

# BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

THE MASTER'S COLLEGE | ADULT DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM ONLINE

The Master's College Online is now offering a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministries in an online format. This program provides individuals with a comprehensive biblical philosophy of ministry through a systematic examination of all aspects of what God is doing in the world through His church. The goal of the major is to prepare believers with a greater comprehension of how every ministry can most effectively be utilized within the local church to the glory of God. In addition, it seeks to equip graduates with a breadth of practical skills that will enhance their ministry and participation within and beyond the local church.

## Major Requirements (42 Units)

<b>Course Number &amp; Title*</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Course Number &amp; Title*</b>	<b>Units</b>
BIB310 Foundations of Biblical Study	3	BIB390 Principles of Effective Teaching	3
B340 Biblical Interpretation	3	BIB400 Church Administration	3
BTH336 Theology of the Church	3	BIB410 Corporate Worship	3
BIB349 Dynamics of Grace	3	BC300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling	3
BIB355 Worldview, Apologetics, Evangelism	3	BIB430 Principles of Discipleship	3
BIB375 Church History	3	BIB460 Missions	3
BIB380 Christian Education	3	BIB470 Contemporary Issues in Church Ministry	3

\*Course descriptions on reverse side of page.

## Format & Schedule

All major courses are taught in an online format during two 8-week blocks over three semesters each year. This schedule enables students to qualify for federal financial aid.

Students taking one course per block are able to complete the major coursework in 28 months. By taking more than one course per block, the program can be completed in as little as 14 months.

General Education and elective courses can be taken prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to completion of the major coursework.

TMC Online courses contain a variety of proven online instructional approaches, including brief video lectures, topical videos from the Internet or other resources, and interactive exercises & lessons. In addition, students will engage each other and the instructor through online discussion forums, chat and video conferencing sessions, and instant messaging. Student assessments will include online quizzes and exams, written papers, online speeches, role-plays, and presentations, depending on the program.

## General Education (65 Units) & Electives (15 Units)

General Education (GE) courses are intended to introduce undergraduates to the richness and diversity of the various academic disciplines. TMC GE requirements are listed below:

Essentials of Christian Education (3)	American/English/World Lit. (3)	Intro to U.S. History (3)
Old Testament Survey (3,3)	Literature Elective (3)	Intro to U.S. Government (3)
New Testament Survey (3,3)	Spoken Communication (3)	Intro to Economics & Society (3)
Christian Theology (3,3)	Intro to Music and Art (3)	Intro to Biology (3)
Distinctives of Biblical Living (1,1,1,1)	Intro to Philosophy (3)	Science Lab (1)
English Composition (3)	Intro to World History (3,3)	Critical Thinking & Quantitative Analysis (3)

- Elective courses give students the opportunity to take courses in other areas that interest them.
- GE and elective courses can be completed through TMC Online, transferred in from another accredited college or university, and/or completed via Advanced Placement or CLEP (subject to TMC transfer credit policies).

## For More Information:

Call: 1-877-302-3337

Email: [TMCOnline@masters.edu](mailto:TMCOnline@masters.edu)

Go to: [www.masters.edu/online](http://www.masters.edu/online)

## Major Course Descriptions

Major curriculum courses are the core of the undergraduate studies and are designed to prepare the adult learner for effectiveness in his/her life and career.

### **BIB310 Foundations of Biblical Study (3)\***

This course introduces the student to the necessary skills and techniques that promote educational success in the online environment. Academic writing and research techniques promoting information literacy are examined and applied. This course is also undergirded by an essential focus on spiritual formation foundational to healthy ministry, personal as well as corporate, within the life of the church. Guiding principles constituting biblical ministry within the curriculum are established.

### **B340 Biblical Interpretation (3)\***

An analysis of how to study and understand Scripture. Emphasis will be placed on the vital methods used to apply a passage, and the specific rules used to interpret biblical narratives, poetry, parables and prophecy.

### **BTH336 Theology of the Church (3)\***

An in depth analysis of the doctrine, origin, nature, purpose, ordinances, government, and ministries of the church with particular attention given to the various conceptions of the church in the history of theology. Key contemporary issues on ecclesiology will be examined with the intent of gaining biblically sound conclusions.

