



200

1826-2026

**GRADUATE
CATALOG**

2026-2027

Table of Contents

[About the University](#)

[Programs Offered](#)

[Certificate Offered](#)

[Admissions](#)

[Financial Information](#)

[Student Life and Activities](#)

[Academic Information](#)

[Requirements for Graduation](#)

[Instructional Organization](#)

[Personnel and Contact](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

[History of Mississippi Christian University](#)

About the University

General Catalog Information

Accreditation and State Authorization

Mississippi Christian University was first authorized by the Mississippi Senate and House of Representatives in 1826 under the name, Hampstead Academy. The institution has operated as an educational institution since that time. The name, Mississippi College, was approved by the Mississippi House and Senate in 1830. On June 1, 2026 Mississippi College changed its name to Mississippi Christian University. The University is widely known simply as “MC” and will continue to be known informally as “MC.”

In the modern era, Mississippi Christian University is institutionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), to award bachelors, masters, education specialist degrees, and doctoral degrees. Questions or complaints about the accreditation of Mississippi Christian University may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500, or by using information available on the SACSCOC website (www.sacscoc.org/).

In addition to institutional accreditation, Mississippi Christian University is authorized and approved by the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation (MCCA) as a private, not-for-profit institution to offer postsecondary academic degrees. The MCCA has authority to address possible violations of its standards and regulations, policies and procedures, as well as address possible violations of an institution’s own policies and procedures. The MCCA website (http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/mcca/student_complaint_process.asp) has links to a Student Complaint Process form that can be used for all complaints and also provides information related to filing complaints with other relevant entities and branches of the State and Federal government. The MCCA may be reached by mail or phone as follows: Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS. 39211. Phone 601-432-6336

Visit the Mississippi Christian University Home Page:

<https://www.mc.edu/>

Volume 112

Number 1

Students entering Mississippi Christian University for the 2026-2027 session (effective May, 2026) must meet major and minor requirements as set forth in this edition or as in any agreement made with other institutions, as well as the general degree requirements for graduation contained herein.

A student readmitted after an interruption of more than two years in the course of study at Mississippi Christian University may, at the discretion of the University, be required to fulfill the graduation requirements in the catalog in force at the time of readmission.

This Catalog does not constitute a contract between the University and its students. The University reserves the right to change any of its regulations, charges, rules, and courses without notice and to make such changes applicable thenceforth, not only to new students but also to students already registered.

Mississippi Christian University offers curricula in various professional fields, as well as general or liberal arts education. In the professional fields, curricula generally include both academic and practical or clinical requirements. In some professional fields (such as nursing, teacher education, and others) it is necessary to pass an examination or other requirements of the professional organization in order to be admitted to the profession. Curricula at Mississippi Christian University are designed to expose students to the skills and knowledge essential to the relevant profession, and the student must successfully complete the requirements of the appropriate curriculum in order to receive a degree. However, Mississippi Christian University cannot guarantee that any student admitted to a given program of study will complete that program successfully. Neither can Mississippi Christian University guarantee that one who completes the degree program will pass the external examination of the professional organization or secure employment in the profession. These factors are not within the control of Mississippi Christian University.

All undergraduate students enrolled at the University are subject to all rules and regulations as specified in the Student Code of Conduct as well as other university policies. Copies of all student policies may be secured from the Office of the Associate Vice President for the Student Experience and Dean of Students or accessed on the Mississippi Christian University website at <https://www.mc.edu/students/student-experience-policies>. Failure to read these policies does not excuse students from the requirements and regulations contained therein.

No commercial solicitation is allowed on Mississippi Christian University property or of Mississippi Christian University students.

It is the goal of Mississippi Christian University to assist in the development of good health and clean air. All buildings including areas near entrances and exits on the Mississippi Christian University campus - Academic, Administrative, Athletic, Residential, and the Student Center - are declared to be "smoke free" and all persons associated with the University are expected to adhere to the policy of "No Smoking."

Student complaints are handled through the campus offices having responsibility for the area where the complaint is directed. Complaints relating to academic issues should be in writing and filed with the appropriate department chair or the chair of the complainant's major department. The complainant may discuss the grievance with the department chair who will address the grievance first. The decision of the chair may be appealed to the dean whose decision will be final. In cases where the dean is the source of the complaint or in an extraordinary case, the complaint will be handled by the Provost. For non-academic areas, complaints should be filed or discussed with the appropriate supervisor of the area where the complaint is directed. The supervisor may advise the student on the appropriate route for

addressing the complaint or refer the matter for resolution by the appropriate administrator whose decision is final.

Mission

Mississippi Christian University, governed by a Board of Trustees elected by the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is a private, co-educational, comprehensive university of liberal arts and sciences and professional studies dedicated to the pursuit of academic excellence. Founded in 1826, Mississippi Christian University is the oldest institution of higher learning and the largest private university in the state of Mississippi. As a Christian institution, Mississippi Christian University values the integration of faith and learning throughout the educational process.

Consistent with its Baptist heritage and relationship to the Convention, Mississippi Christian University provides a quality Christian education for its student population. Students select the University because of the quality of its academic programs, Christian environment, and location. The University strives to recruit students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, leadership, and church/community involvement. The majority of students come from Mississippi and other southeastern states.

Mississippi Christian University stimulates the intellectual development of its students through the liberal arts and sciences and concentrated study in specialized fields, including preprofessional and professional programs. Furthermore, the university environment promotes the spiritual, social, emotional, and physical development of its students and encourages them to utilize their skills, talents, and abilities as they pursue meaningful careers, life-long learning, and service to God and others. The University emphasizes those undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs which offer opportunities for service. Additionally, the University reflects its responsibility of service to the community through a variety of learning opportunities and numerous cultural enrichment experiences.

Mississippi Christian University is committed to excellence and innovation in teaching and learning. The University seeks to employ and retain faculty who are dedicated to teaching/learning and advising students, who support and engage in scholarship and creative activities that advance knowledge, and who seek to continue their own professional development. The University also seeks to employ and retain staff and administrators who are equally dedicated to supporting these efforts. Furthermore, the University selects employees who reflect Christian values and a commitment to service. Mississippi Christian University is an equal opportunity employer in accordance with Title VII and applicable exemptions.

Official mission statement as adopted by the Board of Trustees 1998

Vision

Mississippi Christian University seeks to be known as a university recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ.

Official vision statement as adopted by the Board of Trustees 2004

Facts About Mississippi Christian University

Location: Clinton, Mississippi (Population 25,941)

Campus Population: over 4,165

Main Campus: 140 acres

Type: four-year, co-educational

Average ACT for freshmen: 25

Affiliation: Mississippi Baptist Convention

Cost: approximately \$44,520 per year (including room, board, tuition and fees)

Library: 167,265 physical volumes and 238,478 digital volumes

Honors College: Incoming freshmen with a score of 29 or higher on the ACT or a score of 1330 or higher on the SAT , or 95 or higher on the CLT are invited to apply to the Honors College. Selected applicants participate in a competitive interview process as part of final cohort selection

Junior/Senior Honors programs: open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors and administered by Honors Council

Student-Faculty Ratio: 9 to 1

Preferred time for campus visit: early in fall semester by appointment

Summer Semester: two-week mini term; one ten-week term; two five-week terms; one eight-week term.

For additional information call: 601.925.3000

Enrollment* (Fall 2025)

Total Headcount Enrollment 3,869

Number of Male Students 1,456

Number of Female Students 2,411

Number of Resident Students 1,820

Geographic Representation*

82 Mississippi Counties

43 of 50 States

35 Foreign Countries

Size and Location

Mississippi Christian University, maintains a welcoming atmosphere. Situated in Clinton, at the heart of Mississippi, the university is just ten minutes away from Jackson, the state capital and the largest metropolitan area in the region. Students benefit from a variety of activities available in this vibrant setting. The university leverages its prime location to make meaningful contributions to the community. As the educational demands of the metropolitan area evolve, Mississippi Christian University adapts by

enhancing its instructional offerings. The undergraduate program serves approximately 2,608 students, while around 859 students are enrolled in graduate studies, which offer the opportunity to earn 86 different graduate degrees. To accommodate the growing need for legal education in the capital region, Mississippi Christian University features a School of Law that enrolls about 402 students pursuing Juris Doctor and Master of Laws degrees.

Statements of Compliance

Mississippi Christian University is a Christian University affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The Mississippi Baptist Convention elects all members of the Board of Trustees of the University.

Mississippi Christian University complies with all applicable federal and state nondiscrimination laws, and does not engage in prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, genetic information, veteran status, or disability in admissions and employment. As a religiously affiliated university, Mississippi Christian University is exempt from provisions of certain nondiscrimination laws.

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. Students have specific, protected rights regarding the release of such records or information contained therein. Mississippi Christian University will release confidential or personally identifiable information only with the student's written consent and will release information defined as "Directory Information" only in the best interest of the student. A student's parent(s) who claim that student as a dependent on their federal income tax return may request information other than directory information or the student may file a consent form in the Office of the Registrar giving permission for such information to be released to their parent(s) or third parties. If an undergraduate student does not wish to have any information released for any reason, he/she may file a written request to that effect in the Office of the Registrar. A confidential notice will be placed on the student's record and this confidential status will remain on their record permanently until a signed release by the student is filed with the registrar. Graduate students may file a request for confidentiality with the Office of the Registrar.

Questions or complaints regarding FERPA rights should be directed to the Provost (MC Box 4002, Clinton, MS 39058) or the Registrar (MC Box 4028, Clinton, MS 39058). Complaints regarding alleged failures by Mississippi Christian University to comply with the requirements of FERPA may also be filed with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202.

Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

By Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, Mississippi Christian University does not discriminate based on disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. If students need special accommodations due to learning, physical, psychological, or other disabilities, they should direct their inquiries to the Director of Accessibility Services, Mississippi Christian University, Leland Speed Library, First Floor Telephone: 601.925.3852.

Title IX

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 states, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." Mississippi Christian University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in employment, admissions, student retention, or other educational programs except in those instances which are claimed and exempted on the basis of the religious tenets of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Inquiries and complaints regarding the application of Title IX may be directed to Dr. William Townsend, Vice President and General Counsel to the President (MC Box 4005, Clinton, MS 39058). Alleged violations of Title IX should be directed to Dr. Kristena P. Gaylor, Director of Compliance Training and Development & Title IX Coordinator/Associate Professor of Management, School of Business <https://www.mc.edu/title-ix/>.

Veterans

Most complaints should initially follow Mississippi Christian University's grievance policy through the campus offices having responsibility for the area where the complaint is directed. Teresa Hill is the Director of Military and Veteran Student Services and can be reached at tlhill@mc.edu for assistance regarding a veteran-related concern or to initiate a grievance. The VA Mississippi State Approving Agency (SAA) is the approving authority of education and training programs for Mississippi. This office investigates complaints of GI Bill beneficiaries. If a situation cannot be resolved after following Mississippi Christian University's grievance policy as outlined above, the beneficiary should then contact the VA MS SAA via email at saa@msva.ms.gov.

Allowing Veterans to Attend or Participate in Courses Pending VA Payment

Background

Section 103 of Public Law (PL) 115-407, 'Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018,' amends Title 38 US Code 3679 by adding a new subsection (e) that requires disapproval of courses of education, beginning August 1, 2019, at any educational institution that does not have a policy in place that will allow an individual to attend or participate in a course of education, pending VA payment, providing the individual submits a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under Chapter 31 or 33.

Pending Payment Compliance

In accordance with Title 38 US Code 3679(e), Mississippi Christian University adopts the following additional provisions for any students using U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Post-9/11 G.I. Bill® (Ch. 33) or Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (Ch. 31) benefits, while payment to the institution is pending from VA. Mississippi Christian University will not:

- Prevent the student's enrollment;

- Assess a late penalty fee to the student for pending VA payouts for the term;

- Require the student to secure alternative or additional funding to cover the amount of their pending VA benefits payout. Any balance not covered by the student's VA benefit is the responsibility of the student and is to be paid in accordance with the term of the enrollment's payment deadline;

- Deny the student access to any resources (access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities) available to other students who have satisfied their tuition and fee bills to the institution.

However, to qualify for this provision, such students are required to:

- By the first day of class, Post-9/11 G.I. Bill® (Ch. 33), produce their VA Certificate of Eligibility (COE) or for Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (Ch. 31) give notice of your assigned VA VR&E Academic Advisor.

- Provide authorization for use of their benefit using Mississippi Christian University's online submission of the [Veteran Verification of Enrollment Form](#) after enrollment has occurred for the designated term for use of VA benefit.

A COE gives our institution notice of the eligibility of a student's benefit, to be used solely at the discretion of the beneficiary. Therefore, the use of VA benefits requires authorization. Without the completion of this form, Mississippi Christian University is not authorized to take action on behalf of our students for VA education benefits.

- Provide any additional information required to properly certify the enrollment as described in other institutional policies or as outlined as required criteria with VA for benefits.

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Accreditation

Accreditation is an important assurance to the university student. Mississippi Christian University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award bachelors, masters, education specialist degrees, and doctoral degrees. Degree-granting institutions also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Mississippi Christian University may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500, or by using information available on the website (<https://www.sacscoc.org/>).

Accreditation and Other Professional Affiliations

Mississippi Christian University is accredited by, approved by, or holds membership in the following disciplinary bodies:

Name	Address	Phone Number
American Chemical Society (ACS)	1155 16th Street NW Washington DC 20036	202.872.4589
Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP)	500 Montgomery Street Suite 350 Alexandria, VA 22314	703.535.5990
Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)	333 John Carlyle Street, Suite 400 Alexandria, VA 22314	703.683.8080
National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)	11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21 Reston VA 20190	703.437.0700
Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)	777 South Harbour Island Blvd, Suite 750 Tampa, FL 33602	813.769.6500
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)	655K Street, NW, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20001	202.887.6791
Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL)	3825 Ridgewood Road Jackson, MS 39211-6453	601.432.6198
American Bar Association (ABA) Chicago Headquarters	321 North Clark St. Chicago, IL 60654-7598	312.988.5000 800.285.2221
Association of American Law Schools (AALS)	1614 20th Street., NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20009-1001	202.296.8851
The International Multisensory Structured Language	15720 Hillcrest Road Dallas, TX 75248	972.774.1772 ext. 227

Education Council (IMSLEC)		
Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA)	12000 Findley Rd., Suite #275 Johns Creek, GA 30097	770.476.1224
Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA)	206 Cesar E. Chavez Ave SW 225 Michigan St NW, Unit 1034 Grand Rapids, MI 49501	248.875.6705
Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)	P.O. Box 771 Jackson, MS 39205	601.359.3513
National Policy Board for Education Administration (NPBEA)	1615 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314	703.518.6256
Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)	1140 19th St NW, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20036	202.223.0077

Program Specific Accreditations:

Degree Program	Accrediting Body	Address	Phone Number
Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (B.S.E.E.)	Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)	415 North Charles St. Baltimore, MD 21201	410.347.7700

Academic Resource Facilities

Mississippi Christian University provides learning resource facilities which enhance the teaching/learning environment on campus. The major facilities are the Leland Speed Library, The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC), The Writing Center, Academic Computing Labs, and the multimedia language laboratory.

The Library

The Leland Speed Library provides comprehensive collections, technologies and services in support of MC's academic programs. Research assistance is available in person, via phone and text, and Ask A Librarian. Books, eBooks, streaming media and e-research resources are available to both on-campus and distance learners 24 hours a day. The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) , located on the main floor, aids faculty and campus departments in their original video/audio productions and provides video productions of campus events. Special collections, located on the top floor, include the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission collections and the Mississippi Christian University Archives. The building offers study spaces, soft seating, quiet spaces, and individual and group study rooms.

Academic Computing Labs

Academic Computing Labs provide an environment in which Students and Faculty can fulfill their academic needs. These labs are located in several buildings across campus and staff provide assistance.

The Graduate Faculty

The responsibility for maintaining excellence in graduate education rests primarily with the faculty. Mississippi Christian University faculty are deeply committed to teaching, scholarship, and the intellectual and professional formation of their students. A high percentage of faculty hold earned doctorates or terminal degrees in their disciplines and actively engage in research, creative activity, and professional service. While many contribute to scholarship beyond the classroom, they regard teaching and mentoring graduate students as a central calling.

Faculty eligibility to teach and supervise at the graduate level is evaluated through the university's Graduate Oversight Committee. This committee reviews credentials, scholarly activity, and professional qualifications to ensure that those serving in graduate roles demonstrate the academic preparation and ongoing engagement necessary to support advanced study. Through this process, the university maintains high standards of quality, rigor, and integrity across all graduate programs.

Organizational Structure of Academic Programs

Many choices are available to students at Mississippi Christian University when they reach the point of deciding upon a major field of study. The instructional program is divided into one college, made up of two schools, and five additional schools: the College of Arts and Sciences, consisting of the School of Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts and the School of Science and Mathematics; the School of Business, the School of Education and Human Sciences, the School of Nursing, and the School of Law.

Mississippi Christian University is classified as a comprehensive university because of the breadth of programs and degrees. Undergraduate degrees are awarded in 80 fields of study and graduate degrees are awarded in over 25 fields of study. Graduate degrees may be earned in a variety of Master's degree programs. In addition, the Specialist in Education (Ed.S.), the Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.), the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), the Doctorate of Professional Counseling (D.P.C.), and the Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.) degrees are offered. Detailed information on graduate programs is found in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#), and detailed information on the School of Law is found in the [Law School Catalog](#).

Graduate Programs

College of Arts and Sciences

School of Christian Studies, Humanities, and the Arts

Art

[Art, M.Ed.](#)

[Art, M.S.](#)

[Graphic Design, M.S.](#)

[M.F.A. in Visual Arts & M.F.A. in Graphic Design](#)

Communication

[Healthcare Communication, M.S.](#)

[Sports Communication, M.S.](#)

[Strategic Communication, M.S.](#)

English and World Languages

[English, M.A.](#)

History and Political Science, Paralegal Studies and Administration of Justice

[History, M.A.](#)

[History/Political Science, M.S.S.](#)

[Administration of Justice, M.S.](#)

[Administration of Justice: Loss Prevention, M.S.](#)

[Homeland Security, M.S.](#)

[Social Studies, M.Ed.](#)

Humanities and Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Studies Programs

[Liberal Studies, M.L.S.](#)

Music

[Music Education, M.M.](#)
[Conducting Choral, M.M.](#)
[Performance: Piano, M.M.](#)
[Piano Pedagogy, M.M.](#)
[Voice Performance and Pedagogy, M.M.](#)

School of Sciences and Mathematics

Biological Sciences

[Biology Education, M.Ed.](#)
[Biology: Thesis, M.S.](#)
[Biology: Non-Thesis, M.S.](#)
[Biology Medical Sciences, M.S.](#)

Chemistry

[Chemistry: Thesis, M.S.](#)
[Chemistry: Non-Thesis, M.S.](#)

Mathematics and Computer Science

[Computer Science, M.Ed.](#)
[Computer Science: Thesis or Non-Thesis, M.S.](#)
[Cybersecurity and Information Assurance, M.S.](#)
[Mathematics, M.Ed.](#)
[Mathematics, M.S.](#)
[Mathematics Applied, M.S.](#)

Physician Assistant Studies

[Physician Assistant, M.S.M.](#)

School of Business

[Master of Accountancy, M.Acc.](#)
[Accounting, M.B.A.](#)
[Business Administration, M.B.A.](#)
[Business Administration, J.D./M.B.A.](#)

School of Education and Human Sciences

Teacher Education and Leadership

Master of Education

[Curriculum and Instruction \(C&I\), M.Ed.](#)
[Dyslexia Therapy, M.Ed.](#)
[Educational Leadership for Independent Schools, M.Ed.](#)
[Educational Leadership, M.Ed.](#)
[Elementary Education, M.Ed.](#)
[Special Education, M.Ed.](#)
[Teaching Arts: K-6, M.Ed.](#)
[Teaching Arts: K-12, M.Ed.](#)
[Teaching Arts: 7-12, M.Ed.](#)

Master of Education in Secondary Education

[Art, M.Ed.](#)
[Biological Science, M.Ed.](#)
[Business Education, M.Ed.](#)
[Computer Science, M.Ed.](#)
[Mathematics, M.Ed.](#)
[Social Studies, M.Ed.](#)

Education Specialist

[Educational Leadership, Ed. S](#)
[Teacher Leadership, Ed.S.](#)

Doctorate

[Educational Leadership, Ed.D.](#)

Master of Science

[Organizational Leadership, M.S.](#)

Kinesiology

[Applied Exercise Physiology, M.S.](#)

Counseling

[School Counseling, M.Ed.](#)
[Marriage and Family Counseling, M.S.](#)
[Mental Health Counseling, M.S.](#)
[Counseling, Ed.S.](#)
[Doctor of Professional Counseling, D.P.C.](#)

School of Nursing

[Clinical Nurse Leader, M.S.N.](#)
[Educational Leadership, M.S.N.](#)
[Nurse Educator, M.S.N.](#)
[Executive Leadership, D.N.P.](#)
[Nurse Educator, D.N.P.](#)
[Post Graduate D.N.P.](#)

Public Health

[Health Services Administration, M.H.S.A.](#)

Graduate Certificates

College of Arts and Sciences

School of Christian Studies, Humanities, and the Arts

Communication

[Public Relations Certificate](#)

History and Political Science, Paralegal Studies and Administration of Justice

[Homeland Security, Graduate Certificate](#)
[Loss Prevention/Security Management Certificate](#)
[Post-Baccalaureate Program in Paralegal Studies](#)

English and Modern Languages

[English as a Second Language \(K-12\) Certificate](#)

School of Sciences and Mathematics

Biological Sciences

[Health Science Post-Baccalaureate Certificate](#)

Mathematics and Computer Science

[Graduate Professional Certificate in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance](#)

[Mathematics, Graduate Certificate](#)

School of Business

[Accounting Certificate](#)

School of Education and Human Sciences

Teacher Education and Leadership

[MAIS Educational Leadership-Leadership Institute Certificate](#)

[Gifted Education, Certificate](#)

[Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Administration](#)

[Media Arts Certificate](#)

Sociology and Social Work

[Child Advocacy Studies Training Certificate](#)

School of Nursing

Nurse Educator Post-Graduate Certificate

Nurse Administrator Post-Graduate Certificate

Admissions

Applicants for admission to graduate study should hold bachelor's degrees from educational institutions accredited by the appropriate regional accrediting agencies. Admission may be regular, provisional, certificate, or as a non-degree student.

Even though one may be accepted as a graduate student, the applicant may be required to take additional undergraduate courses if lacking any of the undergraduate prerequisites or foundational courses. International students must meet additional requirements (please see that section). Satisfaction of the specified educational prerequisites or foundational courses does not guarantee an applicant's admission to post baccalaureate study at Mississippi Christian University. In evaluating applicants, the University will make an effort to consider all relevant aspects of the applicant's record and suitability for graduate study at Mississippi Christian University.

Graduate admission and readmission decisions are made by the Academic Departments where the programs reside, based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to: academic records, scores on standardized tests, an analysis of the application for admission, prior enrollments, lapses in enrollment, relevant character or conduct records, and other criteria as may be relevant. Mississippi Christian University seeks to admit students whose academic preparation and background, personal characteristics, behavior, conduct, and cooperative spirit

indicate that they would profit from and contribute positively to the life of a Christian university community.

Mississippi Christian University reserves the right to deny admission to any applicant without assigning reason and to reject any applicant, rescind admission, or discontinue a student's continued enrollment if (i) between the date of an application and the start of classes there is a change in the condition or status of any information provided by the applicant that would have been a basis for denying the application when it was reviewed by the Admission Committee or (ii) any information provided by an applicant proves to be untrue at the time of its submission.

Mississippi Christian University complies with all applicable federal and state nondiscrimination laws, and does not engage in prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, genetic information, veteran status, or disability in admissions and employment. As a religiously affiliated university, Mississippi Christian University is exempt from certain provisions of some nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries and complaints should be directed to the Vice President for Advancement and Legal Counsel to the President (MC Box 4005, Clinton, MS 39058).

Application Procedure

Each applicant for admission must complete the following: (International Students, also see the following section.)

1. Application for admission: <http://apply.mc.edu/application>
2. A \$40.00 application fee (non-refundable; must accompany application).
3. One copy of all the official transcript(s) from previous collegiate work (associate's, bachelor's, master's, doctorate), and any transferable graduate credit. [Official transcripts are those sent from the college or university directly via approved electronic scripting services or those mailed from the college or university directly to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, Box 4067, Clinton, MS 39058; those brought in by applicant, relative, etc. or marked "issued to student" are not considered official.]
4. For residential students a \$200 non-refundable room reservation fee.
5. All applicants seeking the Class AA Standard Educator License must provide a photocopy of their Class A Standard Educator License issued from the State of Mississippi. All applicants seeking a Class AAA or Class AAAA Standard Educator License must provide a photocopy of their Class AA or AAA license from the State of Mississippi. Applications will not be processed without this documentation.
6. A standardized test score should be filed with your application, when applicable. Non-degree seeking graduate students are exempt from filing standardized test scores unless they are pursuing educator licensure. **(See below for more information on standardized test scores.)**
7. Consult specific degree descriptions for additional admissions requirements (ie. Resume, Statement of Purpose, Interview, etc) .

Students Holding Undergraduate Degrees From Non-Regionally Accredited Institutions

For applicants graduating from non-regionally accredited institutions, the following stipulations apply: submission of an acceptable admissions test score and good academic standing after 12 hours of graduate work. For a definition of good academic standing, see End-of-Term Standings.

Regular Admission

For regular admission an applicant must present an undergraduate record that shows a grade point average of at least 2.50 of a possible 4.0 on all undergraduate work presented from the baccalaureate degree. (See program description for deviations from this general requirement.)

There are alternative admissions requirements for international students lacking the ability to satisfy normal criteria. International students will be expected to fulfill all admissions criteria. When interviews, pre-admissions workshops, or additional prerequisites or foundational courses are required for admission into a graduate program, the international students will be allowed to fulfill this requirement at Mississippi Christian University

Provisional Admission

A student may be granted provisional admission when recommended by the department chair and Dean of School. Provisional admission is granted if:

1. The undergraduate grade point average is below 2.5 but above 2.25.
2. The student lacks undergraduate prerequisites or foundational courses.
3. The student lacks a required standardized test [GRE, PRAXIS, or GMAT]. Grace period extends for one semester only.
4. The undergraduate GPA is below 2.25 but the applicant has demonstrated success in an appropriate career for at least a decade since completing the undergraduate degree. This admission category will require references to document career success.
5. For applicants graduating from non-regionally accredited institutions, the following stipulations apply: submission of an acceptable admissions test score and good academic standing after 12 hours of graduate work. For a definition of good academic standing, see End-of-Term Standing.

Provisional status based upon grade point deficiency and prerequisites must be removed before registration for work beyond 12 hours will be permitted. For advancement from provisional to regular admission, the student must have obtained a grade average of B or higher on the first 12 or more hours of graduate-level courses attempted in an approved program, and must clear any other deficiencies.

Be aware that financial aid awards are limited by provisions of admission. Failing to remove provisional admission requirements within one year will impact federal financial aid eligibility. Contact the Office of Financial Aid for current guidelines.

Admission as Post Baccalaureate, Non-degree Student

Students desiring graduate-level study for purposes other than an advanced degree may be admitted to a non-degree status.

Applications for non-degree admission are available at the following link: <http://www.mc.edu/application/> . The official transcript from the undergraduate degree-bearing institution is required. Please be aware if the course you take requires a prerequisite, an official transcript from the school in which the prerequisite was taken is required as well. **Students in non-degree status are not eligible for federal financial assistance.**

Students entering under this non-degree classification are not admitted into a formal graduate program. Should a student later apply for regular graduate admission, coursework completed under the non-degree status will not count toward a graduate degree unless it is specifically approved by the Academic Dean of the school. Additionally, a maximum of 6 credit hours taken as a non-degree student may be applied toward a graduate degree; any coursework taken beyond this 6-hour limit will not count toward degree completion.

Undergraduates Receiving Graduate Credit

An undergraduate student with junior or senior status may be allowed to register for graduate work and earn up to 10 hours of credit that apply to both their bachelor's degree and a graduate degree as part of the Accelerated Master's Program (AMP). To enroll, the student must apply to the AMP and obtain permission from both the Department Chair and the Academic Dean of the graduate program before registering for classes. Once approved, admission to the graduate program remains provisional until the student officially receives their undergraduate degree.

Academic Transcripts

All requests for transcripts of Mississippi Christian University credits must be made through Parchment Transcripts Services with information located on the Registrar Office page on the Mississippi Christian University Web site. For each transcript, a fee of \$20 is charged and must be paid in advance. **The certified original copy will be mailed directly to the designated recipient or transmitted electronically to approved receiving schools.**

Transcript request information is found at www.mc.edu under Registrar's Office, Transcripts. Emailed, faxed or written requests are not accepted.

Please note that transcripts from other colleges or universities sent to Mississippi Christian University for use as permanent records cannot be copied for student use. Additional copies of these documents for personal use must be obtained directly from institutions previously attended.

Graduate students pursuing a Master's or a Bachelor's-to-Doctoral program must submit an official transcript verifying completion of a bachelor's degree. Those pursuing an Education Specialist or Doctoral program must submit an official transcript verifying completion of a master's degree. Additional transcripts may be required if prerequisite courses are needed for program admission. (Official transcripts are those sent from school to school electronically or hand delivered in sealed envelopes).

Transcripts from international institutions and universities must be reviewed by the credential evaluation service before application for admission is considered unless the transcript is in English.

Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit.

Readmission

Readmitted Students. A former Mississippi Christian University student (one who was not registered during the preceding three consecutive semesters, including summer terms) must apply for readmission through the Office of Enrollment Services. For more information, please contact the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (gps@mc.edu). An application for readmission can be found on the web at <https://www.mc.edu/application/>.

A student readmitted after an interruption of more than two years in the course of study at Mississippi Christian University may, at the discretion of the University, be required to fulfill the graduation requirements in the catalog in force at the time of readmission. Students who change degree programs assume responsibility for meeting all prerequisite and degree requirements for the degree to which they are changing as established by the *Graduate Catalog* in use at the time the change is requested.

Students placed on academic suspension must first file a written appeal to the Academic Dean of the program for reinstatement and then complete the application form for readmission.

Standardized Test Scores

If required, a standardized test score should be filed with your application. Consult the specific degree program information in the Graduate Catalog for details.

The **GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Exam)** is required for all master's degrees in business. In some cases, a GMAT waiver is available.

GMAT Waiver

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 who earn a bachelor's of business administration from Mississippi Christian University or any other program accredited by AACSB or ACBSP may have the GMAT requirement waived.

Individuals with 5 or more years of applicable work experience or who hold a current CPA or CFA certification may apply for a waiver of the GMAT requirement for the MBA program.

Students who have not taken the GMAT must have an appropriate score by the first semester (maximum of 9 hours) in which graduate classes are taken. A student without a GMAT score after their first semester of graduate work will not be allowed to enroll in any subsequent graduate courses. The test is administered by appointment at the Pearson Professional Center. Call 1.800.717.4628 for scheduling GMAT appointment. Visit [Pearson Professional Center tour - Pearson VUE](#) for information and preparation materials.

The **Praxis Series** is required for all master's degrees in education and teacher licensure programs. Minimum Praxis Series scores are set by the state of Mississippi and found at the MDE website: <https://mdek12.org/talentacquisition/praxis-information/>

***Praxis I Core CASE (Core Academic Skills for Educators):** Reading (5713)- passing score 156; Writing (5723)- passing score 162; Mathematics (5733)- passing score 130 and PLT (Principles of Learning and Teaching): K-6 (153); PLT 7-12 (157).

***Praxis I PPST ended December 31, 2013. The Praxis I Core CASE test replaced the Praxis I PPST. The educator cannot combine parts of the PPST and parts of the CASE to meet certification requirements. Beginning January 1, 2014, educators must take and pass CASE in order to meet certification requirements.**

ACT equivalent scores (composite 21) can be used in lieu of passing Praxis I score requirements for entrance to the Alternate Route teaching program (Masters of Teaching Arts.)

Students pursuing Alternate Route Educator Licensure must consult with the School of Education and Human Sciences and Human Sciences to determine the **Praxis Series** Examinations scores to present for entrance into the M.Ed. in Teaching Arts.

If a standardized test was taken while at another institution, it is the student's responsibility to see that the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies receives a copy of that score.

International Student Graduate Admission Information

A prospective international student applying for admission to Mississippi Christian University as a graduate student must provide the following:

- A fully completed online admission application form (<http://go.mc.edu/apply/>)
- \$40.00 application fee
- Appropriate graduate entrance exam scores (if needed, as determined by the department)
- College transcripts showing graduation date
- College diploma
- Original TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, iTEP, or Duolingo score
- A current bank statement and/or affidavit, certificate of deposit from parents or sponsor
- 3 letters of reference and/or resume (if needed, as determined by the department)
- A Statement of Purpose (if needed, as determined by the department)

1. Graduate applicants must meet English proficiency requirements through one of the following English proficiency tests. Minimum score noted.

TOEFL iBT: 79
IELTS: 6.0
PTE Academic: 52

iTEP: 3.7
Duolingo: 110

Students unable to meet the above standards can apply to our Intensive English Program (IEP) until their English scores are at a level to apply for admission to a graduate program. Successful completion of IEP does not guarantee admission to a graduate program. All other criteria must be met.

Students from the following countries, where English is the primary language for educational instruction, will have their English proficiency exam waived:

Anguilla	Guyana (British	St. Helena,
Antigua and	Guyana)	Ascension, and
Barbuda	Ireland	Tristan de Cunha
Australia	Jamaica	Islands
Bahamas	Kenya	St. Kitts and Nevis
Barbados	Lesotho	St. Lucia
Belize	Liberia	St. Vincent and the
Bermuda	Malawi	Grenadines
Botswana	Micronesia	Tanzania
British Virgin	(Federated States	Trinidad and
Islands	of)	Tobago
Canada	Malta	Turks and Caicos
Cayman Islands	Montserrat	Islands
Dominica	Namibia	Uganda
Eswatini	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Falkland Islands	Nigeria	U.K. Virgin Islands
Fiji	Palau	USA
Gambia	Sierra Leone	U.S. Virgin Islands
Ghana	Singapore	Zambia
Gibraltar	South Africa	Zimbabwe
Grenada		

2. A financial statement indicating ability to finance study for the duration of the first year at Mississippi Christian University. The applicant must also provide evidence of sufficient financial
3. support for personal living expenses such as room and board, educational supplies, transportation and health insurance. Please contact the International Institute Office to determine the current amount required.
4. A \$40.00 non-refundable application fee is required. This fee may be paid by bank draft, personal check, or money order, if the applicant is in the U.S. If the applicant is overseas he/she must pay by credit/debit card through Flywire (former Peer Transfer).
5. Transcripts from all college grades with literal translations into English. Students attempting to transfer credits received in secondary degrees or courses completed at universities outside the United States must request a Course-by-Course Report from a credential evaluation service. Mississippi

Christian University requires the evaluation services to be credentialed through the Association of International Credential Evaluators, Inc. (AICE) or the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES).

The services Mississippi Christian University recommends are:

North American Educational Group
International Educational Credentials
505 Paradise Road U#254
Swampscott, MA 01907
Phone: 888.539.2804

Email: info@NAEG.org
Website: www.naeg.org

Education Evaluators International, Inc.
11 South Angell Street #348
Providence, RI 02906

World Education Service, Inc.
P. O. Box 5087
Bowling Green Station
New York, NY 10274

Joseph Silny & Associates, Inc.
International Education Consultants
7101 SW 102 Avenue
Miami, FL 33173

Global Credential Evaluators, Inc.
P.O. Box 2903
College Station, TX 77842
Phone: 800.707.0979
Fax: 979.690.6342
AWebsite: www.gceus.com

Note: The student must pay for the evaluation. Transcripts from institutions located in the United States must be sent directly to Mississippi Christian University.

Students will be required to purchase health insurance each year through the University. The policy will provide medical, medical evacuation, and repatriation coverage with Mississippi Christian University as the trustee beneficiary.

Before arrival at Mississippi Christian University, the applicant must be immunized against measles/mumps/rubella (MMR). To ensure compliance with Mississippi State Department of Health regulations, Mississippi Christian University will also require international students to submit proof of test screening for tuberculosis by interferon gamma release assays (IGRA) performed in the United States after their arrival and prior to the start of classes. These test results must be submitted to the International Institute. Costs for all TB testing and MMR will be paid by the student.

An international student who holds an F-1 student visa is required to carry a full course of study in the fall and spring semesters. A full-time graduate course load is nine (9) credit hours.

All tuition and fees are expected to be paid at the time of registration, or be enrolled in a payment plan.

International graduate students are required to enroll in IEP6300 in their first semester.

IDS 6199 Higher Education in the United States of America

Credit Hours: 1; Prerequisites: None

Higher Ed in the USA is a required course for all new international students in their first semester at MC. This course will examine the various educational, cultural, and social aspects of student life at MC..

Requirements for Non-MC (Visiting) Graduate Students

Non-MC (Visiting) student is one who is enrolled at a degree program at another college or university who is seeking to take a limited number of classes at MC with the intent of transferring the credit at MC back to their primary college or university. Typically, this will be limited to enrollment in one or more online, summer term, or winter term courses. These courses will follow the normally prescribed grading mode, and the registrar will record classes on a transcript as completed at MC. A Non-MC (Visiting) student may then pay to have the transcript sent their primary college or university to be applied to their degree program at that institution.

If a Non-MC (Visiting) student desires at a later time to pursue a degree at MC, application as a regular student must be made. If the student is admitted as a regular student, MC will accept all course work completed at MC and will evaluate the completed coursework completed at another institution as it would with any transfer student.

A Non-MC (Visiting) student is expected to abide by the rules and standards of Mississippi Christian University.

Visiting (non-MC) applicants must provide the following:

- 1. Application.** A submitted online Non-MC (Visiting) Student Application.
- 2. Statement.** As part of the application the Non-MC (Visiting) student must attest to being enrolled at another university or college, acknowledge they will not receive advising services, and submit payment according to posted guidelines.

Financial Information

Location of Business Office- The Business Office is located in the foyer of Nelson Hall.

All accounts are due and payable at the time of registration. Accounts owed the University must be paid before the student is eligible to register for additional classes.

Student Expenses

The cost to attend Mississippi Christian University and the refund policies have been approved by the Board of Trustees and are designed to be as fair as possible to both the University and the student. If a student thinks they have not been administered as written, and in a fair and equitable manner, an appeal to these policies may be directed to the Provost, Telephone:

601.925.3260. The University reserves the right to revise prices as economic conditions warrant.

Payment Arrangements and Financial Assistance

Tuition and fees are due and payable in full by the given deadline each semester unless utilizing the monthly payment plan. Accepted forms of payment are cash, check, money order, MasterCard, VISA, Discover, American Express, and eCheck.

Any account balance not paid or set up on a monthly payment plan by the given deadline may result in withdrawal from classes or being placed on hold. Students with an account on hold will not be able to register for any upcoming semesters. Past due accounts will also be subject to a late payment penalty. However, any student awaiting funding from VA Ch 31 and 33 will not be assessed a late payment penalty.

Monthly Payment Plan

The University offers a monthly payment plan, a convenient method for planning and budgeting tuition and fees for the fall or spring semester. Under this plan, costs may be paid with three (3) or four (4) monthly payments per semester. More detailed information may be obtained by contacting the Business Office at **601.925.3307** or **1.800.738.1287** or by email at businessoffice@mc.edu or by visiting <https://www.mc.edu/offices/business/>.

Financial Aid

All matters concerning financial aid are under the direction of the Committee for Enrollment Appeals-composed of administrators, faculty, staff and students. This committee establishes policies regarding financial aid. The amount of aid awarded to a student is based on either scholarship or financial need. Aid is offered under the categories described below.

Institutional and Other Scholarships

A limited number of institutional scholarships are available for which a graduate student may apply. A complete listing of graduate scholarships is available upon request from the Admissions Office. These scholarships are awarded to students who meet qualifications as outlined for each. Generally, students may receive only one type institutional scholarship at any given enrollment period. Graduate Students may qualify for scholarships in the following ways:

1. as departmentally assigned graduate assistants,
2. as recipients of occupationally defined scholarships,
3. as participants in an employer reimbursement educational plan, or
4. as participants in a state supported financial aid program for students in Mississippi pursuing a program of study leading to a Class AA educator license, i.e., various scholarships promoted by the Institutions of Higher Learning.

Graduate Assistantships

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available. Individuals interested in these should contact the department chair or Dean of School for information and/or applications. Awards vary based upon the duties assigned and the number of hours employed weekly by department.

Occupationally Defined Scholarships

A limited number of occupationally defined, partial scholarships are available. Individuals interested in these should contact the Graduate admissions for application deadlines. Currently Mississippi Christian University offers the following:

1. *Professional Development Scholarship for Educators.*

The PDS for Educators is designed for those graduate students who are currently employed in elementary and secondary public and/or private schools seeking a master's degree or education specialist. The terminal degrees of the doctorate and the Master of Fine Arts are not eligible for this scholarship. Some restrictions apply since these awards are deadline-sensitive and are not retroactive.

2. *Administration of Justice and Homeland Security Scholarships.*

The AJU & Homeland Security Scholarships are designed to encourage those graduate students in the Master of Sciences degree majoring in Administration of Justice and the Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security and employed by local law enforcement agencies to pursue graduate degrees. A limited number of awards are available annually; these awards are deadline-sensitive and are not retroactive.

3. *Employer Reimbursement Programs*

A number of employers will reimburse all or part of their employee's tuition based on inhouse company/corporate policy. Contact your employer to see if such a program exists. Payment deadlines established by Mississippi Christian University apply to you regardless of program participation/reimbursement scheme offered by your employer. Contact the Mississippi Christian University Bursar's Office to obtain information regarding payment arrangements regulating these programs and other company billing options.

Federal Student Aid

Students wishing to be awarded federal student aid must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Mississippi Christian University should be designated as a recipient of FAFSA data. The FAFSA may be completed on the internet at www.studentaid.gov.

Be aware that financial aid awards are limited by provisions of admission. Failing to remove provisional admission requirements within one year will impact your federal financial aid eligibility. Contact the Office of Financial Aid for current guidelines.

Receiving and Maintaining Financial Assistance

Students should be aware that admission status (provisional, regular, non-degree) determines federal financial aid eligibility and amounts students are eligible to receive. Provisionally admitted students have one year to remove stated provisions to remain eligible to receive federal financial aid. Non-degree students are not eligible for federal financial aid. Contact Office of Financial Aid for current guidelines.

Students on academic probation will be eligible to receive financial assistance for the first semester on academic probation, and they will be eligible to receive financial assistance for the second semester **provided** substantial academic progress was made during the first semester.

Students who are denied financial assistance due to unsatisfactory academic progress have the right to appeal the denial. Students should place in writing the request to appeal to the Committee for Enrollment Appeals. (Contact the Director of Financial Aid, Telephone: 601.925.3212.) **The full satisfactory academic progress policy can be found in the Financial Aid section of the Mississippi Christian University website.**

Graduate Expenses

Table 1

Graduate Students

Tuition per semester hour	600.00
<i>Tuition rates listed below are per semester hour:</i>	
Doctorate of Professional Counseling (fixed for the remainder of school)	750.00
Health Science Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Tuition per semester hour	250.00
M.Ed. Teaching Arts Program (Alternate Route) Tuition per semester hour	305.00
Military (active duty)	375.00
PDS (Professional Development Scholarship) Tuition per semester hour	525.00
General registration fee (Fall/Spring):	
6 or more hours	1500.00
5 hours or less	950.00
General registration fee (Summer)	500.00
General registration fee (Winter/Maymester)	100.00

<i>Physician Assistant Program</i>	
Tuition per semester (fixed for the remainder of school)	12,250.00
General registration fee (Fall/Spring)	1,025.00
General registration fee (Summer)	525.00
<i>MC Accelerated Online Program - tuition rates are per semester hour:</i>	
<i>Business</i>	
Masters of Business Administration	
Tuition per semester hour	600.00
<i>Communications</i>	
M.S. Healthcare Communication	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
M.S. Public Affairs Communication	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
M.S. Sports Communication	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00

M. S. Strategic Communication	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
<i>Education</i>	
M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
M.Ed. Educational Leadership	
Tuition per semester hour	305.00
M.Ed. Elementary Education	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
M.Ed. Special Education	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
M.S Organizational Leadership	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
Ed. S. Curriculum & Instruction	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00

Ed. S. Educational Leadership	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
Ed. S. Teacher Leadership	
Tuition per semester hour	364.00
<i>English</i>	
M.S. English (Non-Thesis)	
Tuition per semester hour	400.00
<i>Nursing</i>	
Masters in Healthcare Administration	
Tuition per semester hour	600.00
Masters in Nursing - Clinical Nursing Leader	
Tuition per semester hour	600.00
General registration fee (per session)	300.00

ON CAMPUS LIVING (Graduate)	
Loft apartments (fall/spring)	6,500.00
Loft apartments (summer)	2,600.00

Table II

Special Fees and Expenses

APPLICATION FEES:	
Graduate	45.00
GRADUATION FEES:	
Graduate	170.00
PENALTY FEES:	
Change of schedule late fee	35.00
Diploma replacement fee	45.00
Duplicate ID card fee	40.00
Late payment penalty	185.00
Late registration fee	55.00
Returned check penalty	115.00
OTHER FEES:	

Auditing fee	same as for tuition for credit
Certificate fee (including reprint)	30.00
Dyslexia program fee	105.00
Graduate thesis maintenance fee	125.00
Incomplete grade fee	40.00
Loft apartments reservation fee	285.00
Monthly payment plan fee	75.00
Retroactive transfer course approval fee	80.00
Transcript fee	20.00

Table III- Course Fees

Applied music fee- graduate (per course regardless of hours)	180.00
Art Adobe software fee	80.00
Art Enscape software fee	149.00
Art field studies fee	165.00
Counseling software fee	260.00

Enrollment in absentia fee	125.00
Graphic design supply fee	50.00
<i>Lab fees:</i>	
Biology	60.00
Biology 5410- Human Gross Anatomy	230.00
Ceramics	105.00
Chemistry	65.00
Engineering - Upper Level	105.00
MAC	65.00
Physics/Engineering	60.00
Studio art	55.00
<i>Malpractice insurance:</i>	
Kinesiology	30.00
Nursing	30.00
Psychology & Counseling	30.00
Social Work	30.00

Teacher Education	30.00
Online course fee	110.00
Research fee (per hour)	20.00

Tuition Refund Policies

For courses dropped during fall and spring:

Refund Credit:

1st week

100%

2nd week

0%

For courses dropped during 8 week terms (summer, fall, and spring)

Refund Credit:

1st - 3rd day of course

100%

4th day of course

0%

For courses dropped during summer terms:

Refund Credit:

1st and 2nd day of the term

100%

3rd day of the term

0%

Refund Credit:

For courses dropped during 10 week summer terms:

1st day thru 3rd day of the term	100%
----------------------------------	------

4th day of the term	0%
---------------------	----

For courses dropped during 2 week summer term:

Registration day	Refund Credit:
------------------	----------------

After registration day	100%
------------------------	------

	0%
--	----

Refund on Withdrawal from Mississippi Christian University - A student desiring to withdraw from the University should initiate the process using the Complete Withdrawal link in the MyMC student portal. It is necessary for the correct procedure to be followed. Failure to process an official withdrawal earns a grade of F in each course. Deadlines for withdrawal are the same as those for dropping courses. Any claims for refunds of tuition will be based on the date on which the student initiates the online withdrawal process.

Any claims for refunds of tuition will be based on the date on which the student files a completed withdrawal form with the Business Office.

Refund of Tuition upon Withdrawal - Note that in counting deadlines (for changes of schedule, refunds, etc.) the first week of the semester is the calendar week in which classes begin. Registration fees are not refundable.

Refund of Living Expenses

Should a student withdraw from school or cease to be a resident student, a refund will not be given for on-campus living expenses. A refund will be given for meals based on a per day rate.

Refund on Other Fees

All registration, special, and course fees are not refundable.

Refunds/Return of Title IV Funds

The return of unearned Title IV aid is calculated in accordance with Federal regulations. This calculation applies to any student who meets the following criteria:

Withdraws from the university or ceases class attendance prior to the end of the term and

Received Federal Title IV aid (Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Direct Loan, Federal Plus Loan, but not Work Study)

If a student withdraws from the university or ceases class attendance prior to the end of the term, the university is required to calculate the amount of aid earned. Any unearned aid must be returned according to the provisions of the Higher Education Amendment of 1998. The withdrawal date is determined when the student initiates the withdrawal process in Banner web. The withdrawal date for unofficial withdrawals is the midpoint of the semester or the last date of attendance that a professor provides to the Financial Aid Office. The calculation of the return of these funds may result in the student owing a balance to the university.

The student is responsible for any balance due on the account after the Title IV funds have been returned. The student's responsibility also includes earned Title IV aid and any tuition and fees due to the institution.

Federal regulations require Mississippi Christian University to have a fair and equitable refund policy. If a recipient of Title IV aid withdraws during a period of enrollment, Mississippi Christian University must calculate the amount of Title IV aid the student did not earn. The percentage of aid earned is equal to the percentage of time completed. Unearned Title IV funds must be returned to the Title IV programs.

If a student withdraws on or before the 60% point of enrollment, the percentage of aid earned is equal to the percentage of time completed. If a student remains enrolled beyond the 60% point of enrollment period, 100% of the aid has been earned for that period. The percentage of earned days is calculated by taking the number of days the student attended the university and divide it by the total number of days for the semester. The amount of aid earned is equal to the amount of aid disbursed plus the amount of aid that could have been disbursed multiplied by the percentage of earned aid. The amount of earned aid is subtracted from the total amount disbursed. This is the unearned aid that should be returned.

All unearned Title IV funds must be returned to the Title IV programs. If Title IV aid was used to pay institutional charges first, the University will return unearned Title IV funds up to an amount that is equal to the amount disbursed to the U.S. Department of Education.

Funds are returned in the following order up to the full amount disbursed:

- Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan,
- Federal Subsidized Direct Loan,
- Federal PLUS Loan,
- Federal Pell Grants,
- FSEOG, and/or
- Other assistance under TITLE IV.

Student Life, Activities and Services

All students should be familiar with the policies of the University and the rules and regulations that govern student behavior. These policies may also be accessed on the Mississippi Christian University website at <https://www.mc.edu/students/student-experience-policies>.

Free Speech and Assembly

Mississippi Christian University (MC) is a private faith-based university affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention. As such, MC's first obligation is to maintain an environment where all members of the campus community respect the high standards of behavior, assembly, civil discourse and expression representative of a Christian community. MC is also an institution committed to fostering academic discourse, critical inquiry, and the pursuit of knowledge and truth within the framework of MC's Christian mission.

Contact the Office of Student Experience or see Policy 1.20 for additional information.

Honesty

Mississippi Christian University students are expected to be scrupulously honest. Dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism, or furnishing false information, including forgery, alteration or misuse of University documents, records or identification, will be regarded as a serious offense subject to severe penalty, including, but not limited to, loss of credit and possible dismissal.

See the [Mississippi Christian University Student Code of Conduct](#) or University Policy 2.19 for specific information regarding penalties associated with dishonest behavior at Mississippi Christian University. Copies of the Mississippi Christian University Student Code of Conduct are available in the Office of the Vice President for the Student Experience and Dean of Students, Nelson 212. Copies of University policies are available on the Mississippi Christian University website.

Drugfree Environment

Mississippi Christian University is committed to the establishment of a completely DRUGFREE environment in the lives of each student enrolled for any and all study at the University, or involved in any way in any Mississippi Christian University program.

The use, possession, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students at Mississippi Christian University is expressly forbidden and the same shall not be tolerated on any property owned or controlled by Mississippi Christian University, nor shall the same be tolerated at or as a part of any activity undertaken at or under the direction or supervision of Mississippi Christian University.

Illicit drugs shall be defined to include any use, possession, distribution, sale, manufacture, or evidence of consumption of narcotics, controlled substances or illegal drugs on or off Mississippi Christian University property, or at a Mississippi Christian University-sponsored events or programs in accordance with federal, state, and local laws.

Any violations of the provisions of this notice, or of any statements of a similar nature published by Mississippi Christian University, relative to illicit drugs, will result in disciplinary action which may include expulsion, suspension, mandatory successful completion of approved rehabilitation programs, and/or probation, any of which may become a part of the permanent record of the person violating or breaching any expression of this statement or similar published University rules and/or regulations.

Additionally, the University expressly reserves the right to refer any person violating this or similar regulations to the appropriate law enforcement officials for prosecution for violation of civil and/or criminal laws, as authorized by The DRUGFREE Schools and Communities Act of 1989.

Policies Governing Conduct: Student Rights and Responsibilities

It is assumed that every student enrolling in Mississippi Christian University agrees to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to the highest sort of mental and moral development in keeping with the ideals and traditions of the College. Personal misconduct either on or off the campus by anyone connected with Mississippi Christian University detracts from the Christian witness Mississippi Christian University strives to present to the world and hinders full accomplishment of the mission of the University.

As an institution pledged to the Christian principle of concern for others, the University enunciates a definite position on certain matters. Students who elect to attend the University, realizing its position on such matters, are expected to respect and abide by that position. Students who evidence an unwillingness or inability to conduct themselves in accord with University standards and any other rules and regulations of the University, either on or off the campus, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

In attempting to uphold the stated purpose and objectives of the University, the trustees and administration have felt it necessary to take a definite stand on conduct and to make the position of the University known to students.

Gambling is forbidden. No intoxicants will be held in possession, served, distributed, sold, used, or consumed, the same applies to prescription-legend drugs or other dangerous drugs or similar substances except as prescribed by a physician.

Students enrolled at Mississippi Christian University who evidence an unwillingness or inability to conduct themselves, either on or off campus, in accordance with these standards and any other rules and regulations of the University not specifically listed here, will be subject to disciplinary action and may be asked to withdraw from the University. Any student whose conduct or habits are found to be inconsistent with or in violation of the regulations, traditions, and ideals of the institution is subject to the action stated above.

The University reserves the right to make any and all necessary investigations - including, but not limited to, an on-premises investigation and inspection of any residence or living quarters on University property in addressing an alleged violation of regulations or conduct deemed inconsistent with the ideals and standards of the institution.

Disciplinary expulsion, suspension and probation may become a part of the permanent record. A more comprehensive statement concerning University regulations may be found in the *Mississippi Christian University Student Code of Conduct*.

Graduate students must comply with institutional policies governing academic and nonacademic conduct is outlined on the Mississippi Christian University website. Inquiries regarding policies regarding student behavior may be requested from the Vice President for Student Experience and Dean of Students, Clinton, MS 39058, 601.925.3209. Among the more significant policies are those that forbid weapons on campus, smoking in campus buildings, and other comparable substantive policies.

Accessibility Services:

The Office of Accessibility Services (AS) at Mississippi Christian University is committed to ensuring that educational programs and campus life activities are accessible to all qualified students. AS assists faculty, staff, and students by providing students' accommodations, advising, and referral services. These efforts ensure students are given equal access to MC's academic and non-academic programs and other aspects of student life. Accommodation requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and reasonable accommodations are provided for students who have demonstrated a need for these services.

Students with disabilities who need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services, Leland Speed Library, first floor, Telephone 601.925.3852, or email accessibility@mc.edu. Additional information regarding the AS services and guidelines can be found on the Mississippi Christian University Accessibility Services webpage at <https://www.mc.edu/offices/accessibility-services/>

Mental Health Services

Mission Statement:

Student Counseling Services: Mississippi Christian University Mental Health Services (MHS) supports the mission of the university by promoting and facilitating the mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical health of students. MHS provides a wide range of mental health services to students, including personal/individual counseling, consultation, group therapy, community referrals, campus-wide mental health and wellness programs, alcohol and drug awareness, and crisis intervention. MHS provides a free service to all full-time Mississippi Christian University students and operates on a short-term outpatient therapeutic model. MHS is here to educate, advocate and counsel students concerning mental health.

Students wishing to meet with a counselor should contact Mental Health Services, Nelson Hall, 3rd Floor, Telephone: 601.925.7790 or email: mentalhealth@mc.edu. After hours mental health crisis telephone: 601-925-2346. Additional information regarding policy and procedures can be found on the Mississippi Christian University Website at <https://www.mc.edu/offices/mental-health-services/>. Crisis information and additional mental health support information can be accessed on the Mississippi Christian University Counseling Website at [Are you in crisis? | Mental Health Services | MississippiCollege \(mc.edu\)](#)

General Policies:

Counseling services are private and confidential. All information and communication between a student and counselor are kept confidential and considered privileged as counselor-client information. All information is held in strict confidence except information indicating the intention of harm toward oneself or others. For specific information related to the limitations to confidentiality please contact Mental Health Services directly. A student's Mississippi Christian University transcript will not include his or her records for MC Mental Health Services.

Emergency Procedures

Recognizing that safety is the responsibility of the entire campus community, the Office of Public Safety lists Emergency Procedures on its website <http://www.mc.edu/offices/safety/procedures>. Any questions may be directed to the Office of Public Safety at 925-3204.

Residence Life

Living on campus adds a wonderful dimension to a student's life and education. Residence Life desires that the residence halls will truly be a place where students can develop, not only scholastically but socially and spiritually. Every effort is made to make living on campus as comfortable and pleasant as it is convenient.

To promote better student relationships, a broader exchange of intellectual thought and to foster the general student welfare and culture of Mississippi Christian University, the university has made a sizeable commitment to providing a residential environment that contributes to an overall educational experience.

The residence halls are reserved for students enrolled for classes at Mississippi Christian University. Generally, full-time (12 hours) status is required, but exceptions are occasionally made for students with special circumstances.

Special permission is required from the Director of Residence Life for a part-time student (below 12 hours) to live in a residence hall.

Residence Halls will be supervised by the Assistant Dean of Student Life. Each residence hall and apartment complex has a Lead Resident Assistant with upper-class students serving as Resident Assistants.

Residence Hall Closing

All campus residence halls (as well as food services) will be closed during regular University recesses as indicated in the University calendar. All personal items needed by students should be removed prior to closing time since no one will be permitted to enter any residence hall for any reason during holiday periods.

Room Assignments and Private Rooms

When private rooms are available, the charge is two times the regular room rate. For information concerning room assignments and roommates, students should contact the Office of Residence Life.

Residence Contract and Room Reservation Fee

Before any room reservation is made for a new student, a \$200 non-refundable reservation fee must be paid to the Office of Residence Life and the proper completed paperwork returned to the Office of Residence Life. Before moving into a residence hall, a student must read and sign a residence hall agreement. The agreement must be on file in the Office of Residence Life.

Vehicle Registration

In the interest of campus safety and because there is a finite amount of parking space, all vehicles driven on campus by faculty, staff and students must be registered with the office of public safety.

Vehicle registration fees are included as part of tuition and fees. A decal designating specific parking areas is issued for each vehicle registered. Decals are issued through the Office of Public Safety after first registering at (<https://www.mc.edu/offices/safety/parking-permits>). Anyone driving on the campus is subject to University traffic safety regulations. Violators will be fined, with fines going into a student scholarship fund. Students accumulating more than five traffic citations may have their parking privileges on the campus revoked. Designated parking spaces for handicapped students are provided. Rules and regulations are specifically listed on the Public Safety website (<https://www.mc.edu/offices/safety/traffic-regulations>).

Identification Card

Every student who does not have an ID card from a prior semester will obtain an Identification Card during the registration process. The student is expected to have this card in his/her possession at all times. Use of another student's ID is not allowed. Students will use the card for admission to school-sponsored activities and as a voting permit during student body elections, for library privileges, to scan for chapel credit, and for obtaining a copy of the TRIBESMAN at the end of the school year. Resident students will use their ID cards for meals as well as to gain entrance through secured doors in residence halls. A student withdrawing from the University should surrender his/her ID card to the Bursar's Office at the time the withdrawal is initiated.

Campus Store and Books

Proudly operated by BibliU in partnership with Mississippi Christian University, the Campus Store - powered by BibliU is dedicated to providing a modern, convenient, and affordable shopping experience. From seamless course materials through the BibliU Access program to official campus apparel and gear, the store provides the resources needed for academic success and school spirit.

Products and Services

The Campus Store offers a wide selection of items designed for students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors:

Course Materials: Streamlined digital access through the BibliU Access program, as well as physical textbooks.

General & Academic Books: A variety of academic and general interest titles, with custom ordering available for specialized texts.

School Supplies & Technology: Essential academic and office supplies, popular software, and tech accessories.

Campus Mailroom & Copy Center

The Mailroom and Copy Center offers full-service mail and print services for Mississippi Christian University students, faculty and staff.

The main Mailroom and Copy Center location is located on the lower level of Alumni Hall. The Alumni Hall location receives letter mail only. Packages sent from FedEx, UPS and USPS are all sent to the Campus Operations Stockroom Location.

Mailboxes are only provided for students living in the residence halls.

The hours of operation for the Mailroom and Copy Center are:

Monday- Friday 7:00am to 3:30pm

Copy Center services include high-quality black & white and color printing/copying, print consulting, scanning/imaging and document management, wide-format print of posters and much more.

We ask for 1 working day (from the time we receive it) to produce your average order. If it is more complicated or a larger than average order, it may take longer. Most orders, however, are turned around in less than 1 working day. If you have a rush order, we will do everything we can to accommodate you. Please do not request something as a rush unless absolutely necessary. Rushing your order means that someone else's order will be delayed.

Additional information regarding our Mailroom and Copy Center can be accessed on the Mississippi Christian University Website at <https://www.mc.edu/offices/mailroom/>.

Health Services

Student health services are provided through Mississippi Baptist Health Systems, Inc. at the Baptist Healthplex, conveniently located on the Mississippi Christian University Clinton campus. Routine healthcare services from a Board-Certified Nurse Practitioner and the Baptist Health Systems Clinic are provided free of charge to all registered, full-time students who have paid the institutional health fee.

Location and Contact Information

Baptist Medical Clinic

106 Clinton Parkway

Clinton, MS 39056

Phone: 601.924.9005

Baptist Health Care Line (24/7 Telephone Referral): 601.948.6262

Hours and Scheduling

Primary healthcare is provided by a Board-Certified Nurse Practitioner during posted hours of operation, with additional care available through the Baptist Health Systems Clinic or the 24-hour Baptist Health Care Line.

Morning Hours: Patients are seen on a drop-in basis in the order they sign in.

Afternoon Hours: Patients are seen by appointment, scheduled in 10- to 15-minute increments. Same-day or advance appointments may be scheduled by calling the clinic during regular office hours. Drop-in patients without an appointment will be worked into the schedule as time permits.

Triage Priority: Patients with immediate, urgent medical needs will take priority regardless of appointment time or sign-in order.

After-Hours Residential Guidance: Students living in university residence halls should consult their Resident Assistants for guidance before 8:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, as well as on weekends.

Emergency Care

In the event of a medical emergency, services should be accessed through the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center Emergency Room.

Additional information regarding policy and procedures may be accessed on the Mississippi Christian University Website at <https://www.mc.edu/offices/health/>.

Food Services

Zest Culinary Services offers multiple outlets for food service on campus for your dining pleasure.

The main cafeteria is located on the first floor of the B.C. Rogers Student Center. Here you can enjoy “classic favorites” that are almost as good as your mother’s home cooking. (If you think ours is better, we won’t tell her and neither should you). Our Grill area prepares fresh daily features such as Philly Cheesesteaks or Blackened Chicken Po-boys. Our “Bowl You Over” station might have loaded Mac-n-Cheese or Shrimp and Grits as a daily feature. Our always fresh salad bar, brick oven pizza and design your own deli favorites are available at lunch and dinner daily. Be sure to save room for hand dipped Blue Bell Ice cream.

Cafeteria

Chick-fil-A (located in Alumni Hall)

Brick Street Burgers (located next to the Campus Store - powered by BibliU on Jefferson Street)

Einstein Bagels (located in Alumni Hall)

Coffee Shop

We proudly serve **Starbucks** in the coffee shop located just inside the front doors of the Leland Speed Library. Enjoy a cup or your favorite snacks here.

Our meal plans include a set number of meals each week which can be enjoyed in the cafeteria along with Points which are equivalent to dining dollars. Meals can only be used in the cafeteria, Dining Dollars can be used at any location. Mississippi Christian University requires students in residential housing to participate in a meal plan. For more information visit <https://www.mc.edu/offices/food/>

Continuing Education

The Office of Continuing Education (OCED), established in 1976, primarily serves as a revenue source for the University while also coordinating public service functions through the development and coordination of the following programs and activities:

1. Approves and documents non-traditional (outside of regular semester/summer calendar) for credit courses offered through MC.
2. Administers the program of Continuing Education Units (CEU) conforming to the specifics outlined by the Mississippi Department of Education.

Academic Information

Assignment to Faculty Advisor

The Academic Dean acts as general advisor to all graduate students prior to their filing application for admission, and prior to their assignment to a faculty advisor from the student's area of concentration. The School Dean or Department Chair of the student's major will appoint a faculty advisor who will assist the student in planning an academic program and following a curriculum.

Classification of Mississippi Christian University Students

The classification of a student is based on his standing at the beginning of any regular session.

Freshman: (0-23 hours) working toward bachelor's degree.

Sophomore: (24-53 hours) working toward bachelor's degree.

Junior: (54-83 hours) working toward bachelor's degree.

Senior: (84-more hours) working toward bachelor's degree or a Post Baccalaureate Certificate.

Graduate Student: one admitted to a Master's degree program at Mississippi Christian University.

Education Specialist: one admitted to an Education Specialist degree program at Mississippi Christian University.

Doctoral Student: one admitted to a doctoral degree program at Mississippi Christian University.

Pre-Baccalaureate, Non-degree: one who does not have a bachelor's degree and is not working toward a degree at Mississippi Christian University. Eligible to take any undergraduate

course for which the student is qualified.

Post-Baccalaureate, Non-degree: one who already holds a bachelor's degree and is not working toward a degree at Mississippi Christian University. Eligible to take any graduate (except in the field of counseling) or undergraduate course for which the student is qualified as determined by the instructor or department concerned. This classification also allows a student to pursue one of the certificate programs in accounting or paralegal studies.

Law Student: one admitted to Mississippi Christian University School of Law.

Graduate Course Loads and Full-Time Status

Graduate students at Mississippi Christian University must maintain specific enrollment thresholds to define full-time status, manage term course limits, and remain compliant with institutional and federal guidelines.

Enrollment Requirements and Maximum Course Loads

- **Full-Time Classification:** A student must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 semester hours to be classified as a full-time graduate student during a regular 15-week semester. International students on F-1 visas must maintain full-time degree-seeking enrollment to remain compliant with immigration regulations.
- **Regular Semester Limits:** The maximum load for a graduate student during a standard 15-week semester is 15 credit hours, including thesis registration.
- **Winter and Summer Term Limits:** During the winter session, students may take a maximum of 6 credit hours. For summer sessions, students may take up to 3 credit hours in the May term, with a overall cap of 17 credit hours across the full summer session.

Graduate Assistant Workload Limits

- **GAs Teaching 3 Credit Hours (or equivalent service):** May register for up to 12 graduate credit hours during a regular semester, or up to 3 credit hours per summer term.
- **GAs Teaching 6 Credit Hours:** May register for a maximum of 9 graduate credit hours during a regular semester.

Attendance/Participation Regulations

Class attendance/participation is an essential part of graduate education, and students are expected to attend/participate regularly and punctually all classes and laboratories for which they are registered. Cumulative absences/non-participation may result in a lowered grade or loss of credit for the course. Tardiness is also subject to penalty. Although some specific requirements may vary according to the nature and structure of the course, the following guidelines summarize institutional policy:

1. Class attendance/participation is required, and accurate records are kept.
2. For online courses, non-participation is failure to complete a qualifying academic activity including submitting an assignment, taking an assessment, participating in a graded

discussion board, engaging in interactive tutorials or simulations that are part of the curriculum, and posting substantive responses to instructor-initiated prompts. Logging into the LMS alone is not sufficient. The student must complete an action that demonstrates engagement with course content. Excessive absences are the same as for classes that meet one time per week.

3. A student receives a grade of F in any course immediately upon accumulating the following number of absences in that class:

- 12 in semester classes meeting 3 times per week

- 8 in semester classes meeting 2 times per week

- 4 in semester classes meeting 1 time per week

- 4 per session in the Accelerated Degree Program (ADP)

- 6 in summer day classes

- Proportionate numbers in classes on other schedules.

Any exception to this rule, granted only in extraordinary circumstances, must be approved by the Dean's Committee on Absences.

4. For lesser number of absences/non-participation, the student should expect a lowered grade in the course, with the maximum penalty of one letter grade for each week of absences (in a semester) or the equivalent. The calculation of the semester grade, including any penalty for absences, is the responsibility of the faculty member and may vary according to the nature of the course and the grading scale used. In some classes points will be deducted from the semester grade for unexcused absences; in others, the penalty may be built into the grading scale by means of frequent pop quizzes, grades for class participation and the like.
5. The faculty member will excuse a limited number of absences/non-participation for serious illness, for field trips, for representing the University, and perhaps for other emergency reasons which the faculty member finds justifiable.
6. Whether an absence/non-participation is excused or not, the student who is absent misses some learning that takes place in the class. Naturally, the faculty member is more inclined to assist the student in making up the work if the absence was excused. However, the responsibility for work missed rests entirely with the student.
7. *A student registering late will be charged for all absences/non-participation occurring prior to reporting to class, although these may be treated as excused absences.*

Auditing

Briefly stated, auditing a course conveys the normal privileges of the course, but without the responsibility of grades and without credit. The student registers for the course and pays full tuition. Although the work is not graded, the student is expected to participate in at least 75 percent of class meetings and activities in order for the audit to appear on the permanent record.

Any change from audit to credit must be accomplished by the last day for adding a course, and any change from credit to audit must be made by the last day to drop a course. No credit can be given for a class audited, nor is the student permitted an examination for credit. The only way to earn credit is to take the course anew for credit.

Audit hours do not count toward eligibility for financial aid. No faculty member is authorized to admit anyone as an auditor to any class unless the auditor is registered as such. A drop/add form must be completed, including obtaining the instructor's signature, before a course can be changed from credit to audit.

Change of Schedule (Drop or Add Courses)

After the second full week of classes in a fall or spring semester, students who have been reported by a faculty member to the Registrar's Office will be administratively dropped from those classes for which they are registered but have never attended.

Students register for courses on-line through Banner Web according to schedules published on the Banner website. Consultation with an advisor is a requirement, and the student must understand that if there is any deviation from the schedule agreed upon with the advisor, full responsibility rests on the student. After classes have begun, courses may be added or dropped according to the college calendar published in the on-line catalog and schedule.

Adding Courses

Add Courses

An Add occurs when a student registers for a course within a designated period at the beginning of a specific term. That is, after the first day of classes but before the close of business on the "last day to register or add a class."

Students may add a course without being assessed an additional fee or penalty through the "last day to register or add a class" as listed on the schedule for the given term. The student will be responsible for any additional tuition and/or course fees.

Add Courses Late (Late Add)

A Late Add occurs when a student registers for a course after the designated period at the beginning of a specific term has expired. That is, after the "last day to register or add a class."

Students will not be allowed to add a course after the "last day to register or add a class" for a given term unless special permission is granted by the Provost in consultation with the Dean and/or the Department Chair and the instructor of record for the course. Unless the change is originated by a faculty member or administrative official of the University the student will be assessed a fee for a late add. The student will be responsible for any additional tuition and/or course fees.

Dropping Courses

Drop Courses (Drop Without a Grade)

A Drop occurs when a student chooses to disenroll from a course within a within the designated period at the beginning of a specific term. That is, after the first day of classes but before the close of business on the "last day to drop a class without a grade."

Students may drop a course without a grade and without being assessed an additional fee or penalty through the close of business on the "last day to drop a class without a grade" for a

given term. The course will not be entered on the student's permanent record and the student is eligible to receive a 100% tuition refund, but fees will not be refunded.

Late Drop (Drop with a "W" Grade)

A Late Drop occurs when a student chooses to disenroll from a course after the designated period at the beginning of a specific term has expired but before drop deadline. That is, after the "last day to drop a class without a grade" but before the close of business on "last day to drop a class with a 'W'."

Student may drop a course after the "last day to drop a course without a grade" and up to the last day to "drop a class with a grade of "W" for a given term. In these late drop cases, a "W" will appear on the student's permanent record for the course(s) dropped late. The student may be assessed a fee for the late course drop unless the change is originated by a faculty member or administrative official of the University. Students who drop a course late are not eligible for a refund of tuition or fees.

Students who cease class attendance/participation but fail to follow the proper procedure to drop with a "W" grade by the drop deadline will be assigned a grade of "F." In rare circumstances, students wishing to drop a course after the last day to drop may appeal to the Provost to receive a grade of "W" instead of "F." However, the following conditions must be met for the appeal to be successful:

1. There are extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control as to why the drop is requested after the drop deadline;
2. the student is passing the course(s) at the time of the request;
3. the student has attended class with regularity; and
4. the student has demonstrated general good faith toward completing the requirements of the course.

The recommendations of the instructor of the course, the student's advisor, and/or the Dean of the School where the course is offered may be considered, but the final decision regarding an appeal must be approved by the Provost. The student will be assessed a fee for the late course drop, and students are not eligible for a refund of tuition or fees.

Schedule Change Fees

A fee will be assessed to the student if a change of schedule occurs after the last day to add or to drop a class unless the change is originated by a faculty member or administrative official of the University.

For more information regarding changing a course schedule, students should contact the Office of the Registrar, (601.925.3210) and/or consult *University Policy 2.13*.

Auditing Courses

Briefly stated, auditing a course conveys the normal privileges of the course, but without the responsibility of grades and without credit. The student registers for the course and pays full tuition. Although the work is not graded, the student is expected to participate in at least 75

percent of class meetings and activities in order for the audit to appear on the permanent record.

Any change from audit to credit must be accomplished by the last day for adding a course, and any change from credit to audit must be made by the last day to drop a course. No credit can be given for a class audited, nor is the student permitted an examination for credit. The only way to earn credit is to take the course anew for credit.

Audit hours do not count toward eligibility for financial aid. No faculty member is authorized to admit anyone as an auditor to any class unless the auditor is registered as such. A drop/add form must be completed, including obtaining the instructor's signature, before a course can be changed from credit to audit.

Withdrawal from the University

A student desiring to withdraw from the University should initiate the withdrawal by accessing the Complete Withdrawal link in the MyMC student portal. See Refund Policies in this catalog for withdrawal/ refund schedule.

Any claims for refunds of tuition will be based on the date on which the student initiates the withdrawal.

If students are living on campus, it will be necessary for them to notify the Director of Residence Life regarding their moving out of the residence hall.

Withdrawal

A University Withdrawal occurs when a student who is enrolled in one or more courses as of the first day of any term decides to disenroll from all courses on their schedule for the remainder of the term and ceases to be an enrolled student at the university.

Students electing to leave the University prior to the end of the term of enrollment, except for temporary absences, should initiate the procedure to withdrawal from the university with the Registrar's Office. By completing this procedure, the student will prevent future difficulties in re-entering the University, and will avoid having F's automatically recorded for all courses taken during the semester. Students who stop attending/participating in classes without officially withdrawing from the university earn a grade of "F" in each course.

A student who withdraws from the institution after the "last day to drop a course without a grade" for a given term will receive a grade of "W" for each scheduled course. The student will be assessed a fee to withdrawal from the university, and students are not eligible for a refund of tuition or fees.

No withdrawals from the institution will be allowed during the final exam period. Further, no withdrawals from the institution will be allowed during the 10 calendar days preceding and including the last class day for the term.

The withdrawal of any student shall not be effective on a date prior to the last day of class attendance.

Withdraw after Last Day to Drop a Course With a Grade

In rare circumstances resulting from an extreme hardship, students wishing to withdraw from the university after this period may appeal to the Provost to receive a grade of “W” instead of “F” for all courses. However, the following conditions must be met for the appeal to be successful:

1. There are extenuating circumstances beyond the student’s control as to why the withdrawal is requested after the withdrawal deadline;
2. the student is passing the course(s) at the time of the request;
3. the student has attended class with regularity;
4. and the student has demonstrated general good faith toward completing the requirements of the course.

If successful, the student will be assessed a fee to withdraw, and students are not eligible for a refund of tuition or fees.

Withdraw After a Semester Has Ended

In highly unusual circumstances resulting from extreme hardship, a student may petition to withdraw retroactively from a semester within one calendar year. The request for withdrawal will be considered only when accompanied by appropriate documentation of the situation (e.g., medical emergency or administrative error) which was related to the student’s recorded academic performance for the semester in question. Such requests must be approved by the student’s advisor, department chair, dean, and the Provost. For cases other than administrative error in which final grades were recorded, the student’s instructors should be consulted before a final decision is rendered and should be notified after the decision is made. In no case will more than one semester’s work be retroactively withdrawn during a student’s matriculation at Mississippi Christian University.

Summer Session Drops and Withdrawals

When a student is taking only one course in a summer session and drops it, it is considered a withdrawal from the University. The student should initiate the withdrawal by accessing the Complete Withdrawal link in the MyMC student portal.

Grades

Course Numbering System

For Graduate courses, Mississippi Christian University uses course numbers consisting of three-character subject code followed by a 4- or 5-digit number.

- *5-Level: Numbers beginning with a 5: Graduate Level (and Undergraduate Senior Level when begins with a 4)**

- *6-Level: Numbers beginning with a 6: Graduate level exclusively*
- *7-Level: Numbers beginning with a 7: Graduate level for Education Specialist and Doctoral students*
- *8-Level: Numbers beginning with an 8: Graduate level exclusively for Doctoral students*

**Note: A 4-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit at the 5000 level.*

Grading System

The University uses the following grading system for graduate coursework:

- A** is reserved for work which is definitely superior in quality.
- B+** Intermediate grade
- B** is given for work which is consistently good and which manifests sufficient interest, effort, or originality to lift it above average work.
- C+** Intermediate grade
- C** is given for average work and shows that basic requirements in class assignments have been met. Work at this level or lower is considered unsatisfactory for graduate students.
- D** earns credit but is below the standard required for graduation.
- F** indicates failure and, naturally, carries no credit.
- XF** indicates failure due to violation of academic integrity (Note: Not eligible for grade forgiveness).
- W** Withdrawal (does not count in student's academic standing)
- CR** earns credit hour(s) without grade points.
- PR** In Progress

Requirements for course completion are outlined within the course syllabus or in prior arrangement with the course instructor. Requirements not completed within the designated timeframe results in the PR grade removal and the grade earned assigned.
- AU** refers to audit credit without hours or grade points.
- NA** no Audit because requirements were not met.
- NC** no Credit because requirements were not met.
- I** Incomplete

Note: The course syllabus outlines the criteria faculty members use in determining a student's final grade in the course.

Grade Points

A	= 4 grade points per hour
B+	= 3.5 grade points per hour
B	= 3 grade points per hour
C+	= 2.5 grade points per hour
C	= 2 grade points per hour
D	= 1 grade point per hour
F	= 0 grade points
I	= 0 grade points
CR	= 0 grade points

Grade Point Hours

Grade point hours are those hours for which a student registered and received a letter grade (A, B, B+, C, C+, D, F). No withdrawals, In Progress, Incomplete or dropped courses are included but the GPA does include Fs unless otherwise specified.

Credits in non-academic courses-physical activities, band, choir, etc.-do not carry grade points.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

One's grade point average is based on grade point hours at Mississippi Christian University. If one repeats a course, both grades are used in the calculation of the grade point average. Formula for GPA = number of grade points divided by grade point hours.

Grade Reports

A record of each student's grades is kept in the Office of the Registrar, and a report is available to the student at the close of each semester on the student's MyMC student portal in BannerWeb.

Degree Evaluation

DegreeWorks (students with a catalog year all 2016 and forward) and CAPP (Curriculum, Advising, and

Program Planning) (students with a catalog year prior to Fall 2016) are Degree Evaluations that are real-time online systems to use in planning degree programs. These evaluations utilize courses completed and those in which the student is currently enrolled to inform students and their advisors of degree completion status at any point in their university career. The results are unofficial until they have been reviewed by the Office of the Registrar. Students should be in consultation with their advisors in utilizing any degree evaluations. Once the student has applied for graduation, an official review will be completed by the Office of the Registrar.

Final Examinations

Regular examinations are held at the end of each semester. No such examination of a regular class may be held at any other time except that designated by the administration. A student who is deliberately absent from a semester examination without legitimate reason will be given a grade of F on the course.

