

Abilene Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes **Graduate School of Theology**

A = Approve I = Information Item R = Respond In Writing

Degree Plan(s):

- **Master of Divinity (BMDI) Missions Track**

Proposed Change: Replace the Context section (Con. Ed. Sequence) within the Major Requirements section with the proposed Ministry Core

Rationale:

Several factors make this proposal a necessary component of our wider curriculum revisions. First, as the GST integrates Contextual Education throughout the curriculum there becomes less need for a separate and discrete block of contextual education courses. Secondly, the Contextual Education Sequence that resulted from the GST's last curriculum revision was heavily influenced by the field of congregational studies. This was an important development that addressed lacunae in the previous BIBM curriculum. Yet the needs of ministers, and the larger field of Practical Theology, have moved from that congregational studies orientation. Thus, the new BIBM curriculum has a new set of lacunae which it seeks to address; both with respect to content and the "typical" GST student within our programs.

		Dept./School	College	Dean	AUAC/Grad	Provost
	Campus-Level Academic Review¹					
	Change to a Course Include signatures from all chairs/program directors for cross-listed courses. ¹					
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	I	A	I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	I	A	I	I
3.	Course term(s)	A	I	A	I	I
4.	Content (change of course outcomes)	A	I	A	I	I
5.	Number of credit hours	A	I	A	I	I
6.	Course number within the hundred	A	I	A	I	I
7.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	I	A	I	A
8.	Prerequisites	A	I	A	I	I
9.	Course restriction	A	I	A	I	I
10.	Level change [U to G or G to U]	A	I	A	I	A
11.	Cross list course	A	I	A	I	A

12.	Department of record	A	I	A	I	A
13.	Open or close a course	A	I	A	I	I
	Change to a Degree Plan					
14.	Educational Program — Revise	A	I	A	I	A
15.	Educational Program — Adopt/revise admission requirements	A	I	A	I	A
16.	GPA — Revise program-required GPA	A	I	A	I	A
17.	Minor — Revise	A	I	A	I	A

		Dept./School	College	Dean	AIAC/Grad	Provost	Senior VPAA	President
	Full Review							
	Change to Catalog Information (for Campus)							
18.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	-	-	-	I	A	A	I
19.	Requirements for graduating with honors	-	-	-	I	A	A	I
	Change to a Degree Plan							
20.	Educational Program — Add or Discontinue	A	I	A	I	A	A	I
21.	Educational Program — Discontinue (Provost-proposed)	R	-	R	I	A	A	I
22.	Minor — Add or Discontinue	A	I	A	I	A	A	I
23.	Minor — Discontinue (Provost-proposed)	R	-	R	I	A	A	I
24.	Degree — Add or Discontinue	A	I	A	I	A	A	I
25.	Degree — Discontinue (Provost-proposed)	R	-	R	I	A	A	I

Notes

An administrative proposal by the provost or senior vice president for academic affairs would follow the "provost-proposed" routing on the chart.

Dean



12/11/25

Signature

Date

Graduate Council

Signature

Date

Provost

Signature

Date

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Signature

Date

President

Signature

Date

MDiv: Master of Divinity (BMDI)

Prerequisite Degree Requirements

This program requires a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution. Students with extensive undergraduate studies in Bible, religion, and ministry may receive up to 18 hours of advanced standing.

Major Requirements

~~Context~~ Ministry Core

- [BIBM 602 - GST Orientation](#) Credit Hours: 0
- ~~BIBM 603 - Foundations of the Theology of Ministry~~ Credit Hours: 3
- Ministry Menu (Student Chooses Two):
 - [BIBM 601: Church Leadership](#)
 - [BIBM 607: Effective Practice of Ministry](#)
 - [BMIS 648 Planting and Developing Churches](#)
 - [BMIS 649: Reading and Engaging Contemporary Culture](#)
 - [BMIS 650: Leading in Intercultural Contexts](#)
 - [BIBM 657: Contexts of Ministry](#)
- ~~BIBM 657 - Contexts of Ministry~~ Credit Hours: 3
- [BIBM 658 - The Practice of Ministerial Leadership](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [BIBM 678 - GST Senior Portfolio Preparation](#) Credit Hours: 0

Total: ~~9~~ 12 Credit Hours

The Story of the Church - Scripture

- [BIBL 610 - Critical Interpretation of the Old Testament](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [BIBL 620 - Critical Interpretation of the New Testament](#) Credit Hours: 3
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- [BIBL 611 - Old Testament Theology](#) Credit Hours: 3
- *or*
- [BIBL 621 - New Testament Theology](#) Credit Hours: 3
- *or*
- Text Elective (BIBL, BGRK, or BHEB 600-699) - Credit Hours: 3

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- Text Electives (BIBL, BGRK, or BHEB 600-699) - Credit Hours: 6

Total: 15 Credit Hours

The Story of the Church - History

- BIBH 664 - Advanced Restoration History Credit Hours: 3

Total: 3 Credit Hours

Interpretation

- BGRK 611 - Elementary Greek I Credit Hours: 3
- BGRK 612 - Elementary Greek II Credit Hours: 3
- BHEB 671 - Elementary Hebrew I Credit Hours: 3
- BHEB 672 - Elementary Hebrew II Credit Hours: 3

Total: 12 Credit Hours

The Church's Mission

- BIBM 648 - Christian Spiritual Formation Credit Hours: 3

Total: 3 Credit Hours

Other Electives

- Theology Elective (BIBD 600-699) - Credit Hours: 3
- or*
- History Elective (BIBH 600-699) - Credit Hours: 3
- Free Elective - Credit Hours: 3

Total: 6 Credit Hours

Total: ~~48~~ 51 Credit Hours

Missions Track (MIS)

The Story of the Church - History

- BIBH 651 - History of Christianity I: Early to Medieval Credit Hours: 3
- *or*

- BIBH 674 - Christian Mission in Global Contexts Credit Hours: 3
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- BIBH 652 - History of Christianity II: Reformation to Present Credit Hours: 3
- *or*
- BIBH 670 - Issues in Global Christianity Credit Hours: 3

Total: 6 Credit Hours

Interpretation

- BIBD 660 - Systematic Theology I Credit Hours: 3
- *or*
- BIBD 678 - Philosophy of Religion Credit Hours: 3

Total: 3 Credit Hours

The Church's Mission

- Missions electives (BMIS 600-699) - Credit Hours: ~~15~~12

Total: ~~15~~12 Credit Hours

Total: ~~24~~21 Credit Hours

Total Major Hours: 72

Optional Thesis (Consult with advisor)

- BIBM 699 - Master's Thesis Credit Hours: 6

Total: 6 Credit Hours