

EVANGELICAL SEMINARY OF WEST AFRICA



**ACADEMIC CATALOG
& STUDENT HANDBOOK
2025-2028**

**ELWA CAMPUS, PAYNESVILLE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA**

EVANGELICAL SEMINARY OF WEST AFRICA



Evangelical

SEMINARY *of* WEST AFRICA

Light your heart; Impact your world!

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

“The unfolding of your words gives light.”

Psalm 119:105, 130a (ESV)

EVANGELICAL SEMINARY OF WEST AFRICA

SIM/ELWA CAMPUS, STUDIO JUNCTION, ROBERTSFIELD HWY

PAYNESVILLE, MONTSERRADO | LIBERIA

TEL. +231-776-767-546; +231-886-560-080; +231-770-888-008; +231-778-652-602

EMAIL: eswaliberia@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.esw.africa

FACEBOOK: *ESWA Liberia*

DISCLAIMER

The Seminary catalog is the primary source for delivery of official information, required forms, and other important information. This catalog was prepared with the best information available as of August 17, 2025. All information, including students' tuition and fees, courses offered, and admission and graduation requirements, is subject to change without notice or obligation. This catalog shall not be construed as a contract between the Evangelical Seminary of West Africa and potential or current students.

Table of Contents

	Page
Message from the President	1
Accreditation and Affiliation	2
Mission, Philosophy of Education, Values, Vision, and Confession	2
ESWA Statement of Faith	3
Master of Divinity (MDiv) Degree Program	8
Course Numbering Format	9
MDiv Curriculum & Course List	10
Sample MDiv Curriculum Schedule	14
Course Descriptions	16
• Biblical Studies	16
• Christian Education	17
• Church History	18
• General Studies	18
• Systematic Theology	19
• World Missions	21
• Biblical Languages	22
Descriptions for MDiv Track Courses	22
• General Education (ELM Track)	22
• Pastoral Studies (PTS Track)	25
• Capstone Project Options	27
ESWA Academic Information and Policies	28
• Admissions	28
• Registration	29
• Academic Policies	32
• Grades, Graduation, and Withdrawal	34
Financial Information and Policies	36
General Student Policies	37
Student Life	37
Student Services	39
ESWA Board of Directors	41
ESWA Management Team	41
ESWA Academic Office Team and Staff	42
ESWA Faculty	43

Message from the President



Dear Prospective Student:

We are delighted that you are considering the Evangelical Seminary of West Africa (ESWA) for your ministry training. Answering God's call to serve in vocational ministry is a courageous decision that merits the best training possible in terms of biblical and theological knowledge, ministry skills, and growth in Christ-like character.

ESWA began offering classes in September 2019 as the fulfillment of the vision and hard work of many to create a thoroughly evangelical, interdenominational graduate-level seminary in Liberia. In November 2024 we relocated to our new campus with two beautiful new buildings (so far!) on the ELWA Compound. On June 14, 2025, we celebrated our third Commencement Exercise. We now have 17 Master of Divinity degree holders whom God is using significantly.

ESWA is committed to providing the very best evangelical theological training for a lifetime of growth, study, and ministry. We seek to glorify Jesus Christ by training godly servant-leaders to serve the Church, fulfill the Great Commission, and transform the world.

God has blessed us to be a blessing to others. We have excellent new buildings, including our research center which houses what we believe to be the most outstanding theological library in Liberia. In addition to our resident faculty, we have many world-class adjunct faculty from the United States and elsewhere who travel to ESWA to teach intensive block courses for us. Classes in spiritual formation, spiritual formation small groups, chapel services, and companionship with others in the ESWA community provide a wonderful environment for personal growth.

If the Lord leads you to study at ESWA, we will facilitate the Holy Spirit's work in transforming you into a particular kind of person: someone who loves and honors God, better understands God's Word and theology, has greater skill in communicating God's Word and otherwise ministering to and with others, and increasingly demonstrates the fruit of Christ-like character. You will be better prepared to serve God faithfully and effectively in your context.

If you come to ESWA, be prepared to study and work hard. But you will never regret investing in your own equipping for ministry, and you will be well-prepared to light your world with the light of God's Word!

Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Gary McKnight". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary McKnight, PhD, DMin

ACCREDITATION AND AFFILIATION

The Evangelical Seminary of West Africa (ESWA) is accredited by the National Commission on Higher Education (NCHE) of Liberia for granting the Master of Divinity degree with emphases in Pastoral and Theological Studies and Educational Leadership and Ministries.

The Seminary also enjoys affiliation with Dallas Theological Seminary of Dallas, Texas, USA. In addition, the Seminary has enthusiastic partnerships with SIM-Liberia, the Evangelical Church of Liberia (ECOL), the Evangelical Free Church of Africa (EFCA), the United Liberia Inland Church (ULIC), and the Koinonia Baptist Association.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Evangelical Seminary of West Africa exists to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ by producing godly servant-leaders to serve the Church and transform Liberia, West Africa, and ultimately the world through a Great Commission vision (Matthew 28:18-20), innovative training, relevant research, and compassionate engagement in communities.

PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

ESWA's philosophy of education is rooted in the conviction that the inspired, inerrant Word of God is the light of humankind, Africa, and the world. When proclaimed by an equipped and godly servant-leader, through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Bible will positively affect and potentially bring transformation to the cultural context of modern Africa and the world. This concept is reflected in the ESWA theme verse: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps. 119:105 ESV).

CORE VALUES

- 1. Christ-Glorifying and Great Commission-Centered:** a missional approach to faith and theology rooted in a passion to worship and obey Jesus Christ.
- 2. Spirituality and Integrity:** an integration of deep personal holiness and discipleship that is above reproach.
- 3. Servant Leadership:** a focus and modeling of Christ-like, sacrificial leadership manifesting genuine compassion and love for all people.
- 4. Church-Centered:** committed to equip servant leaders who will plant and strengthen local churches through contextual Bible teaching and evangelical theology.
- 5. Excellence and Relevance:** an approach to learning that is both innovative and solution driven.

VISION

Our vision is to glorify Christ by producing godly servant-leaders for West Africa; to serve the Church, transform the world, and fulfill the Great Commission (Matt 28: 18-20).

CONFESSION

The Evangelical Seminary of West Africa affirms the Bible as the authoritative Word of God. We further affirm the Lausanne Covenant, the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy and the Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood.

ESWA STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Scriptures

The sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, without error in the words of the original writings, and constitute the complete revelation of God's will for the salvation of all people. It is the only sufficient, certain, divine, and final authoritative rule of all saving knowledge, faith, and obedience (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 Corinthians 2:13).

God

There is but one God, the Creator, Preserver and Ruler of all things, having in and of Himself, all perfections, and being infinite in them all; and to Him all creatures owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. He is revealed to us and exists eternally in three persons, as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each co-equal and co-eternal, each with distinct person attributes, while also one God with no division of nature or essence of being (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; Hebrews 1:1-13; Colossians 1:5-19).

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, very God and very man, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, is the divinely appointed mediator between God and man. Having taken upon Himself human nature, yet without sin, He perfectly fulfilled the law, suffered and died upon the cross for the salvation of sinners. He was buried and rose again bodily from the dead on the third day, and ascended to His Father, at whose right hand He ever lives to make intercession for His people. He is the only Mediator, Advocate, the Prophet, High Priest, and Royal Sovereign of the Universe (Luke 2:3-35; Philippians 2:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Hebrews 1:3, 19; 1 John 2:1-2).

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity who regenerates, (that is, gives new life to anyone who, dead in sins and trespasses, exercises saving faith in Jesus Christ, Romans 10:9,10; John 3:16, 6:63a) indwells (that is, resides permanently in everyone who truly believes in Jesus Christ, John 14: 16,17; 1 Corinthians 6:19), baptizes (that is, places every true believer into a mystical union with Christ and the Body of Christ, Romans 6:3,4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:26,27), seals (that is, by the abiding presence in the believer, the Holy Spirit is the divine mark of ownership as God's own eternal possession, Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30), and fills those who believe (that is, controls and empowers those yielded to God in daily conduct and service, 2 Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 5:16, 22-25; Colossians 3:17). The Holy Spirit's ministry is to bring glory to Jesus Christ in the life of the believer as He guides, instructs, empowers, and gives spiritual abilities for service (John 3:3-6; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 12:13; Ephesians 5:18).

Creation

We believe that God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1-2), including all life (Colossians 1:16-17; John 1:3), "each after its own kind" (Genesis 1:24), by direct act, and not by the process of evolution (Psalm 33:6).

Providence

God, from eternity, decrees or permits all things that come to pass, and perpetually upholds, directs and governs all creatures and all events, yet so as not in any way to be the author or approver of sin, nor to destroy the free will and responsibility of creatures created in His image (Job 10:12; Psalms 65, 104, 147; John 6:37; Roman 9:14-29; Ephesians 1:11).

Election

Election is God's eternal choice of persons unto everlasting life--not because of foreseen merit in them, but of His mercy in Christ--in consequence of which choice they are called, justified and glorified (Matthew 24:31; Romans 8:28-39; 11:7; Ephesians 1:3-14; 2 Pet. 1:3-11).

The Fall

God created mankind in his own image and originally free from sin; but, through the temptation of Satan, in Adam, all mankind transgressed the command of God and fell from the original state of holiness and righteousness into sin. As a result, all of Adam's descendants inherited a depraved nature, corrupt and wholly opposed to God and His law, and as a result are under condemnation and as soon as they are capable of moral action, become actual transgressors. Mankind is without hope apart from the grace of God (Genesis 1:25, 27, 2:17, 6:5; John 3:6, 16; Romans 3:10-19).

Salvation

Salvation is by the grace of God and received by faith alone in the God-man, Jesus Christ, apart from works or any personal merit (Ephesians 2:8-9). Jesus Christ died as a substitutionary sacrifice to pay the penalty to redeem sinners, who must believe in Him for this salvation. His shed blood and resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation. Only those who receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and are truly Christians, the very children of God. There is no salvation for those who die outside of Christ (John 1:12; 2:18; 3:5, 18; Acts 4:12; Romans 5:8, 10:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:21).

Regeneration

Regeneration is the new birth and bestowing of a new nature wrought by the Holy Spirit at the moment a sinner exercises saving faith in Christ for salvation. It is a work of God's free and special grace alone (John 3:3. Titus 3:5).

Faith

Saving faith is the belief, on God's authority, in the gospel concerning Jesus Christ and His death and resurrection which a person accepts and rests upon Him alone for justification and eternal life. It is wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, and is accompanied by all other saving graces including repentance for sin, and leads to a life of holiness, (Habakkuk 2:4; Matthew 9:2; Luke 17:5-6; 24:47; Acts 17:30; Romans 1:17; 3:22; 5:12; 10:17; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Galatians 2:16; 3:24-26; Colossians 2:12; 1 Timothy 6:12; Hebrews 11:1-3).

Justification

Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal of sinners, who believe in Christ, from all sin, through the satisfaction that Christ's atoning work on the cross has made. This is not for anything wrought in them or done by them but on account of the obedience and satisfaction of Christ, they receiving and resting on Him and His righteousness by faith (Romans 3:24-30; 4:25; 5:1, 9; 8:30; Galatians 2:16-17; 3:24; Titus 3:7).

Sanctification

Those who have been regenerated are also sanctified by God's Word and Spirit dwelling in them. Believers are set apart unto God in three ways: positionally, at the point of salvation; progressively, on a daily basis as the Christian pilgrim walks in holiness through the supply of divine strength and ultimately in full conformity to the image of Christ, realized in the future when each believer enters into the presence of the Lord (John 17:17; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 7:1; Ephesians 4:24; 5:25-27; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 10:10,14; 12:10; 1 John 2:15-17, 3:2).

Eternal Security

Those whom God has accepted in the Beloved, who truly believe in Jesus Christ's atoning work, who have appropriated this benefit personally to life and who are sanctified by His Spirit, are assured of salvation both now and forever. Those so assured are eternally kept saved due to the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption. Though they may fall into carnality through neglect and temptation unto sin whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, bringing temporal judgments on themselves, yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, (John 5:14, 10:28; Romans 8:28-39; Colossians 2:2; Hebrews 6:11; 7:25; 10:22; 12:4-11; 1 John 2:1-2; 5:13).

