



**2011-2012**  
**GRADUATE CATALOG**

**GAINEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**Master of Business Administration**

**SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

**Master of Arts in Counseling**  
**Master of Arts in Family Studies**  
**Master of Science in Management**  
**Master of Science in Nursing**

**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**Master of Arts in Communication**  
**Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation and Leadership**

**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

**Master of Arts in Education**  
**Master of Arts in Reading**  
**Master of Special Education**

Spring Arbor University is a Christian liberal arts university  
accredited through the Higher Learning Commission  
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504  
PH: 312.263.0456



### **THE SPRING ARBOR UNIVERSITY CONCEPT**

Spring Arbor University is a community of learners distinguished by our lifelong involvement in the study and application of the liberal arts, total commitment to Jesus Christ as the perspective for learning, and critical participation in the contemporary world.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to Spring Arbor University. You have made one of the important decisions of your life by choosing to join this University for part of your educational journey. Prominently displayed in this book and on campus, you will see a statement we call the Spring Arbor University Concept. It expresses the core identity of the University community. By becoming part of this community, you bring your giftedness and join a committed cadre of professors, students, and staff, all of whom are dedicated to the ongoing advancement of knowledge and skills — yours and ours.



At Spring Arbor University, we specialize in the study of the liberal arts, and the accumulated wisdom of human arts and sciences, which forms the base for leadership in any specialized field. The University pursues excellence in every area in the Christian conviction that all truth is God's truth. Our goals are for you to achieve a mastery of life competencies and a personality grounded in a worldview reflecting a vibrant Christian faith.

The University serves students in several locations, including our attractive main campus in south central Michigan and regional centers in Michigan and northern Ohio. The University also offers degree programs through SAUonline. In every program, we offer degrees that are designed to enrich and further your professional and personal development. Our programs are carefully crafted to reflect the most current demands of the job market.

To all of this is added a special flavor, a world perspective that equips us to engage critically and productively with the contemporary world. We want Spring Arbor University graduates to be the salt and light of the world — working for good wherever they go.

Enjoy your time at Spring Arbor University. May this experience be rich and satisfying, and equip you for a lifetime of growth and joy. Your success will be our success; and your joy in accomplishment will be ours, as well.

May the Lord richly bless you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Charles Webb". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Charles Webb, Ph.D.  
President

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## FROM THE PROVOST AND CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER



Welcome to all graduate students. We welcome you to an enriching opportunity to continue your experiences as a learner.

Spring Arbor University's graduate programs provide high quality learning experiences and student-focused environments. Our graduate programs are grounded in the liberal arts and Christian worldview.

This catalog gives an overview of program content and degree requirements. It should be a valuable guide as you track your degree progress, work with your advisor, or consider matching program offerings to your learning needs and career aspirations. The policies and expectations set forth in the catalog are designed to assure program quality, consistency, accountability, and program match with the values and mission of the University.

We invite you to learn more about us by browsing through our web site ([www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu)). It is our pleasure to serve you.

We wish you much success and many blessings as you pursue your educational goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty J. Overton-Adkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betty J. Overton-Adkins, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

BASIC GRADUATE INFORMATION.....	8
ACADEMIC POLICIES .....	15
STUDENT SERVICES .....	23
UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION .....	24
MAP OF MAIN CAMPUS .....	27

### GAINNEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION .....	31
---	----

### SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING .....	45
MASTER OF ARTS IN FAMILY STUDIES .....	61
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT .....	69
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING .....	83

### SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION .....	99
MASTER OF ARTS IN SPIRITUAL FORMATION & LEADERSHIP.....	113

### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION.....	125
MASTER OF ARTS IN READING.....	125
MASTER OF SPECIAL EDUCATION.....	125

# GENERAL INFORMATION

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## **History of Spring Arbor University**

Spring Arbor University is a liberal arts university located eight miles west of Jackson (the greater Jackson area has a population of about 160,000), and is affiliated with the Free Methodist Church. More than 40 denominations are represented in its student body. While most students are from Michigan, the University also attracts students from over 20 states and several foreign countries. Spring Arbor University is coeducational, with approximately 1,600 undergraduate students on the main campus, over 1,000 undergraduate students at various other locations throughout the state and over 1,200 students in our graduate programs.

Spring Arbor University was founded in 1873 by leaders of the Free Methodist Church as a private academy with elementary and secondary grades. It evolved into an institution of higher learning in the 1920s and acquired four-year liberal arts status and accreditation from North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in 1963. Today, Spring Arbor University grants associate and bachelor degrees. The University also grants the following graduate degrees: Master of Arts in Communication, Master of Arts in Counseling, Master of Arts in Education, Master of Arts in Family Studies, Master of Science in Management, Master of Arts in Reading, Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation and Leadership, Master of Business Administration, Master of Special Education and Master of Science in Nursing. Graduate programs are available on campus, online, and at regional sites in Battle Creek, Bay City, Flint, Gaylord, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Metro-Detroit, Metro-Toledo, Petoskey and Traverse City.

## **Spring Arbor University Concept**

Spring Arbor University is an evangelical Christian university. The mission of the University — its purpose, its curriculum and the philosophical base for its community — is expressed in the Spring Arbor University Concept:

Spring Arbor University is a community of learners distinguished by our lifelong involvement in the study and application of the liberal arts, total commitment to Jesus Christ as the perspective for learning, and critical participation in the contemporary world.

The balanced integration of faith, living and learning is the continuing educational goal of Spring Arbor University. The faculty and administration are committed to Jesus Christ as the foundation for their teaching, advising and leading. Their personal relationships with Christ provide a basis for evaluating information, forming a worldview and shaping their daily participation in the lives of those around them. The University strives to help its students develop as Christian men and women equipped to meet all aspects of life with confidence.

## **Community Expectations**

As with all aspects of Spring Arbor University, graduate programs are dedicated to fostering academic, social, physical and spiritual growth for its students. Spring Arbor University trusts that students either share the Christian perspective of the University or are amenable to such perspectives while a student. As active participants in the community, students enrolled at Spring Arbor University are expected to govern their lives in a way that is pleasing to the Creator, enriching to others and self-rewarding.

## **Non-Discriminatory Statement**

Spring Arbor University does not exclude any persons who are qualified applicants from participation in our graduate programs, activities and benefits by reason of race, color, national origin, gender, age or handicap. Applicants do not need to be professing Christians; however, students should know the program is delivered with a Christian worldview.

## **Diversity at Spring Arbor University**

Spring Arbor University is a community of learners committed to reflecting the Kingdom of God in the diversity of our students, faculty, staff, trustees, and other associates. Valuing the dignity of every human being is part of the historic legacy of our founding denomination. The University's continued focus on creating a diverse learning environment reflects these values and honors our heritage.

The University is committed to being a place where ethnic and racial inclusiveness is a hallmark of the community we create. However, as an imperfect human organization, we must acknowledge and plan for the challenge that such diversity brings. We boldly embrace this challenge, because as Christians, we know it is right. Jesus Christ is the perspective for our teaching and through Him, we are called to move beyond mere tolerance of each other to genuine acceptance and mutually transformative learning.

Becoming a diverse community of learners is consistent with our liberal arts tradition. It facilitates a healthy exchange of cultural, economic, social, religious, philosophical, and political views within the classroom and in campus activities.

Further, as an educational institution, we know we will ill-prepare students for personal and professional lives in a global society if we fail to expose them to the rich diversity of peoples and cultures. This exposure cannot solely come from books but needs to be tested and experienced through interactive and on-going personal relationships.

Therefore, we will seek ways to invite and welcome diversity into our community. We will be proactive and creative in integrating different cultural perspectives into the curriculum and community life, and we will strive to be always a community of love and respect.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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### **Catalog Subject to Change**

Courses and policies listed in this catalog are subject to change through normal University procedures. Policy revisions are normally implemented in the next academic year following their adoption by the graduate council and academic senate. However, occasionally a policy may be changed and implemented in the same academic year. A curriculum or policy change could be applied to matriculated students and for this reason, this catalog should not be construed as constituting a contract between the University and any person. To complete a degree, a student is normally expected to meet the requirements listed in the catalog which is in effect for the year of the student's admission or readmission to the University. Students may also need to meet additional degree requirements that have been officially published.

### **Important Catalog Note**

Spring Arbor University has four schools: Gainey School of Business, School of Graduate and Professional Studies, School of Education, and School of Arts and Sciences. The requirements and expectations in this Catalog apply to all graduate students, regardless of the school in which the course or degree program is housed. Individual schools, however, may impose additional requirements or expectations. See specific degree for additional information.

## BASIC GRADUATE INFORMATION

### **Graduate Programs of Study**

Spring Arbor University offers the following master's degrees. For information, please call the regional site closest to you or the number shown below:

**Master of Arts in Communication 517.750.6703**

**Master of Arts in Counseling 517.750.6703**

**Master of Arts in Education 517.750.6554**

**Master of Arts in Family Studies 517.750.6654**

**Master of Science in Management 517.750.6763**

**Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation and Leadership 517.750.6703**

**Master of Business Administration 517.750.6763**

**Master of Science in Nursing 269.372.9754 ext. 4058**

**Master of Special Education 517.750.6554**

**Master of Arts in Reading 517.750.6554**

### **Accreditation**

All degrees offered by Spring Arbor University are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602. Both graduate and undergraduate programs offered by the University's School of Education are approved by the Michigan Department of Education and

the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), 2010 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036; telephone: 202.466.7496. The Master of Science in Nursing program is currently seeking accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036.

### Admissions

The following requirements are common to all Spring Arbor University graduate programs. Some programs specify a particular format for certain items and/or have additional requirements. Consult the individual program requirements. Admission must be approved prior to being considered for financial aid.

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- A 3.0 GPA for at least the last two years of the bachelor's degree;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended;
- At least two recommendations from professional/academic individuals; and
- A completed application.

### Expectations

All applicants should possess:

- graduate-level communication skills;
- computer competency;
- strong academic skills;
- strong motivation for learning;
- awareness of the time and effort required to successfully complete program requirements;
- a willingness to be part of a group learning process; and
- potential for growth and development in the student's chosen field.

### Admissions Status

Admission status is determined and specified as follows:

- Full: all items are complete and admission requirements met
- Probationary: the admissions file is complete but the applicant's GPA does not meet the standard or there are other concerns (e.g., weak writing sample)—there will be limits on the number of courses for which the applicant may enroll as well as closer monitoring of grades—the time limit that the student must come off probationary status will be the first six credits or the first semester, whichever is later.
- Conditional: some part of the admission file is missing (e.g., official transcript)—there may be limits on the number of courses for which the applicant may enroll as well as closer monitoring of grades—the time limit that the student must come off conditional status will be the end of the first course (excluding the residency for MBA and MBAO).
- Denial: admission requirements are not met.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

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## Admissions Appeals

Students may only appeal denial of admissions. An appeal is initiated via written petition, which provides rationale and, where appropriate, includes supporting documentation. Appeals are presented to the program director, who will convene a review committee. The committee's decision is final.

## International Student Admission

International students are subject to all admission requirements of the graduate program and additional requirements as outlined below:

- Hold a degree equivalent to a bachelor's from a regionally accredited academic institution in the United States. International applicants must submit official copies of their transcripts and certificates from each institution attended. For each school, one official transcript should be sent to Spring Arbor University and one must be submitted to one of the following services for evaluation: AACRAO ([www.aacrao.org](http://www.aacrao.org)) or WES ([www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org)). The service must send the evaluation(s) directly to Spring Arbor University. Degrees earned from institutions outside the United States must be equivalent to or higher than, a U.S. baccalaureate.
- Provide evidence of proficiency in the English language on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) \*\*
- Provide a financial resources statement.
- Submit proof of medical insurance.

NOTE: To maintain student status with immigration a student must be full-time (a minimum of six credit hours per semester).

\*\* Minimum TOEFL scores: Paper-based = 550, Computer-based = 220, Web-based = 80

## Background Check

Spring Arbor University (SAU) values a reputation for honesty, integrity, and a safe environment for our community of learners and to the greater community in which we serve. To safeguard these standards, SAU may require a background check. The specific policy guidelines and final review processes are outlined by the individual school, program, office, or department.

## Guest Students

A guest student is currently enrolled in a master's program in another regionally accredited college or university. A guest student may take a maximum of 6 credits. Contact the program office for further information.

## Non-Degree Students

A non-degree student wishes to take classes but is not seeking a degree. A non-degree student may take a maximum of 6 credits. Contact the program office for further information.

## **Dual Undergraduate/Graduate Enrollment**

Dual undergraduate/graduate enrollment may be granted to any SAU senior who has (1) a GPA of 3.0 or higher for at least the last two years of baccalaureate study and (2) no more than 6 credits remaining for completion of the bachelor's degree. A dual enrolled student may enroll in a maximum of 6 graduate credit hours (approved by the program advisor) along with the undergraduate hours required to complete the bachelor's degree.

Dual enrollment is permitted only for the first semester of a program. If the bachelor's degree is not earned by the end of the first semester of dual enrollment, the student may not continue in the program on dual enrollment. No graduate credits earned while dual enrolled can be used to meet undergraduate requirements. The enrolled graduate courses are not eligible for financial aid until the bachelor's degree is completed.

Note: Not all graduate programs permit dual enrollment; those that do may have additional requirements. Please confer with the program office for additional information prior to enrollment.

## **Full-time Status**

Enrollment in at least six graduate credits during any semester is considered full-time. Enrollment in at least three graduate credits during any semester is considered half-time. Grants and loans from state and/or federal governments are available for students who are enrolled at least half-time and who have been accepted in a degree program. Students should contact the Financial Aid Office for assistance.

## **Semester Credit Limits**

Students may not enroll in more than 30 hours per 12-month period in any Spring Arbor University graduate program or combination of graduate programs, without the permission of the program director. Any schedule exceeding 10 hours per semester (traditional semester calendars) or 15 hours in a six-month period (non-traditional semester calendars) must have permission of the program director. A student wishing to register for more than three hours above these limitations must have the permission of the dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies.

## **Student Academic Responsibility**

SAU commits to helping students achieve their academic goals by providing numerous resources and tools, including academic advisors, degree audits, schedules, calendars, and online catalog. Students must assume certain responsibilities that include:

- meeting admission requirements;
- completing courses in an order that meets pre-requisite and core requirements;

# GENERAL INFORMATION

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- becoming familiar with all academic policies and specific policies of the program to which the student is admitted; and
- preparing work that is representative of the student's own individual efforts.

## **Standards of Conduct**

SAU is dedicated to fostering academic, social and spiritual growth for students. While enrolled as active participants in the SAU community, students are expected to govern their lives in harmony with its regulations, both on and off campus.

## **Residency**

Some graduate programs have a residency requirement. Students are advised to consult the catalog and program handbooks for such requirements.

## **Research**

Each masters program defines the nature and scope of any required thesis, research project, or case study. Students are advised to consult the catalog and program handbooks for specific requirements.

## **Assessment**

Spring Arbor University regularly assesses the effectiveness of all academic programs. Registration for classes constitutes agreement to participate in assessment exercises and permission to collect resulting data.

## **Transfer Credit**

Programs may accept a maximum of 9 graduate credits by transfer from a regionally-accredited institution. The transferred course grade(s) must be a "B" or better. An official transcript from the institution must be submitted to the appropriate program office with the initial application. Transfer credits must be no more than 6 years old at the time of admission, but certain programs may allow exceptions, depending on the course. The program director has the discretion and the right to determine what is accepted and whether the course will substitute for a required course or elective credit. After admission to a Spring Arbor University graduate program, students wishing to complete coursework at another college or university, with the expectation of that coursework being applied toward a Spring Arbor University degree, must seek written advance approval from the program director.

## **Overlapping Courses**

Students may apply credits successfully completed in one SAU master's degree towards degree requirements in another SAU master's degree, subject to a maximum of 25% of the credits in each degree and an overall maximum of nine (9) credits.

## Grading System

Coursework will be assigned a letter grade that carries scholastic points according to the following scale:

A	4.00	C	2.00
A-	3.67	C-	1.67
B+	3.33	D+	1.33
B	3.00	D	1.00
B-	2.67	D-	0.67
C+	2.33	U	0.00

Plus and minus grades are intended to reflect more accurately the student's actual performance in the classroom. Each weighted letter is defined as follows:

**A** = excellent achievement

**B** = good work

**C** = below average work

**D** = unsatisfactory work

**U** = unsatisfactory work—no credit is given—the number of hours is included when computing GPA

**S** = unsatisfactory work done (a grade of "B" or above)—credit is given—GPA is not affected

**I** = incomplete work in a regularly scheduled course at the time the final grade is due—given only when missing assignments are due to absences from classes for illness, or other emergencies—not given for unsatisfactory assignments or failure to submit assignments due to the student's negligence.

Note: A grade of "I" must be removed within six weeks after the end of the term in which it is given or by a date officially agreed upon by the instructor and student—when an "I" is given, the instructor will indicate what grade the student will receive if the completion date is not met—if no grade is received, the "I" grade becomes a grade of "U."

**IP** = work in progress at the time the final grade is due—given only for an independent study, internship, practicum, tutorial, exploratory experience or other special programs as approved by the registrar.

Note: A grade of "IP" must be removed within six months of the close of the term—if no grade is received, the "IP" grade will become a "U."

## Academic Integrity

Any community of teachers and scholars recognizes that truth and honesty are absolutely essential in academic work. The expectation at Spring Arbor University is that these principles will be rigorously followed in all academic endeavors, including the preparation and presentation of lectures, preparation of class reports and papers, giving and taking of examinations, and in protecting

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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the validity of assigned grades. This assumes that all work will be done by the person who purports to do the work, without unauthorized aids. Instructors will exercise due diligence in planning and supervising the academic program so that the principles of truth and honesty are upheld. Faculty will reserve the right to impose a penalty, including the right to fail any student in a course where the student has been engaged in cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty.

The Spring Arbor University Concept—the heart of this institution—is based on our common commitment to Jesus Christ as the perspective for learning. This means that the Spring Arbor University community seeks to live in close adherence to the example and teaching of Jesus Christ in our personal and scholarly pursuits. With the purpose of encouraging responsible conduct, this policy flows from the Concept and assumes these important community expectations:

- Everyone who is part of the Spring Arbor University community will seek to live a life of highest integrity, both personally and academically.
- Full truthfulness is essential from all those in the Spring Arbor University community.
- Faculty and students will carefully and diligently guard themselves from stealing material or intellectual property — whether physical or electronic in nature.
- Silence about others' disregard for these standards devalues and violates the principles and spirit of our faith, the Concept and this policy. With prayerful introspection and loving confrontation, we should strive to hold one another accountable to the standards of our faith.

Acknowledging the call in the principles above, we challenge ourselves to maintain integrity in all we do academically. There shall be no cheating, misrepresentation, or plagiarism (borrowing ideas, images, facts, stylistic phrasing, or quoted material without credit) on assignments, tests, lectures, handouts or any other written materials. SAU's Academic Integrity policy is available electronically on the web site.

### **Characteristics of Graduate Culture**

Graduate education is different from undergraduate education and has its own distinctive cultural norms. At the graduate level, the learning culture is characterized by several components:

- **Depth of Inquiry:** a rigorous inquiry and cognitive development, which will produce persons who gain a depth of knowledge about a subject field;
- **Research-based Learning:** a growing familiarity and conversance with the scholars, relevant research, findings, and research tools underlying the subject field;

- **Practical Application:** involvement with action-oriented research and best practices in the subject field;
- **Knowledge Creation:** engagement with the subject field in ways that have potential for development of new knowledge, affirmation of existing knowledge, testing of emerging theories, or application and refinement of research-based practice; and
- **Independent and Self-Directed Learning:** responsibility for learning, which is demonstrated by the learner's manifestation of the ability for continuous learning in the subject field.

While some of these characteristics may be found in undergraduate education, the combination and degree of application in the learning process is at a higher level in graduate education.

### **The Spring Arbor Graduate**

The Graduate Council has defined the ideal Spring Arbor University graduate as one who embodies the Spring Arbor University Concept. Thus, the goal of the Spring Arbor experience is the development of a person who:

- Understands what it means to be a part of a community of professionals – the student must be able to learn, communicate, and participate with others (community of learners).
- Has undergone a rigorous educational experience – the student will study topics that are grounded in theory, practice, and research (lifelong study and application).
- Has encountered the Christian faith from a variety of perspectives, including instructors, staff, students, coursework, and instructional materials – the student will see how the Christian faith impacts character and decision-making (total commitment to Jesus Christ as the perspective for learning).
- Is able to participate in a global society – the student must be able to think critically and demonstrate the ability to take a leadership role in society (critical participation in the contemporary world).

## **ACADEMIC POLICIES**

### **Academic Advising**

In each graduate program an academic advisor is available to assist students with planning and implementing their academic careers. The University provides the Academic Planner for all students to use for planning, registering, and dropping and adding courses. The Academic Planner is available through the MySAU Portal (<http://mysau.arbor.edu>) and is a tool that all students are expected to use. For support in using the Academic Planner, please refer to instructions provided online. If further assistance is needed, contact your advisor.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

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## **Student Responsibilities**

While Spring Arbor University will provide assistance in planning academic programs, students are ultimately responsible for the completion of their program. Students are expected to become familiar with degree requirements and expectations, as well as take the initiative for requesting academic advising assistance.

## **Probation**

A student will be placed on probation if his/her GPA falls below 3.0. The time limit that the student must come off probationary status will be the end of the next semester or a minimum of six credits, whichever comes first.

## **Auditing a Course**

Students who wish to register to audit a class (i.e., attend the class but not receive credit) need to secure permission from the program director. Students must pay the applicable audit fee and any course fees. To have the audit placed on their permanent record, students must meet the regular attendance policy of the course. Registration for audit may not be changed to credit after that term's drop/add period. If credit is subsequently needed or desired, the student must take the course for credit, paying the applicable tuition and fees.

Auditing students will not be required to complete assignments and exams unless the instructor requests that assignments be completed as a necessary part of attending the class. An instructor has no obligation to meet with an auditing student after class or to correct assignments submitted by an auditing student, unless the instructor has requested that the student complete the materials.

## **Adding a Course**

Students may add courses during the authorized drop/add period by utilizing the Academic Schedule Planner on the MySAU Portal.

## **Dropping a Course**

Students who wish to drop a course during the authorized drop/add period, must use the Academic Schedule Planner on the MySAU Portal. It is important that students check with the program office to learn the applicable deadlines and tuition charges. Students dropping a course after the first week (or the authorized drop/add period, if different) will be charged tuition for the course.

