




ADsom

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

preparing for ministry... where you are

2024 ACADEMIC CATALOG

A photograph of a person standing on a rocky peak at sunset or sunrise, with mountains in the background. The scene is silhouetted against a warm, orange and yellow sky. The person is standing on a narrow, rocky outcrop, looking out over a vast landscape. The mountains in the background are also silhouetted against the sky.

**A Ministry of
APPALACHIAN MINISTRY NETWORK**

WELCOME!

Welcome to the Appalachian District School of Ministry (AD-SOM). Whether you are in the process of seeking ministry credentials with the Assemblies of God, desiring to be a better follower of Christ and servant in your local church, or searching for the Lord's will for your future ministry, you have come to the right place! AD-SOM offers you the ability to prepare for ministry— in whatever form that may look like, *and* in the process, delve deeper into the Word of God, your personal discipleship, and practices of ministry. AD-SOM employs methods of *objective learning*, where students learn from the contents of textbooks and evaluations, as well as *experiential learning*, as practitioners in each specific subject instruct value-added sessions with each class, and ministry-specific internship requirements are made available. All of these opportunities are available through classes taken in your own home through virtual learning, or in-person at one of our two campus sites—just a short distance from where you live.

A Hybrid Approach to Preparing for Ministry

AD-SOM now offers a *hybrid* classroom approach. That is to say, depending on the classes being offered in a particular month, our sessions are either held through *virtual classrooms* utilizing Zoom meeting rooms, or *in-person classrooms* held in Charleston, West Virginia, Roanoke, Virginia, or at our office location in Ghent, West Virginia.* Operating within this structure permits AD-SOM to connect with professionals across the country for special session learning, and limit travel for both students and instructors. By offering a mixture of both virtual and in-person classroom sessions (approximately half of each) allows us to maintain the values of fellowship and discipleship while always assuring real-time learning wherein the student receives the personalized education so desperately needed for true ministry training.

*The Spirit Empowered Church class is currently the only class being held in Ghent, WV

Equipping Followers of Christ to Reach, Teach and Lead in Their Local Faith Communities and Beyond

General Information

The Appalachian District School of Ministry (AD-SOM) is a vital support to the ministry of churches and pastors. Knowledge gleaned from the classroom experience becomes a valuable tool that the Holy Spirit can use to further the purposes of God. Clergy and laypersons who understand not only “what to do” but “why to do it” will be far more effective than those who “just do it.”

AD-SOM integrates spiritual formation, relationship building, and academic achievement to provide a unique learning experience. Students not only acquire knowledge necessary for obtaining ministerial credentials, but also develop character and skills essential for effective ministry.

Statement of Purpose

The Appalachian District School of Ministry exists to provide training for those sensing a call to ministry, whether as credentialed ministers of the Assemblies of God, or as equipped followers of Christ within the local church and community. AD-SOM strives to provide doctrinal and practical instruction based upon common core values and shared ministry goals.

Statement of Faith

The Appalachian District School of Ministry subscribes fully to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God, and commits itself to proclaim and support the doctrine, principles and polity of the Assemblies of God.

Endorsements

The Appalachian District School of Ministry has been recognized and endorsed by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God as a member of the Association of Assemblies of God District Schools of Ministry.

Endorsements (Continued)

The school has also been endorsed by the Executive Presbytery of the Appalachian District Council of the Assemblies of God as the official ministerial training program for those seeking credentials through the Appalachian Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God.

Disclaimer

Courses completed through the Appalachian District School of Ministry that are required by the Assemblies of God for credentials meet the educational requirements of the General Council for the respective level of credential.

Completion of the courses, however, **does not guarantee that a ministry credential will be granted**, nor that preferential treatment will be given to those completing the required ministerial training courses through the School of Ministry. The credentialing of ministers is a process **separate from** completion of the educational requirements.

