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## ***Statement of Purpose***

The student body is open to all denominations.

We hold the philosophy that a student with a Liberal

Arts Education may study for a degree in religion without

A prerequisite Bachelor Degree. We are not in completion

with other channels of education. We offer this service for

those who desire and feel a need for it.

Gulf Coast College and Florida State Seminary admit students

of any race or color, nationality or ethnic origin to all rights,

privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to students

at the school. We do not discriminate on the basis of race or color,

nor ethnic origin in our administrative or educational policies.

## ***Gulf Coast College and Florida State Seminary***

***is guided by three (3) major purposes.***

1. To offer professional training for pastors, evangelist, educational directors and those engaged in various forms of Christian Services.
2. To equip leaders with the skills which will make them more effective in their service of the Word through the life of their denomination, church, school or ministry.
3. To provide quality education, at a reasonable cost, to all students, regardless of educational level prior to enrollment. The goal of Gulf Coast College and Florida State Seminary is to challenge every student to progress from their current level of learning to the next higher level.

Gulf Coast College and Florida State Seminary through their Educational opportunities is a outreach ministry in itself. Though the teaching of truth as it is presented in Holy Scriptures, the school is able to participate in the harvest of souls, through the many Christians who use their acquired knowledge to better serve Jesus Christ.

## ***What is a Seminary?***

The question is often asked. "What is the difference between a college and seminary.

The answer is due to the difference shown in scope and purpose. The college is broader in scope. Such schools offer training in many fields that lead to a variety of professional careers.

The seminary is a school of higher education designed to offer professional training for pastors, evangelist, educational directors and those engaged in other forms of Christian work. Upon completion of all academic courses required, graduates are equipped with the skills to pastor, teach, organize and serve in many areas of church and school life.

## ***What is Open College?***

This is a unique program that allows a student to obtain a degree through: internet, correspondence or specialized study.

This program provides educational opportunities for the individual whose busy schedule and obligations prevent on-campus classroom attendance. This is a viable and workable solution provided by many institutions of higher learning. The degree earned through the Open college program is recognized as the same as those conferred upon students attending on-campus classes.

Many pastors and renowned leaders have opted to participate in this type of degree attainment; as it does not interfere with active Christian service, but instead allows the individual to pursue educational goals without having to relocate.

**Resident Students** find that O-C is an excellent way to earn additional Credits toward their degree programs during holidays and summer.

**In-Service military personnel** enroll to acquire basic Bible knowledge and skills to grow spiritually.

**School Teachers** can complete degrees and certification requirements.

**Inmates** can study while incarcerated as a way of growing in their faith.

**Church Staff** can increase and improve their ministry skills.

**Homemakers** can gain knowledge and skills needed to teach their children.

**Study Groups** can together dig deeper into the Word of God.

### ***What are the advantages of our college and seminary?***

**Primarily**, there is a spirit of devotion among the students

as each work toward a common goal. A more fruitful life and ministry.

**Secondly**, there is a financial advantage. The cost is only a fraction of that of other colleges and seminaries.

**Finally**, the focus on academics helps the student achieve their individual goal while, at the same time, allowing the student to serve full-time at their present position without interruption.

## ***Statement on tongues speaking.***

Florida State Seminary does not uphold to the modern

tongues speaking movement for the following reasons:

1. It usually gives an undue prominence to a gift that has only limited Use in Holy Scripture.
2. It often suggest that tongues-speaking is the necessary evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit. When in fact, the New Testament does not state such.
3. It tends to place more emphasis on tongues-speaking as an external manifestation of the Holy Spirit; than on the work of the Holy Spirit within the believer, to produce character and behavior.
4. It claims that “ecstatic utterance” is also tongues-speaking when there seems to be good reason for believing that the gift in the New Testament Times was that of speaking in previously unlearned languages.
5. It often fails to see that God sovereignly gives His gifts, not on demand, and not to everyone.