Grade Correction

If you believe there is an error in a final course grade, you must take action before the end of the following semester.

Start by speaking with your instructor to review your grade and check for any possible mistakes. If you still believe the grade is incorrect or unfair after speaking with your instructor, you may appeal to the department chair. If needed, you can take the appeal further to the academic dean, whose decision will be final in most cases.

Note:

If the dean is the one who issued the grade, or if there are special circumstances, the appeal will be handled by the Provost.

If a grade change is approved, your instructor will submit Grade Change form to the Office of the Registrar.

Grades in the Permanent Record and Repeating a Course

A graduate student may repeat a course subject to the approval of their academic advisor, Department Chair, and Academic Dean. Before registering, students should carefully consider how a repeat will impact their GPA, financial aid status, and athletic eligibility.

Regulations for Repeated Graduate Coursework

- **Frequency Limit:** Only one course per graduate degree may be repeated, and it may only be repeated one time.
- **Credit Hour Limitations:** If a course is repeated after a passing grade has already been earned, additional credit hours will not be applied toward degree completion unless the specific course has been officially designated as repeatable by the Academic Council.

- **GPA Integration:** All grades earned in a repeated course will factor into the student's cumulative GPA calculation unless the student utilizes the Grade Forgiveness Policy. Every course attempt and earned grade remains a part of the permanent transcript; when a course is repeated, the original grade is designated with an "I" (Include in GPA) notation.
- **Graduation Application:** The most recent grade received in a repeated course is the one applied toward graduation requirements, even if that most recent grade is lower than a previous attempt.
- **Registration Restrictions:** Students cannot receive an override to pre-register for a repeat attempt if they are currently enrolled in that course and have not yet received an official, final grade for the current term.

Grade Forgiveness Policy

A graduate student pursuing a degree at Mississippi Christian University may request grade forgiveness for one repeated course per degree. This request requires the formal approval of the student's academic advisor, Department Chair, and Academic Dean.

Conditions and Exclusions

- **Policy Limits:** Only one course per degree can be forgiven one time. Additionally, grade forgiveness cannot be applied if the original grade was received as a result of a disciplinary action or an honor code violation.
- **Degree Conferral:** Once a graduate degree has been officially awarded, the grades for any courses utilized to confer that degree cannot be forgiven under this policy.
- **Timeline and Transcript Notation:** A student may only petition for grade forgiveness after final grades for the repeated attempt have been fully processed. Forgiven grades remain visible on the student's permanent record but will be marked with an "E" (Exclude from GPA) notation on the transcript, removing them from the cumulative GPA calculation.
- **Academic Standing:** Any past notations of academic probation or similar status will not be expunged from a student's transcript as a consequence of this policy. The Grade Forgiveness Policy is intended solely to assist graduate students in meeting the general requirements for degree completion.

Incomplete Grades

When a student has an acceptable reason for failing to complete a course on time, the student's record will be marked "Incomplete" (I) by the faculty member. In limited circumstances, an Incomplete may also be assigned administratively by the Registrar or another appropriate academic administrator when final grades are not submitted by the instructor by the published deadline.

The I grade is not to be utilized to provide preferential treatment for a student who is unprepared through choice or carelessness. It is granted only when circumstances beyond the student's control, such as illness on examination day, make it impossible to complete the course on schedule.

Eligibility Criteria

An Incomplete grade may be awarded only if the following conditions are met:

The student has met all semester attendance requirements and is currently doing passing work.

The request is made at a point beyond the final date to drop or withdraw from a class.

In the opinion of the professor, the student has completed the vast majority of the required work, and the

remaining assignments can be accomplished independently without significant oversight by the professor.

Deadlines and GPA Impact

The faculty member will inform the student of the postponed date for completion, which should be as soon as possible after the emergency but no later than the end of the next semester.

The grade of Incomplete does not carry grade points and is not calculated in the grade point average while it remains on the student's record; the course hours are excluded from GPA calculations until a final grade is submitted.

An I that is not removed by the established deadline automatically becomes an F, regardless of whether the student remains enrolled at the university. In extraordinary circumstances, the faculty member may petition the Provost for an extension of this deadline.

Procedures and Fees

To receive an Incomplete, the student must request it directly from the faculty member. Upon approval, the faculty member completes a special form obtained from the Registrar's Office.

The student is assessed an Incomplete Grade fee in accordance with institutional policy. This fee applies in all instances unless explicitly waived by the Registrar in cases where the Incomplete was assigned administratively. Upon successful completion of the remaining course requirements, the faculty member submits a Grade Change form to the Registrar.

An Incomplete cannot be removed by repeating the course. If a student enrolls in the same course a second time before the original Incomplete has been resolved, the Incomplete will immediately convert to an F, which will then be factored into the student's attempted hours and GPA.

In Progress (PR) Grades

The grade of PR (In Progress) is strictly reserved for instances where, by design, coursework extends beyond the standard semester or term in which the course is scheduled. This grade is primarily utilized for specific academic milestones such as thesis, dissertations, study abroad programs, practicum, internships, and projects demonstrating excellence. The official list of approved courses eligible for a PR grade is maintained within the Registrar's Office.

GPA Impact and Completion Requirements

A PR grade does not count toward earned grade point hours and has no effect on the student's GPA. It functions as a temporary placeholder until it is converted to a final letter grade upon successful completion of the course requirements.

The specific requirements and designated timeframe for completing the coursework are outlined within each course syllabus or established through a prior arrangement with the course instructor. If a student fails to meet these requirements within the designated timeframe, the PR grade will be removed, and the student will be assigned the actual grade earned for the work completed.

Grade Changes

When the semester is complete and courses and grades have been officially recorded on the permanent transcript, course titles, numbers and departments cannot be changed. Thus, in programs where courses are cross-listed, it is imperative that the preferred course number, title and department be identified when registering for the course or be changed within the enrollment period of any given semester.

Academic Standing, Graduate Probation and Academic Suspension

Progress toward a degree is measured both quantitatively and qualitatively-by the number of grade point hours and by the grade point. Grade point average (GPA) is calculated by dividing the number of grade points by the grade point hours.

Master's Students End-of-Term Standings

The following are descriptions of end-of-term-standings:

1. Academic Good Standing (00) The requirement for remaining in academic good standing as a graduate student at Mississippi Christian University is the same as the requirement for graduation-a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher (a B average) on all grade point hours applied to the graduate major at Mississippi Christian University. A student whose GPA is less than a 3.00 will be notified.
2. Academic Warning (GW) - 2.50-2.99 cumulative GPA on up to 6 hours of graduate level courses. This status warns students that substantial academic progress must be made toward achieving good standing or they will not be allowed to complete their degree program.
3. Academic Suspension with Right of Appeal (GS) -
 - a. 0.00-2.49 cumulative GPA on up to 6 hours of graduate level courses. .
 - b. 0.00-2.99 cumulative GPA on more than 6 hours of graduate level courses.

This status suspends enrollment and student must submit a written appeal to the Graduate Oversight Committee before reinstatement is considered.

Students who pre-register for classes and then are suspended academically at the end of a given semester or summer term are expected to withdraw from pre-registered classes pending outcome of academic appeal. Students who do not appeal for reinstatement after being suspended will be withdrawn from classes for the semester or term for which they have preregistered.

Education Specialists and Doctoral Students End-of-Term Standings

The following are descriptions of end-of-term-standings

- 1. Academic Good Standing (00)** The requirement for remaining in academic good standing as an Education Specialist or Doctoral graduate student at Mississippi Christian University is the same as the requirement for graduation-a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher on all grade point hours applied to the graduate major at Mississippi Christian University. A student whose GPA is less than 3.25 will be notified.
- 2. Graduate Academic Warning (GW)** - 3.00-3.249 cumulative GPA on up to 6 hours of Education Specialist or Doctoral graduate level courses. This status warns students that substantial academic progress must be made toward achieving good standing or they will not be allowed to complete their degree program.
- 3. Academic Suspension with Right of Appeal (GS)** -
 1. 0.00-2.99 cumulative GPA on up to 6 semester hours of Education Specialist or Doctoral graduate level courses. This status suspends enrollment and the student must submit a written appeal to the Graduate Oversight Committee before reinstatement is considered.
 2. 0.00-3.249 cumulative GPA on more than 6 semester hours of Education Specialist or Doctoral graduate level courses. This status suspends enrollment and the student must submit a written appeal to the Graduate Oversight Committee before reinstatement is considered.

Students who pre-register for classes and then are suspended academically at the end of a given semester or summer term are expected to withdraw from pre-registered classes pending outcome of academic appeal. Students who do not appeal for reinstatement after being suspended will be withdrawn from classes for the semester or term for which they have preregistered.

Special Calculation of End-of-Term Standings

A grade of D will not count on a graduate degree. The course, if a required one, must be repeated; however, the D is still calculated in determining the overall GPA. A student who accumulates a total of nine semester hours of C's or lower, but has a B average, may continue in a degree program only as long as the B average is maintained.

Earning a grade of F in any graduate course will result in automatic graduate program suspension.

Any student who is suspended for academic reasons has the right of appeal to the Graduate Oversight Committee. This committee will consider each case on its merits, taking into account the full academic record, the student's rate of progress in making up deficiencies, and any special circumstances that might reflect on the student's ability and readiness to do acceptable graduate work. If a student wishes to register a written appeal, please contact the Registrar's Office immediately for a specific form to be used for that purpose.

Special Status

When a student encounters program-ending academic difficulty during their first attempt at graduate-level work, they may request a change of major. The student must meet all admission requirements, including any undergraduate prerequisites and standardized test, for the new major. Graduate hours accumulated during the first attempt will remain on the official permanent record (transcript) but will be excluded from the overall G.P.A. calculation for the new graduate-level program as deemed appropriate by the Academic Dean and the Vice Provost for Innovation and Graduate Programs. A student may request this special status one time during his/her graduate career at Mississippi Christian University.

Dismissal from Joint Degree Programs

If a student who is enrolled in a joint degree program such as the J.D./M.B.A. is dismissed from one of the degree programs, then he/she is automatically dismissed from the other degree program as well. The student may appeal for readmission to either or both of the programs. If a student wishes to register an appeal, they should contact the Registrar's Office immediately for a specific form to be used for that purpose.

Field Studies

Although the proper focus of a university is its academic instruction, there is a value in relating the academic program to the world of work. This is done in many ways at Mississippi Christian University, including a limited number of internships and field studies courses. The following courses will carry credit in the student's major subject field, but the rules of the program and the course descriptions are the same for all participating departments.

6591, 6592, 6593 Field Studies Credit, 1, 2, or 3 semester hours respectively

These courses are taught in response to a specific need and request. They may involve nontraditional teaching techniques and will usually combine formal education with practical experience in a career field.

Note: Courses 6591, 6592, and 6593 may be repeated as necessary for up to six hours of credit. In most cases the student should not expect to earn more than six semester hours in any combination of field experience courses.

Some academic departments also include special field experience courses in the regular departmental curriculum; see the appropriate catalog section or consult with your faculty advisor.

Honor Code

The MC Honor Code covers all members of the MC Community and requires us to hold each other to the highest standards of virtue and truth in all individual and collective work. The honor code states: "As a member of the MC community, I will live, speak, and work in a way that honors myself and others around me. I will hold myself and others to the highest standards of virtue and truth." Violations of the MC Honor Code include Cheating, Plagiarism, and Other Academic Misconduct. For more information, including definitions, procedures, and penalties,

please refer to University Policy 2.19 and the Honor Code website at <https://www.mc.edu/provost/honorcode> .

General Requirements for Graduation

1. Standardized Examination

If required, a standardized test score should be filed with your application. Consult the specific degree program information in the Graduate Catalog for details.

2. Enrollment in Absentia

Enrollment in Absentia is an enrollment term for students who are not in residence at Mississippi Christian University during the semester of their expected graduation. These students may have been given special permission by the Provost and Executive Vice President to finish final required credit hours at another university, or are finishing thesis writing requirements, or they may have a graduation requirement deficiency and plan to correct it during the current term. This enrollment status must be repeated if the student continues in deficiency for a successive or later term.

3. Transfer Credit

Graduate courses may be transferred from another regionally accredited institution if the student earned a grade of “B” or higher, the coursework is appropriate to the student’s program, and the transfer is officially approved by both the departmental advisor and the Dean of the Academic Program. Final approval of all transfer credit rests with the Dean of the Academic Program.

General Limits and Grade Requirements

Twenty Percent Cap: No more than 20% of the total credit hours required for a graduate degree may be transferred; the remaining degree requirements must be completed in residence at Mississippi Christian University. Certain academic programs may require an even higher proportion of institutional coursework.

GPA and Grading Scales: Only transfer courses graded on a 4.0 scale will be considered for evaluation. Grades earned from transfer courses will remain on the student’s record but will not be used to raise a student’s cumulative GPA at the university.

Program-Specific Advanced Standing and Pathways

Notwithstanding general transfer credit limits, specific graduate programs may offer structured degree pathways that recognize prior graduate credentials—such as approved master’s or specialist degrees—as meeting a defined portion of their degree requirements. In these instances, credit may be awarded via advanced standing, block credit, or course-by-course

transfer as determined by program faculty based on approved curricular equivalency. These individual pathways must be formally approved through the institutional curriculum process, and their specific structures, requirements, and maximum allowances are published under each program's section in the academic catalog.

Time Limitations and Non-Traditional Credit

Recency of Credit: All transfer credits must fall within the program's established time limit for degree completion, which is typically six years for master's and Ed.S. degrees, and eight years for doctoral degrees. Courses older than this limit will not be accepted without explicit validation and approval by the Dean of the Academic Program.

Non-Traditional Credit: Exceptions for non-traditional credit, such as military training, National Board Certification, or the Mississippi CPM Program, may be considered following American Council on Education (ACE) guidelines. In these scenarios, a maximum of six hours of credit may be awarded. This credit will only be officially recorded after the student has successfully completed at least nine semester hours at Mississippi Christian University while maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Second Master's Degree

Admission to a second master's degree is precipitated upon the completion of the first degree. Then upon recommendation of the student's advisor, a candidate for a second Master's degree may apply up to six semester hours of credit from the first degree. Nine to twelve hours of applicable credit from 39 to 60-hour degree programs may be used on a second Master's degree. In every case, at least thirty hours of non-repetitive course work will be required to earn a second masters.

4. Course Level Requirement

The following degree requirements will be maintained:

- **Master's Degrees:** Credit will not be awarded for graduate-level credit in courses previously taken at the undergraduate level (e.g., a 5-level course cannot count for graduate credit if the equivalent 4-level course was taken in a student's undergraduate program).
- **Education Specialist (Ed.S.) Degrees:** A minimum of twelve (12) semester hours must be completed at the 7-level. 5-level Courses will not apply toward Ed.S. requirements.
- **Doctoral Degrees (Ed.D., D.P.C., and others):** Doctoral students must complete a substantial portion of their program at the doctoral level (generally 7-level and above). At least fifty percent (50%) of non-dissertation coursework applied to the degree must be taken at the doctoral level. Program-specific requirements may set higher minimums.

5. Time Limitation

All students pursuing a graduate degree must complete the program within the following time limits from the date of matriculation to the program.

- Masters degrees: six (6) years.
- Education Specialist degrees: six (6) years.
- Doctoral degrees: eight (8) years.

Credit may not be allowed for any course older than the limits above unless recommended by the Department Chair and approved for extenuating circumstances by the program's Academic Dean. See transfer credit policy regarding time limitation.

6. Grade Requirement

In qualifying for a master's degree, the student must earn a grade average of B or better on courses taken to fulfill degree requirements.

In qualifying for an Education Specialist or Doctoral degree the student must earn a grade average of 3.25 or better on all courses taken to fulfill degree requirements.

An incomplete grade may be given to a student who failed to complete all requirements for a course within the required semester or term. A grade of I becomes an F if not removed by the end of the next semester or summer term.

Failure to report for the final examination results in a grade of F. (see section on Class Attendance)

Dean's List

During each semester those full-time graduate students (8 semester hours or more of graduate grade point hours) whose grade point averages are 3.5 are recognized with a notation on their official transcript as being on the Dean's List. Grade point average is calculated on grade point hours.

7. Foreign Language Equivalency

The Master of Arts student must have 12 semester hours of course work in one modern foreign language (or the equivalent of the intermediate level). Another option available to satisfy the language requirement is submitting acceptable score-levels showing second year proficiency on the CLEP (College-Level Examination Program) in French, German or Spanish. Contact the Counseling and Testing Center for CLEP information and registration material.

A student may attempt the CLEP twice; and if after two testings, a satisfactory score has not been made, a locally-administered test may be arranged. If a satisfactory score has not been made after the locally-administered exam, the foreign language requirement must be met by passing the intermediate-level language course(s). Cost of the departmentally administered exam is \$30.00.

The language requirement must be met before a student accumulates twelve semester hours of

graduate course work toward the Master of Arts degree.

8. Theses, Dissertations, and Projects

Graduate programs may require a thesis, dissertation, or applied project as part of degree requirements. The specific nature of this requirement, and whether it is mandatory or optional, is determined by the individual academic program and published in the Graduate Catalog.

Students engaged in a thesis, dissertation, or project must enroll in the appropriate thesis, dissertation, or project credit hours each fall and spring semester until the work is completed, defended, and approved. Continuous enrollment is required each academic semester. Summer enrollment is required if the student is actively working with faculty, defending, or submitting the final manuscript during the summer.

9. Comprehensive Examination

Comprehensive examinations may be required as part of graduate, specialist, or doctoral degree programs. The specific format (oral, written, or both) and timing of the examination are determined by the individual program and published in the Graduate Catalog.

Eligibility to sit for a comprehensive examination requires a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 in graduate coursework at Mississippi College. Programs may set higher standards. For example, candidates for the Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in Educational Leadership must hold a 3.25 GPA to be eligible to defend the required research-based project.

Students who do not pass the comprehensive examination may be permitted one opportunity to retake it in the following semester or summer term. Programs may require additional coursework or preparation before a retake is scheduled.

No comprehensive examination will be scheduled unless the student has applied for the exam by the program's published deadline and meets all eligibility requirements.

10. Application for Degree

See calendar for specific application deadlines.

To submit an application for degree, students should log into the MyMCportal on the MC website. The application can be found under the QuickLaunch navigation column in the Graduation Folder. Clicking on "Apply to Graduate" opens the online form. When the application is completed, the student can submit the application digitally.

Applying by the PRIORITY deadline gives the Registrar's Office time to check degree requirements and to notify students who do not meet those requirements early in the graduation semester when changes can be made to address the deficiencies.

Students who apply after the PARTICIPATION deadline (approximately six weeks before graduation) will not be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremonies, their names may not appear in the commencement program, and they cannot use the online application. They must

complete a paper form available in the Registrar's Office to apply for their degrees.

Candidates for degrees are charged a graduation fee at the time their application is processed. An additional late fee will be charged for applicants received after the published participation deadline. These fees together with all balances of any nature must be paid in full at least three days before the date of graduation in order for the student to be eligible to pick up a cap and gown, or receive their diploma.

11. Attendance at Graduation

Students who meet graduation requirements are expected to march at commencement. If students have questions about marching, they should contact the Office of the Registrar.

Academic Certificates

Mississippi Christian University offers credit-bearing academic certificate programs designed to provide focused study in a specific academic discipline. These programs can support professional advancement, complement an existing major, or fulfill personal educational goals. Certificates may be completed concurrently alongside a regular degree program or pursued as a stand-alone track, and all university-approved certificate completions are formally recognized on the student's academic transcript.

Certificate Options and Pathways

Major- or Degree-Dependent Certificates: These programs are available only to students actively pursuing a degree at the university. Major-dependent certificates act as specialized pathways within a specific major and are awarded at the same time as the degree. Degree-dependent certificates require active degree-seeking status but are open to any major.

Stand-Alone Certificates: These credit-bearing programs are designed for students who are admitted to the university for the primary purpose of certificate study and are not concurrently enrolled in a full degree program.

Academic Levels: Certificates are offered at various levels based on a student's prior education, ranging from pre-baccalaureate undergraduate certificates to post-master's graduate credentials. Each program typically consists of 12 to 18 credit hours within a single academic level.

General Rules and Academic Standards

To successfully complete an academic certificate, students must meet strict academic and residency standards. At least 75% of the coursework required for any certificate must be completed directly at Mississippi Christian University, as transfer credits or prior coursework cannot exceed 25% of the program. Undergraduate-level certificates require students to maintain a minimum cumulative and program GPA of 2.00. Graduate-level certificates require a minimum cumulative and program GPA of 3.00, and must be completed within six years of initial enrollment.

Coursework completed for a certificate may be eligible to apply toward a future degree program, provided the student is formally admitted to that program and all other institutional policies are met. All certificate evaluations are unofficial until a final review is confirmed by the Office of the Registrar, and any outstanding university account balances must be paid in full before an official paper or digital certificate copy will be released.

Career Development

The primary mission of the Office of Career Development is to serve as a centralized resource for undergraduate students, graduate students, and recent alumni in pursuit of meaningful career, educational pathways, and professional growth. Students are encouraged to take advantage of Career Development resources and events early in their academic experience at Mississippi Christian University. The office also serves as a liaison to employers and graduate schools to facilitate job, experiential learning, and advanced educational opportunities for students and alumni.

We accomplish this mission by partnering with MC faculty and staff, employers, and alumni to create and deliver professional relationships, programs, and events that educate and equip students/alumni in multiple areas. These areas include: career exploration, career readiness, employment/hiring trends, interview preparation, career document writing, employer information sessions, on-campus job interviews, assistance with job search platforms, on-campus employment, graduate school preparation, and professional/personal branding.

MC students and alumni have the opportunity to connect with on-campus, local, and national employers via an online job board (Handshake), on-campus interviews, and annual Career Days. Career Development manages Handshake, which serves as a centralized location for students and alumni to search for employment and experiential learning opportunities, as well as expand their professional network.

Career Development professionals are dedicated to providing the necessary programs, resources and support needed to guide students and alumni in their chosen path.

For more information, visit us on the web at www.mc.edu/career or call 601-925-3901.

Special Programs and Study Opportunities

Accelerated Master's Program (AMP at MC)

MC's Accelerated Master's Program (AMP) is designed for bright and driven undergraduate students aspiring to advance their education to the master's level. AMP allows you to earn both

your bachelor's and master's degrees simultaneously, enabling you to begin your career sooner.

Up to 10 graduate credit hours can be applied toward both your undergraduate and graduate degrees. Even better, these AMP graduate-level classes are offered with a 50% tuition scholarship while you are still an undergraduate.

AMP Requirements

The following is required to get started in AMP:

- A minimum of 65 hours completed of undergraduate coursework*
- An overall GPA of 3.0 on undergraduate coursework*
- Approval of the Department Chair
- A Graduate Application to their Graduate Degree Program

**Some departments may have additional requirements. Contact us for more information.*

How AMP Works

Once your application is approved, the student and their advisor can select up to 10 hours that will satisfy both undergraduate and graduate degree requirements. These courses may be split level (5-level) classes or 6-level classes.

The student will submit an "Accelerated Masters Program Course Registration" form to the Registrar's Office each semester. This allows the student to receive both undergraduate and graduate credit for coursework that semester.

Upon successful completion of the graduate coursework, the Registrar's office will award credit for the Undergraduate coursework with the same grade as the Graduate coursework.

Students will be classified as an undergraduate student until they complete their bachelor's degree. Upon admission to graduate studies, they will transition to the status of graduate student and will be subject to all requirements associated with pursuing a graduate degree. Students will be awarded a bachelor's degree upon fulfillment of its requirements. Likewise, completion of the requirements for the graduate degree students will obtain the graduate degree.

Students are advised to regularly consult with both their current undergraduate advisor and potential graduate advisor to confirm that chosen graduate courses align with the requirements of both programs.

Instructional Organization

[College of Arts and Sciences](#)

[School of Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts](#)

[Art Department](#)

[Communication Department](#)

[Music Department](#)

[English and World Languages Department](#)

[Humanities and Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Studies](#)

[History and Political Science Department](#)

[School of Science and Mathematics](#)

[Biological Sciences Department](#)

[Chemistry and Biochemistry Department](#)

[Mathematics and Computer Science Department](#)

[School of Business](#)

[School of Education and Human Sciences](#)

[Teacher Education and Leadership Department](#)

[Kinesiology Department](#)

[Counseling Department](#)

[School of Nursing](#)

[Nursing Department](#)

[Public Health Department](#)

[Law School](#)

Personnel and Contact Information

*Administration, Deans, Department Chairs, Administration Assistants,
Academic and Support Services*

	EXT	BOX	EMAIL
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT			
<i>Dr. Blake Thompson</i>	3200	4001	bthompson@mc.edu
<i>Shelia Carpenter</i>	3200	4001	carpenter@mc.edu
ACADEMICS			
Provost			
<i>Dr. Stephanie Busbea (Interim)</i>	3926	4002	busbea@mc.edu
<i>Amanda Price</i>	3202	4002	abprice@mc.edu
<i>Assistant Provost</i>			
<i>Dr. Stephanie Carmicle</i>	3872	3872	carmicle@mc.edu
<i>Dr. Keith Randazzo</i>	3260	7728	kdrandazzo@mc.edu
Academic Deans			
<i>School of Business: Dr. Marcelo Eduardo</i>	3420	4014	eduardo@mc.edu
<i>Janie Sigur</i>	3214	4014	mjsigur@mc.edu
<i>School of Christian Studies, Humanities and Arts:</i>	7785	4019	vance@mc.edu

Dr. Reid Vance

<i>Dr. LaJune White</i>	3218	4012	white19@mc.edu
<i>School of Education and Human Sciences: Dr. Martha D'Amico (interim)</i>	3402	4009	mbdamico@mc.edu
<i>School of Law: Dr. John Anderson</i>	7101	4008	jpanders@mc.edu
<i>Laura P. Jackson</i>	7104	4008	lpjackson@mc.edu
<i>School of Nursing: Dr. Kelly Harden</i>	3381	4037	kharden@mc.edu
<i>Jennifer Pague</i>	3278	4037	japague@mc.edu
<i>School of Science and Mathematics: Dr. Stan Baldwin</i>	3321	4045	sbaldwin@mc.edu
<i>Julianna Webber</i>	3300	4045	jwebber@mc.edu
	EXT	BOX	EMAIL
Academic Departments			
<i>Art: Elise Payne</i>	3231	4020	empayne@mc.edu
	3231	4020	
<i>Biology: Dr. Beth Barlow</i>	3972	4045	babarlow@mc.edu
<i>Julianna Webber</i>	3300	4045	jwebber@mc.edu
<i>Business: Dr. Marcelo Eduardo</i>	3420	4014	eduardo@mc.edu
<i>Janie Sigur</i>	3214	4014	mjsigur@mc.edu
<i>Chemistry/Biochemistry: Dr. Clinton Bailey</i>	3338	4036	bailey@mc.edu

Felecitiy Hearn	3223	4036	fhearn@mc.edu
<i>Christian Studies: Dr. David Champagne</i>	3295	4012	champagne@mc.edu
Dr. LaJune White	3218	4012	white19@mc.edu
<i>Communications: Dr. Reid Vance</i>	7785	4019	vance@mc.edu
Vicki Williams	3229	4019	vwilliam@mc.edu
<i>Counseling: Dr. Kayla Acklin</i>	7397	4013	kacklin@mc.edu
	3841	4013	
<i>Dyslexia Center: Jan Hankins</i>	7766	4039	hankin00@mc.edu
<i>Electrical Engineering & Physics: Dr. Chris Maggio</i>	3213	4004	maggio@mc.edu
Felecitiy Hearn	3223	4036	fhearn@mc.edu
<i>English & World Languages: Dr. Kristi Melancon</i>	3325	4022	kmelancon@mc.edu
Autumn Norman	3215	4022	anorman1@mc.edu
<i>English & World Languages: Dr. Amy Williamson (Assistant Chair)</i>	3401	4032	Willia49@mc.edu
Cristel Young	3400	4032	cyoung@mc.edu
<i>History and Political Science: Dr. Beth Stapleton (Interim)</i>	7664	4032	stapleto@mc.edu
Hannah Purvis	3221	4006	hpurvis@mc.edu
<i>Kinesiology: Dr. Christopher Washam</i>	3302	4054	washam@mc.edu

Carol Garrett	3348	4054	cjgarrett@mc.edu
<i>Law: Dr. John Anderson</i>	7101	4008	jpanders@mc.edu
Laura P. Jackson	7104	4008	lpjackson@mc.edu
<i>Mathematics & Computer Science: Dr. Daniel Watson</i>	3817	4025	dwatson@mc.edu
Felecitiy Hearn	3223	4036	fhearn@mc.edu
<i>Music: Dr. Ben Williams</i>	7739	4021	benwilliams@mc.edu
Dottie Serio	3440	4021	serio@mc.edu
<i>Nursing: Rick Lewis, Undergraduate (Interim)</i>	3384	4037	lewis13@mc.edu
<i>Nursing: Dr. Jeanne Bernier, Graduate</i>	251-609-7988		jabernier@mc.edu
Megan Scott	3837	4037	mdscott@mc.edu
<i>Physician Assistant Studies: Steve Martin (Interim)</i>	7376	4053	sdmartin@mc.edu
Brie Smith	7373	4053	Bsmith6@mc.edu
<i>Psychology: Dr. Michael Mann</i>	3820	4040	mmann@mc.edu
Anna Carter	7800	4040	acarter7@mc.edu
<i>Public Health:</i>	3387	4037	
<i>Social Work: Dr. Laurie Lawson</i>	3298	4015	llawson@mc.edu
Cristel Young	3400	4015	Cyoung6@mc.edu
<i>Teacher Education and Leadership:</i>	3478	4009	peeple@mc.edu

Dr. Rachel Peebles (interim)

<i>Christi Wall</i>	3226	4009	crwall@mc.edu
----------------------------	------	------	---------------

	EXT	BOX	EMAIL
--	------------	------------	--------------

ADMINISTRATIVE/SUPPORT SERVICES

<i>Accounts Payable and Purchasing: Dana Elmore</i>	3371	4034	elmore@mc.edu
---	------	------	---------------

<i>Admissions and Enrollment Services: Dr. Michael Wright</i>	7713	4026	mwright@mc.edu
---	------	------	----------------

<i>Undergraduate: Angie Hardin</i>	7288	4026	ahardin@mc.edu
---	------	------	----------------

<i>Undergraduate: Kaitlin Turcotte</i>			kmturcotte@mc.edu
---	--	--	-------------------

<i>Graduate and Prof. Studies: Madison Carter</i>	7715	4067	mcarter@mc.edu
--	------	------	----------------

<i>Advancement: Dr. Bill Townsend</i>	3256	4080	btownsen@mc.edu
---------------------------------------	------	------	-----------------

<i>Alumni Relations and Family Engagement: Jake Donald</i>	7322	4005	jdonald1@mc.edu
--	------	------	-----------------

<i>Athletic Director: Kenny Bizot</i>	3819	4049	kbizot@mc.edu
---------------------------------------	------	------	---------------

<i>Missa Turman</i>	3341	4049	turman@mc.edu
----------------------------	------	------	---------------

<i>Baptist Clinic</i>	601.924.9005		
-----------------------	--------------	--	--

<i>Campus Store - powered by BibliU: Hanna Boatright</i>	601.925.3367		hboatright@mc.edu
--	--------------	--	-------------------

<i>BSU: Dannie Waller</i>	3397	4062	dwaller@mc.edu
---------------------------	------	------	----------------

Cody Counts	3339	4062	ccounts@mc.edu
<i>Business Office: Karen Key</i>	3833	4051	key@mc.edu
Angela Riggs	3305	4051	ariggs@mc.edu
<i>Campus Dining</i>	7950		
<i>Campus Operations: Roe Grubbs</i>	3844	4046	rgrubbs@mc.edu
Haley Martin	3854	4046	Hmartin2@mc.edu
<i>Canvas: Erica Battle</i>	7878	4029	ebattle@mc.edu
<i>Career Development: Alyssa Bazile</i>	7780	4010	abazile@mc.edu
<i>Chief Financial Officer: Laura Jackson</i>	3865	4051	ljackson@mc.edu
<i>Institute for Christian Leadership: Benjamin Goff</i>	3830	4012	bgoff@mc.edu
<i>Community Service Center: Shari Barnes</i>	3267	4096	sbarnes@mc.edu
<i>Continuing Education: Ken Gilliam</i>	3264	4031	gilliam@mc.edu
Dee Folkes	3265	4031	dfolkes@mc.edu
<i>Controller: Ebby Dedeaux</i>	3310	4051	ededeaux@mc.edu
<i>Credit Union</i>	3895	4033	
<i>Dean of Students: Jonathan Ambrose</i>	3275	4064	jwambrose@mc.edu
<i>Dyslexia Center: Jan Hankins</i>	7766	4039	hankin00@mc.edu
<i>Event Services: Lori Bobo</i>	7833	4077	lbobo@mc.edu

<i>Faculty Athletic Representative: Keith Randazzo</i>	3260	4054	kdrandazzo@mc.edu
<i>Financial Aid: Tawesia Colyer</i>	3253	4035	tcolyer@mc.edu
<i>Annita Bennett</i>	7750	4035	aobennett@mc.edu
<i>International Institute: Richard Ladner</i>	7705	4038	rladner@mc.edu
<i>Rachel Dusenberry</i>	7719	4038	rdusenberry@mc.edu
<i>Gore Gallery: Anthony Thaxton</i>	3231	4061	athaxton@mc.edu
<i>Healthplex</i>	7900	7902	
<i>IT Help Desk</i>	3939		support@mc.edu
<i>Housekeeping: Jeanette Brown</i>	3245	4046	zbrown@mc.edu
<i>Human Resources: Rebekah Nelson</i>	3313	4052	rnelson@mc.edu
<i>Staff: Kim Grizzell</i>	3320	4052	kgrizzell@mc.edu
<i>Institutional Research: Aaron Pritchett</i>	3464	4029	apritchett@mc.edu
<i>Library: Claudia Conklin</i>	3870	4047	cconklin@mc.edu
<i>Mail Room and Copy Center: Mary Lou Dill</i>	7654	4000	dill@mc.edu
<i>Marketing and Communication: Jenny Tate</i>	3239	4003	jtate@mc.edu
<i>Anna Porter Maddox</i>	7604	4003	ahall3@mc.edu
<i>MC Foundation: Katrina Pace</i>	7645	4005	kpace@mc.edu
<i>Payroll: Gena McBrain</i>	3314	4051	mcbrain@mc.edu

<i>Public Safety: Michael Warren</i>	3834	4059	mjwarren@mc.edu
<i>Ellen Vinzant</i>	7814	4059	evinzant@mc.edu
<i>Registrar: Megan Pritchett</i>	3274	4028	mpritchett@mc.edu
<i>Assistant Registrar: Elizabeth Milner</i>	3828	4028	milner01@mc.edu
<i>Assistant Registrar: Maegan Johnson</i>	3219	4028	Mljohnson4@mc.edu
<i>Residence Life: Kasia Twiner</i>	7759	4044	ktwiner@mc.edu
<i>Anna Perez</i>	7845	4466	ajperez1@mc.edu
<i>Stockroom and Receiving: Billie Owens</i>	3377	4046	bowens@mc.edu
<i>Student Counseling Services: Jenny Crutchfield</i>	7791	4016	jcrutchfield@mc.edu
<i>Rebecca Porter</i>	7790	4016	roporter@mc.edu
<i>Student Wellbeing: Carly Gadman</i>	3248	4042	cgadman@mc.edu
<i>Student Engagement: Jadi Foster</i>	7714	4060	jfoster1@mc.edu
<i>Student Success: Dr. Stephanie Carmicle</i>	3872	4076	carmicle@mc.edu
<i>Marilyn Tullos</i>	7353	4076	mltullos@mc.edu
<i>Tanya Cole</i>	7657	4076	tdantzlercole@mc.edu
<i>Switchboard</i>	3000		
<i>Telecommunications:</i>	3583	4056	
<i>Veterans Affairs and Military: Teresa Hill</i>	3272	4028	tlhill@mc.edu

Web Communications: Robert Turnage 7761 4003 rturnage@mc.edu

Writing Center: Lingshan Song 3268 4022 song002mc.edu

College of Arts and Sciences

Mission and History

The College of Arts and Sciences consists of two schools: the School of Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts and the School of Science and Mathematics. They offer students a liberal arts education reflecting both academic excellence and Christian concern and commitment. Course offerings in the College of Arts and Sciences provide students with a broad general education as well as in-depth knowledge in particular majors. This combination is designed to equip students not only with career training, but also with an appreciation and understanding of cultural achievements and religious values and with the literacy skills necessary for lifelong learning. Each school provides students with a strong background for post-baccalaureate concentration in graduate or professional studies.

The academic programs in the College of Arts and Sciences prepare students for such careers as those of pastor, director of religious education, minister of music, artist, journalist, chemist, biologist, physicist, mathematician, computer science specialist, social scientist, historian, social worker, teacher, writer, linguist, mass media specialist, interior designer, graphic designer, paralegal or law enforcement official. The Department of Christian Studies also gives excellent preparation to many students who will attend our Southern Baptist seminaries.

History

The College of Arts and Sciences has a unique history. It is both the oldest and the newest of the schools that make up Mississippi Christian University. It includes those fields of learning which have traditionally constituted a university education and which were the whole curriculum of Mississippi Christian University until relatively late in its history. By the early twentieth century, as human knowledge became more specialized and skilled professions became more complex, Mississippi Christian University, along with most other colleges and universities, added courses of study directed toward preparation for specific professions, such as teaching or business; it also helped students to tailor their pre-professional studies in the broad areas of liberal learning and in preparation for professional studies in such fields as medicine and law. In 1969, with the establishment of the School of Nursing, Mississippi Christian University began the systematic development of a university structure. New or existing programs were formed into separate, though related, schools of business, education, law, and graduate studies. In 1982, the restructuring was completed by combining the academic areas of Fine Arts, Humanities, Christian Studies, Social Sciences, and Science and Mathematics into the College of Arts and Sciences.

School of Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts

Art
Christian Studies
Communication

Music
English and World Languages
History
Political Science
Administration of Justice
Modern Languages

School of Science and Mathematics

Biological Sciences
Chemistry
Engineering and Physics
Physics
Mathematics and Computer Science

School of Christian Studies, Humanities, and the Arts

Dean

Reid Vance, Interim Dean (2007)
601.925.7785
vance@mc.edu

Chairs

Art
Elise Payne, Chair (2024)
601.925.6231
empayne@mc.edu

Christian Studies
David Champagne, Chair (2012)
601.925.3295
champagne@mc.edu

Communication
Reid Vance, Chair (2007)
601.925.7785
vance@mc.edu

English & World Languages
Kristi Melancon, Chair (2014)
601.925.3325

kmelancon@mc.edu

Amy Williamson, Assistant Chair (2001)

601.925.3401

willia49@mc.edu

History & Political Science

Beth Stapleton (2002)

601.925.7664

stapleto@mc.edu

Humanities and Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Studies Programs

Kerri Jordan (2002)

601.925.3334

Jordan01@mc.edu

Music

Ben Williams, Chair (2010)

601.925.7739

BenWilliams@mc.edu

Department of Art

The Mississippi Christian University Department of Art offers the Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts, the Master of Fine Arts in Graphic Design, the Master of Science in Art (Studio Art), the Master of Science in Graphic Design, and, in cooperation with the School of Education and Human Sciences and Human Sciences, the Master of Education in Art. Students will have the opportunity to study art at an advanced level in an environment where the emphasis is on the study of art from a Christian worldview. These degrees are offered in studio art, which includes studies in two-dimensional arts such as painting and drawing, and the three-dimensional arts including sculpture and ceramics; and graphic design in the Master of Science in Graphic Design.

Scholarships for Graduate Candidates

The Department of Art offers a limited number of scholarships for graduate students in art. Contact the Mississippi Christian University Department of Art for details.

Additional scholarships and loans are available. For more information, please contact the Admissions Office or the Financial Aid Office.

Transfer Credit

A student may request to transfer a maximum of 12 hours of graduate credit from another regionally accredited college or university. Only courses in which the student received the grade of B or higher may be transferred. Contact the Graduate Coordinator for the Department of Art

for details.

Mississippi Christian University graduate students currently enrolled in the Master of Arts in Art, the Master of Science in Art (Studio Art), the Master of Science in Graphic Design or the Master of Education (with emphasis in Art) degree programs may transfer a maximum of 30 resident art graduate hours into the MFA degree program. Mississippi Christian University alumni with a Master of Arts in Art, the Master of Science in Art, the Master of Science in Graphic Design or a Master of Education in Art Education degree may transfer a maximum of 30 resident hours of graduate art into the MFA program with approval of the Chair of the Department of Art. All other conditions and requirements outlined by the Graduate Catalog concerning transfer credit must be observed. Refer to the General Requirements for Graduation in this catalog.

Art Courses Approved for Graduate Credit

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is a prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all three-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week. (See semester or term schedule for laboratory fees.)

**Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit on the 5000 level.*

Master of Education

Art, M.Ed. (30 sem. hrs.) available in traditional and low-residency formats

The Department of Art and School of Education and Human Sciences and Human Sciences cooperatively offer course work leading to a Master of Education in Art. See School of Education and Human Sciences and Human Sciences section of this catalog for program details.

Application for Full Admission

In addition to the requirements set forth by the university, the applicant must comply with the following and have approval for admission from an appointed graduate art faculty review committee. Also, The Department of Art and School of Education and Human Sciences and Human Sciences cooperatively offer course work leading to a Master of Education in Art. (See School of Education and Human Sciences and Human Sciences section of this catalog for program details.)

1. Applicants interested in the 30-hour *Master of Education Degree in Art* must provide the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies with the following:

a. An online application for Graduate Admission, located on the website:

<https://www.mc.edu/application/>.

- b. One official copy of all academic transcripts.
- c. Teaching license copy
- d. A \$35.00 application fee.

All admission documents must be sent to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (Box 4067, Clinton, MS 39058 or gps@mc.edu).

2. The admission requirements below will be reviewed by an appointed Department of Art Graduate Admissions Review Committee and the Art Education Coordinator.
 - a. Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in art (or 45 semester hours of art) and shall have had six semester hours of art history, and hold or qualify to hold a standard educator license in the State of Mississippi to be considered for admission.
 - b. Provide a portfolio of artwork that reflects proficiency and preparation for graduate study in studio art. It should include painting, drawing, and any other media. The portfolio must consist of 15-20 images. The PDF portfolio may be sent by email to art@mc.edu. The portfolio will be reviewed by an appointed graduate committee and an admission decision will be made.
 - c. Applicants must provide a current resume or vita.
 - d. Submit a written statement of purpose setting forth a personal philosophy and professional objectives.
 - e. Complete an interview with the Art Education Coordinator.
 - f. Students must maintain a 3.00 grade average.
 - g. A low-residency option is available which allows M.Ed. candidates to take the Art Education and Education courses online and the studio art courses on campus during the summers. This allows teachers to continue working while they complete a master's degree in Art Education.
1. Six semester hours of required Graduate credit in Professional, ART EDUCATION Core Courses:

ART 6207 Curriculum Development in Studio Art Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

And one of these:

ART 6507 Research Topics in Art History: Artists Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

OR

ART 6508 Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

2. Nine semester hours of elective professional education core courses selected from the following:

- EDU 6425 - Advanced Child Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6506 - Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6522 - Current Methodology in Elementary Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6523 - Current Methodology in Secondary Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6542 - Technology in Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6554 - Tests and Measurement **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 7601 - Comparative Philosophies of Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- PSY 6515 - Lifespan Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 6503 - Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling) **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

3. Fifteen semester hours of studio art

Selected in consultation with an Art Education advisor.

4. In their last semester of enrollment:

Candidates for the M.Ed.-Art must satisfactorily complete comprehensive exams at the end of their program of study. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

The Master of Education in Art is a Secondary Subject Endorsement area.

Master of Fine Arts

M.F.A. in Visual Arts & M.F.A. in Graphic Design

The Master of Fine Arts Degree is recognized as a terminal degree in studio art and as a normal requirement for studio art teaching positions at institutions of higher education. Through research and application in either a two-dimensional or three-dimensional concentration, the MFA degree offers a program of study that fosters intensive creative activity for professional artists and art educators. Students will have the opportunity to study art at an advanced level in an environment where the emphasis is on the study of art from a Christian worldview.

These degrees are offered in studio art, which includes studies in two-dimensional arts such as painting and drawing, the three-dimensional arts including sculpture and ceramics, and graphic design.

Courses will normally be offered to allow completion of course work in two years plus one semester of full-time study, but actual completion of course requirements is dependent on course availability and the taking of required courses when offered. The Department of Art cannot guarantee a completion date for the degree.

Application for Full Admission

In addition to the requirements set forth by the university, the applicant must comply with the following and have approval for admission from an appointed graduate art faculty review committee:

Master of Fine Arts Degree in Visual Arts

1. Applicants interested in the *M.F.A in Studio Art* degree must provide the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies with the following:

a. An online application for Graduate Admission, located on the website:

<https://www.mc.edu/application/>.

b. One official copy of all academic transcripts.

d. A \$35.00 application fee.

All admission documents above must be sent to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (Box 4067, Clinton, MS 39058) or gps@mc.edu.

2. Submit the statement, resume, and digital portfolio of images to art@mc.edu.

a. Applicants for the 60-hour *M.F.A in Visual Arts* must either hold an undergraduate degree in studio art with a major in either two-dimensional or three-dimensional art or earned the equivalent undergraduate preparation in art (contact the Graduate Coordinator of the Department of Art for information on equivalency of preparation).

b. The Department of Art requires applicants to have an undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or above.

c. GRE Requirement: *Applicants must take the Graduate Record Examination as part of the admission requirements. Regular admission requires the following scores: A verbal score of 146 or more and a quantitative score of 140 or more, or one of these scores on either section and a score of 2.5 on the writing assessment of the GRE General Examination. The verbal and quantitative scores will not be combined. The GRE must be taken prior to earning six semester hours of graduate credit.*

Students who have not obtained the necessary scores on the G.R.E. after one attempt may take ART 6507 Research Topics in Art History: Artists, or ART 6508 Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles and earn a grade of B or higher in lieu of the G.R.E. score requirement, or present a grade of B or higher for having taken one of these courses already.

d. Submit a formal statement of intent of 500-1,000 words setting forth a personal philosophy and professional objectives for the degree. Submit the statement, resume, and digital portfolio of images to art@mc.edu.

e. Complete a scheduled interview with the Graduate Studio Art Coordinator or Graduate Admissions Review Committee.

f. Provide a portfolio of artwork that reflects proficiency and preparation for graduate study in

studio art. It should include painting and drawing for a two-dimensional emphasis or sculpture and ceramics for a three-dimensional emphasis. Submit the statement, resume, and digital portfolio of images to art@mc.edu. The portfolio will be reviewed by an appointed graduate committee and an admission decision will be made.

g. Note: It is the option of the graduate art faculty committee to require applicants to take specific undergraduate prerequisite courses prior to admission to the MFA in Visual Arts program.

h. Students pursuing a Master of Fine Arts graduate degree for the purpose of obtaining a standard AAA educator license are required to submit a copy of the appropriate VALID Mississippi standard A educator license along with the application.

International Student Admissions

International students must meet regular admission requirements as stated above. However, the following exceptions to admissions procedures of Mississippi Christian University may be made for international students applying for the Master of Fine Arts:

The interview may take place upon arrival at Mississippi Christian University.

Scholarships for Graduate Candidates

The Department of Art offers a limited number of scholarships for MFA candidates. Contact the Mississippi Christian University Department of Art for details.

Additional scholarships and loans are available. For more information, please contact the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies or the Financial Aid Office.

Requirements of the Master of Fine Arts Program

A minimum of 60 hours of graduate work in art is required in either two-dimensional, three-dimensional, or graphic design concentration, selected in consultation with the graduate coordinator and the area coordinator for the studio discipline.

All Master of Fine Arts candidates must take the following courses:

ART 6507 Research Topics in Art History: Artists

ART 6508 Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles

ART 6507 and ART 6508 are prerequisites to ART 6563 and ART 6564.

Candidates must complete six hours of Studio Thesis:

ART 6563 and ART 6564

The thesis for the Master of Fine Arts degree is a studio and written project which proves that the candidate for the degree is capable of solving a creative problem in visual art at a professional level with adequate scope, and is also capable of scholarly research and writing which states, supports, and analyzes the creative problem along with historical and critical perspectives applicable to the creative problem. The thesis consists of both studio and written components which are interdependent. The Thesis Research Director, who is responsible for teaching ART 6563 - Studio Thesis I and ART 6564 - Studio Thesis II, will appoint the student's committee. The studio component and the written component must be approved by a majority of the committee.

The student will take an oral examination for the thesis which must be passed by a majority of the examining committee.

Students who do not complete the studio thesis at the conclusion of ART 6564 - Studio Thesis II must take ART 6565 - Studio Thesis III (1 semester hour) in the semester in which the thesis is planned to be completed, whether actual completion occurs or not. If activity involving the thesis which utilizes university resources of faculty time, facilities, library, or any other resources such as electronic mail continues in an intervening semester in which completion is not planned and no other course work is done, the student must pay the thesis continuation fee required..

Transfer Credit

A student may request to transfer a maximum of 12 hours of graduate credit from another regionally accredited college or university. Only courses in which the student received the grade of B or higher may be transferred. Contact the Graduate Coordinator for the Department of Art for details.

Master of Fine Arts Program of Study

Option 1: M.F.A. in Visual Arts

60 semester hours of graduate credit in art in a program of studies to be approved by the graduate coordinator and the studio area coordinator, to include:

A. Core Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

- ART 6507 - Research Topics in Art History: Artists **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6508 - Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6563 - Studio Thesis I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6564 - Studio Thesis II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

B. Two-dimensional Studio Concentration

30 semester hours of two-dimensional studio courses as approved by the graduate coordinator

and the studio area coordinator, from the following:

- ART 5305 - Computer Illustration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5318 - Printmaking Studio I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5319 - Printmaking Studio II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5403 - Illustration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5611 - Painting Studio I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5612 - Painting Studio II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5415 - Graduate Graphic Design I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5416 - Graduate Graphic Design II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5421 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5422 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5434 - Sculptural Techniques in Papermaking **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5474 - Professional Internship **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5481 - Graduate Photography **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6101 - Graduate Design **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6117 - Communicating the Gospel Through Art **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6203 - Drawing Studio I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6204 - Drawing Studio II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6316 - Printmaking Media Practices I **Credits, 3 sem hrs**
- ART 6317 - Printmaking Media Practices II **Credits, 3 sem hrs**
- ART 6318 - Special Projects in Printmaking I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6319 - Special Projects in Printmaking II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6591 - Field Studies **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- ART 6592 - Field Studies **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6593 - Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6611 - Painting Media Practices I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6612 - Painting Media Practices II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6613 - Painting: Directed Problems I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6614 - Painting: Directed Problems II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

C. Approved elective graduate courses in art (18 sem. hrs.)

Option 2: M.F.A. in Visual Arts (Three-dimensional Studio Concentration)

60 semester hours of graduate credit in art in a program of studies to be approved by the graduate coordinator and the studio area coordinators, to include:

A. Core Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

- ART 6507 - Research Topics in Art History: Artists **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6508 - Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6563 - Studio Thesis I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6564 - Studio Thesis II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

B. Three-dimensional Studio Concentration

30 semester hours of three-dimensional studio courses as approved by the graduate coordinator and the studio area coordinators from the following:

- ART 5421 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5422 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5431 - Graduate Sculpture I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5432 - Graduate Sculpture II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5434 - Sculptural Techniques in Papermaking **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5461 - Ceramics Studio I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5462 - Ceramics Studio II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5474 - Professional Internship **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6431 - Graduate Sculpture III **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6432 - Graduate Sculpture IV **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6433 - Special Projects in Sculpture **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6434 - Special Projects in Sculpture **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6461 - Ceramics Media Practices I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6462 - Ceramics Media Practices II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6463 - Ceramics: Directed Problems I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6464 - Ceramics: Directed Problems II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6591 - Field Studies **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- ART 6592 - Field Studies **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6593 - Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

C. Approved elective graduate courses in art (18 sem. hrs.)

Option 3: Master of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

A. Core Courses (12 semester hours)

- ART 6507 - Research Topics in Art History: Artists **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6508 - Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6563 - Studio Thesis I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6564 - Studio Thesis II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

B. Graphic Design Courses

30 semester hours in graphic design or graphic design-related courses as approved by the graduate coordinator and the graduate graphic design coordinator from the following:

- ART 5415 - Graduate Graphic Design I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5416 - Graduate Graphic Design II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6801 - Graduate Typography **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6802 - History of Graphic Design **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6803 – Concept Design **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

- ART 6804 - Interactive Design **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6805 – History of Semiotics and Letterforms **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6806 – Graduate Digital Animation **Credits, 3 sem hrs.**

Graphic Design-related courses

- ART 5305 - Computer Illustration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5403 - Illustration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5421 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5422 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5474 - Professional Internship **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5481 - Graduate Photography **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6117 - Communicating the Gospel Through Art **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6591 - Field Studies **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- ART 6592 - Field Studies **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6593 - Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6807 - Graphic Design: Branding Theory **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

C. Approved elective graduate courses in art (18 sem. hrs.)

Note(s):

NOTE: Courses ART 6591, ART 6592, and ART 6593 may be repeated as necessary for up to six hours credit. In most cases, the student should not expect to earn more than six semester hours in any combination of field experiences courses.

Master of Science

Art, M.S.

The Department of Art offers the Master of Science in Art degree in studio art, which includes studies in two-dimensional arts such as painting and drawing, and the three-dimensional arts including sculpture and ceramics. For graduate studies in graphic design, please refer to the M.F.A. programs in Visual Arts and Graphic Design and the Master of Science in Graphic Design in the Graduate Degree Programs list in the Graduate Catalog. There is no graduate program in interior design.

Application for Full Admission

In addition to the requirements set forth by the university, the applicant must comply with the following and have approval for admission from an appointed graduate art faculty review committee:

Master of Science Degree in Art

1. Applicants interested in the 30-hour *Master of Science in Art Degree* must provide the

Office of Graduate and Professional Studies with the following:

- a. An online application for Graduate Admission, located on the website:
<https://www.mc.edu/application/>.
- b. One official copy of all academic transcripts.
- c. A \$35.00 application fee.

All admission documents must be sent to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (Box 4067, Clinton, MS 39058 or gps@mc.edu).

2. The admission requirements below will be reviewed by an appointed Department of Art Graduate Admissions Review Committee and the Graduate Art Coordinator.

- a. Applicants for the 30-hour *Master of Science in Art Degree* must either hold an undergraduate degree in studio art with a major in either two-dimensional or three-dimensional art or earned the equivalent undergraduate preparation in art (contact the Graduate Coordinator of the Department of Art for information on equivalency of preparation).
- b. The Department of Art requires applicants to have an undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or above.
- c. Submit a formal statement of intent of 500-1,000 words setting forth a personal philosophy and professional objectives for the degree. Submit the statement, resume, and digital portfolio of images to art@mc.edu.
- d. Applicants must provide a current resume or vita.
- e. Submit a portfolio of artwork that reflects proficiency and preparation for graduate study in studio art. It should include painting, and drawing, for a two-dimensional emphasis or sculpture and ceramics for a three-dimensional emphasis. The portfolio must consist of a maximum of 20 images. The applicant may provide a PDF of 20 digital images of artwork. The portfolio will be reviewed by an appointed graduate committee and an admission decision will be made.

International Student Admissions

International students must meet regular admission requirements as stated above. However, the following exception to admissions procedures of Mississippi Christian University may be made for international students applying for the Master of Science:

The interview may take place upon arrival at Mississippi Christian University.

Master of Science in Art (M.S.) Program of Studies

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work:

M.S. candidates must complete the following course requirements:

1. Core courses, six hours:

One of these:

ART 6507 Research Topics in Art History: Artists Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

OR

ART 6508 Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles Credits 3 sem. hrs.

And one of these:

ART 6101 Graduate Design Credits 3 sem. hrs.

ART 6207 Curriculum Development in Studio Art Credits 3 sem. hrs.

ART 6475 Aesthetics and Art Criticism Credits 3 sem. hrs.

2. Twenty-four semester hours in either:

Two-dimensional or three-dimensional concentration, selected in consultation with the graduate coordinator.

3. Upon completion of the program of studies:

The Master of Science candidate shall exhibit artwork demonstrating competence in the studio concentration. The candidate is required to pass an oral comprehensive examination at which time artwork will be presented.

M.A. in Art created in 1976 (changed to M.S. in Art 2015)

Graphic Design, M.S.

The Department of Art offers the Master of Science degree in Graphic Design. A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work is required for the M.S. degree. The Master of Science (M.S.) Degree in Graphic Design is a 30-hour degree with 15 core hours (which includes 6 hours of a capstone project), 12 hours of Graphic Design and Graphic Design-related coursework, and 3 hours of an approved graduate level art elective. Courses will normally be offered to allow completion of course work in one year plus one semester of full-time study (12 hrs. per semester recommended load), but actual completion of course requirements is dependent on course availability and the taking of required courses when offered. The Department of Art cannot guarantee a completion date for the degree.

Application for Full Admission:

1. Applicants interested in the 30-hour *Master of Science in Graphic Design Degree* must provide the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies with the following:

a. An online application for Graduate Admission, located on the website:
<https://www.mc.edu/application/>.

b. One official copy of all academic transcripts.

c. A \$35.00 application fee.

All admission documents must be sent to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (Box 4067, Clinton, MS 39058 or gps@mc.edu).

2. The admission requirements below will be reviewed by an appointed Department of Art Graduate Admissions Review Committee and the Graduate Graphic Design Coordinator.

a. The Department of Art requires applicants to have an undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or above.

b. Submit a formal statement of intent of 500-1,000 words setting forth a personal philosophy and professional objectives for the degree. Submit the statement, resume, and digital portfolio of images to ivey@mc.edu.

c. Applicants must have completed an undergraduate degree in graphic design, art, public relations, or communications with at least 18 hours of graphic design related course work.

d. Applicants must provide a current resume or vita.

e. For the M.S. in Graphic Design the applicant must provide a portfolio of artwork in graphic design showing proficiency in the use of Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe InDesign, and mastery in the use of design principles. The portfolio must consist of a maximum of 20 digital images. The applicant may provide the images in the form of either a PDF, JPEGs, or a link to a personal website. The portfolio of images may be sent to Mr. Benjamin Ivey by email to ivey@mc.edu. The portfolio will be reviewed by an appointed graduate committee and an admission decision will be made.

f. At the option of the graduate admissions committee, applicants without this degree or equivalent undergraduate preparation may be required to take undergraduate prerequisite courses as specified prior to Regular Admission to the M.S. in Graphic Design program.

International Student Admissions

International students must meet regular admission requirements as stated above. However, the following exception to admissions procedures of Mississippi Christian University may be made for international students applying for the Master of Science:

The interview may take place upon arrival at Mississippi Christian University.

Scholarships for Graduate Candidates

The Department of Art offers a limited number of scholarships and assistantships for M.S. in Graphic Design candidates. Contact the Mississippi Christian University Department of Art for details.

Additional scholarships and loans are available. For more information, please contact the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies or the Financial Aid Office.

All Master of Science in Graphic Design candidates must take one of the following courses:

- ART 6507 - Research Topics in Art History: Credits, 3 sem. hrs. or
- ART 6508 - Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles: Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

Candidates must complete six hours of directed projects:

ART 6415 and ART 6416 Graphic Design: Directed Projects I and II

These directed projects when taken for the Master of Science in Graphic Design degree are studio courses which prove that the candidate for the degree is capable of solving a creative problem in visual art at a professional level with adequate scope, and is also capable of scholarly research that demonstrates, supports, and analyzes the creative problem along with historical and critical perspectives applicable to the creative problem.

Transfer Credit

A student may request to transfer a maximum of 6 hours of graduate credit from another regionally accredited college or university. Only courses in which the student received the grade of B or higher may be transferred. Contact the Graduate Coordinator /or the Department of Art for details.

All other conditions and requirements outlined by the Graduate Catalog concerning transfer credit must be observed. Refer to the General Requirements for Graduation in this catalog.

Master of Science in Graphic Design: Program of Study

30 semester hours of graduate credit in art in a program of studies to be approved by the graduate coordinator and the graduate Graphic Design Coordinator, to include:

NOTE: Courses ART 6591, ART 6592, and ART 6593 may be repeated as necessary for up to six hours credit. In most cases, the student should not expect to earn more than six semester hours in any combination of field experiences courses.

A. Core Courses (15 semester hours)

One of these:

- ART 6507 Research Topics in Art History: Artists Credits, 3 sem. hrs. **or**
- ART 6508 Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

And the following:

- ART 6415 Graphic Design: Directed Problems I Credits, 3 sem. hrs.
- ART 6416 Graphic Design: Directed Problems II Credits, 3 sem. hrs.
- ART 6801 Graduate Typography Credits, 3 sem. hrs.
- ART 6802 History of Graphic Design Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

B. Graphic Design Courses

12 semester hours in graphic design or graphic design-related courses as approved by the graduate graphic design coordinator from the following:

Graphic Design Courses:

- ART 5415 - Graduate Graphic Design I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5416 - Graduate Graphic Design II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6803 – Concept Design **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6804 - Interactive Design **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6805 – History of Semiotics and Letterforms **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6806 – Graduate Digital Animation **Credits, 3 sem hrs.**

Graphic Design-related courses:

- ART 5305 - Computer Illustration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5403 - Illustration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5421 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5422 - Special Projects **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5474 - Professional Internship **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 5481 - Graduate Photography **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6117 - Communicating the Gospel Through Art **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6207 - Curriculum Development in Studio Art **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6591 - Field Studies **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- ART 6592 - Field Studies **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6593 - Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- ART 6807 - Graphic Design: Branding Theory **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

C. Approved elective graduate course in art (3 sem. hrs.)

Art Course Descriptions

ART 5305 - Computer Illustration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This is an introductory course that allows the student to pursue computer generated illustration and communication techniques. Lab fees required.

ART 5318 - Printmaking Studio I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The use of printmaking media in relief and intaglio for the creation of works of art other than the human figure, with study of historical perspectives on figurative graphic art. (Lab fee required.)

ART 5319 - Printmaking Studio II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The use of printmaking media in relief and intaglio for the creation of works of art using the human figure, with study of historical perspectives on figurative graphic art. (Lab fee required.)

ART 5403 - Illustration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required*

This studio course is designed to enhance the student's capabilities in the production, presentation and commercialization of illustration skills. In addition to the components of basic illustration techniques and application procedures, the graduate level student will be expected to produce marketable works. Lab fee required.

ART 5415 - Graduate Graphic Design I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Graphic Design Coordinator or Department Chair approval.*

This course explores the theories, strategies and processes of designing a complete corporate brand image, with a focus on business for the sake of the client. Through a series of lectures, demonstrations and studio work, students are expected to develop an image-building strategy and produce a variety of projects including logo design, an identity system, packaging, publication, collateral and direct mail design. (Lab fee required.)

ART 5416 - Graduate Graphic Design II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course expounds the theories, strategies and processes of designing graduate level design work, and conceiving the most intuitive visual communication solutions for professional practice. (Lab fee required).

ART 5421 - Special Projects

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required and Department Chair approval.*

Advanced level projects with consideration of student's professional goals.

ART 5422 - Special Projects

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required and Department Chair approval.*

Advanced level projects with consideration of student's professional goals.

ART 5431 - Graduate Sculpture I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): ART 431, ART 432, or Graduate advisor, professor approval.*

This course consists of sustained practice and development of skill in modeling of sculptural form in pliable media such as ceramic clay and plasticine. Attention is given to both realistic and stylized approaches. Lab fee required.

ART 5432 - Graduate Sculpture II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): ART 5431.*

This course consists of sustained practice and development of skill in modeling as a preparatory step toward carving in non-pliable media such as stone and wood. Sustained modeling practice is ongoing concurrent with a semester carving project. Lab fee required.

ART 5434 - Sculptural Techniques in Papermaking

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): ART 5431 or Department Chair approval.*

This course focuses on experimentation with handmade paper techniques as a means to create three-dimensional works of art. Lab fee required.

ART 5460 - Ceramics Materials and Methods

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

This course allows the graduate student to approach the ceramic arts from the most fundamental elements and progress through each stage of production, both in wheel-thrown and hand-built work, from clay preparation, to production, alterations, glazing and firing. A broad overview of construction methods, decorating and firing process is employed in this course. Lab fee required.

ART 5461 - Ceramics Studio I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Ceramics ART 351 or equivalent.*

The course structure focuses on both wheel thrown and hand built processes, with emphasis on advanced techniques and skill development. Lab fee required.

ART 5462 - Ceramics Studio II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Ceramics Studio I ART 5461 .*

The course structure focuses on both wheel thrown and hand built processes, with emphasis on advanced techniques and skill development. It is intended to be a continuation of Ceramics Studio I. Lab fee required.

ART 5474 - Professional Internship

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required and Instructor's consent.*

A period of apprenticeship of observation by arrangement with a professional business specializing in studio art, or other related discipline in art, or with an institution in the field of museology.

ART 5611 - Painting Studio I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in Art; ART 438 or equivalent.*

A graduate course in acrylic painting designed to focus on the development of painting techniques and concepts.

ART 5612 - Painting Studio II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing in Art; ART 5611 or equivalent.

A graduate painting course in which painting techniques and concepts gained in Painting Studio I are further developed and expanded through more advanced studio exploration.

ART 6101 - Graduate Design

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is an advanced theory exploration and application course structured to guide the graduate student toward the utilization of advanced philosophical thought and the application of higher level theory production in the student's work.

ART 6117 - Communicating the Gospel Through Art

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to assist the graduate student in the production of art works which foster ways in which the student may assist in the spread of the Gospel Ministry and serve to enhance various Christian arenas of service and worship.

ART 6203 - Drawing Studio I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing.

This course is based on advanced problem solving in drawing experimentation using traditional principles and contemporary techniques in mark making. Students will gain a greater working knowledge of line, shape, perspective, proportion, volume, and composition. This course will also introduce narrative ideas, collaborative projects and conceptual art techniques through studio projects in both traditional and experimental drawing approaches.

ART 6204 - Drawing Studio II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing.

Mastery level course in drawing, with the goal of a master portfolio in drawing. Advanced documentation of research and theoretical understanding, and execution of studio projects demonstrating master-level maturity and creative exploration in traditional and modernist approaches to drawing and mark making.

ART 6207 - Curriculum Development in Studio Art

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course traces the development of art education curricula in American schools and universities from the nineteenth century to the present. A special emphasis will be placed on contemporary issues and influences in the fields of art education. During the course, an exemplary art unit of study will be developed.

ART 6316 - Printmaking Media Practices I

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing in Art; ART 5318 or equivalent. A graduate course in which the student pursues the study and practice of printmaking emphasizing mastery of advanced printmaking techniques and creative processes, through the use of selected media such as etching, engraving, drypoint, monoprint, lithography, silkscreen and experimental media. Maturity of approach to printmaking is continually fostered by a master/student relationship. Lab fee required.

ART 6317 - Printmaking Media Practices II

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing in Art; ART 6316 or equivalent. *Lab fee required.*

This is a graduate course in which the student continues the advanced study and practice of printmaking in selected media and focusing on choices such as etching, engraving, drypoint, monoprint, lithography, silkscreen and experimental media, seeking a fusion of experience, knowledge and creativity. Increasing maturity of approach to printmaking is fostered by a master/student relationship.

ART 6318 - Special Projects in Printmaking I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 5318 Graduate Printmaking: Non-figurative or three hours of approved graduate printmaking courses.

These courses are for the purpose of directed experience in printmaking. Courses are designed with flexibility whereby an advanced art student may continue an advanced level of work in printmaking projects determined according to individual need and specific areas of interest. The student will submit a proposal that establishes specific goals and objectives that must be approved and supervised by the professor of record. Lab fee required.

ART 6319 - Special Projects in Printmaking II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 5318 Graduate Printmaking: Non-figurative or three hours of approved graduate printmaking courses.

These courses are for the purpose of directed experience in printmaking. Courses are designed with flexibility whereby an advanced art student may continue an advanced level of work in printmaking projects determined according to individual need and specific areas of interest. The student will submit a proposal that establishes specific goals and objectives that must be approved and supervised by the professor of record. Lab fee required.

ART 6413- Pastel Painting

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Pre-requisites:* ART 6101 or Department Chair approval
Application of design principles as they relate to the processes and techniques of pastels. A synthesis of technique, skill development and creative expression in the pastel medium.

ART 6414- Graduate Watercolor

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Pre-requisites: ART 6101or Department Chair approval

Application of design principles as they relate to the processes and techniques of painting with watercolor. A synthesis of technique, skill development and creative expression in the watercolor medium.

ART 6415 - Graphic Design: Directed Problems I

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing in Art; ART 5612 or equivalent.

This course is designed to be a directed experience in producing a capstone project for the M.S. degree. Goals, objectives, and approaches will be specified based on the accomplishments and objectives of the individual student with consideration of the student's possible career goals. (Lab fee required.)

ART 6416 - Graphic Design: Directed Problems II

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* ART 6415

This course is designed to be the secondary and final directed experience for the Master of Science in Graphic Design degree. Goals, objectives, and approaches will be specified based on the accomplishments and objectives of the individual student with consideration of the student's possible career goals. (Lab fee required.)

ART 6418 - History of Modern Art

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Art history from post-impressionism to the present. Course includes study of architecture, painting, sculpture, photography, as well as contemporary forms and media. Research component relative to student degree plan included in course.

ART 6420- Graduate Introduction to Digital Photography

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Pre-requisites:* None

An introduction to digital photography using a 35mm digital camera. Concepts and skills of basic photography are emphasized. Students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of camera functions and basic control of image manipulation software, as well as an ability to use photography to communicate information and ideas. A digital camera with manual control is required. (Lab fee required.)

ART 6422- Graduate History of Photography

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Pre-requisites:* None

A survey of photography from pre-history to the present - as an artistic medium, as a social commentator, as a technological adventure, and its effect on culture.

ART 6423- Graduate Photographic Lighting Techniques

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Pre-requisites:* ART 6420 Graduate Introduction to Digital Photography

Introduction to creative professional lighting concepts and techniques for commercial and fine art photography. Includes lighting and studio equipment, light qualities, lighting for form, lighting for surface qualities, still-life photography, portrait photography, image composition, and critical analysis. A digital camera with manual control is required. (Lab fee required)

ART 6431 - Graduate Sculpture III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 5432.

This course consists of sustained practice and development of modeling skill with a semester carving project. A minimum of one project must involve mold making and casting in plaster and/or fiberglass media. Lab fee required.

ART 6432 - Graduate Sculpture IV

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 6431.

This course consists of sustained practice and development of skill in special methods including welded metal forms, foundry operation and kiln construction. Lab fee required.

ART 6433 - Special Projects in Sculpture

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 5432.

These courses are for the purpose of further directed experience in an individually chosen sculptural medium with a stated goal or objective. Lab fee required.

ART 6434 - Special Projects in Sculpture

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 5432.

These courses are for the purpose of further directed experience in an individually chosen sculptural medium with a stated goal or objective. Lab fee required.

ART 6461 - Ceramics Media Practices I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Introduction to Ceramics ART 351 or equivalent.

The course structure focuses on a wider spectrum of media involved in the production of ceramic artwork, including the use of plaster as a mold-making medium for use in ceramic art production, and other media used outside the usual parameters of the studio production potter or traditional ceramics craftsman. Lab fee required.

ART 6462 - Ceramics Media Practices II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Ceramics Media Practices I ART 6461

This course is intended as a continuation of Ceramics Media Practices I, and continues the exploration of media begun in that course. many of the same materials and techniques will be researched with a greater depth of detail and more individualized application of technique to the graduate student's body of work. Lab fee required.

ART 6463 - Ceramics: Directed Problems I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Ceramics Studio II ART 5462.

These courses are for the purpose of directed experience in ceramics. Courses are designed with flexibility whereby the graduate student may continue an advanced level of work in ceramic projects determined according to individual need and specific areas of interest. The student will submit a proposal that establishes specific goals and objectives that must be approved and supervised by the professor of record. Lab fee required.

ART 6464 - Ceramics: Directed Problems II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Ceramics: Directed Problems I ART 6463

These courses are for the purpose of directed experience in ceramics. Courses are designed with flexibility whereby the graduate student may continue an advanced level of work in ceramic projects determined according to individual need and specific areas of interest. The student will submit a proposal that establishes specific goals and objectives that must be approved and supervised by the professor of record. Lab fee required.

ART 6471 - Graduate Photography I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Art 6420 or Department Chair Approval

An introduction to traditional film photography and silver gelatin-based printing, as well as digital post-production techniques using industry standard image manipulation software. The semester will be split between traditional filmbased photography and digital photography, with a focus on learning to evaluate images in terms of their ability to communicate information and ideas. A digital camera with manual control is required. (Lab fee Required).

ART 6472- Graduate Photography II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Pre-requisites:* ART 6471 Graduate Photography I

An in-depth study of the processes in digital and film photography. Students will examine advanced adjustment layers, layer blending, and other correction and workflow methods with particular attention to preparing images for output. The graduate student will be expected to engage in the production of digital and film artwork that demonstrates an advanced level of knowledge of photography. A digital camera with manual control is required. (Lab fee required.)

ART 6475 - Aesthetics and Art Criticism

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course offers philosophical and critical inquiry focusing on aesthetic value theories and they apply to historical and contemporary settings. Research component relative to student degree plan included in course.

ART 6507 - Research Topics in Art History: Artists

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course involves research on selected artists and the creation of a series of art reflecting the research.

ART 6508 - Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course involves research on selected art periods or styles and the creation of a series of art reflecting the research.

ART 6563 - Studio Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 6507 and ART 6508

This course is preparative to the MFA thesis and focuses on the combination of written and studio research. Students will investigate research findings and research methods in art and prepare individualized research. This is a hybrid course that involves online communication, coursework completed on Moodle, on-campus meetings with the class, and meetings with the student's committee.

ART 6564 - Studio Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 6507 and ART 6508

This course is a continuation of ART 6563. Students will actively work on a thesis exhibition as required by the M.F.A. degree.

ART 6565 - Studio Thesis III

Credits, 1 sem. hr. *Prerequisite(s):* ART 6564.

This course is a continuation of ART 6564, Studio Thesis II and is required of students who did not fulfill requirements of ART 6564, Studio Thesis II. Credit for this course would be beyond the 60 hour minimum for the MFA.

ART 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing required and Department Chair approval.

This course is taught in response to a specific need and request. It may involve non-traditional teaching techniques and will usually combine formal education with practical experience in a career field.

[Crosslisted as: ART 6592 and ART 6593.]

Courses ART 6591, ART 6592, and ART 6593 may be repeated as necessary for up to six hours credit. In most cases, the student should not expect to earn more than six semester hours in any combination of field experiences courses.

ART 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required and Department Chair approval.*

This course is taught in response to a specific need and request. It may involve non-traditional teaching techniques and will usually combine formal education with practical experience in a career field.

[Crosslisted as: ART 6591 and ART 6593.]

Courses ART 6591, ART 6592, and ART 6593 may be repeated as necessary for up to six hours credit. In most cases, the student should not expect to earn more than six semester hours in any combination of field experiences courses.

ART 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required and Department Chair approval.*

This course is taught in response to a specific need and request. It may involve non-traditional teaching techniques and will usually combine formal education with practical experience in a career field.

[Crosslisted as: ART 6591 and ART 6592.]

Courses ART 6591, ART 6592, and ART 6593 may be repeated as necessary for up to six hours credit. In most cases, the student should not expect to earn more than six semester hours in any combination of field experiences courses.

ART 6611 - Painting Media Practices I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in Art; ART 438 or equivalent.*

A graduate course in which the student pursues the study and practice of painting emphasizing form, color and creative processes, through the use of selected media such as oils, acrylics, watercolors, and pastels. Increasing maturity of approach to painting is fostered by a master/student relationship.

ART 6612 - Painting Media Practices II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in Art; ART 6611 or equivalent.
This is a graduate course in which the student continues the advanced study and practice of painting in selected media such as oil, acrylic, watercolor and pastel, seeking a fusion of experience, knowledge and creativity. Maturity of approach to painting is continually fostered by a master/student relationship.

ART 6613 - Painting: Directed Problems I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in Art; ART 5612 or equivalent.
This course is for the purpose of further directed experience in painting at an advanced graduate level. Goals, objectives, media and approaches will be specified based on the accomplishments and goals of the individual student with consideration of student's possible career goals.

ART 6614 - Painting: Directed Problems II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in Art; ART 5612 or equivalent.
This course provides for increasingly higher levels of studio practice and mastery in painting at an advanced graduate level. Goals, objectives, media and approaches will be specified based on the accomplishments and goals of the individual student with consideration of student's possible career goals.

ART 6801 - Graduate Typography Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required.

Students will develop a mastery of typography through lectures, research, and projects in typography including history, typographic systems, theoretical and creative aspects, interactions of type and culture, and the technology of typography. Visual thinking, interpretation, presentation, and strategies of contemporary typographic communication. *Fee: None.*

ART 6802 - History of Graphic Design

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required
Historical overview of type and letter forms; history of typography in print and digital environments; influence of the history of graphic design on contemporary graphic communications. Historical analysis of graphic communication with emphasis on the development of the profession of graphic design and the relationship of commerce and technology to the history of graphic design. Lectures, research, discussion, activities and course readings.

ART 6803 - Concept Design

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required

This graduate level course will emphasize the importance of ideation and its function in creative problem solving. The students will use techniques such as problem identification, research, analysis, brainstorming exercises, and idea refinement to generate unexpected solutions to creative problems.

ART 6804 - Interactive Design

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required

This course is intended to provide a general overview of interactive design methods, philosophies and creation. It provides an experience for the user unique to other modes of design as the product can range from a planned sequence or optional intervals the user can order for themselves.

ART 6805 – History of Semiotics and Letterforms

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required

This course focuses on the history of pictographic and typographic progressions from the ancient world through the present day. Students will study graphic symbolism throughout history and its impact on language, culture, and modern graphic design practices. In tandem, the evolution of western alphabets from symbolic origins, letterform styles and typographic technologies will also be discussed.

ART 6806 – Graduate Digital Animation

Credits, 3 sem hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing required.

Studio-based

An introductory and intensive course exploring the fundamentals of 2D motion graphics, with particular emphasis on typography, image, and narrative sequence. This course will have application to creative problem solving using research on animation and visual effects.

ART 6807 - Graphic Design: Branding Theory

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in Art; ART 5612 or equivalent.

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive exploration and application of the branding process in response to the product life cycle and other dynamic conditions of industry.

Department of Communication

Admission

Deadlines

Students may begin a Communication graduate program in the fall or spring terms. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. However, the following deadlines have been set to give department faculty sufficient time to review applications prior to the start of each academic term:

- Application deadline to start coursework in the fall term: August 1*
- Application deadline to start coursework in the spring term: January 1*

All required materials (see below) must be received by the application deadline or applications will not be considered. Applicants should allow for 10 business days between submission of all required items (see below) and a decision regarding their admission. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.

Regular Admission

Grade Point Average

Applicants seeking regular admission to a Communication graduate program must show a grade point average (GPA) of at least a cumulative 2.50 of a possible 4.00 scale on all prior college-level academic work. Applicants with a GPA of 2.25 to 2.50 may be considered for provisional admission (see below).

Personal Essay

Applicants must submit an essay of 600-750 words expressing the applicant's purpose in seeking a graduate degree and explaining how their chosen graduate degree program will help the applicant further personal and/or professional goals. This essay will be evaluated by department faculty based on its content to ensure that an applicant is a good match for the desired program. Because command of the written English language is essential to success in graduate school, this essay will also serve as a sample of the applicant's writing ability.

Provisional Admission

Provisional admission, though not guaranteed, may be granted if applicants meet one or more of the following criteria:

- 1. The applicant's grade point average (GPA) on all work completed at the undergraduate level is below 2.50 but above 2.25. In such cases, the department reserves the right to require applicants to submit an explanatory essay (in addition to the required essay of all*

applicants) of no fewer than 300 words describing the steps the applicant will take to ensure their academic success at the graduate level.