The Church

The local Church is intended to be a local, organized representation of the mystical body of Christ, and should be composed only of true believers. The Church, embracing all true believers, is the body and bride of Christ, formed by the work of the Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus is the Head of the Church; in Him is vested supremely all power for its government. According to His commandment, Christians are to associate themselves into particular local churches; and to each of these churches He has given needful authority for administering the order, discipline, and worship which He has appointed. The regular officers of a church are elders/pastors (bishops, overseers) and deacons (Acts 2:42-47, 6:1-6; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 1:20-23; 4:3-10, 30; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 3:14-15; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Hebrews 10:25).

Ordinances

The ordinances of the Church are the Lord's Supper and water baptism by immersion, which are to be observed by the Church during the present age. They are designed to strengthen believers spiritually and to be a public witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. They are not a means of salvation (Matthew 28:19; Luke 22:19-20; Acts 8:36-38; 10:47-48; 16:32; 18:7-8; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Baptism

Christian baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus, an act of obedience for every believer, wherein he or she is immersed in water in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Baptism is a sign symbolizing one's faith in, and fellowship with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and of walking in newness of life. Being a church ordinance, it is normally required as a prerequisite to the privileges of church membership (Matthew 3:13-17; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 2:29-34; Acts 2:41; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12).

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is a regular act of obedience and worship whereby members of the church commemorate the death of their Savior and anticipate His second coming. The Supper is in no sense a sacrifice or sacrament, nor does it hold salvific or miraculous value, but is designed to confirm the faith and other graces of Christians, and to be a bond, pledge and renewal of their communion with Him and of their church fellowship (Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:19-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, 21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12).

The Lord's Day

The Lord's Day is a Christian institution for regular observance and should be employed in rest and exercise of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private (Genesis 2:2-3; Leviticus 23:3; Matthew 28:1; Luke 24:1; John 20:1, 19; Acts 2:1-4; 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2).

Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to engage in the work of making disciples of all nations. Local and global evangelistic and church planting efforts should engage all believers and local churches based on the purpose of God (*missio Dei*) and the commands of Jesus Christ. It is the duty of every child of God to be light in the darkness and to seek to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ (Matthew 9:37-38; 13:18-30, 37-43; 28:18-20; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; 2 Corinthians 5:11-21; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; 1 Peter 2:4-10).

Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. The family is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship and sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race. The husband and wife are of equal worth before God since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents. (Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7).

Spiritual Gifts

These are grace gifts given sovereignly to each believer by the Holy Spirit for the edification of the body of Christ and for service to the glory of God. Some of the spiritual gifts listed in Scripture were sign gifts associated with the ministry of the apostles and thus are not granted commonly to believers today. However, God can do whatever He chooses to accomplish His will in the establishment of His Church in the world. It is important to note that any undue emphasis on possession of any certain gifts as a means or prerequisite for salvation, material prosperity, or as a mark of spiritual superiority is unscriptural and is rejected (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:14; Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

The Return of Christ

The blessed hope of the Church is the personal, imminent, and premillennial second coming of Jesus Christ to earth with His raptured and rewarded Bride (the Church). His return will follow a period of divine judgment on the whole world known as the Tribulation. He will crush all opposition and establish his righteous Messianic reign for 1000 years in fulfillment of his promises to the Jewish nation. This hope must have a vital bearing on the personal life and service of believers awaiting His return. (John 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Titus 2:11-14; 2 Peter 3:11; Revelation 19:11-20:6).

The Resurrection

The bodies of believers after death return to dust, but their spirits are transported immediately to the presence of God in conscious bliss and rest with Him. The wicked are separated from God, reserved in darkness and distress for the future judgment. At a future day, the bodies of all the dead, both just and unjust, will be raised in their order, believers to everlasting blessedness and joy with their Lord and participation in His Kingdom rule on earth, unbelievers into judgments and everlasting conscious punishment in the Lake of Fire (John 11:25-26; Luke 16:19-26; 23:42; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22; 2 Corinthians 5:8; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Revelation 20:11-15).

MASTER OF DIVINITY (MDIV) DEGREE PROGRAM

Introduction to the Master of Divinity Program

The Master of Divinity (MDiv) program is a professional graduate degree designed to equip those entering Christian ministries such as pastors, denominational leaders, instructors in Bible colleges/seminaries, or principals of secondary schools. This 90-hour (minimum) academic program draws from various theological and educational disciplines: Biblical studies, theology, Church history, missiology, hermeneutics, exegesis, expository preaching, pastoral ministry, leadership, and education.

The program provides the opportunity for concentration in one of two emphases: Pastoral and Theological Studies (PTS), with or without biblical languages, and Educational Leadership and Ministries (ELM). The MDiv program seeks to develop ministry skills in areas such as evangelism, missions, pastoral ministry, educational ministry, and leadership.

For students training in the ELM track, the program also offers studies in educational psychology, teaching methodology, children/youth ministry, and leadership. The PTS track offers opportunities for study in pastoral ministry, preaching, counseling, discipleship, and church planting.

Both PTS and ELM emphases also require a minimum of one semester of internship under the supervision of a competent senior church or ministry leader and the writing of a master's thesis or final project.

Specific Educational Outcomes

A graduate of the Evangelical Seminary of West Africa Master of Divinity program shall demonstrate evidence of the following:

1. Spiritual and emotional maturity evidenced by:

- consistent habits of cultivating Christ-like character;
- godliness and integrity in all relationships; and
- commitment to continue in obedience to Christ and service to humanity.

2. Critical biblical and theological thinking and competence by demonstrating ability to:

- interact biblically, critically, intelligently, and historically with current theological issues and positions both in the African and global contexts;
- conduct scholarly research which displays careful analysis and critical judgment; and
- appropriately and contextually apply the essential doctrines and worldview of evangelical Christianity.
-

3. Professional capacity by:

- clearly articulating his/her call, using his/her gifts and abilities to minister effectively and efficiently in the chosen area of specialization;
- ministering (in preaching, counseling, teaching, leading, etc.) with appropriate skills that promote the unity and harmony of the church body and enhance opportunities for evangelism and discipleship; and
- providing godly servant leadership for a local church (if pastoring), a denomination, a school, or Christian organization while exemplifying humility, integrity, and morality.

4. Cultural sensitivity that:

- displays understanding of the cultural context of 21st Century Africa; and
- exhibits respect and concern for all people and the ability to inculcate healthy African norms and worldview in the ministries of preaching, teaching, and counseling.

Mode of Operation

The Evangelical Seminary of West Africa Master of Divinity program runs on a mix of a modular system and traditional schedule. Most modular courses are offered as two-or-three-week intensives with lectures usually held Monday to Friday from 3:00-6:00 pm. For these intensive modular courses, additional weeks will be devoted to individual research, reading and other assignments required by the professor.

Some courses, however, will meet on a more traditional semester schedule. Depending on the number of contact hours needed for the course credit hour requirement, these nonmodular courses will either meet once, twice, or three times per week. The nonmodular more traditional schedule may consist of courses where classes meet for up to 15 weeks throughout the semester. Assignments for these courses will be due throughout the semester per the professor or instructor's syllabus deadlines.

Program Duration

The Master of Divinity program is designed for three years for full-time or six years for part-time students. All work leading to the MDiv must be completed within eight years from the time a student begins the program. Extension beyond the eight years period requires approval by the Vice President for Academic Affairs and/or the President.

Course Numbering Format

Letter Codes

The first three letters of the course code indicate the academic content of the course:

BIB	Biblical Studies
CED	Christian Education
CHH	Church History
GED	General Education
GNS	General Studies
GRK	Greek
HEB	Hebrew
PAS	Pastoral Studies
THM	Theological Studies
PAS	Pastoral Studies
WMI	World Missions

Course Codes and Numbering Sequence

500	Required courses for all MDiv students
600	Required courses for your track (either ELM or PTS)
700	Electives (extra courses not required for either ELM or PTS track)

Course codes consist of three letters followed by three numbers (e.g., BIB501). In the case of a student auditing a course, the course code may end in the letter "AU" for audit (e.g., BIB501AU). Furthermore, in the event additional sections of a course are needed the same semester due to high enrollment, the course code may end in "A," "B," or "C" (e.g., BIB501A or BIB501B).

MDiv Curriculum: Courses Required of All Students

Required Bible Courses	
* BIB501 Story of the Bible (1 st year)	2
* BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics (1 st year)	3
* BIB503 Principles & Practice of Exegesis (1 st year)	2
* BIB511 Pentateuch (usually 1 st year)	2
* BIB512 Old Testament History and Poetry	2
* BIB513 Old Testament Prophets	2
* BIB514 Gospels & Life of Christ	2
* BIB515 Acts & Romans	2
* BIB516 Pauline Epistles beyond Romans	2
* BIB517 General Epistles & Revelation	2
Total Bible Credits	21
Required Christian Education Courses	
* CED501 Designing & Leading Effective Ministries (1st year)	3
* CED512 Church Ministry to Youth and Young Adults	2
Total Christian Education Credits	5
Required Church History Courses	
* CHH501 Introduction to Church History	3
* CHH511 History of Christianity in Africa or CHH715 History of Christianity in Liberia	2
Total Church History Credits	5
Required General Studies Courses	
* GNS501 Graduate English (1st year)	2
* GNS502 Research & Writing (1st year - prerequisite GNS501)	2
* GNS511 Spiritual Formation: Biblical & Theological Foundations	1
* GNS512 Spiritual Formation: Spiritual Disciplines (1 st year)	1
* GNS513 Spiritual Formation: Nurture of Others (2nd year)	1
* GNS521 Liberian Realities	2
Total General Studies Credits	9
Required Theology Courses	
* THM501 Theological Method and Bibliology (1st year)	2
* THM502 Trinitarianism (Theology Proper, Christology, & Pneumatology)	2
* THM503 Angelology, Anthropology, & Hamartiology	2
* THM504 Soteriology	2
* THM505 Sanctification & Ecclesiology	2
* THM506 Eschatology	2
* THM511 Contemporary African Worldview and Theology	2
* THM521 Doctrinal Assessment (semester before graduation)	1
Total Theology Credits	15
Required World Missions Courses	
* WMI501 Introduction to World Missions	2
* WMI502 Evangelism & Discipleship	2
* WMI503 Spiritual Warfare	2
* WMI511 World Religions and Cults or WMI512 Islam	2
Total Missions Credits	8
Total Required Credits for Each Major	63

Education & Leadership Ministries Track: The following additional coursework is required for all students pursuing an MDIV in the ELM track. These courses may also be taken as electives by those in the PTS track.

Required for ELM Track Students

(electives for PTS Track students)

Required ELM Courses	
* GED601 Educational Foundations	2
* GED602 Human Development & Ministry	2
* GED603 Educational Psychology	3
* GED604 Teaching for Transformation	2
* GED605 Teaching Practicum (prerequisite GED604)	1
* GED606 Media Presentation	1
* GED611 Teaching Ministry with Children (prerequisite GED602)	2
* GED616 Curriculum Development & Evaluation	2
* GED660 ELM Internship	2
Total Credits	17

Elective ELM Courses (required 4 credit hours for ELM)	
* GED631 Teaching in Higher Education	2
* GED635 Administration in Higher Education	2
* GED641 Personal Leadership Development	2
* GED642 Organizational Leadership	2
* GED651 Educational Guidance and Counseling	2
* GED671 Independent Study in EML	2
* GED675 Special Topics in EML	2
* GED693 Thesis Continuation (only if necessary)	1
Possible Credits	15

Capstone Project Option #1: Summative Research Project	
* GED681 Summative Research Project	2
* An ELM elective	2
Total Credits	4

Capstone Project Option #2: Thesis	
* GED691 Thesis Methodology & Proposal (take first semester before graduation)	2
* GED692 Thesis (2nd semester before graduation)	2
Total Credits	4

Required Courses for All Students	63
Required ELM Courses	17
Capstone Project	4
Electives (ELM or otherwise)	6
Total Required Credits for ELM Track	90

Pastoral and Theological Studies Track (PTS): The following additional courses are required for all students pursuing a MDIV in the PTS track. These courses may also be taken as electives by students in the ELM track.