## **Withdrawing from a Course**

Students may withdraw up to the halfway point of a course and receive a grade of "W," which remains part of the student's permanent record. Withdrawal after the halfway point will result in a grade of "U."

## **Repeating a Course**

There is no limit to the number of repeated courses, but any given course may only be repeated once. When computing GPA, a higher grade replaces the lower grade and the credit hours only count once. All entries remain part of the student's permanent academic record. Regular tuition charges and fees will be assessed for repeating a course. Courses with a grade lower than "C" will not be counted toward graduation requirements.

## **Course Cancellation**

The University reserves the right to cancel a scheduled course for reasons it deems appropriate, including (but not limited to) staffing, low enrollment, or program changes.

## **Class Cancellation**

In the event of bad weather or other unforeseen circumstances, a scheduled class session may be canceled. There will be an attempt to reschedule the canceled class session and notify students of the change.

## **Time Limits for Completing a Degree**

Students must complete all degree requirements within six years of the date of enrollment in the first class after the student is admitted to the program. A student may petition the program director for an extension.

## **Withdrawing from a Program**

Students who need to withdraw from a program must notify their program office in writing. Students need to check with their advisor or the Financial Aid Office to understand the consequences of withdrawal and how it may jeopardize state or federal financial aid.

## **Readmission to a Program**

Students who have withdrawn from a program or have not been actively enrolled for more than one year and wish to re-enter will be required to submit an application for readmission. Approval of that application is determined by the program director. Official transcripts for any subsequent coursework taken at another institution must be sent to the program's office for evaluation.

# **DISMISSAL POLICY**

## **Reasons for Dismissal**

Dismissal is possible for failing to maintain minimum academic standards. For example, students on academic probation that have been unable to raise their cumulative GPA to the minimum 3.00 standard after taking six additional credit hours will be dismissed from the program. Dismissal is also possible for disciplinary reasons, including (but not limited to) the following:

# GENERAL INFORMATION

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- violating standards of academic integrity
- violating community, behavioral, program, professional expectations
- unsatisfactory performance in practicum, internship, or clinical courses
- criminal misconduct
- failure to comply with established SAU and/or program timelines and/or requirements
- unethical practices and/or unprofessional conduct
- actions that obstruct the training process and/or threaten client welfare

SAU has the right to review any circumstances that may impede the student's ability to continue in the program at any point while a student is enrolled in a graduate program. At the discretion of the program director, the student may be placed on suspension, while the matter is being investigated. A student who is placed on suspension may not participate in program-related activities.

## **Dismissal Process**

To protect the student's due process rights and SAU's interests in upholding academic and professional standards, the following steps will be taken as part of the dismissal review process:

Step 1: The program director will inform the student in writing of the allegations or circumstances that may affect the student's continuance in the program. These allegations may emanate from personnel both within and outside the SAU community. (Note: if the allegation involves an academic integrity issue, current SAU policy will be followed.)

Step 2: At the discretion of the program director, the student may be asked to seek an informal resolution of the allegation with the accusing party. The student will inform the program director of the outcome within 7 days after the program director's request. If resolution is not achieved in this informal process, then the matter will be brought before a disciplinary committee, consisting of the following individuals:

- program director
- associate dean - graduate studies
- faculty member (chosen by the program director)
- program staff member (chosen by the student) OR current SAU student (chosen by the student)

Step 3: The program director will notify the student of the scheduled meeting of the disciplinary committee. The student will be invited to submit a written response to the allegations no later than 7 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Step 4: Following receipt of the student's response, the disciplinary committee will convene (face-to-face, teleconference, or other means) to discuss the matter and render a decision, which may result in:

- dismissal of the charges
- allowing the student to continue in the program, pending compliance with specified conditions
- dismissal from the program

Step 5: Within 7 days of the committee's decision, the program director will notify the student of the decision in writing. A student may appeal this decision by following the appeal process below.

### **Appeal Process**

The student must commence an appeal within 7 days after receipt of the program director's written notification. The appeal must be typed and submitted to school dean, who will review the appeal and the decision of the disciplinary committee. The dean may request additional information from the student or the disciplinary committee. The dean will make a decision and notify the student in writing within 14 days after receipt of the student's appeal. At all times, the burden of proof is on the student.

NOTE: The appeal process can take up to three months. Because this is a private university administrative hearing, legal counsel or representation is inappropriate.

### **Readmission**

Students who have been dismissed may apply for readmission after one year has elapsed. Evidence to support the request for readmission must be submitted in writing to the program director. The burden of proof remains with the student. Filing an application does not guarantee readmission.

### **Grade Appeals**

Student wishing to appeal a final grade must do so within 30 days after the grade has been posted. At all times, the burden of proof is on the student. The following procedures must be followed.

Step 1: The student should confer with the instructor, stating his/her objections to the assigned grade and providing any relevant evidence. If both parties reach an agreement, the instructor has the right (but not the obligation) to change the submitted grade.

Step 2: If the student makes at least two unsuccessful attempts to contact the instructor and provides documentation of those efforts, or if contact is made but an agreement is not reached, the student may appeal to the program director in writing or by e-mail. The program director may consult with the school dean.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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Step 3: If the matter remains unresolved, the student may contact the Academic Affairs Office for the appropriate forms. Upon receipt of properly completed forms by the student, the Academic Affairs Office will convene a committee to review all materials and make a recommendation to the Academic Affairs Office. The final (and non-appealable) decision rests with Academic Affairs. If the appeal is upheld, the originally submitted grade will be changed to “S” (satisfactory), which will remove that course from GPA calculations.

Note: The appeal process can take up to three months. Because this is a private university administrative hearing, legal counsel or representation is inappropriate.

### **Academic Policy Appeals**

If a student believes that the university has not followed published policies regarding academic decisions, the student may appeal the decision. The student must initiate the process within 30 days of the decision. At all times, the burden of proof is on the student. The following procedures must be followed.

Step 1: The student should confer with the individual who made the decision for a full explanation of the policy and how it was followed.

Step 2: If the matter remains unresolved, the student may appeal to the program director in writing or by e-mail. The program director may consult with the associate dean for graduate programs.

Step 3: If the matter remains unresolved, the student may contact the Academic Affairs Office for the appropriate forms. Upon receipt of properly completed forms by the student, the Academic Affairs Office will consider the appeal and render a final (and non-appealable) decision.

Note: The appeal process can take up to three months. Because this is a private university administrative hearing, legal counsel or representation is inappropriate.

### **Graduate Attendance Policy**

Regular attendance and participation is expected in all graduate programs. Refer to specific program guidelines for details.

### **Tuition and Fees**

Cost of tuition and fees for each graduate program can be obtained from the Spring Arbor University business office. Fees for special materials may be required for some courses. All fees are nonrefundable. In addition to tuition and fees, each course will require textbooks and other materials. If any additional fees

or costs must be assessed, they will be explained at the time the fees or costs go into effect. Tuition and fee changes will be published each year. NOTE: Spring Arbor University reserves the right to adjust tuition, books, and fees.

### **Payments**

Students are expected to pay tuition and fees before class begins. Most programs require payment at least three weeks in advance. A third-party payment plan is available, details of which can be obtained through the business office. Failure to meet financial obligations may result in the referral of the delinquent account to an outside agency for collection of the total amount due plus all applicable collection costs.

### **Financial Aid**

Financial aid may be available to students if appropriate criteria are met. Grants and loans for full-time or part-time students may be requested from the federal and/or state government. Students should work with appropriate staff and the Financial Aid Office. Early filing of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is encouraged to meet specific deadlines. Standards of academic progress must be met in order for students to receive federal (Title IV funds) and/or state aid.

### **Refunds**

If a refund is due to the student and the student received financial aid from federal student loans or the Michigan Tuition Grant, part of the refund must be returned to those programs. Proportionate amounts of the total refund will be returned by the University to the respective programs in the following order:

1. Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loans
2. Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan
3. Federal Graduate PLUS Loan
4. Michigan Tuition Grant

The remaining refund will be given to the student when all incurred costs at Spring Arbor University have been paid.

### **Transcripts**

Transcript requests must be made on-line at [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu). Transcripts will not be released to students who have not paid their University bills or who are delinquent in loan payments.

### **Veteran's Benefits**

Veterans should contact the Office of Registration and Records for certification with regional Veterans' Offices at least one month prior to beginning the degree program. The Office of Registration and Records maintains all veteran academic

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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records. To receive veteran's benefits, a student must remain in good standing according to the academic policies of the University and the specific program in which the student is enrolled.

### **Graduation**

Students who have completed all degree requirements are invited to participate in commencement on the University's main campus, where diplomas will be awarded. Students must complete a graduation/diploma application approximately three months prior to the ceremony. When applications are received a graduation fee is assessed.

If an application for graduation has been made and requirements are not finished as stated, a re-application fee will be charged. Students who cannot complete their requirements by the anticipated date should send written notification to their respective program offices.

Diplomas will not be issued to students whose financial obligations to the University are not met.

### **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 was developed to protect the privacy of education records, establish the right of students to inspect and review their education records, and provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal and formal hearings.

Students have the right to file complaints with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Office concerning alleged failures by the institution to comply with the Act.

The Privacy Act permits the University to release, without student consent, directory information. Directory information includes the student's name, address (including email), telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most previous educational agency or institution attended.

As a student, you have the right to restrict the institution from releasing your directory information. If you choose to restrict such release, you need to sign a Directory Information Hold form. The form is available in the Office of Registration and Records. Forms must be completed and returned to Registration and Records by the close of the second week of classes for a particular semester.

University policy explains in detail the procedures to be used by the institution for full compliance with the provisions of the Act. Copies of the policy can be obtained at the Office of Registration and Records.

This office also maintains a directory of records that lists all education records maintained on students by this institution. Questions concerning the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act may be directed to the Office of Registration and Records.

Spring Arbor University  
Office of Registration and Records  
106 E. Main Street  
Spring Arbor, MI 49283  
517.750.6516

## STUDENT SERVICES

All graduate students who are currently enrolled at Spring Arbor University may use on-campus facilities, including the library, computer labs, academic student connection, career center, physical education complex and dining and snack facilities.

### **Library Services**

Spring Arbor University has online library services to aid students in their learning. Pass codes will be given to enrolled students. This will allow access to library resources from home or work. A computer is located at each regional center if students choose to do their research there.

## UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

### EXECUTIVE TEAM

**Charles H. Webb, Ph.D.**

President

**Jeffrey E. Edwards, M.B.A.**

*Vice President and CIO - Technology Services*

**Brent Ellis, Ed.D.**

*Vice President for University Advancement*

**Kimberly Hayworth, M.B.A.**

Vice President for Student Development & Learning

**Matthew S. Osborne, M.A.**

Vice President for Enrollment Management

**Betty J. Overton-Adkins, Ph.D.**

Provost and Chief Academic Officer

**Jerry L. White M.S.E., CPA**

Vice President for Business and Finance

**Damon M. Seacott, M.A.**

Chief of Staff

## OTHER ADMINISTRATION

**Kathryn E. Bell, Ph.D.**

Director of Graduate Programs of the School of Education

**Donna M. Bergman Ed.D.**

Director of Master of Special Education

**James Coe, Ph.D.**

Dean of the Gainey School of Business

**Martin A. Covey, Ph.D., CFLE**

Lead Faculty for Family Studies Curriculum & Programs

**Gordon M. Eccles B.B.A.**

Director of Student Financial Services

**Natalie Gianetti, M.A.**

Interim Dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies

**George E. Griffin, Ed.D.**

Lead Faculty for Business & Management Curriculum & Programs

**Geoffrey A. Marsh, B.S.**

Director of Financial Aid

**Terry L. McClintic, M.A.**

Graduate Records Coordinator

**Candy McCorkle, A.B.D.**

Director of Master of Arts in Counseling

**Roy B. Meador III, M.L.S.**

Library Director

**Cindy E. Meredith, M.S.N., R.N.**

Director of Master of Science in Nursing

**Wallis C. Metts, Jr., Ph.D.**

Director of Master of Arts in Communication

**Sharon E. Norris, M.B.A.**

Director of Master of Business Administration

**Carl E. Pavey, D.Min.**

Associate Dean of Graduate Studies

**Linda Sherrill, Ed.D.**

Dean of the School of Education

**Rodney M. Stewart, M.B.A.**

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Roger M. Varland, M.F.A.**

Interim Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences

**Timothy Wiegert, M.A.**

Registrar





# Campus Map Legend

1.	CHAPMAN WELCOME CENTER Admissions Office	8.	WHITE LIBRARY Sacred Grounds Coffee Shop	24.	POLING CENTER FOR GLOBAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP Gainey School of Business Ada's Kitchen
2.	WHITE AUDITORIUM	9.	WHITEMAN GIBBS SCIENCE CENTER (WG) Natural Science Office Philosophy-Religion Office School of Arts and Sciences	25.	SPRING ARBOR FREE METHODIST CHURCH
3.	SAYRE DeCAN HALL (SDH) SAU Radio (WSAE) Academic Student Connections	10.	GANTON ART GALLERY	26.	HUMAN RESOURCES
4.	SMITH MUSIC CENTER (SMC) Band Room Choral Room	11.	OGLE ART CENTER Classrooms & Studios Mailing & Duplicating Services	27.	KOINONIA HOUSES a. McDonald House b. Taylor House c. Gallagher House d. Wesley House e. Trevan House f. Gregory House g. Roberts House h. Bishop House Triplex i. Snyder House j. Maddux House k. Warner House l. Jones House m. Hart House
5.	BUSINESS OFFICE Student Accounts	12.	THE PROF SHOP Performance Facility	28.	UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS
6.	DIETZMAN HALL Alumni Relations (upper level) Financial Aid (lower level) School of Education (upper level) Technology Services (lower level) University Advancement (upper level)	13.	FIELDHOUSE (PEC)	29.	INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT / ROTC
7.	KRESGE STUDENT CENTER Academic Affairs Bookstore Holton Health Center President's Office Ralph Carey Forum (RCF) Registrar Student Development Dorrice Ogle Dining Commons	14.	DUNCKEL GYM	30.	SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
		15.	LOWELL HALL	31.	PHYSICAL PLANT
		16.	MUFFITT HALL	P	PARKING
		17.	ORMSTON HALL		
		18.	POST VILLAGE		
		19.	OGLE VILLAGE		
		20.	APARTMENTS		
		21.	VOLLER HOUSE (PRESIDENT'S HOME)		
		22.	GAINEY HALL		
		23.	UNIVERSITY HALL		





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GAINEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION



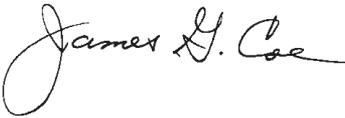
## FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. We are excited about the outstanding faculty and curriculum we have assembled to create the MBA program. While investigating classical MBA academic theories, students will have their learning facilitated by investigating “living case studies” and by applying their new knowledge.

As a cohort of learners, students will find that they not only learn from the professors, but also from one another. This multidimensional curriculum emphasizes traditional and new business practices, in addition to Christian biblical faith, international awareness, entrepreneurship, and leadership in making successful decisions. This combination of factors constitutes a viable and dynamic MBA program that will provide a solid foundation for future successes.

Students will discover that our professors and the MBA administration team model what we teach. We listen carefully to our students and their employers so we can best serve both, and equip our graduates for critical participation in the modern world.

We wish you much success in the pursuit of your MBA.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James G. Coe". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. James Coe

## PROGRAM MISSION

The MBA community of learners develops successful professionals through the study and application of theories, concepts, principles and methods of business administration with Jesus Christ as the perspective of learning.

## PROGRAM GOALS

The MBA program is designed to help students better understand and live out the SAU Concept through active participation in business and organizations. Students will integrate the Christian perspective with business administration concepts, theories and practices placing importance on community and lifelong autonomous learning. Participation in the program will enhance the ability of students to think creatively and critically in the organizational context. Students will become efficacious in their capacity to act ethically and purposefully.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Business Administration program seeks to combine the best of conventional academic training with the best of field-based learning. Most typical business disciplines are represented in the curriculum because we feel that a successful manager must be conversant using a variety of decision making models. The MBA curriculum addresses decision-making found in accounting, information systems, operations, entrepreneurial leadership, as well as the integration of faith and learning in the curriculum.

### **Program Delivery Options: Online or Face-to-Face**

The MBA program is comprised of 36 credit hours, and the curriculum is offered in a cohort delivery model. Students may complete the program in 18 months in a face-to-face classroom setting or 18 months online. Students participate in the International Business Summit which is a 4-day trip to an international business location where students embark on a collaborative learning experience. Courses in both models will enhance and develop a learning community environment where relationships are created and honored.

Students with an undergraduate business degree and prior learning in key business areas (accounting, finance, economics, marketing, management, and decision sciences such as statistics) will discover that this program utilizes and expands upon that basic business knowledge.

Students must complete the 36-credit hour curriculum with a minimum 3.00 GPA to graduate.

## **CORE COURSES - 36 hours**

- MGT 060 Orientation (0)
- MGT 606 Management & Human Resources (3)
- MGT 607 International Business (3)
- MGT 609 Competitive Strategy (3)
- MGT 611 Business Law for Managers (3)
- MGT 617 Ethical Leadership (3)
- MGT 622 Statistics for Managers (3)
- MGT 624 Management Information Systems (3)
- MGT 631 Managerial Accounting (3)
- MGT 641 Managerial Finance (3)
- MGT 661 Marketing Management (3)
- MGT 686 Living Case Study: Final Thesis I (3)
- MGT 687 Living Case Study: Final Thesis II (3)

## **ADMISSIONS**

The following are requirements for admission into the MBA programs. Admission must be approved prior to being considered for financial aid.

### **Requirements**

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university
- An overall 3.0 GPA for all undergraduate coursework
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended
- At least two recommendations from professional/academic individuals
- Resume or vita of work experience
- A completed application
- Photo ID (copy of driver's license or other government issued picture identification)
- Approval by the MBA Admissions Committee

Please see [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

## POLICIES

### **Attendance**

Class attendance is expected for successful completion of any course. Students who accumulate absences (excused or unexcused) for more than one-third of the sessions in a course may be administratively withdrawn from that course with a grade of "U."

### **Advising**

The MBA program coordinator will be available for advising assistance.

### **Living Case Study Client Assessment**

At the end of the living case study, the host organization for the student's Living Case Study will provide an assessment of the student's conduct of the project.

### **MBA Fees**

Fees for special materials may be required for some courses (such as the Living Case Study).

## CURRICULUM

### **MGT 060 MBA Orientation (0)**

The non-credit, two-week MBA orientation improves learner effectiveness by introducing students to the MBA program, its mission, program goals, courses and policies. The web-enhanced platform and tools that will be used during the program will be introduced to enhance learner effectiveness. Topics include the integration of faith and learning in the MBA curriculum, critical thinking, and the use of APA in writing.

### **MGT 606 Management and Human Resources (3)**

This course explores the major issues of organizational behavior and human resources. The intent is to develop better understanding and skills in diagnosing and treating organizational problems. Students will explore human resource topics and issues such as hiring/firing, assessment, compensation, training, safety, and promoting within high-performance organizations.

### **MGT 607 International Business (3)**

This course canvasses key aspects of contemporary international management, and it includes an international experience through a trip to an international business location. Topics in the course include international trade theory, trading patterns, foreign exchange rates and markets, strategic alliances, direct foreign investments, regional business issues, cultural, political and economic influences, as well as trade management practices.

## **MGT 609 Competitive Strategy (3)**

This course provides students an opportunity to integrate many aspects of the MBA curriculum into solving problems and making strategic decisions in a complex and interrelated simulated business environment. After this course, students should realize a greater ability to recognize issues with many component variables and develop effective organizational strategies.

## **MGT 611 Business Law for Managers (3)**

The course provides the knowledge of the legal institutions necessary for a manager or entrepreneur to function effectively. Topics include fundamentals of corporate law, major regulatory and corporate responsibility and contract law.

## **MGT 617 Ethical Leadership (3)**

Introduces theories and practices of leadership directed at understanding, predicting and influencing individuals and groups in organizations. Covers Christian ethics and draws from sources including the Bible and case studies of involving ethical issues. Includes topics such as the nature of leadership, effective leadership behavior, power and influence, leading change, leadership in teams, decision-making and fundamental management and leadership skills in the corporate arena. Integrates writing in APA style.

## **MGT 622 Statistics for Managers (3)**

Introduces statistical thinking concepts, statistical thinking problem solving strategies, and statistical tools to enhance their problem solving skills. Emphasizes learning strategies for problem sensing, diagnosing and decision making through collecting, organizing and interpreting appropriate data. Students will also learn how to apply statistical computer software to facilitate data analysis. Students will be introduced to both qualitative and quantitative research methods, and they will be introduced to the master's thesis elements in order for students to begin making preparations for the final thesis work in MGT 686 and MGT 687. By the end of the course, students will have identified their host organization for the Living Case Study program, and they will have defined the context of the organization they plan to study for the Living Case Study program.

## **MGT 624 Management Information Systems (3)**

This course surveys the principles and concepts of information systems as they are applied in the business world. Various types of information systems and how they enhance personal and organizational productivity, as well as competitiveness, will be examined. Modern information technology that supports business enterprises will also be surveyed.

## **MGT 631 Managerial Accounting (3)**

This course is an advanced course in accounting stressing the development of understanding in contemporary accounting techniques and tools. Students will learn to develop, interpret and request various accounting reports. Students may explore accounting systems in the context of management's need for business planning, control and decision-making. Topics may focus on operating and capital budgets, cash flow projections, cost accounting systems, cost behavior, and cost allocations.

## **MGT 641 Managerial Finance (3)**

Equip students to develop realistic financial systems for business enterprise. Students develop familiarity with fundamental concepts and contemporary approaches, including financial calculations and analysis. Topics include the examination of financial objectives relative to investment and management, lease financing, securities portfolios, dividend policies, risk/return trade-offs, capital budget, cost of capital, cash management, and International finance.

## **MGT 661 Marketing Management (3)**

This course focuses on concepts, principles and techniques of effective, high-performance companies through marketing management. Topics include customer value and satisfaction, market research and surveys, market segmentation, market offer differentiation, market positioning, and the development and execution of marketing plans. Emphasis is placed on how these areas relate to the student's work environment. Integrates The Principles of Business.

## **MGT 686 Living Case Study: Final Thesis, Part I (3)**

Students need to have secured a host organization for the Living Case Study program before the start of the course. Building on their understanding of the context of the host organization, students will engage in a needs assessment of the host organization. Students will identify problems that need to be solved using concepts and theories to explain those phenomena. Students will go beyond studying the organization, and the Living Case Study project will involve proposing a solution to the problem, implementing that solution, measuring and reporting results. Outcomes in MGT686 include the development of a project proposal and project management plan. Students will need to obtain permission from the host organization and the faculty to implement the proposed project by the end of the course.

