

Beeson School of Divinity



Administration

Timothy F. George, Ralph W. Beeson Dean and Professor
 Burch R. Barger, Alumni, Student Recruitment and Admission Officer
 Thomas L. Fuller, Director, Ministry Leadership Development, Placement,
 and Assessment
 J. Michael Garrett, Theological Librarian, Director of Research and Media Services
 James C. Pounds, Jr., Director of the Extension Division
 James T. Prince, Director of External Relations
 Mark A. Searby, Director of Doctor of Ministry Studies
 Kurt D. Selles, Director of Global Center and Associate Professor
 Vickie J. Gaston, Curator of the Chapel

Faculty

Charles T. Carter, James H. Chapman Fellow of Pastoral Ministry
 Lyle W. Dorsett, Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism
 Allen P. Ross, Beeson Professor
 Frank S. Thielman, Beeson Professor
 Paul R. House, Professor
 Kenneth A. Mathews, Professor
 Douglas D. Webster, Professor
 Carl L. Beckwith, Associate Professor
 D. Mark DeVine, Associate Professor
 Steven R. Harmon, Associate Professor
 Patricia A. Outlaw, Associate Professor
 Robert Smith Jr., Associate Professor
 Mark S. Gignilliat, Assistant Professor
 Gisela H. Krelinger, Assistant Professor
 Osvaldo Padilla, Assistant Professor
 M. Sydney Park, Assistant Professor
 Gerald L. Bray, Research Professor
 Calvin A. Miller, Research Professor and Distinguished Writer-in-Residence

History

On February 9, 1988, the Board of Trustees of Samford University authorized the establishment of a School of Divinity beginning in the 1988-89 academic year. In one sense this action fulfilled the founding purpose of the University adopted in 1841, which provided for "the establishment of a Theological Institution, connected with the college hereinafter established."

In December 1988, the Samford Board of Trustees voted to name the school the Beeson School of Divinity in honor of Ralph Waldo Beeson and his late father, John Wesley Beeson. Ralph Beeson provided the largest gift from a living individual in Samford history to establish the only divinity school at that time at a Baptist college or university in the nation.

In its first year, Beeson School of Divinity secured the dean, four full-time faculty, and two adjunctive faculty, and enrolled 32 students.

The School of Divinity, like other entities of Samford University, is open to persons from all denominations. The confessional context in which the faculty teaches is defined by the Baptist Faith and Message Statement of 1963. The school offers quality theological education in a Christian university setting from an explicitly evangelical perspective. Non-Baptist faculty teach in accordance with their own convictions on matters of denominational distinctives.

Graduate Programs and Requirements

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)
 Master of Divinity with Emphasis in Church Music (M.Div.)
 Master of Divinity/Juris Doctor (M.Div./J.D.)
 Master of Divinity/Master of Business Administration (M.Div./M.B.A.)
 Master of Divinity/Master of Music (M.Div./M.M.)
 Master of Divinity/Master of Science in Education (M.Div./M.S.E.)
 Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)

Below and on the next page are brief summaries of the degree requirements for the M.Div. and D.Min. degrees, as well as joint degrees. Students seeking to enter a joint degree program must meet admission requirements for both schools participating in the joint program. Please refer to the Beeson School of Divinity Bulletin for further information on all curricular listings. To obtain a divinity school bulletin, application forms, or additional information, write the Director of Admissions, Beeson School of Divinity, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama 35229, or call 1-800-888-8266 or (205) 726-2066.

Master of Divinity

Admission to the master of divinity (M.Div.) program requires a bachelor's degree from a recognized institution. The M.Div. is the flagship degree of the Beeson School of Divinity. This degree requires at least 96 credits, with not less than two-thirds of these credits being completed at Samford. A minimum grade point average of 2.00 is required.

The M.Div. with emphasis in church music, offered through collaboration with the School of Music, is designed for persons who desire a stronger foundation in biblical, historical/theological, and ministry studies as preparation for ministry through music. This program includes all of the music components of the master of music degree, combined with core requirements from the master of divinity degree. The degree concludes with a recital and an oral comprehensive examination. (See School of the Arts, Division of Music for details.)

