



Christ Our Redeemer
S E M I N A R Y

Student Handbook
2025 - 2026

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ABOUT CHRIST OUR REDEEMER SEMINARY

Vision

To glorify God by partnering together as the Church in Auburn and Opelika, AL to equip Christlike leaders for God's global mission through accredited theological education.

Mission

To equip Christlike leaders for God's global mission by providing accredited graduate-level theological education that is holistic and rooted in the local church.

Values

1. Biblical - The biblical story is the true story of the whole world and bears divine authority over all of life for all peoples.
2. Christological - The biblical story finds its focus and fulfillment in the good news of Jesus Christ and calls all people everywhere to personal repentance and faith in Jesus, the only Savior and Lord of all.
3. Missional - The biblical story reveals the missional nature of the people of God. We are called and empowered to bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in life, word, and deed, both in our local contexts and to the ends of the earth.
4. Ecclesial - The local church is the primary context of the Spirit's renewing work, including the equipping and affirmation of aspiring leaders.
5. Ecumenical - By grace through faith we are united in Jesus Christ as his Church. When we honor that unity, it has a missional impact.
6. Formational - We recognize the need for holistic development of leaders by allowing the gospel of Jesus Christ to shape not only how we think, but also what we love and how we live.
7. Relational - We believe that transformative learning happens best in highly relational contexts, and therefore our training is in-person for students committed to learning together.

For more information about our seminary and programs, visit our [website](#) and our [academic catalog](#).

CORS Doctrinal Commitment

Our Commitment to Sound Doctrine

The biblical story is the true story of the whole world and bears divine authority over all of life for all peoples. This story finds its focus and fulfillment in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are deeply committed to renewing our faith in this one gospel once for all entrusted to the saints. We long for the Spirit of God to deepen our love for God and love for others as we go about making disciples.

Throughout the history of the church, Christian leaders have affirmed the divine inspiration, truthfulness, and authority of both the Old and New Testament Scriptures, in their entirety, as the only written Word of God, without error in all that they affirm, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. At the same time, leaders throughout the history of the Church have found it necessary to summarize the Bible's teachings in various forms.

Our Theological Heritage

Likewise, we believe that the Bible alone is the authoritative Word of God while also recognizing the value of systematic summaries of the Bible's teachings. As heirs of the "faith that was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 1:3) and members of the church, "the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone" (Ephesians 4:19-20), we affirm:

- The theological consensus of the first five centuries of the church reflected in the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed (325/381).
- The theological consensus of the Protestant Reformation reflected in the five solas:
 - The authority of Scripture: Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone);
 - The basis of salvation: Sola Gratia (Grace alone);
 - The means of salvation: Sola Fide (Faith alone);
 - The merit of salvation: Solus Christus (Christ alone);
 - The purpose of all things: Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God alone).
- The theological consensus that exists between the historic confessions of the Reformed theological tradition, such as the Westminster Confession and Catechisms, the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Canons of Dordt, the First and Second Helvetic Confessions, and the Second London Confession of 1689.

Though these creeds and confessions reflect the specific theological concerns of the church in specific historical contexts and though the Reformation era confessions do not agree on every point, they are valuable for the church in every age as guides in biblical doctrine. They also bear witness to the historical and ecumenical nature of the church throughout the ages and throughout the world. We gladly acknowledge the rich theological heritage we have received from these, seek to faithfully pass it on to the next generation of Christian leaders, and in like manner address the theological challenges of our day.

Carrying Forward this Heritage for Our Day

As we seek to renew the church in our day according to the one gospel of Jesus Christ, we adopt the [Confessional Statement of The Gospel Coalition](#) as a clear articulation of the Bible's teachings.

We also receive the [Lausanne Covenant](#) as a clarion call and challenge for the whole church to take the whole gospel to the whole world.

A Holistic & Integrated Approach

In 1 Timothy, Paul reminds Timothy that he has been "trained in the words of the faith and the good doctrine" (4:6). He exhorts him to train himself for godliness and set an example for the believers in Christ-like character (4:7-10, 12). He urges him to devote himself to "the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching" (4:13) and to "practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress" (4:15).

The experienced Paul wanted the young Timothy to grow not only understanding sound doctrine but in Christ-like character and ministry competency. By doing so, he would gain humble confidence in God's call into ministry leadership through the corporate affirmation of the church.

In the same way, we seek to allow the gospel of Jesus Christ to shape our minds, hearts, and ministries. The goal is the same as Paul had for Timothy - a growing competency and humble confidence in God's call into ministry leadership through the corporate affirmation of the church.

