



# Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary Course Catalog

A Minnesota Corporation

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## **General Information**

### **Seminary History**

The Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary was founded in 1967 to train members of the body of Christ for Christian ministry, primarily in Lutheran Churches. Reverend Kenneth Hendrickson, Dr. Uuras Saarnivaara, and Dr. Albert Saari were the incorporators and original board. Dr. Uuras Saarnivaara served the Seminary as dean from its inception until 1987. Reverend Wayne Juntunen was called in 1982 to serve as the assistant dean on a full-time basis and served in that capacity until June of 1991. Reverend James Weidner was called in the fall of 1988 to serve as the Professor of New Testament Studies and Biblical Hermeneutics. In June of 1991, he became the president of the Seminary. Throughout the history of the Seminary, several pastors have been used as instructors in the department of pastoral ministry.

The majority of graduates are pastoring congregations in the Apostolic Lutheran Church of America. Other graduates have served or are presently serving congregations of the ELCA and Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Some graduates serve in various capacities with mission organizations and independent ministries. A few have graduated and gone on to ministries in other Church bodies.

### **Statement of Purpose**

The Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary is incorporated as a non-profit religious organization whose purpose is to establish and maintain a theological institution for the training of Christian ministers and workers.

The Seminary is unreservedly dedicated to "holding fast the faithful word" of the Holy Scriptures (Titus 1:9). It acknowledges the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (in their original autographs) as the inerrant and wholly reliable Word of God which is the supreme and only norm and rule of faith and practice of the Christian Church. It also subscribes to the Apostles' Nicene and the Athanasian Creeds and accepts the Lutheran Confessions

contained in the Book of Concord in the sense these Confessions themselves declare in the introductory parts of the Formula of Concord.

Whereas many people today find little or no relevance in Christianity to their every day lives; the Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary bears witness to a living, dynamic Christ who speaks to each new generation. It is through His Word that we find meaning in our present condition and have hope for the future. His Word is timeless in that it is God's message proclaimed once and for all. It is not relative nor to be dismissed as time-conditioned nor meant only for its original audience. This proclamation was spoken with power, remains as such today and always will be. However, His word is also time-bound in the sense that it must always be proclaimed in human history. Each generation must hear it anew. The gospel of Christ is spoken into the present and it needs to be heard in the present.

The Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary is devoted to the proclamation of this Word. Its stance is best described as orthodox, evangelical, conservative and Lutheran. Its orthodoxy, conservatism and Lutheranism is evident in its position regarding the Word of God and the confessions of the Church. Its evangelical thrust is manifested in its concern for the salvation of souls through the proclamation of the Gospel. It is not controlled by any church body. Therefore, it accepts students from any Lutheran circles, and other groups where a sufficient unity of faith exists. The graduates of the Seminary have freedom to accept calls to any field of service.

## **Academic Information - Admissions**

Equal opportunity for admission to the Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary is granted without regard to race or nationality.

Note: Acceptance or rejection of a prospective student will be based upon a decision of the Board of Directors of the Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary and is not the sole responsibility of the President or staff. Such a determination is made through the evaluation of all the information provided during the application for admission.

### **Privacy Act**

The Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary will respect your privacy. Your personal information will be shared only as required by law or with specific permission.

### **Registration Form & Admission Form**

Forms available at:

**<http://www.ilseminary.org/admissions>**

## **Classification of Students**

### **Full-time Students**

Those students who have registered for twelve or more credit hours in a given semester.

### **Part-time Students**

Those students who register for less than twelve credit hours in a given semester.

### **Special Students**

Those students who have not met the minimum qualifications for the Master of Divinity degree and do not desire to prepare for full-time ministry in the Church.

### **Provisional Students**

A newly enrolled student who, in the judgment of the Admissions Committee, has not sufficiently demonstrated aptitude for ministerial training and has been granted a qualified admission consisting of one semester of academic probation.

## **Online/Distance Learning**

Students can take classes "live" via the Internet but in order to participate in this way, they must have a high-speed Internet connection and a webcam. For those who cannot use the "live" stream, classes can also be taken by download or by DVD. For the current class schedule, refer to our website: [www.ilseminary.org](http://www.ilseminary.org)

## **Application**

The completed application form is to be sent to the Administrator of the Seminary. The instructions are on the application form regarding additional information and documentation which are also to be sent directly to the Seminary. Applicants will be notified either personally, by mail or by phone of their acceptance as prospective students.