Required for PTS Track Students

(electives for ELM track students)

Required PTS Track Courses	
* PAS601 Pastoral Theology & Leadership	3
* PAS602 Expository Preaching	2
* PAS603 Preaching Practicum 1 (prerequisite PAS602)	
* PAS604 Preaching Practicum 2 (prerequisite PAS603)	1
* PAS605 Pastoral Counseling	2
* PAS611 Church Administration	2
* PAS612 Church Financial Management	2
* PAS621 Church Ministry with Children & Families	2
* PAS660 Internship	2
Total Credits	17

Elective PTS Courses (only 4 credit hours required)	
* PAS630 Contextualized Biblical Communication	2
* PAS641 Church Planting	2
* PAS646 Church & Community Development	2
* PAS651 Theology & Practice of Worship	2
* PAS655 Theology & Practice of Prayer	2
* PAS671 Independent Study in PTS	2
* PAS675 Special Topics in PTS	2
* PAS693 Thesis Continuation (only if necessary)	1
Possible Credits	9

Capstone Project Option #1: Summative Research Project	
* PAS681 Summative Research Project	2
* A PAS elective	2
Total Credits	4

Capstone Project Option #2: Summative Research Project	
* PAS691 Thesis Methodology & Proposal	2
* PAS692 Thesis	2
Total Credits	4

Required Courses for All Students	<u>63</u>
Required PTS Courses	<u>17</u>
Capstone Project	<u>4</u>
Electives (PTS or otherwise)	<u>6</u>
Total Required Credits for PTS Track	90

Other Elective Courses for Any Track: The following additional courses may be taken as electives by students in either track, ELM or PTS.

Elective Bible Courses	
* BIB771 Independent Study in Bible	2
* BIB775 Special Topics in Bible	2
Total Credits	4

Elective Church History Courses	
* CHH771 Independent Study in Church History	2
* CHH775 Special Topics in Church History	2
Possible Credits	4

Elective Courses in Spiritual Formation	
* GNS771 Independent Study in Spiritual Formation	2
* GNS775 Special topics in Spiritual Formation	2
Possible Credits	
	4

Elective Language Courses	
* GRK701 Functional Greek	2
* GRK711 Elements of Greek I	3
* GRK712 Elements of Greek II	3
* GRK713 Greek Exegesis	3
* HEB701 Functional Hebrew	2
* HEB711 Elements of Hebrew I	3
* HEB712 Elements of Hebrew II	3
* HEB713 Hebrew Exegesis	3
Possible Credits	22

Elective Theology Courses	
* THM771 Independent Study in Theology	2
* THM775 Special Topics in Theology	2
Possible Credits	4

Elective World Missions Courses	
* WMI771 Independent Study in World Missions	2
* WMI775 Special Topics in World Missions	2
Possible Credits	4

Sample MDIV Curriculum Schedule: This sample MDIV course schedule is subject to change depending on scheduling needs and instructor availability. The term lengths are uneven. The first term begins in August and ends in December. The second term commences in January and ends in July (summer). Thus, second term student course loads consist of more credit hours than the first term of each academic year.

Sample Year One, First Term

CODE	COURSES	CREDITS
BIB501	Story of the Bible	2
BIB502	Bible Study Methods and Hermeneutics	3
BIB503	Principles and Practice of Exegesis	2
GNS501	Graduate English	2
GNS511	Spiritual Formation: Biblical & Theological Foundations	1
GNS521	Liberian Realities	<u>2</u>
		12

Sample Year One, Second Term

CODE	COURSES	CREDITS
BIB511	Pentateuch	2
CED501	Designing & Leading Effective Ministries	3
GNS502	Research and Writing	2
GNS512	Spiritual Formation: Spiritual Disciplines	1
THM501	Theological Method & Bibliology	2
THM502	Trinitarianism	2
WMI501	Introduction to World Missions	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	<u>2</u>
		18

Sample Year Two, First Term

CODE	COURSES	CREDITS
BIB512	Old Testament History and Poetry	2
CHH501	Introduction to Church History	3
GNS513	Spiritual Formation: Nurture of Others	1
THM503	Angelology, Anthropology, & Hamartiology	2
WMI502	Evangelism & Discipleship	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	<u>2 or 3</u>
		12 or 13

Sample Year Two, Second Term

CODE	COURSES	CREDITS
BIB513	Old Testament Prophets	2
BIB514	Gospels and Life of Christ	2
CED512	Church Ministry to Youth and Young Adults	2
CHH511	History of Christianity in Africa	2
THM504	Soteriology	2
THM505	Sanctification and Ecclesiology	2
WMI503	Spiritual Warfare	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	<u>2</u>
		18

Sample Year Three, First Term

CODE	COURSES	CREDITS
BIB515	Acts & Romans	2
THM511	Contemporary African Worldview and Theology	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	2
GED/PAS660	Internship	2
	Capstone Project (ELM/PAS681 or ELM/PAS691)	<u>2</u>
		12

Sample Year Three Semester Two

CODE	COURSES	CREDITS
BIB516	Pauline Epistles beyond Romans	2
BIB517	General Epistles & Revelation	2
THM506	Eschatology	2
THM521	Doctrinal Assessment	1
WMI511	World Religions and Cults	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	2
ELM or PAS	Track Course	2
	Capstone Project (ELM/PAS692 or track course)	<u>2</u>
		17

TOTAL **90**

Course Descriptions

Biblical Studies (BIB)

BIB501 Story of the Bible – 2 hours

This foundational Bible course teaches the student how to understand and tell the Bible story as a complete narrative, an important skill in the oral society of Liberia. The story of the Bible is the story of Jesus Christ from Genesis to Revelation. This course provides a big picture which shows how all the parts fit together. ***Prerequisite for all other Bible courses.***

BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics – 3 hours

An introduction to inductive Bible study, including the steps of observation, interpretation (hermeneutics), correlation, and application. Special emphasis is given to the interpretation of various literary genres (such as narrative, wisdom, prophetic, gospel, epistolary, and apocalyptic) and other literary features in Scripture such as parables, types, symbols, and allegories. ***Prerequisite: BIB501 Story of the Bible***

BIB503 Principles and Practice of Exegesis – 2 hours

This course is an advanced and detailed study of the principles of the literal-grammatical-historical method of interpretation and the process of in-depth biblical exegesis. The course introduces students to the techniques of utilizing Bible software to examine syntactical issues in the text and the leverage the interpreter has in making sound exegetical decisions and demonstrating the biblical theology of exegeted passages. ***Prerequisite: BIB502 Bible Study Methods and Hermeneutics***

BIB511 Pentateuch – 2 hours

An analysis of the content, structure, meaning and function of the Pentateuch with respect to the Ancient Near Eastern context. The course will expound texts from various genres embedded within the Pentateuch (e.g., narrative, poetic, and legal) and explore various themes (e.g., covenant, tabernacle, holiness, and sacrifice). The course investigates the origins, development, and impact of various critical approaches to the Pentateuch. It considers the relationship and the relevance of the Pentateuch to the OT and the NT and the contemporary Church in Africa. ***Prerequisite: BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics***

BIB512 Old Testament History and Poetry – 2 hours

An analysis of the content, structure and function of the OT historical and poetical books, Joshua to Song of Solomon, considering the historical, cultural, geographical, and religious background of the historical periods and their relationship to the Ancient Near Eastern context. Emphasis is given to selected themes such as the origin and development of the Hebrew monarchy, the First and Second Temples, and the return from exile. Attention is given to understanding the uniqueness of Hebrew poetry and the literary genre and milieu of wisdom literature in the Ancient Near East, relating it to the wisdom tradition in Africa. ***Prerequisite: BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics***

BIB513 Old Testament Prophets – 2 hours

An exegetical study of the prophetic books focusing on selected passages emphasizing principles of interpreting prophetic literature and homiletical application and exploration of the genre, literary forms, contents, and theological message of the Old Testament prophets. The course will highlight the biblical theology of righteousness, justice, and mercy and other social issues in Israel and their relationship to the contemporary African Church as she deals with issues of social justice, mercy, marginalization, ethnic conflicts, refugees, and peace in Africa. ***Prerequisites: BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics; BIB512 OT History & Poetry***

BIB514 Gospels and the Life of Christ– 2 hours

A study of the three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) in comparison to the Gospel of John with a survey of the life and ministry of Jesus within the context of 1st Century Judaism and exposition of significant teachings and discourses of Jesus. Discussions will include issues of gospel criticism and each gospel writer's distinctive contributions to the understanding of Jesus Christ. *Prerequisite: BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics*

BIB515 Acts and Romans – 2 hours

A historical, expository, and theological study of the Book of Acts and Paul's letter to the Romans using the English text. Attention will be given to the Book of Roman's contribution to the understanding of salvation, sanctification, biblical anthropology, and justification by faith. *Prerequisite: BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics*

BIB516 Pauline Epistles beyond Romans – 2 hours

A historical, expository, and theological study of the other Epistles of Paul: 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. Emphases will be placed on hermeneutical principles of interpreting the epistles' biblical theologies and their application to the Church in Africa. *Prerequisite: BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics*

BIB517 General Epistles and Revelation – 2 hours

An expository and theological study of Hebrews, the General Epistles (James; 1 & 2 Peter; 1, 2, & 3 John; Jude) and Revelation, with emphasis on genres, hermeneutical approaches, and issues in each book. Effort will be made to show application to the African Church today. *Prerequisite: BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics*

BIB671 Independent Study in Bible – 2 hours

Independent study in some topic in biblical studies. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor and/or department.

BIB675 Special Topics in Bible – 2 hours

This course is designed for students who choose to participate in special training or coursework in biblical studies not covered in other courses or need greater depth of study. Enrollment requires the consent of the instructor and/or department.

Christian Education (CED)**CED501 Designing & Leading Effective Ministries** – 3 hours, required for all students.

The purpose of this course is to survey practices and methodology in effective educational ministry and leadership. Attention will be given to methodology for strategic planning, teaching principles, ministry practices, and designing and leading dynamic biblical ministries for the purpose of discipling all ages in church, parachurch, and non-profit organizations. Applications for the Liberian and African context will be considered. *Note: This course was previously named CED532 Educational Ministry of the Church.*

CED512 Church Ministry to Youth & Young Adults – 2 hours, required for all students.

This course establishes the biblical, theological, and sociological foundations of the local church ministry to youth and young adults and applies them to Liberia and Africa. The course considers the nature, characteristics, and values of youth and young adults in the Liberian society, and explores the issues of alcoholism, drug abuse, sexual deviations, illiteracy, unemployment, and their impact on youth and young adults. Necessary principles and skills for a holistic Christian ministry to youth and young adults in Liberia and Africa are developed.

CED671 Independent Study in Christian Education – 2 hours

Independent study in some topic in Christian Education. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor and/or department.

CED675 Special Topics in Christian Education –2 hours

This course is offered as needed to engage with Christian Education topics not covered in other courses or which need greater depth of study. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Enrollment requires the consent of the instructor and/or department.

Church History (CHH)**CHH501 Introduction to Church History – 3 hours**

An overview study of the history of the Christian Church from the First Century to the modern era. Beginning with the book of Acts it traces the theological, political, and cultural developments and challenges of Christianity around the world with special emphasis on the patristic period, the Protestant Reformation, age of revival awakenings, and 19th-20th evangelical mission history.

CHH511 History of Christianity in Africa – 2 hours

This course overviews the history of Christianity in Africa from the New Testament period to the present with particular emphasis on mission history in Africa in the 19th-21st centuries. It studies the theological, cultural, political factors associated with that development and discusses the challenges of mission and cultural adaption of the Christian faith in the Africa.

CHH671 Independent Study in Church History – 2 hours

Independent study on some topic(s) in church history. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor/department.

CHH675 Special Topics in Church History – 2 hours

This course is designed for students who choose to participate in special training or coursework in church history not covered by other courses or need greater depth of study. Enrollment requires consent of the instructor/department.

