



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Madagascar 3M Preaching Institute

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Course Descriptions

Overview

Course Identification System

The alphabetical components of each course identification indicate the subject area as follows.

BE	Bible Exposition
PM	Pastoral Ministry
TH	Theological Studies

Division of Bible Exposition

Bible Exposition courses provide the student with an overview of the major themes and content of the Bible, guide the student in the principles and practice of exegesis through various genres of Scripture, demonstrate how one can legitimately derive his hermeneutic from the Bible, and prove how an accurate interpretation of biblical passages is produced by utilizing the literal-grammatical-historical method of interpretation.

Division of Bible Exposition is designed to equip students for a foundational comprehension and accurate explanation of Scripture, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

Division of Bible Exposition—Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)

DLO 1: Articulate the literal-grammatical-historical method of biblical interpretation.

Corresponds to PLO 1 and PLO 4.

- DLO 2: Articulate the central themes and outlines of each Bible book. *Corresponds to PLO 1.*
- DLO 3: Articulate the purpose and development of each Bible book. *Corresponds to PLO 1 and*

PLO 3.

Division of Bible Exposition—Diploma in Expository Preaching (DEP)

• DLO 1: Demonstrate the proper use of the literal-grammatical-historical method of biblical interpretation. *Corresponds to PLO 1 and PLO 4.*

• DLO 2: Demonstrate the proper use of the principles of exegesis. *Corresponds to PLO 4 and PLO 5.*

Bible Exposition Course Catalog—Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)

BE101, 102

OT Survey 1, 2

3 Credits Each

These courses are designed to give the student an overview of the major themes, content, and literary structure of each book of the Old Testament—from Genesis to Malachi. The unity of Scripture will be made evident throughout the course as students continue to see “the glorious reign of the Triune God” as its central theme and as they discover the interconnectedness of the Bible through the unfolding nature of Divine revelation.

BE103

NT Survey

3 Credits

This course is designed to give the student an overview of the major themes, content, and literary structure of each book of the New Testament—from Matthew to Revelation. The unity of Scripture will be made evident throughout the course as students continue to see “the glorious reign of the Triune God” as its central theme and as they discover the interconnectedness of the Bible through the unfolding nature of Divine revelation.

BE104

Beginning Hermeneutics

3 Credits

This course is an introduction of how to study and understand Scripture and will discuss the key theological presuppositions that determine the nature of interpretation and drive one’s theological method. Students will learn to defend the notion of authorial intent from both a theological and philosophical perspective, and from this, will be able to articulate the nature of literal-grammatical-historical hermeneutics as it describes the relationship of author, text, reader as well as meaning and application. This course is designed so that students will understand the connection of hermeneutics, exegesis, and theology, and will identify how the prophets and apostles accomplished this task and thereby have a framework for overall interpretative strategy.

Bible Exposition Course Catalog—Diploma in Expository Preaching (DEP)

BE201

Textual Analysis/Exegesis

3 Credits

This course is designed to prepare the student for independent exegesis of biblical texts. This course highlights the significance of important grammatical features and syntactical structures, and introduces the practice of exegetical procedures, including performing lexical word studies and understanding the historical setting in which Bible books were written and the circumstances involved in the writing. This course will guide the student in the principles and practice of exegesis through a New Testament Epistle with exposition as the goal. Exegetical assignments in this course will then be utilized by the student to develop his sermons in *PM205 Preaching Lab 1: NT Epistles*.

BE202

Advanced Bible Interpretation

2 Credits

This course builds on the fundamental principles learned about the biblical method of interpretation and guides students in applying the literal-grammatical-historical hermeneutic to passages in multiple genres of Scripture (such as poetry, prophecy, and narrative). This course will demonstrate how the literal-grammatical-historical method can be applied to correctly understand New Testament use of the Old Testament. Assignments in this course will then be utilized by the student to develop his sermons in *PM207 Preaching Lab 2: Various Genres*.

