

## CERTIFICATE IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

THE MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

### I. EXAMPLE SCHEDULE:

<i>Year One</i>		<i>Year Two</i>	
Spring 2021, Session 1	<b><i>Introduction to Prayer: Communing with the Triune God</i></b>	Spring 2022, Session 1	<b><i>The Psalms: Prayer Book of the People of God</i></b>
Spring 2021, Session 2	<b><i>Jesus the Messiah: God's Plan of Redemption</i></b>	Spring 2022, Session 2	<b><i>Introduction to Church History</i></b>
Fall 2021, Session 1	<b><i>The Acts of the Apostles: Christian Mission</i></b>	Fall 2022, Session 1	<b><i>Introduction to Christian Theology</i></b>
Fall 2021, Session 2	<b><i>The Epistle to the Romans: Bible Study Methods</i></b>	Fall 2022, Session 2	<b><i>Evangelism and Discipleship in the Modern World</i></b>

### INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER: COMMUNING WITH THE TRIUNE GOD

Learning to pray is the proper starting point for the study of theology. As Evagrius Ponticus, the fourth-century Christian writer, said: "He who prays truly is a theologian; he who is a theologian prays truly." This class provides students with a basic introduction to the history, theology, and practice of prayer in the Christian tradition. In the first class session, we will learn the inspiring story of the role prayer played in the revivals since the First Great Awakening in the mid-eighteenth century. In subsequent class sessions explore the theological framework of prayer, we survey the liturgies of the ancient and medieval church and the prayer books of the Reformation traditions, and study the prayers of the Bible as a pattern for our own prayers. Following this course, students will be able to evaluate the dynamics and health of their personal prayer lives and be prepared to lead corporate prayer services.

### JESUS THE MESSIAH: GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION

Jesus Christ stands as the central figure of the entire Bible, and his crucifixion and resurrection stand as the central event of God's revelation in the Scriptures. This is a Bible

survey course that examines the prophecies about the messiah in the Old Testament and the fulfillment of these promises in Jesus the Christ in the New Testament. The course introduces the fundamentals of the gospel. Following this course, the student will be able to outline the entire structure of the Bible and relate any major section of the Bible to the gospel story.

### THE BOOK OF ACTS: PERSONAL EVANGELISM

The Apostle Paul is remembered as the greatest Christian missionary of the early church and perhaps of all time. In this class, we will map out the expansion of the early Christian movement as detailed in the Book of Acts. We will explore the missionary strategy of Paul and consider how these principles of Christian mission may be applied today. The Book of Acts presents the biographical and missional framework for understanding the Pauline Epistles, and following this course, students will know the historical context for each of the Pauline Epistles. This course includes a project dedicated to the analysis and presentation of the missional principles of one of the ministries of Ada Bible Church.

### THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS: BIBLE STUDY METHODS

This class represents an in-depth investigation of the doctrines that Paul teaches in his magisterial work, the Epistle to the Romans. The class will present sustained discussion on the doctrine of justification, Paul's understanding of the Law, and the relationship between Israel and the Church in God's plan of salvation. This course will also teach Bible study methods. Following this course, students will be familiar with the standard tools for Bible study and the steps to creating Bible study curriculum.

### THE PSALMS: PRAYER BOOK OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Psalms have served as the prayer book for the People of God for three millennia. Through the ages, the Psalms have nurtured the faith of countless saints, martyrs, ordinary believers, and even Christ himself. The Psalms are divided into five books, and students will learn about the history and overarching structure of the Book of Psalms. Each Psalm belongs to a particular classification, including (1) psalms of lament, (2) penitential psalms, (3) imprecatory psalms, (4) psalms of praise, (5) psalms of thanksgiving, (6) covenant psalms, and (7) wisdom psalms. Following this course, the student will be equipped to incorporate the Psalms into private and public prayer.

### INTRODUCTION TO CHURCH HISTORY

The church has experienced many waves of progress—and some waves of regress—in its journey over the past two-thousand years. This course gives students an overview of the history of the

various expressions of the Christian faith and orients students to the differences in the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, and Pentecostal forms of Christianity.

## INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

“Theology” can be an intimidating word. In this course, we will be introduced to classics about the study of God from a variety of streams (to use Richard Foster’s language) of the Christian tradition, including the contemplative, holiness, charismatic, social justice, and incarnational tradition. From the evangelical tradition, we will study A. W. Tozer’s *The Pursuit of God*. Following this course, students will be prepared to lead a discussion group in reading theological classics.

## EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP IN THE MODERN WORLD

The course will introduce discipleship as a relationally-driven form of mentorship or Christian spiritual direction. Following this course, students will be prepared to provide mentorship for new believers.