- 2. The applicant's undergraduate GPA is below 2.25 but the applicant has demonstrated success in an appropriate career for at least ten years since completing the undergraduate degree. In such cases, the department reserves the right to require applicants to submit a professional resume and additional letters of references (from a professional supervisor or colleague) to document career success).*
- 3. The applicant received an undergraduate degree from a non-regionally accredited institution. In such cases, applicants must submit acceptable GRE test scores and achieve good academic standing (a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher) after completing 12 hours of graduate work.*

Provisional admission status must be removed before students will be allowed to register for graduate courses beyond 12 graduate hours. For advancement from provisional to regular admission, the student must have obtained a grade average of 3.00 or higher on the first 12 or more hours of graduate-level courses, and must clear any other deficiencies. Students who are provisionally admitted but do not achieve regular admission status after completing 12 hours will be placed on academic suspension with the right to appeal

Student Appeals for Reinstatement

Student appeals for reinstatement for academic suspension will be fairly considered. Students should understand that the potential for future success in graduate school will be a primary consideration by department faculty in evaluating all appeals. Because sub-standard grades in past courses remain on suspended students' records for purposes of calculating grade point average, department faculty will consider in the reinstatement evaluation process each student's likelihood of evaluating the grade point average to the required 3.00 for graduation within the time frame needed to complete the coursework.

All department graduate faculty will have input regarding the appeals to readmission for academically suspended students. Therefore, students should expect that the note and observations by faculty of student performance and participation in courses previously taken at Mississippi Christian University will be heavily considered in the reinstatement process.

Coursework Tracks

All Department of Communication graduate students take courses on one of two tracks depending on the student's vocational interest.

Professional Track

Students in the Professional Track will produce in the COM 6600 Graduate Capstone course a significant, well-researched, and practical deliverable (paper or project) tailored to their current or desired vocational environment with an accompanying professional presentation.

Thesis Track

Students in the Thesis Track shall enroll in COM 6563 Thesis I and COM 6564 Thesis II as substitutes for two non-core courses. (The student shall also enroll in COM 6600 Graduate Capstone during their final term in their graduate program and the thesis shall serve as a substitute for the writing requirement for that course.) The thesis shall be a work of significant original research of no fewer than 15,000 words of text and no more than 24,000 words of text written in APA 7th Edition style.

Students who choose the thesis track are usually those who aspire to teach at the university level. Students' desire to write a thesis, their scholarly writing skills, and their methodological competence are the major factors influencing this decision. This decision must be made after the completion of 15 hours and prior to the completion 21 hours. The decision regarding whether a student is permitted to write a thesis ultimately rests with the student's graduate advisor.

The student must also choose a thesis committee composed of the graduate advisor and two other graduate faculty members, one of whom must be a Department of Communication graduate faculty member. This thesis committee, chaired by the graduate advisor, is responsible for conducting the student's thesis prospectus defense, making recommendations regarding direction of the thesis, conducting the oral defense of the thesis, and recommending the final acceptance of the thesis.

A completed, approved thesis with accompanying defense and presentation (in the form required by the department) is required for graduation. No exceptions will be made to this standard.

Advising

Upon admission, students will be assigned a graduate advisor by the department chair. The graduate advisor is responsible for advising students toward the completion of their student's degree plan, overseeing the capstone project, and/or acceptance and completion of their thesis. The graduate advisor must be a member of the Department of Communication graduate faculty. Students who wish to change their graduate advisor must receive prior permission from the department chair to do so.

Graduate advisors will conduct, at minimum, mid-term check-ups with all advisees during each term of enrollment. These check-ups may take any number of forms, including, but not limited to phone calls, email exchanges, and streaming video sessions. Students should use these times to talk with their graduate advisor about progress toward degree completion, performance in current courses, and ongoing work on the capstone project or thesis. Students who fail to complete these check-up sessions will be reported to the department chair for follow-up.

Master of Science (M.S.) (30 sem. hrs.)

The Mississippi Christian University Department of Communication prepares students to be excellent communicators with their words, skills, and lives. Students who pursue a graduate

degree in Communication are provided opportunities to develop a variety of academic, performance, and professional competencies and are prepared to excel in such fields as media, public relations, Christian ministry, business, law, government, education, industry, and elsewhere. The department offers three-degree programs and one certificate program.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. All applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university in an appropriate field of study. The minimum GPA will be 2.5 or greater on a 4.0 system.

Requirements of the Program

1. A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work must be completed.
2. A thesis may be substituted for 6 semester hours of course work.
3. If a student chooses the thesis track, a thesis committee must be chosen from faculty members within the Department of Communication or in a related department. One faculty member will serve as the thesis director. Upon completion of the thesis, the candidate will defend the completed thesis to the thesis committee.
4. All course work at Mississippi Christian University must be maintained at 3.0 GPA or higher.
5. A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit on the 5000 level.

Master of Science

Healthcare Communication, M.S. (30 sem. hrs.)

Graduate Communication Core (18 sem. hours)

COM 5443 - Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6501 – Communication Theory & Research **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6506 Organizational Communication, **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6507 Communication in Leadership, **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6520 - Communication Ethics and Persuasion **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6600 Graduate Capstone **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Required Program Courses (12 sem. hours)

HSA 6540 - Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Administration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
HSA 6550 - Legal Aspects of Healthcare Administration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
HSA 6561 - Healthcare Management **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

HSA 6571 - Healthcare Marketing **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Thesis Track not available.

Public Affairs Communication, M.S. (30 sem. hrs.)

Graduate Communication Core Courses (18 hours)

COM 5443 Public Relations (3)
COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research (3)
COM 6506 Organizational Communication (3)
COM 6507 Communication in Leadership (3)
COM 6520 Communication Ethics & Persuasion (3)
COM 6600 Graduate Capstone (3)

Required Program Courses (12 hours)

COM 5442 Communication Law (3)
COM 5457 Strategic Crisis Communication (3)

Choose 2 of the following 4 courses:

CSC 6530 Ethics & Law in Information Security (3)
HLS 5442 Introduction to Emergency Management (3)
MGT 6570 Leadership in a Global Environment (3)
MGT 6551 Management of the Human Resource (3)

Sports Communication, M.S. (30 sem. hrs.)

Graduate Communication Core (18 hours)

COM 5443 Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6506 Organizational Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6507 Communication in Leadership **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6520 Communication Ethics and Persuasion **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6600 Graduate Capstone Credits, **3 sem. hrs.**

Required Program Courses (12 hours)

Choose 3 of the following 4 courses:

COM 5442 Communication Law **Credits, 3 sem. hrs**
COM 5453 Sports Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 5457 Strategic Crisis Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 5474 Media Analytics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Choose 1 of the following 3 courses:

KIN 6200 Societal & Ethical Trends in Athletics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

KIN 6300 NCAA Rules & Regulations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

KIN 6500 Athletic Administration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Strategic Communication, M.S (30 sem. hrs.)

Graduate Communication Core (18 sem. hrs.)

COM 5443 - Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 6501 – Communication Theory & Research **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 6506 – Organizational Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 6507 – Communication in Leadership **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 6520 - Communication Ethics and Persuasion **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 6600 – Graduate Capstone **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Required Program Courses (12 sem. hrs.):

COM 5403 - Negotiation **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Choose 3 of the following 5 courses:

COM 5442 - Communication Law **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 5453 Sports Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 5457 - Strategic Crisis Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 5458 - Strategic Ministry Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 5474 – Media Analytics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Public Relations Certificate (18 sem. hrs.)

An 18-credit-hour certificate program in Public Relations is available to students who have earned the baccalaureate degree. All 18 hours must be completed at Mississippi Christian University. Credit earned in the Public Relations certificate program may later be applied to a graduate degree program in the department. However, completion of the certificate program does not guarantee admission to a graduate degree program.

Graduate Communication Core Courses (18 hours)

Choose 6 of the following 8 courses:

COM 5443 Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

COM 5453 Sports Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 5457 Strategic Crisis Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 5458 Strategic Ministry Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 5474 Media Analytics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6506 Organizational Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6507 Communication in Leadership **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
COM 6520 Communication Ethics and Persuasion **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Communication Course Descriptions

COM 5403 - Negotiation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course teaches the communication principles involved in conflict resolution. Students will have the opportunity to develop those skills in multiple contexts including business and nonbusiness structures.

COM 5442 - Communication Law

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course examines legal rights, privileges and regulations of press, radio, television, films. The principles of libel, copy-right, and rights of privacy are explored.

COM 5443 - Public Relations

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research
This course addresses the task of building and maintaining positive or neutral relationships with the public based upon performance and communication.

COM 5449 - Intercultural Communication

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research
This course will involve the student in the study of the complex issues of intercultural communication. The student will examine the manner in which various cultures and subcultures communicate in personal and professional settings. The course will focus on both foreign and domestic cultures. Various cultural communication patterns will be explored to prepare the student to be a leader in a global multi-cultural community

COM 5453 – Sports Public Relations

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course provides graduate students with an overview of public relations activities and opportunities within the sports industry within journalistic and media production contexts. Students develop essential skills for practice on the high school, college, and professional level. This course also provides students with practical experience in content creation and strategic management application.

COM 5457 - Strategic Crisis Communication

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Concurrent Prerequisite: COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research
This course is an advanced study of public relations and how crises are managed through the application of public relations theory and practices.

COM 5458 - Strategic Ministry Communication

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course introduces students to principles of internal and external small group and public communication in the church and ministry context and helps students develop strategies and tactics designed to enhance the work of churches and ministry organizations and promote that work to external audiences.

COM 5474 - Media Analytics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Concurrent Prerequisite: COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research
This course is designed to introduce students to basic and fundamental areas of media analytics with a focus on social media and web data. Students will learn how to collect, process and analyze data to draw insights about an organization and its publics, provide actionable, data-driven recommendations and inform business strategy.

COM 6501 – Communication Theory & Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course explores various academic research techniques, exposes students to communication theory and writing, and helps students focus on a topic of interest while producing a research proposal. This course must be taken in the student's first term in the master's program.

COM 6506 – Organizational Communication

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Concurrent Prerequisite: COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course serves the educational mission of Mississippi Christian University by teaching students to be effective communicators with skill sets and knowledge of corporate, not for profit and governmental organizations. Specifically, this course offers a comprehensive look at various theories of organizational structure and leadership which will aid students in understanding the function and practice of organizations to more effectively work and serve in their chosen organization. Additionally, this course will provide opportunities for students to

understand and evaluate culture, conflict, leadership and other pertinent aspects of any organization.

COM 6507 – Communication in Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course provides students with an overview of the role of communication theories and practices in a variety of leadership contexts.

COM 6512 - Seminar in Communication Topics I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course is offered periodically to students who indicate a specific research or professional interest.

COM 6513 - Seminar in Communication Topics II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course is offered periodically to students who indicate specific research or professional interest.

COM 6520 - Communication Ethics and Persuasion

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course explores some of the basic theories, models, and concepts in the field of communication ethics and persuasion using a bibliocentric worldview. This course will introduce influential ethical and persuasion theories and perspectives, explore changing societal demands and expectations, and this course will elaborate on existing norms for communication professionals.

COM 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research; Consent of the department chair Students in this course obtain approval of a written prospectus and display satisfactory progress toward completion of a thesis. Students in this course are eligible for grade of PR only until the course is completed; the permanent grades for 6563 and COM 6564 are assigned when the thesis is successfully defended.

COM 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research; Consent of the department chair Students in this course complete and successfully defend the thesis to the thesis committee. Students in this course are eligible for a grade of PR only until the course is completed; the permanent grades for COM 6564 and COM 6564 are assigned when the thesis is successfully defended.

COM 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course is offered on an as-needed basis and is designed to meet the needs of individual students who indicate a specific research or professional interest or who need an appropriate substitute for another master's level course.

COM 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course requires students to write and present a work of significant original research that represents the culmination of work conducted throughout the student's time in the master's program. This course serves as one of two capstone projects for all Communication master's degree candidates.

COM 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Concurrent Prerequisite:* COM 6501 Communication Theory & Research

This course requires students to write and present a work of significant original research that represents the culmination of work conducted throughout the student's time in the master's program. This course serves as one of two capstone projects for all Communication master's degree candidates.

COM 6600 Graduate Capstone

Prerequisites: COM 6501 (concurrent prerequisite): **Credits, 3 sem. hrs**

This course is designed as a capstone course for all Department of Communication graduate degree program students. A major original research project and a comprehensive graduate-level academic and professional portfolio are both required elements of the course. This course must be taken in the graduate student's final semester of enrollment in a degree program.

Department of English & World Languages

Master of Arts

English, M.A.

The Master of Arts in English, through the cultivation of professional research and scholarship, prepares students to pursue advanced education in literary studies on the doctoral level; it also further equips educators on both the secondary and community college levels to be effective instructors of literature and language arts.

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work is required for the degree. All candidates for the degree must:

1. Meet the undergraduate course requirements for admission to the graduate program (in respective programs).

English - 18 semester hours in English; submit critical writing sample with application for admission. The total of 18 hours must be composed of courses beyond the core curriculum of literature surveys and freshman composition courses.

2. Have 12 semester hours (or 2 high school credits plus Intermediate Level at university level) of course work or the reading knowledge of one foreign language before admission to candidacy.

3. TOEFL Requirement for International Students: A cumulative score of 84+ is required.

Foreign Language Equivalency

The student must have 12 semester hours of undergraduate course work in one modern foreign language (or the equivalent of the intermediate level). Another option available to satisfy the language requirement is submitting acceptable score-levels showing second-year proficiency on the CLEP (College-Level Examination Program) in French, German, or Spanish. Contact the Counseling and Testing Center for CLEP information and registration material.

A student may attempt the CLEP twice; and if after two testings, a satisfactory score has not been made, a locally-administered test may be arranged. If a satisfactory score has not been made after the locally-administered exam, the foreign language requirement must be met by passing the intermediate-level language course(s). Cost of the departmentally administered exam is \$30.00.

The language requirement must be met before a student accumulates twelve semester hours of graduate course work toward the Master of Arts degree.

A MINIMUM OF 30 SEMESTER HOURS OF GRADUATE WORK IS REQUIRED.

- 1. Three hours from**

ENG 6569 – Introduction to Graduate Writing and Research

- 2. At least fifteen hours of English graduate courses** chosen in consultation with advisor. ENG 6593, Field Studies, is recommended and may be repeated for a total of six hours.
- 3. Twelve hours from Group 1 or Group 2**

Group 1: TESOL Certificate courses. Completing the twelve-hour sequence below allows the student to earn a TESOL certificate as part of the MA.

- MLG 5450 – The Multicultural Classroom
- MLG 5451 – Second Language Acquisition
- MLG 5452 – Applied Linguistics
- MLG 5453 – Methods and Field Studies

OR

Group 2: Electives in English, Modern Language/TESOL, Communication, and Education. Courses must be selected in consultation with the advisor. No more than six total hours from Communication and/or Education courses are allowed.

4. ENG 6999- Graduate Portfolio

Students must enroll in ENG 6999 during their final semester in the program. ENG 6999 requires creation of a cumulative portfolio designed to showcase the student's accomplishments across their graduate coursework.

Program Format:

The student who completes all Group 1 courses in the summer may complete the entire MA online. A fully online MA is also possible with Group 2 courses. However, some course combinations may require in-person coursework. Students should discuss specific options with their advisor.

Certificate

English as a Second Language (K-12) Certificate

Advisor: Ashley Krason, 601-925-7740, Jennings 107

The following four courses (12 hours)

Meet the requirement for English as a Second Language (K-12) endorsement for teachers holding a Mississippi Class A license.

- MLG 5450 - The Multicultural Classroom **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- MLG 5451 - Second Language Acquisition **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- MLG 5452 - Applied Linguistics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- MLG 5453 - Methods and Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Humanities and Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Studies Programs

Master of Liberal Studies

Liberal Studies, M.L.S.

The Master of Liberal Studies is an avocational interdisciplinary program designed for individuals who are interested in education beyond the baccalaureate but who do not wish to pursue a traditional specialized graduate or professional degree. It is a non-thesis degree intended to be broad and diversified in its scope to allow its students flexibility in acquiring advanced learning in several different fields. (The M.L.S. is not intended for teachers wishing to earn a standard or an advanced educator license.)

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. Must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in an appropriate field of study as determined by the faculty advisor and the Dean of the School.
3. A writing sample must be submitted to the English Department.
4. TOEFL Requirement for International Students: A cumulative score of 84+ is required.

Requirements of the Program

Option A

Master of Liberal Studies, Option A

Requirements of the M.L.S. Option A (15-15-6 Program)

1. A minimum of 36 hours of graduate work must be completed.
2. Fifteen hours must be completed in Humanities and Fine Arts courses from the following departments:
 - Art
 - Bible and Philosophy
 - English
 - Music
3. Fifteen hours must be completed in Social Science and Communication courses from the following departments:

Communication
History and Political Science

4. Six hours of course work may be taken as electives.
5. No more than 12 hours may be taken in any one department or field.
6. Students must have completed any required undergraduate courses in the appropriate field before taking graduate courses in that field. A graduate advisor in the appropriate department will determine what undergraduate courses are required.
7. In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MLS must take an oral comprehensive examination based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

Option B

Master of Liberal Studies, Option B

Requirements of the M.L.S. Option B (18-18 Program)

1. A minimum of 36 hours of graduate work must be completed.
2. Eighteen hours (each) must be completed from two of the following departments:
Communication
English
History
3. No more than eighteen hours may be taken in any department.
4. Students must have completed any required undergraduate courses in the appropriate field before taking graduate courses in that field. A graduate advisor in the appropriate department will determine what undergraduate courses are required.
5. In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MLS must take an oral comprehensive examination based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

English and World Language Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is a prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all three-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week.

**Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit. A 400-level course can only be repeated for graduate credit on the 5000- or 6000-level with different course topic.*

ENG 5404 - Shakespeare

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of Shakespeare's plays against the background of the life and times of the dramatist..

ENG 5429 – African American Texts

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course explores diverse African American texts, such as postcolonial slave narratives, spoken word poetry, the Black press, sermons, music, and contemporary Afrofuturism, all within the context of Black American culture, history, experience, and identity.

ENG 5430 - Mississippi Creative Culture

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course explores Mississippi fiction and nonfiction across diverse genres, such as literature, audiovisual texts, music, physical spaces and monuments, oral histories, and film, all within the context of the South and Mississippi.

ENG 5450 - Advanced Creative Writing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of poetry and fiction. A structured approach to formal verse, free verse, and to basic elements of the narrative.

ENG 5452 - Public & Professional Writing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Analysis of and practice in writing that serves professional goals, public interests, or both.

ENG 5460 - Literature of the Bible

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the literary qualities of the Bible, emphasizing genres and figures of speech.

ENG 5465 - Studies in Literary Figure

Credits, 3 sem hrs This course explores a body of work from one or two authors primarily in light of biographical theory. Offered Fall and Spring semesters; may be repeated.

ENG 5466 - Studies in Literary Period

Credits, 3 sem hrs This course surveys discrete literary periods, highlighting the historical contexts for authors and works. Offered Fall and Spring semesters; may be repeated.

ENG 5467 - Studies in Literary Genre

Credits, 3 sem hrs This course examines the development of particular genres, emphasizing

changes over time. Offered Fall and Spring semesters; may be repeated.

ENG 5489 - Independent Reading and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Department Chair's approval.*

Designed for outstanding students to deepen and broaden their knowledge of special topics. This course is not offered regularly but is available only under special circumstances, normally when the student and instructor have already worked together in an on-going pursuit of mutual interests in the field.

ENG 5490 - Special Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Designed to respond to identified interests and needs.

ENG 5513 - Development of American Literature

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Development of American Literature provides an overview of American periods, genres, and writers from the Colonial Period to the present within their historical contexts, current scholarship, and current theoretical approaches.

ENG 6563 - Thesis/Project I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Approval of prospectus and satisfactory progress as determined by the thesis advisor and English graduate program director.*

Partial completion of original thesis (M.A.) (Eligible for grade of PR only until ENG 6564 is completed; the permanent grade for ENG 6563 and ENG 6564 will be assigned when the thesis is approved.)

ENG 6564 - Thesis/Project II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* ENG 6563 and approval of thesis/project advisor and English graduate program director.

Completion and successful defense of thesis (M.A.)
(Eligible for temporary grade PR only until thesis is completed; a permanent grade will be assigned when the thesis is completed and successfully defended.)

ENG 6565 - Seminar in Figure Study

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

Studies in a major author of English or American Literature.

ENG 6566 - Seminar in Period Study

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

Studies in one of the major periods of English or American Literature.

ENG 6567 - Seminar in Genre Study

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

Studies in one of the four major genres of literature: novel, drama, short story or poetry.

ENG 6569 - Introduction to Graduate Writing and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An introduction to advanced research skills and methods with an emphasis on accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing published research and scholarship in English studies or a related field. Students will produce an extended literature review.

ENG 6570 - Studies in Criticism and Curriculum

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Reading and analysis of criticism and curricula in English studies and related fields. Students will apply materials to a substantial culminating project.

ENG 6580 - Composition Teaching Practicum

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Practical study designed to prepare the student to teach college composition. Required of all graduate teaching assistants.

ENG 6581 - Composition for Teachers

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The study of various types of student writing to provide insight and methods for classroom teachers.

ENG 6582 - Literature for Teachers

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The study of several types of various genres of literature to provide insight and methods for classroom teachers.

ENG 6589 - Independent Reading and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Department Chair's approval.*

Designed for outstanding students to deepen and broaden their knowledge of special topics through individual study. This course is not offered regularly but is available only under special circumstances, normally when the student and instructor have already worked together in an ongoing pursuit of mutual interests in the field.

ENG 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

ENG 6594 - Graduate Seminar: Special Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Designed to respond to identified interests and needs. This course may be repeated up to six semester hours as topic varies.

ENG 6999 - Graduate Portfolio

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. Students must enroll in ENG 6999 during their final semester in the program. ENG 6999 requires creation of a cumulative portfolio designed to showcase the student's accomplishments across their graduate coursework.

MLG 5450 - The Multicultural Classroom

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A course designed to introduce students to various cultures in order to develop an awareness and understanding of how culture influences perceptions and actions. This course will help teachers use this knowledge to make instruction of students from diverse cultural backgrounds less problematic and more effective.

MLG 5451 - Second Language Acquisition

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A course designed to examine empirical and theoretical studies of second language acquisition and processing in order to look into why people learn second languages, what effects this process has on the first language, and what motivates people to learn another language.

MLG 5452 - Applied Linguistics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A course designed to provide the practical aspects and applications of the concepts learned in MLG 5450 and 5451 . Provides the student with the opportunity to examine the various areas of linguistics as it is applied to ESL.

MLG 5453 - Methods and Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course addresses the questions an ESL professional needs to ask when determining how to match student needs with an appropriate method of learning. This course will equip the teacher to evaluate, adapt, and use various teaching methods that are suited to particular ESL environments and goals.

Department of History and Political Science, Administration of Justice, Paralegal Studies

Master of Arts History

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work is required for the M.A. degree. All candidates for the M.A. must:

1. Must have a Bachelor's Degree from a credited institution with an overall minimum GPA of 3.0. If not, students must have a 2.8 in their undergraduate History courses. Applicants who do not meet these GPA requirements may demonstrate their ability to perform graduate work by scoring 155 or higher on the Verbal portion of the GRE.
2. Must have a minimum of 18 semester hours of undergraduate work in history, of which 15 semester hours must be at the upper division (junior/300+ and above) level. Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.8 in their undergraduate history courses.
3. Students seeking Class AA Educator License must have: (1) *satisfactory scores on the PRAXIS I Core CASE (Core Academic Skills for Educators) Reading-5713 (passing score 156); Writing-5723 (passing score 162); Math-5733 (passing score 130); and (2) PRAXIS II (Content Area Exam**)*
 **Approved content area tests and passing scores are determined by MDE, are subject to change pending MDE approval, and are listed at the State Dept of Education website, <https://mdek12.org/talentacquisition/praxis-information/>.
4. Have 12 semester hours (or 2 high school credits plus Intermediate Level at university level) of course work or the reading knowledge of one foreign language before admission to candidacy.

Foreign Language Equivalency

The student must have 12 semester hours of undergraduate course work in one modern foreign language (or the equivalent of the intermediate level). Another option available to satisfy the language requirement is submitting acceptable score-levels showing second-year proficiency on the CLEP (College-Level Examination Program) in French, German or Spanish. Contact the Counseling and Testing Center for CLEP information and registration material.

A student may attempt the CLEP twice; and if after two testing's, a satisfactory score has not been made, a locally-administered test may be arranged. If a satisfactory score has not been made after the locally-administered exam, the foreign language requirement must be met by passing the intermediate-level language course(s). Cost of the departmentally administered exam is \$30.00.

The language requirement must be met before a student accumulates twelve semester hours of graduate course work toward the Master of Arts degree.

History and Political Science and Administration of Justice

1. Must have a Bachelor's degree from a credited institution with an overall minimum GPA of 3.0. If not, applicants may still be accepted if they meet the GPA requirements for undergraduate social sciences coursework discussed in number 3 below. Applicants who do not meet these GPA requirements may demonstrate their ability to perform graduate work by scoring 155 or higher on the Verbal portion of the GRE.
2. Must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of undergraduate work in the social sciences (economics, history, administration of justice, and political science), of which 15

semester hours are in one field, with a minimum GPA of 2.8. A minimum of six hours must be in the field of the declared major. Students seeking to major in Political Science must have completed at least one course, with a minimum grade of B, in each of the following subfields: U.S. Government, International Relations, and Comparative Government (a course in Political Theory may be substituted for one of either International Relations or Comparative Government).

3. Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation from faculty members who have taught the student in undergraduate courses in any/either field in which the student proposes to major in pursuit of his/her M.S.S. studies. The letters must convey that the student is capable of successfully completing the coursework and any other associated tasks required for the M.S.S. degree.
4. Applicants must submit an acceptable original "Statement of Purpose" outlining their reasons for seeking the M.S.S. degree. This essay should address the student's motivation(s) in seeking the degree, a proposed program of study, and career objectives once the degree is completed.

Students seeking Class AA Educator License must have: (1) *satisfactory scores on the PRAXIS I Core CASE (Core Academic Skills for Educators) Reading-5713 (passing score 156); Writing-5723 (passing score 162); Math-5733 (passing score 130); and (2) PRAXIS II (Content Area Exam**)*

**Approved content area tests and passing scores are determined by MDE, are subject to change pending MDE approval, and are listed at the State Dept of Education website, <https://mdek12.org/talentacquisition/praxis-information/>.

Master of Arts

History, M.A.

Masters of Arts in History program is designed to prepare elementary and secondary teachers with a broader and deeper historical understanding and to provide the graduate foundation for students who plan to teach on the community college level or pursue the doctorate in history or related disciplines for university teaching or research purposes.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to Graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. Must have a Bachelor's degree from a credited institution with an overall minimum GPA of 3.0. If not, students must have a 2.8 GPA in their undergraduate History courses. Applicants who do not meet these GPA requirements may demonstrate their ability to perform graduate work by scoring 155 or higher on the Verbal portion of the GRE.
3. Must have a minimum of 18 semester hours of undergraduate work in history, of which 15 semester hours must be at the upper division (junior/300+ and above)

level. Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.8 in their undergraduate history courses.

4. Applicants must submit three unique letters of recommendation from faculty members who have taught the student in undergraduate courses, at least one of whom teaches history. The letters must convey that the student is capable of successfully completing the coursework and any other associated tasks required for the M.A. degree.
5. Applicants must submit an acceptable original "Statement of Purpose" outlining their reasons for seeking the M.A. degree. This essay should address the student's motivation(s) in seeking the degree, a proposed program of study, and career objectives once the degree is completed.

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work, including 6 hours of thesis, is required.

Plan A Without Class AA Standard Educator License

1. Twenty-four semester hours of History graduate work Including

- HIS 6555 - Historical Research and Methodology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

2. Six semester hours of Thesis credit, consisting of:

- HIS 6563 - Thesis I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HIS 6564 - Thesis II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

3. In their last semester of enrollment

Candidates for the MA in History must take written and oral comprehensive examinations based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements. The oral exam will also include a defense of the thesis. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the written and/or oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

Plan B With Class AA Standard Educator License

A copy of the Class A Standard Educator License from the State of Mississippi must be supplied with your application for this degree option. Your application cannot be processed without it.

1. Eighteen semester hours of graduate History courses including

- HIS 6555 - Historical Research and Methodology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

2. Six semester hours of Thesis credit, consisting of:

- HIS 6563 - Thesis I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HIS 6564 - Thesis II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

3. In their last semester of enrollment

Candidates for the MA in History must take written and oral comprehensive examinations based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements. The oral exam will also include a defense of the thesis. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the written and/or oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

4. Six semester hours of graduate Education courses

- EDU 6504 - Research — Methods and Procedures **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Master of Education

Social Studies, M.Ed.

The Department of History and the School of Education and Human Sciences and Human Sciences offer course work leading to a Master of Education in Social Sciences.

Applicants must have a minimum of nine semester hours in history or political science at the undergraduate level. Any deficiency must be completed prior to admission to candidacy for a degree.

- 1. Twelve (12) semester hours of graduate credit hours in Professional Education Core Courses.** Students must take EDU 6504 and EDU 6535 .
- 2. Nine (9) semester graduate credit hours in History or Political Science.** Students can then choose an additional nine (9) elective graduate credit hours in either History or Political Science. Students must take PLS 5410 (class is cross listed with HIS 5410).
- 3. In final semester of enrollment, candidates for the M.ED. in Social Studies Education must take written comprehensive examinations based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements.** However, mastery of course content through maintaining a 3.25 GPA can exempt students from written comprehensive exams. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the written examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.
- 4. In final semester of enrollment, candidates for the M.Ed. in Social Studies Education must complete a portfolio project consisting of several items determined by the M.Ed. program director.** However, the portfolio must contain a comprehensive Unit Lesson Plan displaying content gleaned from graduate study in History or Political Science courses and teaching methods and/or pedagogical principles gleaned from graduate study in Education courses. A passing grade on this project, as deemed passable by a committee including Program Coordinator, one (1) Education Professor and one (1) History or Political Science Professor will be necessary for graduation.

The Master of Education in Social Studies (History/Political Science) is a Secondary Subject Endorsement area.

Master of Social Sciences

M.S.S. History/Political Science

The M.S.S. Political Science is not taking new applications at this time

The objective of the Master of Social Sciences degree is to offer a program for students interested in course work in the social sciences rather than in research. The major areas are history and political science, history, political science. The thesis is not required.

The Student's advisor will be the chair of the department of the major or otherwise assigned.

Depending upon options selected, the Master of Social Sciences degree program requires 30 or 36 graduate hours beyond the baccalaureate degree. Students declaring a major in either History or Political Science must take HIS 6555 - Historical Research and Methodology.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to Graduate Programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. Must have a Bachelor's degree from a credited institution with an overall minimum GPA of 3.0. If not, applicants may still be accepted if they meet the GPA requirements for undergraduate social sciences coursework discussed in number 3 below. Applicants who do not meet these GPA requirements may demonstrate their ability to perform graduate work by scoring 155 or higher on the Verbal portion of the GRE.
3. Must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of undergraduate work in the social sciences (economics, history and political science), of which 15 semester hours are in one field, with a minimum GPA of 2.8. A minimum of six hours must be in the field of the declared major. Students seeking to major in Political Science must have completed at least one course, with a minimum grade of B, in each of the following subfields: U.S. Government, International Relations, and Comparative Government (a course in Political Theory may be substituted for one of either International Relations or Comparative Government).
4. Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation from faculty members who have taught the student in undergraduate courses in any/either field in which the student proposes to major in pursuit of his/her M.S.S. studies. The letters must convey that the student is capable of successfully completing the coursework and any other associated tasks required for the M.S.S. degree.
5. Applicants must submit an acceptable original "Statement of Purpose" outlining their reasons for seeking the M.S.S. degree. This essay should address the student's motivation(s) in seeking the degree, a proposed program of study, and career objectives once the degree is completed.

Students seeking Class AA Educator License must have: *(1) satisfactory scores on the PRAXIS I Core CASE (Core Academic Skills for Educators) Reading-5713 (passing*

score 156); Writing-5723 (passing score 162); Math-5733 (passing score 130); and (2) PRAXIS II (Content Area Exam**)

**Approved content area tests and passing scores are determined by MDE, are subject to change pending MDE approval, and are listed at the State Dept of Education website, <https://mdek12.org/talentacquisition/praxis-information/>

Plan A

(30 semester hours)

1. Eighteen semester hours in one of two major areas; either 1) History, 2) Political Science.
2. Six semester hours in each of the two following fields: each of two others as minors. (Economics may be used as a minor.)
Communication
Economics
3. In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MSS who have not maintained a minimum GPA of 3.25 must take written and/or oral comprehensive examinations, the format of which will be at the discretion of the department. Students with a 3.25 or above GPA will be exempt from these exams.

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Plan B

(36 semester hours)

1. Eighteen hours in each of two fields; 1) History, and 2) Political Science
2. In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MSS who have not maintained a minimum GPA of 3.25 must take written and/or oral comprehensive examinations, the format of which will be at the discretion of the department. Students with a 3.25 or above GPA will be exempt from these exams.

Total: 36 sem. hrs.

Master of Science

M.S. in Administration of Justice, Administration of Justice w/Loss Prevention Concentration, and Homeland Security (available in online and traditional formats)

The objective of the Master of Science degree is to offer a program for students interested in course work in the Criminal Justice program, the Homeland Security program, and the Loss

Prevention Security Management program, rather than in research. The major areas are Administration of Justice, Homeland Security, and Loss Prevention-Security Management. The thesis is not required.

The Student's advisor will be the program director of the Administration of Justice program.

The Master of Science degree program requires 30 hours beyond the baccalaureate degree. Students may declare a major of Administration of Justice, Administration of Justice with a Loss Prevention concentration, or Homeland Security.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to Graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. Must have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with an overall minimum GPA of 3.0. If not, applicants may still be accepted if they meet the GPA requirements for undergraduate social sciences coursework discussed in number 3 below. Applicants who do not meet these GPA requirements may demonstrate their ability to perform graduate work by scoring 155 or higher on the Verbal portion of the GRE.
3. Must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of undergraduate work in the area(s) of criminal justice and/or homeland security, of which 15 semester hours are in one field, with a minimum GPA of 2.8. A minimum of six hours must be in the field of the declared major.
4. Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation from faculty members who have taught the student in undergraduate courses in any/either field in which the student proposes to major in pursuit of his/her M.S. studies. The letters must convey that the student is capable of successfully completing the coursework and any other associated tasks required for the M.S. degree.
5. Applicants must submit an acceptable original "Statement of Purpose" outlining their reasons for seeking the M.S. degree. This essay should address the student's motivation(s) in seeking the degree, a proposed program of study, and career objectives once the degree is completed.

M.S. in Administration of Justice

(30 semester hours)

18 Hours in Major Field

- Required Administration of Justice courses (9 hrs.)

AJU 5400 – Police Rights and Responsibilities
AJU 5401 – Police Personnel Administration
AJU 5430 – Police Problems and Practice

- Administration of Justice Electives (9 hrs.)

12 Hours of Electives from Related Fields Chosen in Consultation with Advisor

- History
- Political Science
- Communication – online courses available
- Economics
- Psychology – online courses available
- Counseling
- Accounting – online courses available
- Marketing – online courses available
- Management Information Systems – online courses available
- Homeland Security – online courses available
- Loss Prevention – online courses available

In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MSS who have not maintained a minimum GPA of 3.25 must take written and/or oral comprehensive examinations, the format of which will be at the discretion of the department. Students with a 3.25 or above GPA will be exempt from these exams.

M.S. in Administration of Justice with Loss Prevention Concentration

(30 semester hours)

18 Hours in Major Field

- Required Administration of Justice Courses (9 hrs.)

AJU 5400 Police Rights and Responsibilities

AJU 5401 Police Personnel Administration

AJU 5430 Police Problems and Practice

- Loss Prevention Concentration (9 hrs.)

AJU 5405 Introduction to Loss Prevention

HLS 5443 Introduction to Physical Security

One Loss Prevention Elective

12 Hours of Electives from Related Fields Chosen in Consultation with Advisor

- History
- Political Science
- Communication – online courses available
- Economics
- Psychology – online courses available
- Counseling
- Accounting – online courses available
- Marketing – online courses available
- Management Information Systems – online courses available
- Homeland Security – online courses available
- Loss Prevention – online courses available

In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MSS who have not maintained a minimum GPA of 3.25 must take written and/or oral comprehensive examinations, the

format of which will be at the discretion of the department. Students with a 3.25 or above GPA will be exempt from these exams.

M.S. in Homeland Security

(30 semester hours)

18 hours in Major Field

- Required Homeland Security Courses (9 hrs.)

HLS 5441 – Introduction to Homeland Security

HLS 5442 – Introduction to Emergency Management

HLS 5443 – Introduction to Physical Security

- Homeland Security Electives (9 hrs.)

12 Hours of Program Electives from Related Fields Chosen in Consultation with Advisor

- History
- Political Science
- Communication – online courses available
- Economics
- Psychology – online courses available
- Counseling
- Accounting – online courses available
- Marketing – online courses available
- Management Information Systems – online courses available
- Administration of Justice – online courses available
- Loss Prevention – online courses available

In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MSS who have not maintained a minimum GPA of 3.25 must take written and/or oral comprehensive examinations, the format of which will be at the discretion of the department. Students with a 3.25 or above GPA will be exempt from these exams.

Graduate Certificate

***Homeland Security, Graduate Certificate* (available in traditional and online formats)**

Students may seek a Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security. This program is offered in both the traditional and online formats. Students must be admitted as a graduate student to the college. Students may complete the certificate by taking the following:

A. Required: (6 sem. hrs.)

- AJU 5541 - Introduction to Homeland Security **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 5542 - Introduction to Emergency Management **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

B. Choose from five of the following: (15 sem. hrs.)

- AJU 5543 - Introduction to Physical Security **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 5544 - Legal Aspects of Homeland Security **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6645 - Domestic Terrorism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6646 - International Terrorism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6647 - Cyber Terrorism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6648 - Grant Writing for Homeland Security **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6632 - Special Issues **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Total: 21 sem. hrs.

***Loss Prevention/Security Management Certificate* (available in traditional and online formats)**

Students may seek an online Graduate Certificate in Loss Prevention/Security Management. Students must be admitted as a graduate student to the college.

Students may complete the certificate by taking the following courses:

A. REQUIRED LOSS PREVENTION/SECURITY MANAGEMENT CORE (12 sem. hrs.)

- AJU 5405 - Introduction to Loss Prevention **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 5406 - Executive Management in Loss Prevention **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 5407 - Private Security Law **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 5543 - Introduction to Physical Security **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

B. ELECTIVES: CHOOSE THREE FROM THE FOLLOWING (9 sem. hrs.)

- AJU 5532 - Special Issues **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6499 - Directed Readings **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6598 - Independent Study **Credits, 1 or 3 or 6 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6632 - Special Issues **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6645 - Domestic Terrorism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 6647 - Cyber Terrorism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Post Baccalaureate Certificate

Post-Baccalaureate Program in Paralegal Studies

Not a graduate level program leading to a Master's degree

A 27-hour certificate in Paralegal Studies is available to the student who already has a baccalaureate degree. This program is designed to train graduates to work under the supervision of attorneys. Since paralegals (also known as legal assistants) are not licensed to

practice law, they are prohibited from the *Unauthorized Practice of Law*, which is a crime under state law.

The *major objectives* of the paralegal program are the following:

- To increase access to legal services by reducing costs to clients.
- To encourage the growth of the paralegal profession.
- To teach students about legal ethics and to qualify them to work as paralegals in law related occupations in law offices, government agencies and businesses.

Students need above-average writing skills. All students must pass **ENG 099** Writing Proficiency Examination during their first semester. Those who do not pass the Writing Proficiency Examination must take **ENG 299** Composition Skills the following semester.

A minimum of 15 hours must be completed at Mississippi Christian University. Acceptable transfer credit must be at or above the grade level of a C. Students must make a C or better in all required classes taken at Mississippi Christian University to graduate with a certificate in paralegal studies.

Student must have completed a baccalaureate degree and take the following courses: (27 sem. hrs.):

A. Complete the Paralegal Studies core courses (18 sem. hrs.):

- PLE 201 Introduction to Law
- PLE 300 Litigation, Rules of Court and Civil Procedure I
- PLE 301 Litigation, Rules of Court and Civil Procedure II (*Prerequisites: PLE 300*)
- PLE 325 Legal Research and Bibliography
- PLE 335 Legal Writing (*Prerequisites: PLE 325*)
- PLE 400 Practical Law Office Management

B. Complete three semester-hour law-related courses (9 sem. hrs.) from the following:

- PLE 304 Wills and Estates
- PLE 305 Real Property Law
- PLE 320 Family Law
- PLE 350 Critical Thinking and the Law (*Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or instructor's consent*)
- PLE 410 Paralegal Internship (*Prerequisites: PLE 300, PLE 325, and instructor's consent*)

See Paralegal Studies section of Undergraduate Catalog for PLE course descriptions and costs of undergraduate courses.

Administration of Justice Course Descriptions

AJU 5400 - Police Rights and Responsibility

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the fundamental rights and civil liabilities of the police, their supervisors and other law enforcement personnel.

AJU 5401 - Police Personnel Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the organization, management techniques, and supervision of police personnel.

AJU 5402 - Police Stress

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of causes, cures and types of stress common to law personnel.

AJU 5405 - Introduction to Loss Prevention

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is an overview of the field of retail loss prevention and it addresses basic theories and concepts, key terms and definitions and current critical issues. This course introduces the student to the organizational fundamentals of loss prevention, including goals, missions, objectives, functions, operations and roles. This course is a prerequisite for AJU 5406 - Executive Management in Loss Prevention.

AJU 5406 - Executive Management in Loss Prevention

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* AJU 5405 - Introduction to Loss Prevention
This course introduces the student to retail loss prevention issues from a supervision and management perspective, including the role of loss prevention within the corporate management structure. This course also introduces the student to classic and contemporary management theory along with basic roles and functions of managers and supervisors. This course is designed to assist individuals currently holding or aspiring to management positions in implementing realistic loss prevention strategies in both small and large retail and corporate environments. Lab fees will cover materials for the loss prevention LPQ certification. Lab fees will cover materials for the loss prevention LPQ certification.

AJU 5407 - Private Security Law

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will introduce the student to the legal aspects and concerns related to Loss Prevention Management and Private Security Administration. It also introduces the student to the applicable criminal procedures utilized in corporate investigations, civil rights and fair employment rules, civil liability, contract considerations, and all regulatory agency requirements.

AJU 5410 - Juvenile Justice Process

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the adjudication process for juveniles including the philosophy

and practice of treatment procedures for juvenile delinquents.

AJU 5414 – Cyber Crimes

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course provides an overview of cybercrimes. It will address the basic theories, concepts, key terms, definitions, and current critical issues. Students completing this course will be able to appraise and assess the different kinds of cybercrimes and other criminal activity. The course will also examine technological advancements and the opportunities they may present for cyber criminals as well as how one can devise plans, countermeasures, and contingencies against cyber-attacks. Students will also examine the efficacy of current U.S. policy regarding critical infrastructure protection.

AJU 5421 - Victimology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Analysis of contemporary victim compensation programs and a comprehensive study of victimization.

AJU 5424 – Homicide Investigation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course examines the knowledge and skills to professionally investigate any possible homicidal situations. Students will learn a systematic process for handling a crime scene from the initial approach through scene documentation and evidence collection and how the latest technology and forensic sciences can assist a homicide investigation.

AJU 5425 - Human Relations and Police Work

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An analysis of the importance of human relations management in contemporary police work in the United States.

AJU 5430 - Police Problems and Practices

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An analysis of contemporary problems and practices confronting police officers in our society today.

AJU 5434 - Deviant Behavior

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of social deviancy as it relates to such areas in society as crime, delinquency, mental health, and religion.

AJU 5436 – Criminal Profiling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course examines the history and present-day use of profiling in the Administration of Justice field, such as forensic victimology, crime scene analysis, and offender characteristics.

AJU 5438 – White Collar Crime

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course examines the history and present-day criminal activities committed by people in the regular course of their business which involve bribery, extortion, tax evasion, money laundering, fraud, embezzlement, Ponzi scheme and securities fraud such as insider trading that usually ends in financial gain or the perpetrators.

AJU 5439 – Kinesic Interview and Interrogation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to familiarize the student with the techniques and principles of Kinesic Interviewing skills. Students will learn the fundamentals of interviewing which include verbal quality, stress response states, verbal content, and non-verbal behaviors.

AJU 5505 - Seminar in Police Ethics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An extensive study of the theories and practices in the areas of values and ethics in law enforcement.

AJU 5510 - Seminar in Organized Crime

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study in the history and methods of organized criminal activity, especially in America.

AJU 5532 - Special Issues

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A graduate forum for course offerings focusing upon contemporary issues in Criminal Justice, Homeland Security, Loss Prevention or Security Management.

Courses offered:

- Special Issues: Kinesic Interview and Interrogation Techniques
- Special Issues: Criminal Profiling
- Special Issues: Organized Crime
- Special Issues: White Collar Crime

Course can be repeated.

AJU 6499 - Directed Readings

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A readings course designed to broaden a graduate student's knowledge in Criminal Justice, Homeland Security, Loss Prevention or Security Management. May be repeated once.

AJU 6598 - Independent Study

Credits, 1 or 3 or 6 sem. hrs. Research in Criminal Justice, Homeland Security, Loss Prevention or Security Management as approved by the director of the Administration of Justice program.

AJU 6600 - Seminar in the American Police Process

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An intensive study of the police process, including the structure, the participants, and the problems inherent in the American system of policing.

AJU 6610 - Seminar in the American Criminal Judicial Process

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An advanced study of the role of the judiciary in the American Criminal Justice system, including the court structure, procedural rules affecting the criminal process, rules of criminal evidence, and current problems facing the criminal judiciary.

AJU 6620 - Seminar in the American Corrections Process

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A critical examination of the theories, practices and problems which shape correctional policy in the United States.

AJU 6632 - Special Issues

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A forum for special graduate course offerings focusing upon contemporary issues in Criminal Justice, Homeland Security, Loss Prevention or Security Management.

Homeland Security Course Descriptions

HLS 5437 – Intelligence Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course examines the history and development of the role of intelligence analysis in efforts to secure our homeland, including an overview of the tools and techniques associated with intelligence gathering and analysis.

HLS 5441 - Introduction to Homeland Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course introduces the student to the field of terrorism and the prevention of terrorism. The prevention of terrorism in the United States lies with Homeland Security, whether it is federal or state sponsored. This course explores the history of terrorism and the ongoing battle to keep the world safe from terrorism.

HLS 5442 - Introduction to Emergency Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course focuses on the areas critical in emergency management and disaster relief systems, to include mitigation, risk management, planning, and process. The course covers all issues associated with emergency planning, management, policies and the systems in place to manage disaster support.

HLS 5443 - Introduction to Physical Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to familiarize you with the managerial aspects of physical security. This course is an overview of physical security from a management perspective while keeping the student abreast of the industry changes and academic relevance.

HLS 5444 - Legal Aspects of Homeland Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is the study of the legal aspects of current government regulations on intelligence operations, identity management, information dissemination, infrastructure protection, security concerns, and ethical issues. The development of public policy in homeland security is examined on local, regional, national, and international levels.

HLS 5445 - Domestic Terrorism

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course traces the history, emergence, and growth of paramilitary and terrorist groups within the United States. Students will assess various groups' intentions, capabilities, and activities within contexts of and ramifications on political, national security, and legal paradigms.

HLS 5446 - International Terrorism

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course examines the global terrorism phenomenon and the social, economic, political, and religious conditions of select states, groups, and individuals that influence the terrorist mindset. Students examine the definitions, origins and development of terror as a means of influencing public policy decisions and in fostering transitions in public power to promote group goals. Specific historical instances of the use of terror are evaluated, assessed, and analyzed. Examples of groups such as the Al-Qaeda terrorist network are assessed including focused discussions on current events.

HLS 5447 - Cyber Terrorism

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will teach the student to identify the ways that computers can be used by terrorists and criminals. Students completing this course will be able to appraise and assess the potential of different kinds of cyber-attacks. The course examines technological advancements on the horizon and the opportunities they may present for terrorists as well as how one can devise plans, countermeasures, and contingencies against future attacks. Students will also learn how to determine the efficacy of current U.S. policy regarding critical infrastructure protection and future avenues for addressing the threat.

HLS 5448 - Grant Writing for Homeland Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course covers the skills and strategies essential to any grant writing process but with heavy emphasis on First Responder grant programs specifically. It will give you the basics you need to apply for funding available from corporate, nonprofit or governmental entities. Specific emphasis is placed on researching and writing grants associated with the Departments of Homeland Security, Justice and those associated with the First Responder

community.

HLS 5449 – Transportation Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to familiarize students with the capabilities of understanding the basic framework of global transportation security and implementing this knowledge to correspond with all levels of government in the homeland security system prior to and following the events surrounding 9/11.

HLS 5450 – Border Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide an overview of border security challenges not only in the United States but for comparison purposes, examines the challenges faced by other nations in securing their borders.

History Course Descriptions

HIS 5403 - Selected Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

HIS 5404 - The Old South

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* HIS 211 or instructor's consent.

A study of the South from colonial times to the Civil War. Emphasis will be given to black-white relations, especially as they relate to the growth of the plantation system, extension of the frontier, commerce, industry, culture, and the institution of slavery.

HIS 5405 - A History of Colonial America

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* HIS 211 or instructor's consent.

This course is a survey of the colonial revolutionary eras in American history. Emphasis will be given to the planting of colonies, their growth and development, origins of the American Revolution, and the struggle for independence.

HIS 5406 - Civil War and Reconstruction

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A very intensive study of the causes, events, major problems, and lasting effects of this period on the history of the South and the nation.

HIS 5410 - Southern Politics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The party systems of the Southern states are examined in terms of their origin, development and impact on national politics.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 5410]

HIS 5412 - The New South

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course description would be modified to the following: A study of the New South since the end of Reconstruction. The rise of Jim Crow, the impact of industrialization and urbanization, the emergence of Southern populism, the relation between national and regional identity in the postwar South, and the long civil rights movement will be examined. Questions of Southern identity and historical memory in the post-Civil War South will be explored.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 412]

HIS 5419 - International Relations

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Recitations and lectures three hours a week. A survey of the principal economic and territorial problems among nations.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 5419.]

HIS 5426 - Europe in the Era of the French Revolution and Napoleon

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the Age of Reason, the Old Regime and its critics, and the disturbing impact of the French Revolution and Napoleon on Europe in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

HIS 5427 - Europe 1815-1918

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): HIS 101-HIS 102 or Instructor's consent.*

A survey of political, social, and cultural trends in Europe from the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars to the conclusion of World War I.

HIS 5432 - British Empire

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Covers the rise and fall of the British Empire, focusing on the political, social, economic, and cultural aspects of empire, as well as the importance of empire to English national identity.

HIS 5433 - World War I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the causes and consequences of the First World War, with emphasis on the transformative nature of the war and its legacy in the twentieth century.

HIS 5434 - Environmental History Seminar

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This interdisciplinary, experiential learning course will explore topics pertaining to how human interaction with nature influences historical outcomes. Special attention is paid to the way nature shapes human history, settlement, and conflict; the ways in which humans have understood, utilized, and transformed the natural world; and how religious, cultural, scientific, and political attitudes toward nature have changed over time.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 434]

HIS 5438 - History of Christianity

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course description would be modified to the following: This course examines the beliefs, institutions, and worldwide expansion of Christianity. Attention will be given to doctrinal and ecclesial development, spirituality and devotional practices, historical expressions of service and ministry, the social and cultural ramifications of Christianity, and the dynamic between the church and global societies from the ancient world to the present day.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 438]

HIS 5439 - American Religious History Seminar

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of religion in America with attention to the history of institutions, denominations, political activism, cultural engagement, religious experience, and religious liberty from the colonial period to the present. A broad overview will serve as the foundation to examine specialized topics in the seminar.

HIS 5441 - The Civil Rights Movement

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course explores the history of the civil Rights Movement from the collapse of Reconstruction and the rise of Jim Crow to the modern era of activism and landmark legislation. It examines the key personalities, organizations, events, and philosophical approaches to the African American freedom struggle, as well as the historiography of the movement. The post-World War II movement for civil rights will receive close attention, particularly in regard to its national and local dynamics as well as the role of religion in civil rights history.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 441]

HIS 5443 - World War II, 1939-1945

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the causes and consequences of the Second World War, with emphasis given to the major military and diplomatic events of the period.

HIS 5444 - Cold War, 1945-Present

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The nature of Soviet-American relations since World War II prefaces a

more intensive examination of related issues such as nuclear disarmament, emerging Third World nations, and the impact of the Cold War on domestic policy.

HIS 5446 - Europe Since 1919

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the World War I settlement, the rise of Nazism, Fascism and Communism, World War II, the United Nations, NATO, the Common Market, and developments in the Cold War Era.

HIS 5451 - Modern U.S. History, 1920-Present

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of political, social, and economic forces and the changes they produced in the United States from the post-World War I period to the present.

HIS 5456 - History of the Middle East and Africa

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will begin with the rise and spread of Islam and will examine the various Arab dynasties, the Ottoman Empire, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and conclude with current events.

[Crosslisted as:

HIS 5457 - England to 1500

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of Ancient and Medieval England, emphasizing the political, social, economic, and cultural aspects of English history.

HIS 5458 - England 1500-1800

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of England from 1500-1800, emphasizing the political, social, economic, and cultural aspects of English history.

HIS 5459 - England 1800-Present

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of England from 1800-present, emphasizing the political, social, economic, and cultural aspects of English history.

HIS 5504 - Seminar in Mississippi History

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will focus on topics of special interest concerning the development of Mississippi.

HIS 5505 - The American Revolution

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A very intensive survey of the revolutionary and early Republic eras in

American history. Emphasis will be given to the initial conflicts between colonists and the British, the political and social motivations to fight for independence, gender, race, and class during the revolutionary period. as well as the foundations of the American Constitution.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 445 The American Revolution]

HIS 5507 - Seminar in American Const. Dev. to 1877 I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course deals with selected aspects of American Constitutional History from the Colonial Era to the end of Reconstruction. Emphasis is given to developing ideas, practices, and institutions that have shaped fundamental law in the United States. Research and writing are emphasized.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 5507.]

HIS 5508 - Seminar in American Const. Dev. Since 1877 II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course deals with selected aspects of American Constitutional History from the end of Reconstruction until today. Emphasis is given to the “nationalization” of the Bill of Rights, especially the rise of civil liberties and civil rights law in the 20th century. Research and writing are emphasized.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 5508.]

HIS 5535 - Seminar in Southern History and Politics to 1865

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Course features an historical analysis of a designated segment of this topic.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 5535.]

HIS 5536 - Seminar in Southern Hist. & Politics Since 1865

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A seminar on the American South since Reconstruction. Emphasis will be given to race relations, industrialization and cultural changes since 1865.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 5536.]

HIS 5537 - Seminar in the American Presidency

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the evolving powers and responsibilities of the presidency, an appraisal of the individuals who have served, and an assessment of the current condition of and prospects for the office.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 5537.]

HIS 5539 - Seminar in American Social & Intellectual History

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A seminar on American development with emphasis given to religion's role in shaping American social and cultural institutions.

HIS 5550 - Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 1877-1920

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): HIS 212 or instructor's consent.*

An analysis of the political, economic, and cultural developments from the post-reconstruction era to the conclusion of the first World War. Key issues include the end of reconstruction, the American West, the rise of big business, populism, progressivism, and World War I.

HIS 5591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

HIS 5592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

HIS 5593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

HIS 6403 - Selected Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Selected topics in History. May be repeated with different topic selection.

HIS 6504 - Mississippi Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course examines the history and culture of Mississippi through assigned readings, outside lecturers and original research by Graduate students.

HIS 6540 - Individual Reading and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and department chair.*

Individual reading and research in an area of history. May be repeated once.

HIS 6555 - Historical Research and Methodology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An analysis of basic methodology and research tools currently employed in history and other social sciences.

HIS 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to candidacy; approval of prospectus and satisfactory progress as determined by the advisor.*

(Eligible for grade of PR only until HIS 6564 is completed; the permanent grade for HIS 6563 and HIS 6564 will be assigned when the thesis, including oral defense, is completed.)

HIS 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*

(Eligible for temporary grade PR only until thesis is completed; a permanent grade will be assigned when the thesis is completed.) Binding fee required.

HIS 6623 - Historical Issues in International or Comparative Politics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An in-depth examination of timely developments in the fields of international or comparative politics, with extensive attention to their historic roots. The focus of this course will vary and will be announced at the time it is offered. May be repeated once with different topic selection.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 6623.]

HIS 6644 - Seminar in American Foreign Policy

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of how significant changes in the international arena throughout United States history have necessitated continuous reappraisal of U.S. national interests, and how changing perceptions of national interest have translated into U.S. foreign policy.

[Crosslisted as: PLS 6644.]

Political Science Course Descriptions

PLS 5410 - Southern Politics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The party systems of the Southern states are examined in terms of their origin, development and impact on national politics.

PLS 5419 - Seminar in International Politics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The problems in world politics are critically examined, with emphasis on the nature of the state system, warfare, diplomacy, and international and regional factors.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 5419.]

PLS 5422 - Seminar in Politics of Developing Nations

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

PLS 5441 - Contemporary Political Ideologies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): PLS 101 or PLS 201, or Instructor's consent.*

A study of the major political ideologies of the past century. Topics include: nationalism, conservatism, liberalism, Marxism, democracy and other contemporary political ideologies.

PLS 5447 - U.S. Military Intervention

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): PLS 101 or PLS 201, or Instructor's consent.*

A study of the military intervention since the end of World War II. Topics will cover an overview of military intervention since 1775 and consideration of the different types of interventions utilized since 1945, including: covert intervention, the utilization of paramilitary forces, the Reagan Doctrine, and instances of direct military intervention by U.S. armed forces.

PLS 5450 - History of Political Theory

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course focuses on the development of political thought from Ancient Greece through the present time.

PLS 5503 - Selected Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Courses offered in response to identified interests and needs. Topics of a contemporary nature and other topics of current interest will be chosen for in-depth study.

PLS 5505 - Seminar in Early American History and Politics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: HIS 5505.]*

PLS 5507 - Seminar in American Constitutional Development to 1877 I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course deals with selected aspects of American Constitutional History from the Colonial Era to the end of Reconstruction. Emphasis is given to developing ideas, practices, and institutions that have shaped fundamental law in the United States. Research and writing are emphasized.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 5507.]

PLS 5508 - Seminar in American Constitutional Development Since 1877 II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course deals with selected aspects of American Constitutional History from the end of Reconstruction until today. Emphasis is given to the “nationalization” of the Bill of Rights, especially the rise of civil liberties and civil rights law in the 20th century. Research and writing are emphasized.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 5508.]

PLS 5515 - Seminar in Southern Politics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An intensive examination of the political systems of the Southern states and the past and present place of the South in the national political arena.

PLS 5535 - Seminar in Southern History and Politics to 1865

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: HIS 5535.]*

PLS 5536 - Seminar in Southern History and Politics Since 1865

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: HIS 5536.]*

PLS 5537 - Seminar in the American Presidency

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the evolving powers and responsibilities of the presidency, an appraisal of the individuals who have served, and an assessment of the current condition of and prospects for the office.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 5537.]

PLS 6403 - Selected Topics

Selected topics in Political Science. May be repeated with different topic selection.

PLS 6540 - Individual Reading and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and department chair.*
Individual reading and research in a selected area of political science. May be repeated once.

PLS 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to candidacy; approval of prospectus and satisfactory progress as determined by the advisor.*
(Eligible for grade of PR only until PLS 6564 is completed; the permanent grades for PLS 6563 and PLS 6564 will be assigned when the thesis, including the oral defense, is completed.)

PLS 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*
(Eligible for temporary grade of PR only until thesis is completed; a permanent grade will be assigned when the thesis, including the oral defense, is completed.) Binding fee required.

PLS 6623 - Historical Issues in International or Comparative Politics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An in-depth examination of timely developments in the fields of international or comparative politics, with extensive attention to their historic roots. The focus of this course will vary and will be announced at the time it is offered. May be repeated once with different topic selection.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 6623.]

PLS 6644 - Seminar in American Foreign Policy

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of how significant changes in the international arena throughout United States history have necessitated continuous reappraisal of U.S. national interests, and how changing perceptions of national interest have translated into U.S. foreign policy.

[Crosslisted as: HIS 6644.]

Department of Music

Master of Music Degree (M.M., M.M.Ed.)

The Master of Music degree may be earned in Music Education, Music Performance, Piano Pedagogy, and Vocal Performance and Pedagogy. All courses are chosen in consultation with a music advisor.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. An undergraduate degree in music. Applicants to the M.M. in Music Education program must have an undergraduate degree in music and teacher certification.
3. A sample of representative work from one or more of the following: an audition, an interview, or a 15-minute unedited video of teaching or conducting (for the M.M. in Music Education and M.M. in Performance: Conducting.)
4. A minimum 2.5 GPA in music courses over the last sixty hours of academic work.
5. Three letters of recommendation.
6. Successful completion of entrance diagnostic examination in music theory and history. If not passed, remedial coursework must be completed prior to taking graduate music courses in those subject areas.

Comprehensive Examinations

All degree candidates must pass the departmental comprehensive examinations in their last

semester of graduate study or the following semester. An exception can be made for those candidates in the Master of Music Education program who have elected to write a thesis. Written Comprehensives are scheduled three weeks before the end of each semester and are based on a comprehensive knowledge of graduate course work. Oral Comprehensives are scheduled one week following the Written Comprehensives for all degrees.

Applied Study

Graduate students may take applied studies for 1, 2 or 3 credit hours.

Master of Music

Master of Music in Music Education, M.M. (30 sem. hrs)

Course Requirements

Applicants for admission into the Music Education program seeking Class AA Educator License must have: (1) *satisfactory scores on the PRAXIS I Core CASE (Core Academic Skills for Educators) Reading-5713 (passing score 156); Writing-5723 (passing score 162); Math-5733 (passing score 130); and (2) PRAXIS II (Content Area Exam**)*

**Approved content area tests and passing scores are determined by MDE, are subject to change pending MDE approval, and are listed at the State Dept of Education website, <https://mdek12.org/talentacquisition/praxis-information/>

Scores must be on file before admission to candidacy.

Core Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6530 – Music Research and Writing
MUS 6509 Topics in Music Theory
MUS 6514 Topics in Music History

Music Education (12 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6501 Sociology and Psychology of Music Education (required)
MUS 6516 History and Philosophy of Music Education

Choose one of the following:

MUS 6573 Project/Thesis I AND
MUS 6574 Project/Thesis II

OR

EDU 6535 Curriculum Development AND
Music Education Elective (3 sem. hrs.)

Electives (9 sem. hrs.)

Nine credits will be selected with the advisor's approval from 6000-level music or related coursework. No more than 3 credit hours may be applied lessons/ensembles.

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Master of Music in Conducting (Choral), M.M. (30 sem. hrs.)

The Master of Music in Conducting is designed for the student possessing an undergraduate degree in music who wishes to pursue advanced study in the area of choral conducting. Potential candidates should possess a basic knowledge of conducting and demonstrate sufficient physical coordination required for the profession.

Candidates will prepare for professional employment in the area of choral conducting in school and church settings and to pursue a terminal degree in the field. Candidates explore the repertoire of choral literature from the early Renaissance to the present; choral methods are discussed in detail, including choral tone, textual understanding, rehearsal techniques, and programming; private instruction is given in conducting to refine pattern, gesture and score preparation, and study of vocal technique is furthered in a studio setting.

Audition Requirement: The conducting audition may be held on-campus with one of the Mississippi Christian University choral ensembles or via video recording using a choir conducted by the candidate. Video submissions must be a minimum of 10 minutes of rehearsal and/or performance utilizing a full-front camera angle. Students interested in studying graduate organ must also complete a keyboard audition.

A low -residency option is available which allows students to take the core, performance, and literature courses online and the Conducting Techniques classes on campus during the summers. This allows those with full-time positions to continue working while they complete the Master of Music degree. This option requires the student to have a choir they conduct on a regular basis during the school year.

Core Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6530 Music Research and Writing

MUS 6509 Topics in Music Theory

MUS 6514 Topics in Music History

Literature and Performance Practice (6 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6513 Choral Literature and Performance Practices (1550-1750)

MUS 6520 Choral Literature and Performance Practices (1750-Present)

Conducting Techniques (6 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6518 Techniques of Conducting

MUS 6519 Seminar in Conducting

Performance (6 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6552 Applied Conducting

MUS 6511 Applied Organ

Ensemble (2 sem hrs. from the following):

MUS 6584 Choctaw Chorus

MUS 6597 Singers

MUS 6585 Low-Residency Choral Ensemble

Graduate Recital (3 sem. hrs.)

Choose one of the following:

MUS 6500 Graduate Recital

MUS 6540 Graduate Recital with Monograph

MUS 6550 Graduate Lecture Recital

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Master of Music in Performance: Piano, M.M. (30 sem. hrs.)

The Master of Music in Piano Performance is designed for the student possessing an undergraduate degree in piano performance. The program encompasses the study and performance of advanced literature.

Audition requirements: Four memorized pieces to include one baroque work (i.e. Prelude and Fugue of J.S. Bach), a sonata from the Classical period, a work from the Romantic period, and either an Impressionist or Twentieth-Century work.

Core Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6530 Music Research and Writing

MUS 6509 Topics in Music Theory

MUS 6514 Topics in Music History

Literature and Pedagogy (6 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6553 Seminar in Piano Literature

MUS 6527 Graduate Piano Pedagogy I

MUS 6539 Practicum in Piano Pedagogy

Performance (15 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6500 Graduate Recital

MUS 6521 Applied Piano

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy, M.M. (30 sem. hrs.)

The Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy is designed for the student possessing an undergraduate degree in music who wishes to pursue advanced study in the area of piano pedagogy.

Candidates will prepare for a career teaching piano in private and group settings and to pursue further study at the doctoral level. They will synthesize knowledge of a broad range of musical and educational materials and technologies and use these resources to develop musicality at the piano in a variety of student populations and settings.

Audition Requirement: An audition is required for entry into the graduate Piano Pedagogy program. The audition must be at least 20 minutes and include repertoire from at least three style periods.

Core Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6530 Music Research and Writing
MUS 6509 Topics in Music Theory
MUS 6514 Topics in Music History

Pedagogy (9 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6527 Graduate Piano Pedagogy I
MUS 6528 Graduate Piano Pedagogy II
MUS 6529 Group Piano Pedagogy
MUS 6539 Practicum in Piano Pedagogy (Repeatable for credit)

Performance (6 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6522 Applied Piano

Graduate Recital (3 sem. hrs.)

Choose one of the following:

MUS 6500 Graduate Recital
MUS 6540 Graduate Recital with Monograph
MUS 6550 Graduate Lecture Recital

Elective (3 sem. hrs.)

Any 6000-level music course by advisor and instructor consent, or one of the following:

MKT 6593 Field Studies (Personal Marketing)

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Master of Music in Voice Performance and Pedagogy, M.M.

(30 sem. hrs.)

The Master of Music in Voice Performance and Pedagogy is designed for the student

possessing an undergraduate degree in music with voice emphasis. The program encompasses the study and performance of advanced literature, advanced pedagogical study, and its practical application.

Audition Requirements

Five selections in contrasting styles representing a minimum of three languages.

Core Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6530 Music Research and Writing

MUS 6509 Topics in Music Theory

MUS 6514 Topics in Music History

Performance (12 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6532 Applied Voice

Choose three hours of the following:

MUS 6596 Musical Theater and Opera Workshop (*1 hour, may be repeated*)

MUS 6597 Singers (*1 hour, may be repeated*)

MUS 6584 Choctaw Chorus (*1 hour, may be repeated*)

Choose one of the following:

MUS 6500 Graduate Recital

MUS 6540 Graduate Recital with Monograph

MUS 6550 Graduate Lecture Recital

Pedagogy (9 sem. hrs.)

MUS 6564 Graduate Vocal Pedagogy

MUS 6569 Practicum in Comparative Voice Pedagogy

MUS 6566 Graduate Vocal Literature

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Music Course Descriptions

MUS 5440 - Music History Review I

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. A review of western music history from Medieval through 1750. This course is required for students scoring below 80% on the Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque portion of the graduate music history diagnostic examination administered to entering graduate students in music, and does not fulfill the music history core of a graduate music degree.

MUS 5441 - Music History Review II

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. A review of western music history from 1750 through art music of the

present. This course is required for students scoring below 80% on the Classic, Romantic, 20th century, and 21st century portion of the graduate music history diagnostic examination administered to entering graduate students in music, and does not fulfill the music history core of a graduate music degree.

MUS 5455 - Music Theory Review I

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. A review of tonal harmony and basic form. This course is a review of undergraduate music theory and does not fulfill the music theory core of a graduate music degree.

MUS 5456 - Music Theory Review II

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. A review of contemporary compositional techniques, advanced form, and counterpoint. This course is a review of undergraduate music theory, and does not fulfill the music theory core of a graduate music degree.

MUS 6500 - Graduate Recital

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

MUS 6501 - Sociology and Psychology of Music Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is divided into three main areas. First is a study of music education research and its value to the music educator. Second is the development of a professional philosophy and how that philosophy impacts the music teaching and learning process. Third is a contemporary look at the interrelationship of sociology and music education.

MUS 6502 - Advanced Methods & Materials for Teaching Instrumental Music at Junior High and Secondary Levels

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Advanced studies of the rehearsal techniques and repertoire selection appropriate for junior high and senior high bands, organization of band programs from beginning levels through high school, budgets and physical facilities, and specialized areas, such as marching bands and festival participation.

MUS 6503 - Advanced Techniques & Materials for Elementary General Music Teachers

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Techniques and materials for instructional planning for K-6, utilizing aspects of various teaching approaches, including Orff, Kodaly, Dalcroze, and eclectic.

MUS 6507 - Applied Composition

Credits, 1 sem hour Studio Course

MUS 6508 - Applied Composition

Credits, 2 sem hrs Studio Course

MUS 6509 – Topics in Music Theory

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A series of written projects using a variety of analytical techniques explore the working of Western styles of music from all time periods..

MUS 6511 - Applied Organ

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

MUS 6513 - Choral Literature and Performance Practices (1550-1750)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A survey of choral music composed between 1550 and 1750, including significant trends, musical forms and their development, stylistic analysis, and performance practice.

MUS 6514 - Topics in Music History

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A graduate seminar in music history including visual and aural examination of representative works from various time periods.

MUS 6516 - History and Philosophy of Music Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the rationale/justification for music education in the United States centering on major music education leaders, trends, events, and concerns from 1620 to the present.

MUS 6518 - Techniques of Conducting

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of conducting details, including cueing, dynamic contrast, tempo changes, legato and staccato, rehearsal techniques, and conducting patterns.

MUS 6519 - Seminar in Conducting

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. In-depth study of the role of the conductor as teacher, including characteristics of successful rehearsal techniques in school and church settings, topical discussions of practical importance including budget and fundraising, copyright law, publicity and concert promotion. Guest lecturers and off-campus observations.

MUS 6520 - Choral Literature and Performance Practices (1750-Present)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A survey of choral music composed between 1750 and the present,

including significant trends, musical forms and their development, stylistic analysis, and performance practice.

MUS 6521 - Applied Piano

Credits, 1 sem. hour *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing.

The study of applied piano is designed to further the student's ability in the art of playing the piano. It includes broad-based coverage of all aspects of piano performance, including studying music from all of the common-practice periods of music history.

MUS 6522 - Applied Piano

Credits, 2 sem. hours *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing.

The study of applied piano is designed to further the student's ability in the art of playing the piano. It includes broad-based coverage of all aspects of piano performance, including studying music from all of the common-practice periods of music history.

MUS 6527 - Graduate Piano Pedagogy I

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MUS 425-MUS 426 Piano Pedagogy, 4 credit hours, or the equivalent.

Piano methods and literature for teaching at the elementary level will be presented.

MUS 6528 - Graduate Piano Pedagogy II

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MUS 6527 - Graduate Piano Pedagogy I, 2 credit hours.

Piano methods and literature for teaching at the intermediate and early-advanced levels will be presented.

MUS 6529 - Group Piano Pedagogy

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MUS 425-MUS 426 Piano Pedagogy, 4 credit hours or the equivalent.

Piano methods and literature for teaching at the advanced level, including the Well-Tempered Clavier by Bach, the sonatas of Mozart and Beethoven, and the major works of other master composers, as well as instruction of college group piano, will be presented.

MUS 6530 - Music Research and Writing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course is an introduction to advanced techniques in music research and the application of skills derived from the study of those techniques in scholarly writing.

MUS 6531 - Applied Voice

Credits, 8 sem. hrs.

MUS 6532 - Applied Voice

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

MUS 6539 - Practicum in Piano Pedagogy

Credits, 1 sem. hr. Repeatable for credit *Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor.*

Piano Pedagogy interns will teach piano to pre-college students, adult hobby students, and/or college music majors and non-music majors in private and/or group settings. Students will receive weekly evaluation of teaching assignments through feedback from piano pedagogy faculty and self-evaluation of videotaped lessons.

MUS 6540 - Graduate Recital with Monograph

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A public recital of at least thirty minutes of music accompanied by a monograph representing significant research.

MUS 6550 - Graduate Lecture Recital

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A public recital of at least thirty minutes of music accompanied by a thirty-minute oral presentation representing significant research.

MUS 6552 - Applied Conducting

Credits, 1 sem hr. Repeatable for credit Individual instruction in the techniques of choral conducting, score study and preparation using repertoire selected by the instructor.

MUS 6553 - Seminar in Piano Literature

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. By means of special research projects and lectures, the student is acquainted made aware of works from the literature of his or her respective medium of performance. This study is directed toward works with which the student would not have become acquainted from any other part of the curriculum.

MUS 6564 – Graduate Vocal Pedagogy

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course covers the fundamentals, techniques, and methods of teaching voice in one-on-one and group settings. Topics include anatomy, physiology, function of voice, acoustics, developmental voice, and voice health. Course includes teaching observations.

MUS 6566 – Graduate Vocal Literature

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course will present a system of analysis for repertoire to be used as a tool for technical enhancement. Students will compile databases of repertoire by style and

language, for use in the voice studio. Styles will include Musical Theater, Western Classical, and Contemporary Popular styles.

MUS 6569 - Practicum in Comparative Voice Pedagogy

Credits, 3 sem. hr.

Supervised, practical voice teaching observations and experiences.

MUS 6571 - Applied Woodwinds

Credits, 1-2-3 sem. hrs.

MUS 6573 - Project/Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Advisor approval

This course prepares the graduate music student to write a project/thesis prospectus. A grade of "PR" will be assigned for MUS 6573 until MUS 6574 is completed. Once a grade is earned in MUS 6574, a permanent grade of "Credit or No Credit" will then be assigned for MUS 6573.

MUS 6574 - Project/Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MUS 6573

This course prepares the graduate music student to write a project/thesis. Once a grade is earned in MUS 6574, a permanent grade of "Credit or No Credit" will then be assigned for MUS 6573.

MUS 6581 - Applied Brass

Credits, 1-2-3 sem. hrs.

MUS 6584 - Choctaw Chorus

Credits, 1 sem. hr. The Choctaw Chorus is an unauditioned mixed voice choral ensemble of Mississippi Christian University performing sacred and secular literature from all major musical periods.

MUS 6585 – Low-Residency Choral Ensemble

Credits, 1 sem. hr. Students choosing the low-residency format of the M.M. in Conducting will participate in a choral ensemble in their local area. Permission of the professor of record is required and will include approval of repertoire to be performed as well as time spent in rehearsal and performance.

MUS 6586 - Introduction to Kodaly Music Education

Credits, 1 sem. hr. An introduction to the Kodaly Music Education philosophy and methodology.

MUS 6587 - Kodaly Music Education I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The study of the Kodaly Music Education philosophy and methodology with emphasis on personal musicianship skills including singing, solfege study, Curwen hand signs, folk dance, and recorder.

MUS 6588 - Kodaly Music Education II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A detailed study of the basic tenets of the Kodaly Music Education methodology, emphasizing discovery learning, abstract before concrete, sound before sight, rhythmic reading, and lesson planning, focusing on preparation, making conscious, and reinforcement.

MUS 6589 - Kodaly Music Education III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Kodaly Music Education methodology developed through sequential lesson planning, folk song research and compilation, choral conducting and the children's choir, and ear training with complex solfege.

MUS 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

MUS 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

MUS 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

MUS 6594 - Applied Percussion

Credits, 1-2-3 sem. hrs.

MUS 6595 - College Band

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

MUS 6596 – Musical Theater and Opera Workshop

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This course is designed to provide students an opportunity to perform in a

mainstage musical theater or opera production. Students must audition to enroll in this course. The course will assist students in developing performance skills in the musical theater and operatic repertoire, and will enhance students' approach to preparing dramatic musical material including acting and movement principles.

MUS 6597 - Singers

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

School of Sciences and Mathematics

Dean

Stan Baldwin, Dean (1999)

601.925.3321

sbaldwin@mc.edu

Chairs

Biological Sciences

Beth Barlow (1999)

601.925.3972

babarlow@mc.edu

Chemistry

Clinton Bailey II (1999)

601.925.3338

bailey@mc.edu

Engineering & Physics

Chris Maggio (2008)

601.925.3213

maggio@mc.edu

Mathematics & Computer Science

Daniel Watson (2015)

601.925.3817

dwatson@mc.edu

Physician Assistant

Steve Martin (2014)

601.925.7384

sdmartin@mc.edu

Department of Biological Sciences

Master of Education

Biological Science, M.Ed.

The Department of Biological Science and the School of Education and Human Sciences offer course work leading to the Master of Education in Biological Science. [See School of Education and Human Sciences section in this catalog for admission policies.](#)

It is expected that a student entering this program will have a minimum of 18 hours of approved undergraduate biological science.

Requirements of the Program

1. Twelve hours of graduate credit in professional education core courses. EDU 6504 - Research — Methods and Procedures and EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development are required as part of the 12 hours. See *School of Education and Human Sciences* section in this catalog for electives.
2. Eighteen hours of graduate work in biological science. Students who wish to complete the M.Ed. Biology degree may not count more than six hours of independent studies and research courses toward the degree. Biochemistry may count for biological science credit. Students may not use the following courses to complete the M.Ed. Biology degree: BIO 5403 Vertebrate Histology, BIO 5404 Pharmacology I, BIO 5405 Pharmacology II, BIO 5410 Human Gross Anatomy, BIO 5436 Pulmonary and Renal Physiology, BIO 5437 Neuromuscular and Cardiovascular Physiology, BIO 5438 Gastrointestinal and Endocrine Physiology, and BIO 5425 Human Neuroanatomy.
3. Candidates for the M.Ed. in Biology must successfully complete BIO 6430 - Graduate Seminar.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 30 or up to a maximum of 45 semester hours of graduate work.

Note: The Mississippi Department of Education will not issue the Class AA Standard Educator License unless the applicant holds a Class A Standard Educator License.

The Master of Education in Biological Science is a Secondary Subject area.

Master of Science

Biology (Biological Sciences) M.S.- Non-Thesis Option

The Master of Science in Biology (Biological Sciences) program is designed to prepare students for a career in private industry or for continued graduate study. For those who have a Class A Standard Educator License, this degree meets the requirement for Class AA Standard Educator License.

Admission Requirements

Minimal admission requirements to the Biology Department include a demonstration of academic proficiency and English proficiency. Meeting minimal requirements does not guarantee admission.

II.A demonstration of Academic Proficiency requires:

- a. An Undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or better

- b. A Biology GPA (minimum of 18 hours) of 2.5 or better
 - c. Two of the following must also be provided with an application for to be considered for admission.
 - i. A grade of "B" or higher in a collegiate level Cell Biology, Genetics or Ecology courses; as indicated on the student's academic transcript.
 - ii. GRE score (minimum Verbal score of 145 and minimum Quantitative score of 145 or the 10th percentile in each category, whichever is greater), or MCAT score (490 or higher), or DAT (score of 15 or higher). *The submission of a standardized test score is not required for admission but may be submitted in support of an application.*
 - iii. Two letters of recommendation supporting science academic abilities
- II. A demonstration of English Proficiency requires at least one of the following:
- a. ILETS (score of 6 or better)
 - b. TOEFL (score of 550-paper based, 213-computer based, or 80-internet based)
 - c. Intensive English Program (IEP) completion
 - d. Verbal GRE (minimum score of 145 or the 10th percentile whichever is higher), or MCAT score of 490 or higher, or DAT score of 15 or higher)
 - e. Six credit hours of non-remedial English from a US regionally accredited university. Students must receive a grade of "C" or higher in all credit hours in this category to be considered.

