

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Increasingly, large numbers of capable and committed Christians express the need for more depth and background in knowledge and experience in order to serve Christ more effectively. They also want to understand and appreciate the dimensions of their own faith to a greater extent. Some are not certain about their future vocations. Certificate programs offer a limited course of study, giving individuals a basis for deciding whether a church vocation might be what God desires for them.

Seminary Certificate Programs

Certificates:

- Biblical Studies Certificate (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/academic-programs/school-of-theology-and-seminary/graduate/certificate-programs/biblical-studies-certificate/>)
- Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry Certificate (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/academic-programs/school-of-theology-and-seminary/graduate/certificate-programs/childrens-youth-and-family-ministry/>)
- Theological Studies Certificate (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/academic-programs/school-of-theology-and-seminary/graduate/certificate-programs/theological-studies-certificate/>)

CF 510 • Introduction to Children's, Youth and Family Ministry 4 Credits

Exploration of the biblical foundations of ministry to children, youth, and families will be addressed in this course. Examination of current theories, contemporary models, developmental perspectives, and biblical, practical and ethical considerations of evangelism of children and youth in the local and global context.

CF 610 • Ministry with Families Throughout the Life Cycle 4 Credits

Explores church ministry with families, emphasizing leadership that strengthens family life and nurtures faith at home. Analyzes family types, relationships, and the family life cycle to identify educational opportunities. Applies practical models and ministry strategies to support families across life stages.

CF 620 • The Teaching Learning Process 4 Credits

Examines theological, biblical, and philosophical foundations of Christian teaching. Applies curricular theory to ministry contexts and develops original lessons for children, youth, and families. Assesses personal learning and teaching styles, evaluates curricula, and practices peer and self-review skills transferable to teacher training and leadership.

A participation fee is associated with this course.

CF 630 • Leadership in Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry 4 Credits

Explores theological and biblical foundations for ministry to children, including at-risk youth. Analyzes leadership character, skills, and strategy while assessing organizational culture and dynamics. Develops team-building and staff-development techniques, applies management strategies, and evaluates personal and professional growth in ministry leadership.

CF 670 • Directed Study in Children's and Family Ministries 1-9 Credits

Research and study by arrangement with the professor.

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor.

CF 699PT • Portfolio in Children's and Family Ministry 0.5-6 Credits

Preselected topics within an existing course in the field of Children's and Family Ministry.

Special Notes: Portfolio courses are created upon request with permission by an overseeing Program Director.

Certificate Programs 2

CF 772 • Seminar in Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry 2 Credits

A Master of Divinity or Doctor of Ministry concentration course; an in-depth study of a particular Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry theme.

Special Notes: Fulfills DMin elective requirements.

CF 774 • Seminar in Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry 4 Credits

A Master of Divinity or Doctor of Ministry concentration course; an in-depth study of a particular Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry theme.

Special Notes: Fulfills DMin elective requirements.

CF 899PT • Portfolio in Children's and Family Ministry 0.5-6 Credits

Preselected topics within an existing course in the field of Children's and Family Ministry.

Special Notes: Portfolio courses are created upon request with permission by an overseeing Program Director.

TS 525 • Survey in Systematic Theology for MFT and MACYFM 4 Credits

Explores foundations of systematic theology, including the nature of God, human creation and fall, Christ and salvation, the Holy Spirit's redemptive mission, and God's purposes for the church and creation. Evaluates personal theology in light of historical and emerging Christian thought and integrates key insights into faith and ministry.

TS 535 • Theology and Ethics I 4 Credits

Explores systematic theology and ethics, including the nature of God, divine self-revelation, and humanity in its created and fallen condition. Evaluates personal identity, theology, moral agency, and cultural framework in light of historical and emerging theologies. Integrates key insights into faith and practice.

TS 536 • Theology and Ethics II 4 Credits

Builds on Theology and Ethics I, exploring the person of Jesus Christ and salvation through Christ; the Holy Spirit and the Spirit's redemptive and reconciling mission; and God's purposes for the church and creation. Evaluates personal identity, theology, and cultural framework in light of historical and emerging theologies and ethical issues. Integrates key insights into faith and practice.

Special Notes: TS 535 is a recommended prerequisite.

TS 605 • Christian Worldview in Global Perspective 4 Credits

Description of the nature of a worldview and culture. Analysis of worldview commitments found in culture in light of a Christian worldview. Articulation of Christian faith in ways that are responsive to contemporary culture and in conversation with historical and theological realities of the early church. Evaluation of Christianity in its global theological context.

Special Notes: Recommended prerequisite of TS 535 or TS 536.

TS 670 • Directed Study in Theology 1-9 Credits

Research focused on a particular theological issue or topic may be pursued under independent arrangement with the professor involved.

Prerequisites: TS 535, Consent of instructor.

TS 697 • Thesis Extension 0 Credit

Extension course for continued enrollment; required when the thesis course is incomplete. The extension allows students continued access to university resources. Student must be registered in an extension course at the time the dissertation is granted final approval and receives a grade.

Special Notes: A \$375 fee applies to this course.

TS 699PT • Portfolio in Theological Studies 0.5-6 Credits

Preselected topics within an existing course in the field of Theological Studies.

Special Notes: Portfolio courses are created upon request with permission by an overseeing Program Director.

TS 772 • Seminar in Theology 1,2 Credit

A Master of Divinity or Doctor of Ministry concentration course; an in-depth study of a particular Spiritual and Personal Formation theme.

Special Notes: Fulfills D.Min. elective requirements. Prior completion of TS 535 and TS 536 recommended.

TS 774 • Seminar in Theology 4 Credits

A Master of Divinity or Doctor of Ministry concentration course; an in-depth study of a particular Theological Studies theme.

Special Notes: Fulfills D.Min. elective requirements. Prior completion of TS 535 and TS 536 recommended.

TS 795A • Thesis Proposal 2 Credits

Development of a thesis proposal and prospectus. Survey of existing research and delineation of tentative argument and preliminary bibliography. To be developed in consultation and under supervision of a faculty member as thesis advisor.

Grade exceptions: This course is graded Pass/Fail. Special Notes: Approval of faculty member in relevant discipline is required.

TS 795B • Thesis Writing 4 Credits

Implementation of research plan, under the supervision of thesis advisor and with input from a second reader. To include survey of existing research and thesis that is well argued and supported by the literature.

Prerequisites: TS 795A.

TS 817T • Topics in Theology 4 Credits

An in-depth exploration of a particular theme or topic within the specific topic. It examines contemporary issues, scholarly insights, and practical applications relevant to ministry and leadership contexts. Through rigorous examination of primary and secondary sources, students assess the significance of the discipline to the study and practice of ministry and leadership.

Prerequisites: GS 801 and ML 810 (Both may be taken concurrently).

TS 899PT • Portfolio in Theological Studies 0.5-6 Credits

Preselected topics within an existing course in the field of Theological Studies.

Special Notes: Portfolio courses are created upon request with permission by an overseeing Program Director.