## **MGT 687 Living Case Study: Final Thesis, Part II (3)**

Based on the implementation of the project management from MGT 686, the student completes the implementation of the final thesis project and follows the project through to completion. Students actually implement the full improvement plan and assess the outcomes of the project. Students will present their results through a detailed assessment and interpretation to both the host organization and the MBA faculty. Student will present their project results to the host organization, and the host organization will provide assessment input to the faculty through a client assessment of the student's implementation of the Living Case Study project. The student will defend the design, development, implementation and results of the Living Case Study project in a final written report to the faculty.

## FACULTY

### **K. Caleb Chan**

*B.A., King College*

*Ph.D., Georgia State University*

### **James G. Coe**

*B.S., Indiana University*

*M.S., National-Louis University*

*Ph.D., Regent University*

*Postgraduate study, Oxford University, U.K.*

### **Gregory Kaufinger**

*B.S., Lehigh University*

*M.B.A., Geneva College*

### **E. Allen Knight**

*B.S., Milligan College*

*M.B.A., Olivet Nazarene University*

### **Randall J. Lewis**

*B.S., Tri-State University*

*M.B.A., Central Michigan University*

*Ph.D., Michigan State University*

### **Sharon E. Norris**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*M.B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*Ph.D., Regent University*

### **Vilma Vallillee**

*B.A., University of Guelph*

*M.B.A., Wayne State University*

*Ph.D., Claremont Graduate University*



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**SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

**Master of Arts in Counseling**

**Master of Arts in Family Studies**

**Master of Science in Management**

**Master of Science in Nursing**





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## FROM THE INTERIM DEAN

Welcome to the School of Graduate and Professional Studies. Our graduate programs are designed to offer you outstanding educational experiences with an integration of faith and learning.

We currently offer degrees in counseling, family studies, management, and nursing. Please contact a Spring Arbor University site near you for more information or to enroll in one of these dynamic majors.

God's blessings as you pursue a degree,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie Gianetti". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and "G".

Natalie Gianetti



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SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES  
MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) provides comprehensive academic instruction and clinical experience for students interested in helping others in a counseling setting. The MAC program is a 50-credit hour degree program, which includes a 100-hour practicum and a 600-hour internship. This program helps students integrate professional ethics, multiculturalism, interpersonal skills, and counseling theory and practice within a Christian perspective.

### Mission Statement

To prepare competent professionals who are committed to ethical practice and critical participation in a global society.

### Program Objectives

The MAC program will assist students to:

1. Integrate a Christian faith perspective for personal and professional development as a basis for counseling practice.
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice of the American Counseling Association. Students in the school counseling track will also demonstrate a working knowledge of the American School Counselor Association's Ethical Standards for School Counselors.
3. Develop an awareness of, and sensitivity for, social and cultural influences on human behavior and recognize the impact of individual differences on the counseling process.
4. Create a professional identity through coursework, post-graduate trainings, supervision, and active membership in professional organizations.
5. Establish a foundation for understanding both normal and abnormal behavior of human development across the life span, based on theories of human development and counseling theory and techniques.
6. Describe the major theories of career development in the context of the person's diverse needs, unique life roles, and life factors.
7. Establish a therapeutic relationship where "best practice" in counseling theories and techniques are utilized as a basis for case conceptualization, intervention, and on-going evaluation of client/student progress.
8. Demonstrate effective group leadership techniques, based upon knowledge of group theory, dynamics, and developmental tasks with diverse clients/students.
9. Demonstrate knowledge of social, cultural, and ethical factors that influence selection, administration, and interpretation of standardized and non-standardized assessments for both individuals and groups.

10. Serve as effective consumers of research, being knowledgeable of research methodology and statistical analysis that inform evidence-based practice for both client/student intervention and program development/evaluation.

## **Tracks**

The MAC program offers two tracks: Community Counseling and School Counseling. Both tracks have a common core curriculum (44 credits) with separate requirements for elective courses (6 credits) and the clinical experience. The Community Counseling track is designed to help students with preparation for Michigan licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). LPCs may be employed in mental health settings, churches, clinics, other agencies, or a private practice setting. The School Counseling track is designed to assist students with preparation for becoming a K-12 Licensed School Counselor (LSC) in Michigan. LSCs may be employed in local school districts, career centers, or intermediate school districts to work with K-12 students. The school counseling track is also intended to assist students with preparation for Michigan licensure as an LPC.

## **Licensure**

Students desiring to become LPCs must first apply for licensure as a Limited Licensed Professional Counselor (LLPC), complete the necessary 3,000 post-degree hours supervised by a LPC, and pass a licensing exam. Please refer to the MAC Student Handbook for specific Michigan licensure requirements. Students who are considering licensure in other states are encouraged to contact the Board of Counseling or State Education Department of that state to learn about the requirements for licensure. This should be done prior to enrolling in the MAC program.

## **Ohio Licensure Concentration**

The SAU Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) degree can be completed with 50 semester hours, including a 100-hour Practicum and a 600-hour Internship field experiences. The state of Ohio requires a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework to be eligible for state licensure. SAU has designed an Ohio community counseling concentration that meets the requirements of Professional Counselor (PC) or Professional Clinical Counselor (PCC) licensure in the state of Ohio.

Students seeking Ohio licensure in community counseling need to take an additional 18 hours of coursework beyond the required 44 hours of core courses. The 60 semester hours of coursework must include at least 20 semester hours of clinical coursework with at least one course in each of the five clinical areas: (1) clinical psychopathology, personality, and abnormal behavior; (2) evaluation of mental and emotional disorders; (3) diagnosis of mental and emotional disorders; (4) methods of intervention and prevention of mental and emotional disorders; (5) treatment of mental and emotional disorders. Note: Students choosing to do the

# MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING

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additional coursework for licensure in Ohio as a PC or PCC will take a total of 62 semester hours instead of the minimum 60 semester hours.

All of the required coursework beyond the 50 semester hours for the MAC degree is offered by the MAC program of Spring Arbor University. Students choosing to graduate with the 50 semester hours in community (agency) counseling are not eligible for licensure in the state of Ohio.

## Program Format

The MAC program is designed to be completed by a cohort group that begins and ends core coursework together. This group format is intended to facilitate learning and provide support for all members of the group.

## ADMISSIONS

The MAC program intentionally recruits students who are representative of a multicultural and diverse society. Applicants from a variety of undergraduate disciplines may apply to this program, although a degree in counseling or psychology may be the best preparation for the program. The MAC program is taught from a Christian perspective.

### Admission Requirements

General Admission Requirements (see also the general admissions portion of this catalog):

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- A 3.0 cumulative GPA for the bachelor's degree;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended;
- At least two recommendations from professional/academic sources using the provided recommendation forms;
- Successful interview with the Director of the MAC Program and/or designees;
- Successful completion of an on-site writing assessment, demonstrating proficient computer and writing skills;
- Misdemeanor and Felony Disclosure Form;
- Submission of a Statement of Purpose (1-2 pages) detailing the reasons for pursuing this counseling degree, relevant career goals, and the track to which the individual is applying – School Counseling applicants should include relevant experience with school-aged youth (e.g., Scouts, 4-H, youth group); and
- A completed application.

Note: A resume or vita outlining volunteer/professional work-related experiences pertinent to the counseling field is recommended for the admission process. Please see [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

## **Guest Student Admissions**

Graduate students from other programs may enroll with special permission from the program director. Approved guest students may take up to six credit hours. Because of class size restrictions, preferences will be given to students admitted to the program. Guest student status does not guarantee future admission into the program nor does it guarantee that the credits will apply toward a graduate degree.

## **Misdemeanor and Felony Disclosure**

Due to state employment and reporting regulations, applicants must answer questions regarding past or pending misdemeanors or felonies as an adult or juvenile to assist graduate education students in complying with state employment and reporting regulations. Falsification of information will be considered fraud and grounds for denial of admission to or for revoking prior admission to the University.

Misdemeanor and/or felony conviction could impact approval to begin a clinical experience or acceptance at an internship site. Misdemeanor/and or felony conviction could also result in denial of licensure as an LLPC (by the State of Michigan Board of Counseling) or a Licensed School Counselor (by the Michigan Department of Education).

## **Background Check**

MAC students are required to complete a background check. See the MAC Student Handbook for specific information.

# **POLICIES**

## **Expectations of a MAC Student**

- Demonstrates professional ethics and personal integrity;
- Actively contributes to the learning environment of the class;
- Takes ownership for his/her own educational experience;
- Remains open to self-awareness, personal reflection, personal and professional growth;
- Is receptive to feedback from other students, instructors, and site supervisor;
- Maintains a high level of respect for self and others as demonstrated by appropriate language, tone of voice, and attitude in verbal/written communication;
- Demonstrates appropriate interpersonal interactions with site personnel, instructors, fellow students, clients, supervisor, and colleagues at clinical site;
- Refrains from the use of substances – does not come to class or clinical site under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- Handles conflict in an appropriate manner;
- Takes responsibility for his/her own thoughts, actions, and words;

- Values the client/student from a holistic perspective – mind, body, spirit;
- Shows effective communication skills – listening, speaking, writing;
- Manages the inherent stress of the program and demonstrates positive self care; and
- Values content of learning more than a grade point average

## **Course Attendance**

Attendance is required and considered an important aspect of student assessment in the course content and in the personal and small group relationships facilitated in the class sessions. The learning that occurs during class interactions cannot be fully realized through make-up assignments. Absence, arriving late, and/ or leaving early can adversely affect the final grade. See the MAC Student Handbook for more information.

## **Professional Standards**

A career as a Professional Counselor requires the individual to possess personal and professional qualities that are reflected in personality, behavior, knowledge, and skills. It is our ethical responsibility to assure that our students in the MAC program possess the desired competencies necessary to provide quality services to future clients. Due to the clinical nature of this program, the professional competencies are considered academic standards. The instrument used to assess these competencies is the Professional Competencies Profile (PCP), which will be completed in designated courses and by an instructor or staff member at any time to document concern(s) regarding a student.

Students must meet the acceptable level of professional behavior as outlined in the PCP. In addition, students must display academic integrity, meet ethical standards of the counseling profession, and abide by University expectations. Any unacceptable PCP rating (below 2.0) or violation of the aforementioned standards will be brought to the attention of Director of the MAC Program. Intervention will be dependent on the nature and/or frequency of the infraction and may include (but not limited to) requiring academic remediation, personal counseling, academic probation, postponement of the clinical experience, or dismissal from the MAC program. Refer to the MAC Student Handbook for more information.

## **Eligibility for Clinical Experience**

Consistent with ethical standards for counselor education programs, faculty take seriously the responsibility to place students in clinical settings who have consistently demonstrated the personal and professional qualities necessary to be effective with clients. Each student must make application to begin the clinical component of the counseling program (CNS 658 and CNS 680). Approval to begin the clinical experience is based on a comprehensive review of the student's academic performance, attendance, evaluations on the PCP, and a background

check. Refer to the MAC Student Handbook and the MAC Student Clinical Manual for more information.

## **Electives**

In addition to core courses, 6 credit hours of elective courses are required. Students should contact the graduate academic advisor about course availability or other questions in planning electives. Elective credit is not given in the MAC program for attending professional/continuing education workshops or submitting prior learning experiences.

## **Transfer Credits**

A maximum of 9 semester hours of graduate credit may be accepted from other regionally accredited institutions. The content of the course must directly relate to counseling. Only credits with a minimal grade of “B” (3.0) or higher will be accepted.

## **Graduation Requirements**

- Successful completion of the 50 credit-hour program, including a 100-hour practicum and a 600-hour internship
- A 3.0 minimum cumulative GPA
- Demonstration of professional competencies as assessed on the PCP
- Completion of the Counselor Preparation Comprehension Examination (CPCE)

## **Endorsement Policy**

Graduation from the MAC program does not guarantee recommendation for licensure or employment. Endorsement for licensure and/or employment will be based on academic performance of counseling knowledge and skills, demonstration of professional competencies, and display of personal integrity. Endorsement will be withheld for any student who has acted in a way that suggests that s/he may pose a threat to the well-being of future clients or the counseling profession.

# **CURRICULUM**

The required 44-credit core for both Community and School Counseling are as follows:

## **CNS 602 The Counselor and Diversity (2)**

The goal of this course is to introduce graduate students to the field of counseling. Students will engage in self-exploration to better understand themselves on both a personal and professional level as well as how they relate to others from diverse backgrounds. Students will also begin to learn the basic skills necessary to become effective counselors.

## **CNS 605 Research in Counseling (3)**

This course provides an overview of basic statistics and research designs/ techniques utilized in the field of counseling. Primary emphasis will be on developing the skills necessary to be good consumers of research and to be able to effectively conduct program evaluation.

## **CNS 611 Legal Issues and Ethics in Counseling (3)**

Major legal and ethical issues in the field of counseling, including familiarization with the ethical principles of relevant professional organizations are emphasized. Case studies will be used to highlight current legal and ethical areas.

## **CNS 645 Developmental Issues in Counseling (3)**

This course emphasizes counseling implications for assessing and enhancing human development across the life span. Particular focus will be on theories of human development and the predictable stages and tasks at various points in the developmental process.

## **CNS 672 Psychopathology (3)**

The DSM IV-TR classification system is used to help students understand the criteria for assessment of mental disorders. Students will also learn to conduct diagnostic assessment interviews and write intake summaries. *Prerequisite: Abnormal Psychology at the undergraduate level.*

## **CNS 636 Assessment and Testing (3)**

This course will assist students to develop skills in using qualitative and quantitative assessment methods. The course will also involve training in administering, scoring, and interpreting standardized tests.

## **CNS 664 Career Counseling (2)**

This course emphasizes career development theory and its application to counseling, including identifying possible resources related to career choice and exploring the career needs and concerns of clients from differing cultural backgrounds.

## **CNS 621 Counseling Theory in Multi-Cultural Contexts (3)**

This course will detail the rationale, background and research that underlie selected theories of counseling. Emphasis is placed on the implication of each theory for counseling practice. Students will develop a theoretical basis for their own counseling practice.

## **CNS 622 Counseling Techniques in Multi-Cultural Settings (3)**

This course will focus on developing basic counseling skills and techniques. Special attention will be given to various topics relevant to the counseling setting, including gender, age, culture and ethnicity. Videotaping of simulated counseling

sessions will be used to provide specific feedback to students. *Prerequisite: CNS 621 Counseling Theories in Multi-Cultural Contexts.*

### **CNS 641 Group Process and Counseling (3)**

This course focuses on understanding group process and skill development in leading group counseling sessions. Students will gain experiential knowledge of group dynamics through participation as members of a group. *Prerequisite: CNS 621 Counseling Theories in Multi-Cultural Contexts and CNS 622 Counseling Techniques in Multi-Cultural Settings.*

### **CNS 654 Conceptualization and Treatment in Counseling (3)**

Students will bring together the knowledge and skills learned in previous coursework. Emphasis will be placed on conducting diagnostic interviews, developing case conceptualizations, writing intake summaries, and developing treatment plans. Students must demonstrate competencies in the basic counseling skills. The role of supervision is also discussed. This course prepares student for the clinical experience. *Prerequisites: All courses in the core curriculum with the exception of CNS 668 Consulting in the Helping Professions and CNS 678 Capstone in Counseling with a Christian Perspective.*

### **CNS 658 Practicum in Counseling (3)**

This course emphasizes practical application of counseling principles. Counseling experiences are provided in a clinical setting providing the opportunity for students to apply previously acquired knowledge and skills. A total of 100 hours is required with a minimum of 40 hours direct client contact. A student must file application and receive approval to begin the clinical experience. *Prerequisites: Current MAC student, all courses in the core curriculum with the exception of CNS 668 Consulting in the Helping Professions and CNS 678 Capstone in Counseling with a Christian Perspective.*

### **CNS 680 Internship (3)**

This is an intensive, 300-hour, field-based experience in which students will apply counseling knowledge and professional competencies in an approved setting. Possible internship sites include schools, colleges, and community agencies. With the exception of students seeking Ohio licensure, internship placements must be completed in the State of Michigan.

This is a repeatable course. **A student must complete this course two times for a total of 600 hours and 6 credits.** *Prerequisite: Current MAC student, CNS 658 Practicum in Counseling.*

### **CNS 668 Consulting in the Helping Professions (2)**

The content of this course emphasizes the process of consultation with a primary focus on methods and strategies commonly used in both agencies and schools.

## **CNS 678 Capstone in Counseling with a Christian Perspective (2)**

This course will focus on integrating a Christian perspective into counseling practice. Each student is required to take the Counselor Preparation Comprehension Examination (CPCE) as scheduled during this course. This comprehensive exam is needed to complete course requirements and serves as an excellent practice test for the NCE.

## **ELECTIVES**

### **CNS 525 Art Therapy (1)**

This course offers an overview of the history and growth of art therapy as a discipline, along with an overview of the leading theoretical approaches that have evolved from the founding practitioners in the field. Students develop a clear understanding of the role of an art therapist within the various work settings. Students will have the opportunity to discuss clinical and practical applications of art therapy based on their readings, videotapes, and lecture. These applications are discussed in relation to providing optimum patient care and exploring a variety of treatment approaches and facilities. Current development and future directions within the field are also explored.

### **CNS 613 Social and Cultural Diversity (2)**

This course is designed to engage students in the multi-faceted dimensions of working with diverse clients. It is the intent of this course to assist students in developing an understanding of the role of culture in relationships, social issues and trends in a multicultural society. The course will focus on increasing students' cultural awareness, cultural competency and ability to develop culturally appropriate interventions. *Prerequisite: CNS 602 The Counselor and Diversity, CNS 611 Legal and Ethical Issues in Counseling.*

### **CNS 627 Sexual Abuse Recovery (3)**

This course reviews relevant literature investigating incidence, etiology, and a variety of treatment approaches to facilitate adult recovery from childhood sexual abuse. Also examined are interventions helpful in reducing present symptoms and effecting long-term relief from unresolved prior trauma. *Prerequisite: CNS 645 Developmental Issues in Counseling.*

### **CNS 629 Cognitive Therapy: (3)**

This course is designed to give advanced masters students an understanding of the application of cognitive theory and techniques in counseling. They will gain an understanding of the treatment strategies and techniques of cognitive therapy and they will develop skills in the use of cognitive therapy. *Prerequisites: CNS 621 Counseling Theory in Multi-Cultural Contexts and CNS 622 Counseling Techniques in Multi-Cultural Settings.*

## **CNS 633 Theories and Techniques of Play Therapy (3)**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of a variety of play therapy theoretical orientations and specific skills which can be used when working with children and their families using the developmentally appropriate setting of play. *Prerequisite: CNS 611 Legal Issues and Ethics in Counseling.*

## **CNS 634 Play Therapy: The Parent-Child Relationship (2)**

This course consists of didactic and experiential training in Filial Therapy and Theraplay – two effective interventions that emphasize the parent-child relationship and the inclusion of the parent(s) in the treatment process. In addition, assessment and treatment techniques of children with autism, Asperger's and attachment disorders will be considered. *Prerequisite: CNS 633 Theories and Techniques of Play Therapy.*

## **CNS 635 Group Play Therapy and Sandtray (2)**

The course is comprised of didactic and experiential training in group play therapy, sandtray, as well as treatment interventions for working with teens. *Prerequisite: CNS 633 Theories and Techniques of Play Therapy.*

## **CNS 646 The Psychology of Death and Dying (3)**

This course is designed for the student to become familiar with the subject of death and to personally identify far reaching implications. Specifically, death awareness, death attitudes, death and life transitions, and various types of death are examined. The stages of death and legal issues surrounding the dying patient will also be discussed.

## **CNS 647 Psychosocial Aspects of Grief (3)**

This course is designed for the student to become familiar with the subject of grief and to personally identify with its many aspects. The specific focus will be on understanding the tasks of grief, factors influencing grief, contrasting reactions to loss via death, why some people do not grieve, therapeutic strategies for the bereaved, the functions of the funeral, grief conflicts within the family system, and children making sense of death.

## **CNS 652 Foundations of Marriage and Family (3)**

This course will assist students to develop an understanding of the theoretical foundations of systemic family therapy with an emphasis on systems theory, major marriage and family therapy models and postmodern theoretical developments. This course will also introduce students to key founders and terminology of family and marriage therapy. *Prerequisite: CNS 602 The Counselor and Diversity, CNS 611 Legal and Ethical Issues in Counseling, CNS 621 Counseling Theory in Multi-Cultural Contexts, and CNS 622 Counseling Techniques in Multi-Cultural Setting.*

## **CNS 690 Individualized Advanced Research (1)**

This course is designed to permit the student to research a topic of interest on an individualized basis. Prior to registration, a topic and outline for investigation must be approved by the supervising faculty member and program director. As a result of this investigation, students will produce a 15-20 page paper reflecting their analysis of the professional literature. Students will be issued a letter grade for this course. *Prerequisite: Completion of first two semesters in the counseling program.* See the Master of Arts in Counseling Student Handbook for more information.

## **SCHOOL COUNSELING TRACK**

Students in this track are required to complete the 44-credit counseling core, CNS 673, and CNS 683. These credits will fulfill the elective requirement for completion of the degree. Students without a teaching certificate are required to take CNS 643. This course should be taken in the spring of the first year of the program. A student may petition to waive this course if s/he possesses or has possessed a teaching certificate. If a prerequisite is waived, credit is not earned. This course is a prerequisite for this track only and will not count toward the required 6 credits of electives in the MAC program. Refer to the MAC Student Handbook for more information.

## **CNS 643 Introduction to Classroom Dynamics (3)**

The purpose of CNS 643 is to serve as prerequisite for non-teachers to the school counseling track. Students will study classroom dynamics such as teacher responsibilities, effective teaching strategies, classroom management practices, learning theories, and unit planning. Students are expected to observe a classroom setting for a minimum of 20 hours. Due to the strong educational focus of this course it is a prerequisite for the school counseling track only and will not count toward the required 6 credits of electives for the MAC program. Students with a teaching certificate may petition to waive this course.

