AI Penalties

Illegitimate uses of AI are subject to penalties in line with the severity of the violation, ranging from letter-grade reductions, a grade of F for a course, or academic probation.

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 (21 business days) 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.

Standards for Student Achievement

The student's overall performance is evaluated based on their class performance (e.g., participation), assignments and/or examinations. Assignments/examinations given during the course are evaluated and returned to the students with comments and/or

grades indicating the instructor's assessment of the student's work and progress. Class performance, assignments and examinations measure and verify critical thinking and the acquisition of analytical and other necessary skills.

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. Unless instructed otherwise, all exams are proctored.

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 should do so in accordance to the following: Module – WP if dropped by the end of the 4th class session, WF if after the 4th class. 15-week course (includes Arranged) – WP if dropped before the end of the 10th week, WF if after 10th week. 7-week course – WP if dropped before the end of the 4th week, WF if after the 4th week. Any withdrawals during any approved Incomplete extension will be automatically recorded as a WF (Withdraw Fail). Any exception in the case of extreme unforeseen personal circumstances will be decided by the Chief Academic Officer. To withdrawal, students must submit a VIU Course Withdrawal Form to the Registrar.

Incomplete Grade

An Incomplete Grade Request Form must be submitted prior to the course expiration date for a \$100 fee. A second and final 60-day extension may be granted for an additional \$100 fee. An Incomplete request is to be used for extraordinary circumstances, which are limited to immediate family death or marriage, prolonged illness, military deployment, loss of employment, or moving residences. In these cases, there will be no one-half-grade reduction. If the student needs more time for no extraordinary reason beyond their control, as defined above, it is a one-half-grade reduction. 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 the Institution (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; MAPA: 15 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 Chief Academic Officer. The Chief Academic Officer 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. *No articulation agreements have been entered into with other institutions. Achievement testing can be completed for language courses only, if successful the student shall still complete the required number of units for the degree program.

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 degree program of study 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/Academic Committee.
- Complete all comprehensive exams (if required)

Timeframe for Completion from First Enrollment*

AABC – 4 years

BABC & BACS – 7 years

MATS – 5 years

MAPI – 5 years

MACA – 6 years

MAPA – 8 years

MABS – 6 years

MAABH – 6 years

MDiv – 9 years

DMin – 5 years

PhD (Archaeology) – 8 years

PhD (Philosophy of Religion) (5 years coursework, 3 years dissertation) – 8 years

*Students taking VIU supplemental/prerequisite courses for entry into a degree program shall have up to 2 years to complete those courses at which time updated academic requirements may be added. In addition, at the time of expiration, full-program paying tuition students will pay the difference in their previously fully-paid tuition amount and the current tuition prices to enroll in further courses.

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 Chief Academic Officer. 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 12 weeks/3 months for review), at that time your evaluators will schedule a live oral defense of the work. For archaeology dissertations, more time may be required for dissertation review (up to 4 months).

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

- 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

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: 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
7600 Jefferson Street NE, Suite 24
Albuquerque, NM 87109

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, campus tours.

Exempt Degree Programs

The MA and all doctoral programs are exempt from the Church/Mission requirements.

Main Campus Library

The campus library is a quiet area and to be used for research and reading only. The University library is open during regular business hours of Monday through Thursday 9:00am to 4:45 pm and Friday from 9:00 am to 2:45 pm. Library will be closed all

scheduled holidays and staff development days. At no time may students occupy the library after business hours.

Features include:

1. VIU personnel to provide assistance in locating information and sources.
2. Books may be checked-out for a period of one week, then another one-week renewal is optional.
3. You are encouraged to return books as quickly as possible.

Textbooks: They are listed on the student database (Populi) as early as possible before each course offering. Most required textbooks may be purchased at your local bookstore, or online at a general retailer. Obtaining textbooks and required course materials is the responsibility of the student.

Research Computer: Faculty and students are encouraged to use their own computer when researching in the library.

In the library, students are encouraged to access electronic/physical sources including:

1. Access to The William E. Nix Electronic Library (TWENEL - 80,000+ full-text books, audio, and video files)
2. JWRL (Jehovah's Witness Research Library - primary sources full-text)
4. DTL2 Full-text Database (Digital Theological Library)
5. Internet Access to VIU Research Gateway
6. 3800 hand-selected Physical volumes
7. 10,000 volumes in CCBC/VIU shared library

Students may obtain the TWENEL password from the registrar.

Retention of Student Records

Student records are kept in a locked file cabinet in the registrar's office and offsite in Populi Learning Management System.

