



Ames Christian University

Training Leaders for Christ

**Academic Catalog
2008-2009**

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Introduction

Welcome to Ames Christian University and to our official university catalog

Our purpose is to provide Spirit-filled, Christ-centered degree programs that prepare learners to work effectively in Kingdom vocations such as ministry leadership, education, and counseling. Our method is to provide high-quality, exciting and challenging programs at a reasonable cost. We offer Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees in a variety of fields.

We believe our degree programs honor the Word of God as the final, objective, and universal source of truth, and provide a well-rounded education for life, work and service.

Each of our programs is designed around the highest standards of higher education and is tailored and intended for a life-changing and interactive learning experience. As you look through our catalog, several items will help you better understand Ames Christian:

Our Statement of Doctrine (Faith): Please take a few moments to review our core beliefs, as these state everything we do. We hold firmly to the Statement of Doctrine (Faith), attest to the truths contained in it, and affirm every Christian's privilege to evaluate our beliefs in the light of God's Word (the Holy Scriptures).

Our educational approach: The Ames Christian University curriculum is informed by a set of concepts we call "The Great Ideas." We believe that great ideas are timeless treasures, gifts, literally, from God that are to be studied and comprehended in every generation and in every discipline. The "Great Ideas" curriculum model results in an exciting, challenging experience involving the discovery of God's truth.

Our delivery system: All Ames Christian University courses are offered via the Web. Our class sizes are small to encourage an intimate learning experience. Using our "virtual classroom" approach, online learners are able to pursue degrees from anywhere at any time. We work to make our courses and degrees as accessible as possible, worldwide.

Our Faculty members: Ames Christian University Faculty members share three crucial characteristics: They are completely committed to the cause of Christ; they are focused on applying the Word of God to contemporary realities; and they are excellent educators. They are appropriately academically prepared, subject matter experts who are also well-trained in the education environment, either in class or online.

As an institution designed to prepare learners to place Christ at the center of their vocations and their lives, Ames Christian University offers programming that feeds the spirit, invigorates the soul and prepares the mind. We have purposefully designed Ames Christian's programming to prepare learners to serve the Body of Christ and to stand out in the reality of daily living.

Please enjoy our catalog.

All the best,

Dr. Vince T. Rizzo Ed.D.
President and CEO

Our Mission and Purpose

Ames Christian University is a non-denominational, unaffiliated Christian institution that provides Spirit-filled, Christ-centered degree programs. We prepare graduates to work effectively and productively in Kingdom (Church) vocations, live abundantly in Christ, and ethically give a reason for the hope that is within them.

As a Christian institution, Ames Christian University has a special call to prepare its graduates to engage the ‘modern’ culture with spiritual authority, intellectual vigor and practical relevance with God’s grace, love and power. It does so with an academic learning program created from the highest standards of traditional humanities-liberal arts (integrated) education within the framework of God’s Word (biblical authority).

We unapologetically affirm that the God of the universe is the God of the Bible. We further affirm that His truth is objective, and that it is demonstrated in science, in history, and in the arts and humanities.

As a leadership training institution, our purpose is to connect with learners anywhere in the world to provide academic excellence and the Good News of Jesus Christ. We pledge to do so with unimpeachable credibility and integrity.

Educational Outcomes

By engaging an Ames Christian University program of study, learners will:

- Be prepared to work effectively, contributing to their Christ-centered career field;
- Understand the spiritual and intellectual framework of the Christian worldview;
- Comprehend that truth is an absolute, discernible, provable commodity;
- Be prepared to respond to the spiritual, philosophical, moral and intellectual challenges of their times from a well-reasoned biblical perspective;
- Be prepared to articulate the core spiritual, philosophical and societal principles of liberty;
- Understand the essentials of living in and preserving a free society;
- Be exposed to the well-rounded ideal of education.

Accreditation and Authority to Grant Degrees

Ames Christian University is fully accredited by the *World-Wide Accreditation Commission of Christian Educational Institutions (WWAC)*. WWAC is non-governmental accreditation, extended exclusively to private, Christian institutions upon inspection and approval of their programs, operations, and integrity. WWAC is a worldwide accreditation that honors the separation of church and state. Its standards and expectations measure compliance with scriptural principles as applied to education.

Ames Christian's accreditation may be verified by contacting:
The WWAC, Dr. Paul Richardson, Executive President
2800 Blendwell Rd.
Richmond, VA 23224

Ames Christian University is chartered as a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of providing higher education degree programs in the state of Florida, USA. It is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue code.

Ames Christian University operates under the authority of the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities in compliance with Section 1005.06(1)(f), Florida Statutes.

Organizational Oversight

Ames Christian University's governance and strategic direction are overseen by a Board of Directors which provides organizational oversight and guards Ames Christian University's integrity.

We Believe: The Ames Christian Doctrine (Faith) Statement

These are the key beliefs of Ames Christian University:

Tenets of Faith

These are the **tenets of faith** as we see them -- non-negotiable elements of a Biblical worldview.

- God
We believe that there is but one God, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, who is the Creator and Sustainer of all things visible and invisible, revealed in three Persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- The Father
We believe in God the Father, the Ancient of Days, who is not aloof from human history but who, through various covenants, has initiated relationship with mankind, and to whom we have now been reconciled through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ upon the Cross. Because of Jesus Christ, we too can now call God "Father."
- The Lord Jesus Christ
We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, His deity, His virgin birth, that He died, was buried and on the third day rose back to life, that He ascended to heaven and is now seated at the right hand of the Father. We believe that He is the eternal Son of God, for whom and by whom all things were created.
- The Holy Spirit
We believe that the Holy Spirit (as the third Person of the triune God) proceeded from the Father and the Son, and is of one substance, majesty and glory with the Father and the Son.
- The Holy Scriptures
We believe in the divine inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, as contained in the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, as the sole revelation of the mind and will of God, and we accept them in their original form as the divine Word of God.
- The Devil
We believe that the Devil, through temptation and deception, initiated the downfall of man and now now seeks to destroy the faith of every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and to hinder the further spread of the Gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ.
- Justification by Faith
We believe that it is impossible to attain salvation through self-effort, but that through simply believing in the atoning death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and in acting out that faith through receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, we receive the remission of all our sins, reconciliation with God and the gift of eternal life. We hold that the believer has an eternal salvation secured in Christ.
- Baptism in Water
We believe in fulfilling the command of Jesus to baptize believers into the Name of the Father and

of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and that this baptism is symbolic of our death, burial and resurrection with the Lord Jesus Christ in His redemptive work on the Cross.

- Sanctification

We believe it is the glorious privilege of every believer in Christ to be made pure in heart and wholly sanctified by the operation of the Holy Spirit through the blood of Christ and the Word of God. A believer cannot be justified by works, but evidences that justification through works empowered by the Holy Spirit.

- The Church

We believe in the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, made up of all who have believed on the Lord Jesus and received the salvation of the Cross, and that this Church will come to the full expression of unity that can only be found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, according to the prayer of Jesus Christ in John 17.

- The Lord's Supper

We believe, in accordance with the command of the Lord Jesus, that we should celebrate this ordinance in remembrance of the atoning work of Christ and as an act of fellowship together.

- The Return of Christ

We believe in the physical second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, returning as He ascended, with power and majesty, to judge the dead and the living. Those not found in the Book of Life will be consigned to everlasting separation from God, described in the Scriptures as the Second Death. Those found in the Book of Life will enter into the glorious presence of God.

The Ames Christian Code

The guiding foundations for the activities, programs, and objectives of Ames Christian University are laid out in the Ames Christian Code. Every decision about processes, resources, and strategies is based on fulfilling the obligations articulated by the Ames Christian Code.

While the Ames Christian Code is expressed as a set of expectations about students and graduates, its fulfillment is an obligation of the university. The Ames Christian Code the school's activities.

Every degree program and concentration, every course, every assignment, every interaction with a learner is to be developed in light of the Code. Ames Christian University's ongoing self-assessment measures will evaluate the degree to which the Ames Christian Code guides the institution's behavior.

Statement of the Ames Christian Code:

Ames Christian University graduates are expected to be ready to:

- Work effectively;
- Reach out beyond themselves;
- Live confidently in the certainty of their faith.

Foundations of the Ames Christian Code

Principles of Effective Work

The quality of human output is determined by the combination of skill and attitude brought to the task. While training in the skills component of work has been pursued with some vigor by many in the education community, *effective work* depends as much on attitude attributes as on skills.

The attitude attributes of effective work are constant and influence the quality of one's output in any career or vocation. They are in force whether one spends a career in the single vocation for which they have trained, or whether one finds that life takes them into a previously unforeseen vocation.

The attitude attributes of effective work include:

- Diligence
- Persistence
- Goodwill
- Integrity
- Imagination (Innovativeness)
- Adaptability

The Obligation to Reach Out

Christians are told by their Lord and Teacher that His priority will be to "go into the world," to "preach the gospel," and to "make disciples." Every Christian is compelled to reach beyond themselves and their immediate surroundings to spread the faith.

Every Christian's "talents" are to be at the disposal of the Master. Christians are to so arrange their lives that the product of their work, the fruit of their creativity, and the bounty of their efforts directly benefit the Kingdom of God. They are to act as Jesus acted, to carry out His mission of love and light.

In doing so, Christians are charged with making the world a better, brighter, more beautiful place. They are duty-bound to redeem the times, with the understanding that God will use their work to redeem humanity.

Christians are fundamentally charged with improving the lot of their neighbors, their nations, and their succeeding generations. They are to reach beyond themselves to make a lasting mark not for their own good, but to the credit of their Creator.

Confidence in the Abundant Life

To live with confidence is to be certain of the truth, to be sure that one's daily, practical faith is rooted, not in an ancient mystical fable, but in fact. To live with confidence is to know that, having been tested, the foundational principles of one's existence are secure and right.

To live with confidence, the Christian must understand the intellectual framework of the historic faith. To live with confidence, the Christian must apprehend the nature of truth and know why some things are demonstrably true and some are as certainly false. In the face of uncertainty and even persecution, the Christian must hold fast, knowing that the Christ-based faith system is true.

To live with confidence is also to live in abundance, encouraged by the certainty of the presence and care of the living God.

All People are Created Equal

Ames Christian University is abidingly committed to the principle of equality and therefore strongly supports nondiscrimination in all of its operations. Ames Christian University does not practice discrimination in its admission, employment, administrative, or academic policies on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, age, marital status, national origin, physical disability,

veteran's status, or any other basis prohibited by applicable local, state, or federal law. Inquiries about this policy should be directed to the Office of the President at the address listed above.

The Ames Christian University Curriculum

To become an “educated person,” one must become comfortable encountering great ideas. Elusive, complex, and sometimes unpopular, great ideas can occur in any generation, from any discipline, and contain the power to change the world.

