



# **Introduction to Western Seminary** Gospel-Centered Transformation

# The Ministry of Western Seminary

## THE PURPOSE, MISSION AND VISION

The overarching purpose of Western Seminary is shaped by its Christian commitment:

*Western Seminary exists to glorify God by exalting His Son, Jesus Christ, in prayerful dependence upon the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.*

All aspects of the Seminary's operations consciously aim at enhancing the reputation of the Triune God. Furthermore, these efforts must be consciously guided by God's inerrant word and empowered by His Holy Spirit to fulfill this high and holy calling.

Flowing from this purpose is a more specific statement of mission:

*Western Seminary serves as a catalyst and resource for spiritual transformation by providing, with and for the church, advanced training for strategic ministry roles.*

To be most effective, Christian organizations must discern the distinctive contribution that God would have them make to His kingdom program. To try to do everything is both foolish and arrogant. Western, therefore, focuses its ministry upon providing advanced training to individuals who aspire to, or who currently serve in, strategic ministry roles so they can become agents of spiritual transformation in the lives of others. Recognizing the critical role that leaders play with respect to how effectively the church fulfills its God-given mission, Western gives special emphasis to training pastors and related ministry leaders (whether vocational, bi-vocational or avocational).

While this ministry seeks to serve the church, it is also done in active partnership with the church because local congregations occupy a unique place of priority in the outworking of God's redemptive plan. Furthermore, biblical synergy results when the distinctive resources of the seminary and church unite in this equipping task.

Western also partners with selected parachurch ministries (particularly those organizations that value the local church and honor it in their ministry philosophy and practice) in the equipping of their staff.

A key part of Western's vision is to provide education that is thoroughly biblical in its conviction, faithfully conservative in its theology, passionately spiritual at its core, intensely missional in its focus, creatively flexible in its delivery, and warmly relational in its dynamic. In so doing, Western seeks to be both a proactive influence and an ongoing source of support for the body of Christ as it matures spiritually and increases in fruitfulness. To that end, special emphasis is given to grounding students in the classical dynamics of spiritual renewal (viz., Gospel-centered transformation) for both individuals and groups.

## SEMINARY CORE THEMES

In order to ensure regular, systematic, and evidence-based assessment of its achievements, Western Seminary has identified three core themes that embody our values and define mission fulfillment.

- **Teaching and Learning:** A fundamental pursuit of the Seminary is to prepare students for a lifetime of effective ministry. To that end,

our first core theme reflects our commitment to meeting our mission by ensuring that students are grounded in evangelical convictions regarding the Bible and theology, are growing personally and spiritually into mature and effective ministers, and are trained in the necessary vocational skills.

- **Student Success:** For student learning to succeed, we must create quality learning environments that facilitate effective learning among our students. These learning environments include the degree programs within which learning takes place, the relational environment that exists between students and with faculty, and the services offered to students.
- **Community Collaboration:** The Seminary's mission envisions the training of leadership in church and parachurch organizations. This encompasses continuing education and non-credit events, as well as ensuring staff of partnership organizations complete their degree programs.

## MISSION FULFILLMENT

As we examined our core themes, we were pleased to affirm that student learning objectives are being met. Evidence points to the majority of Western graduates meeting or surpassing the student learning outcomes expressed in our educational goals. For example:

1. For the past five years, 100% of our graduates have successfully passed ordination examinations.
2. More than 95% have passed the culminating theological and integration projects in their programs.
3. Over a five year average, more than 90% of our counseling graduates have passed state licensing exams on their first attempt.
4. More than 80% of our students maintain steady annual progress to complete their degrees on schedule.
5. Over the past ten years, 89% of our graduates have found successful placement in strategic ministry roles, and 92% of our graduates report they continue in their ministry roles. Western Seminary graduates are serving worldwide today as pastors, church planters, counselors, teachers, missionaries, missional ministry leaders, chaplains, ministry coaches, marketplace ministry leaders — effectively strengthening the gospel influence of the Church worldwide.

## THE HISTORY OF WESTERN SEMINARY

Through the efforts of Walter B. Hinson, the Portland Baptist Bible Institute was organized in the winter of 1925. In 1926, efforts began to replace the Bible Institute with a graduate-level seminary to provide more adequate theological education in the Northwest. As a result, Western Baptist Theological Seminary was officially dedicated on October 4, 1927.

The purpose of the infant institution was reported by the Board of Trustees: "Looking across the years ... we saw coming out of Western Baptist Theological Seminary, men and women schooled to preach and teach the

eternal truths of God's Word and the redemptive love and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw pupils of sound teachers occupying pulpits and mission fields around the world."

In 1944 the Board of Trustees acquired the present five-acre campus in Portland. Classes at the new site convened in the fall of that year.

Western's presidents have often been noteworthy and innovative leaders in theological education, including Dr. Earl D. Radmacher (president from 1965-1989) and Dr. Bert Downs (president from 1998-2008). Our current president, Dr. Randal Roberts, is a Western alumnus who has served the seminary in both faculty and administrative roles since 1987. He is committed to continuing the legacy of doctrinal fidelity and educational innovation that has been entrusted to him.