AD-SOM is a non-accredited Bible institute endorsed by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God for ministerial training. An articulation agreement has been made between the Assemblies of God Association of District Schools of Ministry and certain AG colleges and universities. Likewise some other institutions of higher learning also consider classes taken through AD-SOM toward credits awarded for prior learning or life experience. However, courses completed through the school of ministry do not automatically qualify for college credit.

Structure

Classes are conducted once a month, nine times a year. Two types of classroom structures are offered– virtual (livestream) classroom via Zoom Meetings, and in-person at two different locations– Charleston, West Virginia and Roanoke, Virginia. Three courses are offered each month, one

for each corresponding credential level (certified, licensed, ordained). Students participate in two 3 hour sessions of classroom instruction on Saturdays with time designated for lunch (in-person classes offer a provided lunch). Instructors will also give appropriate breaks. A final exam is taken during the class time as well as value-added instruction as part of the learning experience.

Prior to class, each student is required to work through the textbook and text overview. A minimum of 10 hours of preparatory work should be expected. Students must submit their completed text overviews (study guides) via email no later than midnight the Friday prior to class.

The classroom instruction provides a review of the material, practical applications, and opportunity for questions and discussion. Instructors employ personal experience and a variety of teaching methods.

Instructors are limited to ordained ministers, college professors, and field professionals. Exceptions are made at the discretion of the director to permit the use of instructors with proven ministry or life experience directly relevant to the particular class study. Faculty members become natural mentors as they build relationships and share experiences with their students.

Student Policies and Grading Information

- Early registration is encouraged to ensure adequate preparation time for class. Students may register via mail or online at www.appag.net/class-registration. Mail in registrations must be postmarked no later than two weeks prior to class, and online registration closes nine days before class.
- Students are required to complete a minimum of 10 hours of preparatory self-study in advance of the class session.

Student Policies and Grading Information (cont'd)

- Students are required to read the course textbook(s) and to complete the course text overview prior to class. Text overviews must be completed and submitted via email no later than midnight the Friday prior to class.
- No handwritten overviews will be accepted.
- Students not completing overviews will not be permitted to attend class.
- An exam will be given for each class. The exam will contain information specific to the text overview. In-person class exams will be distributed in class and virtual exams will be emailed, completed and returned to the director's email address.
- Students must attend both the morning and afternoon class sessions, complete the required assignments, and successfully pass the course exam in order to receive credit for the course.
- Courses are graded as follows:
 - Attendance/Class Participation 20%
 - Text Overview 40%
 - Exam 40%
- Grades are awarded as follows:
 - 90-100% A
 - 80-89% B
 - 70-79% C
 - 69-65% D
 - Below 64% F
- Upon completing a class, students will be emailed their graded overview, an analysis of their grade, and a Certificate of Completion.

Attendance Policy and Tuition Roll-over

Students are required to attend both the morning and afternoon sessions for AD-SOM classes in their entirety to receive full credit for courses. The following guidelines apply in regard to tuition and exclusions:

- If a student has registered but cannot attend an AD-SOM session for any reason, the student can apply unused tuition payments to any future course within one year of the original absence.
- If a student cannot attend **one** of the sessions due to an unforeseen emergency—such as illness, family crisis (injury or death), or church/ministry crisis (parishioner injury or death)—occurring **immediately** prior to or during an AD-SOM session, he/she must consult with the director before missing the session or leaving the campus during class. In such cases students will have credit deducted (10 points) for the missed session, and given an appropriate make-up assignment but will receive credit for the course.
- **Absences are not permitted for non-emergencies—**other than those previously noted.