## **Class Attendance**

The student assumes responsibility for completion of all requirements as determined for each course and is expected to attend all class sessions for which registered. Common courtesy suggests that a student confer with the instructor if absence from class becomes necessary. A student who needlessly is absent from class is liable to censure, to disciplinary probation or to dismissal when such action is warranted.

## **Incomplete Work**

A grade of "Incomplete" may be assigned by the instructor. For credit to be given an "Incomplete" must be removed within fifteen weeks of the close of the semester in which it was given. If not completed the student will fail the course and no credit will be given.

## **Academic Probation**

Any student who fails to maintain a cumulative or current average of 2.00 (C) will be placed on academic probation. If this academic performance continues for two successive semesters, the student may be

dismissed and must wait for one year before applying for re-admission.

## **Withdrawal**

A student who wishes to withdraw from the Seminary must secure the approval of the president following consultation with the Curriculum Committee. All earned credits will be honored for a period of five years from the semester of withdrawal if re-enrolled within that five-year period of time.

## **Transfer Students**

Students transferring to the Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary are required to have a transcript of all their previous college and Seminary work sent to the Administrator of the Seminary. All Seminary work will be evaluated by the Curriculum Committee and appropriate credit given. No credit is allowed for any grade below C.

## **Lodging**

The Seminary has no residence facilities; hence, students must provide their own accommodations.

## **School Year**

Classes for the first semester of the school year begin on the Wednesday following Labor Day in September unless otherwise specified.

## **Academic Information - Programs of Study**

### **Master of Divinity**

The ministry of the Word is not simply a profession but a "Calling from God." Some may not be sure whether God has actually called them to such a ministry. The Seminary welcomes such individuals to commit themselves to at least one year of study. During this time they should be able to determine whether serving others through the uniqueness of a Christian ministry is an affirmation of God's call to them.

Normal preparation for entrance is a Bachelor degree from a recognized college or university. Such preparation is highly recommended. Candidates may have their degree in any field, however a minimum number of credits should have been earned in the following Liberal Arts courses:

New Testament Greek 6 semester credits

English 3 semester credits

Speech 3 semester credits

English Composition 3 semester credits

Foreign Language 6 semester credits

History 6 semester credits

Social Sciences 6 semester credits

Philosophy 6 semester credits

Applicants unable to meet the above academic requirements may be admitted to audit or to attend classes and lectures upon approval of the faculty. Such students, upon completion of the given course will receive a Certificate of Attendance. This could later be credited towards a Seminary Diploma following acquisition of the required minimum credits indicated above.

The Applicant for the Master of Divinity degree must have earned the Bachelor of Arts degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university.

### **Review and Evaluation**

In order that the Seminary may properly assess a student's qualifications for the ministry, an evaluation may be conducted by the faculty at the close of the Seminary 1 year.

The criteria used in judging the qualifications of the student are (1) suitable personal qualifications, (2) adequate competence in ministerial functions, (3) adequate theological development, and (4) academic achievement of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average or better.

### **Application for Master of Divinity Degree**

1. At the conclusion of the Seminary 1 year, the student's performance may be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee to determine his suitability for acceptance into the Master of Divinity degree program. Students not accepted into the program will be notified by the Dean at this time.
2. All required courses in the curriculum as published in the Seminary catalog for the academic year in which the student was admitted must be completed successfully.

### **Sample Curriculum**

#### **Year 1 Fall Semester**

New Testament Introduction	2
Old Testament Introduction	3
History of the Ancient Church	3
Homiletics	2
New Testament Greek Readings	1
Ministry to the World	2
Principles of Biblical Interpretation	<u>3</u>
Total	16

#### **Year 1 Spring Semester**

Liturgics and Hymnology	1
Science and Christianity	2
Lutheran Confessions	3
Evangelism	2
History of the Medieval Church and the Reformation	3
Genesis	2
Gospel of John	<u>2</u>
Total	15

**Year 2 Fall Semester**

Christian Dogmatics I	3
History of the Post-Reformation Church	3
Pastoral Work & Administration	3
Isaiah	2
Galatians	1
Christian Ethics	3
Elective	<u>1</u>
Total	16