Under this presidential leadership, Western Seminary has established a number of forward-looking programs. It was one of the first schools to offer the Doctor of Ministry degree. In 1981, Western launched an innovative video instruction program which quickly expanded to serve hundreds of students per year in study centers across America and overseas. More recent innovations include a dual-track approach to learning the biblical languages, cross-registration options for students in the D.Min. and D.Miss. programs, an enhanced mentored field ministry program with opportunities for input from a variety of perspectives, distinctive training in Christian coaching, and increased scheduling and delivery system flexibility to make quality theological education more accessible to students whose circumstances require creative accommodation. To make residential seminary education even more accessible to key cities on the West Coast, Western has also established two branch campuses in Northern California (San Jose and Sacramento).

## THE CHARACTERISTICS

While making its education increasingly accessible in a variety of settings, Western Seminary remains a single institution dedicated to maintaining consistent quality in the following spheres:

### Spiritual Life Development

Scripture clearly teaches that effectiveness in ministry requires godly character. Western thus seeks to establish a campus environment that fosters genuine spiritual growth. Spiritual development serves as one of the overarching objectives in Western's curriculum; every course is expected to make some contribution to one's maturing into Christ-likeness. Character development is also a major focus of both faculty and field mentoring. The foundation for this growth is provided by required courses in spiritual formation which address the responsibilities, resources, and results involved in the development of Christian character. Many of these courses also include a small group component which provides a peer relational structure aimed at stimulating each student's progress in the Christian life.

### Doctrinal Commitment

Western's theological stance remains consistent with its evangelical heritage. The Seminary consciously submits to the authority of inerrant Scripture and models a hermeneutical framework that interprets the Bible in light of its grammatical, historical, literary, and theological contexts. The doctrinal understanding to which its core faculty annually subscribe is detailed in the "Faculty Teaching Position" found in this catalog (page 155).

## Program Diversity and Flexibility

God calls people to ministry in a manner consistent with the gifting and passions He has given them. Consequently, Western's programs seek to honor a diversity of ministry callings through both the breadth and depth of its curricular options. The Seminary offers a half-year certificate, a one-year diploma, five different master's degrees, the Master of Theology (Th.M.), and two doctoral programs. Western has also worked diligently to ensure significant flexibility within these programs. For example, the Master of Divinity's design allows students 12 credits of electives which they can align with their personal calling. Most of the other programs allow similar opportunity for students to be active partners with their faculty advisor in shaping their studies to align with their educational desires and ministry calling. When this flexibility is combined with Western's core Bible, theology, and spiritual formation courses, the result is a program which equips men and women for a specific ministry while still being firmly grounded in sound theology, biblical understanding and spiritual maturity.

## Schedule Flexibility

Similar flexibility is needed in schedule options to help students successfully navigate the challenges of balancing family, ministry, work, social life, and school. With that need in mind, Western offers a variety of schedule options from which students can select courses to fit both their educational desires and their life circumstances.

Students may select courses from any schedule option to maximize their time and credit loads. For example, students who need to commit a large amount of time to work or ministry, but who are able to clear their Mondays, can take advantage of the Monday Track. Master of Divinity students can complete their degree in four years through this track. Students needing evening courses are able to take courses Mondays and/or Thursday nights and complete the majority of courses required to complete a ministry-oriented degree in four years. The Portland campus schedules counseling courses on Mondays only, enabling counseling students to be away from campus the rest of the week working or doing internships. Our hybrid courses fulfill campus residency requirements through an intensive schedule at all three campuses throughout the year, incorporating assignments into each student's ministry responsibilities.

Our San Jose and Sacramento campuses are offering an increased number of courses on Mondays as well. Please contact staff at those campuses for more information.

When these flexible schedules are combined with our distance learning and other intensive course options, students can access Western's training without significantly disrupting their lives. If you have questions about your personal situation, don't hesitate to contact our admissions office for personal assistance: Portland 877.517.1800, San Jose 877.900.6889, Sacramento 800.250.7030.

## Local Church Participation

From its earliest days Western Seminary has maintained a focused commitment to serve and build the local church worldwide. Since Western nurtures leaders for the church, responsible involvement in a local congregation is expected of students, staff, and faculty. Furthermore, representative leaders of these churches are constantly invited to both assess the curriculum and to help deliver it, so as to maintain the relevance of the content and skills being imparted. Practical internships within the church and parachurch environments further help to ensure that all graduates are well-grounded in actual ministry experience.

**Coaching/Mentoring Support**

Interested students in the Portland M.Div. and M.A. in Ministry and Leadership programs can volunteer to participate in a new, experimental program that offers enhanced personal support for seminarians. Personalized coaching and mentoring input is provided through a variety of individuals who comprise a support team for the student through his or her time in seminary, as well as during the year following graduation. A variety of perspectives and expertise will be made available through this team, as it includes both seminary and field personnel (including pastoral and lay leader representatives). This collaborative effort is intended to enrich further each student's participation for ministry and, where needed, to facilitate a smooth transition into that ministry. For further information, please contact Dr. Terry Burns at 503.517.1894.

**Spouse Training Opportunities**

Though roles, gifts and backgrounds may vary considerably, the Seminary strives to provide a variety of opportunities for spouses of seminarians to receive both quality training and meaningful fellowship during their time at Western. For example, spouses of students taking 10 or more credits per semester (or the equivalent) as a degree student may be eligible to take courses (including for-degree credit) at half the normal tuition rate. The discount will also apply if neither husband nor wife takes 10 hours but the total enrollment for the couple equals 16 credits in a semester. This benefit does not apply beyond entry-level degrees (i.e., Th.M., D.Min., D.Miss., or postgraduate courses). We also offer the Learning Together program, which permits student spouses to audit courses at a reduced rate. These options strengthen the couple's ministry and helps lighten their financial burden.