Enrollment & Registration

1. Contact the AD-SOM office for an enrollment application or enroll online at www.appag.net/new-student-enrollment. Complete the form and return it to the office with the enrollment fee. Upon receipt of application and acceptance into the program, registration information will be sent.
2. Return the registration form and payment of fees no less than two weeks prior to the desired course session. Registration is required on a class-by-class basis. **Students are not registered for class until all fees are paid in full.**
3. Read the textbook(s) and complete the text overview as soon as you receive them. *A minimum of 15 hours of preparatory study is required prior to the class session.* A basic knowledge of the information covered in the textbook is expected when students arrive on campus.
4. Arrive for class at the meeting site by 9:00 a.m., prepared and ready to learn. First time students are required to attend the new student orientation at 8:30. Bring all pre-class assignments, completed and ready for submission.

Student Code of Ethics, Conduct, and Honor

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a Christlike and biblical manner at all times, in both their personal conduct and pursuit of their studies, striving to maintain the highest of ethical standards, including honesty and integrity. Failure to adhere to such standards may result in the student's dismissal from AD-SOM, subject to the decision of the school's administration.

In the classroom, students should be respectful of their peers and instructors. Behavior that is disruptive to the learning process and disrespectful to others will not be tolerated and will be addressed, first by the instructor of the class, and if necessary, by the administration. Students refusing to be cooperative may be dismissed from the school.

Cellular and electronic devices are to be used only for assignments relevant to the class, and only with the supervision and permission of the instructor. During the instruction time students are not to be engaged in social media, personal texting, etc. unless instructed to do so as part of the learning process. Students communicating through any electronic means during the final exam will receive a failure for the class and be required to complete the course again before credit would be awarded. *These guidelines apply to both in-person and virtual classes.*

Students are expected to complete the required course assignments of their own effort. While it is reasonable and beneficial for two or more students from the same family, church or community to study together, it is essential that each student's work be his/her own. No students should combine their study results to make a common line of thought that appears identical on multiple pre-class session text overviews. Situations of this nature will be brought to the attention of the school's administration and will be investigated to determine if discipline is warranted.

Guidelines for Virtual Classroom

The following guidelines are requirements for participation in all AD-SOM virtual classes:

- Students must be connected in the classroom during the entire session or sessions
- Students must connect both visually and audibly (have a functioning video cam on your device as well as a microphone). Instructors must visually be able to see the student during the majority of the class time.
- Students must be in an environment conducive to learning (NOT in a location where there is excess noise, in a vehicle or in a public setting unless given prior authorization by the director of the school of ministry).
- If multiple students are connected in one setting, each student is responsible for taking part in the class.
- Exams MUST be proctored by the instructor (instructors and students must be visually connected during the final exam).
- Students must take part in the entire class session to receive credit for the class.
- Students should be as presentable in appearance as they would if classes were conducted face-to-face.

Student Life and Connectivity

One of the benefits of AD-SOM is the peer-to-peer relationships that are developed through the course of taking both virtual and in-person classes. Likewise, connecting with instructors serving in ministry in our geographic region often results in an organic mentoring between students and ministers. We encourage students to connect in person when possible, through email, and on social media.

To both nurture such fellowship as well as share important information about classes and student news, we encourage you to join the AD-SOM group on Facebook.

Classes and Course Descriptions

Level 1:

Entry Level Ministry (Fulfills Academic Requirements for Certified Minister Application)

AG History, Missions and Governance

A study of the historical development and governing policies of the Assemblies of God. The Fellowship's history in America and its worldwide missions program is told through stories of the personalities involved. Includes a study of the ecclesiastical structure of the Assemblies of God, with particular attention to the General Council Constitution and Bylaws in relation to credentialed ministers, local churches, district councils, the General Council, and doctrines and practices approved and disapproved.

Textbooks: *People of the Spirit*, Gary McGee; *General Council Constitution and Bylaws (Current Edition)*

Ethics in Ministry

An examination of the moral principles governing human conduct in light of the teachings of Scripture. Special attention is given to the minister's personal and professional code of ethics, and contemporary personal and social issues.

Textbook: *Ministerial Ethics, A Guide for Spirit-Filled Leaders*, T. Burton Pierce

How to Interpret the Bible

An introduction to various methods of Bible study, with special attention given to basic principles of scriptural interpretation. Emphasis is placed on devotional aspects of study for personal edification.

