



Associate of Practical Theology

The Associate of Practical Theology provides the basic educational background and training in biblical studies, theology, and Christian ministry. After successfully completing this curriculum, students will be able to serve in a variety of capacities in Christian ministry. This program helps existing and emerging leaders be trained and recognized as part of a ministry leadership team that is one-minded in ministry vision and philosophy.

Specific Program Objectives:

- Comprehensive development in character, skills, and knowledge for effective ministry.
- Life development and lifelong learning orientation.
- Recognition of and participation in the centrality of the local church in the plan of God.
- Master Scripture relevance to church and leadership development at an initial level, particularly through study of the biblical theology of Acts and the Pauline Epistles.
- Reflect on contributions of leading scholars regarding church and leadership development.
- Address basic issues related to church and leadership development and analyze Scripture and other contributions related to those issues.
- Formulate conclusions and personal applications regarding those basic issues.

The Associate of Practical Theology is offered by distance education to existing leaders rooted in local churches, church networks, and other ministry organizations to help them be trained and recognized as part of a ministry leadership team that is one-minded in ministry vision and philosophy. Out of this team would come those who commit themselves long term to local church leadership or those who desire to train to be part of a missionary team involved in planting or establishing churches in other areas.

The Associate of Practical Theology is offered at the undergraduate level. Credit earned in the Associate program may be applied in its entirety to degree programs if the credit matches the requirements of the degree program.

Associate of Practical Theology (APT)

The Associate of Practical Theology (APT) is a 60 semester credit hour program (30 plus the Certificate of Ministry) granted for demonstration of an initial and secondary set of competencies associated with doing ministry according to the way of Christ and His Apostles.

The Associate of Practical Theology provides the basic educational background and training in biblical studies, theology, and Christian ministry. After successfully completing this curriculum, students will be able to serve in a variety of capacities in Christian ministry.

First 10 Courses & Ministry Practicum – Certificate of Ministry

Additional 10 Courses & Ministry Practicum:

GS 201 - Christ & The Gospels I - (3 Credits) – This course is designed to situate the Gospels in their historical context as well as in their canonical context – how they fit into and with the other writings of the New Testament, as delivered to the churches. In addition, it looks at Mark's intention in writing and his relationship as an assistant and interpreter of Peter. The student will see the essence of the good news proclaimed by Jesus; the emerging Jewish-Gentile tensions, and the announcement of Jesus' new community, including His death and resurrection and the commissioning of this new community to continue proclaiming the gospel.

GS 203 - Christ & The Gospels II (3 Credits) – The first part of this course will focus on Matthew, who built a massive argument connecting Jesus and the Old Testament. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus states His mission is to build His Church, with Peter as key in the foundation of this Church. Jesus again commissions this new community to continue the proclamation after His death and resurrection. The second part of the course will be to Luke's Gospel and the second volume of his work – The Acts of the Apostles – which Luke actually tabs as “what Jesus continued to do and teach.” The intent of this two-volume work is to make the whole picture – the whole plan – clear. The Gentiles come on strong in the picture painted by Luke. They are central as the Gentile churches multiply in Acts, while the Jewish nation rejects Jesus and His new communities.

GS 205 - John & Revelation (3 Credits) – The first part of this course will focus on the Gospel of John, the last Gospel to be written. Its focus is on true belief that is intended to bring abundant life into the churches and a fellowship within these new communities that will show the world the real picture of what He is up to. The student will be taken into the Upper Room conversation where Jesus places the New Covenant at the center of his community and explains to the disciples that much of what He veiled or hid from them would be made known to them when He leaves, and the Spirit comes. The Spirit will not bring another teaching but will only speak of that which is directly from Jesus for the churches. In the second part of this course the student will examine John's writing to seven churches rooted in real history. His revelation from the Lord shows a knowledge of their

geographical, political, and spiritual challenges. The writing attests that the Lord knows and walks among His churches. While the words spoken to the churches were specific to their circumstance, they were also meant to be read among the churches, for what was addressed in one served as a teaching and warning for all the others. What was communicated then can serve to build principles for how our churches impact culture in the 21st Century.

MS 201 – Principles of Church Establishment (3 Credits) – The first part of this course will focus on two of Paul's Letters to the church at Thessalonica. The student will look at Paul's intent in writing these letters and then focus will be on Paul's process of establishing the church; founding, shaping it around the Apostle's teaching, and stabilizing the church in light of their suffering at the hands of those trying to destabilize the church. In addition, the student will consider the impact that an established church can have in a pagan community. The second part of this course will begin with a focus on Paul's Letter to the churches in Ephesians, and a look at Paul's intention for writing, as well as his process of maturing the church. Additionally, a look at the vision of the church in Christ's plan for this age, and how the maturing church reveals a picture of Christ to the world. Attention is also given to the maturing process for individuals and households, and the process of standing firm against Satan's schemes and experiencing powerful victories as the churches carry out their mission.

