MISSISSIPPI
School of Ministry

2021-22
Academic Catalog

MS | SOM
mississippi school of ministry

MS-SOM

Mississippi School of Ministry

Mississippi School of Ministry Statement of Purpose

MS-SOM exists to provide training for those sensing a call to ministry, whether as credentialed ministers of the Assemblies of God, or as equipped laypersons within the local church. The school seeks to promote a unified purpose for ministry within the Fellowship, providing doctrinal and practical instruction based upon common core values and shared ministry goals.

MS-SOM provides the platform for gifted men and women of God to train those who will put on the mantle of service and invest in the Kingdom of God. The school fully subscribes to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God and commits itself to proclaim and support the principles and polity of the Assemblies of God.

Endorsements

The Mississippi School of Ministry has been recognized and endorsed by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God as a District Based Bible Institute. The school has also been endorsed by the Executive Presbytery of the Mississippi District Council of the Assemblies of God as one of the official ministerial training programs for those seeking ministerial credentials through the Mississippi District Council of the Assemblies of God.

Disclaimers

Courses completed through the Mississippi District School of Ministry that are required by the Assemblies of God for ministerial credentials meet the educational requirements of the General Council for the respective level of credential.

Completion of the courses, however, does not guarantee that a ministry credential will be granted, nor that preferential treatment will be given to those completing the required ministerial training courses through the School of Ministry. The credentialing of ministers is a process separate from completion of the educational requirements.

MS-SOM is a non-credited Bible institute. While endorsed by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God for ministerial training, courses completed through the school do not automatically qualify for college credit.

Welcome to the Mississippi School of Ministry!

We are excited to assist individuals pursuing or advancing their credentials with the Assemblies of God through classes that meet the educational requirements of the General Council. We also want to equip lay persons seeking to increase their Biblical and doctrinal knowledge as well as develop their practical ministry skills. Our hope is that you find the best and highest God has to offer you through MS-SOM as you fulfill the call of God upon your life. Thank you for your interest and participation as we strive to be all that we can be for the Glory of God.

Forward for Him,

Scott A. Davis
MS-SOM Director

MS-SOM and Credential Administration

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Registration

- Students wishing to enroll in MS-SOM should complete the Enrollment Application and return it, along with the $25 application fee, to the District Office prior to registering for courses.
- Tuition is $60 per course. Textbooks are at students' expense. All fees are non-refundable. Tuition is transferable to another course within a one year period due to emergencies (See Student Policies).
- Read your textbook(s) and complete the overview as soon as you receive them. A minimum of 10 hours of preparatory study is required prior to the class session. A basic knowledge of the information covered in the text book is expected when students arrive on campus.
- Arrive for class at the designated location by 8:45 a.m. prepared and ready to learn. If you are unable to attend a session you are registered for due to an emergency, registration may be applied to another course if you notify the district office prior to the start of the class. See Student Policies for further details.

Student Policies

- Students are to register no less than three weeks prior to the course. The course must be paid for at the time of registration. Registrations will be accepted in person at the district office, by mail or online.
- Students must be seventeen (17) years of age to enroll in MS-SOM.
- Students are required to complete a minimum of 10 hours of preparatory self-study in advance of the class session. Students are required to read the course textbook and to complete the course text overview, along with additional assignments, if required, prior to class.
- Students are to submit their Overview and Reflection assignments as instructed by the MS-SOM Administrator. They should bring one copy of the Overview for classroom review. Please note that all overviews must have typed answers. Failure to comply will result in a deduction of five points from the overview grade.
- Students must attend all class sessions, complete the required assignments, and successfully pass the course exam in order to receive credit.
- Should an emergency arise which makes attendance impossible, the student must notify the school prior to class time in order for the tuition to be transferred. Transfer credit must be used within one calendar year. Any absence arising from a non-emergency occurrence will result in forfeiture of tuition. This transfer will not be extended beyond two absences.
- Students are required to attend orientation at 8:45. There will be a deduction from your final grade for non-attendance.
- Dress Code. In that this is considered post graduate education and a ministerial training center, we are requesting that students respect each other as to dress. Therefore, the MS-SOM Committee has determined that students adhere to a business casual attire.