**Experienced and Accessible Faculty**

The heart of any seminary is its faculty. Each Western faculty member is expected to blend personal piety, academic scholarship, and ministry experience so as to serve as a credible model of spiritual maturity and ministerial expertise. Western's attractive faculty-to-student ratio promotes personalized interaction between each student and his or her professor. Furthermore, many of Western's faculty bring to their teaching a firsthand understanding of the dynamics and challenges of intercultural ministry.

**Strategic Partnerships**

The Teacher of Ecclesiastes tells us, "Two are better than one ... a cord of three strands is not quickly broken" (Ecc. 4:9-12). The fulfillment of Western's mission is significantly enhanced because of our synergistic relationships with like-minded organizations within the Body of Christ. By fostering

a team approach where complementary strengths are combined to meet common goals, Western can offer specialized and accessible training to an organization's staff while also making that organization's expertise available to the broader student body.

To that end, Western actively works with local churches and church planting networks (national and regional CB Associations, the Acts 29 Church Planting Network, et al.), and also has formal partnership agreements with national parachurch organizations (e.g., The Navigators and Jews for Jesus) as well as regional partnerships (e.g., Cru and Young Life). In addition, Western has joined forces with ministries such as Mount Hermon Christian Conference Center, The Gospel Coalition, BiblicalTraining.org, International Renewal Ministries, Phoenix Seminary and the Northwest Center for Bio-Ethics to offer students access to the distinctive resources and learning opportunities created by these partnerships.

If you have questions about our partnerships, or how you might benefit if you come from a partnering entity, contact Reid Kisling at 877.517.1800.

**Diversity of Student Body**

Western's students come from a wide diversity of national, cultural, and denominational backgrounds. Studying in this community – men and women from a spectrum of ages, ethnic backgrounds, disciplinary specialties and denominational affiliations – is a very stimulating component of seminary education, and represents the beautiful complexity of the kingdom of God.

**Distance Education**

The Online Campus offers courses for credit and enrichment which may be applied toward certificates of study and master's degrees. (A master's degree requires a minimum period of residence at a campus.) For more information, please consult the catalog section devoted to the Online Campus.

**Trustworthiness and Accountability**

The investments of hundreds of individual donors and local congregations account for approximately 20% of each student's total cost of education, thereby helping keep tuition costs comparatively low. Western's careful stewardship of these gifts conforms to the guidelines of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. The Seminary has been a member of ECFA since 1983. The various third party approvals listed below (cf. Accreditation, Approvals and Affiliations) further demonstrate Western's commitment to educational best practices and compliance with quality control standards. This gives additional credibility and legitimacy to our programs and graduates.

## An Academic Community

**ACCREDITATION, APPROVALS, AND AFFILIATIONS**

Western Seminary is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

Accreditation of an institution of higher education by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of institutional quality evaluated through a peer review process. An accredited college or university is one which has available the necessary resources to achieve its stated purposes through

appropriate educational programs, is substantially doing so, and gives reasonable evidence that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Institutional integrity is also addressed through accreditation.

Accreditation by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities is not partial but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of every course or program offered, or the competence of individual graduates. Rather it provides reasonable assurance about the quality of opportunities available to students who attend the institution.



Inquiries regarding an institution's accredited status by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities should be directed to the administrative staff of the institution. Individuals may also contact:

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities  
8060 165th Avenue N.E., Suite 100  
Redmond, WA 98052  
Telephone: 425-558-4224  
Website: [www.nwccu.org](http://www.nwccu.org)

Western Seminary is also accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS), the accrediting body for theological schools and recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

The contact information for ATS is:

The Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada  
10 Summit Park Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15275 USA  
Telephone: 412-788-6505  
Fax: 412-788-6510  
Website: [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu)

Western is approved for the training of veterans and eligible persons under Title 38, U.S. Code. Veterans who desire further information regarding their educational benefits should contact the nearest Veterans Administration Office or the Veterans Clerk at Western Seminary.

Western Seminary is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant alien students.

The Seminary is one of the associated schools of Jerusalem University College in Jerusalem, Israel, and a charter member of the Institute of Theological Studies in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Western Seminary is recognized as a training site for chaplains desiring to serve in the United States Armed Forces.

Western is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), an association of evangelical, non-profit organizations requiring the highest standards of financial accountability and disclosure.

Western is an institutional member of the American Theological Library Association, the Association of Christian Librarians, the American Library Association, and the Association of College and Research Libraries. Additionally, the Seminary is a member of the Oregon Private Academic Library Link (OPALL), a group of five Christian colleges and graduate schools in the Northwest.

The Seminary holds institutional membership in the following professional organizations that provide standards for informed and ethical practice:

- American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO)
- Association of International Educators (NAFSA)
- Pacific Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Offices (PACRAO)
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)

## HOLY LAND AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

Western Seminary participates in a Consortium of Associated Schools with the Jerusalem University College in Jerusalem, Israel. This arrangement allows students to study in Israel at the college and receive course credit in their degree programs at Western Seminary.

The college is located on traditional Mount Zion, overlooking the Hinnon Valley, about a five-minute walk from the Zion Gate of Jerusalem's Old City. The facilities include classrooms, dormitory, cafeteria, bookstore, garden, and student lounge.