We do not deny that God sovereignly gives His gifts, including tongues; but do doubt that most of the emphasis of the modern tongues-speaking movement are not biblically sound. In stating our position, we do not mean to detract from the sincerity of many within this movement.

In accordance with this statement, we must ask that neither student nor employees propagate the teaching or emphasis of the tongues-speaking movement within, or at our institution. We should rather seek the more useful and edifying gifts. (I Cor. 12:13,14:1)

## ***Doctrinal Statement***

### **Article I:**

God is a person who has revealed himself as a trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Three manifestations, yet one God. (Deut.6:4; Matt. 28:19; I Cor.8:6)

### **Article II:**

The Bible, including both the Old and New Testaments, is the divine revelation.

And that the original autograph were verbally inspired by the Holy Spirit.

(II Tim. 3:16; II Peter 1:21)

### **Article III:**

Jesus Christ is the visible image of the invisible God, which is to say, He himself is God. He took upon himself our nature, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. That He died upon the cross as a substitutionary sacrifice for the sin of the world. He arose from the dead in the body in which He was crucified. He ascended into heaven in that body glorified, where he is now interceding as the believers High Priest. That He will come again; personally and visibly, to set up His kingdom and judge the living and the dead. (Col.1:15; Phil.2:5-8; Matt.1:25-28; I Peter 2:24-25; Luke 24; Heb. 4:14-16; Acts 1:9-11; I Thess. 4:16-18; Matt. 25:31-46; Rev. 11:15-17; 20:4-15)

### **Article IV:**

Man was created in the image of God, but fell into sin, and is lost. That this is true of all men; and except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Salvation is by grace through faith in Christ who bore our sins in His own body on the cross. The retribution of the wicked and unbelieving and the reward of the righteous are everlasting. (Gen. 1:26-27; I Tim. 3:10-23; John 3:3; Acts 4:12; 13:38-39; John 3:16; Matt25:46; II Cor. 5:1; I Thess 1:7-10).

**Article V:**

The Church is an elect company of believers; baptized by the Holy Spirit into the body. Its mission is to witness concerning its Head, Jesus Christ, preaching the gospel among all nations. Those in the Church will be caught up to meet Christ when he appears to set up His Kingdom. (Acts 2:41; 15:13-17; Eph. 1:3-6; I Cor. 12:12-13; Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:6-8; I Thess. 4:16-18)

## ***Introduction***

### **History**

Since its inception as Gulf Coast Seminary in 1972 by Dr. Charles L. Merchant, both Gulf Coast College and Florida State Seminary have been dedicated to the philosophy that educated stewards of the Word of God are a necessary reality in the presentation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The seminary was so named because of its geographical location.

Dr. Larry E. Wade succeeded Dr. Merchant in 1990 and is the schools present President and Chief Administrative Office. Under his leadership the schools added academic programs to include liberal arts and science degrees.

### **Ideals**

Both Gulf Coast College and Florida State Seminary are committed to the conservative viewpoint, standing to the primacy of the divinely authoritative inerrant Scripture.

Both schools are independent in status and in perspective. Our instructions include teaching, defending the applying the truths of Biblical Faith given in the framework of evangelical, premillennial theology.

## ***Message from the Chancellor***

We here at Gulf Coast College and Florida State Seminary extend to you an invitation to become part of one of the most innovative institutions for the preparation of concerned, educated and trained Christian Leadership in America and across the globe.

If all you desire is an academic education, GCC/ is not for you.

But if you have a desire to be taught the practical application of what You learn academically in class, we are what you have been looking for. Every faculty member is active within the local church ministry and will demonstrate the use of what they teach.

It is our responsibility to help you achieve the goals that you desire and need, to further your education and ministry. We here at FSS feel that God has given each of us the prior

Education and training to assure that you receive the best possible Preparation so that you may be an effective and affective servant of God.

Come join the Florida State Seminary family! A choice you'll never regret.