**Year 2 Spring Semester**

Christian Dogmatics II	3
History of Christianity in America	3
Gospel of Matthew from a Synoptic Perspective	2
The Pastoral Counselor	3
Old Testament Wisdom Literature	2
Pastoral Epistles	1
Elective	<u>1</u>
Total	15

**Year 3**

Internship

**Year 4 Fall Semester**

Christian Education	2
Romans	2
Joshua	1
Eschatology	2
Acts of the Apostles	2
Anthropology and Christology	2
Church and Culture	1
Edifying the Church and Family	1
Elective	<u>1</u>
Total	14

**Year 4 Spring Semester**

Churches, Sects and Isms	3
History of the Laestadian Movement and Apostolic Lutheranism	2

Samuel, Kings and Chronicles	2
Corinthian Epistles	2
Ezra/Nehemiah, Esther & Job	1
General Epistles and Hebrews	2
Ministry to Youth	1
Ephesians/Colossians	<u>1</u>
Total	14
<b>Total Credits for Graduation</b>	<b>90</b>

### **Internship**

A student will serve as an intern during the third year of the Seminary. The internship will be served in a congregation under the direction of the Pastor or in a para-church ministry so that the student will experience and participate in all the areas of ministry.

## **Academic Information - Programs of Study**

### **Seminary Diploma**

The Seminary Diploma is awarded to students in two separate categories:

1. Those who do not have a baccalaureate degree but have met the above minimum academic requirements and have completed their entire Seminary course work with at least a 2.00 GPA.
2. Those who have completed all of the Seminary course work with at least a 2.00 GPA and subsequently receive the minimum required Liberal Arts credits indicated above. Until that time such graduates will be given a Certificate of Attendance only.

## Academic Information - Courses of Study

### Prerequisite Courses

#### **Introduction to Theological Thought. 1 credit**

An investigation of the basic philosophical principles employed in the study of theology together with an overview of the major teachings of the Christian faith.

#### **New Testament Greek. 6 credits**

A course in the rudiments of the language of the New Testament.

### Systematic Theology

#### **Christian Dogmatics I. 3 credits**

Lectures, readings and discussion of various Christian Doctrines including an in-depth look at the prolegomena for doing any study of systematic theology.

#### **Christian Dogmatics II. 3 credits**

A continuation of Christian Dogmatics I focusing on lectures, readings and discussion of various Christian Doctrines.

#### **Lutheran Confessions. 3 credits**

An in-depth look at the three ecumenical creeds and the documents that make up the Book of Concord.

#### **Christian Ethics. 3 credits**

A study of the systems of ethical thought and an analysis of how the ethical dilemmas of humankind should be addressed by those who belong to Christ.

#### **Churches, Sects and Isms. 3 credits**

An overview of the teachings and practices of the most prevalent Christian denominations, sectarian groups and others.

#### **Science and Christianity. 2 credits**

Studies on the relationship between modern science and the Christian Faith, including various theories of origins.

**Anthropology and Christology. 2 credits**

An investigation of what it means to be human, especially in light of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

**Eschatology. 2 credits**

An analysis of the last things focusing on the debate surrounding current views of the subject and what the Scripture says regarding this controversial topic.

**Academic Information - Courses of Study**

**Exegetical Theology**

**New Testament Greek Readings. 1 credit**

A course designed to apply the principles learned in New Testament Greek and facilitate the mastery of the language of the New Testament through reading selected portions of its text.

**New Testament Introduction. 2 credits**

An introductory study of the origin, authorship, purpose and reliability of the New Testament writings with special attention devoted to their literary design and individual and corporate unity.

**Old Testament Introduction. 3 credits**

An introductory study of the origin, authorship, purpose and reliability of the Old Testament writings with special attention devoted to their literary design and individual and corporate unity.

**Principles of Biblical Interpretation. 3 credits**

A history and study of the hermeneutical techniques and their application to the scriptures, including the methods of Textual Analysis.

**Genesis. 2 credits**

A study of the origin, thought and doctrinal content of the book of Genesis.

**Joshua. 1 credit**

A study of the Book of Joshua considering its historical and spiritual significance and its practical application in the contemporary world. The course is based on determining and evaluating the significant acts of God in this book.

**Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles. 2 credits**

A comparative study of the history of the nation of Israel as recorded in these accounts.

**Ezra-Nehemiah, Esther & Job. 1 credit**

An inquiry into the structure, content and meaning of these important Post-Exilic books emphasizing the impact of the exile upon Hebrew culture.

**Isaiah. 2 credits**

An exegetical study of the book of Isaiah, theories of its development and its impact upon the New Testament.

**Old Testament Wisdom Literature. 2 credits**

A study of selected portions of the Wisdom Books of the Old Testament, their thought, content and implications for today.

**Gospel of Matthew from a Synoptic Perspective.  
2 credits**

An analysis of the gospel of Matthew in the light of its similarity to Mark and Luke. Also questions concerning the roots and priority of the Synoptic Gospels.

**Gospel of Mark. 2 credits**

An in-depth analysis of the most concise Gospel with an emphasis on sound and segmentation.

**Gospel of Luke. 2 credits**

An in-depth analysis of the Third Gospel with an emphasis on sound and segmentation.

**Gospel of John. 2 credits**

An exegetical study of the text of the Fourth Gospel emphasizing its structure and composition.

**Acts of the Apostles. 2 credits**

The historical account of the rise of the Church according to Luke is examined in the light of its doctrinal and theological contents.

**Romans. 2 credits**

Exegesis and interpretation of portions of the epistle emphasizing its doctrinal content and theology.

**Corinthian Epistles. 2 credits**

An exegetical study of Apostle Paul's letters to the congregation in Corinth.

**Galatians. 1 credit**

An exegetical study of Paul's epistle to the Galatians and its relevance to the preaching of the Gospel today.

**Ephesians/Colossians. 1 credit**

An exegetical study of the Apostle Paul's letters to the congregations in Ephesus, Colossae.

**Pastoral Epistles. 1 credit**

An investigation of the thought and doctrinal content of these epistles and a comparison with undisputed Pauline literature to answer questions concerning their Pauline authorship with an exegetical study of the books.

**General Epistles and Hebrews. 2 credits**

A study of the content of each of the letters emphasizing the uniqueness of thought in their respective authors.

**Hebrew I. 3 credits**

A study of the elementary grammar of the language of the Old Testament.

**Hebrew II. 3 credits**

An analysis of advanced syntax based upon the principles learned in Hebrew I.

**Jeremiah-Lamentations. 2 credits**

A study of the prophecy given through the prophet Jeremiah and the laments traditionally accredited to him.

**Daniel. 1 credit**

An introduction to the genre of apocalyptic literature including the various interpretations of the book today.

**Minor Prophets. 2 credits**

A study of the structure, content, historical significance and apocalyptic interpretations of the "minor" prophetic books of the Old Testament.

**Philippians, Thessalonians and Philemon. 2 credits**

An exegetical study of the letters to the congregations at Philippi and Thessalonica together with Paul's personal letter to Philemon.

**The Revelation of Jesus Christ to John. 2 credits**

An exegetical study and interpretation of the book emphasizing its structure and content.

## **Academic Information - Courses of Study**

### **Historical Theology**

**History of the Ancient Church. 3 credits**

A historical analysis of the major people and events that shaped the Christian Church from the Apostolic Age to 600 AD.

**History of the Medieval Church and the Reformation. 3 credits**

A historical analysis of the Church of the Middle Ages and the Reformation Era.

**History of the Post-Reformation Church. 3 credits**

A historical analysis of the history of the Church from the Reformation in England to present.

**History of American Lutheranism. 3 credits**

A study of Lutheranism in America from the colonial period.

**History of the Laestadian Movement and Apostolic Lutheranism. 2 credits**

An investigation of the origin and impact of the Laestadian movement both in its native Finland and in the United States.

**History of Christianity in America. 3 credits**

A history of the spread of the church in the United States from its pilgrim beginnings to the present.

**Twentieth Century European Protestantism. 2 credits**

An analysis of the current trends in religious thinking which emerged from the Twentieth Century European Protestant community.

**History of Christian Doctrine. 1 credit**

A study of the development of Christian teaching.