The Ames Christian curriculum, both Bachelors and Masters Degree programs, are designed to expose learners to the Great Ideas of history and contemporary society from a Spirit-filled, biblical perspective.

The characteristics of great ideas remain consistent from generation to generation. Applications may change, and new discoveries sometimes engender doubt, but Great Ideas are timeless like God's Word.

Great Ideas are sown in the fertile ground of truth. They are provable and prove to be right over long periods of time.

Great Ideas spark the imagination and bring out the best in the human condition. They are noble.

Most important, Great Ideas drive honest seekers to God, the Creator of the Universe. They lead deep thinkers to ask hard questions, seek the most and best evidence, and draw the most rigorous conclusions.

And in the end, they move the honest skeptic inexorably toward one conclusion, time and again: God is real. God is evident. God is in control.

The Great Ideas have been deduced, discovered, and codified throughout human history. The Great Ideas have created civilizations and civilized order, fostered unparalleled human achievement, and helped mold the rules of the greatest human societies.

It takes courage to engage Great Ideas. It requires the maturity to challenge one's own accepted principles, the humility to stand on the shoulders of giants, and the ethic to accept one's imperfections. The Ames Christian curriculum is designed for the learner who is unafraid to encounter the Great Ideas.

Our Academic Philosophy

Christians should never be afraid to encounter great ideas. Applied with spiritual and intellectual integrity, great ideas inevitably point to the sovereignty of God.

As a result, we believe that we are responsible for helping learners encounter, understand, and interpret God's great ideas. In every Ames degree program, learners are challenged to fathom the greatness of God's love, power and creativity.

And they are challenged to do so with a level of rigor that demands excellence in thought, expression, and integrity.

Distance Learning At Ames Christian University

Online Learning

Taking courses online is one of the most powerful trends among learners in higher education today. The convenience of studying any time, any place is very appealing to learners in our busy society. And the opportunity to study from home instead of attending courses on a college campus has many advantages for learners of all ages.

In addition, for institutions like Ames Christian University, the opportunity to provide education online offers many significant benefits. It enables us to keep our tuition rates low. It allows us to recruit committed faculty members who can teach powerfully from anywhere in the world. And it offers us the rare opportunity to act as a meeting place for Christians from all over the planet, who share a heart for the gospel of Christ.

The Online Environment at Ames Christian

We use a highly effective “virtual classroom” system that makes learners part of an ongoing course, no matter where they may be located. As soon as you enroll in an Ames Christian University course, you will receive a link to that course’s “virtual classroom.”

In the “virtual classroom,” you will find everything you need to complete the course: the syllabus, course schedule, links to purchase course text books as needed, lectures, assignments, measurements, and notes from your instructor. In addition, in every “virtual classroom” you will find discussion forums where you will interact with your instructor and your classmates.

Course Content

Sometimes learners wonder if they will learn as much from an online course as they would if they sat in a classroom for the same course.

The answer depends on whether or not the learner is suited to the online environment. One great way to find out is to take the test “Is Online Learning for Me?” via a link to the test from the Ames Christian University Web site, in the upper right hand corner of the page.

The answer also depends on the quality of the course itself. We make every effort to set up and deliver Ames Christian University courses so that they are of exactly the same quality as a comparable classroom course. We use the same standards to develop the courses, and the same standards to evaluate them. We expect an online course to be as thorough, as challenging, and as fulfilling as classroom courses.

Interactivity

One of the most important factors for learners’ success in online learning is the level of interactivity a course provides. The “virtual classroom” environment at Ames Christian University ensures that learners will engage in high levels of interactivity with instructors, with course materials, and with one another.

Ames Christian University’s scheduled courses are conducted around a live discussion board. Instructors require that learners post to the board, respond to questions, and engage in lively discussions. The level of interactivity often mirrors the rich discussion found in our academic classrooms and, because of the dynamics of the discussion board, sometimes surpasses it.

Finally, Ames Christian University courses are supported with online testing. Instructors develop online tests, which learners take in password-protected formats.

Integrity

Online learning is sometimes criticized because it is so open to misuse and even fraud. Its critics ask, “how do we know that the learners are who they say they are?”

This is an appropriate critique. However, it is not unique to the online environment. The traditional classroom system is also open to various methods of dishonesty.

At Ames Christian University, two components of our systems are absolutely crucial: our integrity and that of our learners.

We believe, as a Christ-centered institution, that we must conduct ourselves with absolute integrity. Our credibility rests on it. More important, the credibility of the gospel is at stake.

Equally, we believe that our learners must practice absolute academic honor. Every Ames Christian University learner agrees, as part of our Enrollment Agreement, to practice academic honor in the areas of plagiarism, cheating, and representation of identity. In addition, we have developed methods using technology and processes to ensure that learners live by the academic honor code.

The Ames Christian University Global Campus

Ames Christian’s Global Campus is a World Wide Web-based system for managing your Degree Completion Program. Once you become an Ames Christian University learner, you will receive an ID and password to the Global Campus.

The Global Campus will also be the main forum in which you will take Ames Christian’s Web-based courses. Its “virtual classrooms” will make it possible for you to complete assignments, discuss course materials with classmates all over the world, ask your instructors questions, and a host of other activities to provide an efficient, interactive course experience.

Degree Plans

Bachelors Degrees

Ames Christian University Bachelor's degrees are 120 credit-hour programs. Ames Christian University Bachelors degree students may choose between two general approaches to degree study: the humanities (liberal arts) and the biblical studies degree.

Students who prefer a well-rounded humanities (liberal arts) experience may enroll in the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree option program. Students who prefer a more biblically focused study experience may choose the Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS).

Both degree plans feature the following concentrations. The concentration courses are identical for each degree plan. The degrees differ only in the nature of their preparatory courses, as illustrated in the degree plans featured on the following pages.

Bachelor's Degree Majors:

***Ministry Leadership** [with *concentrations* in *Christian Counseling, Evangelism, Music Ministry, Pastoral Ministry and Youth Ministry*]

***Specialized/Thematic Majors and Concentrations:** For learners who are interested in more specialized majors and concentration areas, ACU works with individual learners to develop specialized program proposals.

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

This Humanities (Liberal Arts) degree objective provides a curriculum based in the traditional humanities (liberal arts) in cooperation with various community colleges and universities with major concentrations that focus the area of Ministry Leadership. This degree objective is primarily suited for those seeking a broader educational preparation program to complement their biblical studies and ministry objective.

Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)

This Biblical Studies degree objective is concentrated on providing a thorough knowledge of God's Word and its applications in ministry. Its major concentration focuses on Ministry Leadership and its various concentrations.

Master's Degrees (M.Min.)

Ames Christian University Master's degrees are 36 credit-hour programs. The Master's program at ACU is designed to prepare individuals who desire to increase their knowledge in areas of applied ministry. This program provides excellent training for those who desire to grow in a deeper relationship with the Lord and what it means to be His disciple. The Master's degree curriculum includes challenging and relevant courses in Spirit-anointed leadership and teaching as well as a culminating Thesis/Project based on learners' individual interests.

Doctoral Degrees (D.Min.)

Ames Christian University Doctoral degrees are 60 credit-hour programs. The Doctoral program at ACU is designed to further prepare individuals who desire to increase their knowledge in areas of applied ministry. This program provides excellent training for those who desire to grow in a deeper relationship with the Lord and what it means to be His disciple. The Doctoral degree curriculum includes challenging and relevant courses in Spirit-anointed leadership, cultural studies and teaching as well as a culminating Project based on learners' individual interests.

Each degree program prepares learners to serve the Body of Christ in ministry or ministry-related vocations, and to engage the realities of daily living in contemporary society.

Bachelors Degree Requirements

The following pages feature outlines of degree requirements for each Ames Christian University degree and their corresponding Ames Christian University courses.

General Education Requirements

Bachelor of Arts Degree—Option for Community College and other University Transfers

ACU General Education-Breadth Program for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option

The ACU General Education-Breadth (GE-Breadth) program allows community college, university and/or other bible college transfer students to fulfill lower-division (100-200 level) general education requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option at Ames Christian University. This curriculum provides an alternative for learners who desire a broad, comprehensive background included with their ministry area major and concentration.

This can be a good option if you know you want your education to cover a broad area of subject matter that can be used in any facet of ministry and/or non-ministry vocations. To benefit from the ACU GE-Breadth program, you will want to look at the GE-Breadth program pattern listed below and use it as a guideline to fulfill your lower-division general education requirements prior to admission to ACU.

The GE-Breadth program requires that students who select this option complete at least 42 semester units of general education to receive the baccalaureate degree (Bachelor of Arts Degree Option). In addition, students who complete 42 semester units of lower-division GE-Breadth units will be required to complete a minimum of 9 semester units of upper-division (300-400) level general education work taken at ACU.

The GE-Breadth program is designed to educate learners to: think, write, and speak clearly and logically; reason quantitatively; gain knowledge about the human body and mind, the development and functioning of human society, the physical and biological world, and human cultures and civilizations; and develop an understanding of the principles, methods, and values of human inquiry.

Once you consider applying to ACU, you should visit your community college, university or bible college admission or counseling office to request a course list that meets general education requirements. When you apply to ACU, we will request your official transcripts of higher education institutions for evaluation to determine that you have met the lower-division general education requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option.

The 42 semester units required for ACU GE-Breadth are distributed as follows:

Area A

Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking (at least 9 semester or 12-15 quarter units required with at least one course each from Oral Communication, Written Communication and Critical Thinking)

A1 - Oral Communication (minimum “C” or better)

A2 - Written Communication (minimum “C” or better)

A3 - Critical Thinking (minimum “C” or better)

Area B

Natural Sciences and Mathematics (at least 9 semester or 12-15 quarter units required with at least one course each from Physical Science, Life Science (at least one to contain a laboratory component) and Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning)

B1 - Physical Science

B2 - Life Science

B3 - Laboratory Activity

B4 - Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (minimum “C” or better)

Area C

Arts and Humanities (at least 9 semester or 12-15 quarter units required with at least one course each in Arts and Humanities)

C1 - Arts (Art, Dance, Music, Theater)

C2 - Humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Language)

Area D

Social Sciences (at least 12 semester or 15-18 quarter units required with courses in at least 2 disciplines along with 1 course in *U.S. History* and 1 course in *Political Science*)

D1 - Psychology, Sociology and Criminology, Interdisciplinary Social or Behavioral Science

D2 - Anthropology and Archeology

D3 - Economics

D4 - Cultural, Ethnic and Gender Studies

D5 - Geography

D6 - History, Political Science, Government and Legal Institutions

Area E

Lifelong Learning and Self-Development (at least 3 semester or 4-5 quarter units)

E - Lifelong Learning and Self-Development

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

About the Degree

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) is a challenging, relevant undergraduate degree for motivated learners who want to serve the Body of Christ. The BA option combines a foundation in general education, the humanities, and math and science, with a degree major in Ministry Leadership including its various concentrations.