Internship Registration and Information

- Registration is $25.00 per level.
- Students must complete the Internship registration form and return it, along with the registration fee, to the District Office prior to beginning the Internship.
- Once the Internship mentor has been approved, the student will receive an e-mail confirmation and may begin the Internship. Students will have three (3) months in which to complete all projects.
- Upon completion, all forms and reports must be completed and returned to the Administrator. A 10-day extension may be requested. Additional charges may be associated with extension.

Standards of Academic Integrity

Registration in the Mississippi School of Ministry requires adherence to basic standards of academic integrity. Any violation of these standards may result in disciplinary action ranging from lowering a grade to dismissal from MS-SOM, depending on the severity of the infraction. In addition, a notation of the violation will be placed in the student's permanent file which is reviewed by the credential committee and by the Presbytery during the credential process with the Mississippi District Council of the Assemblies of God.

The following examples represent some basic types of behaviors that are unacceptable. (This is not an exhaustive list.)

- Submitting work done by someone else as your own.
- Copying or paraphrasing someone else's essays, projects, overviews, or other work and submitting it as your own.
- Obtaining or giving an unfair advantage by sharing completed overviews. MS-SOM is a Christian ministry development program serving to equip men and women to fulfill God's calling on their lives. Christian conduct and character are expected among students and faculty and should guide all written and verbal communication and assignments.
- Students are expected to complete the required course assignments by their own efforts. While it is reasonable and beneficial for two or more students from the same family, church or community to study together, it is essential that each student's work be his or her own endeavor. Students should not combine their study results to make a common line of thought that appears identical on multiple pre-class session study guides. Situations of this nature will be brought to the attention of the school's administration and will be investigated to determine if discipline is warranted.
- Sharing any information during examination will result in failure of course and possible dismissal from school.

Mississippi School of Ministry
Course Schedule 2021-22

	Certified	Licensed	Ordained
AUGUST 21	**Old Testament Survey** TEXT: Encountering the Old Testament, Arnold & Beyer	**Evangelism** TEXT: Evangelism Outside the Box, Rick Richardson	**Church Admin., Law & Finance** TEXT: Management Essentials for Christian Ministries, Michael Anthony & James Estep
SEPTEMBER 18	**A/G History, Missions & Gov** TEXT: People of the Spirit, Gary McGee & GC Minutes	**Conflict Resolution** TEXT: Making Peace, Jim Van Yperen	**Preaching in Context** TEXT: Preaching to a Post-Everything Word, Zack Eswine
OCTOBER 16	**Introduction to Hermeneutics** TEXT: Living by the Book, Howard Hendricks	**Prison Epistles** TEXT: The Prison Letters, N.T. Wright	**Poetic Books** TEXT: Intro. to Old Testament Poetic Books C. Hassell Bullock
NOVEMBER 20	**Intro to Pentecostal Doctrine** TEXT: The Holy Spirit, Anthony Palma	**Romans** TEXT: Encountering the Book of Romans Douglas Moo	**Apologetics** TEXT: I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist, Norman Geisler & Frank Turek
JANUARY 15	**New Testament Survey** TEXT: Encountering The New Testament, Elwell and Yarbrough	**Theology of Missions** TEXT: Missions in the Age of the Spirit, John York	**AG Const Bylaws & Parliamentary Law** TEXT: Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, Alice Sturgis
FEBRUARY 19	**Introduction to Theology** TEXT: Bible Doctrines, William Menzies & Stanley Horton	**Introduction to Homiletics** TEXT: Anointed Expository Preaching, Stephen Olford	**Theology of Worship** TEXT: The Reward of Worship, Jack Hayford
MARCH 19	**Synoptic Gospels** TEXT: Jesus the Messiah, Robert Stein	**Eschatology** TEXT: Our Destiny, Bible Teaching on Last Things, Stanley Horton	**Pentateuch** TEXT: Intro to the Old Testament Pentateuch, Herbert Wolf
APRIL 23	**Spirit Empowered Churches** TEXT: The Spirit Empowered Church, Alton Garrison	**Acts** TEXT: Acts: Logion Commentary, Stanley Horton	**Corinthians** TEXT: 1 & 2 Corinthians: Logion Commentary, Stanley Horton
MAY 21	Relationships & Ethics in Min TEXT: Ethics for Christian Ministry, Joel Trull & Robert Creech	Leadership Skills TEXT: The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, John Maxwell	Pastoral Ministry TEXT: Practical Guide for Pastoral Ministry, Stan Toler