Students applying from one of the approved countries listed below may be exempt from providing evidence of English Proficiency.

Approved Countries include:

Antigua, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Canada (except Quebec region), Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Montserrat, New Zealand, Sierra Leone, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United Kingdom, United States, Virgin Islands - St. Croix, St. John, St. Thomas

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

1. Students must complete a minimum of 30 or up to 45 semester hours of graduate work. A minimum of twenty-one graduate hours must be in biology. Up to 9 hours can be taken in graduate-level mathematics, chemistry, **computer science** and/or physics. Students who are using this degree to meet the requirements for Class AA Standard Educator License *may* take six hours of graduate level education (EDU) courses as part of their 30 total hours. Students may not use the following courses to complete the MS Biology degree: BIO 5403 -Vertebrate Histology, BIO 5404 - Pharmacology I, BIO 5405 - Pharmacology II, BIO 5410 - Human Gross Anatomy, BIO 5436 Pulmonary and Renal Physiology, BIO 5437 Neuromuscular and Cardiovascular Physiology, BIO 5438 Gastrointestinal and Endocrine Physiology, and BIO 5425 - Human Neuroanatomy.
2. Students who wish to complete the non-thesis route may not count more than six hours of research toward the MS Biology degree.

3. Candidates for the MS in Biology successfully complete BIO 6430 Graduate Seminar.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 30 or up to a maximum of 45 semester hours of graduate work.

Biology (Biological Sciences), M.S.- Thesis Option

The Master of Science in Biology; Thesis Option

The Master of Science in Biology (Biological Sciences) program is designed to prepare students for a career in private industry or for continued graduate study. For those who have a Class A Standard Educator License, this degree meets the requirement for Class AA Standard Educator License.

Admission to the Master of Science in Biology; Thesis Option

Students successfully completing at least eight (8) hours of graduate-level biology courses at Mississippi Christian University may be invited to pursue the Master of Science in Biology; Thesis Option. The required eight academic hours may not include research hours, BIO 6330 Seminar Observation or BIO 6430 Graduate Seminar. Special topics courses and field studies courses may be used *only* with permission of the Chair. Opportunity for admission to the Master of Science in Biology; Thesis Option will be based on performance and the availability of space in the Master of Science in Biology; Thesis Option program.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

1. Students must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work. A minimum of twenty-one graduate hours must be in biology. Up to 9 hours can be taken in graduate-level mathematics, chemistry, computer science and/or physics. Students who are using this degree to meet the requirements for Class AA Standard Educator License *may* take six hours of graduate level education (EDU) courses as part of their 30 total hours. Students may not use the following courses to complete the MS Biology degree: BIO 5403 -Vertebrate Histology, BIO 5404 - Pharmacology I, BIO 5405 - Pharmacology II, BIO 5410 - Human Gross Anatomy, and BIO 5425 - Human Neuroanatomy.
2. Of the 30 required semester hours, a minimum 15 hours must be in non-research-based courses. Special topics courses and field studies courses may be used *only* with permission of the Chair.
3. Students who wish to complete the thesis option must complete BIO 6563 - Thesis I (3 hours) and BIO 6564 - Thesis II (3 hours) in addition to 6 hours of research.
4. Candidates for the MS in Biology must take an oral comprehensive examination (BIO 6999) based upon the completed thesis used to satisfy degree requirements. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the written, and/or oral examination may be taken once in the following semester or summer term.
5. Students must complete a minimum of 30 or up to a maximum of 45 semester hours of graduate work.

Biology (Medical Sciences), M.S.

The Master of Science in Biology (Medical Sciences) program is designed to prepare students for a career in medical sciences research or for those students wishing to enter medical or dental school. This degree can be completed in one calendar year. For those who have a Class A Standard Educator License, this degree meets the requirement for Class AA Standard Educator License.

Admission Requirements

1. Students must have a minimum score on one of the following exams in order to enroll in this program: (MCAT score-480), DAT 330, General GRE: Verbal -142 , Quantitative-142. Acceptable standardized exams must be submitted prior enrollment.
2. Science undergraduate hours requirement: 16 hours of biology, 16 hours of chemistry, and 8 hours of physics, with a minimum grade of "C" in each course, are required to enter this program.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

Graduate students in the Masters of Medical Sciences can only take a maximum of two of the following courses in the same semester: BIO 5403, BIO 5410, BIO 5436, BIO 5437, BIO 5438, BIO 5425.

Students must complete a minimum of 30 or up to a maximum of 45 semester hours of graduate work. **Students must take** 3 of the following courses: BIO 5403 Vertebrate Histology, BIO 5404 Pharmacology I, BIO 5410 Human Gross Anatomy, BIO 5436 Pulmonary and Renal Physiology, BIO 5437 Neuromuscular and Cardiovascular Physiology, BIO 5438 Gastrointestinal and Endocrine Physiology, and BIO 5425 Human Neuroanatomy. Students must also complete BIO 6430 Graduate Seminar. Students who wish to earn the MS Biology (Medical Sciences) Degree may count up to 6 hours of research toward the degree. The remaining courses may be taken from the following:

- BIO 5403 - Vertebrate Histology **Credits, 5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5404 - Pharmacology I **Credits, 5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5405 - Pharmacology II **Credits, 5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5407 - Biology of Cancer **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5409 - Human Embryology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5410 - Human Gross Anatomy **Credits, 8 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5414 - General Microbiology **Credits, 4 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5415 - Immunology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5416 - Immunology and Virology Lab **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- BIO 5417 - Medical Microbiology **Credits, 4 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5418 - Infectious Diseases **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5419 - DNA Forensics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5422 - Virology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5425 - Human Neuroanatomy **Credits, 5 sem. hrs.**

- BIO 5426 - Mitochondrial Genomics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5428 - Epidemiology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5436 – Pulmonary and Renal Physiology **Credits, 5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5437 – Neuromuscular and Cardiovascular Physiology **Credits, 5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5438 – Gastrointestinal and Endocrine Physiology **Credits, 5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5440 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5441 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5442 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5443 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5445 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5446 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5447 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5448 - Special Topics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5449 - Special Topics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5456 – Neuroscience Laboratory **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5457 – Neurophysiology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5458 – Cognitive Neuroscience **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 5459 – Neuropharmacology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6305 - Cell Physiology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6330 - Seminar Observation **Credits, 1 sem. hour**
- BIO 6430 - Graduate Seminar **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6460 - Independent Studies and Research **Credits, 1-3 sem hrs**
- BIO 6461 - Independent Studies and Research **Credits, 1-3 sem hrs**
- BIO 6462 - Independent Studies and Research **Credits, 1-3 sem hrs**
- BIO 6501 - Unifying Principles of Modern Biology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6505 - Genomics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6506 - Food and Water Microbiology **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6539 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-4 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6540 - Special Topics **Credits, 0-4 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6541 - Medical Genetics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6545 - Special Topics **Credits, 1-3 sem hrs**
- BIO 6546 - Special Topics **Credits, 1-3 sem hrs**
- BIO 6547 - Special Topics **Credits, 1-3 sem hrs**
- BIO 6562 Research
- BIO 6563 - Thesis I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6564 - Thesis II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6591 - Field Studies **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- BIO 6592 - Field Studies **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- BIO 6593 - Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5418 - Biochemistry: Macromolecules **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5419 - Biochemistry: Metabolism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5420 - Bioanalytical Chemistry Laboratory **Credits, 1 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5421 - Biophysical Chemistry Laboratory **Credits, 1 sem. hrs.**

Graduate Certificate

Health Science Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

The purpose of this program is to provide a means by which a postbaccalaureate student can take or re-take science and math pre-requisites for Health profession related fields such as Medicine, Dentistry, Physician Assistant Studies, and Physical Therapy. Admission into this program requires a bachelor's degree.

The Certificate program requires 24 semester hours chosen only from the below listed courses.

BIO 111, 110, 112, 113, 203, 204, 305, 306, 307, 332, 333, 414 (undergraduate class only)
CHE 141, 142, 303, 313, 304, 314
PHY 151, 152
MAT 111, 113, 119, 120, 121, 122, 207, 208
PSY 201
SOC 205

Biological Sciences Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is a prerequisite for all graduate courses.

These departments listed alphabetically offer graduate level courses:

Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit on the 5000 level.

Instructor's consent is prerequisite for all 5000-6000-level biology courses taken for graduate credit. Graduate students will be expected to complete individual assignments not expected of students registered for undergraduate credit in these courses.

BIO 5400 – Herpetology

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Herpetology is the study of the diversity, phylogeny, systematics, and adaptations of amphibians and non-avian reptiles. Beyond global diversity, the course emphasizes diversity in Mississippi. Students are introduced to comparative anatomy, ecophysiology, reproduction, feeding, behavior, and conservation of various herpetofauna. The laboratory component of this course makes use of preserved specimens and includes field trips to allow hands-on experience with finding, capturing, and proper handling of reptiles and amphibians.

BIO 5401 - Entomology

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing. Lecture 4 hours a week. Laboratory 3*

hours a week.

Study of the morphology, physiology, ecology, and systematic of insects.

BIO 5402 – Ecology

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*

A study of the interactions of organisms and their environments.

BIO 5403 - Vertebrate Histology

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Lecture 4 hours a week. Laboratory 3 hours a week.

This course will not count towards the Master of Biology Biological Sciences or Master of Combined Sciences. An introduction to normal histology, featuring the study of cells, tissues and organs. The functional significance of structure is considered.

BIO 5404 - Pharmacology I

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): BIO 436 or BIO 5436 and BIO 437 or BIO 5437 and graduate standing in the MS Biology Medical Sciences, or current student in Medical or Dental School or Instructor Consent.*

This course will not count towards the MS in Biology Biological Sciences. This course in part one of a study of basic and clinical pharmacology with an emphasis on major drug groups and their mechanisms of action. This course will also include the recommended drugs for all major diseases of the autonomic nervous system, cardiovascular and renal systems, smooth muscle, and the CNS; it will integrate some basic human pathology to enhance further understanding of drugs on certain diseases. The study of each drug will cover bioavailability, route of delivery, its mechanism of action, its medical use, its contraindications, and its adverse effects.

BIO 5405 - Pharmacology II

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): BIO 5404 - Pharmacology I, graduate standing in the MS Biology Medical Sciences, or current student in Medical or Dental School.*

This course will not count towards the MS in Biology Biological Sciences. This course in part two of a study of basic and clinical pharmacology with an emphasis on major drug groups and their mechanisms of action. This course will also include the recommended drugs for all major diseases of the CNS not covered by Pharmacology I, blood and the endocrine system, and will also include chemotherapeutics; it will integrate some basic human pathology to enhance further understanding of drugs on certain diseases. The study of each drug will cover bioavailability, route of delivery, its mechanism of action, its medical use, its contraindications, and its adverse effects.

BIO 5407 - Biology of Cancer

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in the MS in Biology, Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences.*

Building on the student's knowledge of cell physiology and genetics, the discussion in this course will begin with the process of cell transformation, followed by the mechanics of cell growth and division gone awry, and lead up to the interactions between tumors and their host. Signal transduction, the cellular energetics of tumor cells, inflammation, and angiogenesis will be discussed in the context of tumor growth and metastasis.

BIO 5408 – Systematic Zoology

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

A study of taxonomic principles of invertebrates and vertebrates.

BIO 5409 - Human Embryology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Lecture 3 hours a week.

A study of human embryology with emphasis on the fundamental developmental processes. Topics include gametogenesis, fertilization, and development of the embryo from zygote through the differentiation of the neural tube. Additionally, topics involving development of selected human organ systems will be covered. Clinical analysis of birth defects will also be discussed.

BIO 5410 - Human Gross Anatomy

Credits, 8 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): A grade of B or better in one of the following courses: BIO 5403, BIO 5404, BIO 5425, BIO 5436, BIO 5437, BIO 5438 and graduate standing. Students must have a 3.0 GPA.*

Lecture/Lab/Field/Meeting: Lecture four hours a week (combination of in-class meetings and virtual meetings). Laboratory twelve hours a week.

This is a human dissection course. The major objective of the course is to have students become proficient in dissection techniques of the human body. In addition, students will demonstrate a mastery of all structures of the human body and apply that knowledge to clinical situations. Technical Standards: Students need to have sufficient motor and sensory function to be able to dissect cadavers for the full duration of the assigned laboratory meeting times. Students are not allowed to audit this course.

"This course cannot be taken as an audit."

BIO 5411 – Ornithology

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Ornithology is the study of the diversity, phylogeny, and adaptations of birds. Beyond global diversity, the course emphasizes diversity in Mississippi. Students are introduced to comparative anatomy, locomotion, ecophysiology, reproduction, feeding, behavior, and conservation of various birds. The laboratory component of this course makes use of preserved specimens and includes field trips to allow experience with identification and observation of local birds.

BIO 5414 - General Microbiology

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Prerequisite: Graduate standing. Lecture 3 hours a week. Laboratory 3 hours a week.*

An integrated course on prokaryotic cell structure, protein secretion, nutrition, growth, metabolism, antimicrobial drugs, normal microbial flora, dental infections, pathogenicity, selected Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria, and a survey of viruses, viral diseases, and prions. Laboratory exercises illustrating the preceding lecture topics.

BIO 5415 - Immunology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing. 3 hours a week.*

A study of multiple aspects of the immune response.

BIO 5416 - Immunology and Virology Lab

Credits, 1 sem. hr. *Prerequisite(s): BIO 5415
Lecture/Lab//Meeting: Laboratory 3 hours a week.*

Laboratory component of BIO 5415.

"This course cannot be changed from credit to audit."

BIO 5417 - Medical Microbiology

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and BIO 5414 or equivalent or consent of instructor.
Lecture 3 hours a week. Laboratory 3 hours a week.*

A study of medically important bacteria, fungi, viruses, and parasites with an emphasis on clinical laboratory applications.

BIO 5418 - Infectious Diseases

Credits, 3 sem. hrs *Prerequisite(s): Undergraduate or Graduate Microbiology*
A survey of infectious diseases with a focus on human pathogens. Clinical based correlations

and geographic epidemiology as it relates to the spread and pathophysiology of disease in human societies will be a primary topic. A review of emerging and re-emerging pathogens as they relate human health and societal impacts will be covered.

BIO 5419 - DNA Forensics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in the Masters of Biology, Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences or instructors consent.*

Specific examples of protocols and methodology will be presented from the scientific and the law literature. Students will be expected to develop an understanding of the nature of DNA evidence and the manner in which it is presented in court. Students will be expected to understand how the collection and analysis of samples interacts with presentations of materials to support legal arguments in courts of law.

BIO 5422 - Virology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
Laboratory 3 hours a week.

A survey of bacterial, plant and animal viruses with an additional emphasis on pertinent aspects of molecular biology. A review of emerging and re-emerging viruses will be included as they currently relate to their ecological and human health impact.

This course cannot be changed from credit to audit.

BIO 5424 - Animal Ecology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
Lecture 3 hours a week.

An analysis of the adaptations of animal populations.

BIO 5425 - Human Neuroanatomy

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
Lecture 4 hours a week. Laboratory 3 hours a week.

This course will not count towards the Master of Biology Biological Sciences or Master of Combined Sciences. A detailed examination of neurocircuitry and function of the human brain and spinal cord, and the etiology of common neurological disorders. Human cadaver brains are utilized.

BIO 5426 - Mitochondrial Genomics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

This course centers on mitochondrial biology, including general structure and function, energy production and oxidative phosphorylation, and protein import. There is special focus on mitochondrial genome structure including genetic abnormalities, corresponding mitochondrial disorders, and use of the genome in mitochondrial haplotyping to determine maternal inheritance.

BIO 5428 - Epidemiology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Biostatistics

This course provides an introduction to the basic principles of epidemiology with an emphasis on data analysis and the application of data to populations at risk for disease. Major topics include exposure and outcome measurements, infectious disease modeling, test diagnostics with measures of normality/abnormality, and applying clinical data to a sick population.

BIO 5436 – Pulmonary and Renal Physiology

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in the Masters of Biology, Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences or instructors consent.*

This course reviews the basic anatomy and physiology of pulmonary and renal function. The emphasis of the course is clinical application of lung and kidney physiology as it relates to metabolism, control of blood gases and electrolytes. Special attention is paid to pathological processes and basic pharmacological approaches to resolving disturbances to these systems.

BIO 5437 – Neuromuscular and Cardiovascular Physiology

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in the Masters of Biology, Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences or instructors consent.*

This course reviews the basic anatomy and physiology of neuromuscular and cardiovascular function. The emphasis of the course is clinical application to nervous system, skeletal and smooth muscle, and cardiovascular systems. Special attention is paid to pathological processes and basic pharmacological approaches to resolving disturbances to these systems.

BIO 5438 – Gastrointestinal and Endocrine Physiology

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in the Masters of Biology, Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences or instructors consent.*

This course is designed to provide students with detailed instruction in the physiology of the gastrointestinal, endocrine, reproductive, and hematological systems. A discussion of metabolism is integrated across the gastrointestinal and endocrine systems.

BIO 5440 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing*
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5441 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5442 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5443 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5445 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5446 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5447 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-5 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5448 - Special Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5449 - Special Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 5456 – Neuroscience Laboratory

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): MAT 208 or equivalent. Admission into either the Masters of Biology or Masters of Medical Sciences graduate program.

This laboratory-based course provides hands-on experience using common neuroscience techniques. Students should be able to describe the technological basis of the following: EEG, fNIRS/fMRI, TMS/tACS/tDCS, and pupil tracking as well as describe the types of data obtained from those technologies as well as explain the basic principles of analyzing that data (e.g. event-related potentials, event-related spectral perturbations, and phase coherence measures from EEG). This course includes designing and conducting experiments as well as follow-up experiments. Elements of information literacy and scientific communication skills (written, poster, and oral) will be emphasized.

BIO 5457 – Neurophysiology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission into either the Masters of Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences.

This course reviews the basic cell biology and principles of physics underlying the function of the nervous and skeletal muscle systems. Topics covered are cell membrane potential, action potential, neuron to neuron communication, nerve conduction studies, electromyography, and nerve injury repair, as well as neuron to skeletal muscle interactions. Emphasis will be placed on basic drug groups affecting both the nervous system and skeletal muscle function. Also, common pathologies of both systems will be reviewed.

BIO 5458 – Cognitive Neuroscience

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission into either the Masters of Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences.

This course provides an in-depth exploration into the neural substrates and processes that support cognitive abilities including perception (with a focus on visual, auditory, and olfactory senses), object recognition, attention, learning and memory, emotion, language comprehension and production, cognitive control, and consciousness. The neural substrates and processes supporting these abilities will be studied from both systems/network and cellular perspectives. Experimental designs used in the field of cognitive neuroscience will also be emphasized. Students will describe the types of data produced from, and data analysis methods available to, different measurement modalities including CT/MRI/fMRI/fNIRS, EEG/MEG/ECOG, single-cell recordings, and behavioral measures (such as accuracy and reaction time).

BIO 5459 – Neuropharmacology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): BIO 5457 and Admission into either the Masters of Medical Sciences or Biological Sciences.

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the drugs used in psychiatry and neurology including those used to manage psychosis, depression, anxiety, chronic pain, sleep disorders, ADHD, dementia, epilepsy, and movement disorders, among others. Mechanisms of action, off-target effects, clinical use, and adverse effects are discussed. A detailed discussion of the

pharmacological interaction between the receptor and neurotransmitter systems (both beneficial and detrimental) will be included for drug categories covered (i.e. allosteric modulators of GABA_A receptors in the cortico-striato-thalamo-cortical loop will have beneficial effects in anxious patients, but may induce excessive sedation via inhibition of the VLPO-hypothalamo-cortical pathway).

BIO 6305 - Cell Physiology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
Lecture 3 hours a week.

The primary focus of this course focuses on eukaryotic cells from multicellular organisms, with particular emphasis on the mechanics of cell growth and division, signal transduction, energetics, and the synthesis and transport of lipids and proteins.

BIO 6330 - Seminar Observation

Credits, 1 sem. hour *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

This course is designed to augment the student's knowledge of a specific research topic by observing professional scientific seminars presented to the department. Students may not enroll in Seminar Observation the same semester they enroll in Seminar Presentation.

BIO 6430 - Graduate Seminar

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
Lecture 2 hours a week.

This course is designed to augment the student's knowledge of a specific research topic via a professional scientific seminar presented to the department.

BIO 6460 - Independent Studies and Research

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs Individual Reading and research involving experimental or theoretical investigations

BIO 6461 - Independent Studies and Research

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs Individual Reading and research involving experimental or theoretical investigations

BIO 6462 - Independent Studies and Research

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs Individual Reading and research involving experimental or theoretical investigations

BIO 6501 - Unifying Principles of Modern Biology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Lecture and/or laboratory three hours per week.*

Students will study the development of biological thought from the earliest recorded times to the present. A major emphasis will be contemporary biological science, with reading in the history and philosophy of science as it applies to contemporary biology. Students will make an oral presentation reviewing the contribution of one individual to contemporary biology.

BIO 6502 - Environmental Biology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*
Lecture three hours a week.

This course examines human impacts on earth including greenhouse warming, acid rain, ozone layer depletion, as well as effects on tropical rainforests, wetlands, and endangered species.

BIO 6503 - Biogeography

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*
Lecture three hours a week.

This course examines the distribution and patterns of life on the outer surface zone of the earth's crust which is capable of supporting living things.

BIO 6504 - Wildlife Biology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*
Lecture three hours a week.

This course examines the ecology and management principles of wildlife.

BIO 6505 - Genomics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing and permission of the instructor.*
Lecture three hours a week.

This course will cover molecular genetics from the basic foundations through to genome expression and molecular phylogenetics. The genome rather than the gene will be the central focus in providing a broader understanding of how genome function plays a role in living organisms. The incorporation of the most recent advances in field of molecular genetics and genomics will be used to augment the student's understanding of the continued evolution of the field.

BIO 6506 - Food and Water Microbiology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*
Three integrated lecture/laboratory hours a week.

This course examines microorganisms in food, drinking water, surface water, and wastewater. Current standard procedures for detecting these microorganisms, methods for treatment, control, or elimination will be considered.

BIO 6510 - Aquatic Entomology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
Lecture three hours a week.

A study of the biology of insects found in water.

BIO 6516 - Human Anatomy

Credits, 5 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Physician Assistant Program*
Human Anatomy is devoted to a detailed examination of human anatomy. A lab utilizing cadaver structures, models, and radiographs will accompany the lecture.

BIO 6517 - Human Physiology

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Physician Assistant Program*
Human Physiology is devoted to the detailed examination of general principles and underlying mechanism of human physiology.

BIO 6539 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing*
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 6540 - Special Topics

Credits, 0-4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing*
A study of selected topics in Biology.

BIO 6541 - Medical Genetics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Lecture and laboratory combination three hours a week.*

This course is an introduction to the field of human genetics. An exploration of the various aspects of genetics in relation to human based disease conditions that are encountered will be covered. Various topics will include technologies used for the diagnosis of genetic abnormalities, an exploration in emerging fields such as pharmaco and cancer genetics, and an in-depth exploration of current, emerging, and re-emerging genetic related disease conditions.

BIO 6545 - Special Topics

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs *Lecture and/or laboratory three hours a week.*

A study of selected current topics in biology.

BIO 6546 - Special Topics

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs *Lecture and/or laboratory three hours a week.*

A study of selected current topics in biology.

BIO 6547 - Special Topics

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs *Lecture and/or laboratory three hours a week.*

A study of selected current topics in biology.

BIO 6548 - Special Topics

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs *Lecture and/or laboratory three hours a week.*

A study of selected current topics in biology.

BIO 6549 - Special Topics

Credits, 1-3 sem hrs *Lecture and/or laboratory three hours a week.*

A study of selected current topics in biology.

BIO 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Approval of prospectus and satisfactory progress as determined by the advisor.*

(Eligible for grade of PR only until BIO 6564 is completed; the permanent grade for BIO 6563 and BIO 6564 will be assigned when the thesis is approved.)

BIO 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of thesis and oral defense as determined by thesis committee.*

(Eligible for temporary grade PR only until thesis is completed; a permanent grade will be assigned when the thesis is completed.) Binding Fee

BIO 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

BIO 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

BIO 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

BIO 6999 - Oral Defense of Thesis

Credits, 0 credit hours *Prerequisite(s):* Completion of the written thesis BIO 6564 Thesis II is a prerequisite or corequisite

Students in the MS Biology- Thesis Track are required to orally present the work described in their written thesis to their thesis committee. Successful completion of the presentation is required for graduation.

Grading Scheme: Credit/No Credit

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Master of Science

Chemistry, Non-Thesis Option, M.S.

The Master of Science in Chemistry, Non-Thesis Option, is a course-based degree. Students successfully completing up to ten (10) hours in this option may be invited to pursue the Thesis Option M.S. Degree. Opportunity for this change will be based on performance and the availability of space in the Thesis-Option Program.

Any student with an ACS accredited Bachelor's degree with a GPA of 3.0 or greater out of 4.0 (or equivalent) will be accepted. Other applicants need to have demonstrated that they have had sufficient background in chemistry (24 semester hours or greater), calculus (6 semester hours or greater), and physics (6 semester hours or greater) with a GPA in these courses of at least 2.8 out of 4.0 (or equivalent). Applicants without the required GPA may demonstrate their ability to perform graduate work by scoring 155 or greater on the Quantitative portion of the GRE.

The Non-Thesis Option requires 30 hours of graduate credit and includes the following twenty-five (25) hours of courses:

- CHE 5402 - Advanced Organic Chemistry **Credits, 4 sem. hrs.**

- CHE 5411 - Advanced Inorganic Chemistry **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5417 - Theoretical Chemistry **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5418 - Biochemistry: Macromolecules **Credits, 3 sem. hrs. or**
- CHE 5419 - Biochemistry: Metabolism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6510 - Chemical Instrumentation **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6530 - Chemical Literature **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6531 - Graduate Chemistry Seminar (** 3 times) **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**

Three hours chosen from

- CHE 6561 - Master's Research **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6591 - Field Studies **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- CHE 6592 - Field Studies **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6593 - Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

The remaining five hours shall be chosen from the following courses:

- CHE 5410 - Instrumental Analysis **Credits, 4 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5418 - Biochemistry: Macromolecules **Credits, 3 sem. hrs. or**
- CHE 5419 - Biochemistry: Metabolism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5420 - Bioanalytical Chemistry Laboratory **Credits, 1 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5421 - Biophysical Chemistry Laboratory **Credits, 1 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6561 - Master's Research **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6591 - Field Studies **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**
- CHE 6592 - Field Studies **Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6593 - Field Studies **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- and from approved graduate courses in Biological Sciences, Computer Science, Mathematics, and/or Physics.

Chemistry, Thesis Option, M.S. (30 sem. hrs.)

The Master of Science in Chemistry, Thesis Option, is a research-based degree. The program is designed to prepare students for a career in the chemical industry or for continued graduate study.

Students who enter in the Non-thesis option may be invited to enter the Thesis option after adequate course work has been successfully completed.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

1. Thirty (30) semester hours of graduate credit must be completed. Of this, not less than fifteen (15) semester hours shall be 6500-level work.
2. Students must complete six (6) semester hours of course work consisting of:

- CHE 6530 - Chemical Literature **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6510 - Chemical Instrumentation **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

3. Choose three to nine (3-9) semester hours from:

- CHE 5402 - Advanced Organic Chemistry **Credits, 4 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5417 - Theoretical Chemistry **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 5411 - Advanced Inorganic Chemistry **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

And take three (3) semester hours of:

- CHE 6531 - Graduate Chemistry Seminar (** 3 times) **Credits, 1 sem. hr.**

4. Students must complete six to twelve (6-12) semester hours of research by taking

- CHE 6561 - Master's Research **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

and complete three to six (3-6) semester hours of thesis preparation & defense consisting of

- CHE 6563 - Thesis I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- CHE 6564 - Thesis II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.** and successfully defend the Thesis.

5. The program requires a student to take and pass four qualifying examinations in areas of the chemical specializations.

6. A research proposal prepared under the guidance of a member of the graduate chemistry faculty must be completed by the end of the second semester.

7. Completion of the program will require not less than two nor more than six years.

Chemistry and Biochemistry Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is a prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all three-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week. (See semester or term schedule for laboratory fees.)

**Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit on the 5000 level.*

CHE 5402 - Advanced Organic Chemistry

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CHE 304 and CHE 317 or instructor's consent. Lecture three hours per week. Laboratory three hours per week.*

Reactions and mechanisms, separation science, serial synthesis and instrumental methods of compound identification.

CHE 5410 - Instrumental Analysis

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CHE 310 and CHE 317. Corequisite(s): CHE 318 or instructor's consent.*

Lecture two hours a week. Laboratory six hours a week.

The course deals with the principles and application of some of the modern instruments used in analytical chemistry.

CHE 5411 - Advanced Inorganic Chemistry

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CHE 211, CHE 317. Corequisite(s): CHE 318 or instructor's consent.*

The fundamental principles of inorganic chemistry as applied to special topics will be considered. Special emphasis will be given to the relationships of the specific topics to the field of chemistry as a whole.

CHE 5415 - Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CHE 141 and CHE 142.*

Laboratory six hours a week.

A laboratory course illustrating the techniques of crystallization, distillation, furnace methods, electrolytic processes and gas handling involved in the preparation and characterization of novel inorganic compounds.

CHE 5417 - Theoretical Chemistry

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CHE 318.*

Lecture three hours per week.

A study of theoretical chemistry, chemical physics, theoretical molecular spectroscopy and solid-state chemistry.

CHE 5418 - Biochemistry: Macromolecules

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*

This lecture course explores the structures and functions of biological molecules. Additional topics include the biological synthesis of proteins and nucleic acids.

CHE 5419 - Biochemistry: Metabolism

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*

This course covers the fundamentals of metabolism and bioenergetics. Clinical correlations with metabolic diseases and diabetes are presented.

CHE 5420 - Bioanalytical Chemistry Laboratory

Credits, 1 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*

This laboratory course covers basic methods utilized in the purification and chemical analysis of biological molecules with applications to medicinal and forensic chemistry.

CHE 5421 - Biophysical Chemistry Laboratory

Credits, 1 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*

This laboratory course covers basic methods for the determination of protein and nucleic acid structure, stability, and function.

CHE 5441 - Special Topics in Chemistry

Credits, 1 sem. hr. *Prerequisite(s): Eighteen semester hours of chemistry and departmental permission.*

Studies of topics of current interest in chemistry.

CHE 5442 - Special Topics in Chemistry

Credits, 1 sem. hr. *Prerequisite(s): Eighteen semester hours of chemistry and departmental permission.*

Studies of topics of current interest in chemistry.

CHE 5451 - Independent Studies and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Eighteen semester hours of chemistry and departmental permission.*

Individual reading and research involving experimental or theoretical investigation.

CHE 5452 - Independent Studies and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Eighteen semester hours of chemistry and departmental permission.*

Individual reading and research involving experimental or theoretical investigation.

CHE 5470 - Historical Foundations of Chemistry

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Eight hours of chemistry.*

Lecture three hours per week.

A selected history of chemistry with a study of the pioneers who developed the theories and techniques that have brought the science to its present position. May not be taken for credit toward the undergraduate major or minor in chemistry.

(Students electing a major in biology or M.S. in Chemistry may not use this course to complete degree requirements.)

CHE 6501 - Chemistry in the Environment

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Fifteen semester hours of chemistry.*
Lecture three hours per week.

A study involving the application of basic chemical principles to current environmental problems.

CHE 6503 - Topics in Organic Chemistry

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Eighteen hours of chemistry.*
Lecture three hours per week

This course includes a study of the fundamental types of organic compounds, their structure, nomenclature, classification, synthesis, typical reactions, and reaction mechanisms. Principles and examples relating to biochemical concepts will be emphasized.

CHE 6510 - Chemical Instrumentation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
An intensive course in the theory, operation and application of modern chemical instrumentation with emphasis in separation science, spectroscopy, thermal analysis, and diffraction. Lecture materials will be augmented by practical applications and analyses. The course will have practical, written and oral proficiency evaluations.

CHE 6525 - Chemistry of Living Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Eighteen semester hours of chemistry.*
An introduction to the fundamental principles of biochemistry, enzyme mechanisms and kinetics, metabolic pathways of the major classes of biomolecules, hormonal regulation, and protein biosynthesis.

CHE 6530 - Chemical Literature

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*
Modern methods and procedures for effective searching of the chemical, scientific and technical literature are covered. Students will access library resources, interlibrary loan, computer-

searchable databases, and the internet for data retrieval, and access to non-English language resources. Projects demonstrating proficiency will be required.

CHE 6531 - Graduate Chemistry Seminar (3 times)**

Credits, 1 sem. hr. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

This course will provide experience for students in oral communication and in exploration of the scientific literature. Written summaries of seminars by professionals will also be required. **This course must be taken three times to satisfy the M.S. degree requirement.

CHE 6561 - Master's Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Research conducted by the student under the direction of the principal faculty director(s). This course may be taken up to four separate times. Students should enroll in CHE 6563 - Thesis I or CHE 6564 - Thesis II for written portion of the project and its defense.

CHE 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Individual research project under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. (Eligible for grade of PR only until completion of CHE 6564 when thesis is approved.)

CHE 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Individual research project under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. Completion of thesis and defense before graduate committee. (Eligible for grade of PR only until thesis is completed. A permanent grade will then be given.)

CHE 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

CHE 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

CHE 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

Department of Engineering and Physics

Engineering Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is a prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all three-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week. (See semester or term schedule for laboratory fees.)

**Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit on the 5000 level.*

ECE 5453 - Senior Design with Business Proposal I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Senior standing and ECE 315, ECE 320, and ECE 326
First part of a capstone course in electrical engineering design. Lectures on the design process, application of design tools, professional skills, and ethics. Students work in groups to define a design project and its requirements, develop a design plan, and present the plan to the faculty at the end of the semester. Students also work with faculty in the School of Business to develop a business proposal based on their design project.

ECE 5454 - Senior Design with Business Proposal II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Grade of C or better in ECE 5453
Second part of a capstone course in electrical engineering design. Lectures on the design process, application of design tools, professional skills, and ethics. Design plans formulated in ECE 5453 are implemented and a formal report is prepared, presented, and evaluated. Students also work with faculty in the School of Business to finalize and present a business proposal based on their design project.

Physics Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is a prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all three-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week. (See semester or term schedule for laboratory fees.)

**Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit on the 5000 level.*

PHY 5401 - Quantum Mechanics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* PHY 301 or instructor's consent.

Schroedinger wave mechanics including application to atomic structure. An oral presentation on a relevant topic, selected in consultation with the instructor, will be made by each student.

PHY 5402 - Special Projects

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*

After consulting with the instructor in charge, the student may be assigned to special study in theoretical physics or may be assigned a research problem.

PHY 5406 - Electricity and Magnetism I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): PHY 152 or PHY 252, MAT 222 or instructor's consent.*

The fundamental principles of electrostatic fields, electric potential, electrostatic boundary conditions, work and energy in electrostatics, conductors and insulators, and special techniques in solving electrostatics problems.

PHY 5407 - Electricity and Magnetism II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): PHY 5406.*

The fundamental principles of magnetostatic fields, electromagnetic induction, magnetic fields in matter, Maxwell's equations, electromagnetic waves, and radiation.

PHY 5413 - Nuclear Physics

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): PHY 301 or instructor's consent.*

Lectures 3 hours a week. Laboratory 3 hours a week.

Isotopes and nuclear structure, natural radioactivity, induced nuclear transformations, nuclear energy sources, high energy processes and cosmic rays.

PHY 5417 - Selected Topics in Physics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A course offering formal study of selected advanced topics in physics or applications of physics. May be taken more than once with different specific titles.

Department of Mathematics & Computer Science

Master of Education

Computer Science, M.Ed.

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science and the School of Education and Human Sciences offer course work leading to the Master of Education in Computer Science.

[See School of Education and Human Sciences section of this catalog for program details.](#)

Mathematics, M.Ed. (available in traditional and online formats)

The Department of Mathematics and the School of Education and Human Sciences offer course work leading to the Master of Education in Mathematics. [See School of Education and Human Sciences section of this catalog for program details.](#)

Master of Science

Mathematics, M.S. (30 sem. hrs.)

The Master of Science in Mathematics program is designed to prepare students for a career in private industry, scientific or industrial work, to deepen the content knowledge of secondary teachers, or for continued graduate study. Students can choose one of two tracks based upon their particular needs.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. Applicants should possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum (or equivalent) of a Mississippi Christian University undergraduate minor in Mathematics. The suitability of courses will be determined by the graduate faculty.
3. To receive AA educator license, a copy of the Class A Standard Educator License from the State of Mississippi must be supplied with your application. Your application cannot be processed without it.
4. Applicants choosing the Applied Track must possess a proven ability in computer programming and should have coursework that includes at least one course from each of the following areas:

Differential Equations

Linear Algebra

Probability and Statistics

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

Standard Track:

1. A minimum of 30 semester hours of MAT graduate work must be completed. Any PHY graduate course may be substituted in lieu of up to 9 of these hours.
2. The following courses are required:
 - MAT 5426 - Advanced Calculus
 - MAT 6520 - Selected Topics from Higher Algebra or MAT 6526 Real Analysis
3. All graduate students must complete MAT 6501- Graduate Reading Research or complete a thesis in Mathematics but may not receive credit for both. The thesis may be

substituted for up to 6 semester hours of coursework and is strongly recommended for students anticipating entering a doctoral program.

4. At least 15 semester hours of the course work must be at the 6500-level.
5. In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MS must register for MAT 6999 and take an oral comprehensive examination based upon course work used to satisfy requirements. If applicable, the oral exam will also include a defense of the thesis. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

Applied Track:

1. A minimum of 30 semester hours of MAT graduate work must be completed. Up to 6 graduate level course hours in an approved scientific area may be substituted and is encouraged.
2. The following courses are required:
 - MAT 5465 Numerical Analysis
 - MAT 5455 Graph Theory or MAT 5435 Introduction to Partial Differential Equations
 - MAT 6560 Linear Statistical Modeling or MAT 6561 Stochastic Modeling
3. All graduate students must complete MAT 6501 Graduate Reading and Research or complete a thesis in Mathematics but may not receive credit for both. The thesis may be substituted for up to 6 semester hours of coursework and is strongly recommended for students anticipating entering a doctoral program.
4. At least 15 semester hours of the course work must be at the 6500-level.

In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the MS must register for MAT 6999 and take an oral comprehensive examination based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements. If applicable, the oral exam will also include a defense of the thesis. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

Computer Science, M.S. (30 sem. hrs.)

The Master of Science degree program in Computer Science provides a broad spectrum of information with business, industry and further graduate study applicability.

Admission Requirements

The applicant must meet all requirements for admission to Graduate programs. In addition to these requirements, the student should hold a bachelor's degree consisting of at least 18 hours of coursework in computer science, the suitability of courses to be determined by the graduate faculty. The applicant must already have earned credit for courses equivalent to CSC 116, CSC 216, and CSC 314.

Transfer Credits

A maximum of 6 hours credit may be transferred into the program.

Degree Requirements

1. The student must meet all requirements for the MS degree as set forth by the Graduate Catalog.
2. The student must earn at least 30 hours of CSC graduate credit (5400- and 6000-level course numbers).
3. There are two options from which the student may choose:
 - a. *Thesis Option* - Of the 30 required hours, 6 must be CSC 6563 and CSC 6564 (Master's Thesis). The thesis should add to or enhance research in the area of computer science. An oral examination covering general computer science concepts as well as the student's thesis subject must be passed.
 - b. *Non-Thesis Option* - 30 Semester hours computer science graduate course work required. An oral examination covering general computer science concepts related to the students graduate course work must be completed satisfactorily.
4. Of the 30 required hours: CSC 6509, CSC 6522 and CSC 6523 must be included.

Cybersecurity and Information Assurance, M.S. (traditional and online formats)

Admission Requirements:

- Degree in Computer Science or Computing and Information Systems or related area and comparable experience working in the IT field. Students without this background may complete the following prerequisite courses before beginning the master's program: SC 116, 216, 220, 314, 309, 330 (20 hours). Students not having credit for CSC 422 and 423 must take those courses before taking courses above CSC 5435.
- Minimum of 2.75 GPA in major and or prerequisite courses listed above.
- Programming proficiency in C or other acceptable language.
- Acceptable score on the GRE.
- Student must be citizens of the United States in order to enroll in this program.

Degree Requirements:

CSC 5435 Computer Security

CSC 5436 Cryptography & Network Security

CSC 5438 Computer & Network Forensics

CSC 6530 Ethics & Law in Information Security

CSC 6536 Wireless, Mobile, & Cloud Computing

CSC 6540 Development, Assessment, & Implementation of Information Security

CSC 6522 Topics in Operating Systems

CSC 6523 Topics in Computer Networking

- **6 additional hours of graduate CSC courses**
- All security courses applied to this program must be taken from Mississippi Christian University.
- Students are required to purchase a membership in the ACM with the Digital Library.

An oral or written exam is required at the end of the program.

Graduate Certificates

Graduate Certificate in Mathematics

The Graduate Certificate Program in Mathematics is designed to help students who are interested in further study in Mathematics and especially to help prepare students for success in a full Masters level degree program. This certificate should be useful for those who do not have a standard undergraduate degree in Mathematics, for those who do have an undergraduate mathematics degree but with relatively low grades, or for those who have low or no admission test scores prior to making an application.

Admission Requirements:

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. Applicants should possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with at least 15 semester hours of undergraduate mathematics including coursework equivalent to MAT 121 and MAT 122 with grades of B or better.
3. There is no examination requirement for admission to this certificate program.

Certificate Requirements:

1. A minimum of nine new hours of undergraduate coursework at the 200-level or higher must be completed with an average GPA of 3.0 or higher to include:
 - MAT 301 - Foundations of Mathematics;
 - MAT 221 or 222, if not already completed;
 - At least one more course at the 300-level or higher
2. Nine hours of coursework at the 5000-level.
3. The Graduate Record Examination must be taken before the end of the student's coursework.

Students may be allowed to repeat or take other acceptable undergraduate coursework as needed if the prescribed GPA is not maintained.

If course work used to satisfy the certificate requirements is judged to be at a high level by the department then the student will be granted full admission into one of our graduate mathematics degree tracks. Alternately, if the student's GRE score meets regular admission requirements, then the student can immediately be considered for full admission into one of our graduate mathematics degree tracks. In either case, the student will be allowed to include all of their successfully completed graduate coursework toward that program.

Students who do not meet either of these two standards will only be granted a certificate after successfully completing the coursework noted above.

Graduate Professional Certificate in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance (traditional and online formats)

Admission Requirements:

- Degree in Computer Science or Computing and Information Systems or related area and comparable experience working in the IT field. Students without this background may complete the following prerequisite courses before beginning the certificate: SC 116, 216, 220, 314, 309, 330, 422 & 423 (26 hours). Prospective students must have previously completed courses in Networks, Operating Systems, and Computer Ethics.
- Minimum of 2.75 GPA in major and or prerequisite courses listed above.
- Programming proficiency in C or other acceptable language.
- Acceptable score on the GRE
- Students must be citizens of the United States in order to enroll in this program.

Certificate Requirements:

CSC 5435 Computer Security

CSC 5436 Cryptography & Network Security

CSC 5438 Computer & Network Forensics

CSC 6530 Ethics & Law in Information Security

CSC 6536 Wireless, Mobile, & Cloud Computing

CSC 6540 Development, Assessment, & Implementation of Information Security

- To obtain the certificate, a student must complete the above-mentioned courses with an average grade of 3.0 (b) or higher and no more than 2 grades of C.
- Certificates must be completed within 4 years. Courses completed more than 4 years ago may not be acceptable for the certificate.

- All courses applied to this certificate program must be taken from Mississippi Christian University.
- Students are required to purchase textbooks and a membership in the ACM with the Digital Library.

Mathematics & Computer Science Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is a prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all three-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week. (See semester or term schedule for laboratory fees.)

**Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit on the 5000 level.*

Computer Science Course Descriptions

CSC 5402 - Advanced Data Structures and Algorithm Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 216*

A study of complexity of algorithms and algorithm design and data structures used for their implementation along with the analysis of algorithmic performance of these designs. Advanced searching and sorting techniques, trees and tree structures, hashing, network flows, recurrence, divide and-conquer techniques, transform-and-conquer techniques, dynamic programming, and greedy algorithms are among the topics examined.

CSC 5404 - Programming Language Structures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 216.*

Introduction to the principles of programming language design and implementation, syntax, data types, scope, data abstractions, concurrency and Object Oriented Programming.

CSC 5405 - Introduction to Operations Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*

Application of quantitative methods to problems arising in the areas of business and computing science.

[Crosslisted as: MAT 5490.]

CSC 5415 - Data Base Management Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 216.*

Design and implementation of a data base system. This course focuses on relational data base

systems concepts such as relational algebra, normalization, transaction management, concurrency control, authentication, XQuery, Zpath, SQL and design and implementation of concepts. A major database design and implementation project will be required.

CSC 5416 - Software Engineering

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): CSC 216.

A study of the analysis, design, and implementation of major software systems. Topics include software development life-cycles and software development product management. A collaborative exercise in developing a large software product is central to the course. This course requires oral presentation of final software engineering project.

CSC 5422 - Operating Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): CSC 220, CSC 314.

An introduction to the various data and control structures necessary for the design and implementation of the modern computer operating systems. Process creation and control, inter-process communication, synchronization and concurrency, I/O memory management, and file systems concepts are explored in the context of the Unix operating system. A working knowledge of the C programming language is assumed.

CSC 5423 - Computer Networking

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): CSC 5422 or CSC 422.

This course is a study of the physical and logical components used in modern computer networks. Topics include: fundamentals of signaling and data transmission using electromagnetic media, data encoding, multiplexing, circuit switching, packet switching, LAN and WAN technologies, internetworking concepts, transport protocols, network security, and distributed applications. May include programming or laboratory assignments to demonstrate key concepts.

CSC 5425 - Advanced Database Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): CSC 5415 or CSC 415.

This course will focus on database systems theory. Topics include Query optimization, Object Oriented Databases, hybrid databases, data mining, data warehousing, physical database structures, indexing and recovery.

CSC 5435 - Computer Security

Credits, 3 sem hrs. Prerequisite: U.S. Citizenship Required.

A study of the fundamental concepts and practical applications of computing systems security from a critical and analytical standpoint. Topics include, security concepts and services, physical, operational, and organizational security, cryptography, hardening, secure code, secure

applications development, threats, vulnerabilities, and countermeasures, legal, ethical and privacy considerations.

CSC 5436 - Cryptography & Network Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 423 or 5423; U.S. Citizenship Required*

A study of the fundamental concepts and practical applications of cryptography and network security. Topics include: symmetric and asymmetric cryptography, cryptographic hash functions, authentication and digital signature, management and distribution of keys, cloud and wireless security introduction, and wired network security, IPSec, authentication and security at various levels.

CSC 5438 - Computer & Network Forensics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 422 or 5422; U.S. Citizenship Required*

A study of computer and network forensics. Topics include: computer crimes, standard techniques of digital evidence acquisition and handling, techniques and methods of computer, network, mobile, and cloud forensics, network device and server forensics, network tunneling, malware forensics, and preparation of the computer scientist to testify in court. The students will conduct an investigation of computer crime and prepare the necessary reports.

CSC 5440 - Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 5402 or CSC 402.*

A study of fundamental concepts in AI. The focus is upon knowledge representation and search, with emphasis on expert systems. Other topics include machine learning, natural language understanding, perception, specialized data structures such as semantic and neural networks, and open problems in the field of AI. Exercises using the LISP and/or Prolog languages may be assigned.

CSC 5445 - Web-Centric Programming Methodologies

Credits, 3 sem hrs A study of the fundamental concepts and practical applications of computing systems security from a critical and analytical standpoint. Topics include: security concepts and services, physical, operational, and organizational security, cryptography, hardening, secure code, secure applications development, threats, vulnerabilities, and countermeasures, legal, ethical and privacy considerations.

CSC 5450 - Computer Graphics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 220.*

An introduction to raster graphics technology. A study of theory and practice necessary for comprehending the techniques for scientific visualization, interface design, and two- and three-

dimensional data representation and manipulation.

CSC 5455 - Graph Theory

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): MAT 222 or instructor's consent.*

An introduction to graph theory with a wide variety of applications, both to other branches of mathematics and to the real world. Some subjects to be treated are graphs, subgraphs, cycles, trees, matchings, and planar graphs.

[Crosslisted as: MAT 5455.]

CSC 5460 - Automata Theory and Formal Languages

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 309.*

A study of languages, grammars, and machines at a theoretical level. Regular, context free, and context sensitive languages are covered, as well as finite state, push down and Turing machines. The concept of decidability is also discussed.

CSC 5481 - Numerical Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): MAT/CSC 381.*

This course is a mathematical analysis of scientific computing. Topics covered include the stability and convergence of algorithms, interval arithmetic, fixed point iteration, matrix factorizations, norms and eigenvalues; iterative solutions to systems. Additional discussions will focus on the design of efficient algorithms for use on parallel computers.

[Crosslisted as: MAT 5465.]

CSC 6504 - Selected Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*

A survey of literature related to a selected area of computer science.

CSC 6505 - Selected Topics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*

A survey of literature related to a selected area of computer science.

CSC 6509 - Algorithm Analysis and Design

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 309 or equivalent.*

A study of advanced algorithms in computer science. Topics include order notation, bounds analysis, in-depth analysis of sort and search algorithms, NP-completeness, reduction and approximation.

CSC 6522 - Topics in Operating Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 5422 or CSC 422 or equivalent.*

A survey of landmark and recently published papers in the area of operating systems.

CSC 6523 - Topics in Computer Networking

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 5423 or CSC 423.*

A study of computer networking theory and application.

CSC 6530 - Ethics & Law in Information Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 330; U.S. Citizenship Required.*

A study of ethical and legal issues of information security. Topics include: security and privacy of consumer financial information, information belonging to children, health information, corporate information security and privacy regulations, government regulations regarding security and privacy of information, intellectual property laws, breach notification laws, governance of information security, risk analysis and incident response and ethical issues regarding these topics.

CSC 6536 - Wireless, Mobile, & Cloud Computing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 435 or 5435; U.S. Citizenship Required*

A study of security in the wireless, mobile, and cloud domains. Topics include: security measures for wireless LAN systems, wireless auditing tools and risk assessment, challenges of securing mobile communications, mobile security models, fingerprinting mobile devices, malware threats associated with mobile devices, securing cloud infrastructure, meeting compliance requirements, failure detection, and advanced cloud security issues.

CSC 6540 - Development, Assessment, & Implementation of Information Security

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): CSC 435 or 5435; U.S. Citizenship Required*

A study of the development, assessment, and implementation of information security policies. Topics include: laws, domains of IT responsibility, framework approaches, user domain policies, incident response team policies, compliance, auditing standards and frameworks, responsibilities and liability of IT auditors. The students will develop, assess, and implement an information security policy and perform an IT infrastructure audit.

CSC 6560 - Directed Study

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Advisor's consent.*

CSC 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Approval of prospectus and satisfactory progress as determined by the advisor.*

(Eligible for grade of PR only until CSC 6564 is completed; the permanent grade for CSC 6563 and CSC 6564 will be assigned when the thesis is approved.)

CSC 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of thesis and oral defense as determined by thesis committee.*

(Eligible for temporary grade PR only until thesis is completed; a permanent grade will be assigned when the thesis is completed.) Binding Fee.

CSC 6571 - Quantitative Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MAT 205; MAT 207; MIS 326 or instructor's consent.*

Application of statistical and quantitative techniques to the decision-making processes.

[Crosslisted as: MGT 6571.]

CSC 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

CSC 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

CSC 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

Mathematics Course Descriptions

MAT 5406 - History of Mathematics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):*

A study of the development of areas of mathematics including number theory, theory of equations, algebras, geometries, probability and statistics, graph theory and analysis. Included in the course are studies of the lives and contributions of outstanding mathematicians of each era.

MAT 5407 - Statistical Data Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Development and application of statistical techniques. Topics include both descriptive and inferential techniques including simple and multiple linear regression.

MAT 5415 - Linear Algebra

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

An introductory course in linear algebra. Subjects treated are vectors, vector spaces, matrices and determinants, systems of linear equations, linear transformations in a vector space, and systems of linear differential equations.

MAT 5420 - Modern Algebra

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

A study of groups, rings, integral domains, fields and other algebraic structures.

MAT 5422 - Introduction to Topology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

An introduction to metric spaces and topological spaces. Additional topics include continuous functions, separation axioms, connectedness and compactness.

MAT 5426 - Advanced Calculus

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

A study of set theory, the real number system, metric spaces, continuous functions, differentiation and integration.

MAT 5435 - Introduction to Partial Differential Equations

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): MAT 352 or the equivalent

This course covers the development of partial differential equations from special applications and concentrates on the derivation of methods. Parabolic, elliptic, hyperbolic linear equations, and separation of variables are discussed as well as further applications.

[Crosslisted as: MAT 435]

MAT 5441 - Methods and Materials for the Teaching of Secondary Mathematics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

This course will acquaint preservice secondary teachers with Common Core Standards and MS requirements for secondary mathematics. It will include pedagogy based on current issues

related to teaching secondary mathematics. Emphasis will be placed on using manipulative materials and technology to explain mathematical relationships.

MAT 5452 - Applied Mathematical Problem Solving

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

Various problem solving techniques will be employed. Applications of linear algebra, the calculus sequence, and other undergraduate mathematics courses provide a comprehensive review of these courses. This would be an excellent course for students considering a career in actuarial science.

MAT 5455 - Graph Theory

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

An introduction to graph theory with a wide variety of applications, both to other branches of mathematics and to the real world. Some subjects to be treated are graphs, subgraphs, cycles, trees, matchings, and planar graphs.

[Crosslisted as: CSC 5455.]

MAT 5462 - Mathematical Statistics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Topics include properties of estimators, hypothesis testing, linear regression and analysis of variance.

MAT 5465 - Numerical Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

This course is a mathematical analysis of scientific computing. Topics covered include the stability and convergence of algorithms, interval arithmetic, fixed point iteration, matrix factorizations, norms and eigenvalues; iterative solutions to systems. Additional discussions will focus on the design of efficient algorithms for use on parallel computers.

[Crosslisted as: CSC 5481.]

MAT 5490 - Introduction to Operations Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing

Application of quantitative methods to problem solving. Topics include both deterministic and probabilistic models.

MAT 6501 - Graduate Reading and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing

A required seminar designed for students to explore/expand a mathematical topic by reading research with the goal of presenting results of their exploration that will include a thorough review of the existing literature.

MAT 6502 - Mathematics Seminar

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

Development and presentation of special topics in higher mathematics. Selected topics are approved by the instructor.

MAT 6511 - Theory of Numbers

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of congruences, Euclidean algorithms, properties of prime numbers, theory of quadratic residues, rational integers, Diophantine equations, linear congruences, and Euler-Fermat theorems.

MAT 6512 - Polynomials

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.

A deeper investigation of polynomials including polynomials with real, complex or modular coefficients. Algebraic properties such as the group properties of roots of unity and solvability of polynomials over the rationals will be investigated.

MAT 6520 - Selected Topics from Higher Algebra

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A development of the real number system along with a study of algebraic systems such as groups, rings, integral domains, and fields. A development of the complex numbers and other numbers fields.

MAT 6521 - Selected Topics from Higher Algebra II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): MAT 6520.

Introduction to permutation groups, symmetry groups, Euclidian groups, factorization of integers, polynomials, ideals, and fields (including the field of complex numbers).

MAT 6526 - Real Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): MAT 426 or MAT 5426

An introduction to measure theory and Lebesgue integration.

MAT 6541 - Current Topics in Mathematics Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and intention to seek AA licensure in

secondary mathematics.

This course will address current content topics, current method trends, and uses of technology in the secondary mathematics classroom. Trends based on research and current practices will be included.

MAT 6551 - Modern Geometry

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): 18 semester hours of mathematics.*

A review of topics in Euclidean geometry and an intuitive introduction to non-Euclidean geometries.

MAT 6560 - Linear Statistical Modeling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MAT 213 and either MAT 407 or MAT 453

This course covers statistical analysis using regression models. Various models are discussed including weighted least squares, multiple regression, ANOVA, and non-linear regression. Various aspects of regression analysis are covered including model building, variable selection, and diagnostics.

MAT 6561 - Stochastic Modeling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MAT 353 or MAT 407 or the equivalent

This course covers mathematical models that include probability distributions. Various models are discussed including discrete-and continuous-time Markov Chains, queueing models, and reliability models.

MAT 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Approval of prospectus and satisfactory progress as determined by the advisor.*

(Eligible for grade of PR only until MAT 6564 is completed; the permanent grade for MAT 6563 and MAT 6564 will be assigned when the thesis is approved.)

MAT 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of thesis and oral defense as determined by thesis committee.*

(Eligible for temporary grade PR only until thesis is completed; a permanent grade will be assigned when the thesis is completed.) Binding Fee.

MAT 6566 - Numerical PDEs

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MAT 5465 or the equivalent

This course covers numerical methods for partial differential equations. Various approaches are discussed including the finite difference, finite volume, finite element, and spectral methods.

Important concepts such as stability, convergence, and error analysis for these methods will also be studied.

MAT 6570 - Mathematical Modeling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s):

The development of mathematical systems which assist in the study of the physical and social sciences and business.

MAT 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

MAT 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

MAT 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

MAT 6999 - Graduate Comprehensive Examination

Credits, 0 credit hours This course is for all Master's-level mathematics students indicating that they will be registering for their oral exam. Students in the Master of Science in Mathematics or the Master of Education in Mathematics must register for this during the semester in which they will complete their coursework and intend to graduate.

Credit/No Credit

Department of Physician Assistant Studies

Master of Science in Medicine (M.S.M.)

Physician Assistant, M.S.M.

The Physician Assistant Program is a 30-month program of study leading to a Master of Science in Medicine degree. This entry-level professional degree is required for physician assistants to practice medicine in the United States. The Physician Assistant Program admits a cohort of 42 students once each year at the beginning of the summer semester. Completion of the Program will assist graduates in completing the Physician Assistant National Certification

Exam (PANCE), making them eligible for licensure as a physician assistant in all 50 states.

Mission

Consistent with the Mission of Mississippi Christian University, the Mississippi Christian University Physician Assistant Program is dedicated to educating students through academic excellence and the integration of faith and learning to serve as compassionate members of the healthcare team who provide high-quality medical care to the people of Mississippi and the nation, with an emphasis on underserved populations.

Goals

The goals of the Mississippi Christian University Physician Assistant Program are to:

1. *Recruit highly qualified students who demonstrate predictors of success.*
2. *Matriculate an inclusive and diverse student cohort.*
3. *Attain a high graduation rate for each matriculated cohort.*
4. *Educate students in each of the Program's defined competency domains in preparation for clinical practice.*

Program Objectives

In keeping with the philosophy of the Mississippi Christian University Physician Assistant Program, the graduate, upon completion of the Program, should demonstrate the following:

1. Attainment of a fund of knowledge necessary for the competent practice of medicine within the parameters of physician assistant practice guidelines;
2. Outstanding communication skills in their interactions with peers, colleagues, and patients;
3. Compassion and empathy appropriate for Christian healthcare providers;
4. Critical thinking and problem-solving skills are necessary for the practice of medicine in a rapidly changing healthcare environment;
5. Team practice skills necessary to practice medicine efficiently and cost-effectively;
6. The ability to work quickly and make good decisions under pressure;
7. Cultural and clinical competence;
8. Knowledge and desire for self-direction in pursuit of personal and professional goals;
9. The skills necessary to read and evaluate current professional medical literature and apply relevant evidence to the practice of medicine.

Accreditation

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) has granted Accreditation-Continued status to the Mississippi Christian University Physician Assistant Program sponsored by Mississippi Christian University. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the

ARC-PA Standards.

Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be March 2034. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation Standards and ARC-PA policy. The program's accreditation history can be viewed on the ARC-PA website at <https://www.arc-pa.org/>

Facilities

The Physician Assistant Program Medical Education Center (MEC) is located in the Baptist Healthplex building, providing a central location for faculty offices and classrooms. In addition, the MEC houses significant audio-visual media capability and simulated patient care facilities. Physician assistant classes are conducted at Mississippi Christian University. The clinical phase of the Program utilizes a variety of hospital health centers, community health clinics, and private practices across the state, across the nation, and around the world. With prior approval, students may also choose elective rotations in other localities within the United States or abroad.

Policies

The Physician Assistant Program has policies that are specific to the PA Program. *Physician assistant students should review these policies involving academic and non-academic matters.* In addition, the policies are included in the Physician Assistant Student Handbook provided to each student upon admission to the PA Program. Each student is expected to abide by these policies; failure to do so may result in dismissal from the Program.

Criminal Background Checks

Following Mississippi legislative statutes and regulations for healthcare institutions regarding criminal background checks, every student must have fingerprints taken and a criminal background check completed. The cost of these requirements will be the student's responsibility. Additionally, the student must comply with legislative statutes and hospital policies to participate in clinical experiences.

Licensure

Successful completion of the Physician Assistant Program qualifies the student to make an application to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE) and subsequently apply for licensure anywhere in the United States. However, any disciplinary action, arrest, charge, addiction, or impairment may result in denial of licensure as a physician assistant.

Degree Program

The Physician Assistant Program offers a program of study leading to a Master of Science in Medicine degree. A Master's degree is the entry-level professional degree required for physician assistants to practice medicine in Mississippi. Most students will earn this degree while enrolled in the standard curriculum track. However, the Program reserves the right to require select students to complete an additional Remediation/Deceleration Track before awarding the Master of Science in Medicine degree.

Curriculum

The Physician Assistant Program curriculum is designed to provide the student with a broad medical foundation. The courses aim to broaden the understanding of clinical medicine, professional practice issues, procedural skills, and diagnostic acumen while enhancing the ability to communicate effectively with patients, peers, and colleagues. There are two Master of Science in Medicine curriculum tracks:

STANDARD TRACK: (143 Credit hours) **DIDACTIC PHASE 77 CREDIT HOURS**

Summer 1 - 19 Credit Hours

PAS 6010 - Diagnostic Medicine I 1 hour
PAS 6011 - Diagnostic Medicine I LAB 1 hour
PAS 6020 - Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics I 2 hours
PAS 6030 - Fundamentals of Medical Science I 3 hours
PAS 6040 - Professional Development I 2 hours
PAS 6050 - Behavioral & Community Medicine I 2 hours
BIO 6516 - Human Anatomy with Lab 5 hours
BIO 6517 - Human Physiology 3 hours

Fall I - 20 credit hours

PAS 6100 - Clinical Medicine I 7 hours
PAS 6110 - Diagnostic Medicine II 2 hours
PAS 6111 - Diagnostic Medicine II LAB 2 hours
PAS 6120 - Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics II 2 hours
PAS 6130 - Fundamentals of Medical Science II 1 hour
PAS 6140 - Professional Development II 1 hour
PAS 6151 - Evidenced Based Medicine I 3 hours
PAS 6160 - Cross Cultural Medicine 2 hours

Spring I - 18 credit hours

PAS 6200 - Clinical Medicine II 7 hours
PAS 6210 - Diagnostic Medicine III 2 hours
PAS 6211 - Diagnostic Medicine III LAB 2 hours
PAS 6220 - Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics III 2 hours
PAS 6230 - Fundamentals of Medical Science III 1 hour
PAS 6240 - Professional Development III 1 hour
PAS 6250 - Behavioral & Community Medicine II 2 hours

PAS 6270 - Essentials of Musculoskeletal Care 1 hour

Summer II - 20 credit hours

PAS 6300 - Clinical Medicine III 6 hours

PAS 6310 - Diagnostic Medicine IV 2 hours

PAS 6311 - Diagnostic Medicine IV LAB 2 hours

PAS 6320 - Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics IV 2 hours

PAS 6330 - Fundamentals of Medical Science IV 2 hours

PAS 6340 - Professional Development I IV 2 hours

PAS 6350 - Behavioral & Community Medicine III 1 hour

PAS 6370 - Emergency Medicine 3 hours

CLINICAL PHASE 66 credit hours

Fall II - 17 credit hours

PAS 6510 - Clinical Practicum I 5 hours

PAS 6520 - Clinical Practicum II 5 hours

PAS 6530 - Clinical Practicum III 5 hours

PAS 6640 - Advanced Professional Seminar I 2 hours

Spring II - 17 credit hours

PAS 6540 - Clinical Practicum IV 5 hours

PAS 6550 - Clinical Practicum V 5 hours

PAS 6560 - Clinical Practicum VI 5 hours

PAS 6650 - Advanced Professional Seminar II 2 hours

Summer III - 14 credit hours

PAS 6570 - Clinical Practicum VII 5 hours

PAS 6580 - Clinical Practicum VIII 5 hours

PAS 6660 - Advanced Professional Seminar III 4 hours

Fall III - 18 credit hours

PAS 6700 - Advanced Clerkship 14 hours

PAS 6670 - Advanced Professional Seminar IV 2 hours

PAS 6152 PAS 6152 - Evidence Based Medicine II 2 hours

DECELERATION/REMEDIATION TRACK: (144 - 223 Credit hours)

In addition to completing all of the 143 credit hours in the Standard Track, students recommended for enrollment in the Deceleration/Remediation Track will also be required to complete up to 80 credit hours selected from the following courses, as recommended by the Physician Assistant Progress and Promotions Committee:

PAS 6901 - Selected Topics in Medicine I 1-10 hours

PAS 6902 - Selected Topics in Medicine II 1-10 hours

PAS 6903 - Selected Topics in Medicine III 1-10 hours

PAS 6904 - Selected Topics in Medicine IV 1-10 hours
PAS 6910 - Selected Clinical Experiences I 1-10 hours
PAS 6920 - Selected Clinical Experiences II 1-10 hours
PAS 6930 - Selected Clinical Experiences III 1-10 hours
PAS 6940 - Selected Clinical Experiences IV 1-10 hours

Admission Requirements

To enter the Physician Assistant Program, one must be eligible for admission to Mississippi Christian University. The Physician Assistant Program admits one class of 42 new students each year, at the beginning of the summer semester. All applications are accepted through the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). Applicants must submit their completed applications to CASPA with ample time for verification by January 15th of the matriculation year. Competitive applicants will be invited to a multiple mini-interview (MMI) occurring in the fall or spring. Prospective students must have completed all prerequisites before matriculation into the PA Program. Applicants may have no more than two outstanding prerequisite courses (not including labs) at the time of application to the Program. No transfer credit from other PA programs will be allowed, and advanced placement is not permitted. The PA Program Admissions Committee is duly constituted of Program core faculty and other Mississippi Christian University teaching faculty who select applicants for the Program. The Program uses a rolling admissions process, which means the Admissions Committee will reconsider applications throughout the admission cycle.

Admission to the Physician Assistant Program is highly competitive. Therefore, the Admissions Committee considers several factors and attributes captured on the CASPA application when selecting applicants for interviews and matriculation into the Program. The Admissions Committee considers exceptions to the published prerequisite requirements on a case-by-case basis and only under exceptional circumstances.

Minimum requirements for admission to the Physician Assistant Program include:

1. A Baccalaureate Degree from a United States-accredited university or college.
2. Completion of all prerequisite courses with a C (2.0 GPA) or better grade from a United States-accredited university or college. Courses must have been completed within 10 years before the expected matriculation date. All prerequisite courses must be taken at a college or university accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies within the United States. Except for statistics, online coursework will not be accepted for prerequisite courses. The following are the minimum prerequisite courses:
 - a. **Human Anatomy & Human Physiology with labs, or Anatomy & Physiology I and II with labs-** 8 semester hours in a full sequence
 - b. **Microbiology with lab-** 4 semester hours
 - c. **General Chemistry I and II with labs-** 8 semester hours in a full sequence
 - d. **Organic Chemistry with lab-** 4 semester hours
 - e. **Statistics-** 3 semester hours

Recommended courses for a competitive applicant, although not required to apply, include: Medical terminology, Biochemistry with lab, Organic Chemistry II with lab (completing sequence), Genetics, Immunology, Cell Biology, Virology, Psychology (general, developmental, abnormal).

1. A cumulative overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 of a possible 4.0 on all undergraduate and graduate work completed at an accredited university or college.
2. A cumulative biology, chemistry and physics grade point average (BCP GPA) of 3.0 of a possible 4.0 on all undergraduate and graduate work completed at an accredited university or college within the United States.
3. A scoring range of 146 or greater on the verbal section, 141 or greater on the quantitative section, and 2.5 or greater on the writing portion of the GRE General Examination is minimally required.
4. Criminal background checks and drug screenings are required to comply with state law for healthcare providers and compliance with hospital and health center requirements. Failure to successfully meet background check or drug screening requirements may result in denial of admission or dismissal from the Physician Assistant Program. The suitability of information from background checks and drug screening tests remains at the discretion of the Admissions Committee.
5. Applicants must have completed all required immunizations (as outlined in the PA Student Handbook) before matriculation.
6. A multiple mini-interview (MMI) with members of the Admissions Team is required. Interviews are granted by invitation only to the most competitive applicants based on the above listed criteria.

FINAL SELECTION

The requirements listed above are the minimum for admission to the Program. Prospective PA students are strongly encouraged to exceed minimum levels of work, especially in relation to grade point average, grades in the prerequisite courses, scores on the GRE and recommended clinical experience hours. The Admissions Committee will select those most qualified for the positions available. When selecting applicants for an interview, the Committee may consider any and all aspects of the student's prior educational record and attributes contained within their application. These factors include but are not limited to:

1. Grade point averages in the areas listed above.
2. Quality points earned in biology, chemistry, and physics courses.
3. Quality and quantity of direct and indirect patient care experience.
4. GRE test scores.
5. Letters of recommendation.
6. Personal essay and expressed goals congruent to the mission of the PA Program.
7. Holistic review of challenges, accomplishments, and experiences.
8. Scores on the MMI Interviews.

ADMISSIONS PRACTICES THAT FAVOR SPECIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

Mississippi Christian University Students - PA Direct Admission

The PA Direct Program aims to identify, recruit, select, and develop a small number of outstanding, highly motivated students at a point early in their undergraduate training who aspire to matriculate into the MC PA Studies Program. PA Direct members will receive early conditional acceptance.

Note: For physician assistant students, the costs of background checks, drug screens, uniforms, immunizations, physical examinations, diagnostic equipment, malpractice insurance, health insurance, standardized tests, board review, professional association fees, and technology and clinical phase lab fees are in addition to the standard University tuition, fees, and books. Some clinical rotations may require students to reside outside the Jackson metropolitan area temporarily. While some housing may be available in some areas, ultimately, students are responsible for their housing and transportation at all clinical training sites.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Advising

The Department of Physician Assistant Studies Chair or a designated faculty member acts as a general advisor to all PA students. The Director of Admissions for the Department of Physician Assistant Studies is an advisor to applicants who have not yet been formally admitted to the Physician Assistant Program. Faculty advisors counsel students regarding academic concerns, adjustment to university life, and professional goals.

Class Attendance and Dress Code

Students in the Physician Assistant Program are subject to Mississippi Christian University and the PA Program rules regulating class attendance and absences as outlined in the *Physician Assistant Student Handbook*. Attendance in class and clinical laboratory is required, and students are expected to attend regularly and be on time for all learning experiences. The dress code for PA students is outlined in the *Physician Assistant Student Handbook*.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS SPECIFIC TO THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

After admission to the PA Program, a student must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average for progression. In addition, a grade of C or better is required in all courses and on all examinations. Failure to meet this minimum requires remediation as outlined in the *Physician Assistant Student Handbook*. Failure to meet remediation requirements may result in dismissal from the Program.

ACADEMIC PROGRESSION

Requirements for progression are found in the Physician Assistant Student Handbook. A three-year time limit applies to each phase of the Program. The Program (Phases I and II) must be completed within 48 months. Any student, for whatever reason, who does not graduate within four years may be dismissed from the Program. Since minimum standards for progression in the

PA Program are different from the minimum standards to avoid suspension from Mississippi Christian University, a student who becomes ineligible to enter or remain in the Program may still be eligible to remain a student at Mississippi Christian University in another major. In addition, students who fail to demonstrate adequate medical knowledge, clinical skills, or preparedness for clinical practice may be placed on a remediation or deceleration track. This will be the decision of the PA Program Progress & Promotions Committee.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MEDICINE. (M.S.M.)

The general requirements for the Master of Science in Medicine degree are:

STANDARD TRACK

1. A total of 143 semester hours of university work within the PA Program curriculum
2. Compliance with the general graduation requirements of Mississippi Christian University
3. A grade of C or higher in each course
4. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 in all PA Program coursework
5. Successful completion of all components of the Comprehensive Summative Evaluations
6. Successful completion of all elements required for the Capstone project.
7. Formal Recommendation of the Physician Assistant Program Progress and Promotions Committee

REMEDIATION / DECELERATION TRACK

1. A total of 144 - 223 semester hours of work within the PA Program curriculum. This includes all coursework from the Standard Track and up to 80 hours in the Deceleration/Remediation Track
2. Compliance with the general graduation requirements of Mississippi Christian University
3. An average of 80 or higher on all assignments and assessments in each module assigned while enrolled in the Remediation/Deceleration Track
4. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 in all PA Program coursework
5. Successful completion of all components of the Comprehensive Summative Evaluations
6. Formal Recommendation of the Physician Assistant Program Progress and Promotions Committee is required for both entrance and exit from the Remediation/Deceleration Track
7. ALL coursework from both the Standard and Remediation/Deceleration Track must be completed within 48 months

The Physician Assistant Program reserves the right to withhold a degree from any student deemed unsuitable for the practice of medicine.

Academic Requirements

Students are required to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher to continue and/or graduate from the Mississippi Christian University Physician Assistant Program. Students are required to maintain a minimum grade of C (70%) in all courses.

Requirements for Successful Completion of Each Semester

- Students must complete all written, oral and performance-based examinations with a grade of "C" ($\geq 70\%$) or better.
- Students must satisfactorily complete all physical examinations and patient presentation competency examinations with a grade of "C" ($\geq 70\%$) or better.
- Students must maintain an overall grade point average of 3.0 or better.
- Students must comply with the rules, regulations, and policies of Mississippi Christian University and the Physician Assistant Program.
- Students must comply with the Guidelines for Ethical Conduct for the Physician Assistant Profession established by the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA).
- Students must maintain a professional demeanor as a physician assistant, evidenced by attendance and active participation in all classes, lectures, seminars and clinical experiences designated by the Physician Assistant Program.
- Students must continue to meet all published technical standards.
- Students must maintain current health and immunization standards as required by the Program.

Requirements for Successful Completion of the Preclinical Phase

- Students must demonstrate skills necessary for supervised clinical practice as determined by the Physician Assistant Program.
- Students must receive a satisfactory preclinical comprehensive evaluation score.
- Students must complete the PACKRAT exam during the second summer of the preclinical phase of the Program.
- Students must complete BLS and ACLS certifications.
- Students must develop a curriculum vitae to be sent to clinical sites.
- Students must successfully pass a background investigation.
- Students must complete HIPAA and bloodborne pathogen training.
- Students must provide documentation of health and malpractice insurance.

Requirements for Successful Completion of the Clinical Phase

- Students must complete a second PACKRAT exam at or near the end of the clinical phase of the Program, typically in the third summer of the Program.
- Students must complete the eight core clinical rotations and an advanced clerkship, including the end-of-rotation evaluations with passing grades, and submit all required documentation to the Mississippi Christian University Physician Assistant Program.
- Students must achieve passing grades on the end of rotation written and oral examinations and any OSCE during the clinical phase.
- Students must demonstrate the required skills necessary for clinical practice and professional behaviors determined by the Mississippi Christian University PA Program.

Graduation Requirements

1. Satisfactorily complete all courses in the Program with a 70% or better grade in the Standard Track or 80% or higher in the Deceleration/Remediation Track.
2. Earn a minimum of 143 graduate semester credit hours in 48 months or less.
3. Earn a minimum GPA of 3.0
4. Satisfactorily complete the student capstone project.
5. Satisfactorily complete all clinical rotations.
6. Complete the written, oral, practical and professional components of the End-of-Program Summative evaluations
7. Comply with the Guidelines for Ethical Conduct for the Physician Assistant Profession established by the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA).
8. Students must continue to meet all published technical standards.
9. Obtain a formal recommendation from the Physician Assistant Program Progress and Promotions Committee
10. Apply for the PANCE through NCCPA prior to graduation

CLINICAL TRAINING ROTATION DESCRIPTIONS (The “Clinical Training Rotation Descriptions” section below was deleted because of redundancy. The same information can be found in the “Clinical Phase Courses” section.)

Physician Assistant Course Descriptions

PRECLINICAL PHASE COURSES

PAS 6010 - Diagnostic Medicine I

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This is the first of a multi-semester course covering medical interviewing and communication techniques, components of the health history, introduction to imaging and clinical laboratory tests, and other diagnostic methods. The initial semester focuses on the completed history and emphasizes radiographic anatomy, the practical application of medical history-taking and the recording and presentation of clinical information. Teaching methods include small group demonstration/lectures, team-based learning, and clinical assignments

PAS 6011 - Diagnostic Medicine I LAB

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This is the first of a multi-semester series of labs where students gain practical skills in medical interviewing, physical diagnosis, radiology, imaging, clinical laboratory tests, electrocardiography (ECG), and other diagnostic methods. The initial semester emphasizes radiographic anatomy, the practical application of medical history-taking and the recording and presentation of clinical information.

PAS 6020 - Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics I

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the first in a multi-semester course. This semester introduces basic principles of pharmacology, including pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, foundations of drug categorization and prescription writing. Drugs will be introduced by class. Information presented will include indications, contraindications, interactions, side effects, mechanism of action, required monitoring, available formulations and dosing for selected drugs common to the

primary care setting. Special population dosing will also be covered. This semester will include antibiotics, antifungals, non-opioid analgesics, antipyretics and corticosteroids. Teaching methods include lectures and discussions.

PAS 6030 - Fundamentals of Medical Science I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This is the first of a multi-semester course. It is a foundational course that is designed to prepare the student for the study and future practice of clinical medicine. Course sections are delivered in conjunction with the Clinical Medicine curriculum throughout the preclinical phase. Course content will therefore vary each semester. The first semester focus is on the key concepts and principles of cell biology, microbiology, genetics, and immunology. The foundations of anatomy, physiology and key pathophysiologic concepts of the organ systems being concurrently taught in clinical medicine will be introduced. Genetic disorders will be the focus for the individual project this semester.

PAS 6040 - Professional Development I

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the first of a multi-semester course taught throughout the preclinical phase. Topics covered in the first semester include the history & future of the PA profession, clinical and professional ethics, the role of the PA in healthcare, introductory communication, and introduction to epidemiology and biostatistics. Meetings may also reinforce principles and practices taught in concurrent courses. Students will be assigned to teams with a faculty mentor. Team meetings and team-based learning activities are included in this course.

PAS 6050 - Behavioral and Community Medicine I

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the first of a multi-semester course. The initial semester emphasizes the study of community and population health. The course will also explore health promotion, disease prevention and principles of risk assessment. Students will begin required service-learning hours. Teaching methods include lecture, discussion, and learning team exercises.

PAS 6100 - Clinical Medicine I

Credits, 7 sem. hrs.

This is the first of a multi-semester course that focuses on the essentials of diagnosis and management of the most common clinical problems seen by primary care practitioners. Using an organ systems and life stages approach, clinical information is presented in conjunction with appropriate correlative lectures in emerging treatment and preventive care. Patient cases are used in the small group setting to enhance readings and lectures. This is a core course around which most other courses are organized.

PAS 6110 - Diagnostic Medicine II

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the second of a multi-semester course. This semester continues covering medical interviewing, physical exam and other diagnostic methods using a systems-based approach. There is a focus on the problem-focused encounter and physical examination techniques of individual organ systems and correlation between disease process and interpretation of clinical laboratory diagnostic tests. Teaching methods include small group demonstration/lectures, team-based learning, and clinical assignments.

PAS 6111 - Diagnostic Medicine II LAB**Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**

This is the second of a multi-semester series of labs where students gain practical skills in medical interviewing, physical diagnosis, radiology, imaging, clinical laboratory tests, electrocardiography (ECG), and other diagnostic methods. Includes demonstration and practice of various physical examination and laboratory methods including ECG theory and interpretation. Students complete practical exams throughout the semester, including and end of term encounter with a standardized patient. Various anatomical models are also used to gain experience for sensitive exams.