The classes at the college focus on the subjects which are best studied in Israel. These include Historical Geography of the Holy Land, Biblical Archaeology, History of Syro-Palestine, Biblical Hebrew, Modern Hebrew, and Middle Eastern Studies. Students gain an understanding of the historical, geographical, and cultural background of ancient Israel which aids their interpretation of Scripture. They also gain an understanding of the interplay of ideologies and customs in the political, social, and historical relationships of the Middle East.

The college offers two-year (46 semester hour) M.A. degree programs in Ancient History of Syro-Palestine, Middle Eastern Studies, Hebrew Language and Hebrew Bible Translation. In addition, the college offers short-term programs which provides the opportunity for seminary students to participate in a three-week course of study.

While a Western student can enroll in classes at the college at any time, the Seminary organizes a group opportunity every two years. The next Israel Study program is planned for late spring 2014. Students travel to Israel together and participate in a course of study, "Historical and Geographical Settings of the Bible" (four semester credits). For more information about opportunities of study at the college, contact Dr. Jan Verbruggen, Coordinator for Israel Study programs and college representative at Western Seminary, or the Jerusalem University College, 4249 East State St., Suite 203, Rockford, IL 61108 or 800.891.9408.

## INSTITUTE OF DIASPORA STUDIES

The Institute of Diaspora Studies (IDS) was founded at Western Seminary in 2006. IDS is a joint effort of researchers and practitioners seeking to understand and minister to the people of diaspora, viz., people dispersed from their original homeland. Special focus will be given to developing strategies for the effective communication of the Gospel to these displaced peoples. IDS eventually seeks to offer courses equipping others for this type of ministry to specific ethnic groups (e.g., Chinese, Filipino, Hispanic, etc.). For more information about IDS, please contact Dr. Enoch Wan, Director of IDS, at 503.517.1804 or [ewan@westernseminary.edu](mailto:ewan@westernseminary.edu).

# Portland Campus

## CAMPUS FACILITIES

**ARMSTRONG HALL** was built as part of the original Buehner estate in the early 1900s. It is now an historical landmark and serves as the main administrative building for Western Seminary. The mansion houses the offices of the President, Advancement, Admissions, Enrollment, International Students, Student Services, Financial Aid, Alumni, Student Development, Registrar, and Information Services.

**BUEERMANN HALL** was built in 1971 and honors Winfred H. Bueermann, longtime benefactor and former Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The three-story structure houses the major portion of the academic program, including most of the classrooms and faculty offices.

**MILLIKEN HALL** houses the offices for the Center for Lifelong Learning, the Women's Center for Ministry, and faculty of the Division of Intercultural Studies.

**THE ALBERT G. JOHNSON CHAPEL**, with its octagonal shape, distinctive steeple, and stained glass windows, was built in 1967 and stands at the center of campus. This multi-purpose, tri-level structure contains the worship area, Student Center, food services and the Sandoval recording studio.

**A NEW DAY COUNSELING CENTER** serves the needs of the local community and provides an opportunity for Master of Arts in Counseling students to complete internships on campus with on-site supervision from licensed professional counselors.

## CLINE-TUNNELL LIBRARY

Each of Western's three campuses, in Portland and Northern California, is served by a professional librarian, staff and resources. To find out more about the San Jose or Sacramento libraries, see page 15, or visit our website. Under "Students," select "Library Services" and then your specific campus.

Portland's Cline-Tunnell Library contains more than 95,000 volumes and receives more than 190 current theological journal subscriptions. The library makes full use of technological advances that aid faculty and students in pursuing their research and study goals. The library is a member of the Online Private Academic Library Link (OPALL), a group of five private colleges in the Northwest, which shares resources through an online database, merging the holdings of all five libraries (520,000 titles). This database is accessible from home and office at <http://opall.wash-id.net>. OPALL has also joined the Regional WIN Consortium, which gives our patrons access to over 2,000,000 resources just in the Northwest.

The library is also a member of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), a national library network which gives patrons access to millions of titles at institutions throughout the world via interlibrary loan. In addition to its book purchases, the library has received thousands of volumes of out-of-print materials on microfiche from the American Theological Library Association's Monograph Preservation Program. Digital copies of theses produced each year by students at over 100 religious schools are accessible through our

online catalog, which links to the Theological Research Exchange Network. Patrons, likewise, have computer access to articles in the American Theological Library Association's religious periodicals and the American Psychological Association's psychology databases, as well as several other programs, which are helpful for research and ministry. We are now subscribing to a large collection of academic e-books, currently numbering over 114,000 and growing rapidly. These are accessed through the link in the online catalog record, or directly via EBSCOHOST.

The Seminary holds institutional membership in the American Theological Library Association, Association of Christian Librarians, American Library Association, and the Association of College and Research Libraries.

## STUDENT SERVICES AND ORGANIZATIONS

### Admissions and Registration

The general standards and procedures for admission to the Seminary may be found in the second section of this catalog. Once an application has been approved, the student services staff will assist the incoming student with orientation and registration information.

### Financial Aid

The Seminary understands that financial assistance is a vital concern to many people as they plan for graduate and professional education. The Financial Aid Office helps students identify and secure various sources of financial assistance. More detailed information regarding financial aid may be found in the second section of this catalog.

### Mentoring/Student Development

Students are assigned faculty mentors according to the programs they are pursuing. The mentor often assists the student in planning his or her academic program (including the practicum, where applicable) and provides a source for helpful counsel in other areas of life and ministry. These mentors are experienced practitioners in the field in which the student is training. Students and faculty are encouraged to maintain frequent contact with each other.