Master of Divinity Required Courses	Course Credits	Total Required Credits
Biblical Studies		32
Biblical Interpretation	2	
Old and New Testament Theology	6	
Introduction to Biblical Greek	6	
Greek Exegesis	6	
Introduction to Biblical Hebrew	6	
Hebrew Exegesis	6	
Historical and Doctrinal Studies		21
History and Doctrine	12	
Ecclesiology and Worship	3	
Pastoral Theology	3	
Christian Ethics	3	
Ministry Studies		30
Spiritual Formation	6	
Evangelism and Church Growth	3	
Christian Missions	3	
Christian Preaching	6	
Pastoral Counseling	3	
Ministry Leadership Development	9	
Electives		13
Total Required Credits		96

Doctor of Ministry

Admission to the doctor of ministry (D.Min.) program requires a master of divinity degree or its equivalent from an accredited school. As an advanced professional degree, admission requires a GPA of 3.00. Probationary admission is possible in some cases with a slightly lower average. Applicants must be engaged currently in vocational Christian ministry, with a minimum of three years of ministry experience since completing the master of divinity degree. The D.Min. degree requires 42 credits.

Doctor of Ministry Required Courses	Total Required Credits
On-Campus Seminars	
First Year – Two two-week Foundational Seminars	12
Second Year – One two-week Foundational Seminar One two-week Ministry Studies Seminar One semester of Research in Ministry	15
Third Year – One one-week Ministry Studies Seminar Ministry Praxis Proposal Seminar	6
Three Semesters of Approved-Field Supervision Concurrent with Seminars	3
Ministry Praxis Written Ministry Dissertation	6
Total Required Credits	42

Joint-Degree Programs

M.Div./M.B.A.

The M.Div./M.B.A. joint-degree program, offered by the Beeson School of Divinity and the School of Business, allows students to pursue the master of divinity degree and the M.B.A. degree concurrently. The program is designed to enrich the educational opportunities available to students in the separate disciplines by encouraging interdisciplinary approaches to ministry preparation and organizational problems that directly impact churches and other religious institutions. Students take 82 credits of coursework in the divinity school and 39 credits in the business school. Students interested in this joint program should apply to the School of Business for admission into the M.B.A. program at the conclusion of the first year of the M.Div. program.

M.Div./M.S.E.

The M.Div./M.S.E. joint-degree program combines work in the Beeson School of Divinity and the School of Education and Professional Studies. Twelve credits of education-degree coursework are accepted as part of the elective requirement of the M.Div. degree. Crossover credit from the divinity degree to the education degree is determined on a case-by-case basis as may be allowable within government regulations concerning teacher certification. Students normally are required to complete the first year of the M.Div. before beginning work in the School of Education and Professional Studies.

M.Div./J.D.

The M.Div./J.D. joint-degree program, offered in collaboration between the Beeson School of Divinity and the Cumberland School of Law, allows students to use 15 credits from each degree as crossover electives for the other degree, thus reducing the credits for both professional degrees from 186 to 156. Students must complete their first year of law school before beginning work in the divinity school.

M.Div./M.M.

The M.Div./M.M. joint-degree program, offered in conjunction with the School of Performing Arts, allows students to use credits from each school as part of the other school's degree, thus reducing credits for both degrees from 134 to 115. Divinity students must qualify for admission to the M.M. program no later than the beginning of the third semester of M.Div. work.

Nondegree Divinity Programs

Extension Division

The Extension Division is a nondegree program of lifelong theological education that prepares and equips Christian leaders for service in God's Kingdom. This program was begun in 1947 and became part of Beeson School of Divinity in 1988. Students who complete extension division courses earn certificate credit and continuing education units (CEUs).

The Extension Division offers instruction that is Biblically based, ecumenical, and administered with the highest integrity. The desired outcome of this program is transformed people who serve God in His Kingdom with excellence, confidence, and kindness.

Beeson School of Divinity and Samford University cooperate with local Christian associations and organizations in providing these courses for adult students from various educational backgrounds. The Extension Division curriculum includes biblical, theological, and practical ministry courses led by qualified and experienced instructors.

Over the last six decades, thousands of ministers and lay persons have received invaluable training through the Extension Division's local centers, prison centers, and on-campus classes and conferences. Approximately 35 of these schools operate across the state of Alabama.

Entrance Requirements

Classes are offered on a semester-to-semester basis. All students applying for admission to Extension Division classes must be at least 18 years of age and will be considered without regard to race, color, or national or ethnic origin. The Extension Division reserves the right to refuse admission or readmission to any student or prospective student.