Textbook: *Living by the Book*, Howard Hendricks

Introduction to Pentecostal Doctrine

An introduction to theology (its meaning and purpose) and historic Christian doctrines. Emphasis will be placed upon the *Statement of Fundamental Truths* of the Assemblies of God as the framework for this study.

Textbook: *Bible Doctrines, A Pentecostal Perspective*, William Menzies and Stanley Horton

Life of Christ

A study of the life and teachings of Jesus as recorded in the gospels and in light of the historical, cultural, and geographical settings of the first century. The course emphasizes the ministry of John the Baptist, the proclamation of the kingdom of God, the miracles and parables of Jesus, the passion, the resurrection, and messianic titles.

Textbook: *Life of Christ*, Ralph Riggs

New Testament Survey

An overview of the books of the New Testament, emphasizing the key facts and teachings of each book. Applications to contemporary life and ministry are included.

Textbook: *New Testament Survey*, Merrill Tenney

Old Testament Survey

A study of the books of the Old Testament, acquainting the student with key facts in each book. The development of God's plan of redemption throughout the Old Testament canon is highlighted.

Textbook: *The Old Testament Speaks*, Samuel Schultz

Spirit-Empowered Churches

A practical introduction and study of transitioning existing churches and planting new churches to become life-giving entities within the community. Emphasis is placed on personal discipleship of local church leaders whether their ministry call is pastoral or to serve voluntarily.

Textbook: *A Spirit-Empowered Church: An Acts 2 Ministry Model*, Alton Garrison

Systematic Theology

An introduction to theology and a detailed study of the following theological areas: Bibliology, Theology Proper, Christology, Anthropology, and Soteriology.

Textbook: *Systematic Theology*, Stanley Horton

Level 2:
**Intermediate Ministry (Fulfills Academic Requirements for
Licensed Minister Application)**

Acts

A detailed study of the origin and development of the first church. The course emphasizes the Church's mission in its proclamation of the death and resurrection of Jesus and the relationship of the Holy Spirit in development of Christianity. Included is an overview of Paul's missionary journeys.

Textbook: *The Book of Acts*, Stanley Horton

Conflict Resolution

A study devoted to the resolution of conflict in the local church. The reasons for churches becoming unhealthy and how God wants to heal them are examined. The lordship of Jesus Christ and His methodology in resolving conflict form the basis of this study.

Textbook: *Making Peace: A Guide to Overcoming Church Conflict*, Jim Van Yperen

Eschatology

An advanced study of the doctrine of last things, including topics such as death, Resurrection and Rapture, views of the Tribulation, millennial views, judgment, and the final state of the righteous and the wicked.

Textbook: *Our Destiny: Bible Teaching on the Last Things*, Stanley Horton

Introduction to Homiletics

A study dealing with sermon delivery that provides a hands-on approach to developing sermon preparation skills. The course content addresses audience analysis, the speaker's physical appearance, gestures, credibility, voice usage, and personality.

Textbook: *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*, Haddon W. Robinson

Leadership Skills

A study of the principles of leadership, applicable to all phases of life and ministry. Practical applications are offered to help students use these principles in the local church situation.

Textbook: *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, John Maxwell

Introduction to AG Missions

An introductory course in the science of missions, surveying the theology, history and methods of Christian missions in general and within the Assemblies of God.

Textbook: *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*, John York

Personal Evangelism

A study of the contemporary history and practice of evangelism in the church, with an emphasis on the techniques and methods used in personal witnessing. The course also trains students in the art of lifestyle evangelism.

Textbook: *Contagious Faith: Discovering Your Natural Style for Sharing Jesus With Others*, Mark Mittelberg

Prison Epistles

An exegetical study of Paul's letters to the Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon. Special emphasis is placed upon doctrinal and moral teachings. Also highlighted is the theme of the glory of God in Christ and the believer's high calling to life in Christ.