PAS 6120 – Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics II**Credits 2 sem. hrs.**

This is the second semester of a multi-semester course. Drugs will continue to be introduced by class. Information presented will include indications, contraindications, interactions, side effects, mechanism of action, required monitoring, available formulation and dosing for selected drugs common to the primary care setting. Special population dosing will also be covered. This semester will include antihistamines, antihypertensives, Anti-anginal drugs, antiarrhythmics, lipid lowering agents, anticoagulants, antiplatelet and thrombolytic drugs, bronchodilators, mast cell stabilizers, Leukotriene receptor antagonists, among others.

PAS 6130 - Fundamentals of Medical Science II**Credits, 1 sem. hr.**

This is the second semester of a multi-semester course. It is a foundational course that is designed to prepare the student for the study and future practice of clinical medicine. Course sections are delivered in conjunction with the Clinical Medicine curriculum throughout the preclinical phase. Course content will therefore vary each semester. The foundations of anatomy, physiology and key pathophysiologic concepts of the organ systems being concurrently taught in clinical medicine will be introduced. Immunologic disorders will be the focus for the individual project this semester.

PAS 6140 - Professional Development II**Credits, 1 sem. hr.**

This is the second of a multi-semester course that is designed to help physician assistant students navigate through the PA profession. This semester focuses on licensure and laws pertaining to PA Practice in the state of Mississippi, as well as the differences between NP and PA training and practice. CME requirements and fundamentals of healthcare reimbursement, with a focus on Medicare & Medicaid are discussed. Additionally, students will participate in skills labs that will aid in the development of clinical and procedural skills to better prepare them for clinical encounters. Clinical Skills labs are incorporated and align with clinical medicine content.

PAS 6151 - Evidence Based Medicine I**Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

This is the first of a two-semester course. The second semester occurs in the clinical phase. This didactic phase course is a lecture and seminar course that provides a practical approach to making sound medical decisions on the basis of current evidence in the medical literature. Through a series of didactic presentations, group exercises, and reading, students will learn the

basic principles of evidence-based medicine. Basic skills in using MEDLINE and other medical databases will be emphasized and practiced. Research principles, research ethics, and basic statistical review are introduced.

PAS 6160 - Cross-Cultural Medicine

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This course examines cultural and language differences leading to health disparity, diverse ways in which societies throughout the globe view and manage human disease and the implications this has for healthcare and medicine. The focus of the course is on the development of attitudes and skills that will empower the learner to become an effective clinician in a variety of cultural settings. The course will serve as a foundation for learners to begin developing cultural competence. This course combines traditional lectures and directed self-learning activities.

PAS 6200 - Clinical Medicine II

Credits, 7 sem. hrs.

This is a multi-semester course that focuses on the essentials of diagnosis and management of the most common clinical problems seen by primary care practitioners. Using an organ systems and life stages approach, clinical information is presented in conjunction with appropriate correlative lectures in emerging treatment and preventive care. Patient cases are used in the small group setting to enhance readings and lectures. This is a core course around which most other courses are organized.

PAS 6210 - Diagnostic Medicine III

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the third semester of a multi-semester course. This semester continues covering medical interviewing, physical exam and other diagnostic methods using a systems-based approach. There is a focus on the problem-focused encounter and physical examination techniques of individual organ systems and correlation between disease process and interpretation of clinical laboratory diagnostic tests. Teaching methods include small group demonstration/lectures, team-based learning, and clinical assignments.

PAS 6211 - Diagnostic Medicine III LAB

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the third of a multi-semester series of labs where students gain practical skills in medical interviewing, physical diagnosis, radiology, imaging, clinical laboratory tests, electrocardiography (ECG), and other diagnostic methods. Includes demonstration and practice of various physical examination and laboratory methods including ECG theory and interpretation. Students complete practical exams throughout the semester, including an end of term encounter with a standardized patient. Various anatomical models are also used to gain experience for sensitive exams.

PAS 6220 – Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics III

Credits 2 sem. hrs.

This is the third semester of a multi-semester course. Students will continue to learn drugs by class. Information presented will include indications, contraindications, interactions, side effects, mechanism of action, required monitoring, available formulation and dosing for selected drugs common to the primary care setting. Special population dosing will also be covered. This

semester will include proton pump inhibitors, anti-diarrheal agents, anti-emetics, prokinetics, antidepressants, antipsychotics, anxiolytics, anticonvulsants and others.

PAS 6230 - Fundamentals of Medical Science III

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This is the third semester of a multi-semester course. It is a foundational course that is designed to prepare the student for the study and future practice of clinical medicine. Course sections are delivered in conjunction with the Clinical Medicine curriculum throughout the preclinical phase. Course content will therefore vary each semester. The foundations of anatomy, physiology and key pathophysiologic concepts of the organ systems being concurrently taught in clinical medicine will be introduced. The focus for the individual project this semester will require students to present cellular mechanisms of disease process along with therapies targeted to that pathway.

PAS 6240 - Professional Development III

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This is the third of a multi-semester course. This semester is designed to educate students on various topics essential for clinical practice. This semester will focus on various professional practice issues, including (but are not limited to) health delivery systems, reimbursement, clinical billing and coding, the electronic medical record, preventing medical errors, quality improvement and medical decision-making skills. Additionally, students will participate in skills labs that will aid in the development of clinical and procedural skills to better prepare them for clinical encounters. Clinical Skills labs are incorporated and align with clinical medicine content.

PAS 6250 - Behavioral and Community Medicine II

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the second of a multi-semester course. This semester is primarily focused on the concepts and practices related to evaluation and management of psychiatric diseases and conditions as well as behavioral issues that impact upon the health and well-being of patients. Substance abuse and addictive behaviors are covered. Topics in psychiatric medicine with an emphasis on clinical diagnosis and management are also presented. Service-learning hours will continue and a special topic presentation will be required.

PAS 6270 - Essentials of Musculoskeletal Care

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This course focuses on the essentials of diagnosis and management of the most common musculoskeletal and rheumatologic conditions commonly seen by primary care practitioners. Topics include auto-immune diseases and diseases of the bones and soft tissues. This course is designed with clinical information being presented in conjunction with appropriate correlative lectures in emerging treatment and preventive care. A thorough review of musculoskeletal radiographic imaging accompanies this course.

PAS 6300 - Clinical Medicine III

Credits, 6 sem. hrs.

This is a multi-semester course that focuses on the essentials of diagnosis and management of the most common clinical problems seen by primary care practitioners. Using an organ systems and life stages approach, clinical information is presented in conjunction with appropriate correlative lectures in emerging treatment and preventive care. Patient cases are used in the

small group setting to enhance readings and lectures. This is a core course around which most other courses are organized.

PAS 6310 - Diagnostic Medicine IV

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the fourth of a multi-semester course. This semester continues covering medical interviewing, physical exam and other diagnostic methods using a systems-based approach. There is a focus on the problem-focused encounter and physical examination techniques of individual organ systems and correlation between disease process and interpretation of clinical laboratory diagnostic tests. Teaching methods include small group demonstration/lectures, team-based learning, and clinical assignments.

PAS 6311 - Diagnostic Medicine IV LAB

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the fourth of a multi-semester series of labs where students gain practical skills in medical interviewing, physical diagnosis, radiology, imaging, clinical laboratory tests, electrocardiography (ECG), and other diagnostic methods. Includes demonstration and practice of various physical examination and laboratory methods including ECG theory and interpretation. Students complete practical exams throughout the semester, including an end of term encounter with a standardized patient. Various anatomical models are also used to gain experience for sensitive exams.

PAS 6320 – Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics IV

Credits 2 sem. hrs.

This is the fourth semester of a multi-semester course. Students will continue to learn drugs by class. Information presented will include indications, contraindications, interactions, side effects, mechanism of action, required monitoring, available formulation and dosing for selected drugs common to the primary care setting. Special population dosing will also be covered. This semester will include drugs affecting the central nervous system, selected biologics, anesthetic drugs and others.

PAS 6330 - Fundamentals of Medical Science IV

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the fourth semester of a multi-semester course. It is a foundational course that is designed to prepare the student for the study and future practice of clinical medicine. Course sections are delivered in conjunction with the Clinical Medicine curriculum throughout the preclinical phase. Course content will therefore vary each semester. The foundations of anatomy, physiology and key pathophysiologic concepts of the organ systems being concurrently taught in clinical medicine will be introduced. New and emerging concepts in medicine will be the focus for individual topic presentations this semester.

PAS 6340 - Professional Development IV

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This is the fourth of a multi-semester course. This semester will aid in preparing students for clinical rotations and clinical practice. There will be an emphasis on safety in the clinical setting, in addition to reinforcement of principles and practices taught in concurrent courses, such as note writing and oral case presentation. In preparation for clinical rotations, this course will

include a review of the clinical manual/handbook and development of a curriculum vitae or résumé. Students will also participate in focused skills labs; complete a comprehensive summative evaluation required for promotion to clinical phase; and complete the PACKRAT exam.

PAS 6350 - Behavioral and Community Medicine III

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This is the third of a multi-semester course. This semester emphasizes the importance of ethical practice; compassionate and empathetic communication with patients; appropriate and timely pain treatment and referral; palliative care and end of life care, difficult conversations, and advanced directives. Students will continue service-learning hours and write a reflection paper on total hours completed. They will also complete a special topics assignment.

PAS 6370 - Emergency Medicine

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course presents a systematic approach to the evaluation, recognition and management of medical and surgical emergencies which might be frequently encountered by the primary care physician assistant in the emergency department. Using a formal lecture/discussion format, the course focuses on etiology, evaluation, and emergency treatment and stabilization of more common emergency injuries and disease presentations. BLS & ACLS certification are included in this course.

PAS 6901, 6902, 6903, 6904 - Selected Topics in Medicine I-IV

Variable credit hours

This course will be awarded Credit (CR) if successfully completed or No Credit (NC) if the attempt is not successful. This course series is part of the Deceleration & Remediation Track and is individualized for the student taking the course. It may serve as a remedial course for a failed course or course module(s). It may also be used to decelerate students who fail to demonstrate appropriate levels of medical knowledge, even if they passed all coursework. This option may be invoked during didactic or clinical phases of the Program. The course content will be decided on by the course director and will focus on the specific areas of demonstrated weakness by the student. Successful completion of selected courses in this track, in addition to all courses required for the standard track will be counted toward the Masters of Science in Medicine (Physician Assistant Studies) degree. Remediation/deceleration coursework may be assigned from any of the following topics: clinical medicine, laboratory medicine, physical exam, diagnostic skills and professionalism. In addition, coursework may be assigned from any content from any standard track course, as deemed appropriate by the Physician Assistant Progress & Promotions Committee. Areas of individual student deficiency may be identified by performance on exams, clinical practical topics, in-class assignments, summative exams, rotational assignments, professional evaluations, etc. Failure to achieve at least an 80 average in all areas of this track will result in a grade of NC and the student may be dismissed from the Program.

CLINICAL PHASE COURSES

PAS 6152 - Evidence Based Medicine II**Credits, 2 sem. hrs.**

This is the second of two evidence-based medicine (EBM) courses in the curriculum. The first semester is taught during the didactic phase. In this clinical phase course, students complete an evidence-based reflection 'portfolio' as part of their Capstone project. Completion of this Capstone assignment allows the student to explore and reflect on their educational and professional journey and its alignment with the Program's published competencies for new graduates in the domains of medical knowledge, interpersonal & communication skills, clinical & technical skills, professionalism & professional practice, and clinical reasoning & problem-solving.

PAS 6510-6580 Clinical Practicum I-VIII**Credits, 5 sem. hrs. each**

The clinical rotations are administered as individual assignments within the Clinical Practicum Courses. While the rotations are generally 5 weeks in length, some may be longer or shorter depending upon the needs of the student and the experiences gained at the rotation site.

Family Medicine (outpatient) This course is designed to provide the student with the basics necessary to build a solid foundation for the evaluation, documentation, diagnosis and treatment of problems common in primary care/family medicine. Students learn the skills necessary to evaluate and manage the effects of chronic disease on multiple body systems and to perform or assist in procedures commonly used in providing care across the age spectrum. The student will develop proficiency in office procedures commonly performed in a family medicine office.

Internal Medicine The focus is on in-depth evaluation and ongoing treatment of adult patients with complex problems and/or chronic illness. Students learn the skills necessary to evaluate and manage the effects of chronic disease on multiple body systems and to perform or assist in procedures commonly performed in internal medicine. Students learn the skills necessary to evaluate and manage the effects of chronic disease on multiple body systems and to perform or assist in procedures commonly used in providing care to the geriatric population.

Surgery Students will develop the skills necessary to evaluate and manage patients with a variety of surgical problems. Exposure will include pre-, intra- and post-operative patient care. The rotation will provide students the opportunity to develop an understanding of the role of the surgeon, anesthesiologist, assistant surgeon, circulating nurse, scrub nurse, scrub technician, recovery room and surgical floor nurses, aides and technicians in the care of the surgical patient.

Pediatrics This clinical rotation is designed to provide the student with clinical experiences in pediatrics. The student will learn to perform evaluations of the healthy pediatric patient, recognize, evaluate and treat the common illnesses and problems experienced by the neonate, infant, small child and adolescent to age 18. Additionally, the student will learn to identify and manage problems in growth and development of these age groups and recognize and manage pediatric emergencies.

Women's Health This rotation is designed to provide the student with a comprehensive experience in the care of the female patient, especially in the areas of women's health and

prenatal care and the impact of disease processes on the reproductive system. The student will develop the skills and knowledge necessary to evaluate, manage and educate the patient in areas such as annual exams, birth control, infertility, menstruation, sexuality, pregnancy, pre- and post-natal care, and menopause.

Behavioral Health The student will develop the skills necessary to evaluate and manage patients with a variety of behavioral and psychiatric problems. The rotation will provide students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of the role of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and nurses in the care of the psychiatric patient. Students will learn the appropriate use of selected psychoactive pharmaceuticals. There will be opportunity for the student to practice the skills necessary to perform a psychiatric interview and mental status examination and make referrals for specialized psychiatric treatment.

Emergency Medicine The student is introduced to triage and the stabilization of patients with life threatening conditions and the procedures performed in the emergency department. Emphasis is placed on skills required to perform and document a problem-oriented history and physical; formulate a differential diagnosis; order and interpret the tests necessary to confirm or rule out a primary diagnosis and give appropriate patient education. The student will also learn strategies for interacting with patients and/or families in various levels of stress.

Elective In association with the Director of Clinical Education, each student will choose from a list of elective rotations (i.e., primary care, hospitalist medicine, nephrology, interventional radiology, etc.). Each student will choose three rotations and be placed according to availability. No student will be required to acquire his/her own clinical rotation site. If a student has a particular clinical rotation site he/she wishes to develop, this may be done in association with and at the discretion of the Director of Clinical Education.

PAS 6640, 6650, 6660, 6670 - Advanced Professional Seminar I – IV Credits, 2-4 sem. hrs.

The focus of this course is to address various topics related to professional development during the clinical phase as well as to prepare for success on the PANCE after graduation. In learning team and lecture settings, students review clinical cases, common medical topics and procedures. Teams may review concepts and procedures from previous or upcoming clinical rotations to include various clinical skills labs. Topics include (but are not limited to) the various roles of a PA in the clinical phase, patient education, CPT coding, reimbursement, billing in the medical office, risk management, quality assurance, employment and contract negotiations, interview skills, CV development, important aspects of the job search, certification & recertification, concepts in credentialing and

licensure, board review, and hospital privileges. Students will be working on various methods for self-directed study skills in preparation for the PANCE examination.

During this course series, students complete other elements of the Capstone project consisting of a literature review paper and a scientific poster that showcases their chosen topic and clinical question. Students are assigned a faculty Capstone advisor who provides guidance and gives feedback on all assignments and rough drafts from topic selection (APS I) to final drafts and

poster presentation (APS IV).

PAS 6700 – Advanced Clerkship

Credits, 14 cr. hrs.

The capstone of the clinical phase is the Advanced Clerkship. During this course, students choose specific areas of concentration and spend the entire semester at those training sites. The focus of this clerkship is to allow physician assistant students to acquire advanced skills for clinical practice in primary care or a specialty area of interest. The student is provided with an opportunity for an in-depth analysis of clinical practice in his/her specific area of interest. The student then returns to campus for one to two weeks for final testing and assessment prior to graduation.

PAS 6910, 6920, 6930, 6940 - Selected Clinical Experiences I-IV

Variable credit hours

This course series is part of the Deceleration & Remediation Track and is individualized for the student taking the course. It may serve as a remedial course for a failed rotation or clinical course module. It may also be used to decelerate students who fail to demonstrate appropriate levels of medical knowledge, even if they passed all coursework. This option may be invoked during didactic or clinical phases of the Program. The course content will be decided on by the course director and will focus on the specific areas of demonstrated weakness by the student. Successful completion of selected courses in this track, in addition to all courses required for the standard track will be counted toward the degree Masters of Science in Medicine (Physician Assistant Studies) degree. Remediation/deceleration coursework may be assigned from any of the following topics: clinical medicine, laboratory medicine, physical exam, diagnostic skills and professionalism. In addition, coursework may be assigned from any content from any standard track course, as deemed appropriate by the Physician Assistant Progress & Promotions Committee. Areas of individual student deficiency may be identified by performance on exams, clinical practical topics, in class assignments, summative exams, rotational assignments, professional evaluations, etc. Failure to achieve at least an 80 average in all areas of this track will result in a grade of NC and the student may be dismissed from the Program

School of Business

Dean

Marcelo Eduardo (1997)

601.925.3420

eduardo@mc.edu

MBA Director

Kevin Pauli (2007)

601.925.7734

Pauli@mc.edu

MBA Advisors

MBA/JD

Kevin Pauli (2007)

601.925.7734

Pauli@mc.edu

MBA Accounting Concentration

Master of Accountancy (MAcc)

Accounting Certificate

Billy Morehead (2011)

601.925.7742

morehead@mc.edu

Mission

The Mississippi Christian University School of Business Mission is to provide a quality business education in a Christian environment.

We serve undergraduate and graduate students from the region providing a setting where Christian values are emphasized through ethical awareness, biblical principles and a supportive faculty.

In this environment, the school seeks to prepare students with a sound understanding of essential business principles, effective communication skills, and an appreciation for social responsibility and ethical values.

The school is committed to academic quality through effective teaching, relevant programs, and faculty scholarship through contributions to practice, learning and pedagogy, and discipline-based research.

Accreditation

Mississippi Christian University, through its School of Business, is nationally accredited by the AACSB to offer the following business degrees:

The Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (B.S.B.A.).

The Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.).

The Master of Accountancy (M.Acc.)

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)

The M.B.A. has been designed especially for one who is working and wishes to continue their education at night. The M.B.A. with a general concentration is designed primarily for working professionals who want to further their careers and seek greater decision-making responsibilities. The general MBA program includes a broad-based, rigorous curriculum that

develops competency in general management skills and key functional areas of business, including accounting, finance, marketing, organizational behavior, economics, and statistics.

Advisor: Dr. Kevin Pauli, 601.925.7734

An M.B.A. with an Accounting Concentration is offered for students planning to take the C.P.A. Exam. Due to the more specialized nature of this program, additional prerequisites are required. The M.B.A. with an Accounting Concentration provides the educational background needed for the student who plans to become a Certified Public Accountant or attain their professional certifications, or who needs a higher level of accounting proficiency in order to accomplish his or her career goals. The coursework includes studies in financial accounting, managerial accounting, taxation, and auditing.

Advisor: Dr. Billy Morehead, 601.925.7742

A joint M.B.A./J.D. is offered as an option for Law School Students. It has been designed especially for a person who wishes to complete both degrees while attending law school.

Advisor: Dr. C. Edwards, 601.925.7155; Dr. Kevin Pauli, 601.925.7734

An Electrical Engineering Degree/MBA path is offered as an option for Electrical Engineering students who are planning to complete their undergraduate degree in electrical engineering and then pursue a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.

Advisor: Dr. Kevin Pauli, 601.925.7734

Master of Business Administration

Business Administration, M.B.A. (30 sem. hrs.) available in hybrid and online formats

Program Objectives

The M.B.A. offered by the School of Business is designed primarily for someone who works full-time but desires graduate study on a part-time basis. Required courses are offered in the evening or online. The objective of this program is to offer professional training for someone who is already in a managerial capacity or who plans to embark on a career in management.

The curriculum consists of 30 semester hours of graduate study beyond undergraduate business requirements. Specific course requirements are listed under admissions. Students are expected to complete all prerequisites before proceeding further.

Admission

Regular admission to the MBA program requires a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and an undergraduate record and/or work experience which indicates the ability to pursue the MBA program:

- GPA 3.00 and above (GMAT is waived)
- GPA 2.5-2.99 must meet one of the following:
 1. At least three years of applicable professional experience
 2. GMAT
- GPA 2.25-2.49 must meet one of the following:
 1. At least five years of applicable professional experience
 2. GMAT

For students who must meet the GMAT requirement, an appropriate score must be submitted by end of the first semester (maximum of 9 hours) in which graduate level classes are taken. Students without a GMAT score after their first semester of graduate work will not be allowed to enroll in any subsequent graduate courses.

GMAT Waiver

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.00 who earn a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university may have the GMAT requirement waived.

Individuals with 3-5 or more years of applicable professional work experience or who hold a current CPA or CFA certification may apply for a waiver of the GMAT requirement for the MBA program.

Students with an undergraduate grade point average below 3.00 but above 2.50 may be admitted conditionally and have the GMAT waived if they earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or more in their first 6 hours of graduate-level course work.

Business Foundations

A strong foundation in business is required to succeed in the MBA program. Students whose undergraduate education lacked a solid business foundation may be required to take additional business foundation courses. Students must have completed all of their business foundations courses with a grade of "C" or better.

The Graduate Program in Business Administration builds on a foundation of undergraduate courses normally taught in schools of business.

General Foundation courses (9 sem. hrs.)

GBU 360 – Business Foundations (3 sem. hrs.)

OR

Nine hours comprising the following:

- ACC 201 Principles of Accounting I, (3 sem. hrs.) and
- DAT 251 Statistics, (3 sem. hrs.) and
- FIN 341 Finance, (3 sem. hrs.)

Note(s):

Students who have satisfactorily met the GMAT requirement are admitted to the School of Business. Those who have not completed the GMAT are admitted provisionally until they meet this requirements. *Once all deficiencies are removed, the student is admitted to candidacy.*

M.B.A. Core Requirements

All candidates for the M.B.A. degree complete a graduate core first, which is intended to give the student a knowledge of the principles underlying the operation of all business and public enterprise, to furnish each individual with tools of analysis, and to help develop effective ways of thinking about problems. These courses constitute the foundation upon which the more advanced and specialized aspects of the program are built.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEGREE/MBA PATH: This program is designed for those students who are planning to complete their undergraduate degree in electrical engineering and then pursue a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree. Electrical Engineering majors in their senior year may enroll in ECE 5453 Senior Design with Business Proposal I and ECE 5454 Senior Design with Business Proposal II which will count towards the 10 courses required in the MBA program of study. The courses will replace the MGT 6574 Management of Technology and Innovation and ECO 6531 Managerial Economics courses.

The requirements for the Business Administration MBA degree, as stated in the graduate catalog, will be followed except that the two (2) senior design courses (ECE 5453 and ECE 5454) will replace the two (2) graduate MBA courses noted above (ECO 6531 and MGT 6574). Students following this path will only have 24 hours of required graduate courses left to obtain their graduate degree.

Graduate Core (27 sem. hrs.)

FIN 6541 Financial Management (3 sem hrs)

ACC 6501 Accounting Issues in Business Decisions (3 sem hrs)

GBU 6552 Law and Ethics in the Business Environment (3 sem hrs)

MGT 6570 Leadership in a Global Environment (3 sem hrs)

MGT 6571 Quantitative Analysis (3 sem hrs) **or** ECO 6531 Managerial Economics (3 sem hrs)

MGT 6572 Strategic Management (3 sem hrs)

MKT 6581 Market Administration (3 sem. hrs.)

MGT 6574 Management of Technology and Innovation (3 sem. hrs.)

MGT 6576 Applied Business Technologies I (1 sem. hr.)

MGT 6577 Applied Business Technologies II (1 sem. hr.)

MGT 6578 Applied Business Technologies III (1 sem. hr.)

Business Electives (3 hours)

- One Graduate Business Elective (ACC, DAT, ECO, ENT, FIN, GBU, MGT, MKT) (3 sem hrs.)

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Accounting Concentration, M.B.A. (30 sem. hrs.)

Program Objectives

The M.B.A. offered by the School of Business is designed primarily for someone who works full-time but desires graduate study on a part-time basis. Core courses are offered in the evening or online. Accounting Concentration courses are offered only online.

The objective of the M.B.A. with a Concentration in Accounting is to provide graduate students with a general business foundation and greater knowledge and understanding in the field of accounting. This program fulfills the educational requirements for eligibility to sit for the CPA Examination and Licensure in states that have adopted the 150-hour requirement.

The curriculum consists of 30 semester hours of graduate study beyond undergraduate business requirements. Specific course requirements are listed under admissions. Students are expected to complete all prerequisites before proceeding further.

Admission

Regular admission to the MBA program requires a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and an undergraduate record and/or work experience which indicates the ability to pursue the MBA program:

- GPA 3.00 and above (GMAT is waived)
- GPA 2.5-2.99 must meet one of the following:
 1. At least three years of applicable professional experience
 2. GMAT
- GPA 2.25-2.49 must meet one of the following:
 1. At least five years of applicable professional experience
 2. GMAT

For students who must meet the GMAT requirement, an appropriate score must be submitted by end of the first semester (maximum of 9 hours) in which graduate level classes are taken. Students without a GMAT score after their first semester of graduate work will not be allowed to enroll in any subsequent graduate courses.

GMAT Waiver

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.00 who earn a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university may have the GMAT requirement waived.

Individuals with 3-5 or more years of applicable professional work experience or who hold a current CPA or CFA certification may apply for a waiver of the GMAT requirement for the MBA program.

Business Foundations

A strong foundation in business is required to succeed in the MBA program. Students whose undergraduate education lacked a solid business foundation may be required to take additional business foundation courses. Students must have completed all of their business foundations courses with a grade of "C" or better.

The Graduate Program in Business Administration builds on a foundation of undergraduate courses normally taught in schools of business.

General Foundation courses (9 sem. hrs.)

GBU 360 – Business Foundations (3 sem. hrs.)

OR

Nine hours comprising the following:

- ACC 201 Principles of Accounting I, (3 sem. hrs.) and
- DAT 251 Statistics, (3 sem. hrs.) and
- FIN 341 Finance, (3 sem. hrs.)

Additional Accounting Concentration Foundation Courses (21 sem. hrs.):

- ACC 301, 302 Intermediate Accounting I, II (6 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 303 Cost Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 403 Federal Tax Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 405 Auditing (3 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 407 Governmental Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)
- GBU 358 Business Law and Ethics (3 sem. hrs.)

Note(s):

Students who have satisfactorily met the GMAT requirement are admitted to the School of Business. Those who have not completed the GMAT are admitted provisionally until they meet this requirement. *Once all deficiencies are removed, the student is admitted to candidacy.*

M.B.A. Core Requirements

All candidates for the M.B.A. degree complete a graduate core, which is intended to give the student a knowledge of the principles underlying the operation of all business and public enterprise, to furnish each individual with tools of analysis, and to help develop effective ways of thinking about problems. These courses constitute the foundation upon which the more advanced and specialized aspects of the program are built.

Graduate Core (15 sem. hrs.)

FIN 6541 Financial Management (3 sem. hrs)

GBU 6552 Law and Ethics in the Business Environment (3 sem. hrs)

MGT 6570 Leadership in a Global Environment (3 sem. hrs)

MGT 6571 Quantitative Analysis (3 sem. hrs)

MGT 6572 Strategic Management (3 sem. hrs)

DAT 099 Spreadsheet Proficiency Requirement -No Credit Hours

Accounting Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6506 Advanced Accounting Information Systems and Data Analytics (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6504 Federal Tax Accounting II (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6510 Audit Concepts and Applications (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6511 Accounting Theory (3 sem. hrs.)

Accounting Concentration Elective Courses (3 sem. hrs.)

Select one Accounting Concentration electives from the following:

ACC 5401 Advanced Accounting I (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 5403 Federal Tax Accounting I (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 5405 Introduction to Auditing (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 5406 Accounting Information Systems (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 5407 Governmental Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6503 Fraud Examination (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6505 Advanced Managerial Cost Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6516 Corporate and Partnership Taxation (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6517 Estate and Gift Taxation (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 5418 CPA Review I-Financial and Audit (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 5419 CPA Review II-Regulation and Business (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 6642 Pension and Employee Benefit Law (3 sem. hrs.)

FIN 5441 Investments (3 sem. hrs.)

FIN 6542 Advanced Financial Management (3 sem. hrs.)

FIN 6543 Financial Statement Analysis (3 sem. hrs.)

FIN 6544 Advanced Investments (3 sem. hrs.)

FIN 6545 Federal Taxation and Financial Planning (3 sem. hrs.)

MGT 6551 Management of the Human Resource (3 sem hrs.)

MKT 6581 Market Administration (3 sem. hrs.)

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Post Baccalaureate Certificate

Accounting Certificate

Undergraduate Course Work

Prerequisites: Bachelor's Degree, ACC 201, 202

This program is designed for those who have a university degree but desire the equivalent of a major in accounting. Most participants will be interested in ultimately passing the CPA Exam. A minimum of 24 hours must be completed at Mississippi Christian University. Acceptable transfer credit must be at or above the grade level of C. If for graduate credit, register for graduate sections, 5401, 5403, 5405, 5407.

A person must have a bachelor's degree with at least 120 semester hours of university credit, including a minimum of 40 semester hours of upper level business courses (including 24 hours of specified accounting courses) to take the CPA Examination in Mississippi.

The following courses will be required for this program:

- ACC 301 and 302 Intermediate Accounting **6 sem. hrs.**
- ACC 303 Cost Accounting **3 sem. hrs.**
- ACC 403 Federal Tax Accounting I **3 sem. hrs.**
- ACC 401 Advanced Accounting I - Consolidations **3 sem. hrs.**
- ACC 405 Introduction to Auditing **3 sem. hrs.**
- ACC 407 Governmental Accounting **3 sem. hrs.**
- GBU 358 Business Law and Ethics **3 sem. hrs.**
- Accounting Electives **6 sem. hrs.**

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Note(s):

Electives to be selected from Advanced Accounting Courses
Advisor: Dr. Billy Morehead, 925.7742, Self Hall 103

Master of Accountancy (MAcc)

Master of Accountancy, MAcc - 30 sem. hrs. (available in online format)

The MAcc offered by the School of Business is designed for those students that seek to further enhance their knowledge of accounting beyond an undergraduate degree and acquire the accounting and analytical skills that public and private accounting firms and government entities desire. The MAcc is also designed to enhance the preparation for taking the CPA examination and earn the additional credit hours required for obtaining a CPA license.

The curriculum consists of 30 semester hours of graduate study beyond undergraduate business requirements. Specific course requirements are listed under admissions. Students are expected to complete all Accounting foundation courses before proceeding further.

Admission

Regular admission to the MAcc program requires a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and an undergraduate record and/or work experience which indicates the ability to pursue the MAcc. program:

- GPA 3.00 and above (GMAT is waived)
- GPA 2.5-2.99 must meet one of the following:
 - a. At least three years of applicable professional experience
 - b. GMAT
- GPA 2.25-2.49 must meet one of the following:
 - a. At least five years of applicable professional experience
 - b. GMAT

For students who must meet the GMAT requirement, an appropriate score must be submitted by end of the first semester (maximum of 9 hours) in which graduate level classes are taken. Students without a GMAT score after their first semester of graduate work will not be allowed to enroll in any subsequent graduate courses.

GMAT Waiver

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.00 who earn a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university may have the GMAT requirement waived.

Individuals with 3-5 or more years of applicable professional work experience or who hold a current CPA or CFA certification may apply for a waiver of the GMAT requirement for the MBA program.

Students with an undergraduate grade point average below 3.00 but above 2.50 may be

admitted conditionally and have the GMAT waived if they earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or more in their first 6 hours of graduate-level course work.

Accounting Foundation

A strong foundation in accounting is required to succeed in the MAcc program. Students must have completed all of their accounting foundation courses with a grade of "C" or better.

General Foundation courses (9 sem. hrs.)

- ACC 203 Survey of Financial Accounting (**or ACC 201 & 202 Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**)
- FIN 341 Finance **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- DAT 251 Business Statistics I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Accounting Foundation Courses (21 sem. hrs.):

- ACC 301, 302 Intermediate Accounting I, II (6 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 303 Cost Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 403 Federal Tax Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 405 Auditing (3 sem. hrs.)
- ACC 407 Governmental Accounting (3 sem. hrs.)
- GBU 358 Business Law and Ethics (3 sem. hrs.)

MAcc Core Requirements (18 Hours)

ACC 6504 Federal Tax Accounting II 3 sem hrs

ACC 6505 Advanced Managerial Cost Accounting 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 6510 Audit Concepts and Applications 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 6511 Accounting Theory 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 6552 Law and Ethics in the Business Environment 3 sem. hrs. (cross-listed with GBU 6552)

ACC 6506 Advanced Accounting Information Systems and Data Analytics 3 sem. hrs.

MAcc Required Electives: Choose any 2 (6 Hours)

ACC 5406 Accounting Information Systems (3 sem. hrs.)

ACC 5407 Governmental Accounting 3 sem hrs (required if not taken at the undergraduate level)

ACC 5418 CPA Review I-Financial and Audit 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 5419 CPA Review II-Regulation and Business 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 6502 Advanced Accounting II 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 6503 Fraud Examination 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 6506 Advanced Accounting Information Systems and Data Analytics 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 6543 Financial Statement Analysis 3 sem. hrs. (cross-listed with FIN 6543)

ACC 5401 Advanced Accounting I 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 5403 Federal Tax Accounting I 3 sem. hrs.

ACC 5405 Introduction to Auditing 3 sem. hrs.

MAcc General Electives: Choose any 2 (6 Hours)

May choose any additional MAcc required electives from above to fulfill general elective requirement.

May choose any 6000 level MBA course except for ACC 6501 to fulfill general elective requirement.

***Note: A maximum of 6 credit hours (2 classes) in 5000 level electives beyond ACC 5418 and ACC 5419 (required AND/OR general) is allowed in the MAcc.**

Total = 30 Hours

Doctor of Jurisprudence/ Master of Business Administration

Doctor of Jurisprudence, M.B.A.

Requirements for the J.D./M.B.A.

The requirements for the J.D. degree as stated in the law school bulletin will not change, except that students in the joint degree program may receive six hours of law school credit for the following business school classes: ACC 6501 - Accounting Issues in Business Decisions and MGT 6572 - Strategic Management. [These courses will be cross-referenced in the law school catalogue, and law school students will pay the law school tuition rate for them.] A student must earn a C or better in these courses in order to receive law school credit, and law school credit will not be finally given unless and until the student completes the joint degree program.

The requirements for the M.B.A. degree as stated in this bulletin will be followed except that nine of the 30 hours of course work required for the M.B.A. degree may be satisfied by law school course work, This assumes that all pre-requisites to the M.B.A. program: ACC 203 (3 sem hrs.); FIN 341 (3 sem. hrs.); and DAT 251 (3 sem. hrs) have been completed. GBU 6552 - Law and Ethics in the Business Environment class will be satisfied by completion of the following law school classes: LAW 506/507 *Contracts I and II*, LAW 573 *Property*, and LAW 747 *Ethics & Professionalism*. A grade of C or better must be earned in LAW 747 Professional Responsibility and Ethics. The MGT 6551 and ECO 6531 course

requirements (three hours each) in the M.B.A. curriculum will be satisfied by completing six hours or any of the following law school classes again with a C or better: LAW 616 *Agency*, LAW 720 *Antitrust*, LAW 656 *Banking*, LAW 619 *Business Associations I*, LAW 620 *Business Associations II*, LAW 714 *Business Planning*, LAW 630 *Commercial Paper*, LAW 637 *Corporate and Partnership Taxation*, LAW 753 *Debtor-Creditor Law*, LAW 646 *Employment Law*, LAW 702 *Estate and Gift Taxation*, LAW 638 *Federal Taxation Law*, LAW 654 *Insurance*, LAW 706 *International Business Transactions*, LAW 645 *Labor Law*, LAW 642 *Pension and Employee Benefit Law*, LAW 781 *Real Estate Finance and Development*, LAW 782 *Real Estate Transactions*, LAW 508 *Sales and Leasing*, LAW 621 *Secured Transactions*, and LAW 710 *Securities Regulation*.

In sum, a student who has completed the M.B.A. prerequisites could complete the requirements for joint degree in three and one-half years of full-time study. With nine hours of M.B.A. degree credit given for law school classes and six hours of law school credit given for M.B.A. courses, the joint degree requires 15 hours of course work beyond the 90 hours required for the J.D. **The student must hold a combined 3.0 G.P.A. on graduate business and law school courses used on the M.B.A. in order to graduate with the master's degree.**

Sequencing of J.D. and M.B.A. Course Work

Students pursuing the joint degree will be free to sequence the law and business classes in almost any way they choose, except that students may not take M.B.A. classes during the first year of law school. The law school and business school each will assign one faculty member to serve as advisor to the students in the joint degree program regarding course sequencing. As a general matter, a student could take both law and business classes in the same semester or take all course work during a given semester in on program or the other. *The flexibility in sequencing will permit students to enter the joint degree program at any time in the M.B.A. program after the first year of law school.*

As currently required for the J.D. degree, students must complete the courses necessary for the law degree within five years. As long as a student is enrolled in at least twelve hours of course work no matter what the combination of law and business school classes, he or she will be considered a full-time student for purposes of financial aid. The J.D. degree requires five semesters in residence (four for transfer students) at the law school. Residency credit for the purposes of the J.D. degree will be awarded proportionately for semesters in which a student takes both J.D. and M.B.A. courses.

JD/MBA Admissions

Students must be separately admitted to both programs. Students will be required to take the LSAT (Law School Admission Test) as a condition to admission to the law school program, and may be required to take the GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) as a condition of admission to the M.B.A. program. The School of Business may accept the LSAT in lieu of the GMAT when the LSAT scores satisfies the standard for admission to the School of Business.

Completing the Prerequisites to the MBA Program

In order to qualify for admission to the M.B.A. program, the student must have completed the M.B.A. prerequisites. Students may satisfy the marketing prerequisites through the College Level Examination Program (CLEP).

Dismissal from Joint Degree Programs

If a student who is enrolled in a joint degree program such as the J.D./M.B.A. is dismissed from one of the degree programs, then they are automatically dismissed from the other degree program as well. The student may wish to appeal for readmission to either or both of the programs. If a student wishes to register an appeal, they should contact the Registrar's Office immediately for a specific form to be used for that purpose.

Approval by Accreditation Agencies

This joint degree program does not require approval by the accreditation agencies of either the law school or the business school. The law school has informed the office of the consultant on legal education of the American Bar Association of these plans and has been informed that no action is necessary in this regard.

M.B.A./J.D. Admission Requirements

General Foundation courses (9 sem. hrs.)

GBU 360 – Business Foundations (3 sem. hrs.)

OR

Nine hours comprising the following:

- ACC 201 Principles of Accounting I, (3 sem. hrs.) and
- DAT 251 Statistics, (3 sem. hrs.) and
- FIN 341 Finance, (3 sem. hrs.)

Undergraduate GPA and LSAT Score

Acceptable for Mississippi Christian University Law School Admissions.

Degree Requirements for J.D./M.B.A.

Graduate Core (21 sem. hrs.)

- FIN 6541 Financial Management (3 sem. Hrs.)
- ACC 6501 Accounting Issues in Business Decisions (3 sem. Hrs.)
- MGT 6570 Leadership in a Global Environment (3 sem. Hrs.)
- MGT 6572 Strategic Management (3 sem. Hrs.)
- MGT 6571 Quantitative Management OR ECO 6531 Managerial Economics (3 sem. hrs.)
- MKT 6581 Market Administration (3 sem. hrs.)
- MGT 6574 Management of technology and Innovation (3 sem. hrs.)

JD Classes

- GBU 6552 Law and Ethics in the Business Environment (3 sem. Hrs.)
 - o Satisfied by completing the following Law classes:
 - o LAW 506/507 Contracts I and II, LAW 573 Property, and LAW 747 Ethics & Professionalism.
- Business Electives (6 hours)
 - o 6 hours graduate business electives satisfied by completing any of two of the following classes:
LAW 616 Agency, LAW 720 Antitrust, LAW 656 Banking, LAW 619 Business Associations+ I, LAW 620 Business Associations II, LAW 714 Business Planning, LAW 630 Commercial Paper, LAW 637 Corporate and Partnership Taxation, LAW 753 Debtor-Creditor Law, LAW 646 Employment Law, LAW 702 Estate and Gift Taxation, LAW 638 Federal Taxation Law, LAW 654 Insurance, LAW 706 International Business Transactions, LAW 645 Labor Law, LAW 642 Pension and Employee Benefit Law, LAW 781 Real Estate Finance and Development, LAW 782 Real Estate Transactions, LAW 508 Sales and Leasing, LAW 621 Secured Transactions, and LAW 710 Securities Regulation.

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

*MIS 099- Spreadsheet Proficiency Requirement -No Credit Hours (***Course number will change to DAT 099 effective Spring 2020**)

JD/MBA Curriculum

- MGT 6574 Management of Technology and Innovation (3 sem. hrs.)
- LAW 506/507 Contracts I & II (3 sem. hrs.)
- LAW 573 Property (3 sem. hrs.)
- LAW 747 Ethics and Professionalism (3 sem. hrs.)
- MKT 6581 Market Administration (3 sem. hrs.)
- MGT 6572 Strategic Management (3 sem. hrs.)
- LAW Elective (3 sem. hrs.)
- LAW Elective (3 sem. hrs.)

Note(s):

LAW 506/507 Contracts I & II and LAW 747 Ethics and Professionalism is equivalent to GBU 6552

Choose Law Electives From*:

- LAW 508 Sales and Leasing
- LAW 616 Agency
- LAW 619 Business Associations I

- LAW 620 Business Associations II Transactions

Transactions

- LAW 621 Secured Transactions
- LAW 630 Commercial Paper
- LAW 637 Corporate and Partnership Taxation
- LAW 638 Federal Taxation Law
- LAW 642 Pension and Employee Benefit Law Development

Development

- LAW 645 Labor Law
- LAW 646 Employment Law
- LAW 654 Insurance
- LAW 656 Banking
- LAW 702 Estate and Gift Taxation
- LAW 706 Int'l Business
- LAW 710 Securities Regulation
- LAW 714 Business Planning
- LAW 720 Antitrust
- LAW 753 Debtor-Creditor Law
- LAW 781 Real Estate Fin
- LAW 782 Real Estate Transactions

Note(s):

* See *Law School Catalog* or Law School Internet Home Page for course descriptions.

School of Business Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is prerequisite for all graduate courses.

All MBA work has to be at or above the 6000 level. (See semester or term schedule for laboratory fees.)

Departments listed alphabetically offer graduate level courses:

**Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit.*

Accounting

ACC 5401 - Advanced Accounting I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 301 or ACC 302.*

Business combinations and consolidations of parent and controlled subsidiary statements. A

study of related Accounting Research Bulletins, Accounting Principles Board Opinions and FASB standards.

ACC 5403 - Federal Tax Accounting I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): ACC 202 and Graduate Standing.*

Consideration of the basic features of the federal income tax system with particular emphasis on the determination of the taxable income of individuals.

ACC 5405 - Introduction to Auditing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 301 or ACC 302.*

A survey course introducing the student to auditing standards, services, ethics, legal responsibility, internal control structures, report analysis, and SEC requirements. ACC 405 should be taken by those wanting a complete coverage of the material needed for the CPA, CMA, and CIA Examinations.

ACC 5406 - Accounting Information Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 201, ACC 202.*

An introduction to the development analysis and design of accounting systems. Includes the basic elements of flow charting transaction processing, and internal control.

ACC 5407 - Governmental Accounting

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 202.*

Application of accounting principles to governmental units and nonprofit institutions with emphasis on budgetary control, the operation of funds, and financial reporting.

ACC 5418 - CPA Review I-Financial and Audit

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 301, ACC 302, ACC 401, ACC 405, ACC 407, and GBU 358.*

This course is an intense immersion in those topics from undergraduate and graduate accountancy classes that are part of the CPA exam. The course covers the exam areas of financial accounting and auditing.

ACC 5419 - CPA Review II-Regulation and Business

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 305, ACC 403, GBU 358.*

This course is an intense immersion in those topics from undergraduate and graduate accountancy classes that are part of the CPA exam. The course covers the exam areas of regulation and business.

ACC 6501 - Accounting Issues in Business Decisions

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 201

The course provides an introduction to the analysis and use of corporate financial reports from the perspectives of investors, creditors and other external users. Coverage ranges from the pressures faced by management, accountants and auditors as they prepare financial statements to the impact of accounting information on strategic decisions. From an internal decision-making perspective, the course examines the preparation and use of managerial accounting information. Topics include activity based costing, decision support systems including relevant costs and benefits, and budgeting systems.

[Crosslisted as: LAW 7614 for JD/MBA.]

ACC 6502 - Advanced Accounting II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 301, ACC 302.

Specialized areas of financial accounting, including foreign currency transactions, bankruptcy and restructuring, partnership accounting, accounting changes, accounting for post-employment benefits, segmental reporting, interim reporting, accounting ethics, and financial analysis.

ACC 6503 - Fraud Examination

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 201, ACC 202 or ACC 203

A comprehensive course in fraud examination designed to introduce business students to the study of fraudulent activities by learning the importance of fraud detection and prevention and the study of common fraud schemes. Topics include asset misappropriation, corruption, fraudulent financial statements, investigative techniques interview techniques to detect deception, analysis of actual fraud cases, and the use of the legal system to increase the consequences of fraudulent acts.

[Crosslisted as: MIS 6503]

ACC 6504 - Federal Tax Accounting II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 201- 202, or ACC 203; ACC 403

A study of federal income taxation of corporations, partnerships, estates, and trusts.

ACC 6505 - Advanced Managerial Cost Accounting

Credits, 3 sem hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing; ACC 305

The course focuses on the use of accounting information for decision making by management with emphasis on analysis and interpretation of managerial and cost accounting financial and non-financial data. Topics include profit planning, cost analysis, operational, financial, and capital budgeting, responsibility accounting, performance analysis, and financial accounting.

ACC 6506 - Advanced Accounting Information Systems and Data Analytics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing; ACC 202 or ACC 203; *MIS 099 (***Course number will change to DAT 099 effective Spring 2020**) or MIS 226 or MIS 327
The course focuses on the use of accounting information systems for accounting financial, audit, and non-financial applications. The course also focuses on the concept of "Big Data" and analysis of data for predictive and detective purposes in business, accounting, audit, fraud, and internal control analyses.

[Crosslisted as: MIS 6506]

ACC 6510 - Audit Concepts and Applications

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 5405 or ACC 405.

A study of the concepts, assumptions, standards, and issues related to current applications of auditing. This course takes an integrated approach to the assessment of risk and testing of management assertions associated with current external and internal conditions, business processes, and financial reporting in the planning, completion, and reporting of an audit.

ACC 6511 - Accounting Theory

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): ACC 301 and ACC 302; Graduate standing.

A study of the major theoretical components of generally accepted accounting principles, conventions, and practices.

ACC 6512 – Audit Technologies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisites(s): ACC 6510 and ACC 6506; Graduate standing.

The course focuses on the use of various latest technologies available and used in conducting and supporting the internal and external audit function. Technologies will be explored as they are used throughout the audit profession in examining both financial and non-financial data. Topics include information systems (IS) audit technologies, data privacy, information security, compliance with government regulations, IS audit procedures, internal controls, IT governance, information asset and data protection, and cybersecurity.

ACC 6516 - Corporate and Partnership Taxation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing, ACC 403, ACC 6504.

The law of taxation as applied to corporations and their shareholders with a limited and comparative treatment of partnerships and partners, in the various contexts of business life, including formation, distributions, redemptions, reorganizations, liquidations and sales.

[Crosslisted as: LAW 637.]

ACC 6517 - Estate and Gift Taxation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing, ACC 201, ACC 202, ACC 403.

A study of federal taxation of inter vivos transfers, revocable and incomplete transfers, exclusions, exemptions, and correlations with income and estate taxation; also federal estate taxation of property owned at death, jointly held property, gifts in contemplation of death, revocable transfers, retained life estates, transfers taking effect at death, survivorship annuities, life insurance, and powers of appointment; federal estate tax credits, deductions, exemptions, valuation problems; and procedure and correlation of estate tax with federal income and gift taxes.

[Crosslisted as: LAW 702.]

ACC 6543 - Financial Statement Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate Standing; ACC 201-202, or ACC 203; FIN 341

Financial Statement Analysis is a lecture and application based course that provides students with the skills and the concepts to review and critically examine financial statements. The course approaches the review of financial statements from the perspective of management, investors, and creditors. Students will be thoroughly exposed to ratio analysis and cash flow analysis. The course also includes topics in management effectiveness and valuation.

[Crosslisted as: FIN 6543]

ACC 6552 - Law and Ethics in the Business Environment

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing

A study of legal and ethical concepts and their application in the business world. Emphasis is placed on how to recognize legal and ethical issues and apply law and ethics to business decision making.

[Crosslisted as: GBU 6552]

ACC 6642 - Pension and Employee Benefit Law

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing and GBU 358.

A survey of the laws and policies regarding the creation, operation and termination of employee benefit plans, including health benefits and pension plans with emphasis on qualified plans and the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Data Management

DAT 6521 – Data Analytics and Visualization

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* MGT 6571

This course is designed to equip graduate business students with the ability to use data to

inform, evaluate, and justify managerial decisions across functional areas.

Economics

ECO 6531 - Managerial Economics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing*

Microeconomic analysis designed to lay a foundation for the effective integration of economics theory and business administration. Topics include economical use of resources, optimal product combinations, prices and implications of market structure.

Entrepreneur

ENT 5411 - Entrepreneurial Financial Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): ACC 202 or ACC 203 and FIN 341*

Covers fundamentals of financing a small business. Topics include financial statement creation and analysis, debt versus equity financing, venture, and angel capital and crowdfunding.

ENT 5412 - Entrepreneurial Mindset

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): ACC 202/203 and MKT 381*

Development of new perspectives and knowledge about entrepreneurial thinking and attitude. Focus is on ideation and creativity, plus opportunity recognition and evaluation. A key course objective is the identification of new products and services that could serve as the foundation for a new business venture.

ENT 5413 - New Venture Creation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing. Instructor's Consent*

This project-based course focuses on the creation, evaluation, and development of a new business venture. The process includes an in-depth market analysis, product or service design, development of a marketing channel, and financing and profit models.

Finance

FIN 5440 - Short-Term Financial Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; FIN 341.*

Corporate financial managers spend most of each workday making decisions about cash and liquidity positions, credit extension and collections, payables, bank relations, short-term investing and borrowing, whether and how to manage interest rate and foreign exchange risks, and the development of near-term financial plans. This course addresses each of those issues with analytical routines, valuation analysis, and description and evaluation of current business

practices.

FIN 5441 - Investments

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; FIN 341.*

An introduction to investments. The study and application of the investment environment (markets, instruments, institutions), risk and return relationships, portfolio diversification, market efficiency, mutual funds, security analysis, valuation, and allocation.

FIN 6541 - Financial Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; FIN 341.*

A study of financial management decision making with case applications using financial analysis and planning involving capital budgeting, capital structure, and working capital management.

FIN 6542 - Advanced Financial Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; FIN 341; FIN 6541.*

The study of tools and techniques used in the formulation and implementation of financial policies involving topics not covered in FIN 6541. Specific emphasis is given to the analysis of risk management, dividend policy, the investment banking process, hybrid financing, bankruptcy and reorganization, mergers and divestitures, and multinational financial management.

FIN 6543 - Financial Statement Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 201-202, or ACC 203; FIN 341.*

Financial Statement Analysis is a lecture and application based course that provides students with the skills and the concepts to review and critically examine financial statements. The course approaches the review of financial statements from the perspective of management, investors, and creditors. Students will be thoroughly exposed to ratio analysis and cash flow analysis. The course also includes topics in management effectiveness and valuation.

[Crosslisted as: ACC 6543]

FIN 6544 - Advanced Investments

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; FIN 441.*

An advanced course in portfolio management and investments. Analysis of individual securities, creation and management of portfolios of investments to achieve specific investor goals and evaluation of portfolio performance.

FIN 6545 - Federal Taxation and Financial Planning

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 201, ACC 202; FIN 341.*

Emphasis on basic tax concepts and applications to financial planning for management

decisions.

FIN 6546 - Financial Markets and Institutions

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; FIN 341.*

A survey of important topics in the institutions and instruments of modern financial markets. These topics include intermediaries, bank management, term structure of interest rates, market efficiency, investment banking, underwriting, and issuance of securities, mortgage backed securities and other types of securitized assets.

General Business

GBU 5452 - Business Law II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; GBU 358.*

A study of the domestic and international principles of law relating to property, business documents, negotiable instruments, organization forms, and statutory constraints on business.

GBU 5456 - Business Ethics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Overview of the fundamental concepts and principles of business ethics. The class provides an application of ethical definitions and principles, case studies and practical approaches to recognize and solve ethical dilemmas.

GBU 5457 – Change Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisites: Graduate Standing*

This course examines foundational theories and models of organizational change within business contexts. Students analyze secular change leadership frameworks alongside Biblical leadership principles to develop a theoretical understanding of change leadership informed by a Christian worldview.

GBU 6550 - Current Topics in Business

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.*

Current Topics in Business is a "placeholder" class in which current and relevant business management topics are offered on a rotating and/or new basis as the opportunity arises. Thus, the class will vary in its content/subject from offering to offering.

GBU 6552 - Law and Ethics in the Business Environment

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

A study of legal and ethical concepts and their application in the business world. Emphasis is placed on how to recognize legal and ethical issues and apply law and ethics to business decision making.

[Crosslisted as: ACC 6552]

GBU 6553 - International Law

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

The basic public international law course covers international agreements; settlement of disputes among nations; sovereign immunity; “act of state” doctrine; bases of jurisdiction of states; human rights and covenants; law of sea and air; international organizations; and use and control of international coercion.

[Crosslisted as: LAW 705.]

GBU 6556 - International Marketing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MKT 381.*

Extending marketing concepts to provide an understanding of the global marketing environment with emphasis on placing these concepts in the context of multinational trade, supply chain decisions, cultural issues in extending markets into a global setting and exploring global marketing strategies and tactics.

GBU 6558 - International Economics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ECO 231; ECO 232.*

This course investigates the process of international commerce among nations. The basics theory of trade and exchange rates, institutional and legal environments, and current policy issues are covered.

Management

MGT 5474 - Human Resources Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MGT 371.*

A study of personnel management concepts and techniques, including recruitment and placement, training and development and compensation, to provide the student with a practical working knowledge of the processes involved in managing the human resources of an organization in a dynamic business environment.

MGT 5475 - Operations and Supply Chain Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; GBU 251 (*Course number will change to DAT 251 effective Spring 2020); MGT 371.*

A study of the role of operations management in manufacturing and service firms. Special emphasis is placed on key topics in the fields of cost accounting, general management, industrial engineering, and quantitative methods.

MGT 5499 - Strategic Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; ACC 202; ECO 232; FIN 341; MGT371; MKT 381; "Course cannot be taken if student has already taken MGT 6572."*

The capstone course for the undergraduate business school curriculum that integrates the fundamental aspects of business (marketing, finance, accounting, economics, operations) into a coherent view of management. Through the case analysis method, students study the role of strategy in the management of large and small firms and investigate principles and practices that lead to successful organizations, both public and private. The final project is a formal classroom presentation where students must demonstrate proficiency in both oral and written communication skills as they present the results of group and individual research applying the principles learned during the semester.

MGT 6551 - Management of the Human Resource

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing*

The application of the behavioral sciences to the understanding of interpersonal relationships in business and how these factors influence efficiency, morale, and business practices.

MGT 6570 - Leadership in a Global Environment

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing*

Managing in the Global Environment is designed to refine students' understanding and application of international business practice. The course explores the roles of government and non-government organizations in policy formation, culture and its influence on business ethics, human resource issues of recruitment, retention, training, and documentation of employees, the debate over international trade theory, trade relations and negotiation, tax issues, the oversight of supply chain management, and accountability in exporting and importing. The course utilizes lecture, small group discussion, case analysis, and project based research in a hybrid format.

MGT 6571 - Quantitative Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing;*

Application of statistical and quantitative techniques to the decision-making processes.

MGT 6572 - Strategic Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing*

Through the case analysis method, students study the role of strategy in the management of large and small firms and investigate the principles and practices that lead to successful organizations, both public and private.

[Crosslisted as: LAW 615 for J.D./M.B.A.]

MGT 6573 - Service Operations Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; An undergraduate course in statistics; an undergraduate course in finance.*

Service Operations Management is a study of the role of operations management in service firms. Special emphasis is placed on key topics in the areas of (1) service operations strategy and the role of services in the American economy, (2) designing and delivering services, (3) managing performance in the service environment, (4) managing quality in the service firm, (5) issues in yield management, (6) waiting line management, (7) the rise of the lean management model in services.

MGT 6574 - Management of Technology and Innovation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the role of innovation and change within the organization. Emphasis will be placed on the sources and types of technological innovation and the value that is associated with them, the development process, collaboration strategies, and the impact on organizational structure.

MGT 6576 – Applied Business Technologies I

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This course builds advanced proficiency in Microsoft Excel as a core tool for quantitative analysis, modeling, and decision support. Students will develop competencies in data manipulation, functions, pivot tables, scenario analysis, and automation techniques commonly used in managerial settings. Instruction emphasizes accuracy, efficiency, and reproducibility of analytical workflows. Successful completion prepares students for an industry-recognized Excel certification aligned with current professional standards. The course integrates applied exercises using real business datasets to reinforce concepts.

MGT 6577 – Applied Business Technologies II

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This course develops data analytics competency for graduate-level business students. Students learn to acquire, clean, analyze, and interpret data to support managerial decision-making. Emphasis is placed on practical analytical workflows, interpretation of quantitative findings, and communication of insights to non-technical stakeholders. Upon successful completion of the course and capstone assessment, students earn a professional certification demonstrating data analytics competence and workplace readiness.

MGT 6578 – Applied Business Technologies III

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This course develops artificial intelligence (AI) competency for graduate-level business students. Students learn how AI systems work at a conceptual level, how AI tools are used in business settings, and how to evaluate opportunities and risks associated with AI adoption. Emphasis is placed on practical application of AI tools, interpretation of AI-generated outputs, ethical and governance considerations, and communication of AI-informed recommendations to decision-makers. Upon successful completion of the course and capstone

assessment, students earn a professional certification demonstrating AI literacy and professional readiness.

Management Information Systems

MIS 6503 - Fraud Examination

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing. ACC 201, ACC 202 or ACC 203
A comprehensive course in fraud examination designed to introduce business students to the study of fraudulent activities by learning the importance of fraud detection and prevention and the study of common fraud schemes. Topics include asset misappropriation, corruption, fraudulent financial statements, investigative techniques interview techniques to detect deception, analysis of actual fraud cases, and the use of the legal system to increase the consequences of fraudulent acts.

[Crosslisted as: ACC 6503]

MIS 6506 - Advanced Accounting Information Systems and Data Analytics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate Standing; ACC 202 or ACC 203; *MIS 099 (***Course number will change to DAT 099 effective Spring 2020**) or MIS 226 or MIS 327
The course focuses on the use of accounting information systems for accounting financial, audit, and non-financial applications. The course also focuses on the concept of "Big Data" and analysis of data for predictive and detective purposes in business, accounting, audit, fraud, and internal control analyses.

[Crosslisted as: ACC 6506]

MIS 6524 - Strategic Management of Information Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing; CSC 116
Examination and consideration of the strategic issues and implications relating to E-Commerce, E-Business, and E-Knowledge. Course also includes consideration of various ethical frameworks and the challenges presented by the business and managerial uses and abilities inherent in information systems and technology.

MIS 6574 - Management of Technology and Innovation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the role of innovation and change within the organization. Emphasis will be placed on the sources and types of technological innovation and the value that is associated with them, the development process, collaboration strategies, and the impact on organizational structure.

Marketing

MKT 5429 - Marketing Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MKT 381; *GBU 251*
(*Course number will change to DAT 251 effective Spring 2020).

The study and application of techniques used to conduct systematic qualitative and quantitative business research. The course teaches a basic research process that includes characterizing business problems or opportunities and developing research objectives, designing a research methodology to address the research objectives, conducting the research in a systematic fashion, and using the tools of statistics to analyze and report the research results.

MKT 5481 - Consumer Behavior

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MKT 381 or instructor's consent.*
The strategic implications of the internal, external, and decision-making factors which impact consumer purchasing patterns with emphasis on managerial applications.

MKT 5482 - Retailing and E-Commerce

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MKT 381.*

Retailing and E-Commerce examines the strategic and tactical decisions retailers make and the concepts, practices and technology they use in making those decisions. The course introduces students to the many ways in which information technology and the Internet can be used to enhance retail operations. Both store-based and web-based retail businesses are examined. While the course focuses on the retail industry, the content of the course is useful for students interested in working for companies that interface with retailers such as manufacturers of consumer products or for students with an entrepreneurial interest.

MKT 5485 - Integrated Marketing Communications

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MKT 381.*

An application-based study of marketing communications tools including advertising, promotions, direct marketing, personal selling, and public relations, and their coordination and integration into a unified program designed to influence a firm's marketing channel, customer, and internal constituencies.

MKT 5486 - Marketing Strategy

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing; MKT 381*

An application of marketing concepts and skills within the business environment. Using computer simulations, students analyze data, make decisions, implement solutions, and evaluate results. The course provides an illustration of the effects of marketing planning, implementation, and control on the total business system.

MKT 5487 - Digital Marketing

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* MKT 381

This course is designed to give students a theoretical understanding of the internet marketplace, while also equipping them with the skills needed to perform vital digital marketing functions.

Topics covered include Web design, Web analytics, on and off-site SEO, paid search marketing, online advertising, social media strategy, and online reputation management.

[Crosslisted as: MKT 487]

MKT 6581 - Market Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing

A study of marketing management at the administrative level, including marketing planning, analysis, and strategy. Global issues and ethical and socially responsible marketing practices will be included.

MKT 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem hrs

School of Education and Human Sciences

Interim Dean

Martha D'Amico (2017)

601.925.3402

mbdamico@mc.edu

Chairs

Counseling

Kayla Acklin (2023)

601.925.7397

kacklin@mc.edu

Kinesiology

M. Christopher Washam (2005)

601.925.3302

washam@mc.edu

Psychology & Social Work

Michael Mann (2005)

601.925.3820

mmann@mc.edu

Teacher Education & Leadership

Rachel Peeples (2010)

601.925.3226

peeples@mc.edu

Teacher Education & Leadership (Assistant Chair)

Teresa Duke (2024)

601.925.3226

taduke@mc.edu

The School of Education and Human Sciences offers graduate degree programs designed to build upon undergraduate backgrounds and assist students in acquiring the knowledge, understanding, and skills that will allow for enhanced effectiveness in the student's chosen profession.

Department of Teacher Education and Leadership

Doctorate of Education

Educational Leadership, Ed.D. (57 sem. hrs.)

The Doctor of Education degree program in Educational Leadership is designed to accommodate the active life of practicing professionals who wish to assume leadership roles in K-12 settings or an institution of higher learning. The program is a blend of theory and practice designed to prepare educational leaders. The Doctor of Education degree requires a minimum of 57 semester hours above the master's degree. The program consists of four areas of study: (1) Educational Administration Courses (33 hours), (2) Research and Statistics Courses (6 hours), (3) Leadership Core Courses (10 hours), and (4) Applied Research Courses (8 hours).

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership is offered fully online. (See the MC Graduate catalog for the minimum number of hours required for full time graduate enrollment each semester.) Candidates are required to be continuously enrolled after they have been admitted.

Admissions, Maintenance, and Graduation Requirements

Applicants must adhere to all of the requirements given by Mississippi Christian University.

Each applicant for admission to the Doctor of Education degree program must submit the following:

1. A completed application for admission.
2. One copy of all official transcript(s) from previous collegiate work (associate's, bachelor's, master's, and education specialist's), and any transferable graduate credit. A minimum GPA of 3.25 is required on master's, or specialist's, degree work from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning.
3. A minimum of five (5) years of documented educational experience.
4. A minimum of two (2) years of documented experience in a leadership role.
5. Two (2) letters of recommendation from professionals who can evaluate the candidate's potential for success as an educational leader. One of the two letters should be provided by a current supervisor.
6. Curriculum vitae/resume'

Notification will be provided to each candidate as to his/her admission status.

Doctoral Program Review

The Doctoral Program Coordinator will review the applications of all candidates. Only applications that are complete will be reviewed. The coordinator will recommend regular admission, provisional admission, or rejection after a full review of the application packet. A candidate provisionally admitted into the program must complete any designated criteria before gaining regular admission. In no case will a candidate be allowed to proceed beyond six (6) semester hours of course work without successfully completing all requirements for admission.

Students admitted to the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program may receive advanced standing based on prior graduate credentials:

- Students holding an **approved Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree** may be granted

advanced standing of up to **33 semester hours**.

- Students holding an **Ed.S. degree not approved or not aligned with the Ed.D. program** may be granted up to **11 semester hours** of advanced standing, as determined by program faculty.

The determination of approved status and the amount of advanced standing awarded rests with program faculty and the Dean of the Academic Program and is based on curricular equivalency and alignment with doctoral learning outcomes.

Residency

The residency requirements provide the doctoral candidates with the opportunity for a time of continuous study and interaction with the professional faculty at the University. The residency requirement may be satisfied by completing three (3) full-time semesters with continuous enrollment once the candidate has been admitted into the doctoral program.

Graduation Requirements

Candidates will receive clearance for graduation after successfully completing the following:

1. All coursework in the Doctor of Education program with a minimum GPA of 3.25.
2. Capstone Topic Approval
3. Capstone Proposal Approval
4. Capstone Defense Approval

Time Limitations

All requirements for the Doctor of Education degree program must be completed within eight (8) years from the semester of initial enrollment. Candidates may apply for an extension of this time limit with the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences. Five (5) years is the maximum age for coursework other than research hours.

Program Requirements

49 HOURS BEYOND MASTERS DEGREE PLUS 8 APPLIED RESEARCH HOURS (57 Hours)

Four Areas of Study

- Educational Administration Core (33 hours)
- Research and Statistics (6 hours)
- Leadership Core (10 hours)
- Applied Research Capstone (minimum of 8 hours)

EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION COURSES 33 hours

- EDU 6520 Basics of Effective Leadership (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 6521 Organizational School and Community Effectiveness (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7527 Leadership Models and Applications (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7530 Issues and Concepts of Personnel Management (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7531 Leadership Dilemmas and Diversity (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7540 Basics of School Finance and Fiscal Control of Schools (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7541 Legal Structures and Special Services Law (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7550 Central Office Structures, Roles & Responsibilities & Functions of the Superintendency (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7561 Data-Driven Decision-Making (3 sem. hrs.)
- Educational Leadership Electives (6 sem. hrs.)

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS COURSES 6 hours

- PSY 6505 Intermediate Statistics (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7710 Qualitative and Quantitative Research Designs in Education (3 sem. hrs.) .

LEADERSHIP CORE COURSES (10 hours)

- EDU 8100 Introduction to Education Doctorate in Education Leadership (1 sem hr.)
- EDU 8200 Applied Curriculum and Instructional Design (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 8300 Principles of Organizational Leadership (3 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 7601 Comparative Philosophies of Education (3 sem. hrs.)

The Leadership Core courses should represent coursework that supports the candidate's doctoral program. Ten (10) semester hours of coursework compose the Leadership Core area.

APPLIED RESEARCH CAPSTONE COURSES (8 hours)

- EDU 8881 Applied Research I (2 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 8882 Applied Research II (2 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 8883 Applied Research III (2 sem. hrs.)
- EDU 8884 Applied Research IV (2 sem. hrs.)

The Applied Research is the capstone experience for the Doctor of Education degree candidate. The research topic will be selected by the candidate who will seek approval from the candidate's Applied Research committee. Using knowledge gained in the doctoral Leadership Core coursework and appropriate research methodologies, the candidate should produce a document exhibiting solutions to real-world educational problems. A total of eight (8) semester hours of Applied Research coursework must be completed in a sequenced order as advised, and include required contact and seminar hours inclusive of Applied Research milestones as prescribed. This work will be done in a class seminar format. The applied research hours will be completed with guidance from the Applied Research professor and committee in order to complete all mandated milestones leading to graduation.

Each of the Applied Research courses serve as a prerequisite to the subsequent courses; therefore, candidates will not be allowed to progress without successful completion of each

Applied Research course. A grade of CR (Credit) or No CR (No Credit) will be awarded for each Applied Research course. Candidates may retake an Applied Research course up to two times before being dismissed from the program.

Total: 57 sem. hrs.

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AAAA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Education Specialist

Educational Leadership, Ed.S. (33 sem. hrs.)

The Education Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership is designed to meet the needs of the educational professionals seeking either a higher level of licensure in school administration or an entry-level licensure in school administration that builds on an existing AA licensure in another area of professional education. This program is offered in a fully, online format.

Admission Requirements

1. Must hold a valid Class AA (Master's level) license issued by a state department of education. The license must be in an area of professional education. A photocopy of the valid license is required.
2. Must meet all general requirements for admission to graduate programs at Mississippi Christian University.
3. Must have a 3.25 grade point average on all prior graduate work.
4. Must supply 2 letters of recommendation one of which must be from an administrator familiar with applicant's character, scholarship, and potential for successful completion of the program.
5. Must provide proof of three years of teaching experience.

Maintenance Requirements

After completing 12 hours, the candidate must have and maintain a 3.25 on all Ed.S. Program work.

Graduation Requirements

The candidate must defend individualized research completed during the Ed.S. Program as an exit requirement of EDU 7500.

Transfer Credit

Transfer Credit of 6 semester hours taken since being awarded an advanced degree may be accepted upon recommendation by the candidate's advisor and approval of the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences. Transfer credit must be earned at the education specialist level, or above.

Program Requirements

EDU 7499 Intro to Ed Leadership in the ED Specialist Program Credits (1 sem. hr.)

EDU 6520 Basics of Effective Leadership Credits (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6521 Organizational School and Community Effectiveness Credits (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 7500 Culminating Research Experience in Educational Leadership (1 sem. hr.)

EDU 7527 Leadership Models and Applications 3 sem. hrs. (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 7530 Issues and Concepts of Personnel Management (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 7531 Leadership Dilemmas and Diversity (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 7540 Basics of School Finance and Fiscal Control of Schools Credits (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 7541 Legal Services and Special Services Laws Credits (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 7550 Central Office Structures, Roles and Responsibilities and Functions of the Superintendency (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 7561 Data-Driven Decision-Making (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 75251 Practicum in Personnel Management (1 sem. hr.)

EDU 75254 Practicum in Legal Structures and Special Service Laws (1 sem. hr.)

EDU 75255 Practicum in Central Office Responsibilities (1 sem. hr.)

EDU 75258 Practicum in Data-Driven Decisions (1 sem. hr.)

Total: 33 sem. hrs.

This degree program leads to the MDE endorsement in Administrator K-12 (486) for the candidate possessing a standard AA Mississippi Educator License. Upon completion of this degree program AND passing licensure assessment scores, the candidate must contact the licensure coordinator in the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership to begin the endorsement process.

Teacher Leadership, Ed.S. (33 sem. hrs.)

This program is not currently enrolling new students.

This Specialist Degree in Teacher Leadership is for current educators who have demonstrated leadership abilities in their schools by taking on (or desiring to take on) leadership roles including, but not limited to, being a lead teacher, department head or chair, grade level head or chair, committee chair, and professional learning community (PLC) leader, etc. Through this program, candidates learn research-based strategies and best practices for leading fellow educators in professional learning communities, on committees, in different departments or grade levels within the school environment. The Ed.S. Teacher Leadership program provides P-12 educators with a thorough background of current scientific research, pedagogy, and an understanding of national and state standards. The courses provide a strong focus on developing leadership skills and styles, fostering reflective and collaborative classroom and school environments, strengthening school and classroom decision-making skills related to being a teacher leader, and collecting, analyzing, and utilizing data for student success and school improvement.

ADMISSION, MAINTENANCE AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to the program

1. General requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. Requirements for admission to the Education Specialist Degree must be met.
3. Admission to the program is limited and is at the discretion of the Educational Leadership Screening and Selection Committee. Consult the Program Coordinator or the Chair of the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership for additional information concerning the selection process and specific program requirements.

Graduates of the Ed.S. in Teacher Leadership must complete all licensure requirements required by the MS Department of Education (MDE), MS College, pertinent accrediting and licensing agencies, before they can be considered for a *Class AAA* license (Specialist's level) and the EDS Degree. MDE only licenses MS teachers/leaders. Out of state candidates must contact their respective school districts and state licensing agencies regarding licensure requirements in their state.

Candidates must:

1. possess a Master's level teaching license. The Master's degree and 5-yr license must be in an area of professional education. A photocopy of the valid, permanent teaching license is required
2. meet all general requirements for admission to graduate programs at Mississippi Christian University; No GRE required
4. have a 3.25 GPA on all prior graduate work and overall positive (meeting the standards) dispositional evaluations

5. submit a School District Verification form validating a minimum of 3 years teaching experience
6. supply three letters of recommendation. Two must be from school administrators familiar with the applicant's character, scholarship and potential for successful completion of the program.
7. have a minimum of three years of teaching experience on the permanent license
8. send all official transcripts from previously attended colleges or universities to the MC Graduate & Professional Studies Office; No degree requirement may be waived without the approval of the Dean
10. must maintain a 3.25 GPA in the program until completion
11. must complete a capstone project during the last course in the program. A Progress Grade is earned if successful progress is made. A final grade will be issued upon completion of all requirements.
12. complete 150 hours of practical field experience; all the program requirements must be completed and approved before graduation

Program Requirements

Thirty-three total hours (33) are required. Three hours out of the 33 hours represent an elective course that is used for fulfilling individual needs, interests, and degree obligations in the areas of gifted, special services, dyslexia therapy or STEM education. These courses are primarily offered in the online format. This program requires the successful completion of the Capstone for Teacher Leadership.

EDU 7700 – Intro to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership – 0 credit hours Credit/No Credit

EDU 6404– Differentiation Strategies for Online Instruction – 3 credit hours

EDU 7527 – Leadership Models and Applications – 3 credit hours

EDU 7560 – Advanced Curriculum and Development – 3 credit hours

EDU 7751 – Teacher Content and Pedagogy Support – 3 credit hours

EDU 7752– Reflective and Collaborative Leadership Practices – 3 credit hours

EDU 7753– Leadership Practices to Support Diverse Learners – 3 credit hours

EDU 7501 – Advanced Educational Research Applications – 3 credit hours

EDU 6554 – Tests and Measurement – 3 credit hours

EDU 6405 – Leadership Practices to Support Online Instruction – 3 credit hours

EDU 7755– Capstone for Teacher Leadership – 3 credit hours

Elective – 3 credit hours (Must be approved by Advisor) Possible choices: EDU 6548, EDU 6549, EDU 6560, or EDU 6561

*EDU7700 - Introduction to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership, EDU 7501 - Advanced Educational Research Applications, and EDU 7755- Capstone for Teacher Leadership are hybrid courses with in-person meetings scheduled at specific times during the term. (Ex: courses will meet in person at the beginning, middle, and end of the term.)

**Field Experience requirements will be discussed during EDU 7700 Introduction to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership and submitted during EDU 7755 Capstone for Teacher Leadership.

Master of Education (M.Ed.) Degrees

The Master of Education degree is offered in the following areas:

- 1) Art Education,
- 2) Biological Sciences,
- 3) Business Education,
- 4) Computer Science,
- 5) Curriculum and Instruction,
- 6) Dyslexia Therapy,
- 7) Educational Leadership (licensure track),
- 8) Educational Leadership: Independent Schools Administration (non-licensure track),
- 9) Elementary Education,
- 10) Mathematics
- 11) Social Studies
- 12) Special Education
- 13) Teaching Arts (K-6, 7-12, K-12).

Admission Requirements

All applicants for M.Ed. programs at Mississippi Christian University must meet graduate admission requirements through the online application process. The Department of Teacher Education and Leadership has established the following policies for admission to programs leading to the Master of Education degree. Note: Some programs have additional admission requirements, so please review the specific program listing for any additional requirements.

The program applicant must hold a Class A standard, educator license issued by a state department of education, OR must have completed a teacher education preparation program accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) with passing Praxis II scores as required by MDE for the specific licensure areas, for all M.Ed. programs except: 1) Dyslexia Therapy, 2) Educational Leadership: Independent Schools Administration (non-licensure), 3) School Counseling, and 4) Teaching Arts (K-6, 7-12, and K-12).

Art, M.Ed. (30 sem. hrs.) Available in Traditional and Low-Residency Formats

The Department of Art and School of Education and Human Sciences cooperatively offer course work leading to a Master of Education in Art. See School of Education and Human Sciences section of this catalog for program details.

Application for Full Admission

In addition to the M.Ed. requirements, the applicant, the applicant must comply with the following and have approval for admission from an appointed graduate art faculty review committee. Also, The Department of Art and School of Education and Human Sciences cooperatively offer course work leading to a Master of Education in Art.

The admission requirements below will be reviewed by an appointed Department of Art Graduate Admissions Review Committee and the Art Education Coordinator.

- a. Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in art (or 45 semester hours of art) and shall have had six semester hours of art history, and hold or qualify to hold a standard educator license in the State of Mississippi to be considered for admission.
- b. Provide a portfolio of artwork that reflects proficiency and preparation for graduate study in studio art. It should include painting, drawing, and any other media. The portfolio must consist of 15-20 images. The PDF portfolio may be sent by email to art@mc.edu. The portfolio will be reviewed by an appointed graduate committee and an admission decision will be made.
- c. Applicants must provide a current resume or vita.
- d. Submit a written statement of purpose setting forth a personal philosophy and professional objectives.
- e. Complete an interview with the Art Education Coordinator.
- f. Students must maintain a 3.00 grade average.
- g. A low-residency option is available which allows M.Ed. candidates to take the Art Education and Education courses online and the studio art courses on campus during the summers. This allows teachers to continue working while they complete a master's degree in Art Education.

Program Requirements

1. SIX SEMESTER HOURS OF GRADUATE CREDIT IN PROFESSIONAL ART EDUCATION CORE COURSES:

- ART 6207 Curriculum Development in Studio Art 3 sem. hrs.
- ART 6507 Research Topics in Art History: Artists 3 sem. hrs. **OR**
- ART 6508 Research Topics in Art History: Periods or Styles 3 sem. hrs.

2. NINE SEMESTER HOURS OF ELECTIVE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES SELECTED FROM THE FOLLOWING:

- EDU 6425 Advanced Child Development 3 sem. hrs.
- EDU 6506 Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers 3 sem. hrs.
- EDU 6522 Current Methodology in Elementary Education 3 sem. hrs.
- EDU 6523 Current Methodology in Secondary Education 3 sem. hrs.
- EDU 6542 Technology in Education 3 sem. hrs.
- EDU 6554 Tests and Measurement 3 sem. hrs.
- EDU 7601 Comparative Philosophies of Education 3 sem. hrs.
- PSY 6515 Lifespan Development 3 sem. hrs.
- COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling) 3 sem. hrs.

3. FIFTEEN SEMESTER HOURS OF STUDIO ART

Selected in consultation with the Art Education advisor.

4. IN THEIR LAST SEMESTER OF ENROLLMENT:

Candidates for the M.Ed.- Art must satisfactorily complete comprehensive exams at the end of their program of study. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Biological Science, M.Ed.

It is expected that a student entering this program will have a minimum of 18 hours of approved undergraduate biological science.

Program Requirements

1. Twelve hours of graduate credit in professional education core courses. EDU 6504 - Research — Methods and Procedures and EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development are required as part of the 12 hours. See *School of Education and Human Sciences* section in this catalog for electives.
2. Eighteen hours of graduate work in biological science. Students who wish to complete the M.Ed. Biological Science degree may not count more than six hours of independent studies and research courses toward the degree. Biochemistry may count for biological science credit. Students may not use the following courses to complete the M.Ed. Biology degree: BIO 5403 Vertebrate Histology, BIO 5404 Pharmacology I, BIO 5405 Pharmacology II, BIO 5410 Human Gross Anatomy, BIO 5436 Pulmonary and Renal Physiology, BIO 5437 Neuromuscular and Cardiovascular Physiology, BIO 5438 Gastrointestinal and Endocrine Physiology, and BIO 5425 Human Neuroanatomy
3. Candidates for the M.Ed. in Biology must successfully complete BIO 6430 - Graduate Seminar.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 30 or up to a maximum of 45 semester hours of graduate work.

