



GENEVA COLLEGE

Department of Bible

MISSION

The mission of the department of Biblical Studies, Christian Ministries and Philosophy is to educate, in our fields of learning and expertise, servant leaders:

- Who know and love God as He is revealed in the Scriptures.
- Who reflect deeply on the most important issues human beings face.
- Who are competent in their designated fields of study.
- Who discern and develop their gifts, and use them in God's service.
- Who are engaged in transforming culture for the kingdom of God.

OVERVIEW

One of the major distinctives of our department is our redemptive-historical perspective, in which both the Old Testament and the New Testament are seen as the progressive unfolding of God's redemptive plan, culminating in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Additionally, Bible department faculty members highlight three areas of growth and development for our students:

SCHOLARSHIP

Students will be challenged to engage the course material, develop the skills to analyze it at a high level and evaluate it critically. Various perspectives will often be studied, which will challenge students to understand the world outside of the Reformed movement, yet in a safe place where historic orthodox views are held with deep conviction.

PRACTICAL MINISTRY

Students will be challenged to develop their practical ministry skills. Each course, from The Gospel of John to Augustine, will attempt to demonstrate how a study of the biblical text or a hero of the faith or an ancient philosopher relates to some aspect of practical ministry.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Students will be challenged to love Jesus Christ as Savior and King even more, to embrace the authority of Scripture with more fervency and to develop the various spiritual disciplines that—through the Holy Spirit—empower one for ministry.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Study abroad at Jerusalem University College, including participation in JUC's archeology program.
- Attend the annual Evangelical Theological Society conference with faculty.
- Internship possibilities include: local churches, Young Life, Silver Ring Thing, Coalition for Christian Outreach, Leader Treks, Ligonier Camp, Summer's Best Two Weeks, Tiger Pause and many more.
- Bitar lecture series: listen to nationally-known philosophers brought to campus.
- Vos lecture series: hear a visiting lecturer on redemptive history every year.
- Attend the Covenanter Theological Institute in Airdrie, Scotland to study the history and theology of the Scottish Reformation.
- Archaeology and geography of Israel: take advantage of an opportunity to visit significant sites in Israel.

BIBLICAL LANGUAGES

The Biblical Languages major trains students to develop strong facility in reading and understanding classical Hebrew and Hellenistic Greek, the two main languages of the Bible, in preparation for seminary or graduate school, or for various Christian ministries.

BIBLICAL STUDIES

The Biblical Studies major seeks to equip students to use the Bible fruitfully in life and ministry by challenging students to think Christianly, ultimately enabling students to succeed in Biblical studies at the graduate level or to enhance other disciplines. Our curriculum delivers a balance of theology and practical application from a Reformed Christian perspective.

PHILOSOPHY

The Philosophy major affords students the opportunity to engage the philosophical conversation, hone critical skills and passions, cultivate wisdom; for service, for living, in submission to Jesus Christ the Truth. Philosophy at Geneva encourages the critical evaluation of various philosophical positions in the light of Christian revelation and seeks to develop a point of view consistent with that revelation. Majoring in philosophy equips students to engage the fundamental questions of life from a Christian point of view.

STUDENT MINISTRY

The Student Ministry major delivers the foundation, ministry skills and attitudes that will prepare students to serve as ministers to youth in church or para-church settings. Students can choose to specialize in Urban Ministry, Children's Ministry, Outdoor/Experiential Education or College Ministry. In the senior year of study, students must complete an internship, equipping them with hands on experience where classroom knowledge can be practically applied. Faculty who teach in this major combine education with church experience, delivering to students an enriched learning context.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Students in the Christian Ministry major choose from two focused concentrations: Missions and Pre-Seminary. The Missions Track initially equips students who sense a calling for cross-cultural missions. The courses have a balanced mix of Biblical Studies, cross-cultural investigation and required experiences in a cross-cultural setting. The Pre-Seminary Track prepares students to pursue seminary training in preparation for professional ministry in a church vocation. Students experience balanced preparation including courses in theology, philosophy, church history and a practicum.

OUTCOMES

Graduates from the Bible department go on to serve in church or para-church organizations. Some have also gone on to serve as chaplains in the military, or to teach in a high school or college. Graduates have gone on to pursue masters or doctoral studies in various seminaries and graduate schools including: Reformed Theological Seminary, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Westminster Theological Seminary, Covenant Theological Seminary, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Asbury Theological Seminary, Fuller Theological Seminary, Catholic University of America, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, University of Pittsburgh, Purdue University, Temple University, Duquesne University and others.

INTERNSHIPS

Recent internships have included:

- Local Churches
- World Vision Gifts-in-Kind Distribution Center
- Young Life
- Ligonier Camps
- The Pittsburgh Project
- Missions exposure trips to Hong Kong, Zanzibar and Zambia, Russia, China, and Uganda

OUR FACULTY

The Bible department faculty is comprised of professors with a wide range of well-respected academic credentials. Each professor comes to the classroom with practical ministry and life experience, which helps the students to learn how the course of study can be applied outside of the classroom. The faculty is proactive when advising and helping students outside the classroom as well as during class. The professors all hold to a high view of the authority and inerrancy of Scripture, so you can be sure that the classroom curriculum finds its roots in the Bible. With the well-rounded faculty and the wide range of courses, the Geneva's Bible department will prepare you for whatever Biblical studies track you are pursuing.

DOUG BRADBURY (2007), Assistant Professor of Student Ministries; B.A., Geneva College; M.A., Geneva College

BYRON CURTIS (1991), Professor of Biblical Studies; B.A., Geneva College; M.Div., Reformed Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Westminster Theological Seminary

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ESTHER MEEK (2004), Associate Professor of Philosophy; B.A., Cedarville College; M.A., Western Kentucky University; Ph.D., Temple University

SCOTT SHIDEMANTLE (1997), Professor of Biblical Studies and CMN Program Director; B.A., Slippery Rock University; M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

DEAN SMITH (1990), Professor of Biblical Studies and Chair, department of Biblical Studies and Philosophy; B.A., Geneva College; M.Div., Reformed Presbyterian Seminary; D.Min., Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando.

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