Note: The Bachelor of Arts Degree Option is *only* available to community college, university, and other bible college transfer students who have met the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option.

Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)

About the Degree

The Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS) combines an extensive foundation of Bible study and practical applications. It consists of a core of biblical studies with relevant applications, and focuses on the area of Ministry Leadership including its various concentrations.

The BBS is founded in the bible college tradition and suits those students who wish to blend a deep exploration of God's Word with a meaningful component of general education courses and a suitable major concentration area.

Degree Plans

Degree plans for each concentration, in BA and BBS formats, are presented on the following pages.

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Christian Counseling)

	<u>Credits</u>
ACU General Education-Breadth Program for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option	42
Upper-division General Education (300-400 level)	9
Biblical Foundations and Applications	18
Electives	18

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	CHC-3100-Introduction to Christian Counseling	3
Concentration 2	CHC-3101-Christian Ethics in Counseling	3
Concentration 3	CHC-3102-Counseling Methods	3
Concentration 4	CHC-3103-Crisis Counseling	3
Concentration 5	CHC-3104-Substance Abuse counseling	3
Concentration 6	CHC-3105-Christian Counseling Practicum	3
Concentration 7	CHC-4106-Group Counseling	3
Concentration 8	CHC-4107-The Holy Spirit and Counseling	3
Concentration 9	CHC-4108-Abnormal Human Behavior	3
Concentration 10	CHC-4109-Counseling for Special Populations	3
Concentration 11	CHC-4110- Marriage Counseling	3
Total Credits		120

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)

Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Christian Counseling)

	<u>Credits</u>
Introduction to Biblical Studies	18
Biblical Studies: Personal Applications	21
Biblical Studies: Community Applications	24
Biblical Studies: Special Applications	24

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	CHC-3100-Introduction to Christian Counseling	3
Concentration 2	CHC-3101-Christian Ethics in Counseling	3
Concentration 3	CHC-3102-Counseling Methods	3
Concentration 4	CHC-3103-Crisis Counseling	3
Concentration 5	CHC-3104-Substance Abuse counseling	3
Concentration 6	CHC-3105-Christian Counseling Practicum	3
Concentration 7	CHC-4106-Group Counseling	3
Concentration 8	CHC-4107-The Holy Spirit and Counseling	3
Concentration 9	CHC-4108-Abnormal Human Behavior	3
Concentration 10	CHC-4109-Counseling for Special Populations	3
Concentration 11	CHC-4110- Marriage Counseling	3
Total Credits		120

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Arts (BA)
 Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Evangelism)

	<u>Credits</u>
ACU General Education-Breadth Program for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option	42
Upper-division General Education (300-400 level)	9
Biblical Foundations and Applications	18
Electives	18

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 Communion with God	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4481 Survey of the Book of Acts	3
Concentration 3	EVAN 3500 Preaching the Word	3
Concentration 4	EVAN 4690 Church Planting	3
Concentration 5	EVAN 4900 Studies in Radical Evangelism	3
Concentration 6	HIST 3255 Comparative World Religions	3
Concentration 7	MINN 3988 Financial Admin in Ministry	3
Concentration 8	MINN 4112 Urban Ministry	3
Concentration 9	MINN 4355 Ministering to the Broken	3
Concentration 10	MINN 4450 Legal Issues in Ministry	3
Concentration 11	PHIL 3211 Philosophy of Evangelism	3
Total Credits		120

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)
 Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Evangelism)

	<u>Credits</u>
Introduction to Biblical Studies	18
Biblical Studies: Personal Applications	21
Biblical Studies: Community Applications	24
Biblical Studies: Special Applications	24

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 Communion with God	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4481 Survey of the Book of Acts	3
Concentration 3	EVAN 3500 Preaching the Word	3
Concentration 4	EVAN 4690 Church Planting	3
Concentration 5	EVAN 4900 Studies in Radical Evangelism	3
Concentration 6	HIST 3255 Comparative World Religions	3
Concentration 7	MINN 3988 Financial Admin in Ministry	3
Concentration 8	MINN 4112 Urban Ministry	3
Concentration 9	MINN 4355 Ministering to the Broken	3
Concentration 10	MINN 4450 Legal Issues in Ministry	3
Concentration 11	PHIL 3211 Philosophy of Evangelism	3
Total Credits		120

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Arts (BA)Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Music Ministry)

	<u>Credits</u>
ACU General Education-Breadth Program for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option	42
Upper-division General Education (300-400 level)	9
Biblical Foundations and Applications	18
Electives	18

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 The Power of Revelation Knowledge	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4281 Study of the Book of Psalms	3
Concentration 3	MINN 3400 Org. Dynamics of the Church	3
Concentration 4	HUM 4700 The Role of the Christian Artist	3
Concentration 5	MUS 4280 The Music of Faith	3
Concentration 6	MUS 4320 History of Christian and Gospel Music	3
Concentration 7	MUS 4400 Worship Songwriting and Composition	3
Concentration 8	WOR 4100 The Heart of True Worship	3
Concentration 9	WOR 4200 Developing an Atmosphere of Worship	3
Concentration 10	WOR 4300 The Dynamics of Worship Leading	3
Concentration 11	WOR 4500 Music Ministry Practicum	3

Total Credits	120
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Degree Plan: Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Music Ministry)

	<u>Credits</u>
Introduction to Biblical Studies	18
Biblical Studies: Personal Applications	21
Biblical Studies: Community Applications	24
Biblical Studies: Special Applications	24

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 Communion with God	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4281 Study of the Book of Psalms	3
Concentration 3	MINN 3400 Org. Dynamics of the Church	3
Concentration 4	HUM 4700 The Role of the Christian Artist	3
Concentration 5	MUS 4280 The Music of Faith	3
Concentration 6	MUS 4320 History of Christian and Gospel Music	3
Concentration 7	MUS 4400 Worship Songwriting and Composition	3
Concentration 8	WOR 4100 The Heart of True Worship	3
Concentration 9	WOR 4200 Developing an Atmosphere of Worship	3
Concentration 10	WOR 4300 The Dynamics of Worship Leading	3
Concentration 11	WOR 4500 Music Ministry Practicum	3

Total Credits	120
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Degree Plan: Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Pastoral Ministry)

	<u>Credits</u>
ACU General Education-Breadth Program for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option	42
Upper-division General Education (300-400 level)	9
Biblical Foundations and Applications	18
Electives	18

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 Communion with God	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4481 Survey of the Book of Acts	3
Concentration 3	COMM 3780 Communicating Christian Faith	3
Concentration 4	EVAN 3500 Preaching the Word	3
Concentration 5	MINN 3400 Org. Dynamics of the Church	3
Concentration 6	MINN 3560 Small Church Administration	3
Concentration 7	MINN 3988 Financial Admin in Ministry	3
Concentration 8	MINN 4112 Urban Ministry	3
Concentration 9	MINN 4355 Ministering to the Broken	3
Concentration 10	MINN 4450 Legal Issues in Ministry	3
Concentration 11	MINN 4703 Managing Church Growth	3

Total Credits **120**

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)

Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration:* Pastoral Ministry)

	<u>Credits</u>
Introduction to Biblical Studies	18
Biblical Studies: Personal Applications	21
Biblical Studies: Community Applications	24
Biblical Studies: Special Applications	24

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 Communion with God	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4481 Survey of the Book of Acts	3
Concentration 3	COMM 3780 Communicating Christian Faith	3
Concentration 4	EVAN 3500 Preaching the Word	3
Concentration 5	MINN 3400 Org. Dynamics of the Church	3
Concentration 6	MINN 3560 Small Church Administration	3
Concentration 7	MINN 3988 Financial Admin in Ministry	3
Concentration 8	MINN 4112 Urban Ministry	3
Concentration 9	MINN 4355 Ministering to the Broken	3
Concentration 10	MINN 4450 Legal Issues in Ministry	3
Concentration 11	MINN 4703 Managing Church Growth	3

Total Credits **120**

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration: Youth Ministry*)

	<u>Credits</u>
ACU General Education-Breadth Program for the Bachelor of Arts Degree Option	42
Upper-division General Education (300-400 level)	9
Biblical Foundations and Applications	18
Electives	18

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 Communion with God	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4481 Survey of the Book of Acts	3
Concentration 3	COMM 3780 Communicating Christian Faith	3
Concentration 4	EVAN 3500 Preaching the Word	3
Concentration 5	MINN 4355 Ministering to the Broken	3
Concentration 6	YPAS 3355 The Sociology of Youth	3
Concentration 7	YPAS 3455 Current Issues in Youth Ministry	3
Concentration 8	YPAS 3890 A Study of Timothy	3
Concentration 9	YPAS 4596 Organizing Youth Ministry	3
Concentration 10	YPAS 4611 Strategies for Youth Evangelism	3
Concentration 11	YPAS 4923 Urban Youth Ministry	3
Total Credits		120

Degree Plan: Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)

Major: Ministry Leadership (*Concentration: Youth Ministry*)

	<u>Credits</u>
Introduction to Biblical Studies	18
Biblical Studies: Personal Applications	21
Biblical Studies: Community Applications	24
Biblical Studies: Special Applications	24

Major Requirements:

Concentration 1	APTH 4675 Communion with God	3
Concentration 2	BIBL 4481 Survey of the Book of Acts	3
Concentration 3	COMM 3780 Communicating Christian Faith	3
Concentration 4	EVAN 3500 Preaching the Word	3
Concentration 5	MINN 4355 Ministering to the Broken	3
Concentration 6	YPAS 3355 The Sociology of Youth	3
Concentration 7	YPAS 3455 Current Issues in Youth Ministry	3
Concentration 8	YPAS 3890 A Study of Timothy	3
Concentration 9	YPAS 4596 Organizing Youth Ministry	3
Concentration 10	YPAS 4611 Strategies for Youth Evangelism	3
Concentration 11	YPAS 4923 Urban Youth Ministry	3
Total Credits		120

Master of Ministry (M.Min.)

The Master of Ministry program is designed to equip individuals who desire to increase their knowledge in areas of ministry through community and practical application based on an understanding of our true spiritual heritage of the Organic-Open Church in the New Testament. This program provides excellent training for those who desire to grow in a deeper relationship with the Lord and what it means to be His disciple and an integral part of the Body of Christ. The Master of Ministry is open to all those who desire serve the Body of Christ in various capacities as well as vocations. This program provides in-depth training of applied ministry such as leadership and teaching and is ideal for those with apostolic, prophetic, pastoral, teaching and evangelistic gifts as well other ministry gifts that support the equipping of the saints in the Body of Christ.

Majors in the Master of Ministry program: Biblical Teaching, Leadership

Degree Plan: Master of Ministry (M.Min.)