### **BIB349 Dynamics of Grace (3)\*\***

This course will examine why the Gospel is the energizing truth that drives the believer's sanctification. In-depth attention will be paid to the spiritual discipline of ongoing faith in the Gospel ("preaching the Gospel to oneself each day"). Attention will also be given to the biblical connection between the Gospel and the believer's worship, walk, warfare, witness, oneness, and worldview. The practical theology of this course is designed especially to address the "disconnect" which commonly exists between faith and life, between doctrine and practice.

### **BIB355 Worldview, Apologetics, Evangelism (3)\*\***

This course will examine why biblical worldview is about total reality, not just about religious truth. It will equip the student to critique erroneous worldviews for the purpose of becoming effective in evangelism. The class will also examine pre-suppositional apologetics. It will also consider the appropriate use of Christian evidences and their proper place in the apologetic presentation.

### **BIB375 Church History (3)\*\***

An overview of church history tracing the growth and development of Christianity from the Apostolic Age to the present. The course will include discussions of the church fathers, major councils, the Reformation and key church leaders over the last 2,000 years.

### **BIB380 Christian Education (3)\*\***

A survey of the history, philosophy, principles and practice of Christian Education. The student will be exposed to, discuss, and evaluate the varied contexts of Christian Education. Differing age levels will be considered. The student will be expected to interact with the course materials, instructor, and other students in an effort to refine the understanding and practice of doing education that is Christian. The student is also expected to explore various ministries within their local church and evaluate each biblically.

### **BIB390 Principles of Effective Teaching (3)\*\***

A course on the teaching-learning process with attention given to current research, the dynamics of classroom instruction, curriculum development, and the application of instructional methodology and technology.

### **BIB400 Church Administration (3)\*\***

This course will consider key issues in church administration. Budget preparation, multi-staff planning and development, committee work, relations between 'pastor' and 'lay' leadership, and other practical aspects of the day-to-day operations of a 'typical' local church will be discussed.

### **BIB410 Corporate Worship (3)\*\***

This course will examine the practical outworking of corporate worship in light of a biblical understanding of the person and nature of God. The course will develop a theology of worship that is consistent with the teaching of Scripture and is applicable for the church today. The course will also introduce a wide range of historical and contemporary issues related to worship.

### **BC300 Introduction to Biblical Counseling (3)**

This course will describe the basic concepts and distinctive features of biblical counseling. Emphases will be on different approaches to solving personal problems, biblical change process, theological foundations of biblical counseling, biblical definition of the heart, elements of biblical counseling, marriage and family, and biblical conflict resolution. The Bible is presented as completely inspired, inerrant, authoritative, and sufficient. Students will learn what biblical counseling is and what it involves, who is qualified to counsel, the role of the biblical counselor, and the role of counseling in the ministry of the local church. A personal improvement project will teach the student to design a plan for improving a particular area of his/her life, put that plan into action, and then evaluate his/her progress as the course draws to a close.

### **BIB430 Principles of Discipleship (3)\*\***

This course will explore the Great Commission Mandate. It will seek to unpack a biblical definition of discipleship, examining its practices and carefully considering its implementation within the local church. Students will be encouraged to strengthen their commitment to the practice of discipleship and thereby live out its reality as disciples. (Prerequisite BC300)

### **BIB460 Missions (3)\*\***

A biblical approach to missions and evangelism in the local church setting is presented. Examination of both local and international missions from a biblical perspective and a basic model of a local church missions program are discussed. Personal evangelism and discipleship are pursued as an integral part of the course. Christian apologetics will be reviewed and discussed also.

### **BIB470 Contemporary Issues in Church Ministry (3)**

This course allows students to make use of the theological material and skills acquired throughout the program as they interact with cultural and theological challenges that face the modern church. Students will develop an understanding of the importance of having a philosophy of ministry that is the application of the theology and text of Scripture. Students will write and present a detailed philosophy that articulates principles of ministry in the areas of discipleship and the mission of the church, church leadership, worship, and outreach and evangelism with the goal that the principles of their philosophy of ministry may be applied in any given context of ministry. **(Must be taken last in major course sequence.)**

**\*\*These course must be taken in the order listed here, prior to other major courses:**

**\*\*The following courses must be completed prior to taking this course:** B101, B102, B201, B202, BTH321, BTH322, BIB310, B340 & BTH336

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