



CENTRAL VALLEY
SCHOOL *of* MINISTRY

Course Catalog
2017-2018



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A Message from the President

The call is clear, the need is overwhelming, and the time is short. Jesus has entrusted His followers, the Church, with the commission of reaching our world with the gospel of the Kingdom in order to make disciples, replicating the character and ministry of Jesus Himself.

Our immediate mission field is the Central Valley where less than 20% of our population attend church on any given Sunday. This is far less than the percentage of attendance in countries like Nigeria and Haiti. Our challenge has been to make disciples and prepare people for vocational as well as marketplace ministry at a point in life when they have families, mortgages, and responsibilities which prevent uprooting and going to Bible College or Seminary.

We believe that like produces like; and while Christians should reproduce Christians, churches should reproduce churches. Therefore Central Valley School of Ministry was founded from within the local church and exists to serve all local churches in the area in raising up leaders and pastors who will help many local churches reproduce themselves.

Not only will Central Valley School of Ministry help to meet the ministry needs of our area, but we believe God will even send our graduates to the nations. We are a global-minded School of Ministry attempting to make global-minded disciples.

I pray that you will consider how the school can further equip you for works of ministry and I look forward to meeting you and serving you as we labor together for God's glory.

Brian Cain, MA New Testament Theology

President

Central Valley School of Ministry

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www.centralvalleysom.org

Statement of Non-Discrimination

The Central Valley School of Ministry admits students of any race, color, nation and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, tuition assistance, and or any other school-administered program.

General Information

HISTORY

Central Valley School of Ministry began in Fall 2005 as a local church-based ministry training school serving the Central California San Joaquin Valley. CVSOM was started to meet the need for convenient, accessible and practical ministry training for leaders serving in the local church and ministering for Christ in the workplace. In the first twelve years over three hundred and forty have enrolled and more than two hundred and twenty have completed the one-year ministry training program.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Central Valley School of Ministry exists to develop Christian leaders in biblical understanding, ministry skills and personal maturity, equipping them to fulfill God's call to serve the local church, establish new churches, minister cross-culturally and develop workplace ministry.

AFFILIATION

Central Valley School of Ministry is a non-profit school affiliated with The Foursquare Denomination. The school is a certified training institution of The Foursquare Church. It is interdenominational and welcomes students from other Christian churches. Central Valley School of Ministry is not accredited. The goal is ministry training and certification rather than degree completion. However, transferability of credits is available with Life Pacific College, The King's University, California Christian College, and South Eastern University

LOCATION

Central Valley School of Ministry is located at Valley Christian Center and meets on their campus at 4649 E. Shields in Fresno, California, located in the Central San Joaquin Valley. Central Valley School of Ministry is currently expanding to satellite cohorts throughout the Central Pacific District via online education.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

In the context of its commitment to the Foursquare Statement of Faith, Central Valley School of Ministry is a school that adheres to the following tenets of faith based on the Bible, the inspired Word of God.

- We believe in God the Father, creator and sustainer of all, Who so loved humankind, made in His image, that He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, born of a virgin, to be the Savior of Adam's lost and fallen race.
- We believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ, who through His death and resurrection, is the sufficient sacrifice for the sin of the world. Through repentance and faith all who receive Him are born anew and adopted into the family of God as His children.
- We believe in God the Holy Spirit, Who brings new life to those dead in sin, indwells all who receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, baptizes, fills and gifts for service those who ask in faith, and Who continually transforms into Christ's likeness all who walk according to the Spirit.
- We believe in the Gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ as God's sole and sufficient plan of deliverance from sin's penalty and Satan's power and His full provision of grace for righteous and holy living.
- We believe the Church is the Body of Christ and includes all who through repentance and faith have received Jesus Christ as Savior and publicly confessed and follow Him as Lord.
- We believe the Bible is the Word of God, inspired by the Spirit of God, without error in the original manuscripts and infallible in its truth for faith and life.
- We believe in the unity of the Church under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and His commission to go into all the world preaching the Gospel, baptizing those who believe and making disciples of all nations.
- We believe in the imminent, visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ to earth to reign in righteousness and in the final judgment of all humankind into eternal union with God of those who believe in Jesus Christ and eternal separation from God of those who do not believe.