### Housing and Employment

The Student Services Office assists students with housing and employment needs. Although the Seminary does not provide its own housing, there is a good selection of one- and two-bedroom apartments within a mile or two of the school. Two and three-bedroom houses, though less prevalent than apartments, are usually available as well. The Seminary maintains a file of housing and job opportunities in the community. The Student Services Office is frequently able to provide information which will assist professionals such as teachers and nurses to investigate job possibilities before relocating to Portland. Additionally, the Placement Office maintains a listing of part- and full-time ministry openings throughout the metropolitan area. Students should contact the Placement Office for assistance in pursuing ministry placement.

**International Students**

For many years, a significant number of international students have come to the Portland campus for ministry training. Western Seminary provides for the distinctive needs of our international students and their families through the International Student Office, located on the Portland campus. The International Student Coordinator assists with admission, immigration matters, housing, orientation, cultural adjustment, and reentry concerns. Though Western Seminary is not a residential campus, an affiliated non-profit organization provides housing options for international and intercultural students. (Further information on international student services is described in the second section of this catalog.)

**Student Ministry Team**

All students are welcome to participate in student ministry. The Student Ministry Team develops creative ministries focused on the Seminary community in various areas of its life—academic, social, and spiritual; serves as a source of information for and input to the students; and represents the needs and interests of the student body to the Seminary's faculty, staff, and administration.

**Counseling Resources**

Counseling services are available from a variety of sources. Students and their families often turn to their pastors for spiritual and/or emotional guidance and support. Additionally, on-campus counseling is available through A New Day Counseling Center.

**Practicum/Mentored Ministry Supervision**

Most programs at Western include a practical ministry experience component. This is taken when deemed prudent by the student, his/her faculty mentor, and a field mentor. The field mentor is an experienced

practitioner in the field of the student's intended ministry. Practicum sites are most often local churches, but can include parachurch organizations or college campuses. When needed, students are assisted in both site and field mentor selection.

**Placement/Career Development**

The Seminary offers the services of the Placement Office for students and alumni who seek assistance in locating a ministry position. The Placement Office maintains files and resumes of students and graduates as well as a current listing of churches, parachurch organizations, and mission agencies that are seeking to fill key ministry roles. The placement services may be accessed at [westernseminary.edu](http://westernseminary.edu).

**Learning Together Program**

Western Seminary offers spouses of currently enrolled degree students the privilege of enrolling in classes on a low-cost, no-credit basis. Learning Together participants may choose from a variety of foundational courses. There are a few limitations—please check with the Registrar's Office for guidelines.

**Alumni Services**

The Seminary offers a number of services to its nearly 5,000 alumni. In addition to a placement program that helps graduates find a place of ministry, Western's support also includes opportunities for continuing education, periodic publications written especially for alumni, and occasional gatherings with Seminary personnel. Information is available from the Alumni Office on the Portland campus. Visit the alumni page for news and events: <http://westernseminary.edu/Alumni/index.htm>.

## Women's Center for Ministry

Western Seminary is dedicated to equipping men and women to assume leadership roles in the church, in the marketplace and in the community. We are committed to providing the tools for effective ministry for all whom God leads to Western.

The Women's Center for Ministry (WCM) desires to be a global hub of relevant training, instructive resources, and nurturing networks for women involved in ministry. The Women's Center is designed to prepare women for effective leadership in ministry by providing a climate that encourages women to grow in their area of giftedness and passion. The Women's Center for Ministry prepares and involves women in ministry by providing:

- Student wives' activities
- Two non-credit training programs
- Annual conferences and gatherings
- See also the Pastoral Care to Women concentration for credit programs including the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership, Graduate Studies Diploma and Graduate Studies Certificate programs.

Note: *The non-credit Advanced Studies Certificate in Pastoral Care to Women is offered at the Portland and Northern California campuses.*

**STUDENT WIVES' ACTIVITIES**

Western honors the ministry team, a husband and a wife preparing together at seminary to assume leadership in the church or parachurch. So often the preparation of wives who are partners in ministry is forgotten as their spouses train for pastoral ministry. Not at Western.

One of the most important ministry dynamics that a husband and wife can recognize and develop during their seminary days is a sense of team ministry. Developing this awareness of being co-laborers for Christ who share a common mission (though gifts and roles may differ) creates a "spiritual kinship" that results in special effectiveness in ministry. To nurture this awareness of being significant co-laborers, Western offers a number of opportunities for student wives to grow and prepare for ministry along with their husbands.

**NON-CREDIT CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS  
PARTNERS IN MINISTRY CERTIFICATE**

The Partners in Ministry Certificate program equips student wives to be better prepared for ministry. This year's class, "Practical Preparation for Ministry," is open to married and single women. Participants will wrestle with topics such as: living a victorious Christian life; conflict management; expectations, realistic and unrealistic; the private life of a public person;

calling; your place in the universe; developing your own mentoring ministry; counseling people through loss; speaking as listeners like it; difficult times in family life; living with a pastor husband; and affair-proofing your marriage.

Successful completion of the program requires a minimum of six units passed with a satisfactory evaluation. Those participants who attend seven or more will receive additional recognition. Participants will be awarded a certificate upon completion of the program. Wives of graduate credit students can be awarded their certificates at the time of their husbands' graduation ceremony. No official graduate credit is earned through this program. Those interested in earning graduate credit should contact the Office of Admissions.