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Business Education, M.Ed.

Must have adequate preparation in undergraduate credit from one or more of the following areas: Business Administration, Business Technology and Accounting.

Program Requirements

Required Education Core Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

- EDU 5428 - Methods and Materials in Teaching Business **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6504 - Research — Methods and Procedures **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Elective Core Courses in Education (3 sem. hrs.)

choose one

- EDU 6425 - Advanced Child Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6506 - Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6522 - Current Methodology in Elementary Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6523 - Current Methodology in Secondary Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6542 - Technology in Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6554 - Tests and Measurement **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 7601 - Comparative Philosophies of Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- PSY 6515 - Lifespan Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 6503 - Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling) **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Business Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

A maximum of 12 semester hours of graduate work in Business Administration.

Elective Courses (6 sem. hrs)

The program should be planned with the graduate advisor to be sure all prerequisites have been met.

Comprehensive Exams

In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the M.Ed. in Business Education must take comprehensive examinations based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements. If applicable, the oral exam will also include a defense of the thesis. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the oral examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Computer Science, M.Ed.

The student entering this program must have 12 hours of undergraduate courses in computer science, including CSC 216, and CSC 314.

Program Requirements

Required Core Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6504 Research Methods and Procedures
EDU 6535 Curriculum Development
Core Electives (6 sem hrs)

Required Computer Science Courses (18 sem. hrs.)

Computer Science courses to be chosen in consultation with advisor.

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Curriculum and Instruction (C&I), M.Ed. (30 sem. hrs.)

The purpose of the M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction is to provide educators with the skills and knowledge to improve their teaching effectiveness and enhance student achievement. This is a practitioner-focused Master's degree in curriculum and instruction for current educators who want to make a difference with effective instructional practices and curriculum development strategies. Through this program candidates learn research-based strategies and best practices for developing effective instructional programs and managing safe, supportive learning environments.

The M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction program provides educators with a thorough background of current scientific research and pedagogy. Throughout the program candidates will learn how to apply evidence-based instruction, assessments, national and state standards, and comprehensive accountability measures to help transform classrooms. This program is offered in a fully, online format.

Maintenance and Graduation Requirements

1. Must maintain a 3.0 quality point average.
2. In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction degree must take a comprehensive examination based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements if their overall grade point average on graduate work is below 3.75. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term. Candidates with a grade point average on graduate work equal to, or greater than, 3.75 will be exempt from the examination process.

Program Requirements

Required Core Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

- EDU 6504 - Research — Methods and Procedures **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
 - EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
 - EDU 6522 - Current Methodology in Elementary Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- OR**
- EDU 6523 - Current Methodology in Secondary Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Required Content Courses (21 sem. hrs.)

- EDU 6503 - Teaching Elementary and Junior High Mathematics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6525 - Studies in the Teaching of Elementary School Language Arts **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6526 - Instructional Dimension of Leadership **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6533 - Information Management Dimension of Leadership **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6540 – STEM: Project-Based Science Curriculum **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6542 - Technology in Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6554 - Tests and Measurement **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Total: 30 semester hours

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Dyslexia Therapy, M.Ed. (30 sem. hrs.)

The Mississippi Christian University Dyslexia Therapist Training Program is a research-based program to train therapists to work with students who have dyslexia and related disorders. The core of the training evolved from Orton-Gillingham, a scientific, universally successful, specific teaching approach that combines all three learning modalities--auditory, visual, and kinesthetic.

Admission Requirements

General requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met in addition to a standard A educator license issued by a state department of education or evidence of experience in teaching or working with children or adolescents.

Program Requirements

Required Courses (24 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6571 Introduction to Dyslexia Therapy and Multisensory Teaching Credits: 3 sem hrs.

EDU 6572 Dyslexia Therapy-Theory and Practice Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6573 Dyslexia Therapy-Planning and Applications Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6574 Dyslexia Therapy-Assessment and Evaluation Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

Internship Courses (Total of 820 clinical hours + 60 hours of classroom supervision).

EDU 6575 Dyslexia Therapy-Internship I Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6576 Dyslexia Therapy-Internship II Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6577 Dyslexia Therapy-Internship III Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6578 Dyslexia Therapy-Internship IV Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

Electives (6 sem. hrs.)

Requires six hours of graduate level elective coursework in the areas of reading, special education, or gifted education. A suggested (but not required elective) is EDU 6565 Dyslexia Assessment Questions concerning appropriate elective coursework should be directed to Dr. Emily Mulhollen, Dyslexia Program Coordinator, School of Education and Human Sciences

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

This degree program leads to the MDE endorsement in Dyslexia Therapy (203) for the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License. Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate must contact the licensure coordinator in the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership to begin the endorsement process.

Educational Leadership for Independent Schools, M.Ed.

The educational leadership master's program non-licensure track in independent school administration is designed for students who are seeking training and preparation for administrative roles in independent schools. This program is for those who desire to be a leader in educational settings, establishing schools, extending their studies in education, and/ or working in independent school settings. This program is not designed to provide requirements for educator or administrative licensure through the Mississippi Department of Education.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Submit a letter of intent or purpose stating why you are seeking this degree and how you intend to use it.
2. Submit a resume of education and work history.
3. Have a method for obtaining a background check (needed for field studies in schools).

Program Requirements

EDU 6516 Principles of Educational Leadership 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6518 Personal/Interpersonal and Diversity/Social-Emotional Learning Dimensions of Leadership 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6543 Technology and Curriculum Development 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6544 Organizational Finance 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6546 Practicum in Independent School Administration, Leadership, and Research I 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6547 Practicum in Independent School Administration, Leadership, and Research II 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6552 Seminar in School Relationships 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6557 History of Independent Schools 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6580 School Law and Governance 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6581 Tests, Measurements, and Mastery 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6582 Special Topics in Independent School Administration 3 sem. hrs.

TOTAL: 33 SEM. HRS.

Educational Leadership, M.Ed. Licensure Track (36 sem. hrs.)

The educational leadership master's degree program is designed to prepare candidates to become school and district leaders by engaging in modules of educational leadership combined with clinical experiences. The modules center on six dimensions of leadership and are integrated with practicum hours completed in varied educational settings that focus on excellence in teaching, learning, and four essential categories of leadership responsibility. This degree program is offered in a fully, online format.

Program Admission

1. Provide documentation of 3 full years of teaching experience.
2. Submit verification of 3 years of teaching experience

Program Requirements

EDU 6517 Introduction to Administrative Preparation 1 sem. hr.

EDU 6518 Personal/Interpersonal and Diversity/Social-Emotional Learning Dimensions of Leadership 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 65261 Instructional and Literacy Dimensions of Leadership I 5 sem. hrs.

EDU 65262 Instructional and Literacy Dimensions of Leadership II 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6527 Organizational Dimension of Educational Leadership 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6532 Resource Dimension of Leadership 5 sem. hrs.

EDU 6533 Information Management Dimension of Leadership 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6534 Political Dimension of Leadership 4 sem. hrs.

EDU 65361 Focused Practicum I 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 65362 Focused Practicum II 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6553 School and Special Services Law 3 sem hrs

Practicum Requirements

The Program requirements before graduation include the successful completion of all course work, along with 300 hours of field and focused practicum experience to include: 1) 100 focused Practicum hours completed during EDU 65361 & EDU 65362; 2) 100 field practicum hours completed throughout the program in conjunction with EDU 6517 including a primary and secondary field placement; and 3) 100 field practicum hours completed at the culmination of the program to include Capstone Part I (40 hours), Capstone Part II, (40 hours), and Capstone Part III--Reflective Culminating Project (20 hours).

Total: 36 sem. hrs.

Licensure Assessment

Beginning in September 1, 2026, graduates of the M.Ed. in Educational Leadership must pass the Praxis 5412: Educational Leadership: Administration and Supervision assessment before obtaining a Class AA license in Administration. Out of state candidates must contact their respective school district and state licensing agency regarding licensure requirements in their state.

This degree program leads to the MDE endorsement in Administrator K-12 (486) for the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License. Upon completion of this degree program AND passing licensure assessment scores, the candidate must contact the licensure coordinator in the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership to begin the endorsement process.

Elementary Education, M.Ed. (30 sem. hrs.)

In addition to the M.Ed. admission requirements, candidates must hold an undergraduate degree and/or standard educator license in elementary education to be eligible for this degree

program. This degree program is available in a fully, online format.

Program Requirements

Core Courses (9 sem. hrs. required)

- EDU 6504 - Research — Methods and Procedures **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6522 - Current Methodology in Elementary Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Advanced Content Methods/Materials (15 sem. hrs. required)

- EDU 6503 - Teaching Elementary and Junior High Mathematics **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6524 - Teaching Skills of Reading and Comprehension **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6525 - Studies in the Teaching of Elementary School Language Arts **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6528 - Social Studies Education in the Elementary School **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- EDU 6540 – STEM: Project-Based Science Curriculum **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Elementary Electives (6 sem. hrs.)

Electives chosen in consultation with the elementary education program coordinator graduate advisor.

Comprehensive Exams

In their last semester of enrollment, candidates for the M.Ed. in Elementary Education degree must take comprehensive examination based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements if their overall grade point average on graduate work is below 3.75. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term. Candidates with a grade point average on graduate work equal to, or greater than, 3.75 will be exempt from the examination process.

Total: 30 sem. hrs.

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Mathematics, M.Ed.

Applicants must have a minimum of a Mississippi Christian University undergraduate minor in Mathematics (or equivalent). This program is available in both traditional and online formats.

Program Requirements

Required Core Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6504 Research Methods and Procedures
EDU 6535 Curriculum Development
Core Electives (6 sem hrs)

Graduate Mathematics Courses (18 sem. hrs.)

MAT 6999 Comprehensive Exam

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

Social Studies, M.Ed.

The Department of History and the School of Education and Human Sciences offer course work leading to a Master of Education in Social Studies.

M.Ed. in Social Studies Education

Applicants must have a minimum of nine semester hours in history or political science at the undergraduate level. Any deficiency must be completed prior to admission to candidacy for a degree.

Program Requirements

1. Twelve (12) semester hours of graduate credit hours in Professional Education Core Courses. Students must take EDU 6504 and EDU 6535.
2. Nine (9) semester graduate credit hours in History or Political Science. Students can then choose an additional nine (9) elective graduate credit hours in either History or Political Science. Students must take PLS 5410 (class is cross listed with HIS 5410).
3. In final semester of enrollment, candidates for the M.ED. in Social Studies Education must take written comprehensive examinations based upon course work used to satisfy degree requirements. However, mastery of course content through maintaining a 3.25 GPA can exempt students from written comprehensive exams. If judged unsatisfactory, all or part of the written examination may be retaken once in the following semester or summer term.
4. In final semester of enrollment, candidates for the M.Ed. in Social Studies Education must complete a portfolio project consisting of several items determined by the M.Ed. program director. However, the portfolio must contain a comprehensive Unit Lesson Plan displaying content gleaned from graduate study in History or Political Science courses and teaching methods and/or pedagogical principles gleaned from graduate study in Education courses. A passing grade on this project, as deemed passable by a committee including Program Coordinator, one (1) Education Professor and one (1) History or Political Science Professor will be necessary for graduation.

Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License is eligible to apply for the AA license with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)

Special Education (SPED), M.Ed. (30 sem. hrs.)

The purpose of the M.Ed. in Special Education program is to provide the quality training needed to meet the needs of the special education students in our schools with highly qualified Special Education teachers. The program is offered for those candidates that already have an undergraduate Education degree. Students would profit from the intense training of a Master's program in Special Education which would offer enhanced effectiveness in the present-day Special Education classroom.

ADMISSION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Must have an undergraduate degree and/or standard educator license in Elementary, Secondary or K-12 Education.
2. Must maintain a 3.0 quality point average.

Program Requirements

REQUIRED CORE COURSES (6 semester hours)

EDU 6504 Research — Methods and Procedures (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6535 Curriculum Development (3 sem. hrs.)

REQUIRED CONTENT COURSES (24 semester hours)

EDU 5413 Current Educational/Psychological Testing Procedures (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 5445 Characteristics of Students with Mild/Moderate Learning Problems (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 5455 Individualized Programming for Students with Mild/Moderate Learning Problems I (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 5456 Individualized Programming for Students with Mild/Moderate Learning Problems II (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 5457 Teaching Students with Moderate Learning Problems (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 5459 Organizational Procedures for Special Education (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6488 Advanced Diagnosing and Assessing Reading Difficulties in Children (3 sem. hrs.)

PSY 5435 Psychology of Exceptional Children (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination 0 sem. hrs.

Total: 30 semester hours

This degree program leads to the MDE endorsement in Mild/Moderate Disability K-12 (221) for the candidate possessing a standard A Mississippi Educator License. Upon completion of this degree program, the candidate must contact the licensure coordinator in the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership to begin the endorsement process.

Teaching Arts Secondary (7-12), M.Ed.

This program has been designed to enable candidates to seek Mississippi Alternate Route licensure to teach Secondary 7-12 (Biology, Business, Chemistry, Economics, English, Home Economics, Mathematics, Physics, Social Studies, or Speech Communications concentrations).

Admission, Maintenance, and Graduation Requirements

- For admission, candidates must have the following:
 - A bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning
 - Twenty-one (21) ACT (or SAT Equivalent or achieve a qualifying passing score on the Praxis I Core Academic Skills for Educators examination -OR- verification of 3.0 overall GPA on a baccalaureate transcript or on the last 60 hours of course credit
 - Praxis Subject Assessment (specialty area test)
- Candidates seeking admission to the M.Ed. in Teaching Arts Secondary (7-12) must have an undergraduate degree with at least eighteen (18) hours in the specialty area
- Must maintain a 3.0 quality point average
- In addition to required coursework, candidates must take a comprehensive examination in their final semester of enrollment if their graduate GPA is below 3.75. If the exam is judged unsatisfactory, candidates may retake all or part of it in the following semester or summer term.
- Upon completion of the Master of Education in Teaching Arts Secondary (7-12), candidates may apply for a Mississippi AA Educator License.

Program Requirements

Pre-Teaching Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6506 – Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6554 – Tests and Measurement (3 sem. hrs.)

PSY 5435 – Psychology of Exceptional Children (3 sem. hrs.)

Following the successful completion of the required pre-teaching courses (PSY 5435, EDU 6506, and EDU 6554), candidates may apply for a Special Class A Mississippi Educator License (3-year non-renewable) with the Mississippi Department of Education. This special license permits candidates to teach in a Mississippi public school in their area of initial licensure.

Internship Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6537 – Dimensions of Learning I (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6538 – Dimensions of Learning II (3 sem. hrs.)

Students must be admitted into the program; complete EDU 6506, EDU 6554, and PSY 5435; and provide a copy of a valid teaching contract with a Mississippi public school prior to enrollment in either EDU 6537 or EDU 6538. Students may not complete EDU 6537 or EDU 6538 while teaching under an emergency, or interim, license. In addition, students must be contracted to teach in their initially licensed subject area.

After completing the pre-teaching courses, internship requirements, and additional coursework (PSY 5435, EDU 6506, EDU 6554, EDU 6537, and EDU 6538), candidates may apply for a Mississippi A Educator License (5-year renewable).

Education Core Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6504 – Research – Methods and Procedures (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6540 – STEM: Project-Based Science Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

Specialized Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6523 – Current Methodology in Secondary Education (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6439 – Advanced Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6535 – Curriculum Development (3 sem. hrs.)

TOTAL: 30 semester hours

Teaching Arts Secondary (K-12), M.Ed.

This program enables candidates to seek Mississippi Alternate Route Licensure to teach grades K-12 (Art, French, Health, Library Media, Music, Physical Education, or Spanish).

Admission, Maintenance, and Graduation Requirements

- For admission, candidates must have the following:
 - A bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning.
 - Twenty-one (21) ACT (or SAT equivalent or achieve a qualifying passing score on the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators examination -OR- verification of 3.0 overall GPA on a baccalaureate transcript -OR- the last 60 hours of course credit
 - Praxis Subject Assessment (Specialty Area Test)

- Candidates seeking admission to the M.Ed. in Teaching Arts Secondary (K-12) must have an undergraduate degree with at least eighteen (18) hours in the specialty area.
- Must maintain a 3.0 quality point average.
- In addition to required coursework, candidates must take a comprehensive examination in their final semester of enrollment if their graduate GPA is below 3.75. If the exam is judged unsatisfactory, candidates may retake all or part of it in the following semester or summer term.
- Upon completion of the Master of Education in Teaching Arts K-12 degree, candidates may apply for the Mississippi AA Educator License.

Program Requirements

Pre-teaching Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6506 – Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers (3 sem. hrs.)
 EDU 6554 – Tests and Measurement (3 sem. Hrs.)
 PSY 5435 Psychology of Exceptional Children (3 sem. hrs.)

Following the successful completion of the required pre-teaching courses (PSY 5435, EDU 6506, and EDU 6554), candidates may apply for a Special Class Mississippi A Educator License (3-year non-renewable) with the Mississippi Department of Education. This special license permits candidates to teach in a Mississippi public school in their area of initial licensure.

Internship Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6537 – Dimensions of Learning I (3 sem. hrs.)
 EDU 6538 – Dimensions of Learning II (3 sem. hrs.)

Students must be admitted into the program; complete EDU 6506, EDU 6554, and PSY 5435; and provide a copy of a valid teaching contract with a Mississippi public school prior to enrollment in either EDU 6537 or EDU 6538. Students may not complete EDU 6537 or EDU 6538 while teaching under an emergency, or interim, license. In addition, students must be contracted to teach in their initially licensed subject area.

After completing the pre-teaching courses, internship requirements, and additional coursework (PSY 5435, EDU 6506, EDU 6554, EDU 6537, and EDU 6538), candidates may apply for a Mississippi A Educator License (5-year renewable).

Education Core Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6504- Research – Methods and Procedures (3 sem. hrs.)
 EDU 6540 – STEM: Project-Based Science Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

Specialized Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6523 - Current Methodology in Secondary Education (3 sem. hrs.)
 EDU 6439 – Advanced Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development (3 sem. hrs.).

TOTAL: 30 semester hours

Teaching Arts Elementary (K-6), M.Ed.

This program enables candidates to seek Mississippi Alternate Route Licensure to teach grades K-6 through two Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) approved pathways: 1) the Conventional and 2) the MTR (Mississippi Teacher Residency). However, pathways differ in admissions criteria, clinical experience structure, and completion requirements. Applicants must meet all Mississippi College graduate admissions requirements in addition to the pathway-specific requirements outlined below.

1) Mississippi Department of Education (Conventional) Pathway

Admission, Maintenance, and Graduation Requirements

- For admission, candidates must have the following:
 - A bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning.
 - Twenty-one (21) ACT (Or SAT equivalent or achieve a qualifying passing score on the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators examination -OR- verification of 3.0 overall GPA on a baccalaureate transcript -OR- the last 60 hours of course credit
 - A passing score on the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment
 - A passing score on the Foundations of Reading examination
- In addition to required coursework, candidates must take a comprehensive examination in their final semester of enrollment if their graduate GPA is below 3.75. If the exam is judged unsatisfactory, candidates may retake all or part of it in the following semester or summer term.
- Upon completion of the Master of Education in Teaching Arts K-6 degree, candidates may apply for the Mississippi AA Educator License with the K-6 endorsement.

Program Requirements

Pre-teaching Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6506 – Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6554 – Tests and Measurement (3 sem. Hrs.)

PSY 5435 – Psychology of Exceptional Children (3 sem. hrs.)

Following the successful completion of PSY 5435, EDU 6506, and EDU 6554, candidates may apply for a Special Class Mississippi A Educator License. This three-year non-renewable license permits candidates to teach grades 4–6 in a Mississippi public school while completing

the remaining degree requirements.

Internship Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6537 – Dimensions of Learning I (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6538 – Dimensions of Learning II (3 sem. hrs.)

Students must be admitted into the program; complete EDU 6506, EDU 6554, and PSY 5435; and provide a copy of a valid teaching contract with a Mississippi public school prior to enrollment in either EDU 6537 or EDU 6538. Students may not complete EDU 6537 or EDU 6538 while teaching under an emergency, or interim, license. In addition, students must be contracted to teach in their initially licensed subject area.

After completing the pre-teaching courses, internship requirements, and additional coursework (PSY 5435, EDU 6506, EDU 6554, EDU 6537, and EDU 6538), candidates may apply for a Mississippi A Educator License (5-year renewable).

Education Core Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6504 – Research – Methods and Procedures (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6540 – STEM: Project-Based Science Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6439 – Advanced Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

Specialized Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6467 – Advanced Early Literacy I (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6468 – Advanced Early Literacy II (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6488 – Advanced Diagnosing and Assessing Reading Difficulties in Children (3 sem. hrs.)

TOTAL: 33 semester hours

2) Mississippi Department of Education MTR (Mississippi Teacher Residency) Pathway

Admission, Maintenance, and Graduation Requirements

- For admission, candidates must have the following:
 - A bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning.
 - Twenty-one (21) ACT (Or SAT equivalent or achieve a qualifying passing score on the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators examination -OR- verification of 3.0 overall GPA on a baccalaureate transcript -OR- the last 60 hours of course credit
- Upon completion of the Master of Education in Teaching Arts K-6 degree and the residency year, earning a passing score on the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment

and a passing score on the Foundations of Reading examination (or an MDE-approved alternative), candidates may apply for the Mississippi AA Educator License.

- In addition to required coursework, candidates must take a comprehensive examination in their final semester of enrollment if their graduate GPA is below 3.75. If the exam is judged unsatisfactory, candidates may retake all or part of it in the following semester or summer term.

Program Requirements

Pre-teaching Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6506 – Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6554 – Tests and Measurement (3 sem. Hrs.)

PSY 5435 – Psychology of Exceptional Children (3 sem. hrs.)

Following the successful completion of PSY 5435, EDU 6506, and EDU 6554, candidates may apply for a Special Class Mississippi A Educator License. This three-year non-renewable license permits candidates to teach grades K–6 in a Mississippi public school while completing the remaining degree requirements.

Internship Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6537 – Dimensions of Learning I (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6538 – Dimensions of Learning II (3 sem. hrs.)

Students must be admitted into the program; complete EDU 6506, EDU 6554, and PSY 5435; and provide a copy of a valid teaching contract with a Mississippi public school prior to enrollment in either EDU 6537 or EDU 6538. Students may not complete EDU 6537 or EDU 6538 while teaching under an emergency, or interim, license. In addition, students must be contracted to teach in their initially licensed subject area.

After completing the pre-teaching courses, internship requirements, and additional coursework (PSY 5435, EDU 6506, EDU 6554, EDU 6537, and EDU 6538), candidates may apply for a Mississippi A Educator License (5-year renewable).

Education Core Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6504 – Research-Methods and Procedures (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6540 – STEM: Project-Based Science Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6439 – Advanced Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum (3 sem. hrs.)

Specialized Courses (9 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6467 – Advanced Early Literacy I (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6468 – Advanced Early Literacy II (3 sem. hrs.)

EDU 6488 – Advanced Diagnosing and Assessing Reading Difficulties in Children (3 sem. hrs.)

TOTAL: 33 semester hours

Graduate Certificate

Educational Leadership-Leadership Institute Certificate (21 sem. hrs.)

The 21-hour Leadership Institute certificate program is designed for graduate students who are seeking training and preparation for administrative roles in independent schools. This program is not designed to provide requirements for educator or administrative licensure through the Mississippi Department of Education. Students must successfully complete the 21 hours of coursework listed below:

REQUIRED COURSES

EDU 6516 Principles of Educational Leadership 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6543 Technology and Curriculum Development 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6544 Organizational Finance 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6546 Practicum in Independent School Administration, Leadership, and Research I 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6547 Practicum in Independent School Administration, Leadership, and Research II 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6580 School Law and Governance 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6582 Special Topics in Independent School Administration 3 sem. hrs.

Total: 21 SEM. HRS.

Gifted Education, Certificate (12 sem hrs) Available in Online Format

Admission, Maintenance and Graduation Requirements

To be eligible for admission a candidate must submit:

1. All official transcripts from previous collegiate work and any transferable credit.
2. Standard educator license issued by a state department of education or licensing agency
3. Must meet all general requirements for graduate admission at Mississippi Christian University.
4. Must have a 3.25 grade point average on all prior graduate work.

Students who have a bachelor's degree in the field of Education and who wish to know more about gifted education may pursue a Certificate in Gifted Education. This Certificate is a formal certificate indicating the completion of a gifted education curriculum. The coursework included

in the certificate program provides a background for careers in education and can lead to a K-12 gifted endorsement through the MDE for those with a current, standard MS teaching license. Candidates interested in additional endorsement in Gifted Education added to the Mississippi Educator license, should contact the Licensure Coordinator in the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership upon completion of the program.

The certificate is comprised of the following prescribed 12 hours:

EDU 6548 Psychology and Education of the Gifted 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6549 Materials and Methods for Teaching the Gifted 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6560 Curriculum and Program Development in Gifted Education 3 sem. hrs.

EDU 6561 Critical Issues in Gifted Education 3 sem. hrs.

***Media Arts Certificate* (21 sem. hrs.)**

The new National Arts Standards (2014) and the new Mississippi Arts Standards (2017) include dance, music, theatre, visual arts, and media arts. Media arts is a newly recognized art form and K-12 schools are interested in offering media arts courses. The certificate will allow current educators to be eligible for a MS K-12 Media Arts Endorsement through the MDE and which would include 21 hours from the following courses:

ART 205 Introduction to Graphic Software 3 sem. hrs.

ART 209 Digital Animation 3 sem. hrs.

ART 215 Graphic Design I 3 sem. hrs.

ART 317 Digital Illustration 3 sem. hrs.

ART 414 Web Design 1 3 sem. hrs.

ART 481 Digital Photography 1 3 sem. hrs.

JOU 101 Journalism Laboratory 1 3 sem. hrs.

JOU 333 Introduction to Journalism 3 sem. hrs.

JOU 334 Multimedia Journalism 3 sem. hrs.

Upon completion of the program if a candidate is interested in obtaining an endorsement in Media Arts to a Mississippi Educator license, the candidate must contact the Licensure Coordinator in the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership. If the candidate does not possess a standard Mississippi Educator license, then the candidate would only be eligible to receive the Media Arts Certificate from Mississippi Christian University.

Admission to the program and other details:

- Students admitted into this certificate program must have completed an undergraduate degree and hold a current teaching license.
- Those admitted can return to MC, take any seven courses (21 hours) from the list of ART, COM, and JOU courses and be eligible for a K-12 Media Arts endorsement.
- Courses will be taught by Art, Communication, Journalism.
- Students will be advised by the Art dept (Dr Busbea), and recommended for licensing by Teacher Ed.

School of Education and Human Sciences Course Descriptions

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all 3-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week. (See semester of term schedule for laboratory fees.)

Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit.

EDU 5413 - Current Educational/Psychological Testing Procedures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to prepare candidates to apply current educational and psychological assessment practices in the field of Special Education. Emphasis is placed on ethical, professional, and data-driven assessment practices used to improve outcomes for individuals with disabilities across academic, behavioral, cognitive, adaptive, and social-emotional domains..

EDU 5414 - Current Education and Psychological Testing Procedures II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course introduces the student to the administration of current tests used in the IDEA and Section 504 processes. The student will also be introduced to the administration of current tests used in preschool assessments. The student will become familiar with the factors to be considered when conducting assessment, as well as the factors to be considered when determining educational disabilities.

EDU 5415 - Learning and Behavioral Interventions in the School Setting

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course offers students opportunity to develop an understanding of the principles of applied behavioral analysis and the skills to design, implement and evaluate behavior plans for students with various behavioral challenges. Skills as both direct interventionist and consultant will be developed.

EDU 5427 - Health Education Workshop

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An intensive study of the major problems and possible solutions in the area of health education.

EDU 5428 - Methods and Materials in Teaching Business

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Objectives, materials and special methods of teaching business subjects.

EDU 5445 - Characteristics of Students with Mild/Moderate Learning Problems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the cognitive and psycho-social needs of students who are mildly disabled (learning disabled) or moderately disabled (intellectually disabled) on the pre-school, elementary and secondary levels.

EDU 5455 - Individualized Programming for Students With Mild/Moderate Learning Problems I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the strategies and materials used in planning and implementing individualized programs for elementary mildly/moderately disabled students.

EDU 5456 - Individualized Programming for Students With Mild/Moderate Learning Problems II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the strategies and materials used in planning and implementing individualized programs for secondary mildly/moderately disabled students.

EDU 5457 - Teaching Students with Moderate Learning Problems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will address the characteristics and methods of teaching students, kindergarten through secondary school, who have been diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum, with severe communication problems, as intellectually disabled, or having mild behavioral problems, and/or other pervasive developmental disabilities.

EDU 5459 - Organizational Procedures for Special Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of organizational procedures for special education as required by the Mississippi State Department of Education.

EDU 6400 - Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Students enrolled in the M.Ed. in Online Instruction (K-12) program ONLY will take this course during the first term of enrollment in the program as a co-requisite with other courses in the program or as a pre-requisite to other courses in the program. This course is designed to provide an overview of the Masters of Education in Online Instruction (K-12) program. Specific information included will focus on program requirements, program reference materials, an introduction to CANVAS, a survey of technology access and experiences, and national technology standards for K-12 teachers and students.

EDU 6401 - Foundations of Online Instruction: Theory and Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): For students enrolled in the M.Ed. in Online Instruction (K-12) program ONLY, either successful completion of EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a pre-requisite, or currently enrolled in EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a co-requisite.

This course will provide participants with an overview and framework for merging educational concepts with online instruction by focusing on educational learning theories and research, online instructional models, national and state standards, and current best practices for teaching and learning. This course further explores current and evolving technology as a vehicle to enhance student engagement and learning.

EDU 6402 - Development and Assessment for Online Instruction

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): For students enrolled in the M.Ed. in Online Instruction (K-12) program ONLY, either successful completion of EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a pre-requisite, or currently enrolled in EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a co-requisite.

This course focuses on the application of current research-based strategies for development of effective online instruction by preparing participants to establish online learning environments, develop learning goals and outcomes for online content studies, plan effective online instructional delivery, and assess student achievement in the online setting. This course further incorporates national technology standards as they relate to effective online instruction.

EDU 6403 - Management and Resources for Online Instruction

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): For students enrolled in the M.Ed. in Online Instruction (K-12) program ONLY, either successful completion of EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a pre-requisite, or currently enrolled in EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a co-requisite.

This course is designed to prepare participants for management of online instruction within a Learning Management System (LMS) including the management of instructional tasks, student engagement, and student behavior. This course will also include managing online instruction through the use of different instructional delivery methods and utilizing various web-based resources and applications to enhance online teaching and learning.

EDU 6404 - Differentiation Strategies for Online Instruction

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): For students enrolled in the M.Ed. in Online Instruction (K-12) program ONLY, either successful completion of EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a pre-requisite, or currently enrolled in EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a co-requisite.

This course will prepare participants to design and implement equitable learning opportunities to meet the needs of all, diverse K-12 students through differentiation of online instruction. This course will primarily focus on online, differentiation strategies addressing the needs of diverse students related to varying levels of technology skills, academic ability levels, personal characteristics, behavior, social and emotional traits, and cultural and/or language needs.

EDU 6405 - Leadership Practices to Support Online Instruction

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* For students enrolled in the M.Ed. in Online Instruction (K-12) program ONLY, either successful completion of EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a pre-requisite, or currently enrolled in EDU 6400-Orientation to M.Ed. in Online Instruction as a co-requisite.

This course is designed to equip participants with the necessary leadership tools to administer and support online instructional programs at the school or district level. Participants will apply current leadership models, evaluate research on educational technology, and incorporate best practices in online instruction to assess, design, implement, support, and refine effective, online instructional programs.

EDU 6411 - Children's Literature/Reading

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to help future teachers know the importance of books and reading in the life of the young child and to develop a knowledge and appreciation of the wide variety and scope of recreational and informational materials available for elementary students.

EDU 6425 - Advanced Child Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*

A study of the development of the individual from birth through the preschool years with emphasis on personality development theories and current research.

EDU 6438 - Teaching Reading in Content Areas

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The place of reading in the curriculum; aims and objectives of reading; teaching, organization, materials and methods of middle and high school reading; planning of lessons; and other topics of interest to the prospective secondary teacher.

EDU 6439 - Advanced Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Advanced Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite Graduate standing. This course involves the integration of speaking, listening, and critical thinking with reading and writing across the curriculum. Effective literacy is intrinsically purposeful, flexible and dynamic and continues to develop throughout an individual's lifetime. This course involves a study of the principles, methods, and materials needed for teaching written and oral forms of communication in elementary schools across various content areas.

EDU 6453 - Seminar in Child Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Instructor's consent.*

This course is designed to assist in service and prospective pre-school and elementary teachers. Current academic information of curriculum and management skills in working with

pre-school children is emphasized.

Offered only in the summer.

EDU 6465 - Organization and Administration of the Preschool

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): PSY 305, EDU 320.*

This course is designed to assist current and prospective preschool teachers and directors in the organization and administration of facilities, personnel, developmental materials and equipment, budgeting and licensing procedures. Special emphasis is given to the child's environment and working with parents.

EDU 6466 - Practicum in the Preschool

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): PSY 305, EDU 320 and instructor's consent.*

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to work with individuals concerned with child-care who play a significant role in providing young children with quality care. Students are given an opportunity to work with professionals in designing and implementing State standards of child care, as well as being informed of possible grants, etc., available in this area.

EDU 6467 Advanced Early Literature I

Credits 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite Graduate standing.*

This course is designed as a study of concepts, materials, and teaching strategies for oral language development and systematic early reading and writing instruction specific to concepts about print, phonemic awareness, and phonics. This course will also allow students to study the basic principles and theories of reading instruction at the elementary level. Students will learn about current research findings in reading curricula.

EDU 6468 Advanced Early Literature II

Credits 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite Graduate standing.*

This course focuses on studies of current trends and practices in ELA and classroom relevant theory and research in its design to teach concepts, materials, and teaching strategies for oral language development and early systematic reading and writing instruction with an in-depth look at word study, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and writing. Students will explore materials and techniques for teaching developmental skills and abilities in ELA at the elementary level. Emphases will also be placed on diagnosis, prescription, and recent research findings in the area of reading methodology.

EDU 6488 – Advanced Diagnosing and Assessing Reading Difficulties in Children

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the symptoms and causes of reading disabilities. Analysis and diagnosis of reading ability, including the use of standardized tests, informal measures, portfolios, surveys, inventories, observation and individual or group tests will be utilized.

Communicating results and reporting practices will be explored, along with remediation or corrective techniques, special teaching materials, machines and visual or other physical aids for reading improvement. The case study approach utilizing (IEP) individual educational prescriptions will be used by students to develop reading instruction to meet individual needs based upon diagnostic findings.

EDU 6489 - Middle Grades Literacy Skills

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 309 and EDU 334 or Graduate standing.*

This course is specifically designed for prospective reading teachers of both elementary and secondary schools. Primarily a survey course is designed to help classroom teachers in all grades and subjects develop the means to conduct a wide variety of reading procedures within the context of their day-to-day teaching. The course focuses on the knowledge and insight necessary to interpret the student's reading behavior and implement correct instructional procedures when necessary.

EDU 6503 - Teaching Elementary and Junior High Mathematics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An examination of the content of elementary and junior high mathematics courses. Special emphasis given to methods of teaching the content as well as enrichment materials.

EDU 6504 - Research — Methods and Procedures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A survey of the basic research methodologies in the social and behavioral sciences with emphasis on critical reading of published research. Students conduct a meta-analysis of research literature or develop a research proposal.

[Crosslisted as: HSA 6504 and ORL 6504]

EDU 6505 – Leadership for Literacy and Engaged Learning

Credits, 3 sem hrs Engaged Learning will provide an emphasis on creating learning opportunities that address the brain's need for meaning, patterns, and connections. This course will also encourage students to become literacy leaders in schools or other educational organizations. Insight will be provided as to state laws concerning literacy and assessment as well as strategies that can be used to help students improve their reading skills. Additional content will be covered as to how to support intervention for students who struggle with reading and writing. While addressing appropriate levels of learning, age appropriate teaching strategies, and the science of learning, teachers will focus on creating a classroom climate conducive to learning for all students. Research in cognition, learning, and teaching will form the foundation for the course.

EDU 6506 - Classroom Management for Elementary and Secondary Teachers

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Principles of accountability, practical classroom management plans, and systematic methods of improving discipline, improving student achievement, and classroom law are studied.

EDU 6510 - Teaching Students with Learning Problems in Regular Education (Elementary)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the current trends in providing appropriate educational services to children having mild and moderate learning difficulties with an emphasis on early diagnosis and intervention.

EDU 6512 - Teaching Students with Learning Problems in Regular Education (Middle, Junior and High School)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the current trends in educational provisions for secondary students and adults with mild and moderate learning problems including curricular adaptation and transitional services.

EDU 6515 - Comparative Education Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* EDU 6504 Research — Methods and Procedures
This course provides an opportunity to examine key aspects of schooling in different countries. The course will include an examination of methods used to perform comparisons and the conceptual contributions that comparative research offers.

EDU 6516 - Principles of Educational Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course surveys basic issues in leadership, organization, and governance of schools. Students will explore leadership theories and models of leadership, as well as how leaders conceptualize school organization. The course emphasizes effective leadership in professional environments, systems thinking, and organizational change.

EDU 6517 - Introduction to Administrative Preparation

Credits, 1 sem. hr. The course is designed to explain the requirements of the Mississippi Christian University Masters of Education in Educational Leadership Program. and to establish the foundations for the program. EDU 6517 is the initial course in the program and, is required course for the M.Ed. in Educational Leadership. The course provides a description of the (1) program content and standards, Professional Standards for Educational Leadership (PSEL), (2) course structure and sequence, (3) program requirements, and (4) guidance for the field experience portfolio. An emphasis is placed on explaining how the current educational leadership standards are part of each course and requirement.

A minimum of 100 Field Practicum Hours will be completed within the EDU 6517: Introduction to Administrator Preparation Course with a second mentor placement at a separate and different

school setting than the other 220 Field Practicum Hours. Includes a Culminating Capstones Parts I, II, and III.

Candidates will receive a Progress grade in EDU 6517, until all M.Ed. in Educational Leadership Program requirements are met.

EDU 6518 - Personal/Interpersonal and Diversity/Social-Emotional Learning Dimensions of Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This dimension investigates the significance of the interpersonal connections in schools. The critical value of human relationships and the satisfaction of personal and professional goals are emphasized. Skill/performance development in the areas of time management, personal/professional development and written/oral/non-verbal expression will also be an integral part of the course. The contextual domain will be incorporated in the course by the investigation of philosophical and cultural values and how these integrate with personal development and interpersonal sensitivity. Priority is given to the establishment of skills that promote the success of every student by collaborating with faculty and community members, as well as developing an understanding the use of diverse cultural and social resources in the school community and building positive relationships with families and community partners.

Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Establishing a Positive School Culture.

EDU 6519 - Teaching and Learning

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of current research and theory of effective teaching as they relate to curriculum, instruction, and special programs in elementary, middle, and high school with an emphasis on instructional leadership. This study will include the investigation of interpersonal skills and how these integrate with personal development.

EDU 6520 - Basics of Effective Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the knowledge, skills, and values that are necessary to identify organizational constructs, to develop with others a vision and purpose for the organization, and to exercise leadership processes to achieve the common goals for the organization.

[Crosslisted as: ORL 6520.]

EDU 6521 - Organizational School and Community Effectiveness

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the elements and concepts of administering fiscal, physical, and human resources within an organization with an emphasis on the importance of effective communication with the various cultures in the community to build school structures.

EDU 6522 - Current Methodology in Elementary Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will emphasize current research and theory as they relate to methodology used in elementary schools. Particular emphasis will be placed on advances in technology which are applicable to improve elementary instruction. Students are given opportunities to demonstrate effective use of current methodology.

EDU 6523 - Current Methodology in Secondary Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will emphasize current research and theory as they relate to methodology which is particularly relevant to secondary instruction. Particular emphasis will be placed on advances in technology which are applicable to improve secondary instruction. Students will be given opportunities to demonstrate effective use of current materials and methodology.

EDU 6524 - Teaching Skills of Reading and Comprehension

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Lectures, discussions and review of the literature as to organization, approaches, diagnosis and remediation for teaching skills of reading and comprehension for present day schools.

EDU 6525 - Studies in the Teaching of Elementary School Language Arts

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course focuses on studies of current trends in practices and curricula and classroom-relevant theory and research in the teaching of elementary school language arts. In addition, opportunities will be provided for teachers to develop their own competencies in the practical aspects of teaching the language arts.

EDU 6526 - Instructional Dimension of Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This dimension is designed to emphasize current research and theory as they relate to curriculum, instruction, assessment and special programs in elementary, middle and high school. Particular emphasis will be placed on the administrator's role as an "Instructional Leader." Law-related issues that impact teaching and learning will also be explored. Students will participate in experiences that relate to course content through the Applied Dimension in a variety of school settings.

EDU 6527 - Organizational Dimension of Educational Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This dimension focuses on the knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary to identify organizational contexts, develop with others a vision and purpose for the organization, and exercise leadership processes to achieve common goals for the organization. Candidates engage in a study of transformational leadership, the purpose of which is to create within the organization the internal capacity to achieve significant improvement. Candidates will engage in skills to promote the success of every student by ensuring effective management of

the school organization; monitoring and evaluating school management and operational systems; developing and promoting a comprehensive plan for providing a safe and secure school environment; and develop policies, procedures, and schedules that maximize teacher instructional time and student learning.

Note: Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours completed within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Establishing a Positive School Culture.

EDU 6528 - Social Studies Education in the Elementary School

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. In this course special consideration is given to contributions of research in social studies for elementary school pupils; the place of social studies in the elementary school program; materials of instruction; adaptation of methods to specific school conditions; and reports of important committees.

EDU 6530 - Curriculum Studies in Science

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The purpose of this course is to present various science curricula studies that have influenced modern science curriculum and instruction in grades K-8. Recently developed curriculum frameworks (i.e. national standards) will serve as a backdrop for learning about historical and future trends influencing elementary and middle school science teaching. National research-based curriculum projects will be used to highlight instructional themes and theories. Assessment and evaluation practices will be examined in light of how these inform and improve classroom practices. The role of the teacher as an agent of change will be considered as an important issue of systemic reform in science education.

EDU 6531 - STEM: Project-Based Physics

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Admitted to Graduate Program

The purpose of this course is to present various *project-based physics projects* appropriate for students in grades K-12. These projects support the STEM initiative proposed by the U. S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation. On August 9, 2007, the President signed into law H. R. 2272, "the America Competes Act" or "America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Activities." Recently developed curriculum frameworks (i.e. national standards in engineering, technology, science, and mathematics) will serve as a backdrop for learning about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in K-12 schools. STEM concepts will be used in this course to highlight *physics project-based* learning. Authentic assessment and evaluation practices will be used in the design, construction, test phase, and completes product of each project selected or assigned. The role of the teacher as a change agent will be considered as an important issue of systemic reform in STEM. The teacher will then become a "guide-on-the-side" rather than being a "sage-on-the-stage" in their own classrooms.

EDU 6532 - Resource Dimension of Leadership

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. This dimension introduces students to the elements and concepts of administering fiscal, physical and human resources, as well as providing opportunities to apply them in a practical way. The course is designed to provide those who aspire to be educational leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to best manage resources of a school in ways that contribute to instructional effectiveness and efficiency and comply with all local, state and federal mandates and state and regional accreditation standards. Candidates will develop an understanding of how to use human, fiscal, and technological resources to efficiently manage school operations and analyze a school's budget and financial status while managing school resources to maximize teaching and learning. Candidates will also learn to use technology as a tool for managing school operational systems.

Note: Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours completed within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Managing Resources.

EDU 6533 - Information Management Dimension of Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This dimension is designed to assist students interested in educational leadership to develop knowledge and skills in structured planning that includes data analysis, statistical presentation, interpretation information processing and databased decision making.

Note: Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours completed within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Managing Resources.

EDU 6534 - Political Dimension of Leadership

Credits, 4 sem. hrs. This course examines the leader's role in responding to and influencing the political, social, economic, legal, and/or cultural context at the micro and macro levels of education to advocate and promote student success and well-being. Problem-based and application learning activities are integral aspects of the curriculum.

Note: Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours completed within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Implementing Local/State/Federal Policies.

EDU 6535 - Curriculum Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course provides students with an opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills that are essential to planning, developing, revising and implementing curriculum content and learning strategies. Emphasis is on components of the instructional management plan: goals, objectives, methodology, use of appropriate resources/materials and evaluation.

EDU 6536 - Focused Internship

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. (150 clock hours) This dimension is the culmination of the student's training and requires him/her to synthesize knowledge and skills in the workplace. Interns will engage in a minimum of 300 clock hours on-site in a variety of meaningful and relevant capstone workplace experiences in diverse settings both at elementary and secondary schools,

as well as some outside the educational arena. The primary purpose of the focused internship is to expand the knowledge, dispositions, and skills necessary to become an effective and efficient educational leader. In addition to the workplace tasks, interns will return to the university monthly during the semester to meet with other members of the cohort group and the university supervisor to participate in reflective seminars to share ideas and reflect on their on-site experiences. Interns will also have opportunities to broaden their horizons through professional development activities during this dimension.

EDU 6537 - Dimensions of Learning I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6506 and EDU 6554; internet access.*

A one semester internship which introduces the practice of teaching from social and cultural perspectives. Emphasis is on understanding the linkage between theory and practice. The course is field based and introduces the student to the concepts, contexts and practices of teaching. The intern teacher will maintain a regular reflective dialogue with the university mentor, principal and colleagues about his/her experiences in the classroom. Much of the course is conducted online.

EDU 6538 - Dimensions of Learning II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6537, EDU 6506 and EDU 6554; internet access.*

This one semester internship is an extension of EDU 6537 - Dimensions of Learning I.

EDU 6540 – STEM: Project-Based Science Curriculum

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will present various science projects appropriate for grades 3-8 classrooms. These projects will support the STEM initiative proposed by the National Science Foundation. The curriculum will serve as a backdrop for learning about Science, technology, Engineering, and Mathematics in upper elementary and middle school science.

EDU 6541 - STEM: Project-Based Chemistry

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Admitted to Graduate Program

The purpose of this course is to present various *project-based chemistry projects* appropriate for students in grades K-12. These projects support the STEM initiative proposed by the U. S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation. On August 9, 2007, the President signed into law H. R. 2272, "the America Competes Act" or "America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Activities." Recently developed curriculum frameworks (i.e. national standards in engineering, technology, science, and mathematics) will serve as a backdrop for learning about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in K-12 schools. STEM concepts will be used in this course to highlight *chemistry project-based* learning. Authentic assessment and evaluation practices will be used in the design, construction, test phase, and completes product of each project selected or assigned. The role of the teacher as a change agent will be considered as an important issue of systemic reform in STEM. The teacher will then become a

"guide-on-the-side" rather than being a "sage-on-the-stage" in their own classrooms.

EDU 6542 - Technology in Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An introduction to the preparation, selection, application, evaluation and integration of media and technology in instructional settings, including audiovisual and microcomputer applications. Laboratory practice includes the production of projected, non-projected and computer-based instructional materials. A project will be designed for the student's classroom which incorporates elements of the state technology plan. Computer literacy is required in order to achieve success in this class.

EDU 6543 - Technology and Curriculum Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course will focus on curriculum, instruction, and assessment in the Independent school setting. Students will consider the philosophical, historical, and psychological foundations for lower and upper school curriculum, explore instructional strategies and the importance of subject mastery. Additionally, students will examine technology as part of the intellectual landscape and how it is changing distinct disciplines. The design and use of new technologies make possible new approaches to learning, new contexts for learning, new tools to support learning, and new understandings of the dynamics of the learning process itself. Students will explore technology-related strategies that align instructional technology to standards-based instruction, teach problem solving and higher-order thinking skills, promote cooperative learning, and use reflective teaching and inductive approaches to increase student achievement.

EDU 6544 - Organizational Finance

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course explores basic functions in financial and human resource management and provides experiences to help students better understand tasks typically performed by school leaders. Students will examine legalities, ethics, and politics of resource procurement and allocation. Additionally, students will examine the critical functions of leadership and organizational management, complex decision making responsibilities of school executives, and constructive relationships between schools and communities. The course provides practical and academic emphasis on leadership skill development and dispositions.

This course will be required course for students seeking the degree in Independent School Administration. Independent school administrators must have an in-depth knowledge and the necessary management skills in relation to a school's financial budget and programs to be an informed and successful leader. This course will provide foundational financial management and accountability practices along with operational skills necessary to develop a sound financial program while fulfilling the school's state mission.

EDU 6545 - STEM: Project-Based Environmental Science

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Admitted to Graduate Program

The purpose of this course is to present various *project-based environmental science projects* appropriate for students in grades K-12. These projects support the STEM initiative proposed by the U. S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation. On August 9, 2007, the President signed into law H. R. 2272, "the America Competes Act" or "America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Activities." Recently developed curriculum frameworks (i.e. national standards in engineering, technology, science, and mathematics) will serve as a backdrop for learning about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in K-12 schools. STEM concepts will be used in this course to highlight *environmental science project-based* learning. Authentic assessment and evaluation practices will be used in the design, construction, test phase, and completes product of each project selected or assigned. The role of the teacher as a change agent will be considered as an important issue of systemic reform in STEM. The teacher will then become a "guide-on-the-side" rather than being a "sage-on-the-stage" in their own classrooms.

EDU 6546 - Practicum in Independent School Administration, Leadership, and Research I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The internship course provides hands-on study of selected school administrative topics in non-public/private education. Experienced MAIS administrators will serve as advisors and facilitate the program course and cover specific topics that are operationally relevant to non-public/private administrators. Topics include, but are not limited to, curriculum design, legal issues, school finance, maintenance, school start-up, board/headmaster relations, supervision of teachers, guidance, safety issues, discipline, parent relations, and technology.

EDU 6547 - Practicum in Independent School Administration, Leadership, and Research II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Part II of the internship course continues to provide hands-on study of selected school administrative topics in non-public/private education. Experienced MAIS administrators will serve as advisors and facilitate the program course and cover specific topics that are operationally relevant to non-public/private administrators. Topics include, but are not limited to, curriculum design, legal issues, school finance, maintenance, school start-up, board/headmaster relations, supervision of teachers, guidance, safety issues, discipline, parent relations, and technology.

EDU 6548 - Psychology and Education of the Gifted

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual characteristics of the gifted; methods of diagnosis and organization.

EDU 6549 - Materials and Methods for Teaching the Gifted

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite or Corequisite: EDU 6548.*
A study of materials and methods most useful in teaching the gifted student.

EDU 6550 - STEM: Project-Based Mathematics

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Admitted to Graduate Program

The purpose of this course is to present various *project-based mathematics projects* appropriate for students in grades K-12. These projects support the STEM initiative proposed by the U. S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation. On August 9, 2007, the President signed into law H. R. 2272, "the America Competes Act" or "America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Activities." Recently developed curriculum frameworks (i.e. national standards in engineering, technology, science, and mathematics) will serve as a backdrop for learning about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in K-12 schools. STEM concepts will be used in this course to highlight *mathematics project-based* learning. Authentic assessment and evaluation practices will be used in the design, construction, test phase, and completes product of each project selected or assigned. The role of the teacher as a change agent will be considered as an important issue of systemic reform in STEM. The teacher will then become a "guide-on-the-side" rather than being a "sage-on-the-stage" in their own classrooms.

EDU 6552 - Seminar in School Relationships

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Seminar in School Relations: Students learn to facilitate positive working relationships with the board of trustees and to build effective partnerships between the board and the school's faculty and staff. Course topics include setting, communicating, and evaluating progress toward annual goals; evaluating the head of school; evaluating board performance and contributions of individual board members strategic planning with faculty, staff, and board members; establishing structures for boards to accomplish their work; reporting effectively to boards on important issues and concerns; developing trustees as effective school advocates; and managing crises. Students gain an understanding of the pressures exerted from multiple constituencies and find ways to base decisions on what is good for students, what is good for the institution, and what is consistent with their own values.

Students explore the importance of public relations, marketing principles, and fund raising to independent school success. Topics include maintaining positive community relations; managing admission policies and procedures; operating public relations and publicity functions; coordinating relations with other independent schools; facilitating relations with educational, governmental, and social service agencies; and fund-raising strategies. Students analyze and critique various strategies through case studies and discussion.

EDU 6553 – School and Special Services Law

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing.

A study of the interrelationships among federal, judicial, state, and local governing structures that affect the decision and judgment parameters of operating a school district and the impact of emerging legal issues on future educational policies. The law and its effect on exceptional, special education, will be investigated through the lenses of the MS Code of Ethics and incorporated into real-world experiences.

Note: Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours completed within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Implementing Local/State/Federal Policies

EDU 6554 - Tests and Measurement

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Deals with the use and construction of teacher-made tests and measuring devices. Includes some exposure to standardized tests and the statistical analysis of test results.

EDU 6555 - STEM: Project-Based Engineering/Design

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Admitted to Graduate Program

The purpose of this course is to present various *project-based engineering/design projects* appropriate for students in grades K-12. These projects support the STEM initiative proposed by the U. S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation. On August 9, 2007, the President signed into law H. R. 2272, "the America Competes Act" or "America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Activities." Recently developed curriculum frameworks (i.e. national standards in engineering, technology, science, and mathematics) will serve as a backdrop for learning about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in K-12 schools. STEM concepts will be used in this course to highlight *engineering/design project-based* learning. Authentic assessment and evaluation practices will be used in the design, construction, test phase, and completes product of each project selected or assigned. The role of the teacher as a change agent will be considered as an important issue of systemic reform in STEM. The teacher will then become a "guide-on-the-side" rather than being a "sage-on-the-stage" in their own classrooms.

EDU 6556 - History of Education in the United States

Credits, 3 sem hours A chronological approach to study of the history of education in the United States (1607 to present). There is a focus on the educational ideas and practices that continue to provide the foundations for our educational system. These educational ideas and practices are reexamined in their historical social settings.

EDU 6557 - History of Independent Schools

Credits, 3 sem hrs. This course will focus on the unique history and quality of independent schools from the beginning in 1968 to present day. Students will examine "independence" and why it is essential in the educational process. Additionally, students will explore the concept of Independent schools as 'public institutions", being supported voluntarily by families who use their services and by people who value their mission, their product, and their place in the community.

EDU 6560 - Curriculum and Program Development in Gifted Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): EDU 6548 and EDU 6549.

This course enables the educator of the gifted to design and implement a responsive environment and appropriate curriculum for gifted learners. The student is provided with skills necessary to align the gifted curriculum with the school district's instructional management plan.

EDU 6561 - Critical Issues in Gifted Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite or Corequisite: EDU 6560.

This course provides the educator of the gifted with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully assist the gifted students to develop their social and emotional abilities. A balance between emotional intelligence and cognitive intelligence is sought in establishing the gifted classroom.

EDU 6562 - Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods

Credits, 3 sem hrs A course designed to introduce student researchers to the methods and procedures for conducting qualitative methods projects including the application of qualitative data collection and analysis procedures in educational research.

EDU 6563 - Thesis I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Approval of prospectus and satisfactory progress as determined by the advisor.

(Eligible for grade of PR only until EDU 6564 is completed; the permanent grade for EDU 6563 and EDU 6564 will be assigned when the thesis is approved.)

EDU 6564 - Thesis II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Completion of thesis and oral defense as determined by thesis committee.

(Eligible for temporary grade of PR only until thesis is completed; a permanent grade will be assigned when the thesis is completed.) Binding Fee.

EDU 6565 - Dyslexia Assessment

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing

The course in dyslexia assessment will take the graduate student from the understanding of state/federal law and the need to assess to a working demonstration of the assessment process. The course includes an introduction to the importance of appropriate evaluation involving the family, teachers, and other professional staff. Course participants will survey assessment tools, evaluation reports, intervention plans, appropriate accommodations, parent conference techniques, professional collaboration with school systems, possible co-existing complications, and finally re-evaluation and transition plans.

EDU 6571 - Introduction to Dyslexia Therapy and Multisensory Teaching

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Teacher Licensure or verified experience with K-12 children.*

This course is the introduction of theory, instructional practices, language development processes, program structure, curriculum, and terminology associated with dyslexia and multisensory teaching.

EDU 6572 - Dyslexia Therapy-Theory and Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Teacher Licensure or verified experience with K-12 children.*

This course includes the theory and practices associated with Dyslexia Therapy. Included are specific practices, language development processes, program structure, and potential curriculums of the Dyslexia Therapy Program.

EDU 6573 - Dyslexia Therapy-Planning and Applications

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6571 and EDU 6572.*

This course will include lesson planning for the individual dyslexic client; applications for reading, writing, math, and study skills; specific professional terminology; and coding and terminology; and activities and steps in structured procedures.

EDU 6574 - Dyslexia Therapy-Assessment and Evaluation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6573.*

This course includes the interpretation of tests results and the knowledge of assessment practices associated with dyslexia.

EDU 6575 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6571 - Introduction to Dyslexia Therapy and Multisensory Teaching and EDU 6572 - Dyslexia Therapy-Theory and Practice.*

A 205 clock-hour supervised internship in Dyslexia Therapy is accompanied by fifteen clock-hours of classroom supervision.

EDU 6576 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6575 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship I.*

A 205 clock-hour supervised internship in Dyslexia Therapy is accompanied by fifteen clock-hours of classroom supervision.

EDU 6577 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6575 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship I and EDU 6576 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship II.*

A 205 clock-hour supervised internship in Dyslexia Therapy is accompanied by fifteen clock-

hours of classroom supervision.

EDU 6578 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship IV

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): EDU 6575 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship I and EDU 6576 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship II, and EDU 6577 - Dyslexia Therapy-Internship III.* A 205 clock-hour supervised internship in Dyslexia Therapy is accompanied by fifteen clock-hours of classroom supervision.

EDU 6580 - School Law and Governance

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course explores legal, ethical, and political issues relating to PreK-12 independent schools and the legal responsibilities and powers of state and local governing bodies and individuals that arise in elementary and secondary schools. Topics include confidentiality, testing, liability for student injury, due process, search and seizure, staff appraisal, employment discrimination, control over the curriculum, the expression of controversial views, and the schools' authority to make rules governing student and teacher conduct. Contracts, dismissals, and liability of personnel are also explored. Emphasis is given to federal and state statutes and case law affecting due process, liability, equal protection, and the rights of teachers and students in order to better understand the risks in education management and possible strategies to reduce those risks. The course also explores the particular issues of independent school governance; topics included are school board organization, member selection, member roles and responsibilities, governing by-laws, and policy making.

EDU 6581 - Tests, Measurements, and Mastery

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Course topics include reliability theory, test and evaluation development, validation and assessment. The student will develop the ability to use theory, concepts, and practices to think critically and act intelligently when applying the theory, concepts and practices of learning measurement. The student will evaluate the construction and use of teacher-made tests, and will survey standardized tests, test interpretation, and basic statistical procedures.

EDU 6582 - Special Topics in Independent School Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The course provides advanced study on selected topics or emerging issues in American non-public/private education. Experienced MAIS administrators and designated presenters will serve as mentors and will cover topics that are relevant to non-public/private education. Topics include legal issues, school finance, MAIS functions and responsibilities, maintenance, school start-up, board/headmaster relations, supervision of teachers, guidance, safety issues, discipline, parent relations, and technology.

EDU 6583 - Practicum in Independent School Administration, Leadership, and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The focused internship course provides hands-on study of selected school administrative topics in non-public/private education. Experienced MAIS administrators will

serve as advisors and facilitate the program course and cover specific topics that are operationally relevant to non-public/private administrators. Topics include, but are not limited to, curriculum design, legal issues, school finance, maintenance, school start-up, board/headmaster relations, supervision of teachers, guidance, safety issues, discipline, parent relations, and technology.

EDU 6591 - Field Study

Credits, 1 sem. hr. (Specific FS: carries specific credit)

EDU 6592 - Field Study

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. (Specific FS: carries specific credit)

EDU 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. (Specific FS: carries specific credit)

EDU 6595 - Developmental Seminar/Workshop

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Have an undergraduate degree and be employed or seeking employment in an educational setting.*

The content of this course will vary from offering to offering. Specific content will be determined contingent upon the needs of the group involved in the developmental activity. May be repeated for a total of twelve (12) semester hours. A maximum of six (6) semester hours may be used in a degree program subject to the approval of the candidate's' advisor and the Dean of the School.

EDU 6999 - Graduate Comprehensive Examination

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Completion of course requirements for degree. Graduate comprehensive examination to be administered the last semester of graduate program. Successful completion leads to admission to degree candidacy.

EDU 7459 - Advanced Organizational Procedures for Special Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to enhance the in-service teachers skills in working with students with disabilities, specifically in successfully completing the Referral-To-Placement Process. Regulations from the Mississippi Department of Education, IDEA and school districts will be studied. Research and field experience components will be required.

EDU 7499 - Introduction to Education Leadership in the ED Specialist Program

Credits, 1 credit hr. Charged maintenance fee The introductory course will serve to orient candidates about graduate expectations, the Education Specialist Program guidelines, the

School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) review, elements of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics, the Mississippi Administrator Growth Rubric, Anthology submissions, practicum expectations and guidelines, the APA Publication Manual, 7th Edition, and the parameters and expectations of the research paper that will be submitted by the end of the program.

EDU 7500 - Culminating Research Experience in Educational Leadership

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

Culminating Research Experience in Educational Leadership is designed to provide practicing educators with a method for identifying, analyzing specific problems, and reporting on those research outcomes. A systematic approach to practical action research is utilized to assist teachers and administrators with solving problems. Action research consists of planned, continuous, and systematic analytical procedures for reflecting on professional practice. Stage one is completed in EDU 7499 (Introduction).

EDU 7502 - Seminar in Elementary Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Critical analysis of the most significant books and research studies in foundations, organizations, learning, instruction, curriculum, evaluation and specialty areas in elementary education. Students will explore and identify alternative solutions to contemporary issues through group interaction.

EDU 7503 - Instructional Design for the Elementary Classroom

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Theories of curriculum and curriculum construction are evaluated for their practical application to the modern school programs. An advanced study of curriculum planning, design, implementation, and evaluation of the elementary school curriculum.

EDU 7507 - Statistical Interpretation in Education and Psychology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This is a graduate level course for teachers interested in data-driven decision making. Basic descriptive statistics and inferential techniques will be discussed in relation to relevant research designs. The understanding of research materials will be emphasized through the use of examples of current educational research. Students are expected to master SPSS for Windows statistical package.

EDU 7525 - Educational Leadership Practicum

This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 7525PR51 - Practicum in Superintendent Functions

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 7527 - Leadership Models and Applications

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An in-depth study of modern participative leadership models and their applications for change in leadership roles and organizational climate as trends for future leadership effectiveness in educational organizations.

EDU 7530 - Issues and Concepts of Personnel Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An in-depth study of personnel management areas to include policies, organizational structures, recruitment, selection, compensation, development, evaluation, reward structures, and termination issues of an effective personnel organization.

EDU 7531 - Leadership Dilemmas and Diversity

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An exploration of current educational problems effecting the development of future educational policy formation and educational management decisions at the school and district levels.

EDU 7540 - Basics of School Finance and Fiscal Control of Schools

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An in-depth study of the historical significance of funding sources, distribution formulas, and accounting for expenditures to include application of sound principles of fiscal management at the school, district, and state levels.

EDU 7541 - Legal Structures and Special Services Laws

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the interrelationships among federal, judicial, state, and local governing structures that effect the decision and judgment parameters of operating a school district and the impact of emerging legal issues on future educational policies.

EDU 7545 - Statistical Methods and Testing

Credits, 3 sem hrs Statistics Methods will be investigated with a basic review of statistical measures, variable relations, inferences about variables, multiple comparisons of data, and trend analyses. Additionally, there will be a focus on case study analyses and synthesis activities for the further development of skills in statistical problem solving using SPSS (Statistical Software Package for the Social Sciences).

EDU 7550 - Central Office Structures, Roles and Responsibilities and Functions of the Superintendency

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An in-depth study of the roles, functions, and organizational structures of the school district central office staff and the leadership skills employed in implementing instructional programs, state and federal programs, and the operational programs of the school district.

EDU 7560 - Advanced Curriculum and Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to prepare reflective practitioners who demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions of curriculum development, refinement, evaluation, and their relationship to effective instruction. The overall goal is to help current and aspiring leaders to develop competencies in the areas of curriculum planning, scope, sequence, reform, and evaluation.

EDU 7561 - Data-Driven Decision-Making

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to prepare instructional leaders who demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions essential to effective professional practice in data-driven decision-making. The goal of the course is to develop competencies in the area of using a wide variety of data to make effective decisions at the building and district levels.

EDU 7570 - Technology Trends in Curriculum and Instruction

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to allow school leaders to develop the knowledge and skills needed in order to use technology effectively in the areas of curriculum development, instructional management, administrative tasks, and assessment.

EDU 7599 - Research Problem

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course will deal with the completion of the research project and final research report.

EDU 7601 - Comparative Philosophies of Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An overview of some major philosophies and how they impact on the educational system in the United States.

EDU 7606 - Advanced Statistics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing; PSY 6505 or comparable course.*

This is an advanced level course in statistics which emphasizes correlational techniques; linear and multiple correlational techniques; linear and multiple regression analyzes; complex analysis of variance to include repeated measures and analysis of covariance; multiple comparison procedures; nonparametric tests. Sample size and the relative power of alternative statistical procedures are explored. Students are expected to master SPSS Windows statistical package.

EDU 7631 - Middle School Science for Teachers

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide middle school teachers with needed in-depth content knowledge in the sciences and training in the use of research-based strategies.

EDU 7700 – Introduction to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership

Pre-requisite(s): Admission to the Ed.S. Teacher Leadership program

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide participants with information about the Ed.S. Teacher Leadership program including: program overview, general program information, program calendar, required courses, course descriptions, field experience, and program capstone.

EDU 7710 - Qualitative and Quantitative Research Designs in Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to assist students in developing the research framework and proposal for their dissertation research. Knowledge of content in this course should help school leaders at every level improve research practices. The course explores the meaning of sound research design and how design choices influence the validity/credibility of research findings and conclusions.

EDU 7751 – Teacher Content and Pedagogy Support

Pre-requisite(s): Students must have already completed or be currently enrolled in the Introduction to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership course.

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course prepares participants to become effective teacher leaders through the creation, performance, and analysis of needs assessments aimed at identifying teachers' content needs. It equips them with the skills to assess colleagues' content knowledge and design tailored professional development opportunities to strengthen this knowledge. The course emphasizes the interconnectedness of content knowledge, pedagogy, and assessment, and participants gain expertise in testing and assessment, with opportunities to apply their knowledge to address curriculum and instructional challenges. Ultimately, this course provides a comprehensive foundation for participants to lead and improve educational content and instruction effectively.

EDU 7752 – Reflective and Collaborative Leadership Practices

Pre-requisite(s): Students must have already completed or be currently enrolled in the Introduction to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership course.

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course focuses on the teacher leader's role in promoting a positive school culture that encourages collaboration, effective communication, and reflection. Participants will examine strategies for establishing and maintaining positive relationships among colleagues where constructive feedback is provided and reflection leads to professional

growth. This course will provide participants with knowledge of factors that affect education including trends, policies, and resources. Participants will apply strategies for developing professional learning communities that are focused on school improvement and reflective practices.

EDU 7753 – Leadership Practices to Support Online Instruction

Pre-requisite(s): Students must have already completed or be currently enrolled in the Introduction to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership course.

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to equip participants with the necessary leadership tools to administer and support online instructional programs at the school or district level. Participants will apply current leadership models, evaluate research on educational technology, and incorporate best practices in online instruction to assess, design, implement, support, and refine effective online instructional programs.

EDU 7755 – Capstone for Teacher Leadership

Pre-requisite(s): Students must have already completed or be currently enrolled in the Introduction to Ed.S. Teacher Leadership course.

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide a self-study for participants which involves working with a faculty advisor to complete a program capstone. The program capstone will be a portfolio containing program assessments and participant work including research projects, papers, reflections, field experience and other appropriate work formats. Participants will utilize case studies and real-world examples to analyze decision making processes of teacher leaders. Additionally, participants will research current aspects of teacher leadership and present findings.

EDU 8100 - Introduction to Education Doctorate in Education Leadership

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This course serves as an orientation to doctoral-level study in the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership program. Emphasis is placed on the role of the practitioner-scholar, expectations for doctoral coursework, applied research and the capstone project, scholarly writing, and progression through program milestones. Candidates will gain an understanding of how research is used to address real-world problems of practice in educational settings.

EDU 8200 - Applied Curriculum and Instructional Design

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This doctoral-level course integrates advanced curriculum development, instructional design, and research-based instructional supervision. Candidates will examine the relationship between curriculum theory, instructional leadership, supervision practices, and assessment systems that promote continuous school improvement. Emphasis is placed on effective leadership aligned to PSEL, NELP, and Mississippi's Professional Growth System.

EDU 8300 - Principles of Organizational Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This doctoral-level course examines foundational and emerging principles of organizational leadership with specific application to educational settings. Students will engage deeply with leadership theory, ethical decision-making, multicultural and diversity considerations, managerial responsibilities, and faith-informed frameworks that influence leadership practice in K-12 schools and other educational organizations.

EDU 8120 - Faith, Ethics, and Social Issues in Educational Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is intended to familiarize students with principles, practices, and trends in faith, ethics, and social issues related to educational leadership within a variety of organizational settings. The orientation of the course is toward enabling individuals to reflect on their personal religious faith, practice, and ethical frameworks from which decisions are influenced and to analyze and critique social issues in various contexts.

EDU 8125 - Multiculturalism and Diversity

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Multiculturalism and Diversity is a doctoral level course designed to increase the student's understanding of how individual and collective assumptions about diversity and multiculturalism shape educational policies, practices, and research in K-12 schools. The course provides an opportunity for school leaders at every level to develop and critically reflect on their theoretical understanding of school leadership in relation to issues of social justice.

EDU 8130 - Instructional Supervision

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Designed to help school leaders improve their supervision practices and promote student achievement. The course focuses on effective schools, productive teaching, theoretical constructs of supervision, and supervisory practices. Individual teacher and group professional growth strategy development and program implementation are emphasized.

EDU 8135 - Curriculum Planning and School Improvement

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course examines the relationship of the written, taught, and tested curriculum and identifies critical leadership decisions that can positively impact student achievement. The guiding theme of this course is creating and sustaining healthy, reflective and successful teaching and learning environments for all students and staff.

EDU 8880 – Dissertation

Prerequisite: Admission to the Doctor of Education Program in Educational Leadership

Credits, 1-12 sem. hrs. Students in the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program are required to complete 12 semester hours of dissertation course work prior to completing the Ed.D. degree.

During the first 3 semesters in the EDD Program, students should take one (1) hour of

dissertation each semester. This work will be done in a class seminar format. The remainder of the dissertation hours will be completed with guidance from the dissertation chair and committee, in order to complete all mandated transition points leading to graduation. Students must be enrolled for dissertation hours in EDU 8880 or Thesis Maintenance during the semester they expect to defend their dissertation. Students approved for Thesis Maintenance must have an approved proposal, passed comprehensive exams, and have completed 12 dissertation hours.

EDU 8881 – Applied Research I

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. This course provides doctoral candidates with structured, scaffolded guidance in developing Chapter 1 (Introduction) of an applied action research project. Designed for practitioners in educational leadership, the course walks students step-by-step through identifying a local problem of practice, situating that problem within a broader educational context, and constructing a coherent, scholarly foundation for action research. Emphasis is placed on clear academic writing, educating both educator and non-educator audiences, ethical practitioner inquiry, and adherence to APA 7th edition standards. By the end of the course, candidates will produce a polished, defensible Chapter 1 that establishes the need, purpose, and direction of their applied research study.

EDU 8882 – Applied Research II

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. Applied Research II is the second course in a four-course applied research sequence designed to guide doctoral candidates through the systematic development of an action research dissertation. This course provides structured step-by-step guidance for developing Chapter 2: Review of the Literature. Candidates will engage in comprehensive literature searches, critical analysis, synthesis of scholarly research, and professional academic writing aligned with doctoral standards.

Emphasis is placed on identifying current peer-reviewed research, organizing literature thematically or conceptually, articulating theoretical and conceptual frameworks, and establishing the scholarly foundation that supports the identified problem of practice. By the end of the course, candidates will produce a coherent, well-organized, and methodologically sound Chapter 2 that situates their study within the existing body of knowledge and justifies the need for the proposed research.

EDU 8883 – Applied Research III

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. Applied Research III is the third Applied Research III is the third course in the four-course applied research sequence designed to support doctoral candidates in the systematic development of an action research project. This course provides structured, step-by-step guidance for the development of Chapter 3: Research Methodology. Candidates focus on designing a coherent and defensible research methodology aligned with their identified problem of practice, purpose statement, and research questions developed in prior coursework. Emphasis is placed on action research design, participant selection, data collection instruments,

procedures, ethical considerations, and data analysis planning.

EDU 8884 – Applied Research IV

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. Applied Research IV is the culminating course in the four-course applied research sequence designed to support doctoral candidates in the completion of an applied dissertation or action research study. This course provides structured, systematic, and scaffolded guidance for the development of Chapter 4: Findings or Results. Candidates focus on organizing, analyzing, and presenting data in direct alignment with their approved research questions, research design, and conceptual framework. Emphasis is placed on ethical data reporting, clarity of presentation, appropriate use of tables and figures, and scholarly writing consistent with doctoral-level expectations. By the end of the course, candidates produce a complete, methodologically sound Chapter 4 suitable for committee chair review and subsequent progression toward final program completion.

EDU 65261 - Instructional and Literacy Dimensions of Leadership I

Credits, 5 sem. hrs. This course dimension is designed to emphasize current research and theory as it relates to curriculum, instruction, assessment and special programs in elementary, middle and high schools. Particular emphasis is placed on the administrator's role as an instructional leader. Law-related issues that impact teaching and learning are also explored. Students participate in experiences that relate to course content through the Applied Dimension in a variety of school settings. Expectations are for the student to develop knowledge and skills that would allow the education leader to promote the success of every student by building and sustaining a school culture and instructional program through collaboration and high expectations for students; creating and evaluating a comprehensive, rigorous curriculum and instructional program; developing and supervising instructional and leadership capacity of school staff; and utilizing appropriate technologies to support teaching and learning.

Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Providing Instructional Leadership.

EDU 65262 - Instructional and Literacy Dimensions of Leadership II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course dimension is designed to emphasize current research and theory as it relates to curriculum, instruction, assessment and special programs in elementary, middle and high schools. Particular emphasis is placed on the administrator's role as an instructional leader. Law-related issues that impact teaching and learning are also explored. Students participate in experiences that relate to course content through the Applied Dimension in a variety of school settings. Expectations are for the student to develop knowledge and skills that would allow the education leader to promote the success of every student by building and sustaining a school culture and instructional program through collaboration and high expectations for students; creating and evaluating a comprehensive, rigorous curriculum and instructional program; developing and supervising instructional and leadership capacity of school staff; and utilizing appropriate technologies to support teaching and learning.

Requires 15 Field Practicum Hours completed within the course in the category of leadership responsibility of Providing Instructional Leadership.

EDU 65361 - Focused Practicum I (EDU 65361: Focused Practicum I is a prerequisite for EDU 65362: Focused Practicum II)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This dimension is paramount in the candidate's training and requires him/her to synthesize knowledge and skills in the workplace. Interns will engage in a variety of meaningful and relevant capstone workplace experiences in school settings, as well as some outside the educational arena. The primary purpose of the focused internship is to expand the knowledge, dispositions, and skills necessary to become an effective and efficient educational leader. In addition to the workplace tasks, interns will return to the university on a regular basis during the semester to meet with other members of the cohort group and the university supervisor to participate in seminars. Interns will also have opportunities to broaden their horizons through professional development activities during this dimension. Candidates will engage in a variety of meaningful and relevant experiences within the school and district requiring them to synthesize and apply knowledge and skills of building-level leaders. The assigned projects are general and emphasize using an action research model for making school improvement plans.

Note: Requires 50 Focused Practicum Hours completed within the course.

EDU 65362 - Focused Practicum II (EDU 65361: Focused Practicum I is a prerequisite for EDU 65362: Focused Practicum II)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite: EDU 65361 Focused Practicum I

This dimension is the paramount in the candidate's training and requires him/her to synthesize knowledge and skills in the workplace. Interns will engage in a variety of meaningful and relevant capstone workplace experiences in school settings, as well as some outside the educational arena. The primary purpose of the focused internship is to expand the knowledge, dispositions, and skills necessary to become an effective and efficient educational leader. In addition to the workplace tasks, interns will return to the university on a regular basis during the semester to meet with other members of the cohort group and the university supervisor to participate in seminars. Interns will also have opportunities to broaden their horizons through professional development activities during this dimension. Candidates will engage in a variety of meaningful and relevant experiences within the school and district requiring them to synthesize and apply knowledge and skills of building-level leaders. The assigned projects are general and emphasize using an action research model for making school improvement plans.

Note: Requires 50 Focused Practicum Hours completed within the course.

EDU 75251 - Internship in Personnel Management

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the

required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 75254 - Internship in Legal Issues

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 75255 - Internship in Central Office Responsibilities

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 75256 - Roles and Functions of the Superintendency Internship

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 75257 - Internship in Advanced Curriculum

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 75258 - Internship in Data-Driven Decisions

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

EDU 75259 - Internship in Technology Trends

Credits, 1 sem. hr. This practicum course is designed to provide field-based experiences for Educational Specialist students. Specific field experiences will be assigned for each of the required courses in the Ed.S. program. Credit hours from 1-7 may be taken when appropriate field-based experiences are available. Eligible for PR grade until course work is completed.

Master of Science

Organizational Leadership, M.S. (30 sem. hrs)

This program is designed to develop qualified graduate students who have an interest in higher education administration and leadership. This interdisciplinary program will provide core higher education courses as well as utilize existing courses across several disciplines to prepare students to become higher education administrators. This program is offered in both the traditional and online formats. However, the face to face section is not currently accepting new students. Participating in specially designed higher education practicum experiences will give higher education graduate students an opportunity to observe and participate in administrative roles across the university. The following areas are available for practicum experiences: athletics, advancement, academic offices, bursar's office, residence life, student activities, student development [judicial], intramurals, enrollment services, career development, counseling and testing, religious programming, international programs, public safety, or other administrative offices.

Application and Admission Requirements

Application Deadline: Rolling academic calendar

1. Meet general requirements for admission to Graduate Programs of Mississippi Christian University.
2. Provide transcripts of all university work.
3. Hold Bachelor's degree in any field from a regionally accredited university or college

Maintenance and Graduation Requirements

1. Maintain good standing by earning 3.00 cumulative grade point average. Good standing is required before students can apply for graduation and participate in comprehensive exams.
2. Complete 30 hours of graduate course work as outlined in program requirements.
3. Complete 27 hours of coursework in selected concentration and three hours of graduate elective course work.
4. Complete three hours of 5000 or 6000 level Graduate Elective course work.
5. Successfully complete a Comprehensive Examination administered by the Department in the last semester of the program.

Course Requirements (30 Total Semester Hours)

Organizational Leadership Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

- ORL 6504 – Research-Methods and Procedures Credits, 3 sem. hrs.
- ORL 6520 – Basic Effective Leadership Credits, 3 sem. hrs.
- ORL 7530 – Issues and Concepts of Personnel Management in Higher Education Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

- *MGT 6570 – Leadership in a Global Environment Credits, 3 sem. hrs.*

Higher Education Administration Courses (15 sem. hrs.)

- HED 6500 - Basic Understandings in Higher Education Administration (History and Issues) **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HED 6501 - Law and Higher Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HED 6502 - Finance in Higher Education **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HED 6503 - Student Development Theories/Ethics and Inquiry **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HED 6506 - The Community College **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Graduate Elective (3 sem. hrs) – The course must be taken at the 5000 or 6000 level in Higher Education Administration, Communication, General Business, Management, or Kinesiology, and students should consult their advisor before selecting a course.