Textbook: *Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon*, Arthur G. Patzia

Romans

A practical study of Paul's letter to the Romans. The course deals with the book's background and its relation to the rest of Paul's writings. The book's relevance to every day Christian living is a featured theme.

Textbook: *Romans*, F.F. Bruce

Level 3:

Advanced Ministry (Fulfills Academic Requirements for Ordained Minister Application)

Biblical Counseling

A study of the biblical basis for pastoral counseling and the basic techniques of pastoral care. The course introduces the way these principles can be applied to help believers in the major areas of pastoral concern, including premarital and marital counseling, and counseling the sick, bereaved, and aged.

Textbook: *The Complete Guide to Crisis and Trauma Counseling*, H. Norman Wright

Church Administration, Finance, and Law

A study of the necessary business aspects needed in today's church. Study includes an overview of the American ecclesiastical law, addressing contemporary legal issues affecting churches and ministers, practical administration, and the financial management of non-profit ministries.

Textbook: *Leadership Handbook of Management & Administration*, James Berkley

Corinthian Correspondence

An expository study of First and Second Corinthians. Highlighted are Paul's responses to the problems afflicting the Corinthian church, the appropriate operation of the gifts of the Spirit within the congregation, and Paul's views of Christian character and ministry.

Textbook: *1 and 2 Corinthians*, Stanley Horton

Discipleship & Disciple-Making

A challenge to today's believers to go beyond the preconceived notion of evangelism and realize that being a disciple and making disciples for Christ is indeed the heart of Christ's Great Commission to the church.

Textbook: *Choose the Life*, Bill Hull

Pastoral Ministry

A study of the practical aspects of pastoral ministry, including the pastor's call, preaching, teaching, church leadership, family life, and more.

Textbook: *The Pentecostal Pastor*, Zenas Bicket, Wayde Goodall, and Thomas Trask

Pentateuch

An in-depth study of the first five books of the Old Testament. Highlighting God's personal relationship with His creation and the loving covenants made with His people, the study examines the Pentateuch's revelation of God's character and the requirements for relationship with Him.

Textbook: *An Introduction to the Old Testament Pentateuch*, Herbert Wolf

Preaching in a Cultural Context

The principles and problems of communicating from one culture to another. Special attention is given to the development of attitudes and methods enabling effective communication of the gospel to people in other cultures.

Textbook: *Preaching to a Shifting Culture*, Scott Gibson

Psalms

A study of the Psalms as the Hebrew-Christian prayer book and hymnal. The course includes a study of selected Psalms, noting the authorship, historical setting, structure, meaning, and spiritual application of each.

Textbook: *How to Read the Psalms*, Tremper Longman III

Theology of Prayer and Worship

A textbook study of biblical prayer stressing the importance and impact of prayer in contemporary life and ministry. The experiential learning aspect of this class will focus on an exploration of the scriptural and theological foundations for individual and corporate praise and worship. Various styles and formats of worship are discussed relative to both historical and contemporary settings.

Textbook: *The Spirit Helps Us Pray*, Z. Bicket and Robert Brandt

Administration and Faculty

The Appalachian District School of Ministry is proud of its faculty and staff. They represent many years of cumulative experience in education, ministry, and Christian service. In addition to those listed below, several other specially skilled and gifted people work with the school to provide a quality training program.



David Dillon – President

Rev. Dillon is Superintendent of the Appalachian Ministry Network and a former director of AD-SOM. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Bible from Southeastern University. He is an ordained minister and has served as a District Youth and Christian Education Director, pastor, and youth pastor.

He also holds a Teacher's Diploma from the Evangelical Teacher Training Association. Rev. Dillon serves as a member of the General Presidency of the Assemblies of God and is the former president of the Assemblies of God Association of District Schools of Ministry (DSOM) and one of the association's founding leaders.