Accounts payable ledgers and schedules	7 years
Audit reports	Permanently
Bank Reconciliations	2 years
Bank statements	3 years
Checks (for important payments and purchases)	Permanently
Contracts, mortgages, notes, and leases (expired)	7 years
Contracts (still in effect)	Permanently
Correspondence (general)	2 years
Correspondence (legal and important matters)	Permanently
Correspondence (with customers and vendors)	2 years
Deeds, mortgages, and bills of sale	Permanently
Depreciation Schedules	Permanently
Duplicate deposit slips	2 years
Employment applications	3 years
Expense Analyses/expense distribution schedules	7 years
Year End Financial Statements	Permanently
Insurance Policies (expired)	3 years
Insurance records, current accident reports, claims, policies, etc.	Permanently
Internal audit reports	3 years
Inventories of products, materials, and supplies	7 years
Invoices (to customers, from vendors)	7 years
Minute books, bylaws, and charter	Permanently
Patents and related Papers	Permanently
Payroll records and summaries	7 years
Personnel files (terminated employees)	7 years
Retirement and pension records	Permanently
Student Transcripts	Permanently
Pertinent Student Records as Described in Section 71920	5 years
Tax returns and worksheets	Permanently
Timesheets	7 years
Trademark registrations and copyrights	Permanently

FACULTY

Undergraduate – Full-Time

David Haines

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion

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

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

Brian C. Nixon

Chief Academic Officer (CAO)

Professor of Education, Classics, and Pastoral Studies

A.A. Ohlone College; B.A. Cal State University, Stanislaus; C.C.A. Biola University; M.A.T.S. Veritas Evangelical Seminary; M.A. Trinity Seminary/Canterbury Christchurch University (Canterbury, UK); D.Phil. St. Alcuin's House Seminary and College; Fellow, Oxford Society of Scholars at Oxford Graduate School (Dayton, TN); 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

Luke Betzner

Associate Professor of Theological and Historical Studies

B.S. Maranatha Baptist University

M.A. Wayland Baptist University

Ph.D. (IP) University of New Mexico

Andrew Perkins

Associate Professor of Biblical Studies and Languages

B.B.S. Ambassador Baptist College

M.A. Liberty University, Rawlings School of Divinity

Graduate & Postgraduate Faculty – Full-Time

Charles Allers

Director of the MA in Theological Studies & Master of Divinity Programs

Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Religion

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

Dean of the School of Archaeology

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

Professor of Apologetics and Religion

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

D.Min. Veritas International University

Mark M. Hanna

Director, MA in Christian Apologetics & MA in Philosophy and Apologetics Programs

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)

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

Dean of the College and Seminary

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

Luke Betzner

Associate Professor of Theological and Historical Studies

B.S. Maranatha Baptist University

M.A. Wayland Baptist University

Ph.D. (IP) University of New Mexico

Daniel Alan Brubaker

Professor of Islamic Studies

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

Jeannine Bulot

Associate Professor of Archaeology & Biblical History

Archaeology Program Administrator

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

Miguel Angel Endara

Professor of Philosophy and Religion; Director, Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies

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

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. Université
Laval, Quebec, QC

Joseph M. Holden

President/CEO

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

Brian C. Nixon

Chief Academic Officer (CAO)

Professor of Education, Classics, and Pastoral Studies

A.A. Ohlone College; B.A. Cal State University, Stanislaus; C.C.A. Biola University; M.A.T.S. Veritas
Evangelical Seminary; M.A. Trinity Seminary/Canterbury Christchurch University (Canterbury, UK);
D.Phil. St. Alcuin's House Seminary and College; Fellow, Oxford Society of Scholars at Oxford Graduate
School (Dayton, TN); D.Min. (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)

William C. Roach

Dean of Norman L. Geisler School of Apologetics

Professor of Philosophy of Religion and Apologetics

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

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

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

David Geisler

Professor of Apologetics and Evangelism

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

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

Ron Rhodes

Professor of Theology and Apologetics

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

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Library Director

Joe McElroy, MACA, MLS

Assistant Library Director

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VIU Board of Directors

Joseph M. Holden – President

David Shirley – Secretary

Board Member

Luman Wing – Chairman

Christopher Burke – 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 Cultural and Social Apologetics (3)

This course will look at culture and social apologetic issues that are related to social justice, diversity, racism, politics, media and technology.

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 it's 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.

OT555 Deuteronomy (3)

A study of the Book of Deuteronomy which will include both structure, content and theology with historical background and a survey of the book as a whole. This course will cover the book with some parts detailed and some parts summarized.

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 Anthropology, Hamartiology and Soteriology (3)

This course will examine the doctrine of man, 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 Metaphysics (3)

A thorough study of the nature of reality, being, and causation.

PH1015 Epistemology (3)

An in-depth study of the nature of knowledge and the psychological knowing process with emphasis on both the sensitive and intellectual powers of the soul.

PH1020 Coherence of Theism (3)

A study regarding the systematic coherence of the theistic worldview in relation to competing worldviews.

PH1025 Philosophy of Mind (3)

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

PH1030 Moral Philosophy (3)

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

PH1035 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.

PH1040 The Problem of Evil (3)

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

PH1045 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (3)

This course is a study in the major classical ancient and medieval philosophers and philosophies that have impacted human thought as it pertains to philosophy, religion and apologetics.

PH1050 Modern and Contemporary Philosophy (3)

This course is a study in the major classical modern and contemporary philosophers and philosophies that have impacted human thought as it pertains to philosophy, religion and apologetics.

PH1055 Elective (3)

Student may choose an approved independent study elective in a topic area related to their course of study with a professor of their choice from within VIU or without the VIU faculty roster.

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.

PHR1115 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.

PHR1120 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.