**Academic Information - Courses of Study**

**Pastoral Ministry**

**The Pastoral Counselor. 3 credits**

A course about the dynamics of the Pastoral counseling process designed to provide insight into human nature and the close relationship between body, soul and mind in human behavior. Students will learn to apply Biblical teachings to help people resolve problems in their lives.

**Christian Education. 2 credits**

The principles of the theology of Christian Education. Preparation for teaching Sunday School, Confirmation Class, Adult Bible Classes, etc.

**Evangelism. 2 credits**

A study of the principles and methods for Christian outreach in one's own church and community, including home visitation.

**Homiletics. 2 credits**

A study of the construction and delivery of sermons.

**Pastoral Work and Administration. 3 credits**

A thorough study and discussion of pastoral theology and its application in the office of the ministry.

**Ministry to the World. 2 credits**

The biblical basis for mission work along with a history of the methods employed to carry out such work.

**Liturgics and Hymnology. 1 credit**

A study of the origin and meaning of liturgics, music and hymns in worship services with an emphasis upon Lutheran tradition.

**Ministry to Youth. 1 credit**

A study of philosophies and methodologies involved in working with youth.

**Ministry to the Aging. 1 credit**

A study of the various facets of ministering to senior citizens as vital members of the Body of Christ.

**Church and Culture. 1 credit**

An investigation of the interaction between church and culture.

**Edifying the Church and Family. 1 credit**

A course to develop an awareness of the dynamics of Pastoral duties in shepherding the flock, and the care of one's family with the necessity of maintaining personal, familial and congregational health through the resources that God has provided.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Systematic Theology	21 credits
Exegetical Theology	33 credits
Historical Theology	17 credits
Pastoral Ministry	19 credits
<b>TOTAL CORE CREDITS</b>	<b>90 credits</b>

## Grading System

Grade		Points
A	Superior	4.00
A-		3.67
B+		3.33
B	Good	3.00
B-		2.67
C+		2.33
C	Average	2.00
C-		1.67
D+		1.33
D	Poor but passing	1.00
D-		0.67
F	Failure	0.00
S	Satisfactory	
I	Incomplete	

# Financial Information

## Fees

Registration	\$20.00
General	\$25.00

## Tuition

Refer to enclosed insert.

## Payment

All fees and tuition are payable upon registering for a class. If special arrangements are necessary, they can be made with the Treasurer. Payment of all fees, tuition, books and other Seminary related expenses must be met fully before any degrees are granted.

## Audits

Anyone auditing a course will pay the registration and general fees for the semester plus a tuition fee per credit hour. Refer to Tuition and Fee insert enclosed.

## Refunds

Fees are non-refundable, however, a student is entitled to a refund of tuition according to the following schedule, when withdrawing from the Seminary.

First day	100%
First week	75%
Second week	50%
Third week	25%
Fourth week or later	0%

## Financial Aid

Some scholarships funds are available for student aid or loans to cover tuition and fees. A written application for aid or a loan must be submitted to the Dean.

## Faculty



**James Weidner, President**  
B.S. Pennsylvania State University  
M.Th. Inter-Lutheran Seminary  
Professor Biblical Hermeneutics & Exegesis



Bruce Bergstedt, Instructor  
B.S. University of Minnesota-Duluth  
M.Th. Inter-Lutheran Seminary



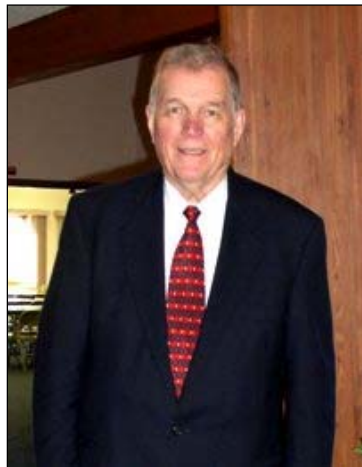
D. Michael Carriere, Instructor  
B.S. Northern Michigan University  
M.Th. Inter-Lutheran Seminary



Rodney Johnson, Instructor  
B.S. St. Cloud State University



Ernest Bylkas III, Instructor  
B.S. University of Minnesota-Duluth  
M.Th. Inter-Lutheran Seminary



Elmer Yliniemi, Instructor  
B.A. Bemidji State College  
M.Th. Inter-Lutheran Seminary

**[www.ilseminary.org](http://www.ilseminary.org)**

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