We integrate rigorous theological education, heart-level mentoring, and hands-on ministry opportunities designed to shape not only how we think, but also what we love and how we live.

Board of Directors

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary entrusts to the board of directors the responsibility to provide encouragement, wise counsel, and accountability for the president, core team and faculty pursuant to the mission and vision of our seminary and according to its theological commitments and founding principles and to promote the seminary to potential students, faculty and partners. We are honored to have the following board members serving the seminary and the Church in Auburn and Opelika in this way:

Bernard Anderson
Senior Pastor, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Auburn, Alabama
revba@yahoo.com

Bill Boldt
President, Onward Campus Ministries, Auburn, Alabama
bill.boldt@followonward.org

Dr. Joseph Fan
Deacon, Auburn Grace Chinese Christian Church, Auburn, Alabama
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Mike Wayman
International Microenterprise Development, Auburn, Alabama
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Programs

Currently, CORS offers a MDiv Program. See the [2025-2026 Academic Catalog](#) for specific details.

STUDENT LIFE

By joining this program, you are taking on a significant responsibility that will require a major investment of time and energy. You will spend time studying, reading, and completing assignments for the

theological courses. You will spend many hours getting hands-on ministry experience through the practicum. And you will have countless conversations with your mentor about what God is doing in your heart and life through all of this.

Saying “yes” to seminary requires you to say “no” to other things. There are perhaps many things that you can set aside, but we encourage you to never set aside the key relationships in your life. Instead, we encourage you to prioritize them, be intentional with them, and grow deeper in them.

One reason for this is that Christian mission and Christian community are inseparable. Christian community nourishes us and sends us out for mission, and Christian mission yields and draws new people into Christian community. You will not be able to sustain a life of full engagement in the mission of God apart from deep engagement with the people of God. This is true when you are preparing for mission as well. Deep Christian fellowship and growth in your key relationships will nourish, strengthen, and motivate you to keep going during seminary.

A second reason we want you to prioritize these relationships is because at a fundamental level, life is all about relationships and God’s purpose is to restore them. He aims to restore *shalom* (peace, harmony, wholeness, health, wellness) to all of our relationships as we grow in joyfully submitting to his reign. This restoration will be complete in the age to come, but, as Jesus taught us, we pray for his kingdom to come and will to be done on earth, now, as it is in heaven. So we pray that over the next three years, the Spirit of God will restore a greater measure of shalom in all of your relationships, as foretastes of and tangible witnesses to the coming Kingdom.

Specifically, we want you to pay special attention to:

Your Relationship With God

Above all we pray that you will grow in your relationship with God over the next three years. We pray that you will experience more of his love and grace, that your own love for God will increase and find new ways of expression, that you will deepen the spiritual practices that help you abide in Christ and perhaps learn some new practices, that you will walk in repentance and renewed faith in the gospel, and deal with any barriers in your relationship with God.

Your Relationship With Yourself

It may sound strange to talk about having a relationship with yourself, but what we mean by this is that you will grow in your capacity to understand and accept yourself the way God does, to see yourself from his perspective—the good, the bad and ugly, and to love yourself as he does. We pray that you will enjoy about yourself what he does, that you will more deeply understand how he has created you and how that fits into his plan for his Church and the world, that you will recognize and use the gifts he has given you and for his purposes, and that you will have a clearer picture of who God is restoring you to become. In other words, what will be true of you when you actually are who you will be forever—your “future glory self” as Tim Keller likes to say? And what thoughts, beliefs, emotions, habits do you need to let go of in order to more fully live out your true identity in Christ now?

Your Relationships With Others

Our relationship with God is inseparable from our relationship with others. The apostle John said that if we love God, we love others. We can measure how we are doing in our relationship with God by measuring how we are doing at loving others. So we want you to focus on the most significant relationships in your life as a means to grow both in receiving and giving Christlike love. You will not have time to invest deeply in every relationship. You will have to make choices. We pray that you focus primarily on your relationships with your immediate family members (spouse, children, parents, etc.) and your local church family.

Student Guidance

CORS has established a [Student Guidance Program](#) to assist you in the successful completion of your seminary studies.

DEFINING ACADEMIC QUALITY

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary's understanding of academic quality refers to our commitment to excellence in theological education that equips students with the knowledge, character, and competencies necessary for effective Christian ministry. This quality is measured not merely by intellectual achievement but by the integration of rigorous academic study with spiritual formation and practical ministry skills. CORS defines academic quality in terms of the following outcomes and standards:

Outcomes

Alumni Placement

Firstly, we define quality in terms of alumni placement. Alumni placement indicates the quality and effectiveness of educational programs to equip Christlike leaders for God's global mission. In short, are we actually preparing people to serve as pastors, church planters, missionaries, and other forms of vocational, bi-vocational, and non-vocational ministry leaders?