MS 203 – Principles of Church Leadership (3 Credits) – This course will focus on Paul's final letters – the Pastorals. This time He is not writing to the churches, but to his two young, faithful leaders, Timothy, and Titus. The student will look at Paul's intent in writing these letters and their content. Attention will be given to how Paul developed these churches into strong, intergenerational, households of God and to the task of preparing leadership for future generations to guard and protect these churches. In addition, the student will be presented with complementary book studies in Spiritual Leadership and Developing Disciples.

MS 205 - Christian Worldview I (3 Credits) – In this course many worldviews will be compared to the Christian worldview as to how they approach various disciplines. In every discipline, it will be presented how the Christian worldview explains our place in the universe and is more realistic, scientific, more intellectually satisfying, and more defensible. Many of these disciplines are imprinted in the created order and addressed in just the first few chapters of the Bible. In a systematic analysis of how each worldview approaches the various disciplines, Christian claims that an acknowledgement of God's nature and character, and the life and work of Christ, will reveal truth, as opposed to isolated truths.

MS 207 – Christian Worldview II (3 Credits) – Continuing from Christian World I, worldviews will be compared to the Christian worldview as to how they approach various disciplines. In every discipline, it will be presented how the Christian worldview explains our place in the universe and is more realistic, scientific, more intellectually satisfying, and more defensible. Many of these disciplines are imprinted in the created order and addressed in just the first few chapters of the Bible. In a systematic analysis of how each worldview approaches the various disciplines, Christian claims that an acknowledgement of God's nature and character, and the life and work of Christ, will reveal truth, as opposed to isolated truths.

RS 201 – Christian Apologetics I (3 Credits) - The understanding of absolute, objective truth has been largely lost in contemporary culture. Spend just a few minutes discussing politics or religion and you will hear responses such as “There is no truth!” or “That may be true for you, but not for me.” This course dares to wade into the middle of the controversy. The focus of the course is to broaden the students’ 47 definitive resource for deepening and defending their faith. This course is a fast-paced theological education for those who want to understand God and His world in a profound way and share their faith intelligently with unbelievers. Theology and apologetics aren’t just academic exercises for pastors and church leaders: we are all “ambassadors for Christ” (2 Cor. 5:20) charged with giving “reason[s] for the hope” we have in Him (1 Pet. 3:15). Pressing questions about life and faith deserve thoughtful answers.

RS 203 – Christian Apologetics II (3 Credits) – Continuing from Christian Apologetics I, this course is a fast-paced theological education for those who want to understand God and His world in a profound way and share their faith intelligently with unbelievers. Theology and apologetics aren’t just academic exercises for pastors and church leaders: we are all “ambassadors for Christ” (2 Cor. 5:20) charged with giving “reason[s] for the hope” we have in Him (1 Pet. 3:15). Pressing questions about life and faith deserve thoughtful answers.

RS 205 – Nehemiah: Leadership Principles and Practices (3 Credits) – In this course the student will encounter the leadership example of Nehemiah, made contemporary for this generation. It is a treatise on church life, its functions and dysfunctions, despair, and recovery, rooted in biblical revelation. Using the book of Nehemiah eternal truths are presented in practical and usable format for the edification of every present and potential leader and the vision to transform cultures through servant leadership.

MP201 Ministry Practicum II (1 Credit) – Contracted learning ministry including written description of preliminary plan and learning goals, report of actual experience, and evaluation and reflection of learning accomplished.

Financial Information:

Associate of Practical Theology – 30 Semester Credit Hours + Certificate of Ministry:

- Registration Fee: \$75.00 (to be submitted with application)
- Tuition Fee: \$100/Credit Hour (30 credits) = \$3,000.00
- Graduation Fee: \$ 165.00
- **TOTAL:** **\$3,240.00**

The total tuition and Fees will be payable through a schedule of payments for 24 months.
For example: \$3,240.00 / 24 months = \$135/month

Ready to Enroll?

MASTER BUILDER CHRISTIAN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

TRAINING LEADERS FROM NEIGHBORHOODS TO NATIONS

7941 SW 82ND DRIVE, GAINESVILLE, FL 32608

(508) 677-5584

RLBERNIER@MBMINISTRIES.ORG

WWW.MBCIU.ORG