## **CNS 673 Development & Administration of School Counseling Programs (3)**

This course provides an investigation into the systematic development and administration of a K-12 comprehensive guidance program. Knowledge and skill competencies emphasized will include the understanding and application of program development, implementation, and evaluation. The role and responsibility of the school counselor is explored within the context of The Michigan Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program. Ethical and legal responsibilities within this framework will also be examined. *Prerequisites: CNS 611 Legal Issues and Ethics in Counseling, CNS 636 Assessment and Testing, CNS 643 Introduction to Classroom Dynamics, or equivalent, and CNS 664 Career Counseling.*

## **CNS 683 Mental Health Within the Schools (3)**

Students will investigate methods used by the school counselors in dealing effectively with elementary and secondary school students whose physical, social, mental, or emotional needs preclude academic achievement. Knowledge and skill competencies emphasized will include early detection, intervention, and referral strategies appropriate for dealing with special populations within the school setting. Relational dynamics among parent, teacher, and agency resources are examined to encourage placement of proactive measures within the system. *Prerequisites: CNS 611 Legal Issues and Ethics in Counseling, CNS 621 Counseling Theory in Multi-Cultural Contexts, CNS 622 Counseling Techniques in Multi-Cultural Settings, CNS 641 Group Process and Counseling, CNS 645 Developmental Issues in Counseling, CNS 672 Psychopathology, and CNS 673 Development and Administration of School Counseling Programs.*

## **School Counseling Clinical Experience**

Students are required to complete their internship in a traditional K-12 school setting during normal school hours of the traditional school year. Students may spend a maximum of 100 secondary hours at an alternative high school setting. Because students will be receiving a K-12 license, students must complete hours (200) in the elementary setting and hours (400) in the secondary setting. Refer to the MAC Student Handbook and the Master of Arts in Counseling Student Clinical Manual: School Counseling for more information.

## FACULTY

### **Candy McCorkle**

*B.A., Wright State University*

*M.S., Eastern Michigan University*

*ABD, Western Michigan University*

### **Lawrence A. Pfaff**

*B.A., Kalamazoo College*

*M.A., Western Michigan University*

*Ed.D., Western Michigan University*

### **Abe Atallah**

*B.A., Luther Rice Seminary*

*M.A., Ashland Theological Seminary*

*D.Min., Trinity Theological Seminary, U.K.*

### **Janet Glaes**

*B.A., Western Michigan University*

*M.A., Western Michigan University*

*Ph.D., Western Michigan University*

### **Eugene Wright**

*B.A. Bowling Green State University*

*M.A. Heidelberg College*

*Ph.D. University of Toledo*





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SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF ARTS IN FAMILY STUDIES



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Arts in Family Studies (MAFS) is an interdisciplinary degree, requiring successful completion of 36 credit hours. The program combines academic instruction with applied program development, to prepare students for careers involving non-therapeutic intervention strategies with families and individuals. The MAFS is designed to be completed by a cohort group that begins and ends coursework together. This group format is intended to facilitate learning and provide support for all members of the group.

Theoretical and conceptual family life foundations are studied in an environment that embraces Christ as the center of learning and emphasizes the strengths and potential of all families. Taught from a Christian perspective, the curriculum covers such topics as family studies methodologies, human sexuality, research methods, cultural issues, ethics, parenting, group dynamics, and public policy. Each student will research, develop and implement a non-therapeutic family intervention program as a culmination of their studies in the MAFS program.

## ADMISSIONS

### Requirements for Admissions

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- A 3.0 GPA for at least the last two years of the bachelor's degree;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended;
- At least two recommendations from professional individuals;
- Demonstrated competency in an on-site writing sample;
- Successful admission interview;
- A letter of purpose in pursuing the degree;
- A photo ID; and
- A completed application.

While a degree in family life education, sociology or psychology may be helpful as preparation for this degree, applicants from other disciplines are encouraged to apply. Acceptance into MAFS does not guarantee graduation. Because extensive writing is required in the program, proficient writing skills and computer competency are required for successful completion of the program.

Please see [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

### Guest Student Admissions

Students may apply for permission to enroll in up to 6 credit hours as a guest. This process allows students to experience a graduate-level course or take a class to transfer to another program. Because of class size restrictions, preferences will be given to students admitted to the program. Guest student status does not guarantee future admission into the program nor does it guarantee that the credits

will apply toward an MA degree. Please request an application form from the program office.

## **Class Calendar**

The regional center develops a calendar of class nights for each cohort. The program is in session year-round with the academic calendar divided into two six-month semesters. Students are responsible for checking the beginning dates of individual classes or cohort. Students may complete the degree in approximately 18 months, if each course is taken as offered.

## **POLICIES**

### **Course Attendance**

Attendance is a prerequisite for success in course work and the personal and small group relationships that occur in the class sessions. Attendance is expected at all classes. Missing class, arriving late and/or leaving early can adversely affect the student's final grade. See the MAFS Student Handbook for more information.

### **Electives**

All courses in the MAFS program are considered "core courses." No electives are required to complete the MAFS program.

## **CURRICULUM**

**Required for graduation:** 36 semester credit hours

### **Required Courses**

#### **FST 526 Changing Families (2)**

Bronfenbrenner's ecological theory will provide the theoretical framework that guides student inquiry as to how families have changed throughout time and the role technology has played in that change. Students will discover the socioeconomic forces that influenced families throughout the history of the U.S. A model will be presented to guide readings and discussions regarding specific areas of family life that have been, and continue to be, influenced by similar socioeconomic forces. Student exploration will also include consideration of how technology has impacted families, communities and culture. Students will be encouraged to focus on how families have embraced, adapted to, used, transformed and applied technology for their survival and sustenance. The Framework for Life Span Family Life Education will guide student inquiry.

#### **FST 602 Human Development Across the Life Span (3)**

Students will explore a multifaceted approach to human growth and development that spans the lifetime from conception to death. The focus

of readings and discussions will be on factors and processes influencing normal development, however students will also discuss how families adjust to developmental delays, disabilities, and loss at any stage of the life cycle. Multiple theories of development will be considered, along with an exploration of current research and classic literature on the human lifespan. The goal of this course is to deepen students' understanding of human development and to equip students to apply new knowledge in program development and family life education efforts.

### **FST 612 Family Studies Methodologies (4)**

Students will learn the nature of family studies, its history as a field of formal study, and the future of family studies and family life education. The learning needs of students of various ages will be discussed, but adult students will be the primary focus of the course. Students will become familiar with Bloom's taxonomy. Students will also consider the effects of learning style and Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences in the delivery of family life education interventions.

### **FST 624 Human Sexuality (2)**

Students will consider topics of sexuality that include sexuality throughout the life span, communicating about sexuality, responsible sexual behavior, and varying societal beliefs about sexuality.

### **FST 633 Family Resource Management (2)**

Students will learn the systems concepts of space, time and energy. They will discover how these process elements are utilized in family decision-making and management of family resources.

### **FST 637 Group Dynamics (2)**

Students will learn elements of group process in such situations as focus groups, formal educational settings, nonformal educational settings and discussion groups. Implications for professional practice for the family life educator will be emphasized.

### **FST 643 Cultural Issues in Family Life (3)**

Affective and instrumental functions of families across the life span in different cultures will be examined. Topics include: the importance of routines, rituals and traditions to families of different cultures; family forms in different cultures; and the influence of the ecology on families in different cultures.

### **FST 645 Parenting in Context (2)**

Students will explore the interactional and multidimensional contexts that impinge on the mothering and fathering roles. Students will explore how the characteristics of parents effect child development and outcomes, how the

characteristics of the child influence parents, and how the contextual issues such as marriage, work, community/neighborhood, and socioeconomics impact both parenting and child outcomes.

## **FST 647 Christian Perspectives in Family Studies (1)**

This course will review literature about Christian perspectives on family studies and enable the student to effectively develop authentic and sensitive methods for integrating faith issues with instruction and intervention with family issues.

## **FST 654 Research Methods (3)**

Methods of problem definition, research design and analysis of issues in families will form the basis of study. *Prerequisite: undergraduate-level statistics course with a grade of C or higher.*

## **FST 652 Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage (2)**

Intimacy, love and romance will be some of the issues discussed as they relate to the development of intimate relationships. Dissolution of intimate relationships and the reestablishment of intimate relationships will be considered. Educational interventions in intimate relationships for the family life educator will be emphasized.

## **FST 663 Mental Illness and Families (3)**

This course provides the theory and research on dynamics of mental illness and its impact on families. Focus is on preparing family life professionals to help families with individuals with mental illness to understand how the illness affects the family.

## **FST 664 Ethics in Family Life Education (2)**

Ethics and laws affecting the professional family life educator will be examined. Focus will be on developing a professional identity, including establishing and maintaining a consulting service.

## **FST 668 Public Policy and the Family Professional (2)**

Students will explore the role of the family professional in understanding, evaluating, and influencing public policy from a family perspective. Specifically, they will learn the rationale for family policy work, learn to analyze current policy using a family perspective, and explore strategies for being involved in family policy making.

## **FST 680 Family Studies Program Project (3)**

Students will develop and present a family life education program that includes a thorough literature review. The program project will require a minimum of 300 hours of development and presentation time. A program notebook of professional quality will be the final product. Students work on this project throughout the entire program.

## FACULTY

### **Laurie Bulock**

*B.A. Spring Arbor University*

*M.A. Michigan State University*

*Ph.D., Michigan State University*

### **Martin Covey**

*B.S., United Wesleyan College*

*M.A., Michigan State University*

*Ph.D., Michigan State University*

### **Linda Gutierrez**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*M.A., Michigan State University*

### **Dorthea Rogers**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*M.A., Western Michigan University*

*D.Min., American College and Seminary*

### **Gloria Thomas**

*B.S. Michigan State University*

*M.A., University of Minnesota*

*Ph.D., University of Minnesota*





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SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Science in Management (MSM) is 36 credit hours. The program combines a Christian perspective with academic instruction and experiential input from experts and students.

The curriculum covers such topics as organizational theory, marketing, economics, legal and ethical issues, negotiation, finance, and communication. The curriculum is focused on preparing leaders in organizations and businesses with a commitment to ethical practices, personal leadership, and self-analysis. The curriculum is organized to encourage cohorts to remain together throughout the program, creating a cohesive learning and supportive community.

The MSM degree is also available online. Online courses use the same textbooks and require the same number of weeks as face-to-face courses but also take advantage of web resources. Online courses use threaded discussions to replace classroom dialogues and web links to augment readings and discussions. Admissions requirements are the same for online and face-to-face students. Students may view system requirements and course offerings, complete an application, order books, and pay tuition online through the MySAU portal.

## ADMISSIONS

### Requirements for Admissions

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- A 3.0 GPA for at least the last two years of the bachelor's degree;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended;
- At least two recommendations from professional/academic individuals;
- Demonstrated competency in a writing sample if cumulative GPA is below 3.0;
- Successful admission interview;
- A letter of purpose in pursuing the degree;
- A photo ID; and
- A completed application.

Acceptance into MSM does not guarantee graduation. Because extensive writing is required in the program, proficient writing skills and computer competency are required for successful completion of the program.

Please see [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

### Guest Student Admissions

Students may apply for permission to enroll in up to 6 credit hours as a guest. This process allows students to experience a graduate-level course or take a class

to transfer to another program. Because of class size restrictions, preferences will be given to students admitted to the program. Guest student status does not guarantee future admission into the program nor does it guarantee that the credits will apply toward an MA or MS degree. Please request an application form from the program office.

## POLICIES

### **Online Orientation Course**

Students entering the MSM program either as a face-to-face student or an online student must take this online orientation course. This course is one week in duration and helps the student become familiar with policies and expectations for the MSM program. The student must take this course before completing the first semester of instruction. The course will be offered several times a year. Consult your Academic Advisor for times of course offerings.

### **Required First Course: ORM 604**

All MSM students are required to successfully complete ORM 604 Organizational Theory, Development and Change as the first course in the Core Curriculum. The intended benefits of taking this course first are to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the total MSM program and a clearer understanding of APA and its required use for written work. Students can take 500-level elective courses before taking ORM 604.

### **Closing Registration for Online Courses**

Registration for MSM online courses closes within 5 working days prior to the first online class session. No adds are permitted after this timeframe without an approved petition. Drops are permitted within the first week of class.

### **Course Attendance**

Attendance is a prerequisite for success in course work and the personal and small group relationships that occur in the class sessions. Attendance is expected at all classes. Arriving late and/or leaving early can adversely affect the student's final grade.

A student may not miss more than one night in any course. Two absences in one course will result in administrative withdrawal. If a student experiences unusual or extenuating circumstances for the second absence, the student may submit a petition to the program director regarding the withdrawal. (See student handbook for additional information.) Students who accumulate absences in three consecutive courses must petition the coordinator of academic services to remain in the program.

No absences in weekend elective courses are permitted. In the event of a crisis situation (as defined in the student handbook), one absence may be allowed.

## ELECTIVES

In addition to core courses, 4 credit hours of elective courses are required. Check course offerings on the MySAU web portal or contact the graduate academic advisor or other local staff about the availability of appropriate course electives.

## GRADUATION

Students must complete ALL requirements to participate in the graduation ceremony. Graduation ceremonies are held twice per year (currently, May and November). The final class date determines a cohort's eligibility for the ceremony. Requirements for graduation must be completed as follows:

- May graduation ceremony — March 31
- November graduation ceremony — September 30

If an application for graduation has been made but graduation requirements are not completed, a reapplication fee will be assessed.

## CURRICULUM

**Core Courses:** 32 semester credit hours

**Elective Courses:** 4 semester credit hours

**Required for Graduation:** 36 semester credit hours

### CORE Courses

#### **ORM 604 Organization Theory, Development and Change (3)**

This course will explore theoretical models of organizational structures, processes and outcomes. Using systems theory as a foundation, classical and contemporary paradigms will be analyzed and evaluated. A primary focus of this course will be organizational adaptation and change. Specific topics to be covered will include organizational structure, organizational environments, technology, goals and goal-setting, decision-making, power and control, conflict, and organizational culture. Through case studies and organizational analyses, students will develop skills in organizational diagnosis and in developing strategies for effective organizational adaptation.

#### **ORM 621 Environments of Business: Marketing (2)**

This course will explore marketing and its component and related activities from an integrated perspective. Public relations, advertising, market research, strategic planning, sales and customer satisfaction are just some of the marketing-related tasks that must be coordinated for the best image management. Concepts, principles and techniques of these disciplines will be applied to practical issues of planning and executing effective marketing programs.

## **ORM 623 Environments of Business: Economics (2)**

The interface of an enterprise with its external environment is the emphasis of this course. The course will consider how the interaction of an organization with societal perspectives, governmental regulations and contemporary business practices all affect its viability and effectiveness as an economic entity. A historical review of how those interactions have changed, while the American free enterprise system has evolved, will provide insight into how and why companies and institutions are structured and respond as they do today. Global issues and impacts on trade will be incorporated with these other issues.

## **ORM 632 Management Communication (3)**

This course addresses the vast array of communication options available in the business world. Students will learn which options are most effective under certain circumstances. Skills are developed in writing for audiences ranging from individuals to large groups, and in oral communication from interpersonal to large public addresses. Electronic communication issues are also addressed. Emphasis is placed on application in actual work environments.

## **ORM 634 Organizational Behavior (3)**

This course explores the major issues of organizational behavior and human resources. The intent of the course is to develop better understanding and skills in diagnosing and treating organizational problems and to help the student to become effective managers of high-performance organizations.

## **ORM 642 Management Research Techniques and Applications (3)**

This course provides students with a basic comprehension of effective, quality research processes essential to produce academic research that contributes knowledge to the practice of management through literature review relevant to an organizational problem. Students will acquire sufficient mastery of research materials that they will be able to apply their knowledge to their professional careers in management with Christian integrity.

## **ORM 635 Legal Issues in Human Resources (2)**

This course explores significant legal issues surrounding the managing of human resources. The course will examine the impact of federal and state legislation imposed on organizations. Specific legal issues pursued in detail are equal employment opportunity, affirmative action plans, the Americans with Disabilities Act, contract administration, recruiting and interviewing issues, and various aspects of harassment on the job. The intent of this course is to equip the student with an understanding of these legal issues in order to protect the organization and provide a meaningful environment in which employees are to work.

## **ORM 637 Management Trends and Practices (2)**

This foundational course seeks to provide students with an appreciation for and mastery of fundamental management skills in the corporate arena. Topics such as motivation, supportive communication, diversity, conflict management, empowerment and delegation, and building effective teams will be included. Theories and principles in management will also be surveyed in this course.

## **ORM 651 Personal Leadership Development (2)**

This course is premised on the notion that leadership involves every facet of our lives. Truly effective leaders, then, must have a clear understanding of themselves, and of their motivations and goals. The course helps students master the skills of self-understanding, goal-setting, planning, and tracking by exploring and examining their lives in the following areas: career, family, finances, intellectual, physical, social and spiritual.

## **ORM 652 Negotiations (2)**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an in-depth study and application of the art and science of negotiation. Practical experiences and understanding will include (but not necessarily be limited to) types of negotiations, processes of negotiation, and alternatives in negotiation. The processes leading toward mutually beneficial outcomes that are necessary in everyday business activity will be discussed.

## **ORM 653 Ethical Issues (2)**

This course provides students with an appreciation for the central significance of Christian ethics in the business environment in contrast and comparison to other predominant ethical theories. Ethics are portrayed as a guiding mission rather than a set of obligations and constraints. The course draws from many sources including the Bible, historical accounts of great Christian business leaders, and case studies involving ethical issues.

## **ORM 658 Financial Concepts and Analysis (3)**

This course addresses basic concepts of accounting and finance. It is intended to cover the most practical and most commonly used tools of these related disciplines. This overview is intended to provide students with the background to generally understand these aspects of an organization and to competently converse about the financial and accounting dimensions of projects and operations within the organization. A sample of topics to be covered include: accounting equation; T-accounts; debits, credits and double entry accounting; income statements and balance sheets; and managerial cost accounting.

## **Capstone Options: ORM 681, ORM 682**

MSM students are required to take either ORM 681 or ORM 682. This option is approved during the Management Research Techniques and Applications course (ORM642).

## **ORM 681 Thesis Seminar (3)**

The student constructs a theoretical model, distinguished by an academic researched-based literature review. The literature review will differentiate and identify research hypotheses or research questions. These concepts are examined empirically using typical quantitative or qualitative methods. The student will use general business concepts to identify and analyze a specific research problem. Prerequisite: ORM642.

## **ORM 682 Community Project Design Seminar (3)**

The student interacts with an organization to discern a specific problem within the organization. The student will develop a thorough research literature review, design a specific plan of action for the solution, and write a professional report evaluation. The demonstrated skills in this project include: developing quality, academic writing, analyzing problems, evaluating formal research, evaluating proposals, producing quality oral presentations, and creating positive change in an organization or a community. Prerequisite: ORM642.

## **Electives**

Courses are available as scheduled by the various regional sites. Please contact the local Spring Arbor University site or the MySAU Portal for current course offerings.

## **ORM 517 Cultural Issues in International Business (3)**

This course examines a number of relevant cultural values and issues that are often deeply held, sometimes subtle, and often misinterpreted by cultural others. These are elements that can determine the degree of success or failure of intercultural/international business decisions, negotiations and management of an international workforce.

## **ORM 531 Corporate Social Responsibility (2)**

This course explores the tension between corporate profit-making and socially responsible behavior, including obligations to internal and external constituencies. Corporate responsibility is viewed within the context of Christian business ethics as a whole, blending theory and practice to help students diagnose relevant business situations from a moral perspective and formulate proactive solutions. Special attention will be given to stakeholder theory, investing, quality workplace issues, the environment, societal change, community action and global justice.

## **ORM 532 Design Principles for Business Application (2)**

Visual design principles are explained and illustrated. These principles are then applied to a variety of business applications including memos, proposals, newsletters, advertisements and Web pages. The course includes a brief introduction to software used in page and Web design. Students collect and

critique real life examples and also complete an individualized design project. Students must have basic understanding of computers and access to the Internet.

## **ORM 533 Spirituality in the Workplace (3)**

The organizational climate is more open to opportunities for integrating business, ethics and personal spirituality in a “community” environment. This course helps students explore different views of workplace spirituality, giving consideration to integrating Christian faith with various aspects of organizational activity. The course also explores various concepts such as “calling,” the Biblical theology of work, governmental and religious challenges to spirituality in the workplace, and transformational leadership. Accessing a variety of sources, students will construct their own definitions of workplace spirituality and develop their own guidelines for integrating the two.

## **ORM 534 Principles of Persuasion (3)**

This course examines practical and ethical aspects of persuasion from the perspective of both classical and contemporary theory. Examples are drawn from advertising, mass media, politics and interpersonal influence.

## **ORM 535 Grant Writing (1)**

The course covers the essential elements of grantsmanship including organizational research, budgets, time lines, and the actual crafting of a proposal. Topics discussed include understanding the organization and the need as the basis for the grant proposal, researching the funding institution, and writing and crafting the proposal.

## **ORM 558 Practical Financial Management (2)**

This course introduces commonly used financial concepts and assumes the student has had no previous financial management courses. The key financial concepts covered will include: discounted cash flow and the value of securities; business investment decisions focused on capital budgeting; long-term financing issues; and operations issues focused on working capital management and planning. The course will include significant coverage of important related ethical concepts. Since there are financial implications in virtually all business decisions, this course will give nonfinancial managers enough knowledge about finances to understand and interpret analyses prepared by financial personnel.

## **ORM 680 Strategic Management (3)**

This capstone course integrates the various components of the degree in the application of learning through the personal and group development, presentation and analysis of contemporary case studies. Students will design a strategic management plan to be applied to a contemporary organization.

## **ORM 596 Professional Training in Organizational Management (1-6)**

The MSM program awards academic credit for relevant, well-documented, graduate-level learning that has occurred through professional training seminars and schools. Credit is based upon learning and proficiency that is demonstrated by the student. Students must petition for the credit and provide valid documentation of the training and/or certificate and give written support by answering questions related to the professional training. A nonrefundable assessment fee is charged for the evaluation of the petition. Students can earn up to six credit hours as elective credit.

## **ORM 690 Individualized Advanced Research (1-2)**

This course is designed to permit students to research a topic of interest and degree-relevance on an individualized basis. A faculty member must sponsor the project before students can begin. The project involves a written summary of the work, extensive approved reading and a final evaluative conference with the faculty sponsor. Students are required to have completed at least 12 hours in the program.

## **Nonprofit Leadership & Administration Endorsement**

Those looking to lead within the nonprofit sector will find the 12-credit Nonprofit Leadership and Administration endorsement valuable as it provides the skills needed to carry out the missions of nonprofit organizations, both secular and faith-based.

The endorsement, offered exclusively online, is designed for all current senior level undergraduate students and all current graduate students with an interest in developing skills necessary for nonprofit administration. These courses will develop skill sets relevant to meeting the demands placed on nonprofit organization leaders such as budgeting, fundraising, market assessing, program evaluation and legal operating procedures. The student will also become familiar with working with governing boards, lobbying for legislation and moral leadership.