Learning Outcomes

Secondly, CORS defines quality in terms of learning outcomes. At the program level, this refers to [program learning outcomes](#) (PLOs) which are measured primarily by the successful completion of the courses in the program. Each component of the curriculum (i.e. Academic, Mentoring, and Practicum programs) is designed to help students achieve the PLOs. At the course level, CORS defines quality in terms of the course learning outcomes (CLOs) which are measured by the successful completion of the corresponding assignments. Both program-level PLOs and course-level CLOs are inextricably linked, each CLO is crafted to help students move towards the PLOs. See [Standard 2](#) and [Standard 6](#) for details.

Standards

Institutional Standards

- Faculty qualifications requiring graduate-level teaching ability and ministry experience (see [CORS](#)

[Faculty Selection Process](#) and [Standard 5](#) for details)

- Accreditation pursuit with ARTS demonstrating commitment to external validation
- Financial sustainability supporting educational excellence
- Governance structure ensuring academic integrity and continuous improvement

Program-Level Standards

- M.Div. 95-credit hour degree requirement exceeding U.S. seminary average
- Comprehensive curriculum covering biblical, theological, and practical ministry studies
- Integration of academic courses, mentoring program, and practicum experience
- Academic integrity policies
- Expectations for student work ethic and workload
- Systematic assessment of student achievement across all program components

Course-Level Standards

- Every course syllabus includes 3-5 specific course learning outcomes
- Assignment descriptions with clear performance criteria
- Grading rubrics aligned with the 2 Timothy 2:2 principle
- Rubrics that aid qualitative and quantitative assignment assessment
- Explicit connection to M.Div. Program Learning Outcomes

Quality Assurance Mechanisms

CORS implements a rigorous evaluation process, analyzing academic quality and institutional effectiveness at various levels and in various intervals. The following outlines our quality assurance mechanisms.

- Academic Review Committee oversight of curriculum and assessment
- Faculty development programs ensuring pedagogical effectiveness
- Student evaluation systems providing feedback for continuous improvement
- External partnerships with accrediting bodies and peer institutions
- Alumni tracking measuring long-term ministry effectiveness

SEMINARY POLICIES

These policies are designed to promote order and effectiveness for the edification and benefit of all.

Local Church Membership & Participation

We require each student to maintain an active membership in a local church. The ideal situation for students is to serve as interns or residents with a church or ministry that matches the student's long-term vocational goals. If a student loses good standing, he or she is required to notify the Academic Dean.

Commitment to Christlike Character

The primary objective of our seminary program is not the dissemination of knowledge concerning the Bible, theology, and ministry but rather the holistic training and formation of servant leaders in God's kingdom. As such, the formation of godly character is just as important as sound doctrine. Students are expected to strive for holiness in all areas of their lives. This is marked by humility and integrity in behavior and speech before God and others. This is evidenced by a growing manifestation of the fruits of the Spirit and progressive conformity to the image of Christ.

We understand that this process will never be completed in this life. Therefore, we also expect that students walk in authentic, accountable relationships and submit to the authority of a local church. Inevitable failure to live up to such a calling should be followed by contrite confession and repentance and a growing appreciation of God's grace. Serious and persistent sin struggles should be brought to the attention of the Dean of Mentoring.

As witnesses to the gospel of Jesus Christ and representatives of Christ Our Redeemer Seminary, students and teachers are asked to sign an affirmation committing to joyfully walk, empowered by the Spirit of God, according to God's good, holy, and just commandments for the glory of the Lord and as a light to those whom the Lord has placed around me.

Christian Love & Honor Towards One Another

Paul exhorted the Christians in Rome to "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor" (Rom 12:10). At times, we may struggle to understand one another and know how to respond when we disagree or have conflict. We are committed to returning to the gospel of Jesus Christ and striving in the power of the Spirit to love and honor one another for the sake of Christ. We ask students, staff, teachers, mentors, and everyone involved in the seminary to commit to resolving any conflict in a biblical manner.

Grievance & Conflict Resolution Policy

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary (CORS) is committed to resolving grievances and conflicts in a manner that reflects biblical principles of reconciliation, restoration, and love. This policy applies to all conflicts involving students, faculty, board, and administration.

Biblical Foundation

Our approach follows Matthew 18:15-17, emphasizing restoration over punishment, and is conducted in a spirit of humility and love (Galatians 6:1, Ephesians 4:15).