#### **ADVANCED STUDIES CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL CARE TO WOMEN**

The Advanced Studies Certificate (ASC) is designed for individuals who desire limited and focused biblical and ministry training, but who either do not desire graduate credit for their work or who do not meet the pre-requisites to receive graduate credit. No formal academic credit is earned in the ASC program. Learning Units (LUs) are awarded.

#### **WOMEN'S CENTER EVENTS**

IGNITE is an annual regional spring conference for women. The program varies from year to year, including elements such as worship, keynote speakers, labs, panels or forums.

REVIVE is an annual community gathering hosted in three locations: both the east and west side of the greater Portland metropolitan area, and in Vancouver, Washington. The gathering is designed for women involved in ministry and features an interactive approach. REVIVE is typically focused on a specific theme and promotes relational support for women of similar ministry interest (i.e., pastor's wives, women's ministry directors and pastors, compassionate care, marketplace missions, global missions, etc.).



# Northern California Campuses

## SAN JOSE CAMPUS FACILITIES

Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, the San Jose campus in Santa Clara provides students high-quality, Christ-centered training in the diverse, beautiful, cosmopolitan Bay Area. While its great urban centers (San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose) are within an hour's drive, the mountains and beaches of Santa Cruz and Monterey Bay are a half hour from the adjacent 880/17 freeway. Just across the street is Santa Clara University, where students have access to the library's vast resources and study space. Various transportation options are around the corner at the Santa Clara Transit Center. From there, Caltrain rail service connects Santa Clara from Gilroy to San Francisco, and free shuttle service provides out-of-towners access to and from the San Jose International Airport. The San Jose campus is approved to offer the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies), Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership, Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy, and the Graduate Studies Diploma and Certificate programs.

## SACRAMENTO CAMPUS FACILITIES

The Sacramento campus is strategically located in California's state capital and draws students from as far away as Fresno, Reno, Redding, Modesto and the Bay Area. Convenient class scheduling and offerings allow for students to study while maintaining full-time jobs, as well as to remain involved with existing ministry. On the campus of Arcade Church, Western Seminary Sacramento is approved to offer the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies), Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership, Master of Arts in Marital and Family Therapy, and the Graduate Studies Diploma and Certificate programs.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### Library Resources

Each of Western's Northern California campuses is served by a professional librarian, staff, and resources. To find out more about the San Jose or Sacramento library, visit the website ([westernseminary.edu](http://westernseminary.edu)) and click on the link titled "Library Services."

### Admissions and Registration

Students will have access to enrollment counselors on campus throughout the admission process, and program advisors are readily available on campus after admission to guide a student through the rest of seminary. Information on admissions, orientation, class schedules, booklists and course syllabi are available from the campus offices or the seminary website.

### Monday/Weekend/Evening Schedule

With the majority of students working full-time, Western Seminary has created schedules to adapt to the Northern California student body. Conventional classes are held during the day, evenings and weekends, while campuses also offer scheduling tracks that allow a student to complete select degree programs by coming to campus for just one day a week. Students at any campus may utilize distance learning courses to complete their training. Additional schedule information is available online or through the campus Student Services office.

## Campus Community

Due to the commuter nature of the Northern California campuses, Western Seminary has been intentional in developing community via interactive classroom experience, faculty/student and student/student interaction over class breaks, mentoring/practicum small groups, and student events each semester.

## Mentoring Program

Recognizing the importance of integrating truth and life, Western's Mentored Field Ministry Program supplements the classroom education by providing a "hands-on" learning experience under the mentoring supervision of an experienced pastor or Christian leader. Flexibility is built into each mentored experience to help accommodate the student's unique needs and circumstances, while at the same time seeking to maintain maximum sensitivity to the needs of the ministry site. Reflection Groups provide opportunities for students to grow in character and ministry skills and to pray for and support other students serving in ministry.

## Learning Together Program

Western Seminary offers spouses of currently enrolled degree students the opportunity to enroll in classes on a low-cost, no credit basis. Spouses may request registration for any course available for audit. Please check with Student Services regarding limitations.

## Alumni Services

The Seminary offers a number of services to its Northern California alumni. In addition to a placement program that helps graduates find a place of ministry, Western's support also includes opportunities for continuing education, a blog, periodic publications written especially for alumni, and occasional gatherings with Seminary personnel for updates on campus news. Visit the alumni website for news, stories and upcoming events at <http://westernseminary.edu/Alumni/index.htm>.

# Online Campus

Western Seminary's Online Campus provides technology-mediated education opportunities to both resident and non-resident students. Campus learning options include online degree, diploma and certificate programs, seminary courses for students who have been admitted to a program at any Western Seminary campus, credit courses for students who have been admitted to the seminary but have not yet decided upon a program, and non-credit courses for those who simply desire advanced ministry training for personal growth and development.

Western has been a leader in seminary distance learning since the early 1980s. Today the Online Campus offers a wide variety of distance learning options to advance almost every ministry training interest. Those who benefit from online opportunities include: pastors and other church personnel seeking on-the-job training; missionaries satisfying mission board requirements or continuing education needs; prospective pastors, missionaries and others considering full-time ministry; future and current resident seminary students; lay leaders, teachers and workers desiring in-depth biblical and theological training; and those with a course-specific interest.