In Christ Service with You,

Larry E. Wade Ph.D.

## ***Administration***

Chancellor.....Larry E. Wade  
President.....Santarvis Brown  
Academic Dean.....James Braxton  
Dean of Student Affairs.....Roger Krans

## ***Board of Trustees***

The Board of Trustees is comprised of Christian Leadership from various communities and representation from most of the major denominations.

John Rigby.....Smiths Station, AL.

Roger Krans.....Crystal Lake, FL.

James Braxton...Cottdale, FL.

Charles Key.....Cedar Grove, FL.

Larry Malone.....Panama City Beach, FL.

Robert Oeder.....Morrow, Ohio

Cecil Ried.....

Terry Fitzgerald..Quincy, FL.

Art Zediker.....Panama City, FL.

Emmett Hill.....Callaway, FL.

Wayne Freeberg..Jacksonville, FL.

## ***Resident Faculty***

James Gray Braxton	BS University of West Florida
Terry Fitzgerald	BA Gulf Coast College (candidate)
Keith Gann	BS University of Alabama M.Div. NBTSeminary/D.Min. GCCS
Charles Key	BA Baptist College of Florida
Roger Krans	BA Gulf Coast College
Larry Wade	AA Gulf Coast Community College BA Trinity College/MS Air University M.Div. Temple Seminary/MS, Ed.D, Ph.D. GCCS
Reginald Washington	BA Gulf Coast College (candidate)
Art Zediker	BS Florida State/DMD Univ. of Louisville D.Min. GCCS

## ***Adjunct Faculty***

There are more than 50 of the world's leading professionals who will enhance your education through on site, internet and DVD training.

### **How can higher education benefit you?**

Whether you study alone, or enlist others to form a small study group, you will be joining thousands of others who have found that taking a course or completing a degree program brings worthwhile benefits.

Classes, training, certifications and degrees; all bring opportunity.

## ***Admission Requirements and Procedures***

### **Initial contact:**

The catalog and other informational brochures regarding

FSS are available, without charge, upon request. Initial

Correspondence with reference to admission to the

Seminary should be addressed to:

***Florida State Seminary***

***2240 Edgewood Dr.***

***Panama City, FL. 32405***

Perspective students are encouraged to maintain close

Communication with the school concerning the status of

their application process. Inquiries may be made by mail

or by phoning 1-888-.

### **Date of Admission:**

Gulf Coast has an open date of admission policy. You may

Enter any non-resident program at any time. Resident programs

Have set semesters and classroom schedules.

**Policy of non-discrimination:**

FSS admits all students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin.

Enrolled students have all rights, privileges, scholarships, programs and

Activities generally accorded or made available to students at FSS.

**NOTE:** Before a student's application is accepted, they must sign a Statement of Character. If it is determined that any student does not meet the character standards set within this catalog, they will not be admitted. If after admission a student is found to be demonstrating a life outside the realm of FSS's character; they will be dismissed from the school.

**Letter of recommendation from pastor:**

A letter of personal recommendation is required, testifying to the prospective student's good character and suitability for training for Christian service. In the event the applicant is already serving as a pastor of a church, the letter should come from a senior pastor or denominational representative.

**Personal References:**

Two letters of recommendation are required from friends who have known the applicant for at least 1 year.

**Time limitation for application:**

The application to FSS is valid for a period of one year from the date of original application. After one year, the application is removed from school files and a new application must be submitted.

**Re-admission of former students:**

A student who has been out of school less than one semester may continue the next semester without application. All others must submit a new application and fees.

**Granting credit for previous experience:**

Academic credit, up to 25% is granted for previous experiential learning for related field experience toward the completion of requirements toward any degree program. This is done through: examination, certification, credentialization or life experience.

**Directed Independent Study :**

A qualified student, in the final year of any program, may petition the faculty for permission to engage in directed study in a subject of special interest that is not currently offered by FSS. The student must have a 3.0 GPA.