Three-Step Process

Step 1: Direct Personal Approach

- Requirement: Address concerns directly with the other party first
- Timeline: Within ten business days of the conflict
- Exception: Skip if safety concerns exist or power imbalances make this inappropriate

Step 2: Mediated Discussion

- When: If the direct approach fails or is inappropriate
- Who: Contact the appropriate administrator:

Conflict With	Mediator
Student	Dean of Mentoring
Faculty	Dean of Mentoring
Administrative Staff	President
President	Board of Directors

- Timeline: Begin within five business days, conclude within 15 business days

Step 3: Formal Appeal

- When: If mediation fails
- Process:
 - Submit written complaint to President
 - Review by appropriate committee (Academic Review Committee for academic matters)
 - Written decision within 20 business days
- Final Appeal: To the Board of Directors within ten business days

Decision Authority and Finality

Academic Matters:

- Academic Review Committee decisions subject to Board appeal within 30 days.
 - Students have the right to appeal these decisions to the Board of Directors, but only within a 30-day window after receiving the ARC's decision. This creates a two-tier system where the ARC serves as the initial decision-making body, but students have recourse to a higher authority if they disagree with the outcome.

- Board of Directors decisions are final after appeal period expires
 - The Board of Directors serves as the highest decision-making authority in the appeals process. Once the Board makes a decision on an appeal, that decision cannot be challenged further within the institution. The "final" nature of Board decisions only takes effect after the appeal period has completely expired
- Written notification includes appeal rights and timelines
 - All decisions must be communicated in writing. Students must be explicitly informed of their right to appeal within clear timelines.

General Grievances:

- Initial resolution through administrative channels
- Board of Directors serves as final authority for unresolved complaints
- Board decisions constitute final institutional determination

Special Situations

Urgent Matters

For safety concerns, harassment, or serious violations:

- Contact President immediately
- Expedited process with shortened timelines
- Interim protective measures as needed

Anonymous Reporting

This procedure is available for ethical violations, safety concerns, or harassment. Submissions are sent to the President and the Board of Directors and stored securely in Populi for documentation purposes.

Key Principles:

1. Anonymous Reporting: Secure and anonymous online form via LMS
2. Confidentiality: Information submitted in this form is shared only on a need-to-know basis.
3. No Retaliation: Prohibited against those who report in good faith
4. Documentation: All formal processes are documented and retained securely
5. Restoration Focus: Goal is healing relationships and community harmony

Form link: [Anonymous Grievance Report Form](#)

Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually by the Academic Review Committee and updated as needed to ensure biblical faithfulness and practical effectiveness.

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." - Ephesians 4:2-3

Student Work Ethic & Workload

For graduate-level studies, each credit hour requires approximately 40 hours of work for the student. This applies to credits for the core academic courses, mentoring courses, and practicum courses. This time is divided into three main categories: class time, reading, and assignments. We assume an average reading speed of 300 words per minute (25-35 pages an hour). This means that the MDiv program will require approximately 25-30 hours/week during the 8-week quarters (this includes class time, workshops, mentoring meetings, and assignments). There will be additional mentoring and/or practicum assignments outside of the 8-week quarters and during the summers. The following table indicates the student workload ranges per course. Teachers use this in their course design process.

Workload for Courses		
	1 credit course	2 credit course
Class time	12	20
Reading	250–375 pages/ 10–15 hours	500–750 pages/ 20–30 hours
All other assignments	15–25	30–45
Total	40	80

We use these figures as guidelines when crafting syllabi.

Core Courses in Bible & Theology

The core courses in Bible and theology are designed to help students grow in the knowledge of God by sustained and careful attention to God's Word. Except for the biblical languages courses, core courses are taught using an eight-week quarter system. Each quarter consists of three courses taught weekly on Tuesdays from 8:00 am - 5 pm.

The weekly schedule is as follows:

- 8:00 - 8:30 am - Prayer
- 8:30 - 11:00 am - Course 1
- 11:00 am - 12:30 pm - Lunch
- 12:30 pm - 2:15 pm - Course 2
- 2:30 - 5:00 pm - Course 3

The biblical languages are taught separately using a hybrid model (online/in-person) during quarters two to four and the summer. Elective courses are taught as three day intensives during the summers and other times during the year.

Class Times

The primary context for core courses is the classroom. Each course design is explained in the course syllabus, which includes a course description, learning outcomes, course materials, assignments, grading policy, schedule, and course objectives in relation to program learning outcomes. Because cohorts are small, the class times incorporate a combination of lectures, discussions, debates, student presentations, multimedia tools, and other means of learning.