### **Courses**

#### **ORM 541 Nonprofit Governance (3)**

This course examines the various approaches to governance. Each approach emphasizes different dimensions of the roles and responsibilities of the nonprofit boards and each arises out of a different relationship between board members and staff. They also reflect differences in the size, purpose, and history of the organization. This course considers the issue of which model is the right one and how an organization effects change in governance.

## **ORM 543 Human Resources for Nonprofit Organizations (3)**

This course offers an overview of the functions of human resources activities as they relate to the broad objectives of the organization. Emphasis is upon the fundamentals of job design, employment techniques, performance appraisals, pay compensation practices, benefit options, employee relations, and termination practices.

## **ORM 545 Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations (3)**

This course is designed to teach the basics of grant writing. It provides a comprehensive overview of effective grant development techniques, finding funding sources, program planning and funding sustainability. The emphasis is on writing a grant proposal and examining the relationships between sections of a proposal through a variety of interactive exercises.

## **ORM 548 Budget Development and Accounting for Nonprofit Organizations (3)**

This course will examine procedures for projecting revenues and the process for developing operating budgets. The extent that tax policies affect private contributions to nonprofits is discussed. Line item and alternative budget formats, including zero-based and performance budgeting, will be considered. It is recommended that the student have familiarization with electronic spreadsheets.

## FACULTY

### **Luann Brodbeck**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*M.B.A., Bowling Green State University*

### **Douglas Forrester**

*B.B.A., Eastern Michigan University*

*M.A., Eastern Michigan University*

*M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School*

### **Gene Geromel**

*B.A., Kutztown State College*

*M.A., Marywood College*

*M.Div., Philadelphia Divinity School*

*M.S.A., Central Michigan University*

*Ph.D., Michigan State University*

### **Judith Grenkowicz**

*B.S., Ferris State University*

*M.B.A., University of Detroit*

*Ed.D., Northern Illinois University*

### **George Griffin**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*M.S., Central Michigan University*

*Ed.D., Eastern Michigan University*

### **James Liddy**

*B.A., Northern Illinois University*

*M.S., Illinois State University*

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### **Dale Mancini**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*M.A., Central Michigan University*

*Ph.D., Andrews University*

### **William Motz**

*B.A., Michigan State University*

*M.B.A., Michigan State University*

**Margaret O'Rourke-Kelly**

*B.A., Michigan State University  
M.A., Michigan State University  
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Ph.D., Walden University*

**Carl E. Pavey**

*B.A., Greenville College  
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D.Min., Fuller Theological Seminary*

**George Rowan**

*B.S., Indiana State University  
M.S., Indiana State University  
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SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING



## MISSION STATEMENT

To provide quality nursing education within a Christian liberal arts university that prepares the professional nurse to contribute service and leadership to diverse communities.

## PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program prepares students to further their professional career as an educator, administrator, or advanced nurse practitioner in adult/gerontology. The graduate curriculum incorporates nursing specific knowledge with skills and knowledge from other disciplines in a manner that promotes excellence in service, a passion for nursing as a profession, and compassionate care. As a Christian liberal arts university, nursing is recognized as a calling.

## NURSING PROGRAM GOALS

- Foster an environment that supports adult learners from diverse academic and practice backgrounds
- Expand the nursing program through planned growth
- Promote academic and professional excellence
- Assure innovative teaching/learning practices
- Promote competent, compassionate nursing care based on a Christian worldview
- Facilitate value-based behaviors
- Prepare students for critical participation in the health care arena

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the program, students will demonstrate the following outcomes:

1. **Christian perspective** – Epitomize transformative Christian leadership, teaching, and care with a variety of constituents in diverse settings.
2. **Metacognitive reasoning** – Demonstrate metacognitive and reflective thought that promotes critical participation in the contemporary world.
3. **Theory-based practice** – Integrate relevant theories into outcome based practical applications.
4. **Research** – Engage in research activities that build and strengthen the health and well-being of individuals and communities.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The MSN programs provide comprehensive academic instruction in an interactive online community. In addition to the online community of learners approach, students come together with faculty and fellow nurses in a one-week, 3-credit hour residency each academic year on the main campus in Spring Arbor, Michigan. The residency is designed to provide personalized learning opportunities that prepare students for successful online interaction and clinical or practicum experiences.

The preceptored practicum associated with application level learning takes place in the student's respective communities. The MSN program offers graduate nursing education in one of three areas of concentration: Academic, Business, or Clinical.

**Academic** – Master of Science in Nursing (MSN/Edu) – A 38-credit hour, two-year degree program that includes a 3-credit hour educational practicum in both traditional and distance teaching methodologies, as well as a 2-credit hour project thesis. The concentration prepares students to apply principles of the educator in various settings related to health care whether it is in a school of nursing, in-service education, or community health. Courses focus on core nursing concepts, teaching/learning theories and principles, and practical application of curriculum design, assessment, and instruction using a variety of delivery approaches.

**Business** – Master of Science in Nursing and Master of Business Administration (MSN/MBA) – A 63-credit, three year program that leads to two separate degrees and includes a 6-credit hour living case study: final thesis. The concentration prepares students to apply both nursing and management theories in complex health care decision-making and to possess knowledge of health care, finance, and business administrative skills in a variety of health-related environments.

The MBA degree incorporates entrepreneurial, leadership, and international elements as well as a Christian worldview in forming decisions and ethical considerations. Students in the MBA program must demonstrate preparatory learning in the areas of accounting and math skills. (Refer to MBA section of the catalog for program specifics). Students in the combined MSN/MBA are expected to complete all program requirements within the three-year program format. Any exceptions must be approved by both the School of Business and Nursing Department.

**Clinical** – Master of Science in Nursing, Nurse Practitioner in Adult/Gerontology (MSN/NP) – A 62-credit, three year program designed for working nurses that includes 8-credit hours of clinical practice (2-credits = 125 clinical hours for a total of 500 clinical hours) in a preceptored format with a capstone thesis or

applied learning project. The concentration prepares students to function in an autonomous manner as advanced practice nurses and is designed for graduates to be qualified to take the Adult and/or Gerontology Nurse Practitioner National Certification Examination. (Note: Graduation does not guarantee certification).

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are expected to complete all Spring Arbor University General Admission Requirements (see general admission portion of graduate catalog).

The MSN specific program requirements are:

1. A BSN degree from a regionally accredited institution and nursing program (CCNE or NLN);
2. Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended;
3. A cumulative 3.0 GPA for college credits leading to a BSN degree;
4. An unrestricted, unencumbered RN license from the state or country in which the nurse practices (Note: License must remain current throughout program)
5. Copy of photo ID, driver's license or other government issued picture identification
6. Two recommendation letters (one from nursing professional; one either character or academic related)
7. Approved college-level essay
8. Successful admission interview

**International students** must meet the above criteria in addition to the following:

9. Minimum TOEFL (for English as second language) score to enter:  
Paper based – 550 Computer based – 220 Internet based – 80
10. Official transcripts of all coursework completed outside the United States must be submitted to Spring Arbor University and an evaluation service for validation and equivalency of courses and/or degree. The evaluation services are offered through NACES <http://naces.org/members.htm>. Transcripts may be submitted to either 1) Foreign Educational Credential Services (FECES), [www.aacrao.org](http://www.aacrao.org), or 2) World Education Services (WES), [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org). An official transcript of courses completed must be submitted to SAU in addition to the report completed by the recognized evaluation service.
11. Visitor Visa for residencies
12. Tuition and fees must be paid in US currency

## Program Specific Requirements

Courses or documented knowledge in the following areas:

- Research – Nursing related e.g. NUR 452 (SAU course)
- Statistics – 300 level or above
- Computer literacy – Blackboard exam or equivalent coursework

(Note: Proficiency exams or courses must be completed by the end of semester one)

## Student Expectations

Graduate nursing students are expected to:

- Adhere to all Spring Arbor University lifestyle distinctives while engaged in academic or clinical activities
- Demonstrate professional nursing behavior as prescribed by the American Nurses Association (ANA) Nursing: Scope & Standards of Practice; and ANA Code of Ethics
- Promote a learning environment for self and others that is conducive to accomplishment of the Essentials of Master's Education for Advanced Practice Nursing (AACN) and the Nursing Program Outcomes
- Actively engage in promoting a positive online community learning environment
- Demonstrate accountability and responsibility in the academic and practice arenas
- Meet the acceptable level of professional behavior as outlined in the Professional Competency Profile (PCP)
- Value and respect the contributions of others
- Take responsibility for being an autonomous, self-directed learner
- Communicate with colleagues and faculty in an effective manner that supports positive learning outcomes
- Display a caring, compassionate approach to all within the learning and practice environment

## Practicum or Clinical Experience

Prior to the start of any clinical practice, or as required by an institutional setting, there must be proof of compliance with all agency or institutional requirements. It is the responsibility of the graduate registered nursing student to maintain currency of records. Requirements may include but are not limited to:

- Current unrestricted, unencumbered RN license in the state or country of practice
- Proof of professional nursing liability insurance coverage throughout the enrollment period (min. \$1million/\$3million)
- Criminal Background Check at the Federal or International level\*
- CPR/BCLS certification as required, proof of TB testing, any required immunizations, vaccinations, HIPPA training, others as required

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

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\*The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JACAHO) institutes regulations in order for hospitals, home health agencies, clinics, etc. to gain or maintain accreditation status. One of these regulations requires that “all persons who are involved in patient care activities, i.e., employees, volunteers, and students must have criminal background checks as well as other health care related checks”. Criminal background checks must be initiated by the student and completed prior to beginning any clinically related practicums. See general Graduate Catalog policy.

The student is responsible for all financial obligations and transportation related to the associated agency or institutional requirements; and must maintain current records in the Nursing Department. Noncompliance with any agency requirements may result in program delay or academic withdrawal.

Approval for commencing the practicum or clinical experience is based on a comprehensive review of academic performance, successful completion of all pre-requisite and core course requirements, positive performance on the Professional Competency Profile, and program approval by the Academic Advisor in conjunction with the Nursing Department. Refer to the Master of Science in Nursing Student Handbook for concentration specific guidelines.

## CURRICULUM

All students in the MSN program must complete the Core Course Requirements and the pre-requisite coursework specific to the specialty concentrations. The first-year cohort curriculum design promotes engagement with students from various practice backgrounds along with integration of the three area concentrations in an interactive learning environment. The cohort design facilitates learning and provides support in an online learning environment. Core courses are taken sequentially.

### CORE courses

#### Fall (First Year)

- NUR 601 Collaborative Communication Using Technology (residency) (3)
- NUR 510 Moral Reasoning and Worldview (3)
- NUR 522 Theoretical Perspectives (3)

#### Spring (First Year)

- NUR 532 Advanced Professional Role Development (3)
- NUR 535 Leadership and Supervision (3)
- NUR 551 Applied Statistical Research (3)

## Spring (Final Year)

- NUR 679 Legal and Ethical Issues in Nursing (3)
- NUR 683 Healthcare Policy: Process and Analysis (3)
- NUR 693 Health Promotion to Diverse Populations Across the Lifespan (3)

## Masters of Science in Nursing/Masters of Business Administration

**Total credits: 63 credit hours**

**(Second year)**

### Fall

- MGT 060 Orientation to online environment and MBA (0)
- MGT 661 Marketing Management (3)
- MGT 611 Business Law for Managers (3) – Includes 4-day trip
- MGT 631 Managerial Accounting (3)

### Spring

- MGT 641 Managerial Finance (3)
- MGT 624 Management Information Systems (3)
- MGT 607 International Business (residency) (3)
- MGT 622 Statistics for Managers (3)

**(Third year)**

### Fall

- MGT 609 Competitive Strategy (3)
- MGT 617 Ethical Leadership (3)
- MGT 606 Management and Human Resources (3)
- MGT 686 Living Case Study: Final Thesis I (3)

### Spring

- MGT 687 Living Case Study: Final Thesis II (3)
- NUR 679 Legal and Ethical Issues in Nursing (3)
- NUR 683 Healthcare Policy: Process and Analysis (3)
- NUR 693 Health Promotion to Diverse Populations Across the Lifespan (3)

## Master of Science in Nursing: Concentration in education

**Total credits: 38 credit hours**

**(Second Year)**

### Fall

- NUR 635 Educational Technology and Instructional Strategies Seminar (residency) (3)
- NUR 625 Andragogical Curriculum Design and Assessment (3)
- NUR 650 Education Practicum for Adult Learners (3)

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

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## Spring

- NUR 679 Legal and Ethical Issues in Nursing (3)
- NUR 683 Healthcare Policy: Process and Analysis (3)
- NUR 693 Health Promotion to Diverse Populations Across the Lifespan (3)
- NUR 690 Thesis/Practicum Project (2)

## Masters of Science in Nursing/Nurse Practitioner\*

**Total credits: 62 credit hours**

### (Second Year)

#### Fall

- NUR 602 Advanced H & P and Practicum (residency) (3)
- NUR 612 Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
- NUR 618 Advanced Pharmacology (3)
- NUR 680 Clinical Practicum (2)\*\*

#### Spring

- NUR 631 Health Promotion for Adults (3)
- NUR 637 Health Issues for Adults (3)
- NUR 642 Chronic & Complex Problems in Older Adults (3)
- NUR 680 Clinical Practicum (2)

### (Third Year)

#### Fall

- NUR 603 Diagnostic Reasoning & Advanced Assessment Sem (residency) (3)
- NUR 685 Primary Care of Adults (3)
- NUR 686 Primary Care of Older Adults (3)
- NUR 680 Clinical Practicum (2)

#### Spring

- NUR 679 Legal and Ethical Issues in Nursing (3)
- NUR 683 Healthcare Policy: Process and Analysis (3)
- NUR 693 Health Promotion to Diverse Populations Across the Lifespan (3)
- NUR 680 Clinical Practicum (2)

\*A minimum of 500 preceptored clinical practice hours are required for certification eligibility.

\*\*NUR 680 - Clinical Practicum (2 credits = 110-125 hours, max. 8 cr.)

The Nursing Department reserves the right to change curriculum requirements based on professional or accreditation recommendations.

## CURRICULUM

### CORE Courses

**The second week of August is a one-week campus residency for MSN students. Online classes start immediately following Labor Day.**

#### **NUR 601 Collaborative Communication Using Technology (campus residency/orientation) (3)**

Develop a sense of community through the integration of technology with communication methodologies, participate in seminar discussion related to graduate learning issues, and initiate collaboration between colleagues, faculty, and staff.

#### **NUR 510 Moral Reasoning and Worldview (3)**

This course provides a meta-cognitive foundational approach to advanced nursing practice in the contemporary world. It explores worldview presuppositions, with an emphasis on a Christian perspective and development of a consistent, conscious understanding of reality.

#### **NUR 522 Theoretical Perspectives (3)**

This course promotes examination, analysis, and synthesis of a variety of conceptual frameworks, models, and theories that provide a foundation for research and applied practice in the areas of nursing, business, and education. Philosophical ideation, beliefs, scope, and assumptions of select theories and models will be explored.

#### **NUR 532 Advanced Professional Role Development (3)**

The focus is on understanding the role of the advanced professional nurse. The processes associated with role development, socialization, and effective collaboration with diverse interdisciplinary partnerships will be examined.

#### **NUR 535 Leadership and Supervision (3)**

The theoretical and empirical bases for leadership behavior, management principles, and role performance in the context of nursing, business, and education will be the focus of this course. Concepts related to mission, vision, strategic planning and evaluation, collaborative/team-building, empowerment, change, diversity, and fiscal management will be examined. Students will discuss issues that impact individuals and aggregates and will articulate strategies for effecting change and improvement.

#### **NUR 551 Applied Statistical Research (3)**

This course focuses on the significance of research to the development of a profession and the practical application of statistics to evidence based outcomes. Emphasis will be placed on design, methodology, and data collection relative to development of a research based capstone project or thesis.

## **NUR 679 Legal and Ethical Issues in Nursing (3)**

This course explores ethical theories and decision-making processes associated with bioethical dilemmas facing healthcare professionals. Case studies will be used to examine principles of law and professional standards. Students will develop an ethical decision-making model compatible with Christian values.

## **NUR 683 Healthcare Policy: Process and Analysis (3)**

The focus is on knowledge of professional responsibility to support policy issues associated with humane health care that promotes dignity, respect, and justice. Practical skills such as working with the media, product and service evaluation, advocating for the health care needs of vulnerable populations, and seeking program grants will be addressed.

## **NUR 693 Health Promotion to Diverse Population Across the Lifespan (3)**

This course focuses on concepts and theories relevant to health promotion, health maintenance, and risk reduction for diverse populations. Diversity is examined relative to social and communication patterns, roles, and value/beliefs underlying health-illness behaviors. Elements of national health care outcome objectives will be integrated throughout the course content. Health assessments associated with a variety of ages and developmental stages will be evaluated and examined in terms of primary, secondary, and tertiary intervention strategies.

## **MSN/Education Concentration**

### **NUR 635 Educational Technology & Instructional Strategies Seminar (3) (campus residency)**

Delve into the selection and application of instructional strategies for traditional and online learning environments. Use a variety of approaches for learning experiences in higher education, professional/staff development, and community programs for individuals or groups.

### **NUR 625 Andragogical Curriculum Design and Assessment (3)**

This course utilizes autonomous learning theories to design a teaching/learning project. Strategic planning steps: Needs assessment; behavioral objectives; instructional design and delivery for non-traditional learners. Explore formative and summative evaluation approaches that include quantitative and qualitative data collection methodology at the program or course level.

### **NUR 650 Education Practicum for Adult Learners (3)**

Individually supervised field experience in online and traditional settings that integrate adult learning theory.

### **NUR 690 Thesis/Practicum Project (2)**

Individually designed teaching/learning capstone project.

## **MSN/Advanced Nurse Practitioner Concentration**

### **NUR 602 Advanced H & P and Practicum (3) (campus residency; includes 30 additional clinical hours)**

This practicum will prepare students with the core knowledge and competencies needed to complete a comprehensive assessment using client data to detect signs and symptoms of pathophysiological changes and psychosocial variation from an individual, family, or community perspective. Effective strategies will be developed to address health care issues including health promotion, communication, client teaching skills using a holistic approach. The practicum will provide clinical opportunities to further refine and practice history taking and physical examination skills necessary for competence as an Advanced Practice Nurse.

### **NUR 612 Advanced Pathophysiology (3)**

This course provides advanced knowledge and clinical application of normal and pathophysiologic mechanisms related to altered health status and disease processes. Diagnosis and treatment skills will be analyzed, interpreted, and evaluated for changes in normal function seen during illness/disease and when assessing an individual's response to treatment.

### **NUR 618 Advanced Pharmacology (3)**

This course will provide the advanced practice nurse with the knowledge and skills necessary to assess, diagnose, and manage pharmacologic agents, alternatives to pharmacological interventions, and therapeutic modalities. Prescriptive authority, including responsibilities and legalities, will be discussed including controlled substances and the potential for abuse.

### **NUR 631 Health Promotion for Adults (3)**

This course will utilize comprehensive assessment skills the advanced practice nurse will need to develop culturally sensitive, age appropriate risk reduction, health promotion, and health maintenance interventions. Clinical decision making skills will be developed using theories and models to provide primary and secondary intervention strategies. National health initiatives will be integrated throughout course content.

### **NUR 637 Health Issues for Adults (3)**

This course will present critical concepts the advanced practice nurse can use in delivering evidence-based nursing for the adult population. Using a holistic approach students will apply theory to practice.

### **NUR 642 Chronic and Complex Problems in Older Adults (3)**

This course prepares students with the skills to function as an advanced practice nurse in addressing chronic and complex alterations in health experienced by the older adult. Gerontology concepts will be applied in meeting the biological,

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

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psychosocial, mental, and spiritual needs of the older adult. Students will combine history taking, physical examination techniques, and diagnostic interpretation with problem-solving and clinical strategies.

## **NUR 603 Diagnostic Reasoning and Advanced Assessment Seminar (3) (campus residency; includes 30 clinical hours)**

This laboratory based course uses critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills to perform comprehensive and holistic health assessments in preparation for the advanced practice nurse role. There will be opportunity for students to practice application of theories and skills necessary to perform a comprehensive health history and examination with expansion on screening and diagnostic reasoning.

## **NUR 685 Primary Care of Adults (3) (field-based practicum; 125 preceptor supervised hours)**

Focus is on assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of adult clients within the scope of the advanced practice nurse.

## **NUR 686 Primary Care of Older Adults (3) (field-based practicum; 125 preceptor supervised hours)**

Focus is on assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of older adult clients within the scope of the advanced practice nurse.

## **NUR 680 Clinical Practicum (2) (110-125 hours)**

Preceptored clinical. Reqs: Must be certified NP or physician if circumstances indicate

## **MSN/MBA Concentration**

See the Masters in Business Administration section of this catalog for course descriptions.

## FACULTY

### **Maureen Anthony, RN**

*B.S.N., Wayne State University*

*M.S.N., Wayne State University*

*Ph.D., Wayne State University*

### **Chin Hwa (Gina) Yi Dahlem, RN**

*B.S., Iowa State University*

*B.S.N., Wayne State University*

*M.S.N., F.N.P., University of Michigan*

*Ph.D., University of Michigan*

### **Alvin Kauffman, RN**

*B.S.N., Northern Michigan University*

*M.S.N./M.S.B.A., Madonna University*

### **Linda Klavon, RN**

*B.S.N., University of Detroit Mercy*

*M.S.N., Boston College*

*A.P.R.N., American Nurses Credentialing Center*

### **Cheryl Lauber, RN**

*B.S.N., Michigan State University*

*M.S.N., Michigan State University*

*D.P.A., Western Michigan University*

### **Leonard Matuski, RN**

*B.S., Pharmacy, Ferris State University*

*M.S.N., F.N.P., Vanderbilt University*

### **Anne McKune, RN**

*B.S., Michigan State University*

*M.S.N., Michigan State University*

*G.N.P., American Nursing Association*

### **Cindy Meredith, RN**

*B.S.N., Wayne State University*

*M.S.N., Wayne State University*

*Ed. D., (ABD), Regent University*

### **Sandra Richards, RN**

*B.S., Western Michigan University*

*M.S./M.S.N., A.N.P., University of Michigan*

*F.N.P., Andrews University*

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

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## **Victoria Wickwire, RN**

*B.S.N., Eastern Kentucky University*

*M.S.N., C.N.M., Case Western Reserve University*

*Ph.D., Andrews University*





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SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION

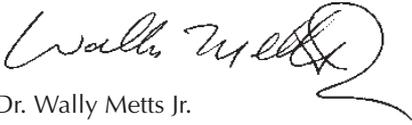


## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Master of Arts in Communication (MCOM) program. As part of the department of communication and media, our mission is to train credible, creative Christian professionals for a world where the mastery of communication skills and technologies is essential.