The purpose of this program is to provide opportunity for advanced research, curriculum writing and academic

excellence.

**Auditing of courses:**

Students may request permission to audit elective courses for their own personal enrichment. No academic credit will be given. Request must be submitted to the FSS

The cost for auditing a class is \$50.00. If it is a DVD course and any single DVD is lost, the student must pay for a complete replacement DVD course(\$250.00)

**Class Assignments:**

Class papers and assignments must be submitted on or before the due date announced by the professor. Late papers may be refused or lowered at the discretion of the professor. There is no obligation for the professor to provide make-up for late work.

**Examinations:**

Examinations during the term must be taken at the time announced by the professor. All make-up examinations must be completed within two weeks from the original exam date, or at a time designated by the professor.

**Incomplete work:**

All work required in a course is due by the end of the term or when designated by the professor. Incomplete grades (I) are given only when emergencies arise. Any work which is incomplete at the end of the term may only be made up at the discretion of the course professor. A grade penalty may be assessed even though the student is allowed to make up the work. Any grade of incomplete (I) must be removed within 30 days after the end of the term, or the grade automatically becomes a failing grade.

## ***Grading regulations***

### **Grading Scale:**

**TR** Transfer credit accepted from other institutions.

**A** 90-100.....4 points

**B** 80-89 .....3 Points

**C** 70-79.....2 Points

**D** 60-69.....1 Points

Below 60.....0 Points

**WP** Withdrawal while passing

**WF** Withdrawal while failing

**P** Passed

**EX** Exempt

**AS** Advanced Standing

**AC** Audit Complete

**AW** Audit Withdrawal

### **Transcript of grades:**

All grades are permanently recorded on the student's official academic transcript and become a part of his or her scholastic record.

### **Repetition of classes:**

When a student repeats a course due to an unsatisfactory grade, the new grade takes the place of the previous grade on their official transcript.

## ***Recognition of Academic Achievement***

### **Graduation with honors:**

The standards for students graduating with honors are as follows:

GPA of 3.8 – 4.0      **“Magna Cum Laude”**

GPA of 3.65 -3.79      **“Summa Cum Laude”**

GPA of 3.50 -3.64      **“Cum Laude”**

## ***General Requirements for Graduation***

In order to qualify for graduation from Florida State Seminary, each student must fulfill the specific program requirements stipulated in this catalog with regard to his or her respective degree program. In addition, each student must satisfy the following general requirements.

### **Academic Credit:**

Of the total number of credit hours required for graduation

In the student’s respective degree program, he or she must

Complete the last thirty-two (32) credit hours at FSS.

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 in order to be eligible to graduate.

**Financial responsibility:**

For a current schedule of fees and tuition, please contact the office of admissions @ 1-888-.

Gulf Coast College and seminary prefers that all fees and tuition be paid in full at the time of enrollment. However, realizing that this is not always possible, FSS offers three (3) structured methods of installment payments.

1. \$100.00 Registration and enrollment fee and first monthly payment. The balance can be paid in equal monthly payments, until account is paid in full.
2. \$100.00 Registration and enrollment fee and then \$50.00 per month until account is paid in full. No diploma or transcript will be awarded until there is a zero balance.
3. \$100.00 registration and enrollment fee and then four (4) equal monthly payments per semester.

**Note:** These payment plans *do not include* text or classroom fees.

**Refunds:**

Refunds will be granted according to the official date of withdrawal. Merely ceasing to attend class does not constitute official withdrawal.

<b>Period of Attendance</b>	<b>Percent of Refund</b>
1 – 2 weeks	80%
3 – 5 weeks	60%
Beyond 6 weeks	0%

**Note:** If under the monthly payment plan, there is no refund.

### ***Tuition Cost***

Enrollment Fee.....\$100 one time fee

Undergraduate Studies.....\$50 per credit hour

MA/MS Studies.....\$120 pch

M.Divinity Studies.....\$120 pch

D. Ministry Studies.....\$150 pch

Ph.D. Studies.....\$150 pch

All courses are to be enrolled in separately, and do not

include text or classroom fees.