Assignments

Each course draws upon various types of assignments to promote student learning including the following:

Reading

Reading assignments broaden students' knowledge base and/or deepen students' understanding of important biblical and theological concepts to know God better. Reading assignments include the Bible and extra-biblical resources and range between 250 and 375 pages of reading per credit hour. There are different kinds of reading assignments. For example, some reading assignments are designed for the breadth of knowledge, some are for in-depth analysis, while others are for the purpose of meditation and personal reflection.

Writing

Writing assignments are designed to help students develop their powers of discernment and skills of critical thinking and clear communication. Writing assignments indicate students' grasp of the material in relation to [Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning](#). Some writing assignments are aimed at lower levels on Bloom's taxonomy, whereas others test students' ability at higher levels. Over the course of the entire program, we aim to help students increase their cognitive ability at every point of this learning continuum. Writing assignments include persuasive essays, reflection papers, devotional writing, sermons, teaching guides, Bible study lessons, and ministry reports. Students are required to write according to the Christ Our Redeemer Seminary [Research, Writing & Style Guide](#).

Prayer

Prayer assignments are designed to help students develop a God-centered relational approach to learning. This pushes back against a post-Enlightenment mode of education that removes God's direct presence and involvement in the life and development of the mind. These encourage students to invite God into the entire learning process intentionally.

Practice

Practice assignments are designed to help students learn by practicing some habit, discipline, skill, or rhythm (e.g., sabbath, meditation, fasting, intercession, listening, evangelism, etc.)

Presentations

Presentations are designed to help students communicate their thoughts clearly, humbly, persuasively, and wisely to live audiences. Sometimes, the audience is their classmates in the classroom setting. Other times, they must present to other Christian, non-Christian, or mixed audiences of various sizes.

Quizzes & Exams

Quizzes and exams are designed to keep students accountable for reading and other assignments and to measure their familiarity with and understanding of biblical and theological material.

Ministry

Ministry assignments are designed to help students connect their learning in the classroom with the love of neighbor. While this is the whole focus of the practicum, these types of assignments are also utilized in the core courses that directly connect Biblical and theological learning with ministering to others. As Paul told Timothy, “The aim of our charge is love...” (1 Timothy 1:5).

Course Attendance

We view the core courses not merely as times of instruction in sound doctrine but also as a time of fellowship and encouragement. Through these times together, we want to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Pet 3:18) and “spur one another on towards love and good deeds” (Heb 10:24). To that end, students are required to attend and be punctual for **all classes and workshops. Missing more than one class per term will result in a student having to retake the course.**

If it is unavoidable to miss a class, the student needs to let the teacher know beforehand. He/she must also view the class recording and submit notes to Populi within ten days.

Mentoring Program

Mentoring is a fundamental component of our program. While you are renewing your mind through education and living on mission through the practicum, it is vital that you are also attending to your heart through a mentoring relationship.

Our desire is that you would walk in a relationship with another Christian who models and extends the presence, love, and care of Christ so that you will grow not only in self-awareness and Christlike character but also be more fully equipped to shepherd the hearts of others. The mentoring relationship is characterized by compassion, trust, and guidance. Mentors guide students in the following ways:

- Appropriation of the gospel of Jesus Christ to your own life and heart
- Affirmation of your identity in Christ
- Attending to personal and corporate rhythms that help you abide in the love of Christ
- Confession and surrender of your whole self to God

The unique qualifications for mentors include:

1. Deep care and compassion for others
2. Good listening habits
3. Willingness to open up their life and home to others
4. Respect the confidentiality and sensitivity of what others share with them
5. Trustworthy and approachable
6. Know how to wisely offer counsel, encouragement, and guidance that is sound biblically and theologically.
7. Willing to discuss any topic or situation and open to sharing what God has done in their own life
8. Committed to the mentoring process

A Guided Process

Our Dean of Mentoring will guide students in selecting and journeying with a mentor. The mentoring program includes time with a mentor and time spent on preparation, reflection, reading, and other activities and accounts for 12 credits towards the MDiv degree. It requires:

- At least three meetings (90 minutes each) each quarter with your mentor.
- An activity with the student and the mentor each quarter.
- Quarterly report from both the student and the mentor.
- Once a semester, meetings with the Mentoring Dean.
- Personalized assignments related to the student's needs.

Practicum

The practicum consists of time spent in ministry, as well as preparation, reflection, meeting with ministry supervisors and Practicum Dean, and documentation. It requires:

- Time students spend on their own and ideally in the context of their church or ministry to complete the activities and assignments for each core competency as defined by the corresponding syllabus.
- Meetings with their ministry supervisor(s) for feedback.
- A quarterly meeting with the Practicum Dean to assess their progress and provide encouragement and direction.