At the graduate level, we are able to do this through the Master of Arts in Communication that is offered completely and only online. We also offer a Graduate Certificate in Communication. Learn more about the program at our Web site, [www.arbor.edu/communication](http://www.arbor.edu/communication).

Please feel free to call or e-mail us if you have any questions. May the Lord bless you as you continue to explore His design for your life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wally Metts Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Wally Metts Jr.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Arts in Communication is a 36-semester hour program, which brings both theoretical and Christian perspectives to bear on practical problems and provides a foundational understanding of communication through an interdisciplinary foundation and core courses. Additional coursework will be accomplished in a specific concentration, along with electives and a culminating activity (thesis or portfolio) that allows students to design, implement, and evaluate a project which effectively applies an interdisciplinary understanding of communication studies to a real-life situation.

The 16-hour Certificate is suitable for those who want to document their professional growth or expertise for advancement in their profession, or those who simply want to understand communication issues better.

### Goals

- To provide quality online graduate education in communication in a format that minimizes disruption to family or current employment.
- To provide a learning environment that fosters critical thought, scholarship, and praxis, such that the learners who complete the program become transforming communicators and communication specialists within their spheres of influence.
- To establish a forum grounded in biblical foundations for reflection, thought, research, and publication on Christian worldview issues related to communication, thereby influencing the leadership of organizations throughout the world.

### Objectives

The MCOM program will assist students to:

- Integrate the Christian faith with the field of communication through critical thinking, research, writing, and learning from the normative base of a Christian worldview.
- Experience education in the virtual communication environment.
- Explore multi-disciplinary approaches for enhancing culture and human development from a values-based perspective that is grounded in communication skills, knowledge and practice.
- Develop and exchange concepts relating to understanding and improving communication and communication-related activities within organizations and industries around the world.
- Experience innovative learning situations, which will enable students to acquire the knowledge, dispositions, and abilities required of leaders in any organizational setting.

## CONCENTRATIONS

Students will choose from one of the following concentrations; it is possible to choose two concentrations. An individualized option is also available.

### **Communication Leadership**

For those who have or desire leadership responsibilities in either profit or nonprofit organizations, this option helps students develop communication and management responsibilities, including strategic planning and public relations.

### **Communication Ministries**

For leaders and potential leaders in church, para-church, and missions organizations, this option focuses on effective presentation of Christian messages in culturally-sensitive ways.

### **Communication Education**

For individuals interested in teaching at the secondary or post-secondary levels, this option includes coursework in both traditional and distance learning. Students who wish to use any of these courses to qualify for the professional certificate or for renewal of the provisional, professional, or continuing certificate must contact the School of Education certification officer to confirm a planned program prior to enrolling in the course.

### **Professional Writing**

For both writers and editors, this option explores writing as vocation and includes courses in rhetoric and writing for print, broadcast, and electronic media.

### **New Media**

For individuals who expect to develop or manage interactive technologies, this option focuses on interactive computer-mediated communication by examining research, trends and production issues.

## ADMISSIONS

### **MCOM Applicants must have:**

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- A 3.0 GPA for at least the last two years of the bachelor's degree;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended;
- Two recommendations from professional/academic individuals;
- One recommendation from a member of the clergy in your faith community;
- Recent writing sample (a published magazine, newspaper, or journal article; an undergraduate or graduate research paper; or a work-related proposal);

- Personal Goals Statement of two pages or less, in which you briefly describe your personal or professional goals as they relate to graduate studies in communication at a Christian university;
- Online Computer Literacy Survey (this assesses your current computer skills and the hardware/software configurations necessary for our online program);
- A completed application; and
- Current application fee.

## **Graduate Certificate in Communication applicants must have:**

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- A 3.0 GPA for at least the last two years of the bachelor's degree;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended;
- Two recommendations from professional/academic individuals;
- One recommendation from a member of the clergy in your faith community;
- Recent writing sample (a published magazine, newspaper, or journal article; an undergraduate or graduate research paper; or a work-related proposal);
- Online Computer Literacy Survey (this assesses your current computer skills and the hardware/software configurations necessary for our online program);
- A completed application; and
- Current application fee.

Note: This program requires access to a high-speed internet connection.

Please see our Web site, [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

## **POLICIES**

### **Registration**

Students are responsible for registering online and ordering text books online. A course plan is developed in conjunction with an academic advisor.

### **Audits**

Students may audit up to two classes in the MCOM program. No credit is earned.

### **Independent study**

Subject to approval by their academic advisor and the sponsoring faculty member, students may take up to two independent studies.

### **Assessment**

As part of an ongoing assessment program, students will complete evaluations for each course and provide representative work and a self-assessment to an online portfolio.

## Spiritual Development

The University is committed to supporting spiritual development for all students, including graduate students in both traditional and online programs. Department faculty have experience and training in pastoral care and spiritual direction. Students may request one of them to pray for them on a regular basis and be available as a mentor in spiritual formation.

## CURRICULUM

The Graduate Certificate in Communication requires the following courses:

COM 502 (3) Graduate Seminar

COM 504 (3) Communication Theory and Worldview

Three courses (9 hours) in any one concentration.

COM 598 (1) Case Study

The Master of Arts in Communication requires:

**Foundations courses:** 9 semester credit hours

**Core courses:** 9 semester credit hours

**Concentration:** 9 semester credit hours

**Portfolio/Thesis:** 4-6 semester credit hours

**Electives to total 36 semester hours:** courses/ind. studies/special topics

**Required for graduation:** 36 semester credit hours

## FOUNDATIONS COURSES

### COM 060 Orientation to Online Learning (no credit)

Required prior to enrollment in any graduate communication courses. Students with prior experience in online learning may request a waiver.

### COM 502 Graduate Seminar (3)

Introduces students to expectations and resources for graduate study. Includes orientation to research as well as program specific library resources. Must be taken before or concurrent with any other first course.

### COM 504 Communication Theory and Worldview (3)

An overview of theoretical frameworks related to various contexts of communication. Theology and ethics of communication are examined in light of a Christian worldview. *Prerequisite:* COM 502.

### COM 606 Research Methods in Communication (3)

Students develop skills in designing, interpreting, and evaluating research designs by examining and applying both quantitative and qualitative research methods. A thesis or portfolio proposal is prepared. *Prerequisites:* COM 502, 504 and at least 15 hours in the program.

## CORE Courses (choose 3)

### **COM 601 Interpersonal Communication (3)**

An examination of interpersonal study and analysis of the relationships between interpersonal communication and group, family, gender, and intrapersonal processes. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

### **COM 603 Group and Public Communication (3)**

Examines how personal and professional communication styles impact group dynamics, conflict, team building, leadership and public presentations. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

### **COM 605 Mass Communication, Culture and Technology (3)**

Examines the challenges of and opportunities for living faithfully in mediated societies as new media technologies create new ways to serve people and to oppress them. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

### **COM 607 Communication Ethics & Moral Reasoning (3)**

Case study approach to problems and issues that confront communicators in contemporary culture. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

### **COM 609 Intercultural Communication (3)**

An analysis of intercultural communication competence, examining paralinguistic and nonverbal influences in cross cultural contexts. Theological impacts will be considered. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

## CONCENTRATIONS

### **Communication Leadership**

#### **COM 510 Communication Leadership (3)**

Explores effective communication styles of effective leaders through an analysis of research and practice. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in fall of odd academic years).

#### **COM 610 Advertising and Public Relations (3)**

Considers current research and practice in advertising and public relations. Traditional and nontraditional techniques are explored. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in spring of odd academic years).

#### **COM 612 Conflict Resolution (3)**

Current theories of conflict resolution, with a special emphasis on biblical peacemaking. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in summer of odd academic years).

## Communication Education

### **EDU 560 Instructional Technology (3)**

Instructional Technology has been defined as “the theory and practice of the design, development, utilization, evaluation, and management of the processes and resources for human learning.” The field of Instructional Technology is concerned with the application of technology throughout the educational process. The course is an introduction to the field and theory of Instructional Technology. The course explores the multiple roles of technology in instruction and management of the learning process, with special emphasis on K-12 education. This course assumes the student has minimum competency in technology. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

### **COM 620 Assessing and Teaching Communication Arts (3)**

Examines teaching and assessing communication competencies, in interpersonal, small group, public, intercultural and mass media contexts. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

### **COM 622 Online Pedagogy (3)**

A study of best practices in online communication education. Includes emerging technologies such as social book marking and collaborative environments. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

## Communication Ministries

### **COM 530 The Church in Cyberspace (3)**

Examines the religious uses of the Internet, with a focus on creating and sustaining community and expanding cultural influence in postmodern cultures. *Prerequisite: COM 502.*

### **COM 630 Communication in Christian Ministries (3)**

Explores effective communication techniques from a pastoral perspective, with applications for staff and volunteers. Includes speaking, writing and listening. *Prerequisite: COM 502. (Offered in summer of even academic years).*

### **COM 632 Communicating Change: Spiritual Formation and Renewal (3)**

Examines spiritual formation as transformation, and develops strategies for helping others understand and apply its principles. *Prerequisite: COM 502. (Offered in spring of even academic years).*

## Professional Writing

### **COM 540 Writing As Vocation (3)**

Explores professional opportunities in writing. Issues of genre, style, voice and publication are considered. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in spring of even academic years).

### **COM 640 Writing and Reporting (3)**

Covers best practices for writing about current events and people. Focuses on gathering and organizing information in ethical and effective ways. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in summer of even academic years).

### **COM 642 Editing and Publishing (3)**

Examines careers in editing, and the processes between the writer and the marketplace. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in fall of even academic years).

## New Media

### **COM 550 Computer Mediated Communication (3)**

Examines the ways CMC affects the effectiveness of human interaction. Includes a discussion of current strategies and technologies. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in summer of odd academic years).

### **COM 650 Visual Communication (3)**

Explores aesthetics and the implications for web publishing and design. Principles can be applied in print contexts. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in fall of odd academic years).

### **COM 652 Web Publishing (3)**

Theory and practice in creating, managing and publishing on the internet. *Prerequisite: COM 502.* (Offered in spring of odd academic years).

## Case Study

### **COM 598 Case Study (1)**

Upon completion of 12 hours or more, students in the certificate program enroll for this one hour project. The case study applies concepts from their concentration to a professional problem or opportunity. (For certificate only; offered each semester).

## Portfolio or Thesis

### **COM 692 Communication Research Methods II (2)**

The student develops a proposal for the final project, including a statement of the problem, a review of literature, and a methodology. Must meet department criteria regarding length, number of sources, etc. *Prerequisite: COM 606.*

### **COM 698 Portfolio (2)**

The student will complete portfolio project begun and approved in COM 692. A portfolio resolves a communication problem through the creation of a stand-alone project rooted in the application of communication theory and practice. May be repeated once. *Prerequisite: COM 692.*

### **COM 699 Thesis (2)**

The student will complete a thesis project begun and approved in COM 692. A thesis answers a research question through the collection of data and the analysis and application of communication literature and theory. May be repeated once. Enrollment by permission only. *Prerequisite: COM 692.*

## Electives and Options

### **COM 570 Special Topics (1-3)**

Offered each year based on interest and enrollment.

### **COM 670 Special Topics (1-3)**

Offered each year based on interest and enrollment.

### **COM 590 Independent Study (1-3)**

Offered each semester.

### **COM 690 Independent Study (1-3)**

Offered each semester.

## FACULTY

### **Wally Metts**

*B.A., University of Tennessee- Chattanooga*

*M.S., University of Tennessee-Knoxville*

*Ph.D., Michigan State University*

### **Robert Woods**

*B.A., University of New Mexico*

*J.D., Regent University*

*M.A., (Communication) Regent University*

*M.A., (Counseling) Regent University*

*M.A., (Education) Regent University*

*Ph.D., Regent University*

### **Paul Patton**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University*

*M.Ed., Wayne State University*

*M.R.E., Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary*

*M.A., Regent University*

*Ph.D., Regent University*

## ADJUNCT FACULTY

### **Diane M. Badzinski Proctor**

*B.A., St. Cloud State University*

*M.A., University of California- Santa Barbara*

*Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison*

### **Tom Ball**

*A.B., University of Miami*

*M.Ed., University of Florida*

*Ed.D., University of Florida*

*D.Min. Graduate Theological Foundation*

### **Ron Bearden**

*B.S., Spring Hill College*

*M.Div., Asbury Seminary*

*M.Th., Union Theological Seminary*

*Ph.D., Regent University*

### **Debra Buenting**

*B.A., University of Texas at Arlington*

*M.A., Regent University*

**Stephanie Davis**

*B.A., Western Michigan University*

*M.S., University of Illinois*

**Jennifer Letherer**

*B.A., Siena Heights University*

*M.F.A., Boston University*

**Quentin Schultze**

*M.A., University of Illinois*

*Ph.D., University of Illinois*





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SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS IN  
SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND LEADERSHIP



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation and Leadership program (MSFL). How delightful that you are considering graduate courses in our program!

Expect to be stretched, blessed, and transformed as we embark on this journey together. We pledge that our courses will shape your life as well as your mind.

Our curriculum was forged in intimate dialogue with Richard Foster, whose involvement continues today. We are also grateful for our ongoing relationships with Dallas Willard, Tony Campolo, Robert Mulholland, and other leading figures in the contemporary spiritual formation movement.

As director, I am convinced we offer the most unique and rewarding spiritual formation program available today anywhere. We cannot begin to express the depth of spiritual transformation that God's Spirit is breathing through the program. It may sound odd, but spiritual growth and meaningful community are both taking place through a flexible delivery system that is mostly online.

We look forward to helping you pursue the One who is pursuing you.

Peace of Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'WCH', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Wil Hernandez

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

With interest in spiritual formation increasing over the last twenty years among Protestants, Evangelicals have expanded the concept of discipleship to include an openness toward deeper transformation into the likeness of Christ. The MSFL program provides instruction for pastors, laypersons, and others intent on their own development and fostering the skills to lead others in formation.

The program follows a hybrid format (part online, part face-to-face). The program is delivered through cohort groups of students, who progress through the degree requirements sequentially.

It's a program designed to fit into your life, but will require significant time in your weekly schedule. We say this unapologetically because anything worth doing usually requires prioritizing our time. Time spent with God is no exception.

### **Mission Statement**

The Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation and Leadership (MSFL) at Spring Arbor University is comprised of a community of graduate learners devoted to human flourishing under the reign of the Triune God through the study and application of spiritual formation and leadership concepts within the ecumenical Christian tradition for personal transformation into the likeness of Christ and the communal transformation of the global Church.

### **Goals**

- Provide a biblical, theological, and historical framework for understanding spiritual formation and leadership development within a global context
- Foster disciplined habits and skills that promote godly character and effective leadership with the aim to renew the Church, engage the culture and transform society
- Encourage the formation into a Christ centered way of life, with its habits and virtues

### **Objectives**

*At the end of this program our students will be able to:*

#### ***Knowledge***

- Understand the biblical foundations for Christian Spirituality
- Comprehend the theological foundations for Christian Spirituality
- Appreciate the historical traditions of Christian Spirituality

## **Skills**

### *(Academic)*

- Think critically and globally
- Write and research at a high graduate level
- Communicate Christian spiritual concepts clearly

### *(Leadership)*

- Lead others in private and corporate spiritual practices
- Facilitate small groups and retreats
- Deliver passionate homilies and presentations

### *(Formational)*

- Interpret scripture transformationally
- Critically practice disciplines that encourage personal and communal spiritual health

## **Habits**

- Cultivate the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control
- Demonstrate and grow in a life of prudence, fortitude, justice, temperance, faith, hope, and charity

## **Values**

- Commitment to a high Christology within orthodox Christian theology
- Academic rigor and excellence
- Practical and experiential at all levels of instruction
- Rooted in the ancient Christian tradition
- Ecumenical and global in scope from within a Wesleyan orientation
- Relational by utilizing a cohort model throughout the program

## **Key Definitions**

*Spiritual* – By spiritual we mean primarily Christian spirituality. Within the phrase “spiritual formation” the term *spiritual* designates two realities. First and primarily, *spiritual* designates the Spirit of Christ who is the primary agent of formation. Second, *spiritual* designates the reality of human life. As the French Jesuit, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin once said “we are not human beings having a spiritual experience, but spiritual beings having a human experience.” What is formed is not a disembodied aspect of a person, as if the human person was a dichotomy of body and soul. We believe that a human

person is a body/soul unity and thus the whole of our existence, both physical and mental, is *spiritual*.

*Spiritual Formation* - By the phrase *spiritual formation* we mean primarily that the Spirit of Christ is transforming his people. To experience *spiritual formation* is to live in relation with the Triune God within the various relations of one human to another. We also believe God invites to actively partner with God in the *spiritual formation* of his church and world. We participate in and help lead others in *spiritual formation* by tilling the ground for God's gracious work of transformation. Tilling the ground includes but is not limited to removing any obstruction in our lives and communities that hinders the work of God as well as practicing and encouraging others to practice the various Christian disciplines encouraged in the Christian Scriptures and the Christian tradition.

## Program Features & Requirements

- Online and face-to-face learning
- Four face-to-face courses taken during the Summer term. These courses have an additional course fee. Personal travel expenses are not included in the tuition or fee. The first two face-to-face courses are taught back-to-back in Guatemala over 10 days and during the second year the last two face-to-face courses are taught back-to-back at our MICHINDOH Campus Conference Center in Michigan over 10 days.
- Each course emphasizes and practices experiential learning
- Cohort group model for community and small group formation
- Each student is required to be in a mentor relationship with someone in leadership at their Church.

MSFL degree:

12 courses x 3 credits = 36 credits

(8 online courses + 4 face-to-face courses)

## ADMISSIONS

*Church Criteria - Applicants must have:*

- Been resident at a local church for at least 6 months prior to enrolling in the program;
- The support from someone in their local congregation in a leadership position (minister, elder, bishop, etc.) who will meet with the student once a semester to review how the student is progressing through the program over two years. This person should send a recommendation letter supporting the applicant's desire to pursue this degree and show a willingness to walk with the student through this program;

- A recommendation from above-mentioned leader in the applicant's local congregation (form can be received from an admission's specialist); and
- Two years experience in ministry (professionally or volunteer)

## *Academic Criteria - Applicants must have:*

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- A 3.0 GPA for at least the last two years of the bachelor's degree;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended;
- Two recommendations from professional/academic individuals;
- Submission of Autobiographical Question form (available online);
- Online Computer Literacy Survey (this assesses your current computer skills and the hardware/software configurations necessary for our online program); and
- A completed application.

Please see [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

## CURRICULUM

### **Two Year Schedule Starting in Fall**

#### **FALL TERM (Year 1)**

- SFL 600 Christian Spirituality (3)
- SFL 602 Disciplines of the Spirit (3)

#### **SPRING TERM (Year 1)**

- SFL 612 Formational Theology (3)
- SFL 623 Spiritual Wisdom of the Hebrew Scriptures (3)

#### **INTENSIVE SUMMER TERM (Year 1)**

- SFL 671 Intensive Seminar I: Social Justice & Christian Spirituality (3) [5 days]
- SFL 672 Intensive Seminar II: World Christian Spirituality (3) [5 days]

*Note: SFL 671 & 672 will run concurrently for 10 days in the summer with a travel day at the beginning and at the end. These courses will take place in Guatemala.*

#### **FALL TERM (Year 2)**

- SFL 624 Jesus Christ and New Testament Spirituality (3)
- SFL 604 History of Christian Spirituality (3)

## **SPRING TERM (Year 2)**

SFL 637 Spiritual Directing and Ignatian Spirituality (3)

SFL 640 Formational Ministry in the Church (3)

## **INTENSIVE SUMMER TERM (Year 2)**

SFL 673 Intensive Seminar III: Special Topic in Christian Spirituality (3) [5 days]

SFL 674 Intensive Seminar IV: Special Topic in Christian Spirituality (3) [5 days]

*Note: SFL 673 & 674 will run concurrently for 10 days in the summer with a travel day at the beginning and at the end. These courses will take place in Michigan at the Michindoh Conference Center.*

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **SFL 600 Introduction to Christian Spirituality (3)**

This course explores the biblical and theological aspects of Christian formation. Students examine the goal and nature of formation, as well as the process of holistic spiritual transformation.

### **SFL 602 Disciplines of the Spirit (3)**

This course is an exploration into the nature, dynamics and exercise of classic spiritual disciplines. Spiritual disciplines are a significant means by which we connect to God. Emphasis is upon the practice of various spiritual disciplines such as solitude and silence, listening and guidance, prayer and intercession, study and meditation, repentance and confession, fasting and worship, fellowship and simplicity, service and witness.

### **SFL 604 History of Christian Spirituality (3)**

This course introduces students to the history, traditions, and leaders of the Christian church, which grants a richer understanding of what it means to participate in the Body of Christ. Students are exposed to the Patristic, Medieval, Reformation, and Enlightenment periods. This course helps students grow into a greater fullness of Christian maturity and gives them a renewed appreciation for the way the church's past shapes the church's present and future.

### **SFL 612 Formational Theology (3)**

This course is designed to integrate traditional themes in systematic theology with spiritual formation. Emphasis is given to the study of Christology, Pneumatology, Theological Anthropology, and Ecclesiology. Experiential components are integrated into the course to help strengthen students' love for God and neighbor.

## **SFL 623 Spiritual Wisdom in the Hebrew Scriptures (3)**

This course explores the dynamics and power of the Hebrew Scriptures for personal and communal transformation. Special emphasis is given to the wisdom literature in the Hebrew Scriptures. A key aspect of this course is the understanding and development of biblical hermeneutical principles and practices that focus not only on the biblical text's content but also on its potential effect(s) as part of the church's Scripture. Various classical and contemporary methods of contemplative reading of Scripture are explored. This course teaches students to engage the Hebrew Scriptures in ways that grasp and change a community's life.

## **SFL 624 Jesus Christ and New Testament Spirituality (3)**

This course examines the dynamics and power of the New Testament for personal and communal transformation. Special emphasis is given to the life and teaching of Jesus Christ and Paul's theological reflection on the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. In addition to learning about life with God from Scripture, competence in listening to the living Word within the text is gained. This course teaches students to engage the New Testament in ways that grasp and change a community's life.