Major: Biblical Teaching

Major Requirements:

	<u>Credits</u>
APTH 5600 Communion with God (Graduate)	3
APTH 5650 Kingdom Principles (Graduate)	3
APTH 5675 Christian Ethics: Contemporary Issues	3
BIBL 5100 Bible Research Methods and Writing	3
INTC 5700 Prayer Models and Strategies (Graduate)	3
MINN 5200 Understanding the Five Fold Ministry	3
MINN 5450 Spirit-Anointed Teaching	3
MLDS 5350 Servant Leadership	3
MLDS 5360 Supernatural Leadership	3
PHIL 5255 World Religious Perspectives	3
THEO 5475 The Power of the Blood Covenant	3
MINN 5900 M.Min.Thesis/Project	3
Total Credits	36

Degree Plan: Master of Ministry (M.Min.)

Major: Leadership

Major Requirements:

	<u>Credits</u>
APTH 5600 Communion with God (Graduate)	3
BIBL 5100 Bible Research Methods and Writing	3
INTC 5700 Prayer Models and Strategies (Graduate)	3
MINN 5100 Effective Communication: Spirit-Anointed Preaching	3
MLDS 5175 Leading From Your God-given Strengths	3
MINN 5200 Understanding the Five Fold Ministry	3
MLDS 5260 Creativity from the Spirit	3
MLDS 5350 Servant Leadership	3
MLDS 5360 Supernatural Leadership	3
MLDS 5375 Building Dynamic Teams in Ministry	3
PHIL 5255 World Religious Perspectives	3
MINN 5900 M.Min.Thesis/Project	3
Total Credits	36

Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) program is designed to further equip individuals beyond the Master's level who desire to increase their experience in areas of ministry through community and practical application based on an understanding of the true spiritual heritage of the Organic-Open Church in the New Testament. This program provides more advanced training for those who desire to grow in a deeper relationship with the Lord and what it means to be His disciple and an integral part of the Body of Christ. The Doctor of Ministry is open to all those who desire serve the Body of Christ in various capacities as well as vocations. This program provides advanced, in-depth training of applied ministry such as leadership and teaching and is ideal for those with apostolic, prophetic, pastoral, teaching and evangelistic gifts as well other ministry gifts that support the equipping of the saints in the Body of Christ.

Degree Plan: Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)

Major: Biblical Teaching and Leadership

Major Requirements:

Credits

BHIS 7650 Old Testament History	4
BHIS 7750 New Testament History	4
DMIN 7600 The Organic-Open Church: A Return to New Testament Foundations	4
DMIN 7725 The Economy of the Kingdom: Fulfilling Your Financial Destiny	4
DMIN 7800 The Work of the Prophetic Ministry	4
COUN 8050 Counseled by God: From the Father's Heart	4
COUN 8150 Healing from the Spirit: Prayers that Heal the Heart	4
DMIN 8450 The Call of the Church in Culture and Society	4
DMIN 8375 God's Idea of Business: Ministry in the Marketplace	4
MLDS 7850 Gifted to Succeed: God's Design of Leadership	4
MLDS 8250 Leadership and the Practice of Spiritual Gifts	4
PHIL 8575 Major Worldviews in Culture and Society	4
DMIN 8600 Doctoral Research Methods	4
DMIN 8900 Doctoral Project	8
Total Credits	60

Administrative Policies and Procedures

Admission Requirements

Undergraduate Admission

Learners are eligible for admission to Ames Christian University's undergraduate (Bachelors Degree) program upon completion of an accredited or approved high school program.

Learners may be admitted directly from public, private, charter, or home high schools, or via community college or university transfers.

There is no minimum or maximum age requirement for admission to Ames Christian University. Ames Christian will not engage in age discrimination under any circumstances.

To be admitted to an Ames Christian undergraduate program, learners submit:

- A completed Application for Undergraduate Admission
- Official high school transcripts indicating graduation or program completion
- SAT I, SAT II or ACT scores (required only for students coming from high school)

Graduate Admission

Learners are eligible for admission to Ames Christian University's graduate (Master's Degree) program upon completion of an accredited or approved Bachelor's Degree program.

Learners with extensive life and career experience may petition for an Advanced Approval exception. Learners who earn a 3.0 or above grade point average during a 12-credit conditional admission period will be granted full admission.

To be admitted to an Ames Christian graduate program, learners submit:

- A completed Application for Graduate Admission
- Official transcripts of all college level work
- Two (2) letters of recommendation from relevant sources
- A personal essay

The Admission Process

To enroll in Ames Christian University, learners undertake the following admission process:

- 1.) Complete and submit an Application for Admission
- 2.) Submit official transcripts from appropriate schools and providers
- 3.) Submit test scores, essay, or letters of recommendation

Upon receipt of these documents, Ames Christian University staff review the documents and, upon approval, issue a letter of acceptance.

The learner then:

- 4.) Completes and submits an Enrollment Agreement
- 5.) Completes and submits a Personal Learning Portfolio (Optional, Undergraduate Only)

Upon receipt and review of these documents, Ames Christian University files a Degree Completion Plan.

The Degree Completion Plan

The Degree Completion Plan outlines the learners intended degree, major area of concentration, and “path” to degree completion. It lists each course the learner will need to take to complete their intended Ames Christian University degree.

The Degree Completion Plan acts as a guide for the learner, and as a counseling tool for Ames Christian’s staff. It also acts as an agreement between Ames Christian University and the learner, specifying the exact requirements for degree completion, and the exact conditions under which a degree will be awarded.

As the learner completes credit requirements, whether by transfer, personal learning portfolio, testing, or courses, the Degree Completion Plan is updated accordingly. So as the learner nears degree completion, the Degree Completion Plan acts as a precise measure of progress.

Degree Completion and Graduation

Upon fulfillment of all Degree Completion Plan requirements, learners will be eligible to apply for graduation from Ames Christian University.

Fulfillment of Degree Completion Plan requirements includes completing both the minimum number of credit hours stipulated by the Plan and the specific course requirements as outlined.

Upon receipt of a completed application for graduation, Ames Christian’s Registrar will review all necessary records (transcripts, test results, portfolio certification) and, once the review is complete, will issue an Ames Christian University diploma and final transcript to the learner.

Academic Policies and Procedures

Methods of Earning Credit

Ames Christian University offers learners as many options for completing credits as possible. Learners may earn credit toward their Ames Christian University degrees using the following methods.

Courses

Learners may complete Ames Christian University degree requirements by enrolling in courses from Ames Christian University or from an affiliated institution or course provider. Every Ames Christian undergraduate degree can be completed with combinations of Ames Christian and affiliate courses.

In those cases requiring a learner to enroll in affiliate-provided courses, Ames Christian takes the utmost care to select courses and course providers of the highest competence and integrity and, where possible, makes enrollment facilities available at its Web site. All credits earned for an ACU degree are calculated using the semester-unit system.

Transfer of Credit

Learners may complete Ames Christian University degree requirements by taking courses from approved or accredited providers.

Automatic credit transfer approvals are extended to the following organizations, institutions, and credit-granting mechanisms:

- Appropriately chartered, nationally accredited college or university
- Regionally accredited college or university
- American Council on Education (ACE) approved courses
- AP test results
- CLEP test results
- DANTES test results

****ACU will accept a maximum of 70 transferable semester units from community colleges and other 2-year colleges and a maximum of 87 transferable units from 4-year colleges and universities.**

Residency Requirement

To earn an Ames Christian University degree, learners must take no less than **thirty-three (33) credit hours** of course work from Ames Christian University. All Degree Major coursework must also be taken directly from Ames Christian University, with authorized exceptions for transfer courses.

Articulation Agreements

From time to time, Ames Christian University enters into articulation agreements with other colleges, universities, or course providers. These agreements define the terms under which Ames Christian University will accept another providers course credit “as if” the course had been completed at Ames Christian, and vice versa.

Ames Christian University reserves the right to modify or subordinate its admissions policies as needed to accommodate these articulation agreements, and does so only after careful consideration.

Transfer of Ames Christian University Credit

Acceptance of credit for transfer is always at the discretion of the receiving institution. With the exception of articulation agreements in place currently or in the future, Ames Christian University makes no guarantee as to the transferability of its credits to any other college or university.

Testing

Learners may complete Ames Christian University degree requirements by successfully taking standardized and customized subject-matter tests.

Standardized Tests

Ames Christian University accepts the credit recommendations for subject-matter tests offered by organizations acknowledged expertise in test development and evaluation for credit. Examples of such organizations include the College Board, the American Council on Education, and their international counterparts.

Standardized tests for which Ames Christian University accepts credit recommendations include but are not limited to: AP, CLEP, Dantes, International Baccalaureate (IB)

An official notification of result from the sanctioning agency is required to receive Ames Christian University credit for a standardized test.

Personal Learning Portfolio

Ames Christian University learners may apply for credit for work and life learning on the basis of significant accomplishments and acquired learning. The process for awarding such credit at Ames Christian is faculty-driven and begins with the creation of a Personal Learning Portfolio.

The Personal Learning Portfolio is a review of the comprehensive learning acquired during the learner's work and life experience. Developing the Personal Learning Portfolio is a rigorous experience. Learners are required to document learning, culled from life events and experiences, and then position them in a portfolio that clearly illustrates the results.

The Personal Learning Portfolio process requires that learners associate their work and life learning events and experiences with credit-eligible objects. With the assistance of the Ames Christian staff, learners identify college and university courses, the descriptions, goals, and educational objectives of which must match their experience. That experience must be documented with a resume and narrative of work and life learning and verified by responsible third parties.

Although all learners may apply for Personal Learning Portfolio credit, it is recommended that only learners with significant life experience undertake the exercise.

Learners may qualify for a maximum of 30% of their Degree Completion Plan's credit requirement based on work and life experience alone.

Further credit is available via several methods, including general and customized subject-matter tests, tailored directed study courses, and traditional courses.

Program Time Limitations

Most learners should expect to take at least 4 calendar years to complete their Ames Christian undergraduate degrees. Graduate programs are designed to take approximately 2 years.

For those learners who need more time, or who find their life or work circumstance shifting as they pursue a degree, Ames Christian remains flexible. To accommodate learners from all walks of life, Ames Christian imposes no maximum time limit on the overall length of a degree seeker's program.

Course Durations and Time Limitations

Unless otherwise noted in the enrollment agreement, learners enrolled in ACU courses will have 16 weeks to complete all materials. A course will be considered complete when that course's assigned Faculty member has reported a grade for the course.

At their discretion, Ames Christian Faculty members may grant the grade "I" (Incomplete) at the termination of the course duration. Learners will have the balance of 90 days from their original enrollment date to complete the required work for any course in which they have received the grade "I."