Time Management

In light of the workload, we encourage you to:

- Budget their time wisely
- Do some work each day if possible.
- Stay ahead.
- Expect a learning curve.
- **If you fall behind, let the teacher and/or Academic Dean know early!**

The Academic Dean manages the course workload each quarter and is responsible for keeping it within the ranges outlined above.

Library

Printed Resources

Access to great books, journal articles, and other resources will be important to our students' development. They may take advantage of the following printed resources:

- Christ Our Redeemer Seminary's small but growing library at our office.
- Auburn University's [Ralph Brown Draughon Library](#) has a good collection of biblical and theological works. This link ([Auburn University Library Information](#)) gives a summary of the books available there and instructions on how to get an AU Community Card so you can check out books. This is not required but recommended.
- Private libraries: Churches, faculty, mentors, or other leaders in the area may be willing to lend you their books.
- Begin building your own library.

Online Libraries

Digital Theological Library 2

We have an institutional partnership with the [DTL2](#) that will allow you to view, read, or download chapters and books (in whole or in part depending on the publisher) for free. Use your Populi credentials to log into our Digital Theological Library subscription.

Logos Bible Software

[Logos Bible Software](#) is a digital library application designed for Bible study, research, sermon preparation, linguistic analysis, and much more. Each student is required to purchase at least the Logos Academic Essentials package which will be theirs to keep. On behalf of our students, Christ Our Redeemer Seminary purchases licenses at a bulk rate and passes that charge on to each student. When you set up your Logos account, you can also go online and apply for the academic discount to get reduced prices on additional books and features.

Grading System

The core courses are graded using a four-point scale. Students must attend all classes and complete all assignments to pass the course. The final grade will be posted after the student submits the course/teacher evaluation.

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Grade Point	
A+	98–100	4.0	An A grade recognizes that the student has demonstrated thorough understanding of the course's main content, an exceptional proficiency of the course objectives, and has produced work of exceptional quality. Applying the 2 Timothy 2:2 principle, an A indicates the student's readiness to effectively pass on the fundamental ideas of this course in ministry without the need for further assistance or supervision. Within this range, (+) or (-) indicates a greater or lesser degree of proficiency, quality, and readiness.
A	93–97	4.0	
A-	90–92	3.7	

B+	87–89	3.3	A B grade recognizes that the student has demonstrated a good understanding of the course's main content, a proficiency related to the course objectives, and has produced work of acceptable quality. Applying the 2 Timothy 2:2 principle, a B grade indicates that the student needs further preparation and feedback from someone more experienced in order to effectively pass on the fundamental ideas of this course in ministry. Within this range, (+) or (-) indicates a greater or lesser degree of proficiency, quality, and readiness.
B	83–86	3.0	
B-	80–82	2.7	
C+	77–79	2.3	A C grade recognizes that the student has demonstrated a basic understanding of the course's main content, marginal proficiency related to the course objectives, and has produced work of marginal quality. Applying the 2 Timothy 2:2 principle, a C grade indicates that the student needs further learning, preparation, and supervision in order to reach the point of effectively passing on the fundamental ideas of this course in ministry. Within this range, (+) or (-) indicates a greater or lesser degree of proficiency, quality, and readiness.
C	73–76	2.0	
C-	70–72	1.7	
F	0–69	0	An F grade indicates that the student has not adequately understood the course's main content, is not able to meet the course objectives, and will need to repeat the course.
I	Incomplete		If circumstances prevent an otherwise competent student from completing the requirements of a course by the end of the course schedule, the teacher may assign the letter I. The student must complete the coursework by a due date set by the teacher in consultation with the Academic Dean. If the work is not complete by the due date, the student will receive an F for the course.

Assignments must be uploaded to our learning management system (LMS) on or before the due date unless prior arrangements are made with the teacher. Work submitted late will result in a 5% grade deduction per day. Papers will be evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the [Research, Writing, and Style Guide](#).

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for proper conduct and integrity in all of their work.

Violations of Academic Integrity

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of using another person's ideas, words, or images without properly crediting the source. It dishonors the original author and God. To avoid plagiarism, students must properly acknowledge all sources by using quotations and citations in accordance with the [Research, Writing, and Style Guide](#).

Duplicate Submission

Duplicate submission occurs when substantially the same essay, presentation, sermon, or other assignment is submitted for credit in more than one course unless permitted in the syllabus. For

example, a paper written for one course may not be later submitted in substantially the same form in another course. In addition, work already submitted towards the earning of a previous degree may not be submitted for a course at Christ Our Redeemer Seminary without evidence of substantial work having been done to the original work.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and promoting a culture of intellectual honesty, independent thought, and originality. In light of this commitment, we prohibit:

1. Utilizing AI-based writing assistants, language models, automated paraphrasing tools, images, or videos to generate essays, research papers, and other written assignments, projects, or presentations.