Academic Information

ADMISSION

Central Valley School of Ministry requires a high school diploma or equivalent (GED) for entrance. Prior college experience, though not required, is helpful in light of the fact that the level of instruction and learning hours are comparable to that of an accredited Bible College. As a Christian training institution Central Valley School of Ministry requires applicants to affirm and agree with the historic Christian faith as expressed in the Nicene Creed. An application process, including a non-refundable application fee, is required for enrollment in the program for all credit and audit (noncredit) students.

REGISTRATION

Registration for classes takes place four to six weeks before the Fall, Winter and Spring Trimesters. Classes can be taken for credit or no credit. A prospective student may take for credit a maximum of two class sessions without applying for admission. Thereafter, they will be required to go through the application process.

PROGRAM

Central Valley School of Ministry currently offers one course of study; the one-year, twenty-five unit Christian Ministry Certification program consisting of nine core courses, two ministry seminars, a directed study and three ministry mentoring internships (one each trimester).

GRADING

Central Valley School of Ministry functions as an adult-education institution. Satisfactory completion of all course assignments is the basis of credit. Grading is based on the following scale:

A = 93-100
A- = 90-92
B+ = 88-89
B = 83-87
B- = 80-82
C+ = 78-79

C = 73-77
C- = 70-72
D+ = 68-69
D = 63-67
D- = 60-62
F = 59 and below

Late work may only be turned in with permission of the instructor who also determines the grade reduction and date due.

*Generic Calendar**

(2017-2018)

Application for Admission deadline: August 15, 2017

Fall Trimester 2017 (class registration deadline: August 31, 2017)

Sept.-Dec

- One week before class. New student orientation
- Sept. Oct. Nov. Fall ministry mentoring internship (1 unit)
- Five Weeks Old Testament Survey (2.5 units)
- One Saturday Saturday Ministry Training Seminar (1.5 units)
- WEEK OFF
- Five Weeks New Testament Survey (2.5 units)
- Friday-Saturday Biblical Interpretation (1.5 units)

Winter Trimester 2018 (class registration deadline: December 15, 2017)

Jan.-March

- Jan., Feb., Mar. Winter ministry mentoring internship (1 unit)
- Five Weeks Biblical Theology:
The Kingdom of God (2.5 units)
- One Saturday Saturday Ministry Training Seminar (.5 unit)
- WEEK OFF
- Five Weeks Spiritual Formation & Disciplines (2.5 units)
- Friday-Saturday Disciples of All Nations (1.5 units)

Spring Trimester 2018 (class registration deadline: March 15, 2018)

Apr.-June

- Apr, May, June Spring ministry mentoring internship (1 unit)
- Five Weeks Communication:
Biblical Teaching & Preaching (2.5 units)
- Saturday Directed Study: Urban Outreach (1.5 units)
- WEEK OFF
- 5 Weeks Church History (2.5 units)
- Friday - Saturday Banquet and Saturday Seminar (.5 unit)

Graduation 2018: Sunday in July

**Calendar is subject to change due to instructor availability, etc.*

Course Descriptions

ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY (25 UNITS)

****Core Courses (9 required)**

Old Testament Survey (2.5 units)

A survey of the books of the Old Testament with a view to understanding how they lay the foundation and find their fulfillment in the New Testament revelation of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and how they equip the people of God for every good work by teaching, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness.

New Testament Survey (2.5 units)

A survey of the books of the New Testament with a view to understanding how they fulfill the hope and promises of the Old Testament for a savior and deliverer and how they equip the Body of Christ for every good work by teaching, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness.