Joshua Crouse- Vice President of Academic Affairs/ Director

Rev. Crouse is Lead Pastor of Life Church, Roanoke, VA. He is an ordained minister and holds a Bachelor's Degree from Liberty University with a Bachelor's Degree and a Master of Arts Degree from Southeastern University. He has served as

youth pastor, associate pastor, campus pastor, Christian school administrator, and was previously Assistant Director of AD-SOM for over eight years.



John Thompson, PhD– Vice President of Student Ministries

Dr. Thompson is the internship director for the school of ministry. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from Old Dominion University, a Master of Business Administration from Radford University, and a PhD in Theology from Jacksonville

Theological Seminary. He is an ordained minister and has served as a pastor, evangelist, short-term missionary, and chaplain.



Jerome Coleman– Assistant Director/ WV Site Director

Rev. Coleman is an ordained minister and holds a Bachelor Degree from Southeastern University. He has served as a lead pastor, is currently NextGen Pastor at Calvary Assembly of God.



Betty Raffa– AD-SOM Administrator/Registrar

Betty is the person on the team who will answer most of your questions regarding admissions, registration, etc. Prior to her service at the network office, she has served as a church administrator, staff member of a CPA firm, and supervisor/recruiter for a national temporary employment agency. Betty attended Ohio University, majoring in Business Administration.



Jeff Call

Rev. Call is the Associate Pastor at First Assembly of God in Bristol, VA. He is an ordained minister and holds a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Liberty University and is completing his Doctoral Degree in business.



Thomas Carver

Rev. Carver is Lead Pastor of LifeBridge Assembly of God. He is an ordained minister and holds a Bachelor's Degree from Southeastern University. Rev. Carver serves as a Network Presbyterian for the Appalachian Ministry Network.



Jeff Carico

Rev. Carico is an ordained minister and holds a Bachelor Degree in American History from Virginia University at Wise. He has served in pastoral roles for over thirty years and is the Lead Pastor of First Assembly in Bristol, VA. Rev. Carico is a Network Presbyterian for the Appalachian Ministry Network.



Joseph Hoggard

Rev. Hoggard holds a Bachelor's Degree from Southeastern University and is completing his Master's in Ministry Leadership from Rockbridge Seminary. He is an ordained minister and has planted churches, pastored established churches. Rev. Hoggard is Lead Pastor of West Union First

Assembly and serves as a Network Presbyterian for the Appalachian Ministry Network.



Chris Hunt

Rev. Hunt is an ordained minister and a graduate of AD-SOM. Originally from Bournemouth, England, Chris is a graduate of Bournemouth & Poole College. Prior to coming to the United States, he served as a youth pastor in the UK.

Rev. Hunt has served in various churches in both Virginia and West Virginia including youth, associate and lead pastoral roles and is the Network Assistant Youth Director.



John Jordan

Rev. Jordan holds a Bachelor's Degree from Cumberland College and a Master's Degree from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary. He is an ordained minister and serves as the Lead Pastor of Calvary Assembly in Beckley, WV. Rev. Jordan is the Assistant Superintendent of the Appalachian

Ministry Network, a member of the Board of Regents of Southeastern University and the General Presidency of the Assemblies of God.

**Kristi Pelfrey**

Rev. Kristi Pelfrey serves as the Girls Ministry Director for the Appalachian Ministry Network. She attended Valor School of Leadership and Southeastern University. Rev. Pelfrey is a licensed minister and the director of Appalachian Girls Ministries. Kristi serves as the Ministry Development Coordinator for the Appalachian Ministry Network.

**Dylan McKneely**

Rev. McKneely is a church planter and founder of The Refinery in Huntington, West Virginia. Formerly an evangelist and staff pastor, Rev. McKneely is a licensed minister with the Assemblies of God.