Student Records

All learner records are maintained by the Ames Christian Registrar, who is the university's official record keeper. All learner records are held in strictest confidence, with practices in compliance with the US Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

Learners may inspect their records at any time. However, signed official transcripts from other schools and credit providers become property of the university and are never released to a student or to a third party. Learners may request copies of their former school records from the Registrar.

Learner consent is required for the release of all records to outside parties, except for government, regulatory, and accreditation agencies operating under legal charter. For the purpose of records release, a physical signature is required, either on a release request, or on a blanket records release form, which may also permit digital requests.

Transcripts

Upon written request by the learner to the Registrar's Office and payment of the transcript fee for each copy ordered, Ames Christian University will provide either official or unofficial transcripts.

Official transcripts are issued only to specific third parties in response to learner requests.

Transcripts issued directly to learner are considered unofficial and are stamped "Issued to Learner."

Academic Integrity

Integrity is the bond that holds the learning community together. For that reason, and to uphold the crucial mission component "pursuit of an objective standard of truth," Ames Christian University will tolerate no breach of its academic honor code.

A learner enrolled at Ames Christian University affirms a willingness to maintain the very highest level of academic integrity. Any instance of cheating, plagiarism, "outsourcing" project or assignment work, misrepresentation of the learner's identity, or attempt to circumvent the integrity of Ames Christian's academic and procedural processes will subject the learner to immediate expulsion.

Expulsion cases will be personally reviewed by Ames Christian's President, or by a Review Committee duly constructed by the President. A decision to expel will be taken immediately upon finding of a breach of academic integrity, and will result in the learner's loss of standing with Ames Christian University, without recourse for financial or academic redress.

Grading Policies

Ames Christian Courses: All Ames Christian University courses, undergraduate and graduate, will be evaluated individually using the 4.0 grade scale, and the "plus/minus" system.

Grades will be assigned the following values:

A	4.0 Grade Points
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0

Academic Honors

Grade Point Averages at Ames Christian University are calculated upon all academic work completed at Ames Christian University only. Transfer credit does not contribute toward the Ames Christian grade point average.

Final honors will be awarded at the time of graduation, based on final GPA on the 4.00 point scale:

- 3.90-4.00 Summa Cum Laude
- 3.75-3.89 Magna Cum Laude
- 3.50-3.74 Cum Laude

Honors will be noted on the learner's final transcript and diploma.

Academic Dismissal

Learners will face dismissal if their overall Grade Point Average is below 2.0 after they have completed 15 credit hours of Ames Christian credit, or of post-enrollment transfer credit.

The dismissal process involves a thorough review of the learner's standing by the Academic Dean, with final approval by the Academic Vice President. Learners may appeal an academic dismissal to the Academic Vice President, who acts as the final arbiter of all dismissal cases.

ACU Policy on University Writing Requirements

Policy Statement

I. Evaluation in Writing Proficiency

A. Students planning to transfer to Ames Christian University (ACU) from Ames Bible College (ABC) or from other colleges or universities with *less* than 60 units, an evaluation essay in writing proficiency (EWP) shall be conducted to review students' level of writing proficiency for placement in ACU programs and to determine any deficiencies in students' writing skills. This evaluation will determine a student's ability to write an essay that achieves college level standards. Students whose writing shows serious problems in organization, coherence, grammar, diction, punctuation, or other essentials will undergo further review by the University Writing Committee to determine proper action. Students who demonstrate the ability to write at a satisfactory, college level will be placed in ACU's programs accordingly by the ACU University Writing Committee.

B. Students who have transferred from other colleges or universities and have completed at least 60 units toward the baccalaureate shall be required to have their transcripts evaluated for equivalent writing proficiency comparable to ACU (that is, an English Writing Proficiency exam passing score from another college or university, an Advanced Placement (AP) English exam passing score (3.0) or a beginning college level English course with a grade of C or better). The ACU University Writing Committee will determine such equivalency.

C. The evaluation shall be administered by the ACU University Writing Committee. The ACU University Writing Committee shall coordinate the development, administration, and scoring of the evaluation. Students who do not demonstrate satisfactory, college level writing skills on the evaluation in writing proficiency may be asked to enroll in an ACU University Writing Committee designated course in writing skills. Passing this course (with a grade of B or better) will be equivalent to passing the evaluation in writing proficiency. This course *will not* count toward graduation requirements.

II. Upper Division Writing Course Requirements

A. Each department or program offering an undergraduate major shall specify which ACU University Writing Committee-approved course or courses (inside or outside the department or program) shall meet the upper-division (300-level) writing course requirements of that major. No course or courses may be designated in an outside department without that department's approval.

B. Departments and programs may specify either:

1. A single course, of at least 3 units, which involves intensive instruction in writing or
2. Two or more courses (a total of at least six units) in which students are required to write one or more lengthy papers, or several shorter ones, which involve the organization and expression of complex concepts or ideas. Such courses shall include careful and timely evaluations of writing so that deficiencies are identified and suggestions for improvement are offered. They shall include assessments of the student's writing competence in determining the final course grade. Such courses must be passed with a grade of C (2.0) or better.

III. Graduate Level Writing Requirement

A. Every student working toward a master's degree at ACU shall be required to demonstrate writing ability commensurate with the baccalaureate degree.

B. This requirement may be met in any of the following six ways. Each department or program selects the method or methods by which their graduate students demonstrate writing ability; such choice is subject to confirmation by the Office of Admission for Graduate Studies.

1. By having passed the upper-division writing requirement at ACU.
2. By having passed with a grade of C (2.0) or better an upper-division writing course at another university equivalent to a course, which meets the ACU requirement. Such equivalence shall be certified by the department or program responsible for the student's academic work.
3. By passing the ACU Evaluation in Writing Proficiency (EWP) (see Section I).
4. By passing with a grade of C (2.0) or better an upper-division or graduate-level course or courses certified by the ACU Graduate Studies Committee as meeting the writing requirement and approved by the department or program responsible for the student's academic work.
5. By scoring a minimum of 4.0 on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Writing Assessment Test.
6. By scoring a minimum of 4.0 on the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) Analytical Writing Assessment.

C. Any student who has not met the requirement within the first nine units of graduate work shall be required to enroll in a certified course at the earliest opportunity.

D. Departments and programs may, at their discretion and with the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee, establish additional writing requirements for their graduate students.

IV. ACU University Board on Writing Proficiency

A. The ACU University Board on Writing Proficiency shall be established as an organization to:

1. Certify courses submitted by departments to meet the upper-division baccalaureate writing requirement, and review the writing components of certified courses and challenge exams, if any, on a periodic basis.
2. Coordinate the development and administration of the Ames Christian University Evaluation in Writing Proficiency.
3. Grant exemptions to the course and examination components of the requirement if needed.
4. Certify upper-division equivalents to the upper-division baccalaureate writing requirement at ACU from other colleges and universities.
5. Designate courses in writing skills (if needed) for students who do not demonstrate satisfactory, college level writing skills on the evaluation in writing proficiency and assure that passing such courses are equivalent to passing the evaluation in writing proficiency.

B. The ACU Board shall consist of:

1. The Chair of each Academic Department.
2. The English faculty
3. The President of ACU

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/09/2006

Source: Graduate Studies Committee

ACU Policy on Experiential Learning

Policy Statement

Ames Christian University (ACU) adheres to the philosophy that education is a process of life-long learning. ACU recognizes that (1) college-level learning can be gained outside of a traditional college classroom or university setting through various activities such as work experience, ministry experience, volunteerism, travel, self-study, or training, and (2) experiential learning merits credit when it is properly demonstrated and validated.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the process for the award of credit for experiential learning. Since ACU is a ministry training center, all of the opportunities of experiential learning also apply to ministry vocations.

Procedures

I. Definition of Terms

- A.** Experiential Learning is a term that refers to learning that is acquired outside of a traditional classroom. This can be a co curricular activity linked to a traditional classroom or professional standards in a particular field of study such as in the case of practica, internships, student teaching, service learning or cooperative education.
- B.** Prior Learning is learning that is equal to college level learning and has been gained outside of a traditional classroom prior to a student's enrollment in a university degree program e.g. work or military experience, self-study, volunteerism, training, or travel, etc.
- C.** Prior Learning Assessment is a method of evaluating and recognizing learning that is equal to college level learning that has been gained outside of a traditional classroom prior to a student's enrollment in a university degree program.
- D.** Portfolio is an organized collection of material which documents prior learning achievements and relates them to learning outcomes of college courses. Usually the portfolio is developed to capture several fields of study for which there are no specific examinations.

II. Criteria for Consideration

- A.** To earn credit for experiential learning a student must be enrolled as a degree seeking student at Ames Christian University.
- B.** Experiential Learning Credit Options (**Undergraduate Level**)
 - 1. Portfolio Development.** Upon approval of the department head of the student's major and the department head and dean of the course(s) involved, a student may develop a portfolio for a course (s) offered by Ames Christian University. This portfolio

will be reviewed by a faculty member appointed by the head of the appropriate department and school involved.

2. ***Credit for Training.** Military and professional training that is evaluated and recommended for college credit by the American Council on Education (ACE) and training that is within an articulated agreement with Ames Christian University and is approved for credit.

3. ***External Examinations.** Upon approval of the department head and dean, of the student's major, a student may submit satisfactory scores on external professional examinations. This includes Advanced Placement (AP), the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES), International Baccalaureate (IB) and other professional certifications or examinations evaluated by the American Council of Education (ACE) for college-level credit.

III. Guidelines and Considerations

- A. Credit is awarded for learning that can be demonstrated, not for experience.
- B. Credit is awarded for learning which is college level and meets the standards of ACU. That is, it is relevant to actual course and program competencies.
- C. Assessment of experiential learning is completed by faculty experts in the relevant subject area.
- D. Credit earned through an assessment of experiential learning cannot be duplicated through other mechanisms for earning credit.
- E. Experiential learning credit will be granted upon the written recommendation of the department head having jurisdiction over the courses involved with the dean's approval.
- F. The applicability of experiential learning credit toward a *specific* degree program is subject to departmental approval.
- G. A student may not fail a course at Ames Christian University and later receive credit for the same course through an experiential learning option.
- H. The satisfactory scores for knowledge-based or professional examinations are determined by the appropriate department and the dean of the school involved.
- I. No letter grade will be entered on the student's transcript for experiential learning credit. Experiential learning credit will be treated in the same way as transfer credit. A "CR" will be assigned and it will not count toward the student's grade point average.
- J. A student may earn a maximum of 60 semester hours at the undergraduate level through experiential learning credit. However, each department determines the maximum credit that can be awarded for a particular degree and will establish its own process for evaluating and awarding credit. The student must meet all University and departmental residency requirements.

- K. The opportunity to seek experiential learning credit is open to full and part-time degree seeking students.

*These options are currently approved for use at ACU.