Practicum (3 sem. hrs.)

- HED 6587 - Higher Education Administration Practicum I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Notes:

Traditional face-to-face courses are offered according to the following schedule:

Fall - HED 6500, HED 6503, and ORL 7530

Spring - HED 6501 and HED 6502

Summer - HED 6506 and ORL 6520

All year - ORL 6504 and MGT 6551 are available any time during the year. Available formats may vary.

For the online schedule, please click on the following link:

<https://www.mc.edu/academics/departments/education/graduate-programs/master-science>

Nine hours of completed HED coursework is required prior to taking a practicum (HED 6587) for both traditional and online students. Registration for practicums must be approved by the program advisor.

Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Administration (15 sem. hrs.)

Students who have a bachelor's degree who wish to know more about higher education administration may pursue a Certificate in Higher Education Administration. This Certificate is a formal certificate indicating the completion of a higher education administration curriculum. The coursework included in the certificate program should provide a background for careers in university administration. Courses may be taken in both traditional and online modalities. The

certificate is comprised of 15 hours as follows:

HED 6500 Basic Understandings in Higher Education Administration (History and Issues) (3 sem. hrs.)

HED 6501 Law and Higher Education (3 sem. hrs.)

HED 6502 Finance in Higher Education (3 sem. hrs.)

HED 6503 Student Development Theories/Ethics and Inquiry (3 sem. hrs.)

HED 6506 The Community College (3 sem. hrs.)

Advisor: Dr. Keith Randazzo, 925-3260, Nelson Hall 202

Higher Education Course Descriptions

HED 6500 - Basic Understandings in Higher Education Administration (History and Issues)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course provides an introduction to the U.S. higher education system. The course includes a foundation in the history of higher education covering the development of curriculum, faculty, governance, finance, and outcomes in higher education.

HED 6501 - Law and Higher Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will introduce students to state and federal law as it applies to higher education. It will also demonstrate the law's application to various areas of decision making relating to the administration and governance of higher education.

HED 6502 - Finance in Higher Education

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course includes an analysis of case law on issues of access, student rights, employment, church and state, private sector, liability, academic freedom, and civil rights. Additionally, this course examines revenue, fund raising and development, types of expenditures, tuition and financial aid policies, budgeting and accounting policies.

HED 6503 - Student Development Theories/Ethics and Inquiry

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The purpose of this course is to explore and understand the nature, culture, and development of college students. To that end, the course will examine a range of human development theories that offer insight into the processes of student learning, growth, and development during the college years. Special focus will be directed toward understanding the implications of these models for the policies and practices of higher education administration. In addition, the course will examine the cultural environment of the student from historical and contemporary perspectives.

HED 6506 - The Community College

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A course designed to familiarize students with one of the largest segments of higher education. Topics include governance, history of the community college, community college finance, rural community and economic development, and community college legal policy.

HED 6587 - Higher Education Administration Practicum I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

Students may complete a 90-hour practicum as an elective. Requirements for the practicum are outlined in the course syllabi. This practicum is designed to give graduate students in Organizational Leadership an opportunity in a professional setting which will add depth and breadth to their educational experience. A variety of settings both on and off the MC campus are available for practicum students.

Organizational Leadership Course Descriptions

ORL 6504 - Research-Methods and Procedures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A survey of the basic research methodologies in the social and behavioral sciences with emphasis on critical reading of published research. Students conduct a meta-analysis of research literature or develop a research proposal.

[Crosslisted as: EDU 6504 and HSA 6504]

ORL 6520 - Basic Effective Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A study of the knowledge, skills, and values that are necessary to identify organizational constructs, to develop with others a vision and purpose for the organization, and to exercise leadership processes to achieve the common goals for the organization.

[Crosslisted as: EDU 6520.]

ORL 7530 - Issues and Concepts of Personnel Management in Higher Education

Credits, 3 sem hrs An in depth study of personnel management areas to include policies, organizational structures, recruitment, selection, compensation, development, evaluation, reward structures, and termination issues of an effective personnel organization, while addressing prevalent issues related to these within colleges and universities.

Department of Kinesiology

Master of Science

Master of Science in Applied Exercise Physiology

Applied Exercise Physiology, M.S.

This program provides a science-based program in Applied Exercise Physiology at the graduate level for students interested in careers in exercise rehabilitation and sports medicine. The program is also designed for students interested in pursuing terminal degrees in exercise physiology and related disciplines as well as higher level administrative and supervisory positions in adult fitness and wellness. In addition, this degree prepares students for American College of Sports Medicine certifications in fitness and wellness.

Synopsis

This program is a 30-hour master's degree to be completed in three semesters (fall, spring, summer).. The program includes the option of a thesis in lieu of a seminar.

Entrance Requirements

- A. **Application:** Application will be invited and received by the Department prior to mid-term of each semester. Program will begin in the fall semester.
- B. **Review:** The Department Chair of the Department of Kinesiology will review all applications. The maximum number of admitted applicants will be set by the faculty each year, dependent upon current enrollment. Recommendations for admission will be forwarded to Graduate Programs for further review and acceptance.
- C. **Admission Requirements:** Applicant must have an earned Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher learning in Kinesiology, Exercise Science, Physical Education, Biology, or related fields. Applicant must have a 2.50 GPA on all undergraduate work, or a 3.0 on the last 40 hours attempted.

Standardized Tests: No standardized test required for applicants with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or above. Applicants with an undergraduate GPA below 3.0 may be admitted by achieving a GRE/GPA formula score of 714 or higher. For GRE scores dated prior to 8/20/2011, applicant must achieve formula score of 2200.

Formula score calculation: $\text{GRE Verbal Score} + \text{GRE Quantitative Score} \times \text{Undergraduate Cumulative GPA}$.

In addition, the program will require the following undergraduate prerequisite coursework:

12 total hours comprised from the following courses (or equivalents):

Human Anatomy and Physiology

Chemistry

Anatomical Kinesiology

Biomechanics

Exercise Physiology

All transfer credit must be approved by the KIN department chair and is subject to the regulations of the Graduate catalog.

D. Degree Requirements: The successful candidate must complete the following requirements:

1. Complete 27 hours of coursework;
2. Satisfactorily complete a total of three hours of seminar or thesis.
3. All Kinesiology graduate students must pass the graduate comprehensive examination in their last semester in order to be accepted for candidacy for the degree of Master of Science. This exam will be administered online via Canvas.

E. Thesis Committee and Major Professor: Students choosing the thesis option will select a graduate committee of no less than three (3) members of the Graduate Faculty. In addition, one member of the committee will be designated as the "Major Professor" by the student.

F. Graduate Thesis: This thesis must be based on original supervised research performed by the student while enrolled as a student in the graduate program at Mississippi Christian University. The student must nominate a three-member thesis committee, with the major professor serving as chair. The committee must approve all topics, and a research proposal should be submitted to the committee one semester prior to data collection. Final copies of the thesis will be submitted to the committee members prior to midterm of the spring semester.

G. Comprehensive Examination: Students must register for EXS 6999-Comprehensive Examination and register for graduation with the Registrar's Office during their last semester. Comprehensive Examinations will only be administered during the summer semester.

Program Requirements:

FALL TERM:

EXS 6000	Graduate Student Orientation	Credits, 0 semester hours
EXS 6111	Advanced Exercise Physiology	Credits, 3 semester hours

EXS 6240	Epidemiology of Hypokinetic Disease	Credits, 3 semester hours
EXS 6315	Clinical Exercise Physiology	Credits, 3 semester hours
EXS 6323	Exercise Science for Special Populations	Credits, 3 semester hours

SPRING TERM:

EXS 6120	Cardiovascular Exercise Physiology	Credits, 3 semester hours
EXS 6130	Advanced Exercise Training	Credits, 3 semester hours
EXS 6210	Advanced Sports Nutrition	Credits, 3 semester hours
EXS 6412	Exercise Electrocardiography	Credits, 3 semester hours

SUMMER TERM:

KIN 6110	Research in Kinesiology	Credits, 3 semester hours
EXS 6800	Exercise Science Seminar	Credits, 3 semester hours
EXS 6999	Graduate Comprehensive Examination	Credits, 0 semester hours

*These courses may be split into two separate three-hour courses.

Kinesiology Course Descriptions

KIN 6000 – Graduate Student Orientation

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. Prerequisite: Admission to a graduate program in the Department of Kinesiology. Course description: Graduate student orientation is to be taken the first semester of enrollment in the graduate program. This course focuses upon the merits, opportunities, and best practices germane to graduate programs, particularly those in the department. Successful completion is required for continuing graduate studies in the Department of Kinesiology.

KIN 6110 - Research in Kinesiology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course provides practice with tasks necessary for reading, evaluating, and writing research. A framework will be established for critiquing a variety of research, and consideration will be given to how this framework may be adapted to fit various research methods. Introductory statistics appropriate to various research designs will be covered regarding their potential to meet key criteria. Formatting, guidelines, and style of research manuscripts will also be addressed.

KIN 6200 - Societal and Ethical Trends in Athletics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide in-depth examination on a variety of issues of importance to future athletic administrators at the high school and collegiate levels.

KIN 6300 - NCAA Rules and Regulations

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed for coaches and administrators at both the high school and collegiate level. Emphasis will be placed on developing an understanding of the rules, bylaws and governing bodies of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and how it relates to the student athlete.

KIN 6500 - Athletic Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide practical skills and knowledge for potential interscholastic and intercollegiate athletic administrators in such areas as program missions and philosophy, duties and functions, ethics, and day-to-day operations of athletic departments.

KIN 6504 - *Research–Methods and Procedures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A survey of basic research methodologies in the social and behavioral sciences with emphasis on critical reading of published research. Student conducts a meta-analysis of research literature or develops a research proposal.

[Crosslisted as: EDU 6504.]

KIN 6587 - Graduate Practicum I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

KIN 6999 - Graduate Comprehensive Examination (Final Semester)

Graduate comprehensive examination to be administered the last semester of graduate program. Successful completion leads to admission to degree candidacy.

EXS 6000 – Graduate Student Orientation

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. Prerequisite: Admission to a graduate program in the Department of Kinesiology. Course description: Graduate student orientation is to be taken the first semester of enrollment in the graduate program. This course focuses upon the merits, opportunities, and best practices germane to graduate programs, particularly those in the department. Successful completion is required for continuing graduate studies in the Department of Kinesiology.

EXS 6111 - Advanced Exercise Physiology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Comprehensive coverage of exercise physiology uniting the topics of physical conditioning, sports nutrition, body composition, weight control and athletic conditioning.

EXS 6120 - Cardiovascular Exercise Physiology

Credits, 3 sem hrs. A comprehensive study of the heart and circulatory systems with particular emphasis placed on both normal and abnormal physiological responses to exercise.

EXS 6130 - Advanced Exercise Training

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide students with the latest scientific and practical information in the field of strength and conditioning. Biological responses to strength and conditioning, effective monitoring strategies for evaluating a training program, establishing guidelines for writing a successful strength and conditioning program, and the role of strength and conditioning as a rehabilitation tool will be taught.

EXS 6210 - Advanced Sports Nutrition

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course provides the best results-based information in gaining a nutritional edge. Far beyond the typical food pyramid formula, this course presents cutting-edge nutritional concepts tailored for application by advanced athletes in any sport.

EXS 6240 - Epidemiology of Hypokinetic Disease

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the historical background and main concepts in epidemiology as it relates to today's hypokinetic lifestyle and the practical application of these principles.

EXS 6315 - Clinical Exercise Physiology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. A clinical course designed to provide the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for Allied Health professionals in the fitness, wellness, and exercise rehabilitation industries.

EXS 6323 - Exercise Science for Special Populations

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is an in-depth examination of the special exercise considerations warranted by various special populations in our diverse culture, specifically the elderly, women, disabled, chronic disease patients, and children. The course is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of the pathophysiology and exercise responses in these populations.

EXS 6412 - Exercise Electrocardiography

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to examine the theory and practice of electrocardiography with emphasis placed on ECG's administered during exercise tests.

EXS 6800 - Exercise Science Seminar

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Graduate standing.

This course will consist of readings, lectures, and laboratory experiences on current topics in the field of exercise science.

EXS 6950 - Graduate Thesis in Exercise Science

Credits, 3-6 sem. hrs.* *Prerequisite(s):* Approval of prospectus by major professor and department chair. Grade of "PR" may be received after completion of 6 hours if oral defense of thesis is not completed. Thesis binding fee will apply.

Faculty supervised thesis writing project for Exercise Science majors.

EXS 6999 – Applied Exercise Physiology Graduate Comprehensive Exam

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Completion of all course requirements

Graduate comprehensive examination for students in the Applied Exercise Physiology program to be administered during the last semester prior to graduation. Successful completion leads to admission to degree candidacy.

Department of Counseling

All students in all Counselor Education program must pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) as part of COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination. An accuracy rate of 55% is required in order to graduate. Students will be allotted two opportunities to earn a passing score on the exam. This passage rate requirement may be adjusted as determined appropriate by the faculty to better meet national standards and prepare students for licensure requirements. Upon the second failed attempt, students will be provided with the opportunity to construct a professional counseling portfolio to demonstrate competency. If a student is unable to pass the CPCE and the professional counseling portfolio, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Prerequisites: Graduate standing with sufficient background in subject area is prerequisite for all graduate courses.

Unless otherwise specified all 3-semester-hour courses have lecture 3 hours per week. The student is reminded that one-half course work to be applied toward a Master's degree must be on 6500-level. (See semester or term schedule for laboratory fees.)

Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit.

Counseling

Students in the Counseling program may have options to select some courses for either COU or PSY credit, by completing 18 semester hours in courses with the PSY prefix, the student may become qualified to teach psychology in some colleges and universities. Care must be exercised during the registration process in making the appropriate choice of the prefix, COU or PSY, because once the course is recorded on the official transcript, it cannot be subsequently changed.

Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit.

Doctor of Professional Counseling

Doctor of Professional Counseling, D.P.C.

The Doctor of Professional Counseling (D.P.C.) degree program is an online program designed to meet the career advancement goals of licensed professional counselors who wish to develop clinical specialization and achieve parity with other allied health and educational professionals. The doctorate is a professional degree intended to prepare master counselors for successful practice in a variety of clinical settings and leadership in professional organizations. The Doctor of Professional Counseling requires a minimum of 72 hours beyond a M.S. in Marriage and Family Counseling, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, or other related professional degree. Additional coursework may be required by the Doctoral Program Review Committee to address deficiencies in previous coursework. The Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program is a course of studies in theory, research, and practice. The doctoral program consists of several components: Core Courses (27 semester hours); Application Courses (12 semester hours); Specialization Courses (12 semester hours); Clinical Courses (15 semester hours); and Concluding Courses (6 semester hours).

Admissions, Maintenance, and Graduation Requirements

Each applicant for admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program must submit a complete application consisting of the following elements.

1. An application for admission with all required information.
2. One copy of all official transcripts from previous college work and any transferable graduate credit. A minimum GPA of 3.25 is required for graduate work completed at a regionally accredited institution of higher learning.
3. A professional resume detailing relevant experience reflecting a minimum of two (2) years of documented experience in professional counseling.
4. A Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) credential or eligibility for the equivalent of an LPC in the state in which the applicant will practice. *Individuals without a license will be considered on a case by case basis.
5. An essay of 800 words describing personal and professional goals for seeking the

Doctor of Professional Counseling degree.

6. Three letters of recommendation from professionals who can evaluate the candidate's potential for success as a master counselor.

Doctoral Program Review Committee

The Doctoral Program Review Committee will review the applications and supporting materials of all applicants. In addition, the committee will review applications submitted during the year, interview promising applicants, and select candidates for the degree based on particular admissions criteria developed by the committee. The committee will recommend regular admission, provisional admission, or rejection of the application to the Graduate Admissions Office who will notify the applicants in writing of their admission status. Initial admission to the doctoral program is conditional until the first twelve hours of course work, including assessments of clinical competency and personal adjustment, are completed. Progress throughout the program is monitored by the Director of the program, and the Doctoral Program Review Committee.

Competency Assessments

Each candidate will complete a series of assessments to determine fitness for counseling practice, progress toward master clinical competence, and completion of milestones in demonstrating contributions to advancement of professional counseling. Any student who does not pass or successfully complete a competency assessment will meet with the Doctoral Program Review Committee and receive recommendations for remediation that must be completed for ongoing progression in the degree program.

Professional Dispositions Assessment is completed after the first twelve hours of course work and periodically throughout the program.

Comprehensive Exam - Project Demonstrating Excellence (PDE)- Capstone and Concluding Courses (completed in conjunction with COU 8902 and COU 8903.

Project Demonstrating Excellence

The Project Demonstrating Excellence (PDE) is the capstone or concluding experience of the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program in which each candidate completes, and successfully defends. The PDE is intended to provide a means for demonstrating high level clinical competency and serving clients in the community. The PDE constitutes the comprehensive examination for the degree and is completed in conjunction with COU 8902 and COU 8903. Candidates not completing the PDE in COU 8903 may take COU 8904 while completing the PDE requirements.

Graduation Requirements

Candidates will receive clearance for graduation after successfully completing the following:

1. All coursework in the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program with a minimum GPA of 3.25;
2. Completion of all competency assessments in the approved sequence;
3. Completion of the Project Demonstrating Excellence (PDE); and
4. Presentation and defense of the Project Demonstrating Excellence (PDE).

Time Limitations

All requirements for the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program must be completed within seven (7) years from initial enrollment. Candidates may apply for an extension of the time limit to the Chair of the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program and Dean of the School.

Transfer Credit

A candidate may transfer credit completed in a previous doctoral program. Transfer hours will be evaluated by the Director of the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program, and Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences. Transfer credit will be limited to no more than 18 hours.

Course Requirements for the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program

Core Courses (27 sem. hrs.)

- COU 8401 – Clinical Research Designs **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8402 - Planning Consultation and Leadership **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8501 - Advanced Professional Career and Lifestyle Planning **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8502 - Advanced Lifespan Developmental Processes **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8503 - Advanced Theories and Models of Counseling & Psychotherapy **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8504 - Advanced Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment Planning **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8505 - Advanced Group Dynamics and Contextual Factors in Counseling **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8506 - Advanced Systems Theory, Multicultural and Transformational Models **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8507 - Mental Health Crisis Services **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Application Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

- COU 8601 - Professional Identity and Ethical Practice **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8602 - Professional Growth and Wellbeing **Credits, 3**
- COU 8603 - Evidence Based Practice: Clinical Applications of Research **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8604 - Psychotherapy Integration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Specialization Courses (12 sem. hrs.)

- COU 8701 - Specialization Seminar I **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8702 - Specialization Seminar II **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8703 - Specialization Seminar III **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COU 8704 - Specialization Seminar IV **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Clinical Courses (15 sem. hrs.)

COU 8405 Clinical Entrepreneurship Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 8406 Advanced Psychopharmacology and Neurobiology Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 8605 Trauma: Impact, Assessment and Treatment Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 8606 Advanced Case Conceptualization Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 8805 Clinical Supervision Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

Concluding Courses (6 sem. hrs.)

COU 8902 Project Demonstrating Excellence Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 8903 PDE Continuation I Credits: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 8904 PDE Continuation II Credits: 3 sem. hrs. (may be repeated as necessary until expiration of 7-year time limit)

Education Specialist

Counseling, Ed.S.

The mission of the Education Specialist in Counseling Program is to help students acquire the advanced competencies, as well as specialized knowledge and skill, necessary to perform effectively as professional counselors, counselor supervisors, and counseling program directors. Completion of the program will assist graduates in making application for licensure as a professional counselor (LPC), National Counseling Certification, approved clinical supervisor status, or licensure as a School Counselor (AAA). Candidates for AAA State of Mississippi licensure will be required to provide evidence of a AA Guidance and Counseling license issued by the Mississippi Department of Education. The program wishes to recruit students from diverse backgrounds who demonstrate character, maturity, scholarship, leadership, church/community involvement, and interest in the counseling profession. Students participating in the Education Specialist in Counseling Program receive training in the theories, models, and techniques of professional counseling with specialized preparation in advanced clinical and administrative skills applicable to schools, universities, agencies, and other settings.

Available in online format

Deadlines for Making Application for Admission

June 1 for Fall semester

October 1 for Spring semester

February 1 for Summer session.

Students may apply year-round for review and admission by the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

Admission to the Program

The Department of Counseling's Admissions Committee may consist of up to three faculty members. After a candidate submits all the required application materials to Graduate admissions, and the qualified applications are reviewed, the application materials will be forwarded to the Admissions Committee. Applicants may meet in groups with a panel of faculty interviewers. The interview session may last approximately one hour, and interview questions will not be shared in advance, but will generally address the applicant's experience, goals, and communication skills. Individuals who are not able to attend the group interview will have a chance to complete individual interviews, based on the committee's discretion.

*Applications received after deadlines will be reviewed for the next academic semester.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. The applicant must hold a Master's degree from an accredited college or university in an appropriate field of study as determined by the review committee, Chair of the Department of Counseling, Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences, or Dean of Graduate Studies. The applicant must present evidence of satisfactory scholarship with a GPA of at least 3.25 on previous graduate work.
3. The applicant must supply at least two recommendation letters/forms from academic or professional sources who have observed the applicant from the position of teacher, advisor, or supervisor and who are familiar with the applicant's character scholarship, and potential for successful graduate work. Recommendation letters must be current, not letters supplied as part of the Master's degree application.
4. The applicant should submit a Goal Statement and Autobiographical Statement. Instructions for these documents can be found on the departmental website. Writing samples must be current, related to attainment of an Ed.S. degree, and not those supplied as part of the Master's degree application.
5. The applicant should submit a current resume or vita.
6. The applicant or student may transfer up to 48 hours of course work into the program, but any course must be determined equivalent to the course for which it would substitute. The Dean of Graduate Studies determines the transfer and substitution of

coursework.

7. The applicant must attend an orientation session during the semester prior to admission.

Provisional Admission to the Program

The Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences may recommend provisional admission to the program based upon a careful review of an applicant's transcripts, letters of recommendation, goal statements, other supporting materials and recommendation from the departmental Admission Committee. A personal interview may be conducted to determine the applicant's motivation and readiness to pursue a career in professional counseling. The Dean of Graduate Studies may modify, replace, or amend regular departmental admission requirements upon recommendation from the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree is a planned program of at least 66 semester hours including up to 48 hours earned in an acceptable Master's degree in counseling or a related discipline. The Specialist Degree in Counseling can offer the student an opportunity to receive an advanced degree in counseling, pursue advanced studies to meet career goals, or to qualify for a Mississippi AAA License in guidance and counseling. Successful completion of the Ed.S. degree in Counseling also requires regular admission to the program, completion of a planned program of studies selected from a list of courses in consultation with the Coordinator of the Ed.S. Program or student advisor, and satisfactory performance on a comprehensive exit examination.

By the end of the second week in the first semester of enrollment, all students must purchase and activate an account in the electronic training management system used by the program.

POST-MASTER'S DEGREE COURSEWORK (18 SEM. HRS. MINIMUM)

COMMON CORE COURSES: (9 SEM. HRS.)

COU 7505 Counselor Supervision 3 sem. hrs.

COU 7506 Planning and Organizing Counseling & Human Services Programs 3 sem. hrs.

COU 7507 Introduction to Applied Research 3 sem. hrs.

SPECIALIZED COURSEWORK (9 SEM. HRS.)

Electives 9 sem. hrs.

TOTAL: 66 SEM. HRS.

Master of Education

School Counseling, M.Ed.

The mission of the School Counseling Program is to help students acquire core competencies, as well as specialized knowledge and skill, necessary to perform effectively as school counselors. Completion of the program will assist graduates in making application for licensure as a school counselor, National Counseling Certification, and, licensure as a professional counselor (LPC). The program wishes to recruit students from diverse backgrounds who demonstrate character, maturity, scholarship, leadership, church/community involvement, and interest in the counseling profession. Students participating in the School Counseling Program receive training in the theories, models, and techniques of professional counseling with specialized preparation in work with students, parents, teachers, and administrators in the school setting. Students are expected to complete supervised clinical training in approved sites.

The Master of Education in School Counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

Deadlines for making application for regular admission

June 1 for Fall semester

October 1 for Spring semester

Students may apply year-round for review and admission by the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

Admission Committee and Application Process

The Department of Counseling's Admissions Committee will consist of at least three faculty members. After a candidate submits all the required application materials to Graduate admissions, and the qualified applications are reviewed, the application materials will be forwarded to the Admissions Committee. Applicants may meet in groups with a panel of faculty interviewers. The interview session may last approximately one hour, and interview questions will not be shared in advance, but will generally address the applicant's experience, goals, and communication skills. Individuals who are not able to attend the group interview will have a chance to complete individual interviews, based on the committee's discretion.

*Applications received after deadlines will be reviewed for the next academic semester.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. The applicant must hold a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in an appropriate field of study as determined by the review committee, Chair of the Department of Counseling, Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences, or Dean of Graduate Studies. The applicant must present evidence of satisfactory

scholarship with a GPA of at least 3.0 on undergraduate work and/or graduate level course work if applicable.

3. The applicant must supply at least two recommendation letters/forms from academic or professional sources who have observed the applicant from the position of teacher, advisor, or supervisor and who are familiar with the applicant's character, scholarship, and potential for successful graduate work.
4. The applicant should submit a writing sample. Instructions for these documents can be found on the departmental website.
5. The applicant or student may transfer up to 15 hours of course work into the program, but any course must be determined equivalent to the course for which it would substitute. The Dean of Graduate Studies determines the transfer and substitution of coursework.
6. The applicant should submit a current resume or vita.
7. The applicant must attend an orientation session during the semester prior to admission.
8. Applicant will attend a zoom group interview with other applicants and faculty as part of the application process.

Provisional Admission to the Program

The Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences may recommend provisional admission to the program based upon a careful review of an applicant's transcripts, letters of recommendation, goal statements, other supporting materials and recommendation from the departmental Admission Committee. A personal interview may be conducted to determine the applicant's motivation and readiness to pursue a career in professional counseling. The Dean of Graduate Studies may modify, replace, or amend regular departmental admission requirements upon recommendation from the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours in qualifying core, specialized, and elective courses is required. Students who do not have a five-year educator license from the Mississippi Office of Educator Licensure will be required to complete a full year internship in a school setting in order to meet the educational requirements for the Class AA License in Guidance and Counseling. Students should consult the current guidelines for Mississippi Educator Licensure and discuss specific requirements with the Coordinator of the School Counseling Program. See additional information available at <https://mdek12.org/talentacquisition/praxis-information/> to meet state certification requirements. It is requested that all PRAXIS II (Guidance and Counseling test) scores be sent to MC (Code 1477) at the time of the test administration. The passing score for PRAXIS II (Guidance and Counseling - test code 0421 or 5421) is currently 156. Successful completion of the M.Ed. degree in School Counseling also requires regular admission to the program completion of a minimum of 600 hours in internship courses, and satisfactory performance on a comprehensive exit examination.

By the end of the second week in the first semester of enrollment, all students must purchase and activate an account in the electronic training management system used by the program.

All students must pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) as part of COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination. An accuracy rate of 55% is required in order to graduate. Students will be allotted two opportunities to earn a passing score on the exam. This passage rate requirement may be adjusted as determined appropriate by the faculty to better meet national standards and prepare students for licensure requirements. Upon the second failed attempt, students will be provided with the opportunity to construct a professional counseling portfolio to demonstrate competency. If a student is unable to pass the CPCE and the professional counseling portfolio, the student will be dismissed from the program.

In order to register for COU 6999 - Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, the Core Courses must be successfully completed with a grad of 'B' or better.

Core Courses

COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6502 Theories of Personality and Counseling 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling): 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6504 Research-Methods and Procedures 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6515 Lifespan Development 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6661 Use and Interpretation of Tests 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6662 Techniques of Group Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6665 Lifestyle and Career Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

Content Specific Courses

COU 6817 Crisis Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6666 Introduction to Marriage and Family Counseling:3 sem. hrs.

COU 6667 Addictions Counseling:3 sem. hrs.

COU 6668 Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of School Counseling:3 sem. hrs.

COU 6810 Introduction to Play Therapy: Counseling Children and Adolescents:3 sem. hrs.

COU 6818 Counseling Children and Adolescents: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6536 Psychopathology III 3 sem. hrs.

Field Placement Courses

COU 6663 Practicum in Counseling and Therapy: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6701 Internship in Counseling I: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6702 Internship in Counseling II: 3 sem. hrs.

Elective Course(s)

- Elective (Credits: 3 sem. hrs.)

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

- COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination; No Credits: 0 hrs.

TOTAL: 60 SEM. HRS.

Master of Science

Marriage and Family Counseling, M.S.

The mission of the Marriage and Family Counseling Program is to help students acquire core competencies, as well as specialized knowledge and skill, necessary to perform effectively as marriage and family counselors. Completion of the program will assist graduates in making application for licensure as a professional counselor (LPC), as well as National Counseling Certification. The program wishes to recruit students from diverse backgrounds who demonstrate character, maturity, scholarship, leadership, church/community involvement, and interest in the counseling profession. Students participating in the Marriage and Family Counseling Program receive training in the theories, models, and techniques of professional counseling with specialized preparation in work with couples and families, and other members of the behavioral healthcare and ministry teams in church, agency, hospital, and other marriage and family treatment settings. Students are expected to complete supervised clinical training in approved sites.

The Master of Science in Marriage and Family Counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

Deadlines for making application for admission

June 1 for Fall semester

October 1 for Spring semester

Students may apply year-round for review and admission by the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

Admissions Committee and Application Process

The Department of Counseling's Admissions Committee will consist of up to three faculty members. After a candidate submits all the required application materials to Graduate admissions, and the qualified applications are reviewed, the application materials will be forwarded to the Admissions Committee. Applicants may meet in groups with a panel of faculty interviewers. The interview session may last approximately one hour, and interview questions will not be shared in advance, but will generally address the applicant's experience, goals, and communication skills. Individuals who are not able to attend the group interview will have a chance to complete individual interviews, based on the committee's discretion.

*Applications received after deadlines will be reviewed for the next academic semester.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. The applicant must hold a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in an appropriate field of study as determined by the review committee, Chair of the Department of Counseling, Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences, or Dean of Graduate Studies. The applicant must present evidence of satisfactory scholarship with a GPA of at least 3.0 on undergraduate work and/or graduate level course work if applicable.
3. The applicant must supply at least two recommendation letters/forms from academic or professional sources who have observed the applicant from the position of teacher, advisor, or supervisor and who are familiar with the applicant's character, scholarship, and potential for successful graduate work.
4. The applicant should submit a writing sample. Instructions for these documents can be found on the departmental website.
5. The applicant or student may transfer up to 15 hours of course work into the program, but any course must be determined equivalent to the course for which it would substitute. The Dean of Graduate Studies determines the transfer and substitution of coursework.
6. The applicant should submit a current resume or vita.
7. The applicant must attend an orientation session during the semester prior to admission.
8. Applicant will attend a zoom group interview with other applicants and faculty as part of the application process.

Provisional Admission to the Program

The Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences may recommend provisional admission to the program based upon a careful review of an applicant's transcripts, letters of recommendation, goal statements, other supporting materials and recommendation from the departmental Admission Committee. A personal interview may be conducted to determine the applicant's motivation and readiness to pursue a

career in professional counseling. The Dean of Graduate Studies may modify, replace, or amend regular departmental admission requirements upon recommendation from the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

Degree Requirements

Completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours in qualifying core, specialized, and elective courses is required. Successful completion of the M.S. degree in Marriage and Family Counseling also requires regular admission to the program, completion of a minimum of 600 hours in internship fieldwork training, and satisfactory performance on a comprehensive exit examination.

By the end of the second week in the first semester of enrollment, all students must purchase and activate an account in the electronic training management system used by the program.

All students must pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) as part of COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination. An accuracy rate of 55% is required in order to graduate. Students will be allotted two opportunities to earn a passing score on the exam. This passage rate requirement may be adjusted as determined appropriate by the faculty to better meet national standards and prepare students for licensure requirements. Upon the second failed attempt, students will be provided with the opportunity to construct a professional counseling portfolio to demonstrate competency. If a student is unable to pass the CPCE and the professional counseling portfolio, the student will be dismissed from the program.

In order to register for COU 6999 - Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, the Core Courses must be successfully completed with a grade of 'B' or better.

Core Courses

COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6502 Theories of Personality and Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling): 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6504 Research-Methods and Procedures: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6515 Lifespan Development: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6661 Use and Interpretation of Tests: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6662 Techniques of Group Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6665 Lifestyle and Career Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

Content Specific Courses

COU 6817 Crisis Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6666 Introduction to Marriage and Family Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6667 Addictions Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6670 Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of Marriage and Family Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6807 Couple Dynamics and Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6808 Family Dynamics and Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6536 Psychopathology III 3 sem. hrs.

Field Placement Courses

COU 6663 Practicum in Counseling and Therapy: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6701 Internship in Counseling I: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6702 Internship in Counseling II: 3 sem. hrs.

Elective Course(s)

- Elective Credit, 6 sem. hrs.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

- COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination No Credits, 0 hrs.

TOTAL: 60 SEM. HRS.

Mental Health Counseling, M.S.

The mission of the Mental Health Counseling Program is to help students acquire core competencies, as well as specialized knowledge and skill, necessary to perform effectively as mental health counselors. Completion of the program will assist graduates in making application for licensure as a professional counselor (LPC), as well as National Counseling Certification. The program wishes to recruit students from diverse backgrounds who demonstrate character, maturity, scholarship, leadership, church/community involvement, and interest in the counseling profession. Students participating in the Mental Health Counseling Program receive training in the theories, models, and techniques of professional counseling with specialized preparation in work with adult and child clients, their families, and other members of the behavioral healthcare team in agency, hospital, and other mental health treatment settings. Students are expected to complete supervised clinical training in approved sites.

The Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

Deadlines for making application for regular admission

June 1 for Fall semester

October 1 for Spring semester

Students may apply year-round for review and provisional admission by the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

Admissions Committee and Application Process

The Department of Counseling's Admissions Committee will consist of up to three faculty members. After a candidate submits all the required application materials to Graduate admissions, and the qualified applications are reviewed, the application materials will be forwarded to the Admissions Committee. Applicants may meet in groups with a panel of faculty interviewers. The interview session may last approximately one-hour. Interview questions will not be shared in advance, but will generally address the applicant's experience, goals, and communication skills. Individuals who are not able to attend the group interview will have a chance to complete an individual interview, based on the committee's discretion.

*Applications received after deadlines will be reviewed for the next academic semester.

Admission to the Program

1. All general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University must be met.
2. The applicant must hold a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in an appropriate field of study as determined by the review committee, Chair of the Department of Counseling, Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences, or Dean of Graduate Studies. The applicant must present evidence of satisfactory scholarship with a GPA of at least 3.0 on undergraduate work and/or graduate level course work if applicable.
3. The applicant must supply at least two recommendation letters/forms from academic or professional sources who have observed the applicant from the position of teacher, advisor, or supervisor and who are familiar with the applicant's character, scholarship, and potential for successful graduate work.
4. The applicant should submit a writing sample. Instructions for these documents can be found on the departmental website.
5. The applicant or student may transfer up to 15 hours of course work into the program, but any course must be determined equivalent to the course for which it would substitute. The Dean of Graduate Studies determines the transfer and substitution of coursework.
6. The applicant should submit a current resume or vita.

7. The applicant must attend an orientation session during the semester prior to admission.
8. Applicant will attend a zoom group interview with other applicants and faculty as part of the application process.

Provisional Admission to the Program

The Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences may recommend provisional admission to the program based upon a careful review of an applicant's transcripts, letters of recommendation, goal statements, other supporting materials and recommendation from the departmental Admission Committee. A personal interview may be conducted to determine the applicant's motivation and readiness to pursue a career in professional counseling. The Dean of Graduate Studies may modify, replace, or amend regular departmental admission requirements upon recommendation from the Chair of the Department of Counseling or the Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours in qualifying core, specialized and elective courses is required. Successful completion of the M.S. degree also requires regular admission to the program, completion of a minimum of 600 hours in internship fieldwork training, and satisfactory performance on a comprehensive exit examination.

By the end of the second week in the first semester of enrollment, all students must purchase and activate an account in the electronic training management system used by the program.

All students must pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) as part of COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination. An accuracy rate of 55% is required in order to graduate. Students will be allotted two opportunities to earn a passing score on the exam. This passage rate requirement may be adjusted as determined appropriate by the faculty to better meet national standards and prepare students for licensure requirements. Upon the second failed attempt, students will be provided with the opportunity to construct a professional counseling portfolio to demonstrate competency. If a student is unable to pass the CPCE and the professional counseling portfolio, the student will be dismissed from the program.

In order to register for COU 6999 - Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, the Core Courses must be successfully completed with a grade of 'B' or better.

Core Courses

COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6502 Theories of Personality and Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling): 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6504 Research-Methods and Procedures: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6515 Lifespan Development: 3 sem. hrs.

COU/PSY 6661 Use and Interpretation of Tests: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6662 Techniques of Group Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6665 Lifestyle and Career Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

Content Specific Courses

COU 6817 Crisis Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6666 Introduction to Marriage and Family Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6667 Addictions Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6669 Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of Mental Health Counseling: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6536 Psychopathology III 3 sem. hrs.

Field Placement Courses

COU 6663 Practicum in Counseling and Therapy: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6701 Internship in Counseling I: 3 sem. hrs.

COU 6702 Internship in Counseling II: 3 sem. hrs.

Elective Course(s)

- Elective Credits, 9 sem. hrs.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

- COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination No Credits, 0 hrs.

TOTAL:60 SEM. HRS.

Counseling Course Descriptions

COU 6501 - Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of

Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family, or School Counseling.

This course introduces students to the characteristics, roles, and functions of the professional counselor with special attention to legal, ethical, and professional issues. The course affords a comprehensive overview of programs and services in professional counseling. **In order to register for COU 6999 - Comprehensive Graduate Exam and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of 'B' or better.**

COU 6502 - Theories of Personality and Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling

This course will provide the student with a comprehensive understanding of current and historical theories of personality and the major therapeutic methods available for implementing change in human behavior. **In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of 'B' or better.**

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6502]

COU 6503 - Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling)

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling. This course will focus on the skills needed to facilitate the counseling process, as well as specific techniques that are associated with beneficial changes in clients from initial interview to resolution of problems. **In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of 'B' or better**

COU 6504 - Research-Methods and Procedures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Therapy, or School Counseling or permission of the instructor.

A survey of basic research methodologies in the social and behavioral sciences with emphasis on critical reading of published research. Students will develop a research proposal which meets CACREP standards for program evaluation. **In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of "B" or better.**

[Crosslisted as: EDU 6504, ORL 6504, HSA 6504, and PSY 6504]

COU 6506 - Multicultural Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling.

This course is designed to provide a broad understanding of societal changes and trends, different cultures, and ethnic groups that can be useful in developing and implementing strategies tailored to meet the special needs of individuals, groups, and families in a multicultural population.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6506]

COU 6515 - Lifespan Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling or permission of the instructor

This course is designed to provide a broad understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels. Also included are such areas as human behavior (normal and abnormal). In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of "B" or better.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6515]

COU 6534 – Introduction to Trauma Informed Care & Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite: None. It is a lecture/discussion course intended to familiarize students with the emerging recognition of, and approach to, working with individuals who have experienced trauma. This course prepares students to recognize trauma and respond in trauma-informed ways to facilitate effective, quality care. This course is a dual level course, intended for students at the undergraduate and graduate level. Because the impacts of trauma continue across the lifespan, this course is intended to be of relevance for students of any human service domain, including mental health, nursing, pre-medicine, social service, education, Christian studies, and criminal justice.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6534]

COU 6536 - Psychopathology III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing. Successful completion of PSY/COU 6515 and 6516, and PSY/COU 6531 is strongly recommended prior to taking this course. This course provides information necessary to development of skills related to behavioral health diagnosing, case conceptualization/formulation, treatment plan development and completing other types of medical documentation. The knowledge and skills will assist students to effectively navigate complex clinical cases and apply DSM-5 diagnoses to clients in a variety of settings. Additionally, students are prepared to enact treatment plans and engage in ongoing assessment of effectiveness of treatment interventions.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6536]

COU 6551 - Seminar in Counseling I

Credits, 1 sem. hr. A study of a variety of issues and problems addressed by professional counselors. Special emphasis is placed on modern trends in counseling through review of the literature, case studies and on-site visits.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6551.]

COU 6552 - Seminar in Counseling II

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: PSY 6552.]*

COU 6553 - Seminar in Counseling III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: PSY 6553.]*

COU 6651 - Special Studies in Counseling

Credits, 1 sem. hr. Provides a study of the unique needs and demands in working with specific populations.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6651.]

COU 6652 - Special Studies in Counseling

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: PSY 6652.]*

COU 6653 - Special Studies in Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: PSY 6653.]*

COU 6661 - Use and Interpretation of Tests

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of the Qualifying Courses or consent of the instructor.*

This course provides a framework for understanding individual, family, and group testing, as well as methods for conducting case studies and research.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6661]

COU 6662 - Techniques of Group Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of the following courses: COU/PSY 6502*

Theories of Personality and Counseling; COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling; COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling or consent of the instructor.

This course introduces theories, models, and techniques of group counseling for use in school, agency, and other settings. In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of "B" or better.

COU 6663 - Practicum in Counseling and Therapy

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Successful completion, a grade of 'B' or better, in the following courses: COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling; COU/PSY 6502 Theories of Personality and Counseling; COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling; COU/PSY 6515 Lifespan Development; COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling); COU/PSY 6661 Use and Interpretation of Tests*
Supervised practical experience in a clinical setting for advanced students majoring in counseling. (Credit or No Credit)

COU 6665 - Lifestyle and Career Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Therapy, or School Counseling.*
This course introduces the student to the theories, models, and practices of career counseling and lifestyle planning over the lifespan. In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of "B" or better.

COU 6666 - Introduction to Marriage and Family Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Therapy, or School Counseling.*
This course introduces the student to theories, models, and techniques used in working with couples, families, and other social systems. Assessment and intervention strategies are primary emphases.

COU 6667 - Addictions Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Therapy, or School Counseling.*
This course will address substance use and other addictive disorders within the context of an integrative biopsychosocial approach to counseling. The course will consider contemporary treatment issues in psychopharmacology; alcoholism, substance abuse and dependence; and addictive behaviors, such as eating disorders and pathological gambling.

COU 6668 - Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of School Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of School Counseling.*

This course is designed as a specialization course for students in the Master of Education in School Counseling Program. This course provides the student with a comprehensive foundation for the delivery of school counseling services. It is designed to provide the graduate student with an overview and understanding of historical perspectives and current activities of school counseling, the role and function of school counselors in a variety of settings, some techniques used by school counselors, multicultural considerations of school counseling programs, and the application of legal and ethical guidelines in the school setting.

COU 6669 - Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of Mental Health Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health Counseling.*

This course is designed as a specialization course for students in the Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling. This course provides an overview of the mental health counseling profession. Special emphasis is placed upon the foundations of mental health counseling, contextual dimensions of mental health counseling, as well as knowledge and skills of the mental health counselor.

COU 6670 - Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of Marriage and Family Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling.*

The course affords an opportunity for students to specialize in marriage and family counseling. Special emphases are placed on the foundations, contextual dimensions, knowledge and skills of marital, couple, and family counseling.

COU 6701 - Internship in Counseling I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Therapy, or School Counseling and completion of the following courses: COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling; COU/PSY 6502 Theories of Personality and Counseling ; COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling; COU 6669/6670/6668 Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of Mental Health Counseling/Marriage and Family Counseling/School Counseling; COU/PSY 6515 Lifespan Development; COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling); COU 6663 Practicum in Counseling and Therapy; COU 6662 Techniques of Group Counseling; COU/PSY 6504 Research-Methods and Procedures*

This course involves supervised experience in an approved internship site. The student will receive at least 1 1/2 hours of group supervision and 1 hour of individual or triadic supervision per week. The intern participates in direct and indirect services consistent with counseling practice in an area of specialization. (Credit or No Credit)

COU 6702 - Internship in Counseling II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Therapy, or School Counseling and completion of the following courses: COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling; COU/PSY 6502 Theories of Personality and Counseling; COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling; COU 6669/6670/6668 Foundations, Contextual Dimensions, Knowledge and Skills of Mental Health Counseling/Marriage and Family Counseling/School Counseling; COU/PSY 6515 Lifespan Development; 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling); 6663 Practicum in Counseling and Therapy ; COU 6662 Techniques of Group Counseling; COU 6665 Lifestyle and Career Counseling; COU/PSY 6504 Research-Methods and Procedures*

This course involves supervised experience in an approved internship site. The student will receive at least 1 1/2 hours of group supervision and 1 hour of individual or triadic supervision per week. The intern participates in direct and indirect services consistent with counseling practice in an area of specialization. (Credit or No Credit)

COU 6805 - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* COU 6663

This course is considered an advanced course in which students refine therapeutic skills with specific attention to a cognitive-behavioral theory and treatment model. The primary purpose of this course is to allow students to become acquainted with knowledge and skills related to clinical decision-making, treatment planning and treatment implementation utilizing strategies and activities emphasized in cognitive-behavioral therapy literature and research.

Available as an elective to student in the Marriage and Family Counseling program, Mental Health Counseling of the School Counseling programs.

COU 6807 - Couple Dynamics and Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling) or consent of the instructor. The course is required in the Marriage and Family Counseling Program.*

This course explores the dynamics of marital and couple relationships from a clinical research perspective. The student will explore psychodynamic and system perspectives, as well as other models of couple counseling, with reference to normal or health functioning and symptomatic behavioral. Counseling strategies and interventions will be explored.

COU 6808 - Family Dynamics and Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling) or consent of the instructor. The course is required in the Marriage and Family Counseling Program.*

This course is designed to introduce students to the dynamics of the family unit. Students will

examine shifting roles, boundaries, and relationships from a systemic view. Students will be exposed to the classic schools of therapy and recent developments in the field. Interactional patterns, communication, and behavioral approaches to family therapy will be examined, as well as ethical and legal issues.

COU 6810 - Introduction to Play Therapy: Counseling Children and Adolescents

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family, or School Counseling.*

This course is designed to provide a broad understanding of the various aspects of working with children and adolescents in a playroom setting. Students will gain an understanding of the child's view of self and self with others. Students will learn how to communicate with children and promote self-exploration through the use of theoretical application and play media.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6810]

COU 6811 - Advanced Play Therapy: Counseling Children and Adolescents

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing. Successful completion of COU 6810 or PSY 6810*

This course is designed to provide students with a more in-depth perspective of working with children and adolescents in a playroom setting. Students will build on previous knowledge of play therapy. Students will conceptualize presenting issues from a multidimensional level and apply appropriate play therapy techniques via instructor supervision in an experiential manner. Student will identify the process of therapy from initial intake through termination from an ethical, legal and cultural framework.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6811]

COU 6812 - Psychopharmacology for Professional Counselors

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of the Qualifying Courses and admission to candidacy for the M.S. degree in Addiction Counseling.*

The course provides a foundation in understanding psychopharmacology and the biopsychosocial model for the professional counselors. Addiction counselors will learn about biological bases for substance use and addictive disorders; pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics; psychoactive drugs and their effects; the disease concept and stages of dependence; and biopsychosocial case formulation and treatment planning.

COU 6815 - Introduction to Integrated Healthcare

Credits, 3 sem hrs The objective of this course is to introduce counseling students to the direct practice of integrated behavioral health in primary care. Students will become knowledgeable of the roles of behavioral health providers working in primary care settings; theories and models of care; and cross-cultural issues. They will develop skills in engagement, assessment,

intervention planning and implementation, and practice evaluation. Because the populations served in primary care settings span the spectrum of severity in both the physical and behavioral health dimensions, students will develop competencies in engaging and supporting patients across a range of health conditions.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6815]

COU 6817 - Crisis Counseling

Credits, 3 sem hrs This course is designed to provide a an examination of diverse crisis situations along with assessment and treatment strategies used by counselors to assist individuals, groups and organizations in managing and resolving those crises. The course is especially relevant to providing counseling and human services in response to natural disasters, accidents, and upheaval in schools and workplaces.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6817]

COU 6818 - Counseling Children and Adolescents

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Completion of COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling) or consent of the instructor.

An overview of developmentally appropriate approaches to counseling children and adolescents in school and mental health settings. Addresses individual and group work, expressive and talk therapies, family and organizational systems, trauma, wellness, resiliency, technology delivery, self-care strategies for counselors, multicultural trends, supervision models, and behavioral and emotional assessments of children and adolescents.

[Crosslisted as: PSY 6818]

COU 6825 – Grief Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course is designed for all counseling majors. It presents an overview of how to navigate encounters with death, dying, and bereavement. Students will learn techniques and strategies when coping with someone that has a life-threatening illness, funerals, grief, and recovery and how to communicate constructively in the face of death. Insight into cultural and religious perspectives that affect encounters, attitudes, and practices in death-related matters. The impact of the counselor's own grief in terms of his/her effectiveness is also explored. This course will explore the meaning of grief, it's various components and how it is manifested. Students will attain knowledge, values, and skills to meet the demands for entry level practice with clients and their families encountering grief and loss at different stages of lifespan.

COU 6999 - Graduate Comprehensive Examination

Credits, No Credits, 0 hrs. Prerequisite(s): Successful completion, a grade of "B" or better, in nine core courses that are a part of the CPCE, exit exam (COU 6501 Legal, Ethical, and

Professional Issues in Counseling; COU 6502 Theories of Personality and Counseling; COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling); COU/PSY 6504 Research-Methods and Procedures; COU/PSY 6506 Multicultural Counseling; COU/PSY 6515 Lifespan Development; COU 6661 Use and Interpretation of Tests; COU 6662 Techniques of Group Counseling; COU 6665 Lifestyle and Career Counseling

This course is the first step in Master's-level counseling students registering for their exit exam, the *Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination* (CPCE), a 160-item, standardized, computer-based exam published by the Center for Credentialing & Education. The 8 core areas of the CPCE cover courses in professional orientation & ethics, helping relationships, research and program evaluation, social and cultural foundations, human growth & development, appraisal, group work, and career & lifestyle development. Students will be guided through the process of registering online for the CPCE.

COU 7505 - Counselor Supervision

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Completion of the Master's degree, admission to the Ed.S. Program in Counseling or consent of the instructor.

This course is designed to review major theories of supervision for counselors. In addition, supervision models and theories will be implemented in clinical settings. Students will demonstrate supervisory skills with clinicians and trainees who are engaging in the delivery of counseling services.

Only available to students accepted into the Ed.S. Counseling Program or non-degree students who already have obtained a Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling, Marriage and Family Counseling or School Counseling programs.

COU 7506 - Planning and Organizing Counseling & Human Services Programs

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Completion of the Master's degree, admission to the Ed.S. Program in Counseling, or consent of the instructor.

The course will address contemporary approaches to program development and project management in counseling, educational, and psychological settings. This graduate seminar will be guided by a model for research, development, and utilization associated with innovation and planned change. The student will plan and organize a project, product, or service particular to a selected problem, population, and setting. Future trends and developmentally-oriented prevention projects will be highlighted.

Only available to students accepted into the Ed.S. Counseling Program or non-degree students who already have obtained a Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling, Marriage and Family Counseling or School Counseling programs.

COU 7507 - Introduction to Applied Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will provide the professional counselor with an introduction to applied clinical research in counseling and psychotherapy. The practitioner-scholar model will be emphasized. Course participants will consider qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, and program evaluation research models. Each model will be applied to individual, family, or community problems in a variety of settings.

Available to graduate level students in all other areas or departments across campus and non-degree students.

COU 8401 - Introduction to Applied Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will provide the professional counselor with an introduction to applied clinical research in counseling and psychotherapy. The practitioner-scholar model will be emphasized. Course participants will consider qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, and program evaluation research models. Each model will be applied to individual, family, or community problems in a variety of settings.

COU 8402 - Planning Consultation and Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of the Master's degree, admission to the Ed.S. Program in Counseling, or consent of the instructor.*

The course will address contemporary approaches to program development and project management in counseling, educational, and psychological settings. This graduate seminar will be guided by a model for research, development, and utilization associated with innovation and planned change. The student will plan and organize a project, product, or service particular to a selected problem, population, and setting. Future trends and developmentally-oriented prevention projects will be highlighted.

COU 8405 - Clinical Entrepreneurship

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide a broad understanding of how to effectively develop and implement a successful business model (e.g. private practice) for the design and delivery of clinical practices, or related services. This course is important for any aspiring clinician interested in private practice, non-profit, or grant funded program development. The goal is to introduce the concepts and planning structures in efforts for students to be in position to start their own business.

COU 8406 - Advanced Psychopharmacology and Neurobiology

Credits, 3. sem. hrs. The course provides a foundation in understanding an integrative approach to psychopharmacology for the professional counselors. Students will learn about physiology relevant to psychopharmacology; the psychological, social, and cultural issues related to psychopharmacology; the biological bases for substance use and addictive disorders; pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics; psychoactive drugs and their effects; the disease concept and stages of dependence; and biopsychosocial case formulation and treatment planning. Recent advances in medicine and neuroscience challenge professional counselors and mental health professionals to examine biological bases of behavior, as well as integrated biopsychosocial treatments of addictive disorders.

COU 8501 - Advanced Professional Career and Lifestyle Planning

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program*

This course will provide the professional counselor with information and skills needed to foster

career development. Course participants examine the following topics: classic and contemporary theories of career development, sources of educational and occupational information, career and lifestyle trends, and applications of technology in the career development process. Students will also address the career and lifestyle planning needs of special populations, career development in specific settings, and professional career development. Multicultural considerations will be infused and advocacy will be emphasized..

COU 8502 - Advanced Lifespan Developmental Processes

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program*

This course will provide the professional counselor with a comprehensive understanding of human growth and development needed to facilitate change in a variety of practice settings. The course includes a review of the major theories and models associated with lifespan development.

COU 8503 - Advanced Theories and Models of Counseling & Psychotherapy

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 24 semester hours of doctoral studies or consent of the faculty member*

This course will provide the professional counselor with a comprehensive understanding of contemporary theories and models of counseling and therapy. The course includes historical antecedents and foundations for the models and theories, but emphasizes postmodern, systemic, and multicultural approaches. Selected techniques from each theory or model will be applied in clinical practice.

COU 8504 - Advanced Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment Planning

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 24 semester hours of doctoral studies or consent of the faculty member*

This course will provide the professional counselor with an understanding of clinical assessment and diagnosis. Course participants will examine characteristics of clinical assessment tools, including psychometric tests, and systems of classification and diagnosis. They will develop knowledge and skills needed to conduct assessment, diagnosis, referral, treatment planning, and evaluation. Students will also learn professional and ethical practices needed to maintain confidentiality and produce timely and accurate documentation.

COU 8505 - Advanced Group Dynamics and Contextual Factors in Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 48 semester hours of doctoral studies or consent of the faculty member*

This course is designed to counselors with an intellectual and personal understanding of the

principles of leadership, membership, and development in groups. This course includes self-assessment of how one's personal and interpersonal psychological and social styles affect personal and professional behavior in groups.

COU 8506 - Advanced Systems Theory, Multicultural and Transformational Models

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 60 semester hours of doctoral studies or consent of the faculty member.*

This course will focus on clinical applications of major systems theory, multicultural and transformational models. The major emphasis is couple, marriage, and family counseling and therapy, although systemic perspectives may be applied to individual and community issues, as well. Skills in systemic and transformational interventions within a multicultural context will be acquired.

COU 8507 - Mental Health Crisis Services

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to explore behavioral healthcare issues related to diverse crisis situations, including assessment and interventions used by behavioral health providers. A focus on investigation of evidence-based practices identified in the professional literature and development of strategies to implement such practices within various organization structures will be included. Student will identify key strategies to incorporate into their current work setting.

COU 8601 - Professional Identity and Ethical Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program*

This course will provide the professional counselor with a comprehensive understanding of professional, legal, and ethical issues affecting practice in a variety of settings. The course will introduce the topic of specialization in professional counseling. Ethical dilemmas in case studies will be examined to inform clinical decision making.

COU 8602 - Professional Growth and Wellbeing

Credits, 3 *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program*

This course will provide the professional counselor with a comprehensive understanding of personal characteristics needed to be effective in a variety of practice settings. The course includes self-assessment and professional mental health evaluation of the professional counselor's overall personal adjustment and capacity to maintain healthy counseling relationships. Counselor contributions to the therapeutic alliance are emphasized.

COU 8603 - Evidence Based Practice: Clinical Applications of Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling*

Degree Program; completion of 24 semester hours of doctoral studies or consent of the faculty member

This course will provide the professional counselor with the foundations for understanding and implementing evidence-based practices. The course includes a survey of best practices according to selected problems, populations, and settings. Students work in consultation teams to identify best practices for particular client groups, localize or adapt interventions for multicultural effectiveness, and design empirically supported treatment programs for implementation and evaluation.

COU 8604 - Psychotherapy Integration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 36 semester hours of doctoral studies or consent of the faculty member*

This course will provide the professional counselor with the foundations for understanding and becoming involved in the psychotherapy integration movement. The course includes a review of the major models of psychotherapy integration and examples of each approach. Students continue elaboration of their personal practice theories and engage in dialogue and debate regarding the merits of selected constructs and integrative approaches.

COU 8605 - Trauma: Impact, Assessment and Treatment

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course will provide the professional counselor with the foundations for understanding the impact of crises, disasters, sexual assault and other trauma-causing events on individuals and communities, as well as the treatment of trauma related disorders. The causes, symptoms and treatments of both trauma-related and "normal" relations to exceptional violence is examined in depth, examine the affective, behavioral, cognitive and spiritual challenges faced by survivors. Attention is also given to vicarious traumatization and caring for the caregiver. The primary focus of this course is to develop an understanding of the theories and models of trauma and its treatment. Students will develop a conceptual and practical idea of understanding the impact of crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events on people, and learn the principles, models, and formats of biopsychosocial case conceptualization and treatment planning.

COU 8606 - Advanced Case Conceptualization

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This is an experiential course designed to help clinicians develop and refine micro-counseling skills believed to be crucial to the interviewing, counseling, and psychotherapy process. The course will review, discuss, role play, observe, and enact clinical interviewing skills throughout the course. This will include how to effectively diagnose the conceptualize client problems and how to develop appropriate treatment plans to assist in alleviating the identified problems.

COU 8701 - Specialization Seminar I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 24 semester hours*

This course will provide the professional counselor with ongoing opportunities to pursue a specialization of personal/professional interest and exploration of national trends and professional practices. Course activities include a literature review of basic theoretical constructs and research findings related to identified topics. This course builds upon the student's personal practice theory, recent professional literature exploration and instruction and guidance of program faculty members.

COU 8702 - Specialization Seminar II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; and completion of 24 semester hours.*

This course will provide the professional counselor with ongoing opportunities to pursue a specialization of personal/professional interest. During this course, the professional counselor student will explore professional literature and research related to national trends in behavioral healthcare, professional topics of interest in relation to areas of professional growth and/or key issues related to professional practices of advanced graduate-level behavioral healthcare providers. Specific topics of focus will be identified as related to theoretical constructs, assessment models and strategies, models and theories of treatment integration and evidence-based practices.

COU 8703 - Specialization Seminar III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 24 semester hours.*

This course will provide continued instruction and guidance in professional topics related to integration of knowledge and skills in the areas of assessment and treatment important to various areas of specialization and work environments. Exploration of professional literature and research will be a foundational activity throughout the course.

COU 8704 - Specialization Seminar IV

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program; completion of 24 semester hours.*

This course incorporates opportunities for students to explore topics related to a variety of professional behavioral health issues that are important to professionals with advanced graduate degrees. The course will include a focus on practical strategies for incorporate academic knowledge/skills into the daily life of a practicing behavioral health professional.

COU 8805 - Clinical Supervision

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of a Master's degree in Counseling*

(including completion of a Practicum in Counseling (3 hrs) and Internship in Counseling (6 hrs), admission to the Ed.S. Program in Counseling or consent of the instructor.

This course is designed to review major theories of supervision for counselors. In addition, supervision models and theories will be implemented in clinical settings. Students will demonstrate supervisory skills with clinicians and trainees who are engaging in the delivery of counseling services.

COU 8902 - Project Demonstrating Excellence

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. (may be repeated for a maximum of 12 sem hrs) *Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Doctor of Professional Counseling Degree Program) and completion of 60 semester hours.*

This course will provide the professional counselor student with opportunities to integrate learning from previous coursework; develop a clinical case conceptualization/formulation related to their area of current professional work or a purposed area of professional focus. This course represents the concluding (capstone) experience in the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program and may be repeated for a total of 12 semester hours without special permission from the department.

COU 8903 - PDE Continuation I

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* COU 8902

This course is a continuation of COU 8902 and will provide the professional counselor student with opportunities to integrate learning from previous coursework develop a clinical case conceptualization/formulation related to their area of current professional work or a purposed area of professional focus; propose and conduct an original action research project or another creative. This is the concluding or capstone experience in the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program. The student must complete COU 8902, Project Demonstrating Excellence. The project may be continued for up to three additional semesters. In such cases, the student will register for COU 8903, PDE Continuation I, then COU 8904, PDE Continuation II, if needed. COU 8904 may be repeated once for credit affording a total of 12 semester hours as needed to complete the PDE. These courses are eligible for non-graded sections CR, NC, PR.

COU 8904 - PDE Continuation II

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* COU 8902 and COU 8903

This course is a continuation of COU 8903 and will provide the professional counselor student with opportunities to integrate learning from previous coursework develop a clinical case conceptualization/formulation related to their area of current professional work or a purposed area of professional focus; propose and conduct an original action research project or another creative. This is the concluding or capstone experience in the Doctor of Professional Counseling degree program. The student must complete COU 8902, Project Demonstrating Excellence. The project may be continued for up to three additional semesters. In such cases, the student will register for COU 8903, PDE Continuation I, then COU 8904, PDE Continuation II, if needed. COU 8904 may be repeated once for credit affording a total of 12 semester hours as needed to

complete the PDE. These courses are eligible for non-graded sections CR, NC, PR.

Psychology Course Descriptions

PSY 5435 - Psychology of Exceptional Children

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An overview of exceptional children is presented and a study is made of those children who do not profit readily by the methods usually employed in teaching normal individuals. Emphasis is placed on identification, diagnosis, and etiology of exceptionality. Organization, administration, and objectives of special education courses also are covered.

PSY 5451 - Adventure Based Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course introduces human relations workers to a wide spectrum of adventure activities and initiative problems, including specific technical skills for rigorous adventure-based events, such as rope course events. Emphasis is on developing the necessary leadership skills to conduct effective Adventure Based Counseling groups.

PSY 5461 - Applied Behavioral Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* PSY 201 Introduction to Psychology
An introduction to the theory and application of the principles of applied behavior analysis to problems involving human behavior change. Attention is focused not only on critical elements of applied behavioral analysis, but also on national standards of application.

PSY 5467 - Behavioral Assessment

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* PSY 461/5461 Applied Behavioral Analysis
This course provides an overview of data-based methods appropriate in the assessment of severe problem behavior, academic skill deficits, and verbal behavior deficits. This course is one of the courses required for national Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) certification.

PSY 5474 - App Behav Research Methods

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* PSY 5461 - Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) *Corequisite(s):* PSY 5461 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)
An introduction to data collection, data analysis, and single-case experimental design research methodology in the applied behavioral sciences. This course specifically addresses research in the field of applied behavior analysis.

PSY 5475 - Adv Behav Interventions

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* PSY 5461 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)
Corequisite(s): PSY 5461 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)
Advanced Behavioral Interventions is designed to train graduate students in various aspects of

intervention design and outcomes assessment in areas such as parent training, classroom management, Autism and the analysis of verbal behavior, and individual child behavior therapy. The application of behavior therapy principles is the central promise of the course. Other related topics include functional assessment/analysis in intervention design and data-based decision-making. The course is designed to be consistent with the data-based problem-solving model.

PSY 5476 - Ethics & Law in Beh Analysis

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* PSY 5461 Applied Behavioral

Analysis (ABA) *Corequisite(s):* PSY 5461 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)

An overview of legal and ethical issues associated with the practice of applied behavior analysis in public, private and independent practice settings.

PSY 6502 - Theories of Personality and Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling

This course will provide the student with a comprehensive understanding of current and historical theories of personality and the major therapeutic methods available for implementing change in human behavior. **In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of 'B' or better.**

PSY 6504 - Research-Methods and Procedures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s):* Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Therapy, or School Counseling or permission of the instructor.

A survey of basic research methodologies in the social and behavioral sciences with emphasis on critical reading of published research. Students will develop a research proposal which meets CACREP standards for program evaluation. In order to register for COU 6999 Graduate Comprehensive Examination and take the CPCE, which is required for graduation, this course must be successfully completed with a grade of "B" or better.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6504, EDU 6504, ORL 6504, and HSA 6504]

PSY 6505 - Intermediate Statistics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This is an intermediate level course in statistics and assumes student knowledge of central tendency and variability; the normal curve and transformations; probability theory and hypothesis testing. The major emphasis in this course is on parametric and nonparametric approaches to data analysis. Computer applications are emphasized.

PSY 6506 - Multicultural Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling.

This course is designed to provide a broad understanding of societal changes and trends, different cultures, and ethnic groups that can be useful in developing and implementing strategies tailored to meet the special needs of individuals, groups, families in a multicultural population.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6506.]

PSY 6515 - Lifespan Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Master's Program in the specialty area of Clinical Mental Health, Marriage and Family Counseling, or School Counseling.

This course is designed to provide a broad understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels. Also included are such areas as human behavior (normal and abnormal).

[Crosslisted as: COU 6515.]

PSY 6534 – Introduction to Trauma Informed Care & Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite: None. It is a lecture/discussion course intended to familiarize students with the emerging recognition of, and approach to, working with individuals who have experienced trauma. This course prepares students to recognize trauma and respond in trauma-informed ways to facilitate effective, quality care. This course is a dual level course, intended for students at the undergraduate and graduate level. Because the impacts of trauma continue across the lifespan, this course is intended to be of relevance for students of any human service domain, including mental health, nursing, pre-medicine, social service, education, Christian studies, and criminal justice.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6534]

PSY 6536 - Psychopathology III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing. Successful completion of PSY/COU 6515 and 6516, and PSY/COU 6531 is strongly recommended prior to taking this course.

This course provides information necessary to development of skills related to behavioral health diagnosing, case conceptualization/formulation, treatment plan development and completing other types of medical documentation. The knowledge and skills will assist students to effectively navigate complex clinical cases and apply DSM-5 diagnoses to clients in a variety of settings. Additionally, students are prepared to enact treatment plans and engage in ongoing assessment of effectiveness of treatment interventions.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6536]

PSY 6551 - Seminar in Psychology

Credits, 1 sem. hr. A study of a variety of issues and problems addressed by professional counselors. Special emphasis is placed on modern trends in counseling through review of the literature, case studies and on-site visits.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6551.]

PSY 6552 - Seminar in Psychology

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: COU 6552.]*

PSY 6553 - Seminar in Psychology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: COU 6553.]*

PSY 6651 - Special Studies in Psychology

Credits, 1 sem. hr. Provides a study of the unique needs and demands in working with specific populations.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6651.]

PSY 6652 - Special Studies in Psychology

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: COU 6652.]*

PSY 6653 - Special Studies in Psychology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *[Crosslisted as: COU 6653.]*

PSY 6661 - Use and Interpretation of Tests

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Completion of the Qualifying Courses or consent of the instructor.*

This course provides a framework for understanding individual, family, and group testing, as well as methods for conducting case studies and research.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6661.]

PSY 6810 - Introduction to Play Therapy: Counseling Children and Adolescents

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing*

This course is designed to provide a broad understanding of the various aspects of working with children and adolescents in a playroom setting. Students will gain an understanding of the child's view of self and self with others. Students will learn how to communicate with children and promote self-exploration through the use of theoretical application and play media.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6810]

PSY 6811 - Advanced Play Therapy: Counseling Children and Adolescents

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing. Successful completion of COU 6810 or PSY 6810*

This course is designed to provide students with a more in-depth perspective of working with children and adolescents in a playroom setting. Students will build on previous knowledge of play therapy. Students will conceptualize presenting issues from a multidimensional level and apply appropriate play therapy techniques via instructor supervision in an experiential manner. Student will identify the process of therapy from initial intake through termination from an ethical, legal and cultural framework.

PSY 6815 - Introduction to Integrated Healthcare

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The objective of this course is to introduce counseling students to the direct practice of integrated behavioral health in primary care. Students will become knowledgeable of the roles of behavioral health providers working in primary care settings; theories and models of care; and cross-cultural issues. They will develop skills in engagement, assessment, intervention planning and implementation, and practice evaluation. Because the populations served in primary care settings span the spectrum of severity in both the physical and behavioral health dimensions, students will develop competencies in engaging and supporting patients across a range of health conditions.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6815]

PSY 6817 - Crisis Counseling

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The objective of this course is to introduce counseling students to the direct practice of integrated behavioral health in primary care. Students will become knowledgeable of the roles of behavioral health providers working in primary care settings; theories and models of care; and cross-cultural issues. They will develop skills in engagement, assessment, intervention planning and implementation, and practice evaluation. Because the populations served in primary care settings span the spectrum of severity in both the physical and behavioral health dimensions, students will develop competencies in engaging and supporting patients across a range of health conditions.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6817]

PSY 6818 - Counseling Children and Adolescents

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Completion of COU 6503 Helping Relationships (Methods and Techniques in Counseling) or consent of the instructor.

An overview of developmentally appropriate approaches to counseling children and adolescents in school and mental health settings. Addresses individual and group work, expressive and talk therapies, family and organizational systems, trauma, wellness, resiliency, technology delivery, self-care strategies for counselors, multicultural trends, supervision models, and behavioral and emotional assessments of children and adolescents.

[Crosslisted as: COU 6818]

Department of Social Work

Child Advocacy Studies Training Certificate (9 sem. hrs.)

The Child Advocacy Studies Training (CAST) curriculum focuses on interdisciplinary, ethical, trauma informed, realistic, and culturally proficient content that provides professionals a foundation for responding to child maltreatment. Students learn about the various disciplinary responses to child maltreatment and will develop a multidisciplinary understanding of most efficient responses. Students completing the courses in the program will be better equipped to accomplish the work of related agencies (social work, criminal justice, education, psychology, nursing, paralegal, pre-law, pre-med or other areas where knowledge of child maltreatment and advocating *for* children will be necessary) as they advocate on behalf of child victims and survivors of child maltreatment. Experiential learning through coursework is emphasized.

The CAST certificate is approved and offered by Zero Abuse Project Protection Training Center, a 501(c)(3) organization committed to transforming institutions in order to effectively prevent, recognize, and respond to child maltreatment.

Required Courses (9 hours):

CAST 5400: Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Child Advocacy (3 hours)

CAST 5401: Professional and System Responses to Child maltreatment (3 hours)

CAST 5402: Responding to the Survivor of Child Abuse and Survivor Responses (3 hours)

Courses will be offered as follows:

CAST 5400 - Fall semester (1st 8 week session)

CAST 5401 - Fall semester (2nd 8 week session)

CAST 5402 - Spring semester (1st 8 week session)

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawson, 925-3298, Jennings 112

Sociology and Social Work Course Descriptions

CAST 5400 – Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Child Advocacy

Credits: 3 sem. hrs. This course covers the history, comparative perspectives, the legal framework, responses to child maltreatment, the skills necessary to do the work, and other pertinent issues pertaining to child maltreatment, child advocacy, and the future.

CAST 5401 – Professional and System Responses to Child Maltreatment

Credits: 3 sem. hrs. This course focuses on the responses of professionals to allegations of child maltreatment. The purpose of this course is to expand the student's knowledge and skills in identifying, investigating and prosecuting child maltreatment.

CAST 5402 – Responding to the Survivor of Child Abuse and Survivor Responses

Credits: 3 sem. hrs. This course prepares students to recognize the effects of child maltreatment and apply intervention strategies for children and their families. Multidisciplinary approaches to prevention, advocacy and treatment of child maltreatment survivors will be presented and discussed. There will be an experiential lab for this course.

CAST 5403 – The Church's Response to Child Maltreatment

Credits: 3 sem. hrs. This course focuses on the responses of the church and community organizations to the protection and prevention of child maltreatment. The purpose of this course is to expand the student's knowledge and skills in protecting, preventing, and identifying child maltreatment. Students majoring in criminal justice, education, social work, sociology, psychology, nursing, paralegal, pre-med, Pre-law, ministry and other areas where knowledge of child maltreatment advocacy are necessary will receive competency-based skills training.

CAST 5404 – Strengthening Families: Building Protective Factors

Credits: 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to explore the concept of protective factors and equip students with the knowledge and skills to create supportive environments for families. Drawing on research from various disciplines, students will examine the key protective factors that contribute to family resilience and well-being. By creating positive childhood experiences we minimize the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) which are linked to lifelong illnesses and ultimately lead to early death. Students will learn the strength-based approach to building resilient families. Students will also learn how hope is a protective factor for parents to prevent child maltreatment.

CAST 5405 – Capstone Project and Experience

Prerequisites: CAST 400/5400, 401/5401, 402/5402: **Credits: 3 sem. hrs.** This capstone course serves as the culmination of the Child Advocacy Studies program, providing students with the opportunity to integrate and apply their knowledge and skills in a real-world context. Students will participate in an experiential learning project related to child advocacy, combining research, analysis, and practical application to address current issues and challenges in the field.

SOC 6553 - Directed Readings

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. An individualized study of a selected area of sociology under the supervision of a departmental faculty member.

SOC 6570 - Special Topics: Sociology

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course may be repeated as topic varies.

SOC 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

SWK 5501 - Neurobiological Foundations of Trauma Assessment and Treatment

Credits, 3 sem hrs This course will serve as an introduction to the trauma certificate program. Topics covered include neurobiological and neurodevelopmental aspects of the impact of trauma across the lifespan. Implications for assessment and recovery will be addressed from a strengths-based, social justice perspective.

SWK 5502 - Trauma Assessment

Credits, 3 sem hrs The current evidence-base will be examined with respect to current developments and contemporary approaches to trauma assessment and treatment planning. A problem-based learning approach will be utilized to integrate core content with cutting edge theory and research.

SWK 5503 - Trauma Intervention I

Credits, 3 sem hrs This course will focus on therapeutic interventions with children and adolescents who have experienced trauma, incorporating brain-based conceptualization approaches into trauma treatment.

SWK 5504 - Trauma Intervention II

Credits, 3 sem hrs This course will focus on therapeutic interventions with adults and families, incorporating brain-based approaches into treatment.

SWK 5505 - Special Topics in Trauma Assessment and Treatment

Credits, 3 sem hrs This final course in the Trauma Certificate program will focus on specific areas of content related to trauma. It will serve as an integrative experience for the trauma certificate and will cover special topics such as cultural competence, ethics, trauma research, and unique populations.

School of Nursing

Dean

Kelly A. Harden (2024)

601-925-3381

kharden@mc.edu

Department of Nursing

Graduate Chair & Assistant Professor

Jeanne Bernier (2014)

601-925-3278

jabernier@mc.edu

The School of Nursing is growing with a large community of nursing alumni. Established in 1969, nursing had its first graduating class in 1973. Our goal is to help students graduate with confidence and competence and excel in patient care. The School of Nursing is housed in Cockcroft Hall and has undergraduate campus-based program routes for the BSN and a 16-month Accelerated BSN (offered to students with a first degree). The program also offers an online RN-BSN for working nursing professionals.

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree has the Clinical Nurse Leader track, the Educational Leadership track, the Nurse Educator track, and the Nurse Administrator track. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree offers a Post-Graduate track, a BSN-DNP Nurse Educator track, and a BSN-DNP Executive Leadership track.

MSN Program Goals

The MSN program will:

1. Develop advanced nursing leaders who exemplify Christ-like character, ethical integrity, and compassion in clinical practice, education, leadership, and policy-making roles.
2. Prepare graduates with advanced knowledge, clinical expertise, and leadership skills to influence health outcomes and improve the quality and safety of care for diverse populations.
3. Foster a spirit of lifelong learning and professional accountability through advanced scholarship, evidence-based practice, and the integration of research into decision-making.

4. Promote innovation and inquiry by preparing graduates to lead and participate in research, quality improvement initiatives, and the adoption of information and communication technologies in healthcare delivery.
5. Cultivate leaders who advocate for equity and social justice, engaging in policy, education, and community initiatives to address health disparities and promote population health.
6. Equip graduates to lead within complex healthcare systems, demonstrating advanced communication, systems thinking, and interprofessional collaboration to drive organizational and population health improvements.

MSN Expected Student Outcomes

By the completion of the MSN program, graduates will be prepared to:

1. Integrate Christian values and advanced ethical reasoning into leadership, education, and advanced clinical practice decisions.
2. Synthesize evidence, theory, and clinical expertise to design, implement, and evaluate safe, high-quality, and culturally responsive care at the individual, population, and systems levels.
3. Critically appraise research and apply findings to improve patient outcomes, organizational performance, and health policy.
4. Lead and facilitate inquiry-based projects, quality improvement initiatives, and evidence-based innovations to advance nursing practice and improve healthcare delivery.
5. Analyze and influence healthcare policies and regulations, advocating for access, equity, and improved health outcomes for diverse and underserved populations.
6. Leverage health informatics and emerging technologies to improve care quality, safety, and efficiency within healthcare organizations.
7. Demonstrate advanced communication and leadership skills to collaborate effectively with interprofessional teams and influence organizational and policy-level change.

DNP Program Goals

The DNP program will:

1. Form Christ-centered nurse leaders who embody humility, compassion, and ethical integrity, advancing nursing practice and health care systems through a lens of servant leadership and justice.

2. Prepare graduates to translate and apply evidence at the highest level of nursing practice to improve health outcomes and transform complex healthcare delivery systems.
3. Cultivate scholarly practitioners who design, lead, and evaluate sustainable practice innovations that address population health priorities, reduce disparities, and promote equity.
4. Advance interprofessional and systems-level leadership by equipping graduates with the knowledge, judgment, and skills to shape policy, lead organizations, and advocate for vulnerable and underserved populations.
5. Foster lifelong growth in scholarship and professional identity through reflective practice, advanced inquiry, and a commitment to continuous improvement in health care delivery.
6. Leverage technology and informatics to expand access, enhance care quality, and ensure efficiency across diverse health systems.
7. Inspire mission-minded leaders to serve faithfully in local, national, and global contexts, applying Christian principles to influence health care with wisdom, justice, and love.

DNP Expected Student Outcomes

By completion of the DNP program, graduates will be prepared to:

1. Integrate a Christian worldview into advanced nursing leadership, demonstrating Christ-like compassion, moral responsibility, and servant leadership in addressing complex healthcare challenges.
2. Translate and apply research evidence into clinical and organizational practice to improve patient outcomes, safety, and population health.
3. Design, implement, and evaluate practice-based projects that generate sustainable solutions for quality improvement and system transformation.
4. Critically appraise, synthesize, and disseminate evidence to guide practice, influence policy, and advance the discipline of nursing.
5. Lead interprofessional teams with advanced communication, collaboration, and systems-thinking skills to drive innovation and transformation in health care delivery.
6. Influence health policy through advocacy, scholarship, and leadership that promote equity, justice, and improved health outcomes for diverse and underserved populations.
7. Leverage health informatics, big data, and emerging technologies to optimize decision-making, improve outcomes, and expand access to care across health systems.
8. Demonstrate advanced expertise in organizational leadership by integrating business, financial, and population health principles into decision-making that strengthens health systems and communities.

9. Serve as mission-minded leaders who promote healing, justice, and service through evidence-based practice and Christian servant leadership in local, national, and global healthcare contexts.

Accreditation

The baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing at Mississippi Christian University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

The DNP program is awaiting final approval by SACSCOC and CCNE.

The Board of Trustees for the State institutions of Higher Learning have approved the status of Continuing Accreditation for the Baccalaureate (BSN) nursing program and Continuing Accreditation for the M.S.N. program at Mississippi Christian University's School of Nursing.