**Brad Puckett**

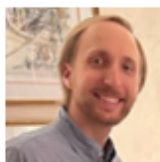
Rev. Brad Puckett holds a Bachelor's Degree from Trinity Bible College. He is an ordained minister and is Lead Pastor of Parkersburg First Assembly and has served as a staff pastor. Rev. Puckett is an Executive Presbyterian of the Appalachian Ministry Network.

**Bethany Puckett**

Rev. Bethany Puckett is an ordained minister and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Studies from Trinity Bible College. She serves alongside her husband Brad on the staff of Parkersburg First Assembly. Rev. Puckett is an event speaker as well as a gifted teacher.

**Tony Raffa**

Rev. Raffa is Secretary/Treasurer of the Appalachian Ministry Network and a former director of AD-SOM. Rev. Raffa holds a Bachelor's Degree from North Central University and a Master's Degree from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary. He is an ordained minister and has served as a lead pastor, as well as a Christian school principal/administrator. Rev. Raffa is a member of the General Presbytery of the Assemblies of God.

**John Rebman**

Rev. Rebman holds a Bachelor's Degree from Virginia Tech in Industrial and Systems Engineering. His passion has been seeing nations and generations transformed by the Gospel through his service as a campus minister with Chi Alpha at Virginia Tech. Rev. Rebman is an ordained minister and a nationally appointed missionary.

**Anthony Saladino**

Rev. Saladino is the director of Chi Alpha Ministries for the Appalachian Ministry Network. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from William Patterson University. He is a ordained minister and an appointed missionary with the Assemblies of God. He currently serves as campus pastor for Virginia Tech.

**Alvin Thomas**

Rev. Thomas is a church planter and founder of Fireplace Church in Blacksburg, Virginia. Formerly a young adult pastor, Chi Alpha pastor, and youth care worker with Teen Challenge, Rev. Thomas holds a Bachelor's Degree from Southwestern University and a Master's Degree through

Regent University. Alvin serves as the Network Church Multiplication Director.

**Ryan Whitlow**

Rev. Whitlow is an ordained minister and holds a Bachelors Degree in Pastoral Ministry from Lee University. He has served in staff and lead pastor roles prior to his current role as Lead Pastor of Victory Church in Weston, West Virginia. Rev. Whitlow serves on the Appalachian North Section

Committee as Secretary as well as the West Virginia Acts 2 Journey director.

Academic Records

Permanent records are kept on all students as well as completions of classes and levels. The following information is relevant to the obtaining of information of these records.

Certificates of Completion

After the successful completion of a class, students are issued an electronic certificate of completion. Following the grading process, students are emailed the record of the class taken, grade (score of their class overview assignment, class participation, and exam). The class certificate of completion is sent as a PDF attachment. Students are encouraged to print these certificates on a quality paper stock.

When a student completes ALL classes offered in a level of AD-SOM, a certificate of completion containing the official school seal will be sent to their mailing address.

AD-SOM Classroom Schedule

The following schedule is the normal pattern for AD-SOM classes for both virtual and in-person class sessions

Morning

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 8:30-9:00 a.m. | Check-in (Foyer) |
| 8:30-8:50 a.m. | New Student Orientation |
| 9:00-9:20 a.m. | General Orientation |
| 9:20-11:55 a.m. | Morning Class Session* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview Review• Study Time• Exam (Bible class instructors may opt to have students test at the end of the class- no later than 2:15)• Exam Grading (In-person classes. If time permits) |

Noon-1:00 p.m. **Lunch**

Afternoon

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1:00-3:30 p.m. | Afternoon Class Session* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exam Grading (in-person)• Value-Added Learning• Complete AD-SOM Evaluation |
|-----------------------|---|

3:30 p.m. **Dismissal**

**Instructors will schedule a 10-15 minute break at a time appropriate to the teaching in each class session*

Auditing Classes

Individuals interested in learning more about the Appalachian District School of Ministry may audit one class at no charge. While the potential student is welcome to attend the class orientation and the value-added session of the class, only students may attend the overview review, exam, and exam grading portion of the class.