General Studies (GNS)**GNS501 Graduate English – 2 credit hours, required first semester, first-year course**

This course reviews the basics of English grammar and composition: phrases, clauses, syntax, sentence structure, paragraphing, vocabulary, etc. Students will gain skill in composing paragraphs and academic essays. The course also introduces students to techniques of theological/educational library research for academic purposes.

GNS502 Research and Writing – 2 credit hours, required first-year course for all students

This course gives special attention to discovering, gathering, and organizing print, digital, and other research information sources and methods of evaluating their relevance and quality. Students are further exposed to the skills of reading analytically, note-taking critically and proficiently and ethically documenting sources. A study of the process of academic research (both library and field), research strategies, topic selection, formatting and using computerized databases and bibliographic resources. Attention is given to research writing, documentation, and the use of the Bible as a tool for theological research. **Prerequisite: GNS501.**

GNS503 Spiritual Formation (former 3-credit hour course). Please note that students who have already received credit for this three-hour course have met the Spiritual Formation requirement and do not need to take GNS511, GNS512, or GNS513 listed below.

GNS511 Spiritual Formation 1: Biblical & Theological Foundations – 1 credit hour

This course will establish the biblical and theological basis of spiritual formation, the process of becoming more like Christ in our thoughts, character, and actions. The history of the Church's engagement with spiritual formation will be surveyed with special attention given to contemporary appropriation of key insights and practices from the Church's past.

Required first semester, first-year course.

GNS512 Spiritual Formation 2: Spiritual Disciplines – 1 credit hour

This course will focus on the classical spiritual disciplines including prayer, fasting, biblical meditation, worship, and acts of service. Students will be helped to understand and practice spiritual disciplines that are commended in Scripture and developed through the history of the church. **Required first year, second-semester course.**

GNS513 Spiritual Formation 3: Nurture of Others – 1 credit hour

This course will consider how to assist the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of others in various settings and ways, such as the culture, the congregation, the family, higher education, small groups, and through spiritual direction. **Prerequisites: GNS511 and GNS512, required second year course.**

GNS531 Liberian Realities – 2 hours

A theological, historical, and sociological study of some of the major realities of the Church and society of Liberia. Identifying the path to ethnic and sectional reconciliation, the course gives special attention to the causes and effect of the struggle between Congo and Natives, the issues of Ebola and AIDS, corruption, poverty, illiteracy, tribalism, secret societies, and the semi-caste system in Liberian society. It presents the biblical and theological basis, framework, and vision for the Church to lead in addressing these issues toward cultural and societal transformation.

GNS 771 Independent Study in Spiritual Formation

Independent study in a topic in spiritual formation. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor/department.

GNS 775 Special Topics in Spiritual Formation

This course is designed for students who choose to participate in special training or coursework in spiritual formation not covered by other courses and need greater depth of study. Enrollment requires the consent of the instructor/department.

Systematic Theology (THM)

THM501 Theological Method & Bibliology – 2 hours

This course gives attention to the study of prolegomena (the nature, method, and sources of theology, revelation, especially inspiration, authority, sufficiency, inerrancy, and canonicity of the Bible), including the theology of scripture, God and the Trinity, and their relevant application to the Church in Africa. **Note:** *This course is a prerequisite to all other systematic theology courses.*

THM502 Trinitarianism – 2 hours

A study of the existence and attributes of the one God, the Holy Trinity; the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in Scripture and in Christian history; and the ramifications of Trinitarian belief today. The importance of these doctrines and their application to the Church in contemporary Africa will be emphasized. **Prerequisite:** THM501 *Theological Method & Bibliology*.

THM503 Angelology, Anthropology, & Hamartiology – 2 hours

A study of angelology, the doctrines of the unfallen angels, the fallen angels, and Satan; anthropology, a study of the creation of humanity, the material and immaterial aspects of humanity, and the Fall of humanity; and original and personal sin. The importance of these doctrines and their application to the Church in contemporary Africa will be emphasized. **Prerequisite:** THM501 *Theological Method & Bibliology*.

THM504 Soteriology – 2 hours

This course covers the major biblical doctrine of salvation or Soteriology. Topics thoroughly studied include the grace of God in salvation, election, atonement, efficacious grace, justification, regeneration, and eternal security. The importance of these doctrines and their application to the Church in contemporary Africa will be emphasized. **Prerequisite:** THM501 *Theological Method & Bibliology*.

THM505 Sanctification & Ecclesiology – 2 hours

A study of sanctification, the doctrine of the spiritual life, and ecclesiology, the doctrines of the body of Christ and the local church, including its organization, ministry, ordinances, government, and purpose. The importance of these doctrines and their application to the Church in contemporary Africa will be emphasized. **Prerequisite:** THM501 *Theological Method & Bibliology*.

THM506 Eschatology – 2 hours

A study of eschatology, the doctrine of the consummation of God's plan of redemption, including major themes in eschatology and the order of predicted events. The course will include a review of the biblical creation and redemption narrative, with an opportunity for a synthetic capstone summary of Christian doctrine. **Prerequisite:** THM501 *Theological Method & Bibliology*; **Pre-or-corequisites:** THM502 to THM505.

THM511 Contemporary African Worldview and Theology – 2 hours

This course studies the worldview of the 21st Century African. It considers the historical, philosophical, and theological trends and positions in Liberian and African theologies. It analyzes major themes of African Traditional Religion in lieu of historic Christianity. The course gives special attention to prophecies, poverty and wealth, and the prosperity gospel in Liberia and Africa.

THM521 Doctrinal Assessment – 1 hour

In the final semester, each prospective MDiv graduate will write a personal doctrinal statement reflecting his/her beliefs on each major doctrine. The student will meet with the ESWA faculty to discuss his/her individual statement and future ministry plans. This exit interview will review the student's educational experience at ESWA and affirm and confirm them in their life and future.

THM671 Independent Study in Theology – 2 hours

Independent study in some aspect of theology. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor and/or department.

THM675 Special Topics in Theology – 2 hours

This course is designed for students who choose to participate in special training or coursework in theology not covered by other courses or need greater depth of study. Enrollment requires the consent of the instructor and/or department.

World Missions (WMI)**WMI501 Introduction to World Missions – 2 hours**

This course introduces and establishes the biblical and theological foundations of missions including the centrality of God's universal redemptive purpose (*missio Dei*) from both the Old and New Testaments. Students will process and articulate a biblical perspective on some of the critical theological issues which confront the church and missionaries today and the dynamics of cross-cultural and tribal ministry with focus on the nature and importance of contextualization. Each student will consider their personal role in God's global mission purpose and how to instill in the Church in Liberia a global perspective and engagement.

WMI502 Evangelism & Discipleship – 2 hours

This course studies various strategies for leading people to Christ in Africa and how to mobilize the Church of Liberia for outreach evangelism. Consideration is given to peculiar theories and strategies of effective evangelism in the African context, including ministry to animists, nominal Christians, Muslims, and Traditionalists. Attention is given to reaching people in contemporary urban and rural communities of Liberia, following up and discipling new converts to church membership, and training others for effective personal evangelism.

WMI503 Spiritual Warfare – 2 hours

This course begins with a study of the biblical and theological foundation and experiential reality of spiritual warfare. It exposes the necessary strategies to experience victory over spiritual opposition from the world, the flesh and Satan, his demons, witchcraft and evil systems in Liberia and Africa. Further attention is given to the relationship between spiritual warfare and prayer, deliverance and miracles in Liberia and Africa Christianity.

WMI511 World Religions and Cults – 2 hours

This course focuses on the history, worldview and beliefs of non-Christian religions and cults including Hinduism, various forms of Buddhism, and especially Islam. It explores the challenges of understanding and effective communication of the gospel considering the uniqueness of Christianity in a pluralistic world.

WMI512 Islam – 2 hours

A study of the history, theology, and practice of Islam with a focus on Islamic peoples and culture in Liberia and West Africa. *May substitute for WMI511 World Religions & Cults.*

WMI671 Independent Study in World Missions – 2 hours

Independent study in some topic in world missions. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor and/or department.

WMI675 Special Topics in World Missions – 2 hours

This course is designed for students who choose to participate in special training or coursework in world missions not covered by other courses or need greater depth of study. Enrollment requires the consent of the instructor and/or department.

Biblical Languages: Elective Courses in Greek and Hebrew

GRK701 Functional Greek – 2 hours

A basic study of the Greek alphabet, pronunciation, and noun and verbal systems. Students will develop a basic “functional” level to conduct word studies, use Greek commentaries, use Greek tools, and discern differences between translations to enhance personal Bible study.

GRK711 Elements of Greek I – 3 hours

A study of the language and grammar of the Greek New Testament, with a focus on morphology and a systematic introduction to syntax. It includes vocabulary acquisition and translation from Greek to English, pronunciation of the Greek text and an introduction to the proper use of Bible software and digital resources.

GRK712 Elements of Greek II – 3 hours

A continuation of vocabulary acquisition and functional literacy in the grammar of the Greek New Testament. It includes a study of morphology and syntax in detail, with a focus on exegesis and translation of selected passages.

GRK713 Greek Exegesis (or Greek III) – 3 hours

This course strengthens the student’s Greek exegetical skills with focus on exegetical practice in various New Testament genres. Procedures include outlining the argument of passages, doing word studies, validating exegetical decisions, and using exegetical tools properly.

HEB701 Functional Hebrew – 2 hours

A basic course covering the Hebrew alphabet, pronunciation, and basic grammar systems. Students will develop a basic “functional” ability level to conduct word studies, use Hebrew commentaries, use Hebrew tools, and discern differences between translations to enhance personal Bible study.

HEB711 Biblical Hebrew I – 3 hours

An introduction to basic principles of biblical Hebrew grammar with focus on the nature and structure of the Hebrew language. It includes study of grammar, morphology, pronunciation, vocabulary acquisition, linguistics, and basic syntax leading to beginning translation work.

HEB712 Biblical Hebrew II – 3 hours

A study of Hebrew morphology and syntax as well as an introduction to text criticism and to the basic tools and methods of lexical analysis, including translation of the Book of Jonah, with lexical analysis of key words and syntactical analysis of selected forms, phrases, and clauses.

HEB713 Biblical Hebrew III – 3 hours

An introduction to exegesis of Hebrew narrative and poetry, including a review of Hebrew morphology, syntax, and lexical analysis in conjunction with translation of the Book of Ruth including exegesis of selected prophetic, wisdom, apocalyptic and or legal literature.

Descriptions for MDiv Track Courses

General Education (GED) – Educational Leadership & Ministries Track

GED601 Educational Foundations – 2 hours

This course investigates the foundations of Christian education (emphasizing the biblical, theological, and philosophical foundations) from an evangelical perspective. The student will

lay a foundation for leading educational endeavors within an African context by developing a sound personal philosophy of education.

GED602 Human Development & Ministry – 2 hours

This course is an investigation of developmental psychology and how it relates to the education and formation of people in church, parachurch, and school settings. The course will cover the following topics: (1) the discipline of psychology and how psychological research is conducted; (2) teleological considerations – i.e., the goal of human development; (3) major developmental theories and their application in Christian ministry; (4) development in specific life stages (childhood, adolescence, and adulthood); and (5) applying developmentalism to Christian nurture and ministry.

GED603 Educational Psychology – 3 hours

This course is designed for teachers and school administrators. It is an in-depth analysis of psychological foundations of education with emphasis given to various theories of learning and their applications to the educational practice in Liberia and Africa. It also focuses the issues of cognition, motivation, individual differences, and evaluation and their impact on learning.

GED604 Teaching for Transformation – 2 hours

A study of the various concepts, principles, and methodologies of teaching and learning. Spiritual dynamics of effective teaching will also be considered. This course will guide students in lesson preparation techniques, writing instructional objectives based on general teaching methods, etc. Students will identify the big idea of a biblical text and develop sound lesson plans with age-appropriate cognitive and affective domain lesson aims. These lesson plans will be utilized and taught by the student in GED605 Teaching Practicum. **Prerequisite:** *BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics*.