## CREDIT STUDY OPTIONS

1. Earn the 64-credit online Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies) degree in approximately four years with only two one-week intensive sessions (a total of 11 days) required on campus. Program students have the option of combining online courses, in-ministry courses, one-week intensive courses, and regular semester-length campus courses at any Western Seminary campus to complete their program requirements.
2. Earn up to two-thirds of the 60-credit Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership degree In-Ministry track by distance learning. When combined with the program's distinctive on-campus intensives, qualified students can complete the M.A. program in approximately three years without relocating to a Western Seminary campus to meet the residency requirement.
3. Use technology-mediated courses to supplement the residential component of a degree program, as long as at least 30 credits of a Master of Divinity or 20 credits of a Master of Arts program are completed through residential studies. This option is ideal for students who desire to begin, continue or finish their seminary studies at a location that precludes attendance at a Western Seminary campus. (This option is dependent upon the availability of appropriate courses, which are selected with the approval of the academic advisor.) More information about residency requirements is included with each program description.
4. Earn a 30-credit **Graduate Studies Diploma**, the equivalent of one full year of resident study. Some diplomas may be earned entirely through distance learning; see pages 66, 103 and 114 for diploma details. Courses taken toward these diplomas may apply to other Western educational programs. Interested students should consult the Admissions Office.

5. Earn a 16-credit **Graduate Studies Certificate**. Some certificates may be earned entirely through distance education; see pages 68, 105 and 116 for certificate details. Courses taken toward these certificates may apply to other Western education programs.
6. Complete Internet courses on a **course-by-course** basis. Western Seminary courses address many of the most important areas of the Christian life and ministry preparation and will help any individual grow in grace and in truth. Christian school teachers in the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) should check with their ACSI offices to ensure that online courses will satisfy certification requirements in Bible and professional studies.

## ADMISSIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Students seeking to take Online Campus courses for credit must meet the general admission standards for Western Seminary as described on pages 20-21 of this catalog. To apply for admission, students must complete a credit application and submit appropriate fees. Western's Admissions Office reviews all applications and recommends approval for graduate study. Students approved for external studies for credit may take up to twelve semester credits before applying to enter a specific degree or certificate program through Western Seminary. Students should contact the Admissions Office for specific details before enrollment.

Those students desiring to complete courses on a non-credit basis complete a Non-Credit Application and Registration form, but are not subject to the general admissions process due to their non-credit status. Non-credit students do not earn seminary credit and their work does not apply toward seminary degrees or graduate certificates.

## TUITION AND FEES FOR ONLINE COURSES

Tuition and fees for online courses are the same as the Portland, San Jose and Sacramento Campus courses. For a complete listing of tuition and fees, please see page 24.

## TRANSFERRING ONLINE COURSES TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

While Western's online courses have been accepted by a number of other schools as transfer credit, this decision is always at the discretion of the receiving school. Students seeking such an application should consult the admissions office of their chosen institution before enrolling in online courses from Western or any other seminary.

All students taking online courses for credit have their work evaluated by assigned faculty of Western Seminary. Graduate performance equal to resident student levels is expected of online students.

# Certificate in Transformational Coaching

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Western Seminary offers the Certificate in Transformational Coaching program for individuals who desire focused coach training that prepares them to coach on a professional level and which can be applied toward credentialing with the International Coach Federation. The certificate program can also be combined with the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Ministry and Leadership program to prepare for various leadership roles in ministry (see pages 51 and 90 for additional information on the M.A. program).

Students can enroll in this program for graduate credit or non-credit status.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students entering the Certificate in Transformational Coaching for graduate credit are expected to present a baccalaureate degree and give evidence of Christian faith, character, promise, and maturity. The same admission standards, materials, and procedures as for the Graduate Studies Certificate program are required.

Students entering the Certificate in Transformational Coaching on a non-credit status are expected to give evidence of Christian faith, character, promise, and maturity. Students use the Certificate for Transformational Coaching application for entry to the program.

## CERTIFICATE IN TRANSFORMATIONAL COACHING REQUIREMENTS

There are three components to the certificate: coach training, coaching supervision, and coach certification.

### Coach Training: 8 credits

*Required:*

- MCS 510 Introduction to Coaching ..... (1)  
MCS 511 Coaching for Change ..... (1)

*Restricted—Select 6 credits from the courses below:*

- MCS 512 Life and Personal Coaching ..... (1)  
MCS 513 Coaching Approach to Leading and Managing ..... (1)  
MCS 514 Coaching in Congregations for Spiritual Development ..... (1)  
MCS 515 Coaching and a Brain-Based Approach to Learning ..... (1)  
MCS 516 Using Assessments, Inventories and Tools in Coaching ..... (1)  
MCS 517 The Language of Coaching ..... (1)  
MCS 518 Growing Your Coaching Practice ..... (1)

### Coaching Supervision: 1 credit

- MCS 519 Coaching Supervision ..... (1)

**Total: 9 credits**

## Coach Certification

Students complete six coaching sessions with feedback from a mentor coach. Following completion of the coach training, supervision, and mentor coaching, students complete written and oral examinations covering competencies required for certification by the International Coach Federation.

*“With our rigorous and comprehensive coach training program, Western is at the forefront of ministry training today. The Certificate in Transformational Coaching empowers learners with a coaching mind set, skill set, and tool set, which combine to give the learner the ability to use conversation and relationship to help others learn, grow, and succeed. These potent and portable competencies allow our students to make kingdom impact in the church, marketplace, and community.”*

Chad Hall, Director of Coaching

# Advanced Studies Certificate

The Advanced Studies Certificate (ASC) is designed for individuals who desire limited and focused theological training, but who either do not desire graduate credit for their work or who do not meet the prerequisites to receive graduate credit. No formal academic credit is earned in the ASC program. Learning Units (LUs) are awarded. ASC participants make the same choices among available tracks as those offered to Graduate Studies Certificate participants (see pages 68 and 105 for details). Participants who wish to pursue this type of program for graduate credit should take the Graduate Studies Certificate option.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Participants entering the certificate program are expected to present evidence of Christian faith, character, promise, and maturity. A high school diploma is required; a baccalaureate degree is not required.