Students completing all levels of AD-SOM may audit any portion of any class at no charge. Auditing students may order lunch at their own expense.

Auditing of classes other than described above must have the permission of the AD-SOM Director. Charges may apply.

Transcripts

Students may request transcripts of their record of grades in the school of ministry. For students applying for ministry credentials with the Assemblies of God, requests should be made to the director to send a copy of their AD-SOM transcript to the network (or district) office wherein the student has applied for credentials. An unofficial transcript will be sent to the credentialing office.

Official transcripts (containing the school watermark) may be requested by any student. The first official transcript will be granted at no charge. Additional transcripts may be requested for a fee of \$20. Any unofficial transcript required for credentialing will be completed at no charge.

Lunches (In-Person Classes Only)

Students attending in-person classes will be provided a lunch at no cost. Any student with special dietary needs or allergies should contact the site director or AD-SOM office and proper accommodations will be made.

Textbooks

It is imperative for students to have the correct edition of each textbook. ISBN numbers are listed on each registration form. While students are welcome to purchase textbooks at any new or used bookseller, it is the duty of each student to make sure they have the correct edition being used for the perspective class.

To assure students are purchasing the right textbooks, AD-SOM offers a textbook portal through Christian Book Distributors. Purchasing your books through the portal simplifies the process and assures the student of the correct edition. The portal link is www.agsom.christianbook.com. Christian Book Distributors donates 10% of all purchases made on the portal (textbook or otherwise) back to AD-SOM.

Credentialed Ministry Internship Program

The internship program exists to assimilate the student from the learning environment of classroom training to the practical application in the field of ministry. Participants develop ministry skills through interaction with an overseeing minister and the program director. Participation is open to persons seeking ministerial credentials or advancement.

The AD-SOM Difference

We believe AD-SOM is a unique choice of objective, experiential learning offered exclusively by ministry practitioners in our geographic region and larger fellowship.

While the classes offered in each academic level satisfies the educational requirements for ministerial credentialing with the Assemblies of God, many students attend to become a better servant of the Lord in their local church or to grow as a disciple of Christ.

We invite you to experience THE AD-SOM DIFFERENCE!

2024 Class Schedule

Spring Semester:

February 24 (Virtual)

- Level 1 - AG History, Missions & Governance
- Level 2 - Acts
- Level 3 - Pentateuch

March 23 (In-Person)

- Level 1 - Old Testament Survey
- Level 2 - Personal Evangelism
- Level 3 - Discipleship & Disciple-Making

April 20 (In-Person)

- Level 1 - New Testament Survey
- Level 2 - Conflict Resolution
- Level 3 - Theology of Prayer & Worship

May 18 (Virtual)

- Level 1 - Systematic Theology
- Level 2 - Prison Epistles
- Level 3 - Psalms

June 15 (Hybrid)

- Level 1 - Spirit-Empowered Churches
- Level 2 - Romans
- Level 3 - Pastoral Ministry

Fall Semester:

August 24 (Virtual)

- Level 1 - Ethics in Ministry
- Level 2 - Introduction to Homiletics
- Level 3 - Church Administration, Finance, & Law

September 21 (In-Person)

- Level 1 - Life of Christ
- Level 2 - Eschatology
- Level 3 - Preaching in a Cultural Context

October 19 (In-Person)

- Level 1 - Introduction to Pentecostal Doctrine
- Level 2 - Leadership Skills
- Level 3 - Biblical Counseling

November 16 (Virtual)

- Level 1 - How to Interpret the Bible
- Level 2 - Introduction to AG Missions
- Level 3 - Corinthian Correspondence

NOTE: Virtual Classes may be held contingent upon the number of registered students as well as extenuating circumstances such as restrictions on gatherings due to state and local guidelines.

ADsom

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