GED605 Teaching Practicum – 1 hour

A continuation and application of principles discussed in GED604 with the practice of the skills and theory of pedagogy by using creative classroom methods in an actual teaching situation. Students will teach and be evaluated by fellow students and professors. **Prerequisite:** *GED604 Teaching for Transformation and GED606 Media Presentation*.

GED606 Media Presentation – 1 hour

An introduction to digital media presentations in teaching ministry. Emphasis will be placed upon creating aesthetically pleasing media presentations based on sound educational design principles through the proper use of slide presentation software (Microsoft PowerPoint and/or Google Slides). Video and use of other media will also be discussed. Students will utilize software to develop their own media presentation and will be required to teach a biblical principle to the class. **Prerequisite:** *BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics*.

GED611 Teaching Ministry with Children – 2 hours

The course purpose is to equip leaders for local church (or parachurch) ministry with children in West Africa. Emphasis is given to the biblical foundation for children's ministry, the nature and needs of children from birth to age 12, evangelism and spiritual formation, development of age-appropriate, biblical lesson plans and curriculum, effective teaching methods for working with children, and the organization and administration of church (or parachurch) ministry with children. **Prerequisites:** *BIB502 Bible Study Methods & Hermeneutics and GED602 Human Development & Ministry (or approval of ESWA Advisor)*.

GED616 Curriculum Development and Evaluation – 2 hours

An analysis of the principles and stages of curriculum development and design. This course includes the study of task description, motivation, and evaluation with attention to the process of assessment as applied to program evaluation and measurement of achievement in Liberian schools. It assists in acquiring skills in designing valid instruments of evaluation and appropriate use of the findings to enhance school effectiveness in Liberia. The course also considers the influence of gender, economy, politics and culture on the curriculum and its implementation.

GED631 Teaching in Higher Education – 2 hours (elective)

This course introduces students to the philosophy, organization, process, and procedures of designing and teaching academic courses in a university or seminary.

GED635 Administration in Higher Education – 2 hours (elective)

A study of the principles of academic governance, including the nature and function of church-related institutions of higher education, with attention to the responsibilities of leaders in academic affairs, student services, business affairs, development, and general administration.

GED641 Personal Leadership Development – 2 hours (elective)

A study of the dynamics of personal leadership development in a leader's own life and work. The course will help leaders understand the complexities of personal leadership development, including how one's individual personality, temperament, and strengths impact a leader within personal, ministry, parachurch, and other contexts.

GED642 Organizational Leadership – 2 hours (elective)

This course will provide strategies and practices to help leaders understand the complexities of organizational culture, including how to create, discover, and form/transform their organizational culture. Attention will be given to best practices for practical leadership in the African context.

GED651 Educational Guidance and Counseling - 2 hours (elective)

A study of the understanding of career development theories, occupational and educational information sources and systems in Liberia and Africa, career counseling, lifestyle and career decision making. The student will develop skills related to career development planning, program implementation and evaluation.

GED660 ELM Internship – 2 hours

A field-based internship in practical theology, utilizing the dynamics of mentored ministry under an Internship Advisor, which integrates academic learning with character formation and professional competencies. The internship should be completed in one semester (four months), averaging at least 10 hours per week. It includes the clarification of one's calling to ministry, the identification of personal strengths and weaknesses, and the development of character and ministry-specific skills. The Academic Committee must approve the internship. An eight-ten-page paper summarizing the student's experiences and development during the period must be written and discussed with the Internship Advisor. A Philosophy of Educational Ministry must be included in the final paper with an implementation plan for the student's ministry context.

GED671 Independent Study in Education Leadership & Ministries – 2 hours

Independent study in some topic in educational leadership and ministry. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor/department.

GED675 Special Topics in Education Leadership & Ministries – 2 hours

This course is offered as needed to engage with educational leadership and ministry topics not

covered in other courses or which need greater depth of study. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Enrollment requires the consent of the instructor and/or department.

Pastoral Studies (PAS) – Pastoral & Theological Studies Track

PAS601 Pastoral Theology and Leadership – 3 hours

A study of the theology and leadership of the Church, with attention given to the leader's personal development, the core concepts for building Christ's Church including church leadership, values, missions strategy, pastoral care and skill acquisition for the preparation and leadership of corporate worship experiences, church discipline and pastoral care. It explores the biblical and theological nature, significance, and use of music in the contemporary Church in Africa, the ordinances, and other pastoral duties.

PAS602 Expository Preaching – 2 hours

An introduction to basic principles, theories and skills of expositional preaching and teaching, emphasizing sermon preparation. It studies theological development, structure, and the delivery of a textually derived message with accuracy, interest, clarity, and relevance for the Church in Liberia and Africa. Discussion includes the dynamics and challenges of preaching from various genres and sections of Scripture and developing a preaching calendar.

PAS603 Preaching Practicum 1 – 1 hour

A continuation of PAS602 with the practice of the skills of expository biblical preaching with emphasis on advanced homiletic theory and practice. Students preach one expository sermon and are evaluated by fellow students and professors. **Prerequisite:** *PAS602 Expository Preaching*.

PAS604 Preaching Practicum 2 – 1 hour

A continuation of PAS603 with the practice of the skills of topical biblical preaching with emphasis on advanced homiletic theory and practice. Students preach one topical sermon and are evaluated by fellow students and professors. **Prerequisites:** *PAS602 Expository Preaching and PAS603 Preaching Practicum 1*.

PAS605 Pastoral Counseling - 2 hours

This course studies the biblical, theological, and sociological foundations of the pastor's counseling ministry in today's African Church. The study will consider the biblical teaching on how sin and Satan play a role in human personal and relational problems, the nature of men and women, ways of determining and defining problems, and how to adopt counseling practices that are biblically sound and effective and relevant in the context of contemporary Africa.

PAS611 Church Administration – 2 hours

A study of principles, theories and practices of effective Christian leadership and administration within the African context, the evaluation of management theories considering biblical principles and the realities of Christian organizational structures. It emphasizes the ministry of church management primarily from the viewpoint of the pastor, or the CEO of a mission or parachurch organization giving attention to the management cycle of planning, organizing, staffing, and directing. It also considers issues of motivating people, recruiting volunteers, nurturing boards and committees, developing management skills, team leadership and development, interpersonal relationships, communicating vision and mentoring and giving spiritual direction.

PAS612 Church Financial Management – 2 hours

This course is designed for non-financial managers. It establishes the biblical and theological foundations of church finance, the effective and efficient management of personal and church finances in Liberia and modern Africa. It emphasizes the process of making optimal use of the financial resources available to the local church. Principles and strategies of financial control, direction, strategizing, planning, budgeting, and monitoring are studied. It will help develop skills and competencies in making responsible financial decisions, providing leadership in addressing financial matters in the local church, and in determining the ways and manners of applying Church finance for the healthy running of the local church and its different ministries.

PAS621 Church Ministry with Children and Families – 2 hours

This course examines the biblical, theological, and sociological origin of the Christian family in Africa and the nature and characteristics of children born and raised in African homes. It gives special attention to issues related to marriage and Christian family life in Liberia such as marriage custom practices and values; child rearing issues; relationships between the married couple, in-laws, stepchildren/children, and foster parents; divorce/remarriage; and polygamy. It examines the process of conflict in human relationships common in Africa and exposes students to biblical principles and skills for conflict resolution within the Christian home.

PAS630 Contextualized Biblical Communication – 2 hours

A study of how to understand, apply and communicate the Word of God faithfully and effectively in cross-cultural settings as well as in contexts where illiteracy is a factor. The principles of contextualization and orality will be applied to communicating the gospel and biblical truth in contemporary ministry settings in Liberia and Africa.

PAS641 Church Planting – 2 hours

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the biblical, spiritual, cultural, and practical aspects of church planting in the African context as an expression of the gospel (including ministry to animists, nominal Christians, Muslims, and Traditionalists). Attention is given to reaching people in contemporary urban and rural communities of Liberia and church planting in their communities.

PAS646 Church and Community Development – 2 hours

A study of the biblical and theological foundations and principles for Christian community development as integral to the mission of the Church in Liberia and Africa. It gives attention to the theology of work and faith, the theological foundations and practices for designing and operating an entrepreneurial venture, while considering the issues of poverty, unemployment and empowerment in Liberia and Africa.

PAS651 Theology and Practice of Worship – 2 hours (elective only)

A study of the theology, biblical teaching, and history of worship. Attention will be given to practical applications to the evangelical church, as well as the role of the worship leader in prayer, praise, music, or other expression in the African church context.

PAS655 Theology and Practice of Prayer – 2 hours (elective only)

A thorough treatment of the biblical teaching on prayer and intercession, including a challenge to personal prayer renewal and corporate prayer engagement.

PAS660 Internship - 2 hours

A field-based internship in practical theology, utilizing the dynamics of mentored ministry under an Internship Advisor, which integrates academic learning with character formation and professional competencies. The internship should be completed in one semester (four months),

averaging at least 10 hours per week. It includes the clarification of one's calling to ministry, the identification of personal strengths and weaknesses, and the development of character and ministry-specific skills. The Academic Committee must approve the internship. An eight-ten-page paper summarizing the student's experiences and development during the period must be written and discussed with the Internship Advisor. A Philosophy of Pastoral Ministry must be included in the final paper with an implementation plan for the student's ministry context.

PAS671 Independent Study in Pastoral Studies – 2 hours

Independent study in some topic in pastoral ministry. Limited to advanced students and subject to the consent of the instructor/department.

PAS675 Special Topics in Pastoral Studies – 2 hours

This course is offered as needed to engage with pastoral ministry topics not covered in other courses or which need greater depth of study. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Enrollment requires the consent of the instructor and/or department.

Capstone Project Options

Each student will complete a capstone project by integrating and applying the knowledge and skills acquired through his or her studies to a real-world problem or comprehensive research project. Students have two options to satisfy the requirement for this culminating assignment.

Option #1: Summative Research Project Plus Additional Elective

GED681/PAS681 Summative Research Project – 2 hours

The academic capstone exercise provides guidance for advanced research methods and an opportunity for writing a summative academic research paper within the MDIV degree program. The research project should be 20 to 25 pages in length, not including the title page and bibliography, and must be carefully researched, well-written, and conform to ESWA Style Manual and Kate Turabian 9th edition style requirements.

Based on topic selection, students will be assigned one faculty reader. Students must meet with the faculty reader during the semester to discuss the research paper topic, argument, and outline. The student is responsible to work with their reader to make the necessary arrangements and meet required deadlines.

GED/PAS Elective – 2 hours

Students who choose to complete a Summative Research Project instead of a thesis must take one additional elective (2 credit hours) to meet graduation requirements.

Option #2: Thesis

This option is only available to students having at least a 3.0 GPA entering their final year of study.

GED691/PAS691 – Thesis Methodology & Proposal – 2 hours (1st term of graduation year)

This course will review sound research methodology and guide students in selection of a thesis research topic. Thesis topics must be approved by faculty and relate to the student's current or prospective ministry context. Once approved, each thesis student will submit a formal proposal, abstract, and write the introduction (chapter one) and literature review (chapter two) of their thesis project. ESWA Turabian format must be followed, and thesis proposals must include a

bibliography. Failure to satisfactorily complete this course will result in the student not being allowed to continue with the thesis option but being required to complete capstone project option #1 (summative research project).

GED692/PAS692 Thesis – 2 hours (2nd term of graduation year)

A thesis is required for Master of Divinity candidates selecting Capstone Project Option #2. The thesis will be written as a continuation of the student's Thesis Proposal chosen in the prerequisite GED691/PAS691 course and must relate to the student's current or prospective ministry context. The thesis should be **at least** 50 pages (12,500 words) in length and demonstrate the student's ability to design a viable research project, pursue the research in relative independence, and write with clarity and force. Acceptable theses should go beyond the description of data and include critical evaluation and analysis of results. Theses will be written in ESWA Turabian format and completed under the supervision of a faculty advisor within one calendar year. **Prerequisite:** *GED691/PAS691 Thesis Methodology & Proposal*.