Biblical Interpretation: How to Study Your Bible (1.5 units)

An introduction to the inductive, direct method of the study of Scripture focusing on observation, interpretation, correlation and application so the student may “rightly divide the word of truth” for both personal study and growth and public teaching and preaching.

Biblical Theology: the Kingdom of God (2.5 units)

A study of the theology of the New Testament in its historical setting with a major focus on Christ’s teaching on the kingdom of God as the foundation for ministry in the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Christian Spiritual Formation (2.5 units)

A study and practice of the basic disciplines of spiritual life which nourish inner life, growth and transformation by the working of the Holy Spirit through “means of grace.”

Communication: Biblical Teaching and Preaching (2.5 units)

A study of the art and practice of preparation and public communication of biblical truth in teaching and preaching for the building up, lifting up and stirring up of the Church, the Body of Christ.

Church History (2.5 units)

An overview of the major ecclesiastical “streams” which have characterized the life and progress of the Church since the Day of Pentecost with a view to understanding key individuals and events and their contributions to the historical development of the Christian Church.

Disciples of All Nations: Continuous Mission Until He Comes (1.5 units)

A biblical, historical, and practical study of the four-stage process that develops reproducible and expanding church movements through discipleship.

****Possible Ministry Seminars (2 required)**

Seeing the World With Hebrew Eyes: Embracing a Biblical Worldview (1.5 units)

This seminar explores the worldview inherent to the biblical writers and assumptions that constitutes the Hebraic thought world of the Scriptures. The “Jewishness” of the Bible is proposed as essential to proper biblical interpretation, Christian belief, and to living a truly Christian life.

The Book of Revelation (.5 unit)

A seminar focused on examining the Book of Revelation and its purpose in its original context and setting.

Balancing Word & Spirit (.5 unit)

A seminar focused on communicating and teaching the scriptures accurately while at the same time making room for the Holy Spirit to inspire and speak today.

Maintaining Sound Doctrine (.5 unit)

A seminar focused on the essential truths of the Christian faith that nurture sound doctrine and godly living as well as learning how to identify and deal with false and unsound teaching.

Mormonism Explained (.5 unit)

A seminar focused on what the Church of Latter Day Saints believes and teaches. This seminar not only answers questions regarding the Mormon faith, but also examines how Christians can effectively share the Gospel with their Mormon friends and neighbors.

****Directed Study (required)**

Missions Outreach (1.5 units)

Participation in an urban, local or overseas missions outreach accompanied by guided reading and the writing of a ministry focus paper on reaching under-evangelized and unreached people.

****Internship (required)**

Ministry Mentoring Internship (3 units: 1 unit per trimester)

A guided practical application of classroom instruction in the field of assigned ministry each trimester (Fall, Winter, Spring) through the oversight and regular interaction with a pastor, pastoral staff member or Christian ministry leader. Mentors function as coaches and counselors, meeting with their mentorees at least twice a month for prayer, counsel and interaction concerning ministry, personal growth and leadership development.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Council Training

The church council is vital to the health of a congregation's pastoral staff. This hour long course addresses the roles, responsibilities, and requirements of a Foursquare Church council. (Cost: Free)

Islam (coming soon)

Many Christians live in fear of their Muslim neighbors and are confused by the teachings of Islam. This seminar seeks to answer the many questions surrounding the Muslim faith and to give apologetic answers to the Qu'ran through textual criticism. (Cost: \$20.00)

Leadership 101 (coming soon)

This seminar examines what true leadership looks like and how it affects the local church. This course equips leaders with tools and practical tips for empowering those around them. (Cost: \$20.00)

Administration: Not a Necessary Evil, but a Key to Revival (coming soon)

This seminar provides a framework for administration that brings multiplication of people and functional discipleship. This course aims to equip both pastors and non-pastors in understanding budgeting, finances, and the administration of our most precious asset, "people." (Cost: \$20.00)

Women in Ministry Leadership (coming soon)

In this short session, Dr. Mary Jo Burchard presents the paper "She is to Keep Silent: An Ideological Texture Analysis of 1 Timothy 2:8-15". The biblical role and expectation of women is examined through textual analysis and criticism. (Cost: Free)

Financial Information

FEES & TUITION

Fees and tuition are modest. The application fee for admission is \$30.00. Tuition is \$50 per unit, or \$1250 for the 25 unit Christian Ministry Certificate program. A married spouse receives a 10% reduction which is applicable if enrollment takes place within one year of the enrollment of one spouse. Auditors pay 50% of credit tuition cost, or \$25 per unit. Graduates of the school pay no tuition fees for courses they choose to attend which they have already taken.