The Division of Pastoral Ministry

Pastoral Ministry courses take the information and skills learned in biblical and theological studies into relevant application for pastoral ministry. Whether this application is to be demonstrated by public ministries in the pulpit, or by the more private modeling of personal godliness in the private devotional life, in counseling sessions, in leadership within the family, and in all other relationships, careful and prayerful preparation is necessary. Though many of these courses necessarily focus on skills and methodologies, all are also concerned with the preparation of the inner person with the development of those character qualities necessary for effective ministry and spiritual leadership.

Expository Preaching courses are designed to channel the student's academic training, personal giftedness, and individual personality toward effectiveness in expositional preaching from God's Word. Sermon preparation will often utilize the exegetical assignments completed in other courses in order to fully complete the sermon process from start to finish. Preaching Lab courses may include videotaping of student preaching experiences for individual evaluation.

The Division of Pastoral Ministry is designed to advance on the knowledge base of biblical and theological studies, taking them into preaching, shepherding, counseling, and leadership skills necessary for effective ministry, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

Division of Pastoral Ministry—Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)

- DLO 1: Effectively understand the Scriptures in Malagasy language through a deeper understanding of grammar. *Corresponds to PLO 4.*

Division of Pastoral Ministry—Diploma in Expository Preaching (DEP)

- DLO 1: Effectively communicate the Scriptures through expositional preaching. *Corresponds to PLO 1, PLO 2, PLO 3, and PLO 5.*

- DLO 2: Demonstrate the ability to provide biblical counsel to those in the local church. *Corresponds to PLO 3 and PLO 6.*

- DLO 3: Demonstrate the ability to provide specific application of Scripture in ministering to people—whether in preaching or in counseling. *Corresponds to PLO 3 and PLO 6.*

Pastoral Ministry Course Catalog—Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)

PM101 Malagasy Grammar, Research, and Writing 2 Credits

This course provides an introduction to the basics of Malagasy Grammar. These skills are necessary not only for student success in later courses, but for the lifelong pursuit of excellence in the study and communication of biblical truth. Topics covered include basic grammatical constructions such as parts of speech, syntax, phrases and clauses, and sentence diagramming.

Pastoral Ministry Course Catalog—Diploma in Expository Preaching (DEP)

PM201 Basics of Biblical Counseling 3 Credits

Biblical Counseling courses are designed to prepare God’s people to meet counseling-related needs wherever they exist with the sufficient and superior resources that God provides. The course of study trains students to counsel people in the local church and emphasizes the proper interpretation and specific application of Scripture in ministering to people. This course covers topics such as the theological basis of discipleship counseling, the definition of biblical counseling, the essentials for the discipler/counselor, a comparison of counseling philosophies, the biblical view of change, guilt, and self-image, and an investigation into the nature of conflict, the divine perspective of it, and the biblical principles that should guide the believer in responding to it. Also included are the key elements of the counseling process, handling one’s past and one’s attitude.

PM202 Advanced Biblical Counseling 3 Credits

This course is designed for those desiring to pursue a more in-depth understanding of discipleship counseling. Areas of study include *Marriage and Family*, as well as *Advanced Counseling Issues*. Topics covered under the area of *Marriage and Family* include the purpose of marriage, divorce and remarriage, roles of husband and wife, physical intimacy within marriage, communication and conflict resolution, spouse and child abuse, stewardship of time and priorities, preventing and rebuilding after adultery, parenting, and family counseling. Topics covered under the area of *Advanced Counseling Issues* include anger, worry, fear, depression, medical issues, counseling children, eating problems, decision making, incest, sexual abuse, crisis counseling, and other specific subjects.

Prerequisite: PM201 Basics of Biblical Counseling

PM203 Fundamentals of Preaching 2 Credits

This course is an introduction to the theology of expository preaching which emphasizes one's confidence in inspired Scripture, the applicable nature of the text to the hearer, the biblical rationale for this style of sermon, and the unwavering confidence the preacher can have in this form of delivery.