GED693/PAS693 Thesis Continuation – 1 hour (only as needed)

If a student does not submit their thesis successfully before the graduation deadlines, then they will take this course to complete their work to meet MDIV degree requirements during the next semester.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION & POLICIES

Admissions

Nondiscrimination Admission Policy

The Evangelical Seminary of West Africa (ESWA) admits students of any race, color, gender, nationality, age, disability, or ethnic background to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities accorded students of ESWA. It does not discriminate based on race, color, gender, nationality, age, disability, or ethnic background in its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship, and other school-administered programs.

General Requirements

1. Completed application packet for enrollment including student contact information, medical information, etc.
2. A baccalaureate degree holder from a recognized institution with a minimum GPA of 2.00. Documentation of degree completion and credentials are required. Submission of original transcripts and photocopies of diplomas from all academic institutions attended and other credentials are required for admission with copies to be kept on file upon enrollment.
3. Passing scores on the ESWA placement examinations (including both Bible and English entrance exams). All applicants must be able to read, write, speak, and understand the English language with a high degree of proficiency.
4. Submission of an autobiographical essay (3-4 pages) documenting conversion, spiritual growth, and personal ministry involvement.
5. Submission of three references:
 - From the Academic Dean or VP for Student Affairs (or equivalent) from former school
 - From the leadership of the local church where the applicant currently attends
 - From a community leader or present employer
6. Testimony to and demonstrated evidence of a divine call to Christian ministry.
7. Exhibition of mature Christian character and demonstrated and confirmed potential for continual intellectual and spiritual growth.
8. Submission of ESWA form with your personal statement of spousal approval of study plan.

The Application Process

ESWA welcomes application from all who meet the admission requirements. The application process begins with the purchase of an official admission package from the Admissions Office (or Registrar). Each applicant will complete the forms and return them with all the required documents to the Admissions Office (or the Registrar). Once all documents and forms have been received and the prospective student has successfully completed the entrance exams, then a new student interview will be held with members of our Admissions Committee.

Copies of all credentials, forms, and documents presented to ESWA will be kept on file and become the property of ESWA. When completing the application, applicants should include information about personal and academic circumstances that would be helpful in the evaluation of his or her profile. **No applicant will be admitted to the Master of Divinity program without proper documents, transcripts, and credentials, the approval of the Admissions Committee, and an official letter of admission from the Admissions Office.**

Provisional Admission

In rare, special cases, a highly recommended student who scored below passing on either one of the entrance exams may be admitted on a provisional basis with the approval of the Admissions Committee and the V.P. for Academic Affairs or President. Provisionally admitted students may not enroll in more than nine credit hours and must maintain a minimum of 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA) in their first semester. Provisional students must pass all coursework, especially GNS501 Graduate English and GNS502 Research & Writing to continue studies at ESWA.

Registration

Students may not be admitted to class without formal registration for each course. Students are expected to register at the time(s) specified on the academic calendar. Students should register during preregistration or at least one week before the start of a new class. **Failure to register in a timely manner will result in a \$15 USD late registration charge.** New students who have been admitted to the program may register during or just after New Student Orientation the week but before the new semester or academic year begins.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

- All students who are not registered for courses **before the first class session** will incur a late registration fee of **\$15 USD**.
- Also, students will **NOT** be allowed to attend class without proof of official registration.

Registration for all ESWA courses follows the following process:

1. **Academic Advising & Course Registration Form:** Students must meet with their assigned academic advisor (Education Specialist, VP Academic Affairs, or President) for counsel regarding courses offered and needed for their degree program. Students complete a course registration form to sign up for semester courses. This form must be signed by their academic advisor.
2. **Finance Office/Fee Payment:** Students registering for courses bring their completed registration form to the Finance Office and make payment for tuition and fees. Once payment for tuition/fees is credited to student accounts, the finance office will stamp and sign the Course Registration Form and issue a receipt.
3. **Gradelink Course Enrollment:** The signed/stamped Course Registration Form will be brought to the Gradelink Administrator who will officially enroll the student in courses

- listed on the signed/stamped course registration form. The Gradelink Administrator will sign the form also. Students may obtain a copy of their student schedule at this time.
4. Registrar Signature and Copies: The Registrar will receive a copy of the signed/stamped Course Registration Form for the Academic Office Files. A photocopy of all paperwork will be provided for each student.

Add/Drop Procedures and Deadlines

Students who wish to add or drop a course from their schedule should follow the same process as listed above when registering for a course.

Students may not miss more than 25% of class instructional time and receive credit for a course. Therefore, for a two-credit class the following deadlines for add/drops will be strictly observed.

See table on next page.

Type of Class	Deadline for Adding Course
One-week intensive block courses	Adds are only allowed before the start of the 2nd class day. Drops must be completed by the 3rd class session.
Two-week intensive block course	Adds are allowed up to the end of the day of the 2nd class session. Drops must be completed by the end of the 1 st week of class.
Three-week intensive block course.	Adds are allowed up to the end of the day of the 3rd class session. Drops must be completed before 1st day of the 2nd week of class.
For courses four-weeks long or traditional semester-long courses	Adds are allowed up to the 4th class session. Drops must be completed by the beginning of the third week.

Withdrawal from One or More Courses (after add/drop deadline)

If the add/drop deadline is past and a student is unable to attend at least 25% of course sessions for any reason (special circumstances or illness), then the student must officially withdraw from the course. They must come to ESWA, meet with their academic advisor or the Registrar, and officially withdraw from the course. Students must complete a written course withdrawal form. In an unusual case of travel out of country or serious illness resulting in the student's inability to complete a course withdrawal form, the student may be granted permission to withdraw so long as the official request authorizing this action is made in writing listing the course code, course name, and semester. In extreme situations an email may suffice as an official written request.

Students who withdraw from a course after the official add/drop deadline will not receive credit for the course and will have this recorded as a W (withdrawal) or WP (withdraw passing) on their official ESWA transcript. Students may retake the course to receive credit upon their return to ESWA in a subsequent semester.

However, if students wish to withdraw but fail to officially withdraw from a course before 75% of class sessions are completed, then they will receive the grade earned in the course, typically a failing grade (F). Note that any incomplete grades at the end of a semester become Fs on a student's transcript. Therefore, it is imperative that students take care to add/drop or officially withdraw from courses they are unable to complete.

Auditing Courses

Students may also audit courses at ESWA for reduced tuition (\$35 USD per credit hour). Students who wish to audit a course are encouraged to attend all class sessions. Auditing students are not required to complete all assignments given by the professor. Students who audit courses should be quiet observers sitting in the back of the classroom to allow those students who are taking the course for credit to sit in the front so they may participate more fully and successfully complete course requirements. Those who audit the course will receive an AU (audit) on their official transcript to show that they attended the class for audit. A grade of AU does not factor into a student's GPA or fulfill any course credit requirements.

Advanced Standing

A student can apply for advanced standing if he/she has completed a 4-year Bachelor's Degree in Bible and Theology from an accredited institution with a grade of "B+" or better in their relevant course work. That student may be eligible to receive 12 to 16 hours toward the Master of Divinity, provided he/she passes the ESWA proficiency examinations for each course for which he/she desires advanced standing. Application for advanced standing is to be submitted to the Registrar at the time of admission into the program. The application for advanced standing must be approved by the Registrar and the Vice President for Academic Affairs before the credits are awarded.

Transfer of Credit

Course credits may be transferred from other recognized graduate theological institutions provided the course was taught at the level of ESWA's stated requirements. Student wishing to transfer must have earned at least a grade of "B minus" on each course to be transferred. A maximum of 30 hours may be transferred to the ESWA Master of Divinity program. Courses applied toward a degree already awarded by another institution cannot be transferred. One-credit courses are not transferable.

International Students

ESWA welcomes the presence of qualified students from other countries of West Africa and beyond. It is the conviction of the ESWA Administration and Faculty that international students enhance the cultural, intellectual, and spiritual atmosphere of the Seminary. Their diversity of experiences and perspectives add color and beauty to the ESWA community.

International applicants should consult the nearest Liberian consulate or embassy regarding study in Liberia. All international applicants must be able to read, write, speak, and understand the English language with a high degree of proficiency.

In addition, international applicants must also consider the following:

1. language requirements, financial requirements, and visa requirements;
2. submission of a letter requesting admission information six months prior to the actual application for admission;
3. provision of necessary preliminary documentation demonstrating that a prospective international student has identified sources of funding for both education and living expenses while studying at ESWA; and
4. formal application for program admission will be sent only after items listed above are satisfied by the prospective international student and are approved by ESWA.

International applicants must demonstrate how all expenses related to education, travel, and living will be paid prior to issuing a student visa. Living expenses total about \$2,000 USD

annually in addition to the costs of education (tuition, fees, and books).

Readmission

1. Any student who leaves ESWA or has been released for academic or non-academic reasons must apply for readmission through the Office of Admissions if that student wishes to continue studies at ESWA.
2. Any student who leaves for financial reasons must pay off all outstanding bills before he/she will be considered for readmission.
3. Any academically dismissed student who is applying for readmission shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
4. Students who are readmitted shall be subject to the catalog requirements in effect at the time of readmission, unless approved for program completion.

Class Attendance

Class attendance and participation are an important part of the academic process and should be considered a privilege and a responsibility. Absences should only be taken for unavoidable, important, and emergency reasons. Students are expected to arrange their schedules and transport to campus to allow them to be on time for all classes. Instructors and professors may also give a portion of the class grade for attendance and participation. Students who are late or absent may have their grade reduced accordingly. Furthermore, students who are late, missing more than 30 minutes of a class session, or who fall asleep in class may be counted absent for the day.

In the event of lateness or absence due to sickness, bereavement, or other valid reasons, students must contact their instructor by phone, text, or email (beforehand or as soon as possible). Also, to receive credit to pass any ESWA course, students must attend at least 75% of the scheduled class session meeting times. Thus, students are not allowed to miss more than 25% of class time and still pass the class.

In the event of an extended sickness or conflict, students should officially drop the class (if within the allotted time) or, if beyond the add/drop window, they may withdraw from the course (W on transcript). Students who fail to attend 75% of class sessions and do not drop or withdraw will receive an F for the course.

Academic Policies

Course Syllabi

Students will receive a course syllabus from their instructor (or syllabus will be posted in Gradelink SIS) at the beginning of each course. The course description, expected learning outcomes, assignments, reading requirements, class policies, and grading criteria for each course are listed in the syllabus. Students are held accountable to and expected to read and abide by policies set forth in the professor or instructor's syllabus.

Course Papers

Unless otherwise specified by the professors in individual courses, all course papers and theses must be typewritten and in thesis form in conformity to the *ESWA Research Manual of Style*, August 2025 ed., the standards outlined in *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. by Kate L. Turabian, and any supplemental instructions as authorized by the faculty.

Cheating

At ESWA, cheating is classified as any act (whether successful or attempted) in which a student is dishonest or seeks to gain an unfair advantage on an assignment, quiz, research paper, examination, class work, etc. Some common forms of cheating include:

1. Using unauthorized material during an examination or other assignments.
2. Copying coursework material (reading reports, research paper, etc.) from another student. In this case, both the student who copies and the student who permits his/her coursework to be copied are guilty of academic infraction and subject to discipline.
3. The hiring of an impersonator to sit an examination or write any course requirement (reading report, research paper, critique, or thesis).
4. Submitting the same assignment in more than one class.
5. Lying or misrepresenting the truth to obtain an excused absence, extension on an assignment, makeup examination, or admission to a class or program.
6. Inappropriate collaboration on classroom assignments.
7. Assisting others in academic misconduct.

Plagiarism

ESWA's goal is to set a standard of academic excellence that honors and glorifies Christ Jesus. The most severe form of plagiarism involves copying another person's work with the fraudulent and corrupt intention to deceive others by presenting that other person's work as one's own. **Thus, plagiarism is both cheating and stealing.** One example of this is cutting and pasting any amount of content from a source directly into your paper without quotations or citations. Plagiarism is unethical, unacceptable, and a sin.