Course Descriptions - Certified (Level 1)

A/G History, Missions and Governance

This course is a study to give the students an understanding of the Assemblies of God history, missions, and governance. Historically the course is covered by studying the stories of people influential in the development of the Assemblies of God. Theological attention is given to the development of the Tenants of Faith and theology of missions with an emphasis on the people that were involved in the process. Organizationally, the General Council Constitution and Bylaws will be reviewed with a focus on the structure of the Assemblies of God as well as local church organization.

Introduction to Hermeneutics: How to Interpret the Bible

An introductory course on the principles for interpreting Scripture. It summarizes the need for hermeneutical principles, and explores the qualifications, tools, and goals of a biblical interpreter. This is followed by a historical survey of hermeneutics from early Jewish interpreters to the present.

Introduction to Pentecostal Doctrine

This introductory course in Pentecostal theology provides an overview of biblical doctrines significant to the Pentecostal tradition. Particular attention is given to the Person and work of the Holy Spirit, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and the role of spiritual gifts in ministry.

Introduction to Theology

An introductory study in theology structured around the sixteen points of the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God. The course covers biblical doctrine with a Pentecostal perspective within the larger framework of Protestant, evangelical Christianity.

New Testament Survey

This course will serve as an introduction to the history, literature and basic message of the New Testament. The course will address major figures, events, and themes presented in each of the New Testament books. As the result of this course, the students are expected to gain better understanding of and appreciation for the Bible as the Word of God, be strengthened in their faith, and grow spiritually in the knowledge of Christ.

Old Testament Survey

This course will serve as an introduction to the history, literature, and basic message of the Old Testament. The course will address major figures, events, and themes of the Old Testament and its foundational relationship to the New Testament. As the result of this course, the students are expected to gain better understanding of and appreciation for the Bible as the Word of God, be strengthened in their faith, and grow spiritually in the knowledge of Christ.

Relationships and Ethics in Ministry

This course will provide a general overview of the entire scope of ministerial ethics. It will address different ethical issues from biblical and theological perspectives. The course will help the student establish basic methods and approaches to maintaining high ethical standards in their lives.

Spirit Empowered Churches

A practical introduction and study of transitioning existing churches and planting new churches to become life-giving entities within the community. Emphasis is placed on personal discipleship of local church leaders whether their ministry call is pastoral or to serve voluntarily.

Synoptic Gospels: The Life and Teachings of Christ

This course will concentrate on major events in the life of Christ. The course will focus on the time, place, circumstances, and people involved in the Lord's ministry. The goal of the course is to increase students' understanding of the Lord's message, ministry and mission, and to inspire them to be better ministers of the gospel of Christ.

Certified Internship

Course Descriptions - Licensed (Level 2)

Acts

A study of Acts with concentration on the biblical theology of Acts, the historical background of events, and an emphasis on Luke's historical and theological narrative. Special attention is given to the supernatural role of the Holy Spirit in the birth and development of the church.