IV. Portfolio Development

- A. Portfolio development is an organized collection of essays and documentation, demonstrating learning skills through work and life experiences. The portfolio, specifically, must articulate knowledge equivalent to that which is taught in a college course.
- B. There are several steps and processes involved in Portfolio Development. The enrollment in a course or workshop is a pre-requisite for portfolio development and is considered essential for preparation and successful completion and approval for credit. Students must complete the preparation for portfolio development by enrolling in either of the three:
 - 1. A traditional portfolio development course
 - 2. A non-traditional portfolio development course
 - 3. A traditional or non-traditional workshop either for credit or non-credit
- C. The department determines the courses that may be completed by portfolio development and provides the specifications. Not all courses will be considered for portfolio development.
- D. The portfolio can include knowledge and skills gained from a wide variety of sources, but these are some of the more common ones used for Portfolio Assessment:
 - a. **full or part-time jobs**
 - b. **independent reading and study**
 - c. **training programs or in-service courses**
 - d. **volunteer work**
 - e. **cultural and artistic pursuits**
 - f. **military service**
 - g. **travel study**
- E. An Advanced Standing Committee will be formed and will be assigned the task of reviewing the portfolio and making decisions using uniform guidelines as established by the University.
- F. The Advanced Standing Committee will be asked to assess several things:
 - a. Is the knowledge sufficient?
 - b. Has the student demonstrated application of this knowledge?
 - c. Has the student shown the relationship between the knowledge and the evidence?
- G. The Advanced Standing Committee will determine whether or not knowledge of the subject is equal to a college level grade of “C” or better.
 - a. If so, then credit will be recommended.

- b. **If the knowledge is judged to be insufficient, the Advanced Standing Committee will recommend that credit be denied.
- c. **If the Advanced Standing Committee decides that more information is needed in order to make a determination, the student may be asked to submit additional evidence, take an examination/and or be interviewed.

**The latter practices are often used in cases where students have acquired knowledge of a subject that cannot be documented.

- H.** The Advanced Standing Committee should consist of the student's department chair, faculty advisor, the representative of the department from which the course originates, and the workshop/course instructor.

V. Experimental Learning Policy Committee

- A. The committee will be appointed annually.
- B. Each school Dean will appoint one representative.
- C. The following persons will also serve on the committee:
Dr. Vince T. Rizzo, President of Ames Christian University
Rev. Laura Rizzo, BBS, Dean of Admissions

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/12/2007

Financial Policies

Ames Christian University publishes a schedule of tuition and fees at its Web site. Ames Christian tuition and fees may change without notice upon approval of Ames Christian's Board of Directors.

Tuition and Fees Adopted for the 2007-2008 Academic Year:

Course Tuition

Bachelor's Degrees	Per 3-Credit Course
Online Course	\$198.00
Master's Degrees	Per 3-Credit Course
Online Course	\$297.00
Doctoral Degrees	Per 4-Credit Course
Online Course	\$408.00
Non-credit (audit) Course	\$198.00

Fees:

Application Fee: \$20

Degree Plan Filing Fee: \$30

Personal Learning Portfolio Review Fee: \$450 (Undergraduate Only)

Graduation Fee: \$25

Transcript Request Fee: \$5

Payment Policies:

Ames Christian University is a non-profit institution, and must therefore practice fiscal responsibility, both for its own benefit and for that of its enrolled learners.

All fees will be payable at the time service is rendered. Tuition for courses will be due upon enrollment.

Financial Aid

As a private institution, Ames Christian University has chosen not to affiliate with any public financial aid programs, including Federal, State, or local grants and loans. Payment plans and private student loan agreements are available. Contact Ames Christian for details.

Refund Policy

Tuition refunds are granted on the following basis (Fees are nonrefundable):

Withdrawal within:	Percent Refunded
3 working days of enrollment	100%
First week of course	75%
Half of course	25%
Later	None

Student Services

Student Services at Ames Christian University are designed to assist learners as they fulfill their Ames Christian Degree Completion Plans. We seek to offer those services our learners most require, and minimize unnecessary resource-intensive services.

Key Ames Christian University Student Services include:

Pre-Enrollment Academic Advising

From a learner's initial contact, Ames Christian's staff will focus its attention on her or his course and credit hour needs. Each learner undertakes a pre-enrollment process designed to clearly establish a path to degree completion.

Steps in that process include:

Self-evaluation: Based on Ames Christian's admission process, learners are invited to informally estimate their own status admission and degree completion status. This evaluation is for learner information purposes only and bears no promise of credit evaluation by Ames Christian staff.

Ames Christian Evaluation & Application for Admission: Ames Christian learners are required to complete an Application for Admission as a condition of receiving a comprehensive Ames Christian evaluation of their transfer status and course or credit needs. This evaluation is based upon receipt of a learner's official transcript record from all colleges and approved course providers, including professional training and college-equivalent courses.

Personal Learning Portfolio: Ames Christian University staff are extensively involved with learners as they prepare their Personal Learning Portfolios and the supporting documentation.

Program Development

Once a learner has received an Ames Christian Evaluation and has completed an Enrollment Agreement, the Ames Christian staff assists in identifying the most efficient method for completing needed credits.

Program Development advisory services include presenting options for major areas of study, individual courses, course providers, and best-available methods of earning credit. Ames Christian University learners are encouraged to call on the Ames Christian staff for Program Development services throughout their enrollment at Ames Christian.

Online Course Enrollment

Learners are able to conveniently enroll in Ames Christian University courses via the online enrollment facility provided in the Ames Christian University Global Campus.

In-Process Reminder Service

Ames Christian University learners receive automatic email updates and reminders during their enrollment periods. Learners are reminded of course deadlines, key assignment and testing dates, and options available to them for completing course work.

Enrollment Advisories

All Ames Christian University learners receive advisory emails that provide information on courses and credit-earning options. Enrollment Advisories include automatic emails upon each course completion, information about upcoming special events, and announcements of new courses or credit-earning opportunities.

Online Community

Via the Ames Christian University Global Campus, and within the context of individual Ames Christian courses, learners have the opportunity to interact with their peers worldwide. Ames Christian provides unedited discussion forums within the Global Campus, as well as faculty-monitored discussion in course dialogues.

Reservations to Services and Charges

Ames Christian University reserves the right to modify its tuition and fees; to add or withdraw members from its faculty and staff; to rearrange its programs from time to time as the dynamic environment dictates; and to withdraw subjects, courses, Degree Plans, approved concentrations, and programs if enrollment falls below acceptable levels.

Ames Christian University reserves the right to permit or deny transfer credit, course substitutions, degree requirements substitutions at the discretion of its Academic Vice President, who will work in cooperative effort with the Ames Christian Faculty.

Ames Christian University degrees will be conferred only upon completion of both the minimum credit hours listed on the appropriate Degree Plan and the course content standards specified therein.

The Ames Christian Faculty

Members of the Ames Christian University Faculty share three key characteristics:

- A belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- An interest in applying God's Word to contemporary work and society
- Commitment to excellent teaching

Every Ames Christian University course integrates either the Bible or an obviously scriptural perspective. We firmly believe that God's Word is the source of all life, and the concepts and philosophies contained in it are evident in the world around us.

It is the members of the Ames Christian University Faculty who make these things come alive for our learners. They help learners see God's truth in the Bible, in the deepest questions of science, the arts, and history, and in today's headlines.

Their commitment to Christ is a requirement. We neither hold nor support any denominational ties, but rather trust that God's love touches all who reach to Him.

Ames Christian University Faculty members are also experts in their subject fields. They are experienced professionals who possess the academic credentials indicative of expert status. Ames Christian University requires that faculty members possess credentials appropriate to the subject matter and the levels at which they will teach.

Generally, this means that all members of the Ames Christian Faculty:

- Will have attained at least the level of degree above that which they will be instructing.
Example: To teach in the Bachelors programs, Faculty members are expected to possess Masters degrees, Doctorates to teach graduate courses, etc.
- Will have studied the academic subject they are teaching, with a minimum of 18 credit hours of documented study in subject-specific preparation.
- Will have earned their credentials from appropriately accredited institutions, including those institutions accredited by national or regional government-approved agencies, provincial or state government agencies, or by recognized, independent accreditation bodies.

We strongly support the notion that Faculty members should have solid work experience in the subject area taught. Where applicable, specifically in technical, professional, or skill-specific areas, we require that faculty possess not less than five years' documented experience in the subject area.

In addition, we recognize the value of experience and achievement as preparation for excellence in instruction. Therefore, we reserve the right to permit individuals highly qualified by life and work experience to instruct courses in which that life and work experience acts as an appropriate substitute for academic preparation. These exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis.

Faculty Training

We believe it is important that members of the Ames Christian Faculty have sufficient training to share their expertise in the unique Ames Christian environment. Especially for online Faculty members, we provide special training in instruction using the tools in Ames Christian's virtual classrooms.

In order to preserve academic freedom, training in online delivery is provided without content specificity. Faculty members are trained only in the processes involved and are left to integrate content as they see fit.

Courses and Course Descriptions

For each Ames Christian University course, learners will the experience the **instructor-facilitated** method of instruction.

Instructor-Facilitated Courses

Instructor-facilitated courses use an instructor-led model to encounter exactly the same materials. In an instructor-facilitated course, the instructor requires more regular interaction, often including an attendance requirement, in either a real or virtual facility. The instructor is responsible to conduct and manage the course and to guide learners to the learning available in course materials, resources, and experiences.

Courses at ACU are delivered over 12-16 week periods (either on a Trimester or Independent Study basis depending on the schedules of individual learners) which operate with defined starting and ending dates.

Please see course listings and at the Ames Christian University Web site (www.ameschristian.org) for details about specific courses and enrollment options.

Undergraduate Courses and Course Descriptions

Level 2

BIBL 2355 Survey of the Bible 3 Credits

An overview of the Bible as a source of historical, spiritual, moral, and intellectual literature. This course traces the development of the Bible as a document and provides an introduction to the major characters, events, and themes of the Christian scripture.

Level 3

BBS 3000 Practicum I

Practical application including experiential and directed studies within the Bachelor of Biblical Studies program.

BIBL 3355 Survey of the Old Testament 3 Credits

This course presents the biblical Old Testament as a sequence of events, concepts, and theological principles. It traces the creation of the world, the history of the Hebrew nation, and the poetry and prophecies of the Old Testament. Prerequisite: BIBL 2355

BIBL 3356 Survey of the New Testament 3 Credits

This course presents the biblical New Testament as it traces the development of the Christian faith from the birth of Jesus Christ. It includes a review of each New Testament book for its historical, theological, and contemporary significance. Prerequisite: BIBL 2355

CHC 3100 Introduction to Christian Counseling 3 Credits

This course is designed with the idea that problem areas motivate people to seek counseling. Christian Counseling is a process by which a person is assisted to behave in a more rewarding manner addressing life's problems or challenges from a Biblical perspective called Christian Counseling.