PM204 Preaching Lab 1: NT Epistles 3 Credits

This course is designed to help the student increase his effectiveness in moving from exegesis to exposition and delivery. A student's study and exegetical work in *BE201 Textual Analysis/Exegesis* will provide the basis of what he preaches in this course. This course is designed to instruct the student in the fundamentals of actual sermon preparation and then how to effectively communicate that message. As a laboratory class, it is designed to expose and train you in developing the various constituent parts of the sermon, such as the introductions, conclusions, illustrations, and sermon structure. Video recordings are used as an aid allowing more personalized evaluation of effectiveness of communication in both content and style.

Prerequisite: BE201 Textual Analysis/Exegesis

PM205 Mechanics of Preaching Workshop 2 Credits

This course focuses on the theory of homiletics, analyzing the key issues and processes involved in crafting an expository sermon. This course examines homiletical methodology, focusing on the basic principles of sermonic organization and delivery, with a special emphasis on expository preaching.

Prerequisites: PM203 Fundamentals of Preaching

PM206 Preaching Lab 2: Various Genres 3 Credits

This course continues the study of homiletical methodology with special emphasis on expositional preaching and the development of communication skills. A student's study and exegetical work in *BE202 Advanced Bible Interpretation* will provide the basis of what he preaches in this course. Video recordings are used as an aid allowing more personalized evaluation of effectiveness of communication in both content and style.

Prerequisites: BE202 Advanced Bible Interpretation; PM204 Preaching Lab 1: NT Epistles

The Division of Theological Studies

Theological Studies courses aid the student in developing a deeper understanding of the core doctrines of the Christian faith. These courses expound key areas of theology presented in Scripture, compare them with alternative views, and teach the student to live and preach in light of the theological truths revealed in Scripture. A sound theological approach is both *exegetical* and *systematic*. In other words, theologians must utilize *sound biblical exegesis* to determine the meaning and significance of particular passages before seeking to organize and summarize Scripture's teaching on a particular topic.

In every generation, it has been necessary for the church to clarify its beliefs against constant attacks and distortions of the truth by articulating Christian theology with greater levels of biblical precision. In this hour of church history, we stand in this long line of godly men who have sought to derive their theology from *sound biblical exegesis*. Though we surely benefit from previous formulations of Christian theology, we must constantly be driven to the Scriptures themselves for the confirmation of what is thereby professed.

Theology courses are not taught merely for the purpose of satisfying intellectual curiosity, but for the purpose of helping students grasp the significance of theology for Christian living, for the ministry of Bible-believing churches world-wide, and for insightful interaction with contemporary issues.

The Division of Theological Studies is designed to advance critical engagement in theology through critiquing and refuting non-biblical systems along with promoting biblical doctrines as a foundation for teaching and godly living, as detailed in the following Division Learning Outcomes (DLOs).

Division of Theological Studies—Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)

DLO 1: Articulate the major doctrinal themes of Scripture with appropriate biblical support.

Corresponds to PLO 1, PLO 2, and PLO 4.

- DLO 2: Describe, compare, and critique the major Christian theological systems. *Corresponds to PLO 2 and PLO 4.*

Division of Theological Studies—Diploma in Expository Preaching (DEP)

DLO 1: Articulate the major doctrinal themes of Scripture with appropriate biblical support.

Corresponds to PLO 1, PLO 2, and PLO 4.

- DLO 2: Describe, compare, and critique the major Christian theological systems. *Corresponds to PLO 2 and PLO 4.*
- DLO 3: Articulate and defend various key doctrines in each major area of Christian theology with biblical precision. *Corresponds to PLO 1, PLO 2, and PLO 4.*
- DLO 4: Describe and critique various erroneous doctrinal positions and practices in light of Scripture. *Corresponds to PLO 1, PLO 2, and PLO 3.*

Theological Studies Course Catalog—Biblical Studies Certificate (BSC)

TH101 Survey of Christian Theology 1 3 Credits

This course surveys Christian theology in the following major areas of study:

- *Bibliology*: teaching about the inspiration, inerrancy, authority, and sufficiency of God’s Word—including its sufficiency in apologetics.
- *Theology Proper*: teaching about God’s existence, attributes (perfections), and Triunity, and about His works in decreeing, creating, and ruling over all things outside Himself.
- *Christology*: teaching about the Second Person of the Godhead, the Son of God, the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- *Pneumatology*: teaching about the Holy Spirit, His personhood, His deity, spiritual gifts in the church, and the Holy Spirit’s work in creation, salvation, sanctification, and Scripture. Includes an examination and critique of the charismatic movement.
- *Anthropology*: teaching about the origin, position, constitution, and purpose of mankind.
- *Hamartiology*: teaching about the origin, power, presence, penalty, and punishment of sin.

TH102 Survey of Christian Theology 2 3 Credits

This course surveys Christian theology in the following major areas of study:

- *Soteriology*: teaches about the atonement of Christ, election, regeneration, conversion, justification, sanctification, and glorification.
- *Angelology*: teaches about the nature and ministry of angels, Satan, and demons.

- *Ecclesiology*: teaches about the inception, organization, ordinances, and ministry of the Church.
- *Eschatology*: teaches about the biblical covenants, the rapture, tribulation, the millennial reign of Christ, the resurrections, the eschatological judgments, the eternal state, and personal destiny.

Theological Studies Course Catalog—Diploma in Expository Preaching (DEP)

TH201 Debated Doctrines: Clarity from God's Word 3 Credits

This course builds on a basic knowledge of theology by providing a deeper study on two or three key doctrines in each major area of Christian theology so that the student can articulate these doctrines with greater levels of biblical precision. Despite these doctrines being debated in Christian circles, God’s Word provides sufficient clarity to teach the believer to understand and live in light of the theological truths revealed therein. This course may cover key doctrines such as the following:

- *Bibliology*:
 - The Inerrancy of Scripture.
 - The Sufficiency of Scripture—including its sufficiency in counseling and apologetics.
 - The Preservation of Scripture—including the reliability of the New Testament.
- *Theology Proper*:
 - Classic Trinitarian Orthodoxy—including a critique of Eternal Functional Subordination (EFS) of the Son.
 - The Problem of Evil and Theodicy—including God’s sovereignty in relation to evil.
 - Focus on Key Attributes (Perfections) of God: Aseity, Simplicity, Immutability, Impassibility
 - Young-Earth Creationism
- *Christology*:
 - The God-Man: The Deity and Humanity (and Kenosis) of Christ—including an examination of how Chalcedon addressed Christological heresies.
 - Christ—the Perfect Substitute
- *Pneumatology*:

- Spiritual Gifts for the Church Today: Responding rightly to Charismatic Theology through a proper understanding of the nature, purpose, and timing of sign gifts and revelatory spiritual gifts.
- Sanctification as the Christian's Pursuit of God-Given Holiness—including a critique of unbiblical methods of sanctification.
- *Anthropology:*
 - Man: Made in the Image of God
 - Marriage and Sexuality according to the Bible—including a critique on homosexuality.
- *Hamartiology:*
 - Representative Headship and the Transmission of Adam's sin.
 - The Nature of Unregenerate Man—the inability and unwillingness of man to pursue Christ apart from the Holy Spirit's work of regeneration.
- *Soteriology:*
 - Monergism—Sovereign Grace in Effectual Calling and Regeneration
 - Limited Atonement—How the nature of Christ's work and mission prove Particular Redemption.
- *Angelology:*
 - Spiritual Warfare
 - Demon-possession
- *Ecclesiology:*
 - Elder Rule—shepherding a local church through a plurality of biblical-qualified men.
 - Male Leadership in the Church—including what the Bible says about women's roles.
 - Church Discipline and Restoration
- *Eschatology:*
 - Premillennialism—Revelation 20 and the millennial debate, including a critique of other millennial views.
 - Has the Church Replaced Israel?