## **SFL 637 Spiritual Directing and Ignatian Spirituality (3)**

This course explores the meanings, models, and practices of the ministry of spiritual direction. Various historical and current Christian traditions of spiritual direction are surveyed. Particular attention is given to certain Ignatian spiritual practices that equip students to come alongside others in their spiritual growth. This course includes experiential components in this valuable ministry of guiding people through their life with God.

## **SFL 640 Formational Ministry in the Church (3)**

This course equips students with various practical skills that encourage the Spirit's influence in the various ministries of the church. Experiential components of this class will include organizing and leading a church retreat. Other areas that are covered are baptism, confession, the Lord's Supper, preaching, small group discipleship, as well as other ministries. This class will help students understand how they can better partner with God in bringing about communal transformation.

## **SFL 671 Intensive Seminar I: Social Justice and Christian Spirituality (3)**

This course explores the connection between being formed into the likeness of Jesus Christ and being involved in intentional justice work. Specific focus is on personal and communal formation in relation to those who Jesus called "the least of these." This course is taught in an intensive face-to-face format in Antigua, Guatemala, where students experience the serious needs for

Biblical justice in the world, in the context of Latin America. Residency at the designated site is mandatory. This course is taught in conjunction with SFL 672.

### **SFL 672 Intensive Seminar II: World Christian Spirituality (3)**

This course explores Christian Spirituality in the two-thirds world. Special emphasis is on Protestant and Catholic spiritualities, including a focus on Pentecostal spirituality. The integration of indigenous spirituality is also explored. This course is taught in an intensive face-to-face format in Antigua, Guatemala, where students learn from local spiritual leaders and communities. Residency at the designated site is mandatory. This course is taught in conjunction with SFL 671.

### **SFL 673 Intensive Seminar III: Special Topic in Christian Spirituality (3)**

This course gives the student access to nationally known persons and SAU faculty in the area of spiritual formation and leadership. Representatives of the Christian tradition will be sought over a two-year cycle. The intensive seminar will consist of a mixture of lecture, small group discussion, personal examination and reflection, various spiritual exercises, practical experiences in spiritual formation, as well as reading and writing assignments. Residency at the designated site is mandatory. This course is taught in an intensive face-to-face format in conjunction with SFL 674.

### **SFL 674 Intensive Seminar IV: Special Topic in Christian Spirituality (3)**

This course will explore a specific aspect of Christian spirituality. Topics will vary year to year. It will consist of a mixture of lecture, small group discussion, personal examination and reflection, various spiritual exercises, practical experiences in spiritual formation, as well as reading and writing assignments. Residency at the designated site is mandatory. This course is taught in an intensive face-to-face format in conjunction with SFL 673.

## FACULTY

### **Kenneth W. Brewer**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University  
M.Div., Asbury Theological Seminary  
Th. M., Princeton Theological Seminary  
M. Phil., Drew University  
Ph. D., Drew University*

### **Richard E. Cornell**

*B.A., Ohio University  
M.Div., Asbury Theological Seminary*

### **Mary Albert Darling**

*B.A., Spring Arbor University  
M.A., Western Michigan University*

### **Valerie E. Hess**

*B.A., Metropolitan State College  
M.A., Valparaiso University*

### **Wil Hernandez**

*Diploma, Alliance Biblical Seminary  
Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary  
Ph.D., Fuller Theological Seminary*

### **Thomas J. Holsinger-Friesen**

*B.A., Oral Roberts University  
B.S., Oral Roberts University  
M.Div, Asbury Theological Seminary  
M.A., Asbury Theological Seminary  
Ph.D., University of Aberdeen*

### **Robert Moore-Jumonville**

*B.A., Seattle Pacific University  
M. Div., Princeton Theological Seminary  
Ph. D. University of Iowa*

### **Brian Lugioyo**

*B.A., Westmont College  
M.A., Fuller Theological Seminary  
Ph.D., University of Aberdeen*

**Paul Nemecek**

*Director of Guatemala Programs  
B.A., Spring Arbor University  
M.A., Michigan State University*

**INTENSIVE SEMINAR FACULTY PRESENTERS**

**Richard J. Foster (2007)**

**Distinguished University Professor of Spiritual Formation**

*B.A., George Fox College  
D. Th., P. Fuller Theological Seminary*

**Dallas Willard (2008)**

**Professor of Philosophy,  
University of Southern California**

*B.A., William Jewell College  
B.A., Baylor University  
Ph. D., University of Wisconsin*

**Tony Campolo (2009)**

**Professor Emeritus of Sociology,  
Eastern University**

*B.A., Eastern University  
Ph.D., Temple University*

**Robert Mulholland Jr. (2011)**

**Professor Emeritus of New Testament Studies,  
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SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION  
MASTER OF ARTS IN READING  
MASTER OF SPECIAL EDUCATION



## FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to the School of Education!

Our graduate programs focus around the professional development needs and interests of K-12 teachers. As educators, you serve an increasingly diverse student population, and it is our intention that our graduate programs will provide a strong foundation from which to develop and enhance your professional skills and strategies to better serve all of your students.

Graduates identify the rich learning opportunities as a highlight of the School of Education graduate programs. They also cite our commitment to taking a personal interest in each of our students – even after graduation.

We are committed to maintaining a program of excellence and highest quality. To that end, we are in a continual process of creating and updating courses and programs, so that we can provide the most robust educational and professional development opportunities possible. This means that you can expect to experience a challenging and rigorous graduate experience within the context of integrating faith and learning.

Our program begins with a foundation in principles of academic and educational integrity and faith and ends with challenging yet practical research to enhance your success in learning. All graduate courses provide contemporary perspectives and ideas to support the kind of educational quality that is necessary for today's classrooms.

Thank you for choosing the School of Education. I encourage you to experience every class to the fullest. Get involved, participate, and learn so that your educational success becomes your own success.



Dr. Linda Sherrill

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

### Purpose

Graduate programs in education exist to carry out the educational mission of Spring Arbor University, promoting scholarship, integrity, the Christian ethic, enrichment of the liberal arts experience and a life of meaningful service in educational endeavors for the participants. The programs are planned to promote collaboration among education professionals and their communities and to meet the needs of candidates who are interested in professional growth and advancement in elementary, secondary, or special education.

### Philosophy

Graduate education programs stress integrity, respect for self and others, disciplined judgment, critical thinking, professional skills, and a Christian attitude. We seek to develop educators who demonstrate a high level of academic ability and display the effective interpersonal, collaborative, motivational, instructional and leadership skills required for the successful education professional. Our program balances practical applications with theory and research. Students can develop the attitudes and skills necessary to improve their performance in current positions or to move into new career positions.

### Graduate Programs in the School of Education

Graduate Program and Course Goals are based on the conceptual framework of the effective teaching model of the School of Education of Spring Arbor University. The School of Education's Effective Teaching Model contains six integrated elements centered on the integration of faith and learning. The elements are designed to enhance four overarching professional goals, as illustrated in the logo below.



The domains of the knowledge base used for this model are as follows:

## **Content Knowledge**

SOE graduate students acquire advanced content knowledge in educational practice through an MAE in Instruction and Curriculum or an MA in Reading or an MSE in Learning Disabilities. MAE students can also enhance their liberal arts content knowledge in literature, history, or environmental science via special educational electives in those areas. Students in all SOE graduate programs examine and strengthen the basis for their personal and professional worldview and think critically to respond to critical issues in regular and special education, including ethical dilemmas and conflicting worldviews.

## **Management and Organization**

SOE graduate students develop effective management and organization skills, including an understanding of individual and group motivation and behavior to establish communities of learners, positive social interactions, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation in the learner.

## **Pedagogy**

Graduate educators demonstrate methods of instruction that apply various theories of learning and human growth and development to the educational context and that incorporate appropriate use of instructional technologies in the classroom. Graduate students in these programs create meaningful instruction based on knowledge of the subject matter, the prior knowledge and experiences of the students, the values of the community and curriculum goals of the school district. Students also learn to use multiple technologies to enhance learning.

## **Collaboration with Stakeholders**

The primary focus of this domain is involving families and other stakeholders in the instructional process. SOE graduate students develop mutually beneficial relationships with students, families and others in the learning community to enhance student achievement. The use of community and home resources to enhance school programs is promoted and encouraged. Students are expected to interact effectively with colleagues, families, students, administrators, counselors, support personnel, and other constituencies to benefit students and advance their own professional development. For many educational professionals, collaboration extends to professional organizations and legislative actions as well.

## **Diversity**

Graduate educators understand how students differ in their approaches to learning and create instructional opportunities that are adapted to diverse populations of learners. Graduate students understand that culture, language, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, cognitive and physical abilities, and socioeconomic status impact learning and development in important ways. Inextricably connected to the issue of diversity is the matter of the exceptional

# MASTER'S IN EDUCATION/READING/SPECIAL EDUCATION

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child. The exceptional child is an inclusive term that refers to children with learning and/or behavior problems, children with physical disabilities, and children who are intellectually gifted. Students learn about issues of equity and how to develop an inclusive environment. Diversity in a Global Society is a special focus of graduate education at SAU.

## Assessment

Today's educators face a difficult tension: they must constantly reconsider the wisdom of traditional practice while giving fair consideration to new approaches. All learners need to have a clear understanding of how they will be assessed and then be shown models of excellence and rubrics that clarify how assessment will be conducted. Changing the traditional teacher-student interaction pattern with regard to the issue of assessment is no small task. SOE graduate students synthesize elements of traditional and new assessment techniques into coherent effective assessment strategies that advance the continuous intellectual, social, and physical development of the learner. Assessment includes student assessment and self-assessment. An emphasis on uses of assessment data in K-12 schools assists educators in evaluating instruction and incorporating new pedagogies to address identified needs.

## PROGRAMS OF STUDY

These programs of study are available for those desiring graduate study in education:

- **MAE in Curriculum and Instruction** is designed for those who wish to obtain a master's degree, complete an 18-hour planned program for the Michigan Professional Certificate, meet recertification requirements, or broaden or refresh their knowledge in areas of professional education. Educators completing this degree gain the knowledge and skills to be research-based advocacy leaders in K-12 education. The program is offered both on-line and face-to-face at five sites.
- **The MA in Reading** leads to a master's degree and the Reading Specialist (BR) endorsement for certified teachers who complete the program and pass the required Michigan Test of Teacher Competency (MTTC) in Reading. Teachers wishing to complete their 18-hour planned program with reading coursework for the Michigan Professional Certificate or to meet recertification requirements may also choose courses from this program. This degree provides educators with the knowledge and skills to plan, lead and support K-12 literacy initiatives. This program is offered completely on-line.

## **Objectives of the Master of Arts in Education (MAE) and Master of Arts in Reading (MAR) programs**

- To enhance the professional knowledge and skills of educators.
- To enable participants to apply analytic, research, and advocacy skills to the solution of current problems faced by educators.
- To provide educators with the opportunity to develop a sound basis for dealing with questions of ethics and values.
- To provide educators with the opportunity to refresh and expand their liberal arts experiences.
- To provide educators with the opportunity to acquire, refresh or expand their knowledge of the role of research in education.
- To provide educators with the opportunity to develop the leadership skills necessary for developing collaboration among the constituencies in the local community and with state and national education professionals.
- To equip educators to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse student population.
- To prepare educators for new professional service and leadership roles.

## **MSE in Learning Disabilities**

This special education (MSE) concentration is designed for educators who have an undergraduate endorsement in learning disabilities and wish to complete a graduate degree in this field to further enhance their abilities to serve this student population and their families.

## **Objectives of the Master of Special Education (MSE) program**

- To enhance the professional knowledge and skills of special educators
- To enable the participants to apply analytic and research skills to the solution of current problems faced by special educators
- To provide special educators with the opportunity to examine and/or strengthen a sound basis for dealing with questions of ethics and values
- To provide special educators with the opportunity to acquire, refresh or expand their knowledge of the role of research in education
- To provide educators with the opportunity to acquire the leadership, classroom management, technological, and instructional skills necessary to meet the increasing demands of exceptional students
- To train special educators in assessment and methods to provide intervention for students struggling in reading and other subject areas

**Non-degree program** This option is designed for teachers who wish to meet requirements for the professional certificate, for teachers needing certificate renewal, or for teachers who wish to broaden or enrich their academic background but do not wish to pursue a degree program. This option also serves individuals who are not certified teachers but who wish to explore their interest in specific educational focuses from the degree programs above.

## **Professional Certificate and Planned Programs**

All MAE courses in Curriculum and Instruction, all MA in Reading courses, all MSE courses and six courses in the MAC-School Guidance Counseling program courses are approved for the 18-Hour Planned Program for certificate renewal and for advancing to the Professional Certificate.

In compliance with PA 32, the Michigan Department of Education requires an advanced reading course as a requirement for the Professional Certificate. For those holding a Michigan elementary certificate, EDU 624 meets this requirement. For those holding a Michigan secondary certificate, EDU 625 meets this requirement.

## **Planned Program Requirements**

An 18-Hour Planned Program is one in which the program is approved and accepted by one teacher prep institution. No more than six (6) pre-approved credits from an outside institution may be used toward the 18-Hour Planned Program at SAU. Within the approved programs listed above, students may complete a portion of the core or elective classes to satisfy the 18-Hour Planned Program requirement for the Professional Certificate as indicated. Students in the MAC – School Guidance Counseling program should contact their MAC advisor or the Certification Officer in the School of Education to be advised regarding the six specific courses within this program that are approved toward the 18-Hour Planned Program. Courses from any approved Planned Program must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” to be accepted as part of the 18-Hour Planned Program. The student must contact the Certification Officer to initiate the process to renew the Provisional Certificate and to advance to the Professional Certificate.

## **Endorsements**

Teachers seeking additional endorsements in other content areas such as early childhood, special education learning disabilities, elementary education, or specialty programs in the arts and sciences may do so through a planned program of coursework at the bachelor's level arranged with the Certification Officer prior to enrollment in any course. Endorsements can only be added to valid Michigan teaching certificates. Students holding certificates from other states must work with their certifying institution.

## **Reading (BR) Endorsement**

Teachers who complete the MA in Reading as described above and pass the MTTC test for the reading specialist endorsement (#92) as required by the Michigan Department of Education can add the BR endorsement to their teaching certificate.

## **Enrichment**

Students who wish to take occasional courses for enrichment or interest should make initial contact with the Certification Officer. Such coursework does not count towards a master's degree at Spring Arbor University unless the student is formally admitted to the graduate program in education.

**Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) with an emphasis in school counseling (K-12)** program (available through the School of Graduate and Professional Studies in conjunction with the School of Education) is designed for students who wish to obtain a master's degree with a concentration in school guidance counseling for the purpose of obtaining a School Counseling License (SCL) from the State of Michigan. See the MAC section of this catalog for more information.

## **Preparation for Coursework for Master of Arts in Education (MAE) and Master of Arts in Reading (MAR)**

**EDU 060 Orientation to Online Learning (no fee, no credit)** This course is recommended prior to enrollment in on-line graduate education courses. Students with prior experience in online learning may choose to waive this course. EDU 060 is offered in the two weeks prior to each semester. Students desiring more information about on-line learning and practice with the elements of Blackboard should register for this course, which can be repeated if students desire additional support.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

### **EDU 060 Orientation to Online Learning (0)**

Some of the topics covered include an introduction and overview of online learning, expectations, and tools that online students encounter. This course explores SAUonline's learning management system (LMS), principles of online learning, including student expectations, characteristics related to successfully online learning, and an overview of SAUonline courses – their structure, typical learning activities and interactions. The course seeks to introduce online MAE students to SAU's mission and values, and the implications of those values for academic integrity, scholarly inquiry, and collegial behaviors and practices of online students.

## MAE in Curriculum and Instruction

The **MAE in Curriculum and Instruction** offers advanced development for the professional educator in all domains of the School of Education's conceptual framework and the Michigan Professional Standards for Teaching standards. Today's educators face increasingly stringent student and professional assessments. The MAE in Curriculum and Instruction helps teachers develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to become educational leaders in their schools, communities, and state and national arenas. Designed for certified teachers who wish to obtain a master's degree, this degree is offered face-to-face at five MI sites and also on-line.

The required curriculum includes each of the following core courses:

- EDU 503 Elements of Successful Teaching (3)
- EDU 530 Values, Ethics and Worldview (3)
- EDU 538 Diversity in a Global Society (3)
- EDU 560 Instructional Technology (3)
- EDU 578 Educational Assessment (3)
- EDU 594 Teaching Discouraged Learners/Troubled Youth (3)
- EDU 637 Introduction to Educational Research (3)
- EDU 639 Critical Issues and Advocacy (3)
- EDU 652 Action Research Design (3) Prerequisite: EDU 637
- EDU 654 Conducting and Reporting Action Research (3) Prerequisite: 652

AND six (6) elective hours consisting of selected graduate education courses offered through Spring Arbor University, as well as Spring Arbor University graduate education credit EDU 517 workshops (Please see information about allowable Workshop Credit.)

TOTAL REQUIRED COURSE HOURS: 36

## MA in Reading with a Reading Specialist (BR) Endorsement

The **MA in Reading** provides the knowledge and skill set to earn the Reading Specialist (BR) endorsement for certified teachers who complete the program and pass the required Michigan Test of Teacher Competency (MTTC) in Reading. Standards initiatives at the state and national level have increased the need for literacy leaders in K-12 education. This program prepares teachers to assume those roles to enhance both the profession and student achievement. Designed for certified teachers who wish to obtain a master's degree and add a BR (Reading Specialist) endorsement, this degree is offered completely on-line via eight-week courses.

# MASTER'S IN EDUCATION/READING/SPECIAL EDUCATION

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The curriculum includes the following required courses:

- EDU 530 Values, Ethics, and Worldview (3 credits)
- EDU 624 Elementary Reading (3 credits)
- RDG 628 Teaching Writing (3 credits)
- RDG 656 English Language Learners (3 credits)
- RDG 678 Children and Young Adult Literature (3 credits)
- RDG 679 Adolescent Literacy (3 credits)
- RDG 680 Content Area Literacies (3 credits)
- RDG 682 History and Psychology of Reading (3 credits)
- RDG 684 Program Design and Analysis (3 credits)
- RDG 689 Literacy Leadership (3 credits)
- RDG 692 Research Methods and Design (3 credits)  
*Prerequisite: all previous RDG courses*
- RDG 694 Reading Research Practicum (3 credits) *Prerequisite: RDG 692*

TOTAL REQUIRED COURSE HOURS: 36

## MASTER OF SPECIAL EDUCATION IN LEARNING DISABILITIES

**The MSE in Learning Disabilities** is designed for teachers who have an undergraduate endorsement in learning disabilities and wish to complete a graduate degree in this field. Certified teachers who wish to add the learning disabilities endorsement take additional courses prior to entering the MSE program. This program prepares K-12 teachers with the knowledge and skills to effectively address student learning needs and collaborate with general education colleagues across the curriculum to enhance student achievement and professional competencies.

The required curriculum includes each of the following core courses:

- EDU 530 Values, Ethics, and Worldview (3)
- SED 520 Elementary Special Education Methods (3)
- SED 521 Secondary Special Education Methods (3)
- SED 522 Communication Skills (3)
- SED 523 Assessment of Learning Disabilities (3)
- SED 526 Consultation Models for LD Students (3)
- SED 630 Reading Intervention, Assessment, and Training (3)
- SED 636 Behavior Management for Children with Challenges (3)
- SED 639 Critical Issues in Special Education (3)
- EDU 637 Introduction to Educational Research (3)
- EDU 652 Action Research Design *Prerequisite: EDU 637 (3)*
- EDU 654 Conducting and Reporting Action Research  
*Prerequisite: EDU 652 (3)*

## MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING

### (with an emphasis in school counseling)

**This 50-credit hour MAC degree** is fully approved by the Michigan Department of Education. Individuals who complete this program and pass the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) in Guidance Counseling will be able to obtain a School Counselor License (SCL) from the State of Michigan. If the student also holds a valid Michigan teaching certificate, s/he may also add a Guidance and Counseling (NT) endorsement to his/her certificate. (Note: A teaching certificate is not required to earn the SCL)

The School of Graduate and Professional Studies admits students into this program and determines course and graduation requirements. See the Master of Arts in Counseling program description in this catalog for program information. Specific inquiries related to the NT endorsement should be directed to the Certification Officer in the School of Education.

## ADMISSIONS

### Degree-seeking Program (MAE, MAR, MSE)

Applicants must submit the following:

- Official transcripts from all institutions attended, including evidence of an earned bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 for the last two years of the bachelor's degree\*
- Contact information for two references
- Copy of valid driver's license or other government-issued photo ID
- Teacher certification information
- Conviction disclosure
- Completed graduate application

Please see [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

\*Note: Grades earned after the bachelor's degree may be considered in admission decisions.

### Classroom Access

Many of the courses in the SOE graduate programs assume that students have access to K-12 classrooms in which they teach. Students for whom this is not true will need to arrange sufficient access to a classroom environment to allow them to investigate issues related to pre-K-12 education and apply their learning.

## **Non-degree Seeking**

Applicants must submit the following:

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- An official transcript from all previous institutions attended if not teacher-certified;
- Copy of valid driver's license or other government-issued photo ID;
- Conviction Disclosure Form
- Michigan Certification information or a copy of teaching certificate (if issued by a state other than Michigan); and
- A completed application

Please see [www.arbor.edu](http://www.arbor.edu) for more information.

## **Guest Students**

Applicants who are currently enrolled at another university may enroll as a guest student for up to six credit hours to transfer back to their home university.

Guest students may enroll in one course at a time. A 3.0 or better grade in the first course permits registration in the second course as a guest student.

To apply for guest student status, complete and submit the SAU guest graduate application with a photocopy of the front and back of a valid driver's license.

## **Misdemeanor and Felony Disclosure**

Due to state employment and reporting regulations, applicants must answer questions regarding past or pending misdemeanors or felonies as an adult or juvenile. Falsification of information will be considered fraud and denial of admission to or grounds for revoking prior admission to the University. Furthermore, falsification of information could result in denial by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) for future certification and/or revocation by the MDE of current certification. Individuals with questions regarding this information should contact the Certification Officer in the School of Education.

## **Transfer Credit**

A maximum of nine (9) semester hours of graduate work from a regionally accredited college or university may be reviewed for credit towards the MAE degree at Spring Arbor University. Applicants must provide official transcripts along with course syllabi and/or official catalog course descriptions for each course for which they are requesting transfer credit.

## **Workshop Credit**

Students in the MAE in Curriculum and Instruction program may take up to six hours of EDU 517 through varied workshop offerings through SAU. The MSE and MAR degree programs do not accept workshop credit.