Dealing with Violations of Academic Integrity

Penalties for violations of academic integrity listed above shall be in keeping with the seriousness of the offense and shall take into account whether the student demonstrates repentance from the offense.

If a violation of academic integrity is judged to be minimal, accidental, or without deliberate intention, the teacher will counsel the student and may require the paper to be rewritten in an acceptable form.

If a violation of academic integrity is judged by the teacher to be systematic and deliberate and the student is unable to refute the evidence against him or her, the offense shall be reported to the Academic Dean with the teacher's recommendation for a penalty. The maximum penalty for a first offense is the failure for the assignment and placing a letter of reprimand in the student's record. For a subsequent offense (in the same or another course), the student will fail the course. Any subsequent offense will result in the student's dismissal.

The Student's Right of Appeal

The academic committee shall provide students with an opportunity to appeal any decision regarding violations mentioned above. Students can appeal to the Board of Directors within 30 calendar days of a decision. After 30 days, the student shall no longer have a right of appeal. All appeals must be made in writing to the Academic Dean and submitted in hard copy and delivered in person or by certified mail.

Policy On Discipline

Disciplinary Procedures

It is the duty of the administrative deans (Academic Dean, Mentoring Dean, and Practicum Dean) to implement seminary policies. The teacher may take appropriate action where necessary but shall always act justly, pastorally, and consistently with the goal of biblical restoration.

A student may be placed on disciplinary probation for misconduct (including theft, plagiarism, cheating, sexual misconduct, use or possession of illicit drugs, acts of violence, disruption of institutional activities, etc.), disregard of the seminary's established rules and regulations, and excessive unexcused absences from regular seminary activities.

Students who violate seminary standards may be asked to meet with the Mentoring Dean regarding their conduct. Such students may be given a warning about continuing the activity, be placed under disciplinary probation, or be dismissed from the seminary. When a student is placed on disciplinary probation, the student will receive written notification of the action, and the decision will be noted in the student's file.

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary reserves the right to dismiss any student when, in its judgment, the general welfare of the seminary community seems to require such an action. Disciplinary probation and dismissal are handled by the Board in consultation with the deans. A student may choose to be accompanied by another student acting as a listener during any disciplinary proceedings.

The student has the right to appeal to the Board of Trustees within 30 calendar days of a decision. After 30 days, the student no longer has a right of appeal. All appeals must be made in writing to the President and submitted in hard copy and delivered in person or by certified mail.

Probation

If a student is not making satisfactory progress toward graduation, he/she may be placed on academic probation. The purpose of probation is to help the student identify the cause(s) of the lack of progress and to find a solution. Failure of any course will automatically result in probation. If a student is placed on probation, he/she will be required to meet with one of the administrative deans to determine a remedial course of action. If this does not resolve the issue, further action may be required that may ultimately result in dismissal from the program.

Student Accommodations

The student is responsible for informing the teacher of any documented disabling condition that requires modifications to avoid discrimination. Reasonable accommodation will be jointly developed by the student and teacher.

Teachers can make exceptions regarding assignments for truly exceptional situations (such as serious illness, illness/death of a close family member, etc.)

Visitors in Class

Since we are following a cohort-based model, we normally do not allow visitors to join the classes. Spouses are an exception. Spouses may audit courses at no charge. However, auditors are there to listen

only and should respect the right of degree-seeking students to speak and ask questions. We can make exceptions for some other visitors if there is an exceptionally good reason.

Dropping a Course

Our terms are eight weeks long. If a student finds it necessary to withdraw from a class, he/she must submit a withdrawal request to the course teacher and Academic Dean. A course may be dropped without penalty through the first two weeks of any regular semester. If the student simply discontinues attending class after the first class or anytime thereafter without submitting a withdrawal request, the student will be liable for the entire tuition charge for the class and will receive a “Withdraw-Failing” (WF) grade for the course. Upon submission of the request, the student will be responsible for tuition in accordance with the policy stated below, and the transcript will show the student’s withdrawal (W). See the Tuition & Fees section for refund information.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in any of its activities or programs.

International Students

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary is not an SEVP-approved school and does not currently support, sponsor, or offer aid in obtaining F-1 student visas.

Ordination

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary does not ordain anyone to any ministry as we believe this is the sole responsibility of the church.

Tuition & Fees

Application Fee	\$100
Tuition	\$175 per credit hour
Populi LMS	approximately \$120/year
LOGOS Academic Essentials	approximately \$350
Digital Library	\$500/year
Audit Fee	\$90 per credit hour
Graduation Fee	\$250 (payable student’s last term)
Transcript Fee	\$10

Tuition and fees are subject to change from year to year.