Plagiarism also may involve copying information, data, or another person's ideas and words and presenting them as one's own in an academic assignment without proper acknowledgement of the source. When information, words, or ideas of others are used, they should be properly credited and cited in accordance with the documentation format of ESWA.

Intentional plagiarism is unethical and constitutes a serious infraction of academic policy at ESWA. The penalty will include loss of credit for the assignment and repeated infractions may result in probation or dismissal from ESWA. Plagiarism can occur unintentionally if students make errors in quotation citations or paraphrasing or fail to properly reference content or ideas. **However, whether intentional (very serious) or unintentional, plagiarism is serious and will be penalized.**

Policy on Use of Computer Software and Internet Paper Correcting Programs

ESWA is committed to helping students become effective writers of academic research papers and all forms of written communication. We allow students to use spelling and grammar correction software in Microsoft Word. However, we forbid using internet programs that write or assist in rewriting student papers, such as artificial intelligence (AI) text generators such as ChatGPT or Grammarly. We believe this balance on how to use technology helps students improve their written communication skills. Students are expected to abide by this policy. Any violation will be treated with the same gravity as plagiarism, including loss of credit for the assignment.

Note that professors and faculty may employ the use of online plagiarism and AI prevention checkers when grading assignments submitted by ESWA students. It is the responsibility of the student to be vigilant to guard against any form of plagiarism or academic misconduct.

Consequences & Disciplinary Action for an Academic Offense

ESWA demands that all students and professors observe complete honesty in all academic

matters. Any form of academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and any form of cheating must be reported in writing to a member of the ESWA Academic Committee (Vice President for Academic Affairs, President, Registrar, and Education Specialist) by the instructor or examination supervisor. Academic dishonesty shall incur the following disciplinary actions:

1. A grade of “F” shall be given for a course when cheating occurs on an examination or in the case of plagiarism. In addition, the offender shall be referred to the Vice President for Student Affairs Office for counseling and a member of the Academic Committee;
2. A counseling and disciplinary note regarding the event, counseling session, and outcome will be entered into Gradelink for monitoring and accountability purposes; and
3. In the event of a repeated academic offense (in either examination malpractice, cheating, or plagiarism), the offender may be suspended for one semester or even permanently expelled from the Seminary, depending on the gravity of the case. An updated disciplinary action comment will be entered into Gradelink on the student’s permanent academic record.

Grades, Graduation, and Withdrawal

All final grades are reported to students in written form by the Registrar’s and/or Academic Office. However, with ESWA’s new Student Information System (SIS), Gradelink, students may log in and see their grades and receive feedback as they progress through a course and their instructors post grades for assignments and tests. Once a course is concluded, it will be included in their unofficial transcript in Gradelink. Students may access their unofficial transcript only if the Gradelink Administrator grants this option. However, students may request a printed copy of their unofficial transcript from the Registrar or Gradelink Administrator.

The minimum passing grade at ESWA is C minus. Therefore, any required course in which a student receives a lower grade (F or NC) must be repeated with the approval of the VP for Academic Affairs, student Academic Advisor, or the President. If a course is repeated, the previous grade will be replaced by an “R” on the student’s transcript (original grade not credited or averaged in GPA). The new grade for the course will be recorded on the student’s transcript and recorded for the semester that it was retaken for credit. An ESWA course may NOT be retaken more than once without approval of the President or Vice President for Academic Affairs).

The Evangelical Seminary of West Africa has adopted the 4.00 grade point system which is used to compute all the grades of students. Final grade averages which contain a numerical average ending with a decimal point of five or above in the tenths place are automatically rounded up to the next whole number by the Gradelink SIS. For example, a final grade average of 93.5 would be rounded up to 94, and a letter grade of A-minus would be recorded on the student’s official transcript. **The numerical equivalent of each letter grade is as follows:**

Percent	Grade	Grade Point Equivalency			
99 - 100	A+	4.00	86 - 88	B-	2.70
96 – 98	A	4.00	83 – 85	C+	2.30
94 - 95	A-	3.70	80 - 82	C	2.00
92 - 93	B+	3.30	77 - 79	C-	1.70
89 - 91	B	3.00	76 - 0	F	0.00

Alternative Grade Codes: CR (Credit), NC (No Credit), AU (Audit), R (Retaken), INC (Incomplete equivalent to a temporary F), W (Withdrawal), WP (Withdrawal Passing)

Graduation with Honors

To qualify for graduation with the Evangelical Seminary of West Africa honors (cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude), a student:

1. Must meet all requirements for the Master of Divinity degree.
2. Must earn a minimum of 60 semester graduate credit hours from ESWA.
3. Must demonstrate a high level of Christian maturity and leadership.
4. Must have the appropriate minimum cumulative grades point average (including transfer credits) which meet honors requirements.
 - cum laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.30
 - magna cum laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50
 - summa cum laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.80

Graduation honors are based on all work completed at ESWA, as well as applicable transfer credits. The official Seminary transcript will carry the appropriate honors designation based on all work completed at ESWA.

Probation

A student studying at ESWA must maintain a 2.00 minimum GPA at the end of every block or semester. If a student's GPA falls below the required standard, that student will be placed on probation. Probation status may result in loss of student scholarships. The affected student will have one academic year to raise his/her cumulative GPA. If unsuccessful, the student may be recommended for dismissal by the Academic Committee.

Students dismissed for academic reasons may apply for re-admission to the program. However, they must commence such studies at the beginning of the program and forfeit all previous grades for courses attempted that block/semester. A second dismissal is terminal.

Student Withdrawal from ESWA

If a student wants to withdraw from ESWA, he/she must contact the Office of Admissions and Records and provide official notification and follow the withdrawal policy. A student can withdraw from ESWA under one of three categories: Withdrawal on Transfer Basis, Withdrawal on Temporary Basis or Withdrawal on Terminal Basis. If a student withdraws from ESWA in the middle of a module, whether the student completes the official withdrawal process or by dropping the class, the student will forfeit all grades awarded for the module.

1. **Withdrawal on Transfer Basis:** A student may transfer credits from ESWA to another institution provided the student's program has not been terminated by ESWA. The student must submit a written request to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and copy the Office of Admissions and Records to withdraw from ESWA and transfer to another institution. The students must satisfy all obligations to ESWA, including the cost of sending transcripts to another institution. Acceptance of such credits is at the discretion of the other institution.
2. **Withdrawal on Temporary Basis:** For reasons deemed justifiable to the Vice President of Academic Affairs (e.g., health, finance, etc.), a student may formally request withdrawal from ESWA. The application shall contain the reasons(s) for temporary withdrawal and plans for returning to complete the program within a time limit that does not exceed the maximum duration of time allowed for the program. An application seeking readmission to the Vice President for Academic Affairs or President is required to effect readmission into the program. A copy of the application must be sent to the Office of Admissions and Records.
3. **Withdrawal on Terminal Basis:** A student may withdraw permanently or be terminated when it becomes apparent that continuation is untenable (practically,

morally, or academically). A student who is discharged may not resume studies later except by applying afresh. A person who has been discharged on a terminal basis is not likely to be readmitted based on a fresh application unless there is clear evidence of change in the circumstance that necessitated the terminal discharge.

Graduation and Commencement

Prospective graduates of ESWA are responsible to complete the Graduation Process and meet the Graduation Requirements listed below.

Graduation Process:

1. Verify that all Graduation Requirements have been met or are in progress.
2. Submit an application for graduation before the deadline announced by the Academic Committee or Registrar.
3. Pay the Graduation Fee.

Graduation Requirements:

1. Successfully complete all academic program requirements.
2. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00.
3. Demonstrate a commendable spiritual life and Christian character and display approved conduct in accordance with ESWA's guidelines.
4. Have an exit interview with the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
5. Receive approval to graduate from the Registrar, the Seminary faculty, and the Board of Governors.
6. Settle all financial obligations to the Seminary.

Students who have applied for graduation but do not complete all requirements:

1. Will not graduate or be eligible to participate in the commencement ceremony.
2. Must notify the Registrar of their new graduation date and plan to complete their remaining requirements.
3. Must reapply for graduation and repay the graduation fee in the semester they complete all graduation requirements.

Financial Information and Policies

Tuition and Fees

All students are expected to become familiar with the financial obligations they will incur while attending the ESWA. Students are required to pay full tuition and fees for every semester and or modular. Fees are charged for services (library, internet, electricity), including administrative charges. Each student enrolled in ESWA is responsible for personal transportation, accommodation, feeding, books, and stationery. Each student is required to pay 100% before participating in a course. All tuition and fees are payable in United States dollars.

FEES	LIBERIAN	FOREIGN STUDENT
Admission Package	35.00	75.00
Registration Fee (per semester)	200.00	150.00
Tuition (per credit hour as of 1/1/22)	75.00	100.00
Audit (per credit hour)	35.00	35.00
Readmission	25.00	25.00

Services Fees (included in Registration fee per semester)

1. Electricity per semester	30.00	40.00
2. Internet per semester	30.00	40.00
3. Library	20.00	30.00
4. Security	10.00	20.00
5. Water and sanitation	10.00	20.00
Graduation Fee	300.00	300.00

General Student Policies

Electronic Device Etiquette During Class Time

The following statement from the “*Dallas Theological Seminary 2023–24 Student Handbook*” will be adopted for ESWA: *"Students should refrain from using cell phones, laptop computers, or other devices in a manner that distracts others in the class. Activities such as playing games, browsing the internet, using email, instant messaging, and text messaging are considered unacceptable when class is in session, either in-person or through video conferencing. Unless permitted by the professor, students should turn off all electronic devices during tests and quizzes (1.13.1)."*

Policy Regarding Children on Campus

As evangelical Christians, we at ESWA love children as they hold a special place in God’s heart. However, ESWA is an academic and professional environment. SIM and ELWA campus policy forbids any unattended or unsupervised children on the ELWA campus.

Furthermore, ESWA is an academic environment of higher education, research, and a training ground for pastors, teachers, and church leaders. Thus, frequent visits of children should be restricted. Additionally, ESWA staff and faculty should never be asked to babysit your children while on campus. ESWA staff and faculty are working as professionals in their offices and on campus and should not be distracted away from their official duties while at work.

Just as workers must make personal arrangements for their children’s childcare, ESWA students are expected to do likewise. Thus, please do not bring your children to ESWA and leave them unattended while you attend class sessions. Be responsible and make good arrangements for their proper care at home or school. If your child is too sick to attend school or stay at home with a nurse, then you should email or text/call your professor explaining the situation and the need for you to stay home with your child that day. This would be considered an excused absence (like a personal illness) in this case.

Policy Regarding Food and Drinks on Campus

We are thankful for our beautiful new campus, and we wish to keep it clean and free of flies, roaches, and vermin. Therefore, the new ESWA policy is that food and drinks are not allowed in ESWA classrooms, the Research Center, or the offices. Closed water bottles or non-sugary drinks in a sealed container are allowed in the classrooms and offices. Students may eat in the Palava Hut. Please clean up after yourself and throw all waste into the trash cans provided. For special events, exceptions may be made for this rule by the President or Management Team.

Student Life

Spiritual Development

At ESWA, character formation and spiritual maturity of the men and women called to be light, who will transform the world, is of high priority. It is our conviction that, if the people

trained at ESWA are to transform Africa and the rest of the world, they must allow the light of God's Word to shine brightly in their hearts. Preparing for ministry at ESWA provides an opportunity and environment for spiritual development.

Chapel

Worship is at the center of both the Christian life and the ESWA community. ESWA staff holds prayer meetings each morning. Students and faculty participate in periodic chapel services (alternating weeks during the semester). Under the supervision of the Vice President for Student Affairs, a team of student leaders plan diverse expressions of praise designed to give glory to God. The Bible is central to all our worship as gifted faculty members, students, and other leaders from Liberia, Africa and the world help us to engage with God and his Word.

Spiritual Formation Small Group Participation

On alternate weeks, ESWA students will meet in assigned small groups with a group facilitator for personal spiritual formation, accountability, prayer, sharing together, and relationship building.

Seminars and Conferences

ESWA will be involved in the Christian community in Liberia and hold special conferences and periodic seminars like pastor and church leader training, mission conferences, leadership conferences, and theological and educational lecture series.