Conflict Resolution

A study devoted to the resolution of conflict in the local church. The reasons for churches becoming unhealthy and how God wants to heal them are examined. The lordship of Jesus Christ and His methodology in resolving conflict form the basis of this study.

Eschatology

Eschatology is the branch of theology, which deals with ultimate or final things. Views of the rapture, tribulation, millennium, judgment, the new heavens and new earth, final states and other topics related to eschatology will be discussed.

Evangelism

A fresh perspective and examination of different evangelism strategies for reaching the post-modern world. Emphasis is given to relying on the Holy Spirit, awakening spiritual interest in others and appealing to what they value.

Introduction to Homiletics

This course provides an introduction to the preparation and delivery of sermons. Attention is given to practical principles for the development of biblical messages. Different sermon types are introduced with an emphasis on the expository sermon.

Leadership Skills

This course will offer leadership insights that are practical and can be used to improve our leadership ability. Each student will glean a great foundation from which to build their leadership knowledge and begin their personal leadership journey. Leaders are built not necessarily born. Everything rises and falls on leadership!

Prison Epistles

This course covers the four short letters Paul wrote from prison: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon. It will offer the student insight into not only Paul's personal circumstances, but what he had to say to young churches – and, in the case of Philemon, to one man facing a hugely difficult moral dilemma.

Romans

Paul's letter to the church in Rome is the most extensive theological presentation in the New Testament. For this reason, it has demanded the attention of biblical students in every era. Yet, there are significant passages in Romans that are paralleled in other NT writings, indicating that Paul is addressing important issues that are not entirely new.

Theology of Missions

Introduction course into the science of missions. A survey of theology, history, and methods of Christian missions. Special emphasis on recent developments, crucial issues, current trends and missions as they are carried out through the local and national churches.

Licensed Internship

Course Descriptions - Ordained (Level 3)

AG Constitution, Bylaws & Parliamentary Law

This course familiarizes the student on the Constitution and Bylaws governing the General Council as to nomenclature and procedure by which we operate as a fellowship. The student will also be introduced to Parliamentary Law. The General Council, District Council, and the local church conducts business according to the accepted practices and procedures for all deliberative societies. The student will be able to participate or lead a business section based on the materials covered in this course.

Apologetics

False ideas aimed at undermining and destroying the Christian faith constantly bombard people today. This course will provide an exceptionally good antidote to these false ideas and builds a case for Christianity from the question of truth all the way to the inspiration of Scripture.

Church Administration, Law & Finance

This course offers a thorough examination of management principles for Christian ministries. It will highlight issues regarding church administration and functions and will provide a theological grounding for organizational approaches to church management.

Corinthians

This course is the study of two letters of Paul to the Corinthians. Attention is given to the historical background and the varied issues in the Corinthian church to which Paul responds.

Pastoral Ministry

A study of the practical aspects of pastoral ministry, including the pastor's call, preaching, teaching, church leadership, family life, and more.

Pentateuch

This course will serve as a general introduction to the theology of the first five books of the Bible. The course will address various topics, including the doctrine and nature of creation, the nature of sin and redemption, the importance of holiness in life and worship, and the primacy of covenant in all of God's dealings with individuals and the whole nation of Israel. As the result of this course, students will gain a better understanding of the major themes and doctrines presented in the Pentateuch, which serve as the foundation of all further revelations. The major objective of the course will be also to strengthen the students' commitment to God and His Word.

Poetic Books

This course will serve as a study of the five poetic books of the Bible- - Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastics, and Song of Songs.

Preaching In Context

This course will concentrate on the role of the preacher and his or her ability to communicate the clear message of the "Good News" of Jesus Christ to a culture that is continually changing. This course will help you with the challenge that is before you in the 21st Century to communicate the solid ground of the Gospel in a culture that is fluid.

Theology of Worship

An exploration of the scriptural and theological foundations for individual and corporate praise and worship. Various styles and formats of worship are discussed relative to both historical and contemporary settings.

Ordained Internship

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