

West Virginia School of Preaching



Online Catalog
Denver Cooper, Director

Admissions:

- Student Application
- Admission Requirements
- Transfers to WVSOP
- Audit Students
- Foreign Students
- Extension or Correspondence Courses
- Veterans Benefits

Curriculum:

- Curriculum Overview
- Course Descriptions
- School Calendar

Student Information:

- Student Load
- Grading System
- Policy For Writing Papers
- Scholastic Probation
- Progress Reports
- Rules of Conduct
- Tuition and Fees
- Refund Policy
- Credits
- Clock Hour Credit
- Previous Credit
- Requirements for Graduation
- School Sessions
- School Attendance
- Attendance at Worship
- Preaching Opportunities
- Opportunities for Graduates
- Insurance
- Fellowship
- Dress and Cleanliness
- Use of Library
- Students' Wives
- Cost of Living
- Student's Agreement

Admission Procedures

Student Application

Each prospective student is encouraged to request a student application one year prior to his enrollment at West Virginia School of Preaching (WVSOP). This lead time affords the hopeful student sufficient time to secure his financial support. Full-time students are prohibited from engaging in secular employment during their two-year studies due to the intensity of the West Virginia School of Preaching program. Each student is wholly responsible for arranging his own financial support. West Virginia School of Preaching staff, though, will gladly advise prospective students upon request.

Advance application also enables WVSOP to process a student's application and verify his personal and congregational references. A satisfactorily completed and approved application and student interview are required prior to fundraising activities in which West Virginia School of Preaching is cited as one's future school of enrollment.

Applications can be requested at any time by calling toll free (888) 418-4573 or by writing to Denver Cooper, Director; West Virginia School of Preaching; P.O. Box 785; Moundsville, WV 26041 or by e-mail (dirwvsop@aol.com). WVSOP welcomes applicants of any race, color, age and ethnic background. Successful applicants will be faithful and active members of biblically sound congregations among the churches of Christ.

Admission Requirements

A prospective student does not have to demonstrate academic excellence to obtain admission to West Virginia School of Preaching. However, each student is required to maintain a standard of academic proficiency to remain a student. Therefore, a prospective student should soberly reflect on his aptitude and ability to endure the rigors of a vigorous curriculum. Student introspection and WVSOP review will help lessen false starts by students. To be favorably considered for admission to West Virginia School of Preaching, each student must evidence spiritual and emotional maturity. The prospective student's wife also must be a faithful Christian and equally committed to her husband's decision to prepare for a preaching ministry.

Transfers to WVSOP

Each application for transfer from another school of preaching or college will be carefully reviewed. West Virginia School of Preaching reserves the right to deny admission to applicants who have been dismissed from other schools. Otherwise, an applicant's academic performance and course compatibility with WVSOP courses will be considered for admission.

Audit Students

All regular students are enrolled full-time for credit toward graduation. West Virginia School of Preaching does not have a program for part-time students. However, preachers, elders, deacons, student wives and other interested members of the church are welcome to audit one or more classes.

Foreign Students

West Virginia School of Preaching does not ordinarily enroll foreign students for the following reasons: (1) Foreign students whose first language is not English are greatly disadvantaged due to the large amount of reading necessary in WVSOP's accelerated program. (2) Several schools outside the United States, often on the same continent or in the country of a prospective foreign student, are available for preacher preparation. (3) Frequently, foreign students who attend American schools are reluctant to return to their native lands, thus annulling one of their often stated purposes for preparing themselves to preach the Gospel. (4) The methods of evangelism and preaching learned in our American schools are often counterproductive for the foreign student to adequately communicate the Gospel to his native people.

Extension or Correspondence Courses

West Virginia School of Preaching presently has no provision for correspondence courses.

Veterans Benefits

West Virginia School of Preaching is currently a participant in the Veterans Administration's benefits program for education.

Curriculum

First Quarter

- General Biblical Introduction
- Computer
- Life of Christ
- Bible Geography/Survey
- Genesis & Exodus
- Homiletics I
- English Grammar
- Rudiments of Music & Song Leader Training

Second Quarter

- Hermeneutics
- Leviticus-Deuteronomy
- Book of Acts
- Evidences I/Logic/Existence of God
- Marriage & Family
- English Grammar

Third Quarter

- New Testament Church
- Evidences II/Biblical
- Inspiration & Authority
- First Corinthians
- Hebrew History I/Joshua-2 Samuel
- Homiletics II/Prep. & Delivery
- English Grammar

Fourth Quarter

- Church History
- 1 Peter-Jude
- 2 Corinthians & James
- Hebrew History II/1 Kings-Esther
- John
- English Grammar

Fifth Quarter

- Ephesians/Colossians
- Restoration Movement
- Holy Spirit
- Hebrews/Philemon/Philippians
- New Testament Greek
- Homiletics III

Sixth Quarter

- Proverbs & Ecclesiastes
- Job
- Minor Prophets
- Romans & Galatians
- Personal Evangelism/Prayer
- New Testament Greek

Seventh Quarter

- Ezekiel
- Psalms & Song of Solomon
- Isaiah
- Denominational Doctrines
- Homiletics IV
- New Testament Greek

Eighth Quarter

- Revelation
- Jeremiah & Lamentations
- Daniel/Premillennialism
- Evidences III/Deity of Christ
- 1 Thessalonians-Titus
- New Testament Greek

Course Descriptions

Acts of the Apostles

This course involves a verse-by-verse treatment of the biblical book. Additionally, background information is evaluated regarding authorship, date of writing, place of writing and canonicity.

The establishment and early history of the church for which Jesus died is chronicled. The New Testament fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies about the kingdom is emphasized. Important biblical doctrines that appear in the Book of Acts are highlighted, relating to the resurrection of Christ, redemption, verbal inspiration, authority in religion, congregational organization and worship upon the first day of the week. Several Bible characters are noticed, including the significant contributions of the apostles Peter and Paul. The evangelistic quality of the Book of Acts is not overlooked, but practical implementation in contemporary settings is urged. Also, a film extolling archaeological efforts in Asia Minor visually acquaints the student with the current terrain there and its past biblical history.

Students are required to memorize outstanding Scriptures that doubtless they will use often in their ministry over the years. Further, students are afforded the opportunity for oral homiletic exercises in class where they can employ what they learn from the Book of Acts.

Bible Geography, Archaeology and Sacred History

This course interweaves 4,000 years of sacred history with the geographical locations in which the biblical events occurred. Extensive archaeological references (including slides and films) undergird the biblical evidence. Proficiency with maps of the biblical world is emphasized. Biblical chronology with significant events and dates highlighted is impressed upon each student. This course provides the preaching student with an essential foundation