Payment

Students are expected to pay all tuition and fees in full at the beginning of each quarter. If needed, students can arrange a payment plan to spread out the tuition payments over time. Please contact our Director of Administration to discuss payment plan options.

Refund Policy

If a student withdraws from a course, the refund of tuition shall be:

- prior to the first class period: 100%
- prior to the second class period: 75%
- prior to the third class period: 50%
- after the third class period: no refund
- Exceptions: If withdrawal is due to serious medical needs, involuntary military induction, or some other serious life event, we will refund up to full tuition for the course period. Documentation will be required.

Students may not be allowed to continue in the program if their previous term's account is not settled by the beginning of each new term. In exceptional circumstances, students can appeal to the Director of Administration for a workable solution.

Financial Aid

We currently do not have any financial aid available for students. However, we are trusting the Lord to provide donors who are motivated to give toward student scholarships for books. We will notify students as financial aid funds become available.

Insurance

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary does not provide any form of insurance for students. It is the individual's responsibility to make sure he or she is covered in case of sickness or injury. Students, by registering, are agreeing to hold Christ Our Redeemer Seminary harmless from any liability or any accident.

Privacy

Students have the right to review their educational records. They have the right to request changes to those records if they can prove they are currently in error. Information about a student's records will not be released to third parties without the express written consent of the student (including transcripts and financial records). However, Christ Our Redeemer Seminary reserves the right to release such records as necessary to conduct the ordinary operations of the seminary in compliance with federal and state laws, including tax reporting, or in the event of court orders or audits. Christ Our Redeemer Seminary will request such third parties maintain the confidentiality of student records.

Admissions

See our [admissions page](#) on our website.

Transfer Credits

Academic Credit Transfer

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary may accept the transfer of credit from accredited schools at the discretion of the Academic Dean, following these established criteria:

- Eligibility: Up to 33 graduate credits from accredited institutions may be considered for transfer
- Evaluation Standards: Courses and credits must correlate closely with CORS syllabi and course content
- Required Documentation: Official transcript, Academic Catalog, and syllabus for each course under consideration
- Application Process: Students submit transfer credit requests through the Academic Dean for evaluation
- Cohort Integration: Students are required to audit the parallel CORS class to preserve cohort formation and learning community

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)

When students can demonstrate prior learning in a particular subject area through means other than accredited coursework:

- Exemption Process: Students may be exempted from and granted credit for specific courses by the Academic Committee
- Assessment Method: Demonstrated competency evaluation conducted by faculty in the relevant subject area

Competency-Based Education (CBE)

CORS does not currently offer competency-based education programs. When students can demonstrate competency in a particular subject area through significant experience:

- Exemption Process: Students may be exempted from and granted credit for specific courses by the Academic Committee
- Assessment Method: Demonstrated competency evaluation conducted by faculty in the relevant subject area

Requirements For Graduation

To graduate, a student must:

- Complete all core courses with a grade of C or higher.
- Complete all practicum requirements with a grade of C or higher.
- Complete all the requirements for the mentoring program with a grade of C or higher.
- Pay all outstanding fees. Students must also pay all outstanding fees in order to receive an official transcript.

Requesting Transcripts

Transcript requests cost \$10, including postage. The student must request an official transcript through Populi. Instructions to locate the official transcript request can be found [here](#).

Amendments to the Student Handbook

Christ Our Redeemer Seminary reserves the right to make changes to the Student Handbook at any time to better serve our teachers, mentors, and students and fulfill our mission. We will notify all parties of

any changes within a reasonable time frame. Any major change to the Student Handbook will be brought to the Board's attention at their next meeting and subject to their approval.

Where to Go with Questions?

If you have questions about

- Courses, syllabus, class schedules, policies, etc., contact hoffman@christourredeemer.org.
- Populi, our learning management system, contact sawyer@christourredeemer.org.
- Tuition, contact anna@christourredeemer.org.
- Admissions, contact admissions@christourredeemer.org.
- Mentoring, contact tim@christourredeemer.org
- Practicum, contact tim@christourredeemer.org



Christ Our Redeemer SEMINARY

STUDENT AFFIRMATION

I acknowledge I have read the Doctrinal Statement and Student Handbook of Christ Our Redeemer Seminary. I agree to submit to a course of study within the bounds of this doctrinal statement. Furthermore, I agree to abide by the guidelines and policies in this Student Handbook.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please submit a signed copy of this acknowledgment on or before the first day of class.