Programs

Clinical Nurse Leader, M.S.N. (36-42 sem. hrs.) available in an accelerated online format

MSN-Clinical Nurse Leader, M.S.N. (36-42 sem. hrs.) Available in an online format

The MSN-Clinical Nurse Leader program is designed to prepare nurses for practice across the continuum of care within any healthcare setting in today's changing healthcare environment. This program requires students to obtain 500 clinical hours and to sit for the Clinical Nurse Leader Certification Exam during the last semester of coursework. An out-of-pocket fee is associated with this exam

MSN-Educational Leadership (35 sem. hrs) Available in an online format

The MSN-Educational Leadership program prepares nurses to excel in academic, clinical, and nursing leadership settings. This comprehensive graduate nursing program focuses on developing proficiency in performance and quality improvement, ethical nursing practices grounded in Christian caring, and curriculum development tailored to the evolving needs of clinical and academic nursing. The program requires students to complete 360 clinical hours. Graduates will be prepared to sit for the Certified Nurse Educator exam

MSN-Nurse Educator (41 Sem. hrs) Available in an online format

The MSN-Nurse Educator program is designed for nurses who aspire to teach in academic, clinical, and professional development settings. Students will learn evidence-based instructional strategies, curriculum design, assessment methods, and principles of Christian caring in education. The program requires 500 clinical hours. Graduates will be prepared-but not required-to sit for the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) exam.

MSN-Nurse Administrator (39 Sem. hrs) Available in an online format

The MSN-Nurse Administrator program prepares nurses for leadership roles in healthcare systems, including unit management, operational leadership, and strategic planning. Students will develop advanced knowledge in healthcare finance, human resource management, quality improvement, and organizational leadership rooted in ethical Christian values. The program requires 500 clinical hours.

BSN-DNP-Nurse Educator (62 Sem. hrs) Available in an online format

The BSN-DNP-Nurse Educator program is designed for baccalaureate-prepared nurses seeking the highest level of preparation for educational leadership in academic, clinical, and professional development environments. Students will advance their expertise in pedagogy, curriculum design, assessment, leadership, and evidence-based education while completing a doctoral-level scholarly project. This program requires 1000 clinical hours. Graduates will be prepared-but not required-to sit for the Certified Nurse Educator exam.

BSN-DNP-Executive Leadership (63 Sem. hrs) Available in an online format

The BSN-DNP-Executive Leadership program is intended for baccalaureate-prepared nurses pursuing advanced system-level leadership roles in healthcare organizations. Students will develop competencies in strategic planning, organizational leadership, healthcare policy, quality improvement, and evidence-based practice integration while completing a scholarly project that addresses a real-world systems need. The program requires 1000 clinical hours.

Post-Graduate DNP (33 Sem. hrs) Available in an online format

The Post-Graduate DNP program is designed for master's prepared nurses who wish to achieve the terminal practice degree in nursing and expand their leadership and evidence-based practice expertise. Students will complete advanced coursework and a doctoral scholarly project that drives measurable improvement in a clinical or organizational system. This program requires 500 clinical hours beyond the 500 hours earned in the student's MSN program for a total of 1000 graduate nursing clinical hours. If a student did not earn a total of 500 clinical hours in their MSN program, they will have the opportunity to earn those remaining hours through an individualized plan of study.

Deadline for application

July 15 for Fall Semester

Students may apply year-round for review and provisional admission by the Chair of the School of Nursing Graduate Programs and the Dean of the School of Nursing.

Requirements for Admission to Mississippi Christian University School of Nursing

Graduate Programs

The applicant must:

1. Submit an application to Mississippi Christian University at:
<http://www.mc.edu/application/>
2. Submit official transcripts directly to the Mississippi Christian University Office of Graduate and Professional Studies at GPS@mc.edu
3. Meet all general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University..
4. Hold a current, unencumbered registered nursing license.
5. Hold a bachelor's degree in nursing from an accredited college or university. If applying to the MSN-Clinical Nurse Leader, MSN-Educational Leadership, MSN-Nurse Educator, MSN-Nurse Administrator, BSN-DNP-Nurse Educator, or BSN-DNP-Executive Leadership programs
6. Hold a master's degree in nursing from an accredited college or university if applying to the Post-Graduate DNP program.
7. Hold a BSN GPA of 2.5 for admission consideration. Students who are admitted to a graduate program must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Additional Admission Items:

1. Students may transfer in up to six hours of credit as approved by the Dean of the School of Nursing.
2. In addition to Mississippi Christian University's English proficiency requirements, all applicants to the School of Nursing whose first language is not English (including international and/or U.S. residents) must have a minimum TOEFL iBT of 83 combined (6.5 IELTS banding) or have graduated from a degree program where English is the primary language of instruction.

MSN-Clinical Nurse Leader Courses (36 sem. hrs.)

NUR 5006 Evidenced Based Practice for Quality Improvement in Health Care 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5007 Health Care Policy and Finance 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6001 Advanced Physio/Pathophysiology 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6002 Advanced Pharmacology through the Lifespan 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6003 Advanced Physical Health Assessment through the Lifespan 3. sem. hrs.
NUR 6020 Nursing Leadership Roles and Competencies CNL 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5000 Academic Writing for the Professional 2 sem. hrs.
NUR 5005 Scientific Underpinning of Advanced Practice Nursing 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6004 Advanced Physical Health Assessment Practicum through the Lifespan 1 sem. hr.
NUR 6021 Systems and Organizational Leadership - Part 1 CNL 1 sem. hr.
NUR 6022 Systems and Organizational Leadership - Part 2 CNL 2 sem. hrs.

NUR 6023 Clinical Nurse Leader - Practicum One CNL 2 sem. hrs.
NUR 6024 Clinical Nurse Leader - Practicum Two CNL 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6025 Clinical Nurse Leader - Seminar CNL 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6026 Competency Review Course 1 sem. hr.
NUR 6999 – Graduate Testing 0 sem. hrs.

MSN-Educational Leadership Courses (35 sem. hrs.)

NUR 5006 Evidenced Based Practice for Quality Improvement in Health Care 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5007 Health Care Policy and Finance 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5420 Quality Improvement in Healthcare 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5421 Curriculum and Program Development 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5422 Healthcare Technology 1 sem. hr.
NUR 5423 Assessment and Evaluation 2 sem. hrs.
NUR 5424 Nursing Educational Leadership Practicum 1 2 sem. hrs.
NUR 5425 Nursing Educational Leadership Practicum 2 2 sem. hrs.
NUR 5426 Nursing Educational Leadership Practicum 3 4 sem. hrs.
NUR 6001 Advanced Physio/Pathophysiology 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6002 Advanced Pharmacology through the Lifespan 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6003 Advanced Physical Health Assessment through the Lifespan 3. sem. hrs.
NUR 6020 Nursing Leadership Roles and Competencies CNL 3 sem. hrs.

MSN- Nurse Educator COURSES (41 sem. hrs.)

NUR 5419 Advanced Research in Nursing 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5429 Advanced Organizational and Systems Leadership 3 sem. hrs.
NRU 5447 Advanced Informatics and Healthcare Technologies 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5430 Professional Leadership for Person-Centered Care 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5445 Advanced Population Health 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5421 Curriculum and Program Development 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5423 Assessment and Evaluation 2 sem. hrs.
NUR 6001 Advanced Physio/Pathophysiology 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6002 Advanced Pharmacology through the Lifespan 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6003 Advanced Physical Health Assessment through the Lifespan 3. sem. hrs.
NUR 6030 Clinical Expertise and Teaching Integration for Nurse Educators 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6031 Nursing Education Practicum I 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6032 Nursing Education Practicum II 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6033 Nursing Education Practicum III 3 sem. hrs.

MSN- Nurse Administrator COURSES (39 sem. hrs.)

NUR 5419 Advanced Research in Nursing 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5429 Advanced Organizational and Systems Leadership 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5430 Professional Leadership for Person-Centered Care 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5445 Advanced Population Health 3 sem. hrs.
NRU 5447 Advanced Informatics and Healthcare Technologies 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6040 Professional Identity and Evidence-Based Leadership 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6041 Ethical and Legal Foundations of Nursing Administration 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6042 Strategic Resource Management in Nursing Administration 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6043 Business and Human Resource Management in Nursing 3 sem. hrs.

NUR 6044 Strategic Communication and Relationships Management in Health Systems 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6045 Nursing Administration Practicum I 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6046 Nursing Administration Practicum II 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6047 Nursing Administration Practicum III 3 sem. hrs.

***BSN-DNP-Nurse Educator* COURSES (62 sem. hrs.)**

NUR 5419 Advanced Research in Nursing 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5421 Curriculum and Program Development 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5423 Assessment and Evaluation 2 sem. hrs.
NUR 5447 Advanced Informatics and Healthcare Technologies 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6001 Advanced Physio/Pathophysiology 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6002 Advanced Pharmacology through the Lifespan 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6003 Advanced Physical Health Assessment through the Lifespan 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6030 Clinical Expertise and Teaching Integration for Nurse Educators 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6031 Nursing Education Practicum I 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6032 Nursing Education Practicum II 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6033 Nursing Education Practicum III 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8050 Advanced Scholarly Inquiry and Evidence Based Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8051 Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Public Health Concepts in Advanced Population Health 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8052 Advanced Organizational Leadership and Systems Integration for Quality and Safety in Advanced Nursing Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8053 Transformative Leadership for Professional Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8054 Scholarly Project Development 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8055 Scholarly Project Implementation and Evaluation 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8056 Scholarly Project Dissemination 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8057 Fellowship I 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8058 Fellowship II 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8059 Fellowship III 3 sem. hrs.

***BSN-DNP- Executive Leadership* COURSES (63 sem. hrs.)**

NUR 5419 Advanced Research in Nursing 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5429 Advanced Organizational and Systems Leadership 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 5447 Advanced Informatics and Healthcare Technologies 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6040 Professional Identity and Evidence-Based Leadership 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6041 Ethical and Legal Foundations of Nursing Administration 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6042 Strategic Resource Management in Nursing Administration 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6043 Business and Human Resource Management in Nursing 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6044 Strategic Communication and Relationships Management in Health Systems 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6045 Nursing Administration Practicum I 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6046 Nursing Administration Practicum II 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 6047 Nursing Administration Practicum III 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8050 Advanced Scholarly Inquiry and Evidence Based Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8051 Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Public Health Concepts in Advanced Population Health 3 sem. hrs.

NUR 8052 Advanced Organizational Leadership and Systems Integration for Quality and Safety in Advanced Nursing Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8053 Transformative Leadership for Professional Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8054 Scholarly Project Development 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8055 Scholarly Project Implementation and Evaluation 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8056 Scholarly Project Dissemination 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8057 Fellowship I 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8058 Fellowship II 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8059 Fellowship III 3 sem. hrs.

POST-GRADUATE DNP COURSES (33 sem. hrs.)

NUR 5447 Advanced Informatics and Healthcare Technologies 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8050 Advanced Scholarly Inquiry and Evidence Based Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8051 Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Public Health Concepts in Advanced Population Health 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8052 Advanced Organizational Leadership and Systems Integration for Quality and Safety in Advanced Nursing Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8053 Transformative Leadership for Professional Practice 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8054 Scholarly Project Development 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8055 Scholarly Project Implementation and Evaluation 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8056 Scholarly Project Dissemination 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8057 Fellowship I 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8058 Fellowship II 3 sem. hrs.
NUR 8059 Fellowship III 3 sem. hrs.

Nursing Course Descriptions

NUR 5000 - Academic Writing for the Professional

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Senior undergraduate standing or graduate standing The course prepares students to transition to graduate expectations for academic and

professional writing. The focus is the acquisition of professional academic writing skills and the application of APA reference format as a foundation for scholarly writing. Students will be required to think and present written assignments in a cogent manner utilizing appropriate literature.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 5005 - Scientific Underpinning of Advanced Practice Nursing

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 5000, BSN and current unexpired RN license; Graduate standing

This course enables the transition of baccalaureate nurses into an advanced practice role. Nursing consists of both art and science. This course will investigate the scientific underpinning of nursing by exploring the development of nursing science from its beginning to its application in present day practice.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 5006 - Evidenced Based Practice for Quality Improvement in Health Care

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 5000, BSN and current unencumbered RN license;
Graduate standing

Graduate students will build upon previous nursing knowledge, nursing research and evidence-based practice in order to incorporate research evidence into nursing practice for quality improvements in health care.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 5007 - Health Care Policy and Finance

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 5000, BSN and current unencumbered RN license;
Graduate standing

This course will explore the ways in which policy decision and financial considerations impact health care delivery.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 5404 – Health Care Informatics

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

In this course students will be introduced to the applications of informatics systems to nursing practice, healthcare, education, research, and administration. Integration of various theories will assist students to understand the importance of applying knowledge as they further develop their skills in information literacy. Students will learn how health care professionals can use information systems to work more efficiently, allocate resources more effectively, and improve health care services.

[Crosslisted as: ALH 404]

NUR 5406 - Chronic Health Problems

Credits, 5 sem. hrs.

This course focuses on knowledge and nursing concepts necessary to care for adult patients experiencing chronic health problems in a variety of clinical settings.

NUR 5419 Advanced Research in Nursing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course examines the principles of advanced nursing research and evidence-based practice. Emphasizing the critical appraisal of qualitative and quantitative studies, students will explore theoretical frameworks, develop research questions, and learn to conduct a scholarly

literature review. Attention is given to research ethics, human subjects protection, and Christian values in inquiry. Students will gain foundational skills necessary to evaluate research for practice application, support clinical decision-making, and contribute to quality improvement in diverse healthcare settings.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 5420 – Quality Improvement in Healthcare

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

This course prepares current and future healthcare leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to optimize patient care in healthcare organizations through current and valid quality and performance improvement processes. Students will learn the underpinnings of quality and performance improvement philosophies and methodologies and apply this historical knowledge to current healthcare situations and projects. Learning is reinforced through case studies and discussions that demonstrate the need for sound critical thinking skills for quality and performance improvement projects to succeed.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 5421 – Curriculum and Program Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs.

In this course, students will learn effective processes for developing, implementing, and evaluating curricula. Students will learn to incorporate current and emerging health issues, trends, and ethical circumstances with traditional nursing theory, ethical principles, and other components of the nursing teaching-learning process. Undergraduate curriculum models will be explored in the context of current nursing education and curriculum delivery trends and needs moving forward. Through exploration of curricula development, implementation, and evaluation, students will recognize and identify specific elements of the various types of undergraduate nursing programs.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 5422 – Healthcare Technology

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This course explores contemporary healthcare technologies and their application in educational and clinical settings. Students will learn various types of simulations and how to best utilize simulation in teaching and learning. The course emphasizes the use of technology to facilitate learning within the classroom, incorporating tools such as interactive platforms, presentation software, and personal communication devices to enrich educational experiences. Students will examine strategies for leveraging technology to support distance learning, ensuring effective and engaging educational delivery for remote and diverse learner populations. Topics will include the design and implementation of online learning modules, synchronous and asynchronous teaching methods, the integration of digital tools to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes and evaluating learning at a distance.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 5423 – Assessment and Evaluation

Credits, 2 sem. hrs

This course focuses on the principles and practices of assessment and evaluation in nursing education. Students will explore strategies to assess didactic and clinical performance effectively, including formative and summative evaluations. Emphasis is placed on developing comprehensive evaluation plans that align with program outcomes while addressing social, legal, and ethical considerations in testing and assessment. This course integrates innovative approaches, including the use of technology and simulation, to evaluate clinical competencies objectively. By the end of the course, students will be equipped to design and implement robust assessment tools that foster academic and clinical excellence in nursing education. Additionally, students will learn the essential aspects of curriculum, program, and teaching effectiveness evaluations along with the types of accreditation.

NUR 5424 – Nursing Educational Leadership Practicum 1 (90 Clinical Hours)

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

The clinical practicum courses in the MSN-EL program provides students the ability to tailor their clinical experiences to their career goals. Students will have the opportunity to complete clinical hours in an academic educational environment, a clinical educational environment, or a clinical leadership environment. Students interested in academic- or healthcare-based teaching will collaborate with experienced nurse educators to develop curricula, learn and implement teaching and evaluation strategies, and gain hands-on experience in academic or healthcare education settings. Students interested in nursing leadership experience will work alongside clinical leaders to enhance leadership and administrative skills, focusing on quality and performance improvement, team dynamics and management, and strategic planning in healthcare settings. Through guided mentorship, practical immersion, and faculty oversight, students will strengthen their professional expertise, preparing them to assume key roles in nursing education and leadership.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

NUR 5425 – Nursing Educational Leadership Practicum 2 (90 Clinical Hours)

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

The clinical practicum courses in the MSN-EL program provides students the ability to tailor their clinical experiences to their career goals. Students will have the opportunity to complete clinical hours in an academic educational environment, a clinical educational environment, or a clinical leadership environment. Students interested in academic- or healthcare-based teaching will collaborate with experienced nurse educators to develop curricula, learn and implement teaching and evaluation strategies, and gain hands-on experience in academic or healthcare education settings. Students interested in nursing leadership experience will work alongside clinical leaders to enhance leadership and administrative skills, focusing on quality and performance improvement, team dynamics and management, and strategic planning in healthcare settings. Through guided mentorship, practical immersion, and faculty oversight, students will strengthen their professional expertise, preparing them to assume key roles in nursing education and leadership.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

NUR 5426 – Nursing Educational Leadership Practicum 3 (180 Clinical Hours)

Credits, 4 sem. hrs.

The clinical practicum courses in the MSN-EL program provides students the ability to tailor their clinical experiences to their career goals. Students will have the opportunity to complete clinical hours in an academic educational environment, a clinical educational environment, or a clinical leadership environment. Students interested in academic- or healthcare-based teaching will collaborate with experienced nurse educators to develop curricula, learn and implement teaching and evaluation strategies, and gain hands-on experience in academic or healthcare education settings. Students interested in nursing leadership experience will work alongside clinical leaders to enhance leadership and administrative skills, focusing on quality and performance improvement, team dynamics and management, and strategic planning in healthcare settings. Through guided mentorship, practical immersion, and faculty oversight, students will strengthen their professional expertise, preparing them to assume key roles in nursing education and leadership.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

NUR 5428 - Clinical Reasoning 3

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This junior level course is designed to facilitate clinical skills practicum to address the acquisition of skills proficiencies required for NUR 406 and NUR 484 clinical coursework. This concurrent workshop will afford students an opportunity to consolidate and develop clinical skills competencies in the safe environment of the clinical skills laboratory and simulated learning setting.

NUR 5429 Advanced Organizational and Systems Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course prepares future advanced practice nurse leaders with the knowledge and skills to promote safe, high-quality, and equitable care across healthcare systems. Students will examine the foundations of quality and performance improvement, including historical and current methodologies. Key concepts include systems- thinking and organizational leadership principles. Emphasis is placed on fostering interprofessional collaboration, cultivating a culture of safety, and applying data-driven strategies to improve outcomes.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 5430 Professional Leadership for Person-Centered Care

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course prepares MSN students to advance person-centered, ethical, and equitable care through professional leadership in diverse health care environments. Students will examine leadership theories, ethical frameworks, and systems-level strategies that influence nursing practice. Emphasis will be placed on developing a professional identity, fostering emotional intelligence, and cultivating reflective practices. Guided by a Christian worldview, learners will explore interprofessional collaboration, policy advocacy, and evidence-based approaches to care delivery.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 5433 - Unstable Health Problems

Credits, 5 sem. hrs.

This course focuses on knowledge and skills necessary to care for patients experiencing complex health issues with unpredictable outcomes. (3 hours theory, 2 hours clinical) Fee: Fee: (Courses including clinical or lab components will have extra fees.)

NUR 5436 - Community and Population Health

Credits, 5 sem. hrs.

This course focuses in the synthesis of concepts, processes and skills necessary to promote health and prevent illness in population groups. Emphasis will be placed on managing care for the community as a client/patient rather than on individual health care. The three levels of prevention used in strategic planning for community health will be emphasized. (3 hours theory, 2 hours clinical)

Fee: (Courses including clinical or lab components will have extra fees.)

NUR 5437 - Leadership/Management in Nursing

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

This course focuses on the introduction of management functions, roles and responsibilities in the practice of quality nursing care and organizational effectiveness. Emphasis is placed on developing leadership and incorporating management principles in the professional nurse.

NUR 5439 - Preparation for Professional Examinations

Credits, 2 sem. hrs.

The course employs a series of problem-based learning workshops designed to help students refine critical thinking skills in preparation for end of semester benchmark assessments and licensure examinations. Content themes draw from nursing foundational courses and practicum work, and students are expected to have a thorough understanding of key content prior to engaging in these student-led assignments. Senior level students who have been identified as high risk or who are unsuccessful in the first senior year comprehensive exam (HESI) are strongly recommended to purchase an approved NCLEX review course. Prerequisites Completion of level four courses.

NUR 5445 Advanced Population Health

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course prepares the student to evaluate and apply evidence-based health promotion and disease prevention principles in diverse populations across all spheres of care. A Christian worldview will be the foundation for the focus on population health, collaboration, health policy, equity, diversity, and advocacy. Key concepts include social determinants of health and disaster preparedness.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 5447 Advanced Informatics and Healthcare Technologies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course provides students with opportunities to explore how the technologies, the locations in which they are used, the users interacting with the technology, the communication occurring,

and the work being done all impact the data collected, information formed, decisions made, and the knowledge generated in nursing practice. Students will identify how the utilization of information and communication technologies in healthcare settings change how people, processes, and policies interact. Students will evaluate healthcare technology and propose strategies to improve the quality of care, efficiency of communications, and/or connections between team members, patients, and consumers.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 5448 - Clinical Reasoning 4

Credits, 1 sem. hr.

This senior level course is designed to facilitate clinical skills practicum to address the acquisition of skills proficiencies required for NUR 433, NUR 436 and NUR 437 clinical coursework. This concurrent workshop will afford students an opportunity to consolidate and develop clinical skills competencies in the safe environment of the clinical skills laboratory and simulated learning setting.

NUR 5484 - Behavioral/Mental Health Nursing

Credits, 5 sem. hrs

This didactic and clinical course focuses on concepts and skills necessary to apply the clinical reasoning process to provide safe, quality, client centered care to clients/families experiencing behavioral mental health issues. (3 hours theory, 2 hours clinical)

Fee: (Courses including clinical or lab components will have extra fees.)

NUR 6001 - Advanced Physio/Pathophysiology

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 5000, NUR 5005, NUR 5006. NUR 5007. BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

This course will explore advanced concepts of health assessment, prevention and recognition of risk factors and disease. Students will learn physiological concepts useful in analyzing and interpreting data. The course builds on previous knowledge in anatomy and physiology.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 6002 – Advanced Pharmacology through the Lifespan

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 5000, NUR 5005, NUR 5006, NUR 5007, BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

Current advanced concepts in the pharmacologic therapies for treatment of common health care problems seen in primary and acute care health care will be explored.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 6003 – Advanced Physical Health Assessment through the Lifespan

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 5000, NUR 5005, NUR 5006, NUR 5007, BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

In this course students will build on previous experience as well as undergraduate course work to sharpen physical health assessment and diagnostic reasoning skills as well as communication strategies. This course includes a 100 clinical hour course co-requisite practicum.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 6004 - Advanced Physical Health Assessment Practicum through the Lifespan

Credits, 1 sem hr - 100 clinical hours Prerequisite(s): NUR 6003 (Concurrent), BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

Students will learn methods to conduct comprehensive health assessments across the lifespan and collect data through communication and physical examination skills. Data will be analyzed and a plan of care developed to ensure effective patient centered care.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6020 – Nursing Leadership Roles and Competencies

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 6001, NUR 6002, NUR 6003, NUR 6004 and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

This course focuses on the role of the CNL in a multidisciplinary care team to provide quality healthcare.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B, C, D, F)

NUR 6021 - Systems and Organizational Leadership - Part 1 CNL

Credits, 1 sem hr Prerequisite(s): NUR 5000 (Concurrent) , BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

This course provides students with the beginning strategies and tools necessary for leadership roles in systems management and inter-professional practice. The concept of ethical leadership across the healthcare continuum will be introduced (40 hours in this course are allotted for work on the student Quality Improvement Project).

Grade Mode: Normal (A,B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6022 - Systems and Organizational Leadership - Part 2 CNL

Credits, 2 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): NUR 6020, BSN and current unencumbered RN license, Graduate standing

This course provides students with opportunities to apply strategies and tools necessary for leadership roles in systems management and inter-professional practice. The course will expand the student's ability to think systematically and develop comprehensive understanding of core competencies required to initiate and sustain change in healthcare organizations (60 hours in this course are allotted for work on the student Quality Improvement Project).

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6023 - Clinical Nurse Leader - Practicum One CNL

Credits, 2 clinical hours Prerequisite(s): NUR 6020, (NUR 6020 may be concurrent), BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

The course provides the student with the opportunity to observe and experientially learn the Clinical Nurse Leader role. Acquiring skills for teaching and using a clinical evaluation tool will be demonstrated during a 120-hour clinical experience.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

NUR 6024 - Clinical Nurse Leader - Practicum Two CNL

Credits, 3 clinical hours Prerequisite(s): NUR 6022, NUR 6023, BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

The course provides the student with an opportunity to observe and experience the Clinical Nurse Leader role under the guidance of a CNL preceptor during a 180-hour clinical experience. Emphasis is placed on the Clinical Nurse Leader Role competencies and clinical expectations.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6025 - Clinical Nurse Leader - Seminar CNL

Credits, 3 sem hrs Prerequisite(s): Completion of all CNL coursework NUR 6022 (Concurrent) and NUR 6023 (Concurrent) , BSN and current unencumbered RN license, Graduate standing

This seminar course emphasizes the synthesis and application of knowledge and principles to achieve the role of the Clinical Nurse Leader.

Grade Mode: Normal (A,B,C,D,F)

NUR 6026 – Competency Review Course

Credits, 1 sem hr Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of CNL curricula and capstone NUR 6025 (Concurrent), BSN and current unencumbered RN license; Graduate standing

This course will assist graduate students to gain greater confidence and proficiency in the identification of the requisite knowledge necessary for successful CNL practice. NUR 6026 provides a diagnostic review process for readiness to assume the role of the CNL.

Grade Mode: Normal (A,B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6030 Clinical Expertise and Teaching Integration for Nurse Educators

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course emphasizes the development of advanced clinical expertise as a foundation for the nurse educator role. Students will engage in graduate-level exploration of a specific clinical practice area, applying their deepening knowledge to enhance educational experiences for patients, nursing students, and healthcare professionals. While teaching strategies are explored, the course prioritizes the integration of evidence-based clinical knowledge into instruction, ensuring graduates are prepared to teach beyond entry-level content. Aligned with the AACN Essentials (2021) and expectations for direct care hours, this course supports the nurse educator in becoming both a content expert and a skilled teacher, guided by Christian values of service, excellence, and human dignity.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6031 Nursing Education Practicum I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 6003, 5419. Concurrent prerequisite(s): NUR 6001, 6002

This foundational practicum introduces students to the nurse educator role through guided teaching experiences in academic and clinical settings. Students apply learning theories, instructional design principles, and educational best practices while observing, planning, and implementing basic teaching activities. Emphasis is placed on developing confidence in lesson planning, classroom management, and reflective teaching.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6032 Nursing Education Practicum II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 6031

This intermediate practicum expands on foundational teaching experiences, focusing on course design, instructional alignment, and evaluation methods. Students engage in teaching and assessment in diverse educational contexts, emphasizing the integration of evidence-based pedagogy, feedback, and interprofessional collaboration.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6033 Nursing Education Practicum III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 6032

This capstone practicum provides students the opportunity to function independently as nurse educators under faculty supervision. Emphasis is placed on leadership in curriculum development, program evaluation, academic governance, and mentorship. Students synthesize previous learning to design, implement, and evaluate an educational project that reflects the nurse educator's leadership role in promoting excellence in nursing education.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6040 Professional Identity and Evidence-Based Leadership

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course examines the development of professional identity and standards of excellence in nursing administration. Emphasizing evidence-based leadership, accountability, and lifelong learning, students will explore how to cultivate a credible and impactful leadership presence. Guided by AONL's professionalism competencies and a Christian worldview, students will reflect on their personal growth as leaders and their responsibility to model integrity, stewardship, and service in dynamic healthcare settings.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6041 Ethical and Legal Foundations of Nursing Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course provides nurse leaders with a comprehensive understanding of the legal and ethical frameworks that shape nursing administration. Students will explore key areas of healthcare law including malpractice, risk management, tort reform, OSHA regulations, corporate law, tax law, and labor relations. Emphasis is placed on the development and application of policies that support regulatory compliance, protect human dignity, and promote equitable and just organizational practices. Through a faith-informed lens, students will examine ethical decision-making, professional accountability, and leadership responsibilities. This course equips graduates to lead with integrity, uphold legal standards, and serve as ethical stewards within complex healthcare systems.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6042 Strategic Resource Management in Nursing Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course equips nurse leaders with the knowledge and skills to manage financial and human resources responsibly within healthcare systems. Students will explore budgeting principles, revenue and expense management, personnel planning, and workforce optimization. Emphasis is placed on ethical stewardship, data-informed decision-making, and aligning resource use with organizational goals and values. Through faith-informed reflection and professional self-assessment, students will examine their leadership style and financial competencies. This course prepares graduates to lead with fiscal accountability, integrity, and a service-driven mindset.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6043 Business and Human Resource Management in Nursing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course equips students with advanced knowledge and skills in strategic human resource management and workforce leadership within healthcare organizations. Guided by Christian principles of stewardship, service, and ethical leadership, students will explore workforce planning, talent acquisition and retention, employee engagement, performance appraisal, and the development of a healthy and inclusive organizational culture. Emphasis is placed on motivational strategies, diversity and inclusion, ethical decision-making, change management, and interprofessional collaboration. Students will analyze organizational behavior and apply evidence-based, values-driven approaches to optimize team performance, enhance staff development, and promote excellence in care delivery.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6044 Strategic Communication and Relationships Management in Health Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course focuses on effective communication and relationship-building strategies essential to successful nursing administration. Students will develop skills in conflict resolution, team leadership, negotiation, and interprofessional collaboration. Guided by the AONL competencies and Christian principles of servant leadership, students will learn to foster trust, inclusivity, and meaningful engagement across diverse teams and stakeholders.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6045 Nursing Administration Practicum I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 5419

This introductory practicum provides students with opportunities to observe and participate in nursing administrative functions within healthcare organizations. Students explore leadership roles, management principles, and interprofessional collaboration while gaining an understanding of operational and organizational dynamics that influence patient outcomes.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6046 Nursing Administration Practicum II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 6045

This intermediate practicum emphasizes leadership development through participation in administrative projects and strategic initiatives. Students apply management, financial, and quality improvement principles to real-world healthcare systems and collaborate with interprofessional teams to address organizational challenges.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6047 Nursing Administration Practicum III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 6046

This culminating practicum provides students with the opportunity to synthesize and apply advanced administrative and leadership concepts in a healthcare organization. Under the guidance of a nurse leader preceptor, students design, implement, and evaluate a leadership project that demonstrates mastery of evidence-based administrative practice and organizational transformation.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 6591 - Field Studies

Credits, 1 sem. hr. Prerequisite(s): Concurrent MSN and current unencumbered RN license, Graduate Standing

The course enables graduate students additional hours to meet project requirement of the nursing program. The Field Study course may be repeated as necessary for up to a maximum of 6 credit hours to support completion of project-related assignment work.

NUR 6592 - Field Studies

Credits, 2 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Concurrent MSN and current unencumbered RN license, Graduate Standing

The course enables graduate students additional hours to meet project requirement of the nursing program. The Field Study course may be repeated as necessary for up to a maximum of 6 credit hours to support completion of project-related assignment work.

NUR 6593 - Field Studies

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Concurrent MSN and current unencumbered RN license, Graduate Standing

The course enables graduate students additional hours to meet project requirement of the nursing program. The Field Study course may be repeated as necessary for up to a maximum of 6 credit hours to support completion of project-related assignment work.

NUR 6999 – Graduate Testing

Credits, 0 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of CNL curricula and capstone NUR 6025, BSN and current unencumbered RN license, Graduate Standing

The graduate testing course is a non-graded, completion-only element in a 0-credit course with a requisite agency testing fee, after program requirements are met for graduation. All testing is reviewed and informs program quality improvement.

NUR 8050 Advanced Scholarly Inquiry and Evidence-Based Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 5419

This course equips Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) students with foundational and advanced skills to read, evaluate, plan, and implement nursing research for evidence-based clinical decision-making. Emphasizing the integration of nursing theory, ethical inquiry, and Christian values, students will critically appraise qualitative and quantitative research, conduct a comprehensive literature review, and design a research proposal addressing a practice-based problem. Key content areas include theoretical frameworks, the research process, human subjects protection, and the Institutional Review Board (IRB) application process. Through this course, students will prepare to translate evidence into practice while upholding principles of compassionate, patient-centered care.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8051 Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Public Health Concepts in Advanced Population Health

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course prepares the student to create strategies to meet the diverse healthcare needs of individuals, aggregates, and populations from a Christian worldview approach. Students will utilize biostatistics and principles of epidemiology to analyze population health data including current disaster/emergency response practices. Emphasis will be placed on determinants of health, collaboration, systems-thinking, policy, equity, and advocacy.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8052 Advanced Organizational Leadership and Systems Integration for Quality and Safety in Advanced Nursing Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course provides students with opportunities to facilitate leading and influencing the delivery of safe, high-quality, and equitable care within complex health systems. Students will analyze and apply strategies that minimize risk and enhance outcomes at both the individual and systems levels while emphasizing principles from quality improvement and safety. Through intentional collaboration, students will cultivate interprofessional, intraprofessional, and

paraprofessional partnerships to enhance care coordination, optimize resource allocation, and improve care delivery. The course explores the integration of advanced nursing leadership roles within organizational and economic principles to optimize resource utilization and care delivery.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8053 Transformative Leadership for Professional Practice

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

This course prepares DNP students to lead person-centered, equitable, and ethical care by integrating advanced leadership strategies. Fostering a deep commitment to professionalism and lifelong personal development, students will interpret evidence-based approaches to care decisions of individuals, aggregates, and populations. The course emphasizes the development of a professional identity, ethical behavior, and accountability grounded in a Christian worldview. Through reflective practice and systems thinking, students will build leadership capacities to influence policy, drive innovation, and foster interprofessional collaboration. Students will be equipped to transform health outcomes through compassionate leadership and a commitment to life-long learning.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8054 Scholarly Project Development

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): NUR 8050

In this course, the student will identify a practice- based problem and design a proposal to address that problem. The student will work with their faculty advisor to develop a proposal that is relevant, evidence-based, collaborative, and interprofessional.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8055 Scholarly Project Implementation and Evaluation

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

In this course, the student will implement the project developed in the Project Development course, collect data, and evaluate the results. The student will work with their faculty advisor to create a deliverable to present to an appropriate audience.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8056 Scholarly Project Dissemination

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. Prerequisite(s): None

In this course, the student will disseminate findings identified in the Scholarly Project Implementation and Evaluation course. The student will work with their faculty advisor to plan and carry out the dissemination.

Grade Mode: Normal (A, B,C,D,F) and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8057 Fellowship I

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. 150 clinical hours. Prerequisite(s): None

This clinical fellowship course is designed to prepare the student to serve within their scope of practice at a high degree of complexity. The student will be supported with application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of knowledge gained through core DNP course work to improve clinical practice.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8058 Fellowship II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. 150 clinical hours. Prerequisite(s): NUR 8057

This course is designed to further prepare the student to serve within their scope of practice at a high degree of complexity. The student will be supported with application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of knowledge gained through core DNP course work to improve clinical practice. Students must complete 150 clinical hours in this course.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

NUR 8059 Fellowship III

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. 200 clinical hours. Prerequisite(s): NUR 8058

This course is designed to further prepare the student to serve within their scope of practice at a high degree of complexity. The student will be supported with application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of knowledge gained through core DNP course work to improve clinical practice. Students must complete a minimum of 200 clinical hours in this course.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit and PR (In Progress)

Department of Public Health

The mission of the Department of Public Health at Mississippi Christian University is to advance population health and well-being through education, research, advocacy, and community engagement. Our dedicated faculty and staff are committed to preparing students to become competent, compassionate, and ethical public health professionals equipped to address current and emerging public health issues and challenges. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and evidence-based practice, we strive to promote health equity, prevent disease, and improve the quality of life for individuals and communities.

Master of Health Services Administration

Health Services Administration, M.H.S.A. (available in traditional and online formats)

The Master of Health Services Administration is designed for the individual employed in the

healthcare field who wishes to pursue a program of graduate study in middle-level healthcare administration. This program is available in an online format.

Admission to the Program

Academic Requirements:

1. Must meet all general requirements for admission to graduate programs of Mississippi Christian University.
2. Must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

Perquisite Requirements:

1. Must show credit (C or higher) for Accounting Principles as a prerequisite for HSA 6507 Healthcare Financial Management OR take HSA 6590 Basic Healthcare Financial Management or ACC 201 or ACC 203 in the first semester of enrollment.
2. Must show proof (C or higher) of an undergraduate level Professional Communication course or Public Speaking course OR take COM 203 Professional Communication Skills or COM 304 Public Speaking in first semester of enrollment.

Requirements of the Program

1. Must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work.

2. Required courses (24 sem. hrs.):

- HSA 6504 - Research-Methods and Procedures **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6507 - Healthcare Financial Management **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6540 - Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Administration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6550 - Legal Aspects of Healthcare Administration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6555 - Health Services Administration Seminar **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6561 - Healthcare Management **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6571 - Healthcare Marketing **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6580 - Ethics in Healthcare Administration **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

3. Elective Courses (6 sem. hrs.):

The student chooses two courses from the list below. In a special case, a student may, in consultation with the advisor, choose a graduate course not listed if that elective will suit the student's background and particular needs better than those listed below.

- ACC 6501 - Accounting Issues in Business Decisions **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- AJU 5515 Seminar in Contemporary Terrorism **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COM 5403 - Negotiation **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COM 5443 - Public Relations **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- COM 5449 - Intercultural Communication **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

- ENG 5452 - Public & Professional Writing **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6531 - Contemporary Issues in Healthcare **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6570 - Professional Practices for Healthcare **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- HSA 6590 - Basic Healthcare Financial Management **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- GBU 6552 - Law and Ethics in the Business Environment **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- MGT 5474 - Human Resources Management **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- MKT 5482 - Retailing and E-Commerce **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- PSY 6506 - Multicultural Counseling **Credits, 3 sem. hrs. or**
- COU 6506 - Multicultural Counseling **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**
- PSY 6515 - Lifespan Development **Credits, 3 sem. hrs.**

Note(s):

¹ Course offered infrequently (for example, once every other year)

Health Services Course Descriptions

Note: A 400-level course taken for undergraduate credit cannot subsequently be changed to graduate credit nor repeated for graduate credit.

HSA 6504 - Research-Methods and Procedures

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing. COM 203 or COM 304*

A survey of the basic research methodologies in the social and behavioral sciences with emphasis on critical reading of published research. Students do either a meta-analysis of research literature or develop a research proposal.

[Crosslisted as: EDU 6504, ORL 6504, and SOC 6504.]

HSA 6507 - Healthcare Financial Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): ACC 201.*

Focuses on the conceptual basis and mechanics of financial analysis and decision making as it pertains to the healthcare industry sector.

HSA 6531 - Contemporary Issues in Healthcare

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Policies, demands and procedures of government, professional health associations, health institutions, financial organizations and the community, which confront and influence the delivery of healthcare.

HSA 6540 - Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

This course examines organizational theory, behavior development and interpersonal relationships in healthcare administration and how these factors influence efficiency, morale, and business practices.

HSA 6550 - Legal Aspects of Healthcare Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Special problems of hospitals with respect to governing boards and medical staff; professional liability of physicians, medical personnel, and hospitals; various bioethical issues; and governmental regulations of the healthcare field.

HSA 6555 - Health Services Administration Seminar

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Twenty-Four semester hours of work toward the MHSA degree May be taken simultaneously with the last required course of the major.*

The capstone course. This course is designed to give flexibility to meet the emerging and important needs of the healthcare professional, locally and globally. Seminar topics will rotate annually, and students are expected to present their convocation paper as part of the requirement for graduation during this course.

HSA 6561 - Healthcare Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Application of management principles to healthcare institutions.

HSA 6570 - Professional Practices for Healthcare

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. General knowledge to enhance business etiquette, executive manners, table manners, social skills and challenging concepts as a mid-level manager in healthcare.

HSA 6571 - Healthcare Marketing

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Introductory survey of marketing concepts as applied to health services organizations. Consumer behavior, market segmentation, target marketing, marketing research, management, and control of marketing mix variables.

HSA 6580 - Ethics in Healthcare Administration

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

This course is designed to translate the principles and practice of ethics into usable information for application to the real world of health care administration.

HSA 6581 - Independent Studies and Research

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. *Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.*

Individual reading and research involving experimental or theoretical investigations.

HSA 6587 - Health Services Administration Internship I

Prerequisites: HSA student must be in good standing with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. HSA student must accumulate 18-24 graduate hours prior to beginning internship. All HSA internship requests must be presented to the assigned Academic Advisor no later than one academic semester prior to the start of the internship.

Credits, 1-3 sem. hrs. In this course the student spends a period of time [150 clock hours required] in a health services operational setting as an intern in health services under supervision of administrators of the sponsoring site. Affiliation authorization with sponsoring site and Mississippi Christian University required prior to beginning the internship [see HSA Internship Manual for details].

HSA 6588 - Health Services Administration Internship II

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. In this course the student will continue their internship experience at the same sponsoring agency or begin a new internship at a new, approved site [150 clock hours required]. If the internship is at a new site, affiliation authorization with sponsoring site and Mississippi Christian University is required prior to beginning the internship [see HSA Internship Manual for details].

HSA 6590 - Basic Healthcare Financial Management

Credits, 3 sem hrs *Prerequisite(s):* Admission into the Health Services Administration program
This is a required course for those who have not had Principles of Accounting or a similar course. This course is a graduate-level course and serves as a foundation class for *HSA 6507 Healthcare Finance, which is a required course in the Masters of Health Services Administration degree program.

Health Informatics Course Descriptions

HIM 6500 - Foundation in Health Management Information Systems

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide a discussion of the various facets of MIS, including acquiring, storing, and interpreting information of interest to the informatics and healthcare professional.

HIM 6510 - Introduction to Health Informatics

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide a discussion of the various facets of health informatics of interest to the healthcare professional.

HIM 6520 - E-Medicine Business Models

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. The e-medicine business models course is designed to highlight the centrality of "Business" process to the practice of medicine and the provision of healthcare.

HIM 6530 - Integrated Electronic Medical Records

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course is designed to provide an overview of the functions, limitations, opportunities and challenges presented by this very rapidly developing branch of information technology in the healthcare environment.

HIM 6540 - Case Studies in Health Information Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course provides an in-depth discussion of selected case studies in health informatics management and is designed to assist integration of the study of the basic principles and applications of health informatics.

HIM 6550 - Health Data Management

Credits, 3 sem. hrs. This course introduces data management and database technologies including relational database systems and the structured query language (SQL). In addition, data warehousing and more analytic databases also are introduced, along with online analytic processing (OLAP) tools to support decision making. Data quality issues, emerging cloud databases and other special topics will round out the coverage. Finally, the course offers a brief introduction of data mining techniques.

Undergraduate Studies

For a list of Undergraduate Programs Available or to view the Undergraduate Catalog:

<https://www.mc.edu/academics/academic-resources/catalogs>

School of Law

Dr. John P. Anderson, Dean School of Law
Mississippi Christian University School of Law
151 E. Griffith St.
Jackson, Mississippi 39201
Admissions: 601.925.7152

Law School: 601.925.7100
Email: lawadmissions@mc.edu

For current admissions requirements:

<https://law.mc.edu/admissions/apply>

For additional information:

<https://law.mc.edu/>

Academic Calendar

Two Hundreth Session 2026-2027

Fall Semester 2026

Sixteen Week Calendar

FALL and SPRING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

August 7, Friday	Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
August 10, Monday	Convocation
August 12, Wednesday	Move-In Day
August 14, Friday	Orientation/Registration for New Undergraduates
August 17, Monday	All Classes & All Labs Begin
August 21, Friday, 4:30 pm	Residence Hall Withdrawal Deadline (100% Refund of Campus Housing Charges)
August 24, Monday, 5:00 p.m.	Last Day to Register or Add a Class (Traditional or Online)
August 25, Tuesday	Late Enrollment Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
August 27, Thursday	Last Day to Drop a Class/100% Tuition Only Refund/No Grade
August 28, Friday	Priority Deadline for ALL Degree Applications for December 2026 Graduation
August 28, Friday	Deadline to Report Early Alerts and No Shows
September 7, Monday – Labor Day Holiday	Offices Closed; No Day or Night Classes Meet
September 30, Wednesday	Writing Proficiency Exam
October 7, Wednesday	Writing Proficiency Exam
October 7, Wednesday	Mid-term
October 9, Friday	Wellness Day (Fall Recess): No Classes Meet
October 23, Friday	Last Day to Drop a Class/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
October 26, Monday	Spring 2027 Schedules Viewable on Banner
October 30, 31 Friday, Saturday	Homecoming

November 9, Monday	Pre-Registration Period Begins for Spring 2027 Semester
November 16, Monday	Re-Admitted & New Undergraduate Student Registration Begins for Spring 2027 Semester
November 19, Thursday	Participation Deadline for Degree Applications
December 2026 Graduation (In Order to Participate in December 2026 Commencement, Candidates MUST Apply by This Deadline)	
November 20-November 29: Friday Night (Begins 5:00 p.m.) through Sunday	Thanksgiving Holiday
November 23, Monday	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from the University/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
November 30-December 2, Monday-Wednesday	Dead Days
December 2, Wednesday	Last Day of Day Class
December 3, Thursday	Study Day
December 1-9, Tuesday-Wednesday	Final Exams
<i>Link to Final Exam Schedule</i>	
December 10, Thursday	Residence Halls Close at 9:00 AM for All Except Graduating Students; Close for Graduating Students Saturday, December 12, at 9:00 AM
December 10, Thursday, 10:00 a.m.	Grades Due for All Graduating Students
December 10, Thursday, 4:00 p.m.	All Other Grades Due
December 11, Friday	Graduate and Undergraduate December 2026 Graduation Ceremonies

Eight Week Calendar

FALL and SPRING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

8-Week Session I

August 7, Friday	Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
August 12, Wednesday	Move-In Day
August 17, Monday	Classes Begin
August 19, Wednesday	Last Day to Register or Add a Class
August 19, Wednesday	Last Day to Drop a Class/100% Tuition Only Refund/No Grade
August 21, Friday	Residence Hall Withdrawal Deadline (100% Refund of Campus Housing Charges)
August 25, Tuesday	Late Enrollment Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
August 28, Friday	Priority Deadline for ALL Degree Applications for December 2026 Graduation
August 28, Friday	Deadline to Report Early Alerts and No Shows
September 18, Friday	Last Day to Drop a Class/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
September 30, Wednesday	Writing Proficiency Exam

October 7, Wednesday	Writing Proficiency Exam
October 7, Wednesday	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from the University/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
October 11, Sunday	Last Class Meeting Exams Must Be Completed by the Last Day of Class <i>Link to Final Exam Schedule</i>
October 15, Thursday, 10:00 a.m.	Grades Due

8-Week Session II

October 5, Monday	Payment Deadline
October 12, Monday	Classes Begin
October 14, Wednesday	Last Day to Register or Add a Class
October 14, Wednesday	Last Day to Drop a Class/100% Tuition Only Refund/No Grade
October 15, Thursday	Late Enrollment Payment Deadline
October 23, Friday	Last Day to Drop a Class in the Traditional (Full Semester) Program/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
October 23, Friday	Deadline to Report Early Alerts and No Shows
October 26, Monday	Spring 2027 Schedule Viewable on Banner
November 9, Monday	Pre-Registration Period Begins for Spring 2027 Semester
November 13, Friday	Last Day to Drop a Class/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
November 16, Monday	Re-Admitted & New Undergraduate Student Registration Begins for Spring 2027 Semester
November 19, Thursday	Participation Deadline for ALL Degree Applications for December 2026 Graduation (In Order to Participate in the December 2026 Commencement, Candidates MUST Apply by This Deadline)
December 2, Wednesday	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from the University/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
December 6, Sunday	Last Class Meeting Exams Must Be Completed by the Last Day of Class <i>Link to Final Exam Schedule</i>
December 10, Thursday, 10:00 a.m.	Grades Due for All Graduating Students
December 10, Thursday, 4:00 p.m.	All Other Grades Due
December 11, Friday	Graduate and Undergraduate December 2026 Graduation Ceremonies

Exam Schedule: Fall 2026

Regular Class Time		Final Exam Date and Time		
7:35 AM	MW	Wednesday	December 9	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
8:00 AM	MWF	Wednesday	December 9	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
9:00 AM	MWF	Friday	December 4	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

10:00 AM	MWF	Monday	December 7	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
11:00 AM	MWF	Wednesday	December 9	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
12:00 PM	MWF	Friday	December 4	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
12:00 PM	MW	Friday	December 4	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
12:30 PM	MW	Friday	December 4	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
2:00 PM	MW	Wednesday	December 9	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
2:00 PM	M	Wednesday	December 9	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
2:00 PM	W	Wednesday	December 9	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
3:00 PM	M	Saturday	December 5	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
3:00 PM	W	Saturday	December 5	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
3:30 PM	MW	Saturday	December 5	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
4:00 PM	M	Monday	December 7	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	M	Monday	December 7	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	M	Monday	December 7	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
4:00 PM	W	Wednesday	December 2	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	W	Wednesday	December 2	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	W	Wednesday	December 2	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Regular Class Time		Final Exam Date and Time		
8:00 AM	TR	Tuesday	December 8	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
9:30 AM	TR	Monday	December 7	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
11:00 AM	TR	Monday	December 7	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
12:30 PM	TR	Tuesday	December 8	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
2:00 PM	TR	Tuesday	December 8	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
2:00 PM	T	Tuesday	December 8	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
2:00 PM	R	Tuesday	December 8	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
3:30 PM	TR	Saturday	December 5	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
3:00 PM	T	Tuesday	December 1	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
4:00 PM	T	Tuesday	December 1	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	T	Tuesday	December 1	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	T	Tuesday	December 1	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
3:00 PM	R	Thursday	December 3	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
4:00 PM	R	Thursday	December 3	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	R	Thursday	December 3	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	R	Thursday	December 3	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
8 Week Session 1		Sunday	October 11	Exams must be completed by the last day of class
8 Week Session 2		Sunday	December 6	Exams must be completed by the last day of class
7 Week Session 1		Sunday	October 4	Exams must be completed by the last day of class
7 Week Session 2		Sunday	November 29	Exams must be completed by the last day of class

Winter Term 2026-2027

December 9, Wednesday	Application Deadline
December 9, Wednesday	Last Day to Register or Add A Class
December 10, Thursday	Payment Deadline
December 14, Monday	Classes Begin
December 15, Tuesday	Last Day to Drop A Class/100% Tuition Only Refund/No Grade
December 24-25, Thursday and Friday	Christmas Break
December 28, Monday	Last Day to Drop a Class/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
January 1, Friday	New Year's Holiday
January 7, Thursday	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from the University/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
January 8, Friday	Final Exam
January 11, Monday, 10:00 a.m.	Grades Due

Spring Semester 2027

Sixteen Week Calendar

FALL and SPRING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

January 6, Wednesday	Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
January 7, Thursday	Residence Halls Open for Students
January 8, Friday	Orientation/Advising for Students Who Have Not Registered
January 11, Monday	Classes Begin
January 18, Monday	Martin Luther King Holiday
January 19, Tuesday 5:00 p.m.	Offices Closed; No Classes
January 20, Wednesday	Last Day to Register or Add a Full Semester Class
January 21, Thursday	Late Enrollment Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
January 22, Friday	Last Day to Drop a Full Semester Class/100% Tuition Only Refund/No Grade
January 22, Friday	January 22, Friday
February 24, Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., Various Locations	Writing Proficiency Exam
March 3, Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., Various Locations	Writing Proficiency Exam
March 3, Wednesday	Mid-Term

March 8-14, Monday through Sunday	Spring Break <i>Begins 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 5: Day classes meet on Friday, March 5. Residence halls close at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 6 and reopen Sunday, March 14 at 2:00 p.m.</i>
March 19, Friday	Last Day to Drop A Full Semester Class/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
March 29, Monday	Easter Holiday Offices Closed (Once a Week Classes Will Meet on Monday, March 29)
March 30, Tuesday	Summer 2027 and Fall 2027 Schedules Viewable on Banner
April 12, Monday	Pre-registration Period Begins for Summer 2027 and Fall 2027 Semesters
April 16, Friday	Participation Deadline for ALL Degree Applications for May 2027 Graduation <i>(In order to participate in May 2027 Commencement, Candidates MUST Apply by This Deadline)</i>
April 19, Monday	Re-Admitted & New Undergraduate Student Registration Begins for Summer 2027 Re-Admitted & New Undergraduate Student Registration Opens at Assigned Orientation for Fall 2027
April 19, Monday	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from the University/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
April 19-23 Monday through Friday	Research Week
April 26-28 Monday through Wednesday	Dead Days
April 28, Wednesday	Last day of classes
April 29, Thursday	Study Day
April 27- April 29 Tuesday through Thursday	Late Afternoon Classes and Night Classes Final Exams <i>(Follow Posted Exam Schedule)</i>
April 30- May 5 Friday, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	Day Classes Final Exams <i>(Follow Posted Exam Schedule)</i>
May 6, Thursday, 10:00 a.m.	Grades Due for All Graduating Students
May 6, Thursday, 4:00 p.m.	All Other Grades Due
May 6, Thursday	Residence Halls Close at 9:00 A.M. For All Except Graduating Students; Close for Graduating Students Saturday, May 8, at 9:00 A.M.
May 7, Friday	Graduate and Undergraduate May 2027 Graduation Ceremonies

Eight Week Calendar

FALL and SPRING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 pm.

8-Week Session I

January 6, Wednesday	Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
January 11, Monday	8-Week Session I Classes Begin
January 13, Wednesday	Last Day to Register or Add an 8-Week Session I Class
January 13, Wednesday	Last Day to Drop an 8-Week Session I Class/100% Tuition Only Refund/No Grade
January 18, Monday	Martin Luther King Holiday; Offices Closed; No Classes
January 20, Wednesday	Late Enrollment Payment and Financial Arrangement Deadline
January 22, Friday	Priority Deadline for ALL Degree Applications for May 2027 Graduation
January 22, Friday	Deadline to Report Academic Alerts and No Shows
February 12, Friday	Last Day to Drop an 8-Week Session I Class/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
February 24, Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., Various Locations	Writing Proficiency Exam
March 3, Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., Various Locations	Writing Proficiency Exam
March 3, Wednesday	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from the University/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
March 7, Sunday	Last Class Meetings and Exams for 8-Week Session I Exams Must be Completed by the Last Day of Class (Follow Posted Exam Schedule)
March 15, Monday, 10:00 a.m.	Grades Due for 8-Week Session I

8-Week Session II

March 4, Thursday	Payment Deadline
March 8, Monday	8-Week Session II Classes Begin
March 10, Wednesday	Last Day to Register or Add an 8-Week Session II Class
March 10, Wednesday	Last Day to Drop an 8-Week Session II Class/100% Tuition Only Refund/No Grade
March 15, Monday	Late Enrollment Payment Deadline
March 19, Friday	Deadline to Report Academic Alerts and No Shows
March 19, Friday	Last Day to Drop a Class in the Traditional (16 Week) Term/ No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
April 9, Friday	Last Day to Drop an 8-Week Session II Class/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W
April 12, Monday	Pre-registration Period Begins for Summer 2027 and Fall 2027 Semesters
April 16, Friday	Participation Deadline for ALL Degree Applications for May 2027 Graduation

(In Order to Participate in May 2027 Commencement, Candidates MUST Apply by This Deadline)

April 19, Monday	Re-Admitted & New Undergraduate Student Registration Begins for Summer 2027	Re-Admitted & New Undergraduate Student Registration Opens at Assigned Orientation for Fall 2027
April 19-23 Monday through Friday	Research Week	
April 28, Wednesday	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal from the University/No Tuition Refund/Grade of W	
May 2, Sunday	Last Class Meetings for 8-Week Session II Exams Must be Completed by the Last Day of Class (Follow Posted Exam Schedule)	
May 6, Thursday, 10:00 a.m.	Grades Due for All Graduating Students 8-Week Session II	
May 6, Thursday, 4:00 p.m.	All Other Grades Due for 8-Week Session II	
May 7, Friday	Graduate and Undergraduate May 2027 Graduation Ceremonies	

Exam Schedule: Spring 2027

Regular Class Time		Final Exam Date and Time		
7:35 AM	MW	Wednesday	May 5	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
8:00 AM	MWF	Wednesday	May 5	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
9:00 AM	MWF	Friday	April 30	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
10:00 AM	MWF	Monday	May 3	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
11:00 AM	MWF	Wednesday	May 5	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
12:00 PM	MWF	Friday	April 30	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
12:00 PM	MW	Friday	April 30	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
12:30 PM	MW	Friday	April 30	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
2:00 PM	MW	Wednesday	May 5	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
2:00 PM	M	Wednesday	May 5	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
2:00 PM	W	Wednesday	May 5	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
3:00 PM	M	Saturday	May 1	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
3:00 PM	W	Saturday	May 1	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
3:30 PM	MW	Saturday	May 1	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
4:00 PM	M	Monday	May 3	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	M	Monday	May 3	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	M	Monday	May 3	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
4:00 PM	W	Wednesday	April 28	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	W	Wednesday	April 28	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	W	Wednesday	April 28	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Regular Class Time		Final Exam Date and Time		
8:00 AM	TR	Tuesday	May 4	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

9:30 AM	TR	Monday	May 3	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
11:00 AM	TR	Monday	May 3	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
12:30 PM	TR	Tuesday	May 4	3:30 PM – 6:30 PM
2:00 PM	TR	Tuesday	May 4	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
2:00 PM	T	Tuesday	May 4	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
2:00 PM	R	Tuesday	May 4	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
3:30 PM	TR	Saturday	May 1	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
3:00 PM	T	Tuesday	April 27	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
4:00 PM	T	Tuesday	April 27	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	T	Tuesday	April 27	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	T	Tuesday	April 27	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
3:00 PM	R	Thursday	April 29	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
4:00 PM	R	Thursday	April 29	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
5:00 PM	R	Thursday	April 29	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
6:00 PM	R	Thursday	April 29	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Winter Term		Friday	January 9	Exams must be completed by the last day of class
8 Week Session 1		Sunday	March 7	Exams must be completed by the last day of class
8 Week Session 2		Sunday	May 2	Exams must be completed by the last day of class
7 Week Session 1		Sunday	February 28	Exams must be completed by the last day of class
7 Week Session 2		Sunday	April 25	Exams must be completed by the last day of class

2027 Summer Term

May Term:
May 10-21, 2027

10-Week Session:
May 25– July 29, 2027

1st 5-Week Session:
May 25- June 24, 2027

2nd 5-Week Session:
June 28 – July 29, 2027

Degrees Awarded
July 30, 2027

History of Mississippi Christian University

The Early Years

Mississippi Christian University, the oldest institution of higher learning in the Magnolia State, traces its roots to the early 19th century, less than a decade after Mississippi became a state. In 1826, the state legislature issued a charter to Hampstead Academy, located on a five-acre tract of land in central Mississippi near the Mount Salus community. The property was part of the six million acres transferred to the United States by the Choctaw Nation in 1820.

At the time the institution was chartered, land was selling for \$1.25 per acre, America was celebrating its 50th birthday, John Quincy Adams was U.S. president, and the growing nation had a population of just more than 9.6 million.

By the time the school opened in January 1827, Hampstead Academy had been renamed Mississippi Academy. Classes, including rhetoric, were offered to both boys and girls. The first building on campus, known for decades as the "academic edifice," contained four "handsome" rooms, each with two fireplaces. The building was large enough to accommodate 150-200 students.

The academy was renamed Mississippi Christian University in 1830. It was authorized "to confer . . . such degrees in the arts, sciences, and languages as are usually conferred in the most respectable colleges in the United States . . ."

As a private, coeducational institution, Mississippi Christian University made history in December 1831 when it became the first college in the nation to grant a degree to a woman. This first group of female graduates received gold medallions. The college continued to teach both men and women until 1850 when the school's Female Department was discontinued. Women's higher education returned to Clinton three years later when Central Female Institute, eventually renamed Hillman College, opened a short distance from the MC campus.

In 1842, Mississippi Christian University was given to the Presbyterian Church, which operated the institution for eight years until financial issues prompted the denomination to return it to its original owners. In 1850, the Mississippi Baptist Convention acquired Mississippi Christian University, making it the second-oldest Baptist educational institution still operating in America today. MC continued its growth throughout the next decade, adding the landmark now known as Provine Chapel, which opened its doors in 1860.

The Civil War and Beyond

The Civil War brought tumultuous times to Mississippi, the town of Clinton (formerly Mount Salus), and Mississippi Christian University. A large group of MC students, three faculty members, a trustee, and local citizens from Clinton organized a military company known as the Mississippi Christian University Rifles. The company boarded a train for Corinth in the early days of the war and participated in a lengthy series of battles, primarily in northern Virginia. Sadly, only a few members of the group returned home alive.

The college kept its doors open during the war years, maintaining an average enrollment of about 30 students. As Union troops crisscrossed central Mississippi, the campus was used by General Ulysses S. Grant and his men. The newly constructed chapel became a hospital for wounded troops, and tradition states the ground floor of the two-story structure was used by Grant as a stable for his horses.

Today, Provine Chapel remains the oldest building on the Clinton campus, housing the classrooms and offices of the Department of Christian Studies, and serving as the site for Christmas concerts by the Mississippi Christian University Singers and as a classic venue for weddings year-round.

When the war ended, Mississippi Christian University faced numerous challenges. Its endowment had been wiped out, its physical plant was deteriorating, and many of its students had left to fight in the war. Nevertheless, under the leadership of President Walter Hillman, the institution was restored.

Hillman's administration was followed by the presidencies of Dr. Warren Webb, Dr. W.T. Lowery, and Dr. J.W. Provine. These men oversaw a continuing resurgence at the college, including the construction of new buildings, the redevelopment of the school's endowment, and enrollment growth. During the Provine presidency, enrollment stood at 400 students, and the endowment reached more than \$500,000.

The Early 20th Century

Shortly after the turn of the century, work began on what would become another campus landmark: Jennings Hall. When it opened in 1907, the building was considered among the most elegant residence halls in the South. It provided meals in a well-furnished dining hall, it was heated with steam, and its residents bragged that there was electric light in every room. While Jennings Hall is no longer being used as a dormitory, students and visitors continue to enjoy its beautiful central courtyard and fountain. The stately building has been renovated to provide classrooms and faculty offices for English, history, sociology, and modern languages.

Another familiar sight, Alumni Hall, was built during the prosperous years of the 1920s. The multipurpose facility, which opened its doors in 1925 as the University prepared to mark its centennial, is now home to the student mailroom, the student counseling center, conference rooms for the Board of Trustees, a food court, and a student gathering spot, boasting large flat-screen TVs.

After years of financial stability, adversity returned to Mississippi Christian University, American higher education in general, and the nation in 1929 with the arrival of the Great Depression. The financial collapse brought widespread poverty to millions, and its effects lingered for more than a decade. At times, MC students found creative ways to continue their education, even making tuition payments with a wagonload of potatoes. In addition to monetary contributions, the college welcomed gifts of land, houses, and other resources to help it survive.

The institution's neighbor, Hillman College, was not as fortunate. While it had prospered throughout the late 1920s, even constructing two brick cottages for a dozen female students and one faculty member on its campus, the small women's school did not survive the Great Depression. Hillman closed its doors and consolidated its operations with Mississippi Christian University in 1942.

Post-World War II

The return of many education-seeking WWII veterans from overseas battles, combined with the influx of women students, brought an enrollment boom to Mississippi Christian University. A growing number of students brought the need for more learning and living space, and new buildings were added to the Clinton campus to meet that need.

Nelson Hall, the cornerstone of the University, which serves as the hub of its administrative offices and houses its main auditorium, was built in 1948. Additional dormitories and classroom buildings soon followed, including Ratliff Hall; the B.C. Rogers Student Center; the Leland Speed Library; Aven Hall, which houses the Departments of Communication, Music, and Art; and Self Hall, home to the MC School of Business.

More recent additions to the Clinton campus include the Hederman Science Building; Cockcroft Hall, which is shared by the School of Nursing and the Department of Kinesiology; the A.E. Wood Coliseum, the University's basketball arena and the setting for degree ceremonies; and new sports facilities for baseball and football.

The University expanded its educational offerings when it opened the Mississippi Christian University School of Law in downtown Jackson in 1975, just one year short of its 150th birthday. From new buildings and new academic programs to successful fundraising drives, hiring award-winning faculty, and employing the latest technology, Mississippi Christian University experienced tremendous advances under the leadership of presidents D.M. Nelson, R.A. McLemore, Lewis Nobles, and Dr. Howell Todd.

Todd's administration was committed to preparing Mississippi Christian University for the 21st century. As part of that mission, he targeted a number of physical improvements that would maintain and replicate the MC campus's architectural character. Renovations and remodeling projects for Latimer-Webb, Mary Nelson, and Whittington residence halls were completed, while Self, Farr, and Aven Halls were also renovated. A multimedia language lab was added to Jennings Hall, and soundproof practice rooms for music students were installed in Aven Hall.

New residence halls for men and women, a 106,000-square-foot health facility, and a math, computer science, and chemistry complex were also constructed. MCNet, a campus-wide computer network, was installed to offer a communications link and Internet access to all administrators, faculty, staff, and students.

Entering the 21st Century

As the new century began, Todd's seven-year tenure as the University's president ended with his retirement in June 2001. The Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Lloyd Roberts, vice president for business affairs and professor of management, to serve as interim president until a new leader could be found.

On July 1, 2002, Dr. Lee G. Royce, the former president of Anderson University in South Carolina, became the 19th president of Mississippi Christian University. That same year, the institution successfully completed the \$100 million "New Dawn" capital campaign. Begun in 1996, the project was the largest financial campaign in school history. With Royce at the helm, Mississippi Christian University saw steady growth in enrollment, revitalization of its facilities, and extraordinary levels of giving. The student population climbed from just more than 3,200 to almost 5,300 students. That enrollment included an increase in the number of international students.

A five-year, \$65 million campaign to boost student scholarships, build the University's endowment, enhance its facilities, and strengthen its academic programs began in 2006. Despite a weak U.S. economy, the Board of Trustees increased the goal to \$80 million. The faith of the members of the Board was confirmed in fall 2011, when the "Growing the Vision" campaign concluded, having raised \$87.4 million.

The University's doctoral programs in educational leadership and professional counseling also added new students. MC made history in August 2011, when it awarded its first educational leadership doctorate to a Jackson elementary school principal.

MC continued to enhance its academic offerings with the addition of new programs. Begun in 2011, the Physician Assistant program is the first of its kind in the Magnolia State. The two-and-a-half-year Master of Science in Medicine program enrolled 90 students. Based in newly renovated facilities at the Baptist Healthplex, the program works closely with the University of Mississippi Medical Center and federal clinics and hospitals in the region to train professionals to work under the supervision of physicians. P.A. program graduates play critical roles in easing the medical care shortages in underserved areas of the state and nation. The first class, consisting of 29 students, graduated in December 2013.

While undergraduates continue to take advantage of the London Semester program, the Mississippi Christian University School of Law offers overseas study programs in Germany, France, Mexico, China, and Korea. MC Law also offers students the opportunity to participate in moot court competitions, having sent 26 teams to regional/national competitions in recent years.

Mississippi Christian University's extensive list of building projects includes a new front entrance to Robinson-Hale Stadium, a new soccer complex, and a baseball facility. New athletic facilities helped MC transition to NCAA Division II athletics, as it returned to the Birmingham-

based Gulf South Conference in fall 2014. Adding to the building renaissance: a three-story parking garage, a prayer garden outside Alumni Hall, and a Campus Store - powered by BibliU next door to Pimento's café in Olde Towne Clinton. Overlooking MC's hometown on a hilltop sits the Phillips House, a new residence for the MC president. The new medical sciences building opened in January 2013 and includes classrooms, a cadaver lab, and the latest research facilities.

Other notable construction projects include the August 2015 opening of the University Place residence halls. Costing \$16 million, the eight three-story units house 189 students.

The Mississippi Christian University community has welcomed an all-star lineup of prominent national speakers for its spring scholarship dinners. New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees spoke at the 2019 dinner, and renowned country music artist Reba McEntire participated in the 2022 event. Since 2008, the University's signature event has raised more than \$4.1 million for student scholarships. MC's impact on the local economy remains strong, with more than a \$75 million budget, more than 500 employees, and net assets exceeding \$172 million.

National and state recognition continues for Mississippi Christian University. The fall 2017 issue of "U.S. News & World Report" ranked MC No. 12 as a Best Value School among the South's regional universities; MC was ranked the No. 1 online Christian college in the U.S. by onlinechristiancolleges.com in summer 2019; "The Wall Street Journal" lauded MC as the best private college in Mississippi in fall 2019; Intelligent.com named MC the Best Christian Institution of Higher Learning in the state in fall 2022; [WalletHub](http://WalletHub.com) ranked MC as the state's best college and university, public or private, at the most reasonable cost to graduates in fall 2022; and the national Military Friendly® program once again selected MC as a Military Friendly® Silver School for the 2023-24 Military Friendly® Cycle.

Royce retired in late June 2018 after 16 extraordinary years leading the Christian University. He and his wife, Rhoda, moved to Northern Virginia. The Lee Royce Medical Science Center along College Street was named in his honor, while the Rhoda Royce Prayer Garden near Alumni Hall was named as a tribute to MC's former First Lady.

Dr. Blake Thompson became the University's 20th president on July 1, 2018. Inaugurated in March 2019 as MC's 20th president, Thompson's diverse background includes leadership in higher education, international research, and the U.S. government. The MC presidency represents a homecoming for Thompson and his wife, Jana, both raised in the small community of Rienzi, Mississippi.

Thompson was formerly vice president and secretary to the Board of Trustees at Ohio State University. He had several leadership positions at 66,000-student OSU, one of the largest universities in the country. Thompson served as vice president for economic and workforce development, led the university's Science and Technology Campus, and spearheaded the development of the endowed Battelle Center for Science and Technology Policy.

In addition to his duties with OSU, Thompson had a joint vice-presidential appointment with Battelle, the world's leading nonprofit research and development organization. He also served in Washington, D.C., as a senior staffer to the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee and to the late Sen. Thad Cochran. The Thompsons, who operate a blueberry farm in North Mississippi, are both graduates of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy. Thompson received three degrees in pharmaceutical sciences from the University of Mississippi, including his doctorate. He has an executive master's degree from the Georgetown University School of Business. The Thompsons have three children: Grey, Sarah Blake, and Cate.

During the early stages of the Thompson era, MC enrollment climbed to 5,138 students in fall 2018, including the law school.

Mississippi Christian University programs are truly world-class. In fall 2017, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International granted accreditation to the MC School of Business. Only 25 percent of business schools in the U.S. and less than 5 percent of business schools worldwide have achieved this recognition.

The passage rate for Mississippi Christian University students taking the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam is 97 percent, or the national average. The MC School of Nursing passage rate on national standardized exams is 94 percent. The graduates must pass these exams to enter their respective professions.

MC made history with Anthony Jackson's election as the first African American to serve as Student Government Association president on the Clinton campus in 2018-19.

Thompson launched the institution's first Honors College. The first 14 freshmen enrolled in August 2019. He expanded international programs by creating the Edward McMillan Center for Study Abroad. The center is named for a longtime history professor and administrator who established the London Abroad program in 1990. McMillan died in 2018. Dr. Beth Stapleton, a 1992 MC graduate and a Spanish and linguistics professor, heads the center.

The MC Dyslexia Center was expanded in January 2019 to include additional rooms to evaluate children with the learning disability, and other offices. New classes for MC in fall 2019 included a master's degree in nursing, and the MC Choctaws football program continued to progress under head coach John Bland, who was named co-coach of the year in the Gulf South Conference in 2019.

The MC story in 2020 focused on its response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Following Spring Break in March, MC switched to virtual learning for the remainder of the semester.

In July 2020, MC adopted the focus "Strong & Courageous" for the 2020-21 academic year. The theme was drawn from Joshua 1:9: *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*

The University welcomed students back to campus for the fall 2020 semester. Faculty and students wore masks and adhered to strict COVID-19 safety standards to keep the campus open and keep everyone safe.

The year 2020 also focused on racial and social justice in America. MC took a strong stand in favor of changing Mississippi's state flag to a design that did not include the Confederate battle emblem. In a letter outlining MC's stance on the issue, Thompson wrote:

"Our flag is hurtful to a significant number of people in our state. It is perceived by many Mississippians as a symbol of hatred, bigotry, and racism. It does not build up. It does not honor our neighbors. It does not reflect devotion to one another. Instead, we need a symbol that represents all that's good about Mississippi."

The state flag was changed in 2020 to a more inclusive design that includes the phrase, "In God We Trust."

Mississippi Christian University filled a key administrative post in 2020 with the hiring of Dr. Keith Elder, a distinguished administrator and scholar in the public health field. Elder joined MC as provost and executive vice president in July.

Renovations to MC's Alumni Hall, including the addition of Chick-fil-A and Einstein Bros. Bagels restaurants, were completed just as the fall semester began. MC admitted 15 additional students to its Honors College for the fall 2020 semester and hosted its first virtual commencement on Dec. 12, 2020, to honor 1,400 graduates.

The University launched a new church partnership program in late spring 2021. This program is open to all Mississippi Baptist churches and guarantees a minimum financial aid package of \$10,000 per year to residential students who are members of partner churches.

One of the nation's leading providers of education services included the Mississippi Christian University School of Law on its 2022 Best Law Schools list. The Princeton Review, one of the most trusted tutoring, test preparation, and admission organizations, named MC Law to its roll call of prestigious legal education institutions after a rigorous review of the school's institutional and student survey data. In addition, the organization ranked MC Law No. 9 in the nation for "Most Conservative Students," a distinction the Princeton Review calls an area "that college applicants and their parents told us mattered to them."

The old Clinton Junior High School building on the East Campus, acquired by MC in 2010, will be dedicated in spring 2023 as the Sam Gore Arts Complex in honor of the renowned artist and “founding father” of MC’s Art Department. It includes studios for drawing, painting, sculpting, papermaking, pastels, and woodworking. It features an outdoor, covered kiln courtyard for firing ceramics, which was high on Gore's list of priorities for the department.

MC offered two fully accredited minor programs of study - one in African American studies and the other in missions – in the fall 2022 semester that expanded the Christian University's repertoire of world-class educational offerings and enhanced its mission to promote the spiritual, social, and emotional development of its students. Students majoring in any academic discipline may seek to obtain either of the minors designed to inspire them to lead lives centered on Christ.

In July 2022, Mississippi Christian University administrative leaders gathered with members of the Choctaw Tribal Council to witness Thompson and Cyrus Ben, tribal chief of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and a 2001 MC graduate, sign a memorandum of understanding solidifying the Christian University’s special relationship with the only federally recognized American Indian tribe living in Mississippi. The MOU created a valuable tuition assistance program for Choctaw students and established an expanded cultural exchange between MC and the MBCI. Ben was selected as the distinguished speaker at Mississippi Christian University’s Central Ceremony during the University’s Spring Commencement.

In the fall of 2022, MC introduced an enhanced version of the University’s iconic brand mark and a vibrant new athletic logo. The traditional MC letters received a nuanced adjustment, with clean, symmetrical lines, sharp, thin edges, and a more modern look, while the new colors are a richer version of the beloved blue and gold. The new athletic logo is a stylized profile of an eagle, an important animal in the culture of the Choctaw people, adorned with feathers modeled after those prominently displayed in Choctaw culture, offset by diamond shapes commonly found in items crafted by Choctaw artisans. The refreshed look was part of a new branding initiative at the University to make certain elements of MC’s look more cohesive and appealing to the next generation of students and quietly set the stage for the institution’s upcoming bicentennial celebration.

The Rankin Mission Center, a dynamic, interactive exhibit filled with displays, artifacts, and resources donated to the University by Dr. Jerry A. Rankin, president emeritus of the Southern Baptist Convention International Mission Board, was dedicated on Oct. 28, 2022. The highlight of the newly renovated Baptist Student Union building, the center serves as an invaluable archive for mission scholars and an inspirational resource for students interested in following in the footsteps of the internationally known mission leader, MC Hall of Famer, and longtime adjunct mission professor in the School of Christian Studies.

In March 2023, Anthony Thaxton, filmmaker, television producer, artist, writer, and 2019 Distinguished Art Alumnus of the Year, and Robert St. John, writer, restaurateur, filmmaker, and producer, announced the establishment of the Institute for Southern Storytelling at Mississippi Christian University. Located at the Gore Arts Complex, the Institute will bring an interdisciplinary approach to storytelling through studying the Southern experience. Thaxton, an honors graduate of MC and a Southeast EMMY Award recipient, said the Institute will give MC students a place to become apprentice filmmakers and storytellers with professional collaborators.

Beginning with the fall 2023 semester, Mississippi Christian University is the only institution of higher learning in the state to offer full-tuition scholarships for all qualified students from Mississippi. The Leland Speed Scholarship provides full tuition for all admitted high school or undergraduate transfer students who are residents of the Magnolia State. Eligible students who receive the Speed Scholarship pay no tuition, and all federal, state, and institutional grants and scholarships can be applied to their remaining balance. Thompson calls the scholarship a legacy that will allow generations of young people in Mississippi to attend MC. The visionary Jackson businessman and real estate developer served for more than four decades as a member of the MC Board of Trustees. He was serving as chair of the Mississippi Christian University Foundation Board at the time of his death on Jan. 27, 2021.

Presidents of the University

Under Municipal Control

Rev. F. G. Hopkins, Principal	1826 to 1828
Rev. Daniel Comfort, Principal	1828 to 1834
I. N. Shepherd, Principal	1835 to 1836
E. N. Elliott, President	1836 to 1837
Rev. Daniel Comfort	1837 to 1841
Rev. Alexander Campbell, D.D.	Jan. to April 1842

Presbyterian Affiliation

Rev. Alexander Campbell, D.D.	1842 to 1844
Rev. Robert McLain (Pro Tem)	1844 to 1845
Rev. Daniel Comfort	1845 to 1846
Rev. Simeon Colton, D.D.	1846 to 1848
Rev. Consider Parish	1848 to 1850

Baptist Affiliation

Isaac Newton Urner, LL.D.	1850 to 1867
Rev. Walter Hillman, LL.D.	1867 to 1873
Rev. Warren Sheldon Webb, D.D.	1873 to 1891
Rev. Robert Abram Venable, D.D.	1891 to 1895
John William Provine, Ph.D., LL.D., Chmn. Faculty	1895 to 1897
John William Provine, Ph.D., LL.D.	1897 to 1898
Rev. William Tyndale Lowrey, LL.D.	1898 to 1911
John William Provine, Ph.D., LL.D.	1911 to 1932
Dotson McGinnis Nelson, Ph.D., LL.D.	1932 to 1957
Richard Aubrey McLemore, Ph.D.	1957 to 1968
Lewis Nobles, Ph.D.	1968 to 1993
Rory Lee, Ed.D. (Acting)	1993 to 1994
Howell W. Todd, Ph.D.	1994 to 2001
Lloyd Roberts, Ph.D. (Interim)	2001 to 2002
Lee G. Royce, Ed.D.	2002 to 2018
Blake Thompson, Ph.D.	2018 to ____

Board of Trustees, Mississippi Christian University

Terms Expire in 2026

Ms. Amanda Alexander- Taylor
 Dr. Brian Crawford
 Ms. La'Verne Edney
 Dr. David Eldridge
 Dr. Susan Fortenberry
 Mr. Wally Henry
 Mr. Tony Huffman
 Dr. Marjorie Lenoir
 Dr. Dwayne Pickett
 Dr. Chip Stevens
 Mr. Gary Watts

Terms Expire in 2027

Dr. Chad Altmeyer
 Rev. Barry Corbett
 Ms. Tina Fulcher
 Cong. Gregg Harper
 Dr. Jeff Holland
 Ms. Debbie Rice
 Mr. Percy Thornton
 Dr. Robert Watson
 Dr. Ken Weathersby

Terms Expire in 2028

Ms. Jane Hederman
 Dr. Hal Kitchings
 Ms. Amanda Langford
 Judge Tom Lee
 Mr. Bill Sones
 Mr. Oscar Miskelly
 Mr. Ronnie Smith
 Mr. Art Stevens
 Mr. Chris Tipton
 Mr. Bob Waller

Officers

Mr. Bill Sones, Chair
 Cong. Gregg Harper, Vice Chair
 Ms. Amanda Alexander-Taylor,
 Secretary