Student Government and Student Groups

ESWA offers students the opportunity for the hosting of several groups that provide leadership opportunities and fellowship among students. Student leadership of Student Government is encouraged and is initiated by the student body in conjunction with the Vice President for Student Affairs Office. Other organizations may be formed at student initiative and under student leadership. Seminary Missions Fellowship and Seminary Wives Fellowship are examples of possible groups. The list of official student groups may alternate from year to year.

Student Conduct

Though we live a rapidly changing world, the Christian has an unchanging standard, God's Word. ESWA standards of conduct are based on the teaching and principles of Scripture, seeking to develop personal holiness and discipline exemplified in a lifestyle glorifying to God. For these reasons, students enrolled at ESWA are required to refrain from the following activities: use of any tobacco products, consumption of alcoholic beverages and non-medicinal narcotic drugs, gambling, and the reading or viewing of obscene or pornographic material. Members of the ESWA community are expected to use discernment in making choices concerning music, drama, dance, comedy, literature, television, and movies. Students should avoid every appearance of dishonesty, deception, lack of integrity, immorality, abusive speech, and impropriety.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is in keeping with a good Christian testimony, including modesty in dress and appearance. Classroom dress should be fitting for those who are preparing for professional ministry.

ESWA reserves the right to require the withdrawal of any student whose behavior conflicts with these standards. Individuals who do not fit in with the objectives and ideals of ESWA may be asked to withdraw whenever the general welfare demands it, even though there may be no specific breach of contract.

Student Government

The ESWA Student Council is elected by active students every September. The Student Council, under the supervision of a faculty member, is the official liaison between the Seminary administration and the student body. Its duties shall include but are not limited to implementation of ESWA's policies and rules among the students. It shall represent students before the ESWA administration in a manner befitting a godly servant-leaders. They shall interact with their counterparts in the other phases of the extracurricular life of the ESWA student body. Leaders from active student groups shall participate in Student Council as well.

Student Services

To make studying at ESWA a memorable and joyous experience, the Seminary provides a few but important services to the community.

Electricity

Despite the problem with electricity in Liberia, ESWA has secured power supply from the Liberia Electricity Corporation, (LEC). Furthermore, the ELWA campus has backup generators. In addition, ESWA has a 30 KVA generator for further backup. However, in the case of fluctuations or switching between LEC and generator power, make sure to use surge protectors or UPS devices with all computers and personal devices to protect them from harm.

Richard and Carol Calenberg Research Center (and Library)

The library is at the heart of tertiary education, especially at the master's level. The Calenberg Research Center currently has about 9859 volumes and is the premier library for theological research in Liberia. The list of holdings is accessible online on OPAL at <https://eswa-sim.skathi.opalsinfo.net/bin/home>.

Library Etiquette: Please adhere to the following guidelines in the library.

1. Follow all directions given by library staff or the Research Center Director.
2. Work in the library quietly, without disturbing others who are studying or completing assignments. Refrain from talking in the library.
3. Silence your phone or put electronic devices on vibrate. You may not receive or make any phone calls when inside the library.
4. Do not eat or drink (other than sealed bottled water) in the library.
5. Do not write in or highlight books. You may use sticky notes if you remove them later.
6. Do not bend pages of books, fold corners, or place papers in the binding of books. Never tear out pages of a library book or resource.
7. Follow all procedures for returning or reshelving books and resources in the library.
8. Follow all guidelines regarding checking out books and make sure to return the books in good condition and on time.
9. Be good stewards of the library resources and materials as a Christlike servant leader.
10. Push in your chair when you are finished studying and about to leave the library.

Computer Lab and Internet Services

The Seminary has a computer lab and provides on campus internet services for all students, faculty, and staff.

Computer Lab Etiquette

The ESWA computer lab has eight workstations for students to use with productivity software (including software for word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations). Please be a good steward of all ESWA computers and devices. No food or drink is allowed in the computer lab. Students should work quietly and ask questions of the IT Supervisor or instructor if they need assistance. All instructions given by our IT Supervisor must be followed. Each ESWA student using the lab should have their own USB thumb drive (pen drive).

Save your work often (every 15 minutes on your own thumb drive (pen drive)). When you are finished using a computer, always save your work on your own USB thumb drive and log out of all your personal accounts. Do not save your work or papers on the ESWA computer lab hard drives. Also, if you logged into Gradelink or your own personal email account on a school computer, you must never save your login information on the ESWA device. Furthermore, you must always log out before leaving the computer lab. After you log out, push in your chair and leave the area neat and tidy.

Security

ELWA security guards monitor the front gate entry and communicate with ESWA personnel to restrict campus access to students, faculty, staff, and invited guests of the seminary. Faculty and staff should wear their ID badges when on campus. ESWA has monitors and reception areas for each building. Each visitors who is cleared for entry by ELWA security and the ESWA monitors will receive a visitor's badge and must sign in and out upon arrival/departure from ESWA. These monitors can communicate via walkie talkie radios with each other and directly to ELWA security at the guardhouse. ESWA has made available a secure parking lot for both students and staff.

ESWA Board of Directors

Name	Position	Profile
Rev. Aberdeen F. Gargli, MEd	Acting Chair, Director of Education, ECOL Vice Chair	
Dr. Gary L. McKnight	Secretary	President of ESWA
Mr. Curtis Dabieh, MSc	Treasurer	Businessman
Dr. Nicolas Piaget	Member	Liberia Country Director, SIM
Mrs. Rebecca Zeyoe, MEd	Member	Counselor, BCMS
Mrs. Martha Partor, MEd	Member	Principal Frontline Baptist School
Rev. James D. McCarthy, MA	Member	President, Evangelical Free Church of West Africa
Rev. Othello Paye	Member	Vice President, United Liberia Inland Church
Rev. Kokeh Kotee, MABS	Member	Pastor, Christian Fellowship Church
Cllr. Abraham Eldine, LLB	Member	Lawyer
Rev. George Lavien	Member	Vice President, Koinonia Baptist Association

ESWA Management Team

Name	Qualification	Position
Dr. Gary L. McKnight	PhD, DMin	President, Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs
Rev. Dr. Jacob A. B. Vambo, III	DMin	Vice President for Student Affairs
Rev. Benjamin Wuo Suah, Sr.	MDiv (PhD Cand.)	Human Resources Manager
Rev. Garbleejay A. Yeahgar,	MDiv	Director of Administration
Mr. Morris D. Teah	MBA	Chief Finance Officer

ESWA Academic Office Team

Dr. Gary L. McKnight	PhD, DMin	President, Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs
Rev. Titus Sehwon Namen	MDiv	Registrar & Admissions
Mrs. Elizabeth McKnight	MACE, MS	Education Specialist, Gradelink Admin, & Academic Advising

ESWA Staff

Rev. Ugo E. Peterson	MDiv (PhD Cand.)	Research Center Director
Rev. Washington A. Kolleh	BRE	IT Supervisor
Mr. Dio Harris	BS	Accountant
Mr. Musa Sheriff	MDiv	Director of Services & Maintenance
Mrs. Coretta King Dabieh	BA	Receptionist/Secretary/Events
Mr. Michael J. Vansay		Driver

THE ACADEMIC FACULTY

Rev. G. Eugene Brooks	Biblical Studies, Graduate English, Evangelism & Discipleship BA, Presbyterian College, 1992; MA, Fuller Theological Seminary, 1998; MDiv, Southeastern Baptist Seminary, 2009.
Dr. Tom Bulick	Eschatology, Theology ThB, Baptist Bible College, 1967; MA, Eastern Michigan University, 1973; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1977; PhD, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1997.
Prof. Richard D. Calenberg	Biblical Studies, Hermeneutics, Systematic Theology BA, Tennessee Temple University, 1968; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1972; ThD, Grace Theological Seminary, 1981; Graduate Studies, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 1973-76; Jerusalem University College, 1977.
Dr. Stacey Davis	Educational Leadership & Ministries BA, Azusa Pacific University, 2006; MACE, Talbot School of Theology, 2013; PhD, Talbot School of Theology, Biola University, 2019.
Dr. Kevin M. Gandy	Educational Leadership & Ministries BS, Marquette University, 2009; MA, Dallas Theological Seminary, 2012; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary, 2014; PhD, Dallas Baptist University, 2019.
Dr. Tim Geysbeek	Liberian Realities, History of Christianity in Africa, Islam BA, Grand Rapids Baptist College, 1979; BS, Calvin College, 1979; MA, 1987; PhD, Michigan State University, 2002.
Dr. Dan Hill	Old Testament, New Testament BA, Arizona State University, 1969; MABS, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1975; PhD, California Graduate School of Theology, 1979.
Professor Karen Jones	Curriculum; Guidance and Counseling BS, MS, Southwest Missouri State University, 1978, 1982; MA, PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1993, 1998.
Dr. James Kiamu	Liberian Realities, Contemporary African Worldview and Theology BA, University of Liberia, 1987; MATS, Jos ECWA Theological Seminary, 1997; PhD, University of Jos, 2006.
Rev. Dr. Jerry P. Kulah	Spiritual Formation, Liberian Realities BSc, University of Liberia, 1989; BTh, ECWA Seminary Igbaja, 1994; MTh, Theological College of Northern Nigeria (TCNN), 1997; DMin, Asbury Theological Seminary, 2010; PhD studies, Anglia Ruskin University, graduation expected in December 2025.
Dr. Danny McCain	Theology, Bible, Contextualized Biblical Communication BA, Hobe Sound Bible College, 1973; MA, Columbia International University, 1974; MA, Bob Jones University, 1979, PhD, Bob Jones University, 1982.

Mrs. Elizabeth McKnight	Christian Education, Graduate English, Research & Writing BA, Texas A&M University, 1981; Texas State Secondary Teaching Certificate, 1985; MS, Texas Woman's University, 1995; PhD studies, The University of Texas at Austin, 1995-98; MACE, Dallas Theological Seminary, 2003.
Dr. Gary McKnight	Educational Ministries, Education Psychology, Spiritual Formation, Biblical Studies AB, Princeton University, 1978; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1984; PhD, University of Texas at Austin, 1993; DMin, Dallas Theological Seminary, 2021.
Dr. Murilo Melo	Systematic Theology MD, Santa Casa de Sao Paulo, Brazil, 1996; Specialization in Molecular Pathology in Brazil, 1999; Fellow in Molecular Pathology in Brazil, 2000; PhD in Molecular Genetics at Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2004; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary, 2017; PhD Candidate, Dallas Theological Seminary (2025).
Rev. Ugo E. Peterson	Research & Writing, Educational Leadership & Curriculum MDiv, Evangelical Seminary of West Africa, 2023; PhD Candidate, University of South Africa (2025).
Dr. Roger Sappington	World Missions BA, University of Texas at Austin, 2002; MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Seminary, 2006; DMin, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, 2017.
Professor Jay L. Sedwick, Jr.	Educational Leadership & Ministry, Ministry with Youth BS, Pennsylvania State University, 1984; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1989; MA, PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1996, 2003.
Rev. Benjamin W. Suah, Sr.	Pastoral & Theological Studies, Theology, Spiritual Warfare BA, All Nations for Christ Bible Institute, 2004; BA, Sociology, University of Liberia, 2015; MDiv, Evangelical Seminary of West Africa; 2023; STM studies, Dallas Theological Seminary (in progress); PhD Candidate, Bakke Graduate University (in progress).
Dr. Eric Tully	Hebrew, Old Testament Prophets BA, Moody Bible Institute, 1998; MDiv, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 2003; MA, PhD, University of Wisconsin, 2007, 2012.
Rev. Professor Yusufu Turaki	African Worldview and Theology BTh, ECWA Igbaja Seminary, 1974; MATS, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, 1978; PhD, Boston University, 1982.
Rev. Dr. Jacob A. B. Vambo, III	Pastoral Theology, Liberian Realities, Greek BA, African Bible College, 1988; PGD, MA, DMin, ECWA Theological Seminary Igbaja, 1998, 2000, 2005.
Rev. Eric Wright	Gospels, Biblical Studies BA, Faithway Baptist College, 1987; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1995.