Proficiencies/Certifications

Students can earn certificate credit based on the number of course hours that the individual has completed. Continuing education units (CEUs) are available upon request. Units of credit do not apply to a college degree.

For further information contact:

Extension Division
Samford University
Birmingham, Alabama 35229
Phone: (205) 726-2731 or (205) 726-2338.

Global Center

The Global Center in the Beeson School of Divinity exists to help people know their world, help people serve God in the world, and help the world know God through Jesus Christ. It serves as a research and networking center for the dissemination of information on Christian mission worldwide.

The Global Center exhibit area highlights cross-cultural Christian witness, and major issues of concern for the twenty-first century that affect that witness. Exhibit area computers offer a wealth of material on global issues and Christian ministry through carefully selected and regularly updated subscription-based Internet services and CD-ROMs.

Global Center staff is involved in teaching; speaking in church and academic settings; hosting conferences; facilitating short-term missions, mission research, and publishing.

For additional information please contact:

The Global Center
Beeson School of Divinity
Samford University
Birmingham, Alabama 35229-2268
Phone: (205)726-2170
Fax: (205)726-2271
Web site: www.beesondivinity.com

BEESON SCHOOL OF DIVINITY TUITION AND FEES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2010-2011*

*The following tuition and fees apply to Samford **Divinity** students. Unless otherwise indicated, all fees are due on or before the e-bill payment due date. See Refund Policies (p. 34) for payment regulations and refund notes, if applicable. For basic tuition and fees that apply to all or most graduate students, see p. 35.*

Description	Student Classification	Expense	Notes
Tuition			
Tuition Deposit	All Divinity Students	\$200	Nonrefundable; Due upon acceptance
Less than 9 credits	Part-Time Master's Degree Divinity Students	\$460/credit	
9 to 16 credits	Full-Time Master's Degree Divinity Students	\$4,845/semester	
More than 16 credits	Full-Time Master's Degree Divinity Students	\$460/credit	
All credits - Summer Term and Jan Term	All Master's Degree Divinity Students - Summer or Jan Term	\$185/credit (Sum 2010 & 2011) \$185/credit (Jan Term 2011)	
Doctor of Ministry	All Doctor of Ministry Students	\$310/credit (each semester)	
Doctor of Ministry Continuation Fee	All Doctor of Ministry Students granted extension beyond fourth year	\$1,000	
Extension Division**			
Institute Program	All Extension Division Students	\$40/course	
Registration Fee	All Extension Division Students	\$10/semester	
Fees			
Application Fee - Master's Degree Program	All Master's Degree Divinity Students	\$25/application	Nonrefundable; Due at time of application
Application Fee - Doctor of Ministry Program	All Doctor of Ministry Students	\$50/application	Nonrefundable; Due at time of application
Books and Supplies	All Master's Degree Divinity Students	\$1,250 (estimate)	Cash/check/credit card due at time of purchase
Books and Supplies	All Doctor of Ministry Students	\$825 (estimate)	Same as above
Campus Life Fee	All Divinity Students	\$35/term	
Technology Fee - Jan Term	All Divinity Students	\$20/term	
Technology Fee - Summer	All Divinity Students	\$30/term	
Technology Fee - Fall, Spring	All Divinity Students	\$110/semester	

* For complete details and additional information, contact the Director of Admissions and Recruitment, Beeson School of Divinity, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229-2252 or phone (205) 726-2991 or (800) 888-8266.

** The Extension Division Program is a non-degree seeking program. Courses do not earn college credit. For complete details and additional information, contact the Extension Division, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229-2252 or call (205) 726-2731 or (205) 726-2338.

NOTE 1: See p. 34 for a list of General Miscellaneous Fees that apply to ALL students.

NOTE 2: Fees are subject to change without notice. See the Bursar's Office Web site for the latest tuition and fee info: www.samford.edu/admin/bursar/fees.html

NOTE ON PAYMENT DUE DATE: Charges incurred after the e-bill has been generated for the semester/term are due on or before the e-bill due date. Charges incurred during the drop/add period are due when incurred. Late fee of 5% will be applied to the past due balance if not received in the Bursar's Office by the due date. See Payment Schedule on p. 34 for e-bill generation date, payment due date, and late fee assessment date.