**Tuition Savings Plan:**

Full Payment at enrollment.....20%

Full Payment in 30 days.....10%

Prior to graduation, each student must settle all financial obligations to FSS. No certificates, transcripts or degrees will be awarded until all accounts are cleared.

**Graduation requirements:**

Each student must participate in a formal graduation ceremony to be held by the college or seminary, unless granted special permission by the President of FSS.

***Disciplinary regulations***

**Unsatisfactory academic progress:**

A required course in which a grade of D is received must be repeated until a passing grade is attained.

At GCCS; no one fails, unless they fail to finish.

The overall GPA of a student must remain above 2.50 in order for a student to remain enrolled at FSS.

**Academic probation:**

FSS reserves the right to place a student whose GPA drops below 2.50 on academic probation. This Probation last for one semester. If after that probationary semester, the student's GPA is not above 2.50, the student may be dismissed. In no case may the student remain on academic probation for more than two (2) semesters.

**Academic dismissal:**

Any student whose academic progress is unsatisfactory may be dismissed by FSS.

**Disciplinary dismissal:**

Florida State Seminary reserves the right to dismiss any student who, in the opinion of the School Board, proves to be unfit to continue in the programs due to moral, ethical or theological issues.

**Re-admission after academic or disciplinary dismissal:**

Any student who has been dismissed from FSS must remain out of enrollment at FSS for at least one year. If the student desires to apply for re-admission, he or she must follow the procedure set forth in this catalog.

FSS still reserves the right to refuse re-admission.

## ***RELIGIOUS BACHELOR OF ARTS/SCIENCE***

The undergraduate programs are professional degrees intended for persons who are at least twenty (20) years of age, who hold a high school diploma or equivalency certificate.

The programs are designed to equip students for service within Christian Ministry such as: pastor, associate minister, evangelist, missionary, school teacher, church planter, ect.

These four (4) year programs require one-hundred- twenty (120) credit hours of study. At least thirty-two (32) of credit hours must be completed at GCCS.

### **Educational objectives:**

The undergraduate programs are designed to provide an opportunity for the student to grow toward personal maturity and professional competence in the practice of their related field of study.

### **Foundational studies:**

These programs seek to guide the student to develop the ability in understanding and interpreting the Christian Faith in light of its Biblical, theological and historical dimensions.

## ***Religious Master of Arts/Science***

The master's programs are professional graduate degrees beyond the bachelor level. These degrees are designed to equip the student for service such as: Educational Director, Administrator, Lead Teacher, and other leadership area positions.

These are two (2) year programs requiring four-two (42) credit hours. At least thirty (30) credit hours must be completed at FSS.

Bible Studies.....	12 credit hours
Theology.....	9 credit hours
Education.....	6 credit hours
History.....	6 credit hours
Electives.....	9 credit hours

## ***Master of Divinity***

The Master of Divinity program is a professional degree program beyond the bachelor or its equivalent. It is designed to equip the student for the Gospel Preaching Ministry. This degree is required by most denominations for entry at the Senior Pastoral Level and for all military Chaplaincy programs.

This is a three (3) year program requiring ninety (90) credit hours. At least sixty (60) credit hours must be completed at FSS.

Orientation.....	1 credit hour
Biblical Languages.....	12 credit hours
Theology.....	9 credit hours
History.....	9 credit hours
Biblical Studies.....	12 credit hours
Educational Studies.....	9 credit hours
Psychological Studies.....	12 credit hours
Philosophical Studies.....	12 credit hours
Electives.....	24 credit hours

The cost of the Master of Divinity program is \$125.00 per credit hour. Note the payment schedules under **financial**

**responsibility and tuition cost.**

## ***DOCTOR OF MINISTRY***

The D.Min. program is an advanced professional degree which is designed to enable the student to practice ministry at an exceptionally high level of competency. This degree is built upon the Master of Divinity completion. This program intergrates the classical disciplines of biblical, historical, theological, social and linguistic studies with those significant task of one who is in the midst of the practice of

It will enhance the students ability to research and write at the professional level.