PAYMENT & REFUNDS

1/3 of the total tuition is due at the time of registration each trimester with the remaining due throughout in the trimester. All fees and tuition must be paid upon completion of the program. The deadline for a refund of tuition is the second week of each upon written request and formal withdrawal from the school.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Tuition assistance up to 25% is available each trimester following the Fall Trimester upon application to and approval by the Administrative Committee. The student's church is asked to match the amount the school provides in assistance up to 25% of the tuition total. The student is asked to pay the remaining 50% each trimester.

GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Central Valley School of Ministry is governed and administrated through a local Board of Directors and a local Administrative Committee chosen by the Board of Directors. The chairperson of the Board of Directors and the Administrative Committee is the President. The President oversees the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Administrative Committee. Current members of the Board of Directors are Brian Cain (President), Ryan Davis (Secretary), Mary Jo Burchard (Treasurer) and Stephanie Behl.

Personnel

FACULTY



Brian Cain, president/director, Central Valley School of Ministry,
lead pastor, Grace Place, Fresno, CA
B.A., Southern California College, 1986
M.A., Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary, 2010
26 years in Christian ministry



John L. Amstutz, founder, Central Valley School of Ministry
B.A., Pasadena College, 1959
M. Div., Fuller Theological Seminary, 1962
Th. M., Fuller Theological Seminary, 1964
D. Min., Fuller Theological Seminary, 1977
48 years in Christian higher education and
Christian ministry



Ryan Davis, senior pastor, Life Community Church, Fresno, CA
Ph.D. University of Birmingham (in progress)
B.A., The Kings College, 2000
M.A., Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary 2012
12 years in Christian ministry



David Chumley, director of camps and conferences, Calvin Crest, CA
B.A. LIFE Bible College, 1989
M.A. Johnson Bible College, 2007
D.Mis. Fuller Theological Seminary, 2015



Tim Geddert, professor, Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary
B.A., University of Saskatchewan
M.Div., Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary
Ph.D., Aberdeen University
35 years in Christian Ministry



David Moore, founding pastor, New Hope Church,
M.G. “Pat” Robertson Professor, The King s University
Director, Academic Affairs, The King s University
Th. B., Pacific Coast Bible College, 1989
M.A., Oral Roberts University, 1996
D. Min., Regent University, 1996
Ph. D., Regent University, 2008
40 years in Christian higher education and Christian ministry



Carlos Raines, dean, St. James Anglican Cathedral, Fresno, CA
B.A., Clemson University, 1977
M. Div., Trinity College/University of Toronto, 1983
30 years in Christian ministry

GUEST LECTURERS AND STAFF



Charlie Avila, pastor, Clovis Christian Center, Fresno, CA
B.S., UCLA, 1983
M.Div, International Biblical Seminary, 2006
Ph.D, International Biblical Seminary, 2009
26 years in Christian ministry



Kevin West, administrative dean, Central Valley School of Ministry
B.A. Biblical and Theological Studies, The King's University, 2017
Ministry Certificate, Central Valley School of Ministry, 2009
Beginning 2018, M.A./Ph.D. program at University of Birmingham
11 years in Christian Ministry

If you would like more information about the Central Valley School of Ministry visit our website at www.centralvalleysom.org. There you will find:

- A FAQ Sheet
- An Application and Forms
- A CVSOM Brochure
- A Course Catalogue
- A Promotional Video



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