## ADVANCED STUDIES CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

To earn an Advanced Studies Certificate, a participant must complete 18 LUs. Courses are offered by the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL). This provides opportunity for individuals to study and learn while remaining in their home area and ministries. On-campus courses may only be taken by formal institutional approval.

Advanced Studies Certificates are currently offered in four areas: Biblical and Theological Studies, Intercultural Studies, Pastoral and Church Ministry Studies, and Pastoral Care to Women.

**BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL STUDIES CONCENTRATION.** Participants select eight LUs of course work from the Center for Lifelong Learning in the areas of BLS, DBS, NTS, SFS, and THS studies. Eight LUs may be taken from any CLL course or from a combination of non-course seminar events, with program advisor's approval. The final two LUs are granted for successful completion of an integrative project, demonstrating the ability to combine course principles in a practical ministry application.

**INTERCULTURAL STUDIES CONCENTRATION.** Participants select eight LUs of course work from the Center for Lifelong Learning in the DIS area. Eight LUs may be taken from any CLL course or from a combination of non-course seminar events, with program advisor's approval. The final two LUs are granted for successful completion of an integrative project, demonstrating the ability to combine course principles in a practical ministry application.

**PASTORAL AND CHURCH MINISTRY STUDIES CONCENTRATION.** Participants select eight LUs of course work from the Center for Lifelong Learning in the areas of DMS, EMS, PCW or PTS studies. Eight LUs may be taken from any CLL course or from a combination of non-course seminar events, with program advisor's approval. The final two LUs are granted for successful completion of an integrative project, demonstrating the ability to combine course principles in a practical ministry application.

**PASTORAL CARE TO WOMEN CONCENTRATION.** The ASC in Pastoral Care to Women is an ideal program for expanding one's experience and

expertise in the field of ministering to women. This program increases compassion, understanding, skills and cutting edge ideas for ministry to women. The solid biblical base brings depth and validity to each course.

The ASC provides a balance of pastoral counsel for women, leadership development, biblical teaching, and program planning. The many changes in society and the church challenge us to reevaluate ministry effectiveness. The program prepares participants to serve in church, parachurch or compassion ministries to women. To earn an ASC in the area, the following curriculum is taken. PCW courses may be taken on campus or via CLL.

### Pastoral Care to Women courses: 8 LUs

Select 8 LUs from the courses below:

PCW511 Pastoral Understanding of Women .....	2 LUs
PCW512X Women in Pain, part I .....	2 LUs
or	
PCW512Y Women in Pain, part II .....	2 LUs
PCW513 Women in Leadership .....	2 LUs
PCW514 Building Relational Ministries to Women .....	2 LUs
PCW515 Develop and Deliver Life Changing Messages .....	2 LUs

### Restricted electives: 8 LUs

Eight LUs may be taken from any other PCW or CLL course or from a combination of non-course seminar events, with program advisor's prior approval.

### Integrative Project: 2 LUs

Two LUs are granted for successful completion of an integrative project, demonstrating the ability to combine course principles in a practical ministry application.



Notes

# Western Seminary Academic Calendar 2013-2014

FALL SEMESTER	PORTLAND CAMPUS	SAN JOSE CAMPUS	SACRAMENTO CAMPUS
<b>2013/Fall Semester</b>	<b>Sept. 3 – Dec. 13</b>	<b>Sept. 3 – Dec. 13</b>	<b>Aug. 26– Dec. 13</b>
Classes Begin	Sept. 3	Sept. 3	Aug. 26
Labor Day Holiday	Sept. 2	Sept. 2	Sept. 2
Thanksgiving Recess	Nov. 28 - Dec. 1	Nov. 28 - Dec. 1	Nov. 28 - Dec. 1
Classes End	Dec. 13	Dec. 13	Dec. 13
Christmas Recess	Dec. 16 – Jan. 5	Dec. 16 - Jan. 3	Dec. 16 - Jan. 5

SPRING SEMESTER	PORTLAND CAMPUS	SAN JOSE CAMPUS	SACRAMENTO CAMPUS
<b>2014/Spring Semester</b>	<b>Jan. 6 – April 25</b>	<b>Jan. 4 – April 19</b>	<b>Jan. 6 – April 25</b>
Classes Begin	Jan. 6	Jan. 4	Jan. 6
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	Jan. 20	Jan. 20	Jan. 20
Classes End	April 25	April 19	April 25

SUMMER SEMESTER	PORTLAND CAMPUS	SAN JOSE CAMPUS	SACRAMENTO CAMPUS
<b>2014/Summer Semester</b>	<b>May 5 – Aug. 15</b>	<b>April 28 – Aug. 15</b>	<b>April 28 – Aug. 15</b>
Classes Begin	May 5	April 28	April 28
Memorial Day Holiday	May 26	May 26	May 26
Classes End	Aug. 15	Aug. 15	Aug. 15

COMMENCEMENT	PORTLAND CAMPUS	SAN JOSE CAMPUS	SACRAMENTO CAMPUS
<b>2014/Ceremony</b>	<b>April 26</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>