**NOTE:** This doctoral degree is specifically designed for those who do not wish to continue in advanced Greek and Hebrew or write a thesis.

### **Educational objectives:**

1. To develop a theology of ministry which is responsive to he leadership of God.
2. To renew the personal life of faith and servant-hood of the articipant.
3. To satisfy the demand of continued education for advancement within ministry.
4. To stimulate theological and biblical growth.
5. To enable the participant to communicate the Word of God more effectively.
6. To build competence and confidence in the participant.
7. To provide excellence in Leadership.

**Procedures for Admission**

An applicant must submit three (3) copies of a ten (10) page essay

Which includes the following:

1. Three (3) pages autobiography.
2. One (1) page self-personality sketch.
3. Two (2) pages describing vocational experience and Ministry intentions.
4. Four (4) pages relating to the applicants view of Christian Ministry.

**Ministry Project**

In addition to completion of thirty-six (36) semester hours of doctoral level work in courses, a student must complete a professional project. The Ministry Project is supervised local church project. A proposal for the project should clearly identify the nature of the project and must be approved by the Doctor of Ministry Committee.

Biblical Studies.....	9 credit hours
Historical Studies.....	6 credit hours
Theological Studies.....	9 credit hours
Electives.....	12 credit hours
Ministry project.....	6 credit hours

**Program cost:**

The cost of the Doctor of Ministry Program is \$150.00 per credit Hour. Note the payment program under **financial responsibility**

and tuition cost.

## ***DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY***

The Doctor of Philosophy degree is designed to equip the student for creative scholarship, independent research, effective teaching and preaching. This program involves a minimum of two (2) years of study beyond the Master of Divinity or its equivalent level.

The Ph.D. program is specifically designed for those who desire to enter the ministry of teaching at the graduate level.

### **Creative scholarship:**

The Ph.D. program seeks to guide the student to develop the capacity for critical evaluation and quality research, which produces creative scholarship and contributes to the field of theological knowledge and literature.

The Ph.D. program seeks to guide the student to develop competence in the area of independent research and proficiency in scholarly writing.

### **Graduate level teaching:**

The student is required to teach, under supervision, for six (6) weeks in the field of study to which he or she is majoring.

**Biblical language requirements:**

The applicant must have completed at least six (6) hours of Greek and three (3) hours of Hebrew; for a total of nine (9) credit hours of biblical languages. ***NO STUDENT WILL GRADUATE WITHOUT FULFILLING THIS REQUIREMENT.***

**Procedure for admission:**

Each applicant must make application through the Office of the Graduate Committee. Application for admission into the specific program leading to the Ph.D. requires a personal contact from one of the committee members. Allow between thirty (30) and forty-five (45) days from time of submission of transcripts and application materials.

**Conditional admission:**

At the discretion of the Graduate Committee, an applicant may be admitted on a conditional basis; for a period of one (1)Year. At the completion of that year, with satisfactory work, the applicant is granted full admission. All Ph.D. students must maintain a 3.0 GPA. A student may also be required to complete any area of deficiency.

**Transfer of credits**

No credits toward this degree are accepted for transfer. All

work must be completed at Florida State Seminary.

**Course requirements:**

The prospective candidate will be given a specialized curriculum to meet their individual needs. This will be accomplished once all credentialization is completed by the Graduate Committee.

The student will then be assigned those courses deemed most suitable to their individual situation. They will also be assigned a mentor/professor.

The Ph.D. Program consist of forty-two (42) credit hours. Thirty-six (6) credit hours and a six (6) credit hour thesis.