## MAE, MAR, MSE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Successful completion of at least 36 credit hours of approved work;
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.00;
- Courses with a grade lower than a C may not be counted toward the degree requirements;
- No more than two courses with a grade of C may be counted toward graduation requirements;
- Successful completion of a minimum of 27 hours of graduate course work at Spring Arbor University; and
- Successful completion of all other requirements for graduation specified in this catalog, the School of Education, and University policy

**DISCLAIMER:** Due to configurations of courses, changes in course hour requirements, or certification requirements, it is possible for a student to accumulate more than 36 credit hours toward an MAE or MSE degree. Thirty-six (36) credit hours is merely the minimum for completion of the degree.

## POLICIES

### Advising

Students in a degree-seeking program may consult with a graduate program academic advisor, the Certification Officer, or graduate education faculty and staff for advising assistance.

### Academic Standing

A student is considered to be in good academic standing with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or better where no more than two of the courses have received individual grades below 2.00. Students who do not maintain good academic standing will be placed on probation. Students must be in good academic standing in order to graduate.

### Course Load

Students in graduate programs may take up to six (6) credit hours per Fall or Spring session and may take up to 12 credit hours during the summer session. Students may consult with their advisors to take additional credits during a given semester.

### Course Registration Changes

Information and policies for adding, dropping or withdrawing from courses are listed in the General Information section at the front of this catalog.

## **Minimum Competency in Computer Technology**

Graduate education course design assumes that students can effectively use word-processing programs, spreadsheets, presentation software (PowerPoint), web browsers, search engines, and library databases. Remediation in these basic skill areas will not be provided during these courses. If you have concerns about your technology skills, you are encouraged to seek help before taking classes. The University offers an introductory computer course (CPS 150 Introduction to Computers). There are also a number of text and on-line resources that can be reviewed.

## **Registration/Withdrawal Policy for Workshops by the University**

If a student is planning to obtain graduate credit for any workshops offered by the University, s/he must register and pay the appropriate tuition rate at the first class session. Once students register and pay for the workshop, the University will not honor withdrawals, drops, or tuition refunds under any circumstances.

## **MAE IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**Ten REQUIRED courses listed below**

### **EDU 503 Elements of Successful Teaching (3)**

This course focuses on the development of teaching skills and strategies based on elements documented in effective teaching and brain research. Students create plans to apply various techniques and strategies studied to address the needs of their own students.

### **EDU 530 Values, Ethics and Worldview (3)**

In this study of the influence of Christianity on values and ethics in contemporary society, students gain an understanding of the historical influence of Christianity in the development of values and ethics in our nation. This course provides a foundation for and an understanding of the effects of a Christian worldview. Ethical dilemmas for teachers and students are explored.

### **EDU 538 Diversity in a Global Society (3)**

Students examine the diversities (including, but not limited to, issues related to race, ethnicity, culture, language, religion, socioeconomic status, gender, life experiences, and ability) found in American classrooms. Teachers in this course endeavor to develop a broader understanding of "Who are our students?" to investigate and create practical methods of effectively teaching these diverse learners.

### **EDU 560 Instructional Technology (3)**

Instructional Technology has been defined as "the theory and practice of the design, development, utilization, evaluation, and management of the processes and

## MASTER'S IN EDUCATION/READING/SPECIAL EDUCATION

resources for human learning.” The field of Instructional Technology is concerned with the application of technology throughout the educational process. EDU 560 is an introduction to the field and theory of Instructional Technology. The course explores the multiple roles of technology in instruction and management of the learning process, with special emphasis on K-12 education. This course assumes the student has minimum competency in technology.

### **EDU 578 Educational Assessment (3)**

Participants examine the roles of assessment and evaluation in education, explore the principles underlying the assessment process, and develop the skills needed to use assessment and evaluation data wisely. Participants gain skills needed to interpret and use assessment tools and data in classroom settings, schools, and districts to inform instruction and communicate with stakeholders. (Formerly EDU 678).

### **EDU 594 Teaching Discouraged Learners/Troubled Youth (3)**

Students study the needs and behaviors of discouraged learners with strategies for teaching and reaching these students. Instructional design based on brain research and these principles provides the opportunity for students to translate current research and theory in this field into practice to increase opportunities for student engagement and achievement. (formerly EDU 694).

### **EDU 637 Introduction to Educational Research (3)**

Students in this course examine basic research approaches to questions in education. Students acquire a broad understanding of the research process, including the ability to read and understand educational research, a basic knowledge of research design and methods, and the ability to critique methods and findings of selected research. (Formerly EDU 537).

### **EDU 639 Critical Issues and Advocacy (3)**

Students research and explore current topics and issues in education to create advocacy strategies as they consider the interrelationships of curriculum, educational initiatives, contemporary issues, and instruction. Students explore critical thinking skills and design plans to incorporate those skills in their professional practice. (Formerly EDU 539).

### **EDU 652 Action Research Design (3)**

This course focuses on the elements and processes of Action Research and academic writing genres, including APA conventions. In this course, teacher-researchers identify their research focus, craft the research questions, and create the research plan, which includes methodologies and timelines, as well as the triangulation matrix for reliable evaluation. This course includes the design and piloting of all data collection tools. Students study the literature review genre, conduct the literature search, and write a review of related literature and bibli-

ography in APA format. Chapters 1, 2 and 3 and the appendices of the thesis are addressed in this course. *Prerequisite: EDU 637.*

## **EDU 654 Conducting and Reporting Action Research (3)**

In this course, teacher-researchers present, fine-tune and implement their research plans. Students conduct data collection, analysis and interpretations leading to recommendations for action based on findings. Chapters 4, 5, and 6, as well as the abstract, table of contents, and tables and figures of the thesis are produced in this course. Students report their research via a bound thesis and a formal academic presentation to a professional audience. In this course, students put action research in context, exploring paradigms, theories, and the transformative nature of teacher research. *Prerequisite: EDU 652.*

**Plus two ELECTIVE COURSES to total six credit hours**

## **EDU 510 Navigating the First Year of Teaching (2 credits)**

Open to SAU-certified teachers, this year-long on-line course provides an on-line mentored networking opportunity for new teachers in the early stages in their career.

## **EDU 517 Workshop--Special Topics (1-3 credits)**

To obtain graduate credit from Spring Arbor University for workshops or conferences partnering with SAU, students must complete the School of Education registration form and pay related fees and the published tuition rate for the graduate credit being offered for the workshop by the first day of class. Once students register and pay for graduate credit in conjunction with the workshop(s), Spring Arbor University will not honor withdrawals, drops or tuition refunds under any circumstances. Students who wish to receive graduate credit in conjunction with the affiliated conference or workshop must complete all assignments described in the syllabus by the time specified. Transcripts will be available through Spring Arbor University three weeks after the instructor of record has submitted grades. EDU 517 workshops on many educational topics are offered at many sites across Michigan.

## **ENG/EDU 533 Western Cultural Heritage in Literature (3)**

A look at how mythology and literary classics from the ancient Western worlds have had a profound effect on our world that is still being felt today. Only by understanding that cultural heritage can one fully appreciate painting, music, sculpture, political and professional symbols and even modern psychological terms.

## **HIS/EDU 534 Western Educational Theory and Practice (3)**

This course examines the history and intellectual foundations of educational theory in the West, from Plato to the multiculturalists, with many stops in between. Students evaluate various paradigms from Christian and other perspec-

## MASTER'S IN EDUCATION/READING/SPECIAL EDUCATION

tives as students begin to see connections between historical backgrounds and contemporary problems.

### **NSC/EDU 535 Science and the Environment (3)**

Students explore concepts and skills pertaining to science in general as applied to the environment. This course is designed to allow teachers to integrate environmental topics and science into many different curricular areas. A course fee of \$10 provides additional materials used during this course.

### **EDU 612 Introduction to Educational Leadership and Administration (3)**

This course investigates historical and current perspectives in educational leadership and the relationship to the realities of the practice of educational leadership. The major areas of discussion will include theoretical foundations of educational leadership, schools as organizations, understanding the bureaucratic nature of schools, power and authority, effective leadership styles, Social Systems Theory and its impact on schooling, relationship building and leadership types, Contingency Theory, motivation and leadership, decision making, communication, school improvement, daily school operations, student achievement, achievement gap, diversity and the change process. Special emphasis will be placed on how these variables translate into successful school educational leadership practices. Students will be encouraged to explore leadership concerns in their area of practice.

### **EDU/NCS 522 Hands-On and Inquiry Science in the Classroom (3)**

Students participate in, generate and present hands-on and inquiry-based lessons in the chemical and physical sciences. The collection, use and analysis of data in scientific instruction will be emphasized. Students will use computer-interfaced data acquisition equipment to convey content knowledge. Graduate students in this course implement and present activities to K-12 students in the week-long SAU summer science camp. (Offered summers on main campus only).

### **EDU 624 Elementary and Middle School Reading (3)**

This course for pre-K through 6th-grade teachers includes field experiences in the diagnosis and remediation of reading disabilities. Course focuses include interest inventories, English language learning screening, visual and auditory discrimination tools, language expression and processing screening, phonemics, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, spelling and writing assessment tools, and instructional strategies. Students will explore current models of reading assessment and support, as well as classroom applications designed to develop effective reading skills and dispositions, including differentiated instruction in response to student needs. For those holding an elementary certificate, this course satisfies the Michigan Department of Education reading requirement for new professional certificates issued after July 1, 2009, per 2007 PA 32, MCL 380.1531(4) (previously PA118). (Offered online).

## **EDU 625 Secondary Reading (3)**

This course for 6-12 grade teachers investigates issues in secondary reading and skill development. Focuses include differentiated instruction, interest inventories, fluency, comprehension, spelling and writing assessment tools, and instructional strategies. The course explores the skills and complexities of the reading process through classroom field experiences. Students will investigate a variety of instructional techniques to facilitate the development of effective readers and learners. The emphasis will be on practical research-based classroom applications. For those holding a secondary certificate, this course satisfies the Michigan Department of Education reading requirement for new professional certificates issued after July 1, 2009, per 2007 PA 32, MCL 380.1531(4) (previously PA118). (Offered online).

## **EDU 690 Individual Advanced Research (1-3)**

This course is designed to allow a student to research a topic of interest on an individualized basis. The instructor must approve planning for the topic and for the final project and/or paper before the student may register for the class. This course may be taken more than once.

## **MA IN READING (with BR Endorsement)**

**Twelve REQUIRED courses listed below**

### **EDU 530 Values, Ethics, and Worldview (3)**

In this study of the influence of Christianity on values and ethics in contemporary society, students gain an understanding of the historical influence of Christianity in the development of values and ethics in our nation. This course provides a foundation for and an understanding of the effects of a Christian worldview. Ethical dilemmas for teachers and students are explored.

### **EDU 624 Elementary and Middle School Reading (3)**

This course for pre-K through 6th-grade teachers includes field experiences in the diagnosis and remediation of reading disabilities. Course focuses include interest inventories, English language learning screening, visual and auditory discrimination tools, language expression and processing screening, phonemics, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, spelling and writing assessment tools, and instructional strategies. Students will explore current models of reading assessment and support, as well as classroom applications designed to develop effective reading skills and dispositions, including differentiated instruction in response to student needs. For those holding an elementary certificate, this course satisfies the Michigan Department of Education reading requirement for new professional certificates issued after July 1, 2009, per 2007 PA 32, MCL 380.1531(4) (previously PA118). (Offered online).

## **RDG 628 Writing (3)**

Teachers investigate writing development and applications across the curriculum as they design, facilitate and assess writing experiences and assignments in all subjects. Teachers develop methods and materials for writing process approaches, investigate instructional strategies for teaching genre and writing conventions, and explore the implications of standardized testing for writing instruction. Course focuses include workshop approaches, current research, experiential learning and classroom applications of research and theory.

## **RDG 656 English Language Learners (3)**

This course offers an overview of the role of language and cultural identity on English language acquisition. Current research in best practices for teaching reading and writing to English Language Learners will be explored. Teachers use a case study to investigate issues, strategies, and programs designed to assist English Language Learners. (Formerly EDU 696).

## **RDG 678 Children and Young Adult Literature (3)**

A study of literature and its uses for K-12 students, including the most recently published materials, the role of children and young adult literature in developing literacy, standards for selection and evaluation of materials and strategies for involving students in particular types of literature comprise this course. Teachers apply criteria for selecting and evaluating literature from a historical perspective and in conjunction with critical theory. Teachers investigate research in the field and explore strategies to incorporate literature, including multicultural literature, into the curriculum in all subjects.

## **RDG 679 Adolescent Literacy (3)**

This course examines the needs of and demands on adolescent learners to be multi-literate in contemporary society and explores how educators can advocate, create, and collaborate to meet these needs. Strategies for informing and involving students and parents in literacy development, including technology use, are featured. Teachers analyze societal, school, family, and individual situations that promote and inhibit literacy learning and develop strategies to address these issues.

## **RDG 680 Content Area Literacies (3)**

This course addresses reading and writing processes and pedagogy, genre study, elements of effective oral and written communication, and the integrated nature of literacy skills instruction and use across the curriculum. Issues of motivation, developmental needs, and literacy teaching strategies are also explored.

## **RDG 682 History and Psychology of Reading (3)**

Teachers explore the acquisition and operation of reading processes beginning with emergent literacy and the history and influences on the teaching of reading

and reading practices from colonial to contemporary times. Course work focuses on basic research in reading and reading research methods in cognitive and developmental psychology. Teachers examine the influences of psychology on reading theory and topics in the psychology of reading. Teachers investigate how theory has influenced reading assessment tools and development.

### **RDG 684 Program Design and Analysis (3)**

Teachers examine contemporary and historical models for literacy learning and reading. Investigations into family literacy strategies and programs, research of reading programs and literacy research, policies at the national, state and local levels, staff and program development, text selection, and interpretation of student assessment data for reading and language arts, with special attention to advocacy, are course focuses.

### **RDG 689 Literacy Leadership (3)**

This course addresses essential leadership qualities, characteristics and needs of participants, and the change process for literacy programs. Teachers translate information from the following areas into plans for successful school literacy leadership: historical and current perspectives in educational leadership, theoretical foundations of educational leadership, schools as organizations, the bureaucratic nature of schools, power and authority, effective leadership styles, Social Systems theory and its impact on schooling, relationship building and leadership styles. Contingency Theory, motivation and leadership, decision making, communication, school improvement, daily school operations, student achievement, achievement gap, diversity and the change process will also be explored.

### **RDG 692 Research Methods and Design (3)**

This course focuses on the elements and processes of literacy research and academic writing. Teachers study literacy research methods, existing literacy research studies, and their own literacy concerns to design a research study. Students develop Chapters 1, 2 and 3, the bibliography and the appendices of their thesis in this course. *Prerequisite: completion of all previous classes in the program.*

### **RDG 694 Reading Research Practicum (3)**

In this course, teacher-researchers implement their literacy research plans. Coursework promotes professional development through coaching and mentoring models for teachers in order to support implementation of various instructional programs and practices. Teachers conduct data collection, analysis and interpretations leading to recommendations for action based on findings. Students complete Chapters 4, 5, and 6, as well as the abstract, table of contents, and tables and figures of the thesis. *Prerequisite: RDG 692.*

## **MSE IN LEARNING DISABILITIES** **(for teachers with a current LD endorsement)**

### **SED 523 Assessment of Learning Disabilities (3)**

This course provides instruction in appropriate procedures for the assessment and reporting of student's reading, writing, mathematical and social skills. Emphasis will be placed on assessment methods that lead directly to diagnosing skill deficits and determining current level of functioning, which can be translated into goals and objectives and statements of progress on the student's IEP. Methods of evaluating instructional outcomes will be explored so that an ongoing instructional plan can be adjusted to meet the student's needs. *Prerequisite: Undergraduate or graduate introductory course in Special Education.*

### **SED 520 Elementary Special Education Methods (3)**

This course focuses on the educational methods and strategies to meet the needs of the student with learning disabilities at the elementary level. Emphasis will be placed on the understanding of remedial techniques for reading, mathematics and written expression. *Prerequisite: SED 523.*

### **SED 521 Secondary Special Education Methods (3)**

This course focuses on the educational methods and strategies to meet the needs of the student with learning disabilities at the secondary level. This course will also provide skills in making adaptations and modifications in lesson plans and tests. *Prerequisite: SED 523.*

### **SED 522 Communication Skills (3)**

This course provides skills and techniques in understanding learning problems by focusing on the development of language as it relates to reasoning, thinking, listening, speaking, reading, writing and spelling. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the components of language, knowing how the assessment of these skills is conducted and what effect disorders in listening, speaking and thinking have on learning to read, write and spell. Finally, instruction will be provided on teaching strategies to help the language learning disabled student and additional information will be provided on resources the teacher can utilize to become a more effective teacher. *Prerequisites: Undergraduate or graduate introductory course in Special Education and Undergraduate or graduate course in human development for students with disabilities.*

### **SED 526 Consultation Models for L.D. Students (3)**

This course provides information on identifying and accessing resources relevant to persons with disabilities. These resources may be within the school setting or from outside agencies. The course will also address factors that impede the use of these resources. Instruction will be provided on the development of interpersonal skills needed to effectively communicate with parents, colleagues and outside

agencies. Instruction will also be provided in methods used to teach cooperatively with regular educators, methods used in participation on teams within the school, and methods used to supervise classroom aides, volunteers and paraprofessionals.

### **SED 630 Reading Intervention, Assessment, and Training (3)**

This course is designed to equip K-12 educators to use reading interventions that are successful in teaching students with dyslexia. They will have the opportunity to learn and apply multi-sensory methods used to teach language concepts to the individual with dyslexia. The educators will participate in individualized pre-assessment, instruction, and post-assessment with faculty supervision. The educators will also receive training in reading, writing and spelling instruction.

### **SED 636 Behavior Management for Children with Challenges (3)**

In this course, students will research, compare and contrast various models of discipline and determine their purpose or impact on the learning environment, re-occurring behaviors, and their potential to empower the K-12 student to change his behavior or make better choices within a community of learners. This will be done through reflecting on teaching or personal experiences, reviewing brain research and district statistics, examining which management strategies will edify, change or punish behavior, and investigating the relationship between specific areas of disability and specific behaviors that distract, disrupt, demand attention, or lead to off-task behavior or passive or active aggression.

### **SED 639 Critical Issues in Special Education (3)**

This course is designed for graduate students in special education. The goals of this course are to familiarize students with current topics and critical issues in special education and to help student's gains skills in critically examining issues related to special education. Graduate students must be well versed in critical issues in their discipline and must have spent time exploring these issues if they are going to be able to discuss the merits of their opinions.

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# INDEX

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>6</b>
History of Spring Arbor University.....	6
Spring Arbor University Concept.....	6
Community Expectations.....	6
Non-Discriminatory Statement .....	7
Catalog Subject to Change .....	7
<b>BASIC GRADUATE INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>8</b>
Accreditation.....	8
Admissions.....	9
Expectations .....	9
Admissions Status,.....	9
Admissions Appeals .....	10
International Student Admission .....	10
Background Check.....	10
Guest Student Admissions .....	10
Full-time Status.....	11
Semester Credit Limits .....	11
Assessment.....	12
Transferring Credits.....	12
Grading System .....	13
Academic Integrity .....	13
<b>ACADEMIC POLICIES.....</b>	<b>15</b>
Academic Advising .....	15
Student Responsibilities.....	16
Probation .....	16
Auditing a Course.....	16
Adding a Course.....	16
Dropping a Course.....	16
Withdrawing from a Course.....	16
Repeating a Course .....	16
Course Cancellation .....	16
Class Cancellation.....	17
Withdrawing from a Program .....	17
Readmission to a Program .....	17
<b>DISMISSAL POLICY.....</b>	<b>17</b>
Reasons for Dismissal.....	17
Dismissal Process .....	18
Appeal Process.....	19
Readmission .....	19
Grade Appeals .....	19

---

Academic Policy Appeals.....	20
Graduate Attendance Policy.....	20
Tuition and Fees .....	20
Payments.....	21
Financial Aid.....	21
Refunds .....	21
Transcripts .....	21
Veteran’s Benefits .....	21
Graduation.....	22
<b>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>STUDENT SERVICES .....</b>	<b>23</b>
Library Services .....	23
<b>UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION .....</b>	<b>24</b>
Executive Team .....	24
Other Administration.....	24
Campus Map.....	27
<b>GAINNEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION .....</b>	<b>31</b>
From The Dean .....	32
Program Description .....	33
Admissions.....	34
Policies .....	35
Curriculum.....	35
Faculty .....	39
<b>SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES.....</b>	<b>41</b>
From The Dean .....	43
<b>MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING.....</b>	<b>45</b>
Program Description .....	46
Admissions.....	48
Policies .....	49
Curriculum.....	51
Faculty .....	58
<b>MASTER OF ARTS IN FAMILY STUDIES .....</b>	<b>61</b>
Program Description .....	62
Policies .....	63
Curriculum.....	63
Faculty .....	66

---

<b>MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT.....</b>	<b>69</b>
Program Description .....	70
Policies .....	71
Curriculum.....	72
Nonprofit Leadership & Administration Endorsement .....	77
Faculty .....	79

<b>MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING.....</b>	<b>83</b>
Mission Statement .....	84
Program Purpose .....	84
Nursing Program Goals.....	84
Program Outcomes.....	84
Program Description .....	85
Admissions Requirements.....	86
Curriculum.....	88
Faculty .....	95

## **SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

<b>MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION.....</b>	<b>99</b>
From The Director.....	100
Program Description .....	101
Concentrations .....	102
Admissions.....	102
Policies .....	103
Curriculum.....	104
Faculty .....	104

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND LEADERSHIP .....**

<b>AND LEADERSHIP .....</b>	<b>113</b>
From The Director.....	114
Program Description .....	115
Admissions.....	117
Curriculum.....	118
Faculty .....	122

## **SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

<b>MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION.....</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>MASTER OF ARTS IN READING.....</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>MASTER OF SPECIAL EDUCATION.....</b>	<b>125</b>
From The Dean .....	126
Program Description .....	127
The Effective Teaching Model.....	127
Programs Of Study .....	129

---

MAE In Curriculum And Instruction.....	129
Master of Arts in Reading .....	133
Master Of Special Education In Learning Disabilities .....	134
Master Of Arts In Counseling .....	135
Admissions .....	135
MAE And MSE Graduation Requirements .....	137
Policies.....	137
MAE In Curriculum And Instruction (courses).....	138
MA In Reading (courses).....	142
MSE In Learning Disabilities .....	145
Faculty .....	147
<b>GRADUATE CATALOG DISCLAIMER .....</b>	<b>151</b>