CHC 3101 Christian Ethics in Counseling 3 Credits

Counseling as a profession indicates that there are ethical guidelines, in which this course will examine the role of the counselor as it relates to a Christian code of ethic.

CHC 3102 Counseling Methods 3 Credits

This course is designed to assist with the development of basic counseling skills and to introduce techniques for solution-focused counseling. Egan introduces a three stage approach for problem management. The student will have an overview of the basic skills and knowledge needed for the counseling profession

CHC 3103 Crisis Counseling 3 Credits

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the dynamics of crisis situations. Laypersons and ministers alike can be called on for a crisis, and this course will explore intervention principles and procedures in the situational crises.

CHC 3104 Substance Abuse counseling 3 Credits

This course explores the dynamics of substance abuse counseling this course provides understanding of the addictive personality. The course provides information for assessment and treatment of the chemically dependent person. The effects of substance abuse on families are examined.

CHC 3105 Christian Counseling Practicum 1 3 Credits

To give the counselor an opportunity to apply Christian counseling principles in the employment of skills in a local church, or community agency. One –hour will be spent per week at on site locations to engage in the counseling process.

COMM 3780 Communicating Christian Faith 3 Credits

The practices of expressing individual faith and apologetics are explored. Key topics include the case for faith, applications of practical faith, and keeping faith in the face of hardship and pain.

EVAN 3500 Preaching the Word 3 Credits

This course provides the practices, processes, and habits of effective public preaching. Key topics include presentation and communication skills, organizing a sermon, contemporaneous speaking, and connecting with an audience.

HIST 3255 Comparative World Religions 3 Credits

A historical and comparative survey of the principal beliefs and practices of the world's major religions. Major religions are considered: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shinto and Taoism.

HUM 3449 History and Geography of the Bible 3 Credits

This course provides a survey of the history of the physical and human geography of lands featured in the Bible. Emphasis is placed on the journeys of Abraham, the nation Israel, and the apostles as they traveled to spread the Gospel. Key topics include the geographical and human challenges faced by travelers in biblical times.

MINN 3400 Organizational Dynamics of the Church 3 Credits

Organizational structures and strategies of contemporary churches are examined. Key topics include denominations and their influence on local bodies, independent church organization, reporting and accountability in church organizations, staffing the church, and the congregation's role in church organization.

MINN 3560 Small Church Administration 3 Credits

Ministry leadership in the small church environment is emphasized. Key topics include resource management, time management for the small church leader, integrating volunteers, and pastoral accountability in the small church.

MINN 3988 Financial Administration in Ministry 3 Credits

This course provides an overview of financial management in church and ministry organizations. Key topics include budget development and administration, cash flow management, funding and fund raising, and using information technology to manage church and ministry finances.

PHIL 3211 Philosophy of Evangelism 3 Credits

The philosophical foundations of evangelism are explored. Key topics include Christ's Great Commission, persuasion in evangelism, and the Christian's role in evangelism.

PHIL 3214 The Philosophy of Christ 3 Credits

The personal philosophy of Jesus Christ is examined through the evidence of his teachings and his own life. A comparison and contrast of Christ's philosophy with those various contemporary teachers is presented.

YPAS 3355 The Sociology of Youth 3 Credits

This course explores adolescent sociology from a biblical perspective. Human growth from early adolescence to early adulthood is emphasized.

YPAS 3455 Current Issues in Youth Ministry 3 Credits

This course investigates key issues facing youth pastors. Key topics include contemporary youth culture movements, challenges to youth ministry, and the foundations of ministry in the face of a hostile or indifferent age.

YPAS 3890 The Young Minister: A Study of Timothy 3 Credits

The life and early career of Timothy are examined via historical documentation, especially the Pauline letters. Timothy's role as a young minister in an isolated, secular age form the basis of timeless youth ministry principles.

Level 4

APTH 4511 Soul Care 3 Credits

God's highest priority, as expressed by Jesus and the ancient scriptures, is the care of human souls. This course explores the ways God cares for human hearts, spirits, and souls directly, actively, and gently.

APTH 4675 Communion with God and the Power of Revelation Knowledge 3 Credits

This course is a wonderful investigation of God's call to live in spirit and in truth. You will learn the importance of the illumination of scripture and the application of revelation knowledge as a means to living the victorious Spirit-filled life. Key topics include an examination of the limitations of reasoned (human) knowledge, the role of theology and doctrine, and the place of revelation knowledge in renewing the mind.

APTH 4685 Creativity and the Spirit 3 Credits

Prerequisite: APTH 4675: Communion with God and the Power of Revelation Knowledge. As a creative individual, the key to the release of creativity is close communion and connection with God. We were made by God as creative beings; therefore, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are his instruments and vessels as an expression of His creativity to the world.

APTH 4990 God's Message in the Arts 3 Credits

Human expression is a means of conveying that we are created "in the image" of God. Artists of every kind evoke spiritual and emotional responses that either draw their audiences toward or repel them from God. This course examines the artistic process as an expression of God's own creativity and the human response to beauty and joy in art.

BBS 4000 Practicum II

Practical application including experiential and directed studies within the Bachelor of Biblical Studies program.

BIBL 4281 Poetry for the Heart: A Study of the Book of Psalms 3 Credits

This course is designed to broaden your understanding of the book of Psalms. It will provide you with an in depth historical overview of the psalms. The course emphasizes the occasions in which the psalms are written, as well as how they can be applied today.

BIBL 4481 Survey of the Book of Acts 3 Credits

As the Book of Acts documents the birth and development of a faith based in the resurrected Christ, this course traces the spread of the gospel by and through the original Apostles. Key topics include the historical development of Christianity, challenges and obstacles to the first evangelists, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit in evangelism.

BIBL 4600 Pauline Evangelism 3 Credits

This course investigates the unique career of the historical character, the Apostle Paul. Key topics include Paul's philosophy, work, missionary journeys, and heart for evangelism. Paul's motivation and the short-term and long-term outcomes of his work are examined.

CHC 4106 Group Counseling 3 Credits

Presents concepts of group dynamics in the counseling process. Group strategies are explored. This course will examine the task of the facilitators in the group setting.

CHC 4107 The Holy Spirit and Counseling 3 Credits

This class will examine the role of the Holy Spirit in Counseling. The student will formulate and develop a greater personal; theology of the role of the Holy Spirit in from a theology of the charismatic ministry in the counseling process.

CHC 4108 Abnormal Human Behavior 3 Credits

This course discussed the DSM4 and other abnormal diagnosis and behaviors. Emphasis is placed on understanding problems and developing clinical insight.

CHC 4109 Counseling for Special Populations 3 Credits

This study examines the unique treatment issues faced by minorities, women, elderly, special populations, African-Americans and others are considered.

CHC 4110 Marriage Counseling 3 Credits

This course examines the marriage relationship, as a covenant relationship, and addresses issues that may hinder the covenant. This course will provide instruction on counseling couples.

EVAN 4690 Church Planting 3 Credits

Creating new local churches has historically been an important component of evangelism. This course explores the process and structure of creating new churches.

EVAN 4900 Studies in Radical Evangelism 3 Credits

This course uses the case study method to examine extraordinary evangelical events and people.

HIST 4520 History of Theology 3 Credits

This course explores the social and spiritual processes by which human beings have developed ideas about God. It explores the nature of fundamental truth and its adoption by societies, concepts of morality and their development, and notions of the afterlife and their influence on human behavior.

HIST 4911 History of Evangelism 3 Credits

This course traces the spread of Christianity in the post-biblical world. Key topics include the growth of the early church, careers of noted and obscure evangelists, and evangelism in the modern age.

HUM 4700 The Role of the Christian Artist 3 Credits

In the 'Christian world' of our modern culture, the artist is often put aside as irrelevant; however, God has created the artist to be a vessel of His own creativity, revelation and beauty. This course will bring you closer to God with an understanding of His purpose for the artist as a communicator of His message in the creative arts (music, literature, film, drama, dance, and the visual arts).

MINN 4112 Urban Ministry 3 Credits

Ministry leadership in the inner city environment is examined. Key topics include street ministry, resource management, conflict resolution, the inner city political environment, building support systems with suburban churches and organizations, and discipleship in the inner city.

MINN 4355 The Touch of Christ: Ministering to the Broken 3 Credits

This course emphasizes Christ's mission to touch the untouchable and to love the unlovely. Key topics focus on ministry response to substance abuse, sexual and emotional abuse, poverty, homelessness and physical deprivation, and cross-cultural and interfaith ministry.

MINN 4450 Legal Issues in Ministry 3 Credits

This course provides an overview of the legal environment in which a church or ministry organization operates. Key topics include human resource law, tax and regulatory compliance, liability law, contracts, and intellectual property law.

MINN 4703 Managing Church Growth 3 Credits

This course provides strategies, processes, and practices for managing church growth. Key topics include staffing the growing church, developing church growth strategies, ethics of church growth, and developing a biblical view of church growth.

MUS 4280 The Music of Faith 3 Credits

This course presents the concepts and characteristics that form great music evaluated from a Christian perspective. Key concepts include the theory and underlying structure of music. Developments in music are also traced from a spiritual and cultural perspective.

MUS 4320 History of Christian and Gospel Music 3 Credits

This course presents the historical development of Christian and Gospel music from its early foundations in America and throughout the 20th century. Developments are also traced from a spiritual and cultural perspective.

MUS 4400 Worship Songwriting and Composition 3 Credits

This course will teach you the basics of songwriting and the precepts of creating songs unto the Lord to be used in corporate worship settings.

PHIL 4981 Spiritual Warfare 3 Credits

The spirit realm is examined from a biblical perspective. Key topics include the nature and role of spirit beings, the role of the Christian, and the role of the church in spiritual warfare.

WOR 4100 The Heart of True Worship 3 Credits

The heart of true worship explains what worship and praise really are in your life as a believer. Among the many ways of worshipping God in “spirit and truth,” this course will discuss the ministry of the priesthood and how it now relates to you as a born again child of God in entering into a deeper and richer intimacy with Him.

WOR 4200 Developing an Atmosphere of Worship 3 Credits

This course introduces you to what is known as “Third Day” worship, and you will gain an understanding of the “New Song” we sing unto the Lord as well as the concept of entering into Throne Room Worship.

WOR 4300 The Dynamics of Worship Leading 3 Credits

This course is designed to raise you up as a spirit-filled Worship Leader—whether in small group or in corporate worship settings. You will learn the responsibilities of how to prepare and how to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

WOR 4500 Music Ministry Practicum 3 Credits

This course is directed toward applied ministry opportunities. The course gives the music minister an opportunity to apply ministry leadership skills in a local church or other ministries of music. 45 hours required at on site locations to engage in the music ministry process.

YPAS 4596 Organizing Youth Ministry 3 Credits

This course provides an overview of organizational strategies for youth ministry. Key topics include staffing the youth ministry, special challenges of the youth pastor staff, turnover in youth ministry, and developing a biblical mindset for growth in youth ministry.

YPAS 4611 Strategies for Youth Evangelism 3 Credits

In this course, learners will work on faculty-guided projects to develop and execute strategies for youth evangelism in an appropriate setting.

YPAS 4923 Urban Youth Ministry 3 Credits

The youth pastor’s role in urban ministry is investigated. The unique inner city environment faced by urban youths and their reactions to it are emphasized.

Master's Courses and Course Descriptions

APTH 5600: Hearing God's Voice: The Power of Revelation Knowledge (Graduate) 3 Credits

This course is a wonderful investigation of God's call to live in spirit and in truth. You will learn the importance of the illumination of scripture and the application of revelation knowledge as a means to living the victorious Spirit-filled life. Key topics include an examination of the limitations of reasoned (human) knowledge, the role of theology and doctrine, and the place of revelation knowledge in renewing the mind. **This course is the prerequisite to all other courses in the Master of Ministry program.**

APTH 5650: Living According to the Kingdom (Graduate) 3 Credits

This course will help define what the Gospel of the Kingdom is, and how we can live in the principles and attitudes of the Kingdom more fully. You will examine the Sermon on the Mount, which has been called the Manifesto of the King. We will take a verse-by-verse examination of this to see how we should be developing in character as its citizens, and what the relationship of the Kingdom of Heaven is to the world.

APTH 5675: The Ethics of Contemporary Issues 3 Credits

This course we will examine the basis of Christian ethics. We will study God's Word to discover the precepts and principles we are given about such subjects as sex, family, honesty, suicide, abortion, the education of children, economics, humanism, and more. We will discover the character of God which provides the foundation of the commands and learn to apply the Test of Truth and the Evidence of Truth in any circumstance.

BIBL 5100: Biblical Research Methods and Writing 3 Credits

This course will give you a comprehensive biblical worldview and help you discover what the Bible has to say about the vocation/ministry you are planning to enter or have entered already. You will be trained to do original Bible study utilizing the Greek and Hebrew, by learning to use an Interlinear Greek-English New Testament, a complete concordance, a Bible dictionary, a Greek lexicon, a study Bible, and an expository dictionary. No previous knowledge of Greek or Hebrew is required.

INTC 5700: The Ministry of Intercessory Prayer (Graduate) 3 Credits

Whether you have been an intercessor for years or are just beginning to explore this exciting topic, you will be instructed and inspired by this course. You will be exposed to many different methodologies for organizing and engaging in intercessory prayer.

MINN 5150: Effective Communication: Spirit-Anointed Preaching 3 Credits

This course will teach you how to receive messages from God and deliver them under the anointing of the power of the Holy Spirit.

MINN 5200: Understanding the Five Fold Ministry 3 Credits

This course is an in-depth examination of the ministry gifts of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. Jesus gave gifts to men. Discover how these gifts function together in the church "to prepare God's people for works of service". This study will help you further understand God's call on your life.

MINN 5450: Spirit-Anointed Teaching 3 Credits

This course will inspire you to enjoy the benefits of experiencing God and sensing the transmission of the life flow of the precious Holy Spirit in a group setting. You will be taught how to make every group meeting a time of encounter with the Lord where each individual receives an impartation of the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

MLDS 5175: Leading From Your God-given Strengths 3 Credits

To each of us grace has been given according to the measure of Christ's gift...And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints." Do you know which of these heart motivations God has given to you? Is God asking you to express this heart motivation within or outside the structured church, or both? Which ministry or vocation is He asking you to express yourself through? What kinds of people do you need next to you to make you most effective? These questions and many others will be answered.

MLDS 5260: Creativity from the Spirit 3 Credits

Spirit-born creativity is no accident; it requires purposeful activity. This study will open the doors of your understanding so that the creativity of God can flow through you continuously in ways such as you may have only dreamed. You will examine step-by-step how God progressively fills each of the five senses of your spirit with Himself, until His creative miracle is released into the natural realm.

MLDS 5350: Leadership From a Servant's Heart 3 Credits

This course will take a look at God's plan for leadership in His Church. Every major passage of Scripture dealing with the subject will be carefully studied. You will also study various material on the subject.

MLDS 5360: Supernatural Leadership: Naturally Supernatural 3 Credits

This course will inspire you regarding how the Lord revealed His eternal purpose for us when He created to have dominion in the earth. You will walk in a new boldness as you live in victory over Satan and demon powers in your daily life and ministry.

MLDS 5375: Building Dynamic Teams in Ministry 3 Credits

God never let the rulership of the body rest on the shoulders of one man, knowing that each of us has weaknesses and limitations, and that no one man can completely represent full truth, wisdom and power as Jesus did. This course will help local church leadership function more effectively as a team, honoring the gifts of all. **Prerequisites: MLDS 5175: Leading from Your God-Given Strengths (required); MINN 5200: Understanding the Five Fold Ministry (recommended).** This course will be most useful if you are currently part of a leadership team.

PHIL 5255: World Religious Perspectives 3 Credits

A historical and comparative survey of the principal beliefs and practices of the world's major religions. Major religions are considered: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shinto and Taoism.

THEO 5475: The Power of the Blood Covenant 3 Credits

The purpose of this course is to help the student understand the concept of a blood covenant and how it relates to the covenant God has made for us through Jesus Christ. The student learns the basic blood covenant ritual and how God made it known to Adam, Abraham, Moses, and the prophets as a picture of the blood of the everlasting covenant He made for us with the Lord Jesus Christ.

MMIN 5900: M.Min. Project/Thesis 3 Credits

In this course, learners work on a faculty-guided project or thesis related to the learner's interests in his/her area of applied ministry. The projects integrate creativity, relevance and integrity to produce works of the highest quality.

Doctoral Courses and Course Descriptions

BHIS 7650: Old Testament History 4 Credits

This course is an examination of the historical books of the Old Testament -- Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings -- including a brief look at the Pentateuch. Doctoral students will gain valuable insight into how to study and learn from these books of the Old Testament based on their cultural and historical contexts.

BHIS 7750: New Testament History 4 Credits

This course is a survey of the intertestamental period, the life of Christ, and the formation of the Early Church with special attention to the Roman, Greek, and Jewish contexts of the New Testament period as portrayed in the Gospels and Acts.

DMIN 7600: The Organic-Open Church: A Return to New Testament Foundations 4 Credits

The purpose of this course is to expose the doctoral student to God's true design for the Body of Christ as laid out in the New Testament. An investigation of 'modern' church and leadership practices will be examined and the student will gain a deep understanding of the Church as a living organism not an institutional organization.

DMIN 7725: The Economy of the Kingdom: Fulfilling Your Financial Destiny 4 Credits

This course gives the doctoral student Scriptural support for the belief that God delights in the prosperity of His people. The primary objective of this course is that true prosperity is meant to extend the kingdom by giving to those in need and fulfilling the call that God has placed in the heart of the believer.

DMIN 7800: The Work of the Prophetic Ministry 4 Credits

This course teaches the nature and purpose of prophetic revelation and its proper function in the Body of Christ. The doctoral student will be inspired and challenged to operate in the prophetic gifts. Subjects in this course include the power and perils of the prophetic, being a prophetic people, the song of the Lord, seven expressions of the prophetic spirit, and others.

COUN 8050: Counseled by God: From the Father's Heart 4 Credits

This course examines God's Spirit as the "Wonderful Counselor". Doctoral students will experience how God speaks to the heart and counsels us about the basic emotional pressures of life while releasing His grace within our hearts to understanding what it means to be "free indeed."

COUN 8150: Healing from the Spirit: Prayers that Heal the Heart 4 Credits

This course teaches the Scriptural basis for the breaking of bondages within the heart caused by spiritual forces. The course includes breaking generational sins and curses; severing ungodly soul ties; removing negative mindsets and inner vows; healing traumatic memories; and casting out demonic influences that have connected themselves to the inner wounds of the heart and soul resulting in a solid healing process where God grants illumined insights from His Word.

DMIN 8450: The Call of the Church in Culture and Society 4 Credits

This course teaches the doctoral student to see the purpose of the Body of Christ as a living organism of social and cultural transformation based on God's original design. Students will learn that believers are called to live out the centrality of their faith in every aspect of the human experience resulting in the abundant life.

DMIN 8375: God's Idea of Business: Ministry in the Marketplace 4 Credits

This dynamic course will introduce and expose the doctoral student to the study of Christian ministry as a calling and a life of service in the marketplace. The Holy Spirit has a definite place in the world of business and this course will expose the myths associated with the definition of "full-time Christian service."

MLDS 7850: Gifted to Succeed: God's Design of Leadership 4 Credits

This course is about unleashed Biblical leadership. Since Biblical leadership is determined by our ability to reflect the character and nature of the God we serve, we are compelled to have as clear a picture as possible of our God. When we look beneath the placid surface of common systematic theology, we find a God who is far more volatile,

far more compassionate, far more mysterious and far more dangerous than the God who is defined by carefully crafted discussions of divine attributes. This course will confront the doctoral student with these realities.

MLDS 8250: Leadership and the Practice of Spiritual Gifts 4 Credits

This course is designed to acquaint doctoral students with the Biblical theme of the gifts of grace for the purpose of understanding, recognizing and implementing those gifts within the Body of Christ.

PHIL 8575: Major Worldviews in Culture and Society 4 Credits

The purpose of this course is to confront the doctoral student with the study of major worldviews in culture and society where the student will identify essential issues and examine significant challenges to the Christian faith through Spirit-anointed revelation.

DMIN 8600: Doctoral Research Methods 4 Credits

The purpose of this course is to provide the doctoral student with an opportunity to examine the fundamentals of research and writing from a practical and professional perspective, as a foundational step in preparation for completing the doctoral writing project/dissertation.

DMIN 8900: Doctoral Project 8 Credits

This is the final writing project for the doctoral student. While similar in many ways to a dissertation, it is fundamentally different in that it is designed to be an “applied ministry/theology” position paper written from a praxis (practical) position. Students are prepared for this course by taking the Research Methods course.

Faculty, Administration and Board of Directors

Members of the Ames Christian University Faculty

Allday, Jack

MLA, Southern Methodist University
BA, Southern Methodist University

Allen, Mary

Ed.D., Ames Christian University
M.Ed., Ames Christian University
BA, Ames Christian University
BS, Palm Beach Atlantic University

Carter, Robert

PhD (Candidate), University of Miami
BS, Georgia Institute of Technology

Cook, Kay

DTh, Andersonville Theological Seminary
MA, Bernadean University
SBMT, Freelandia Bible College and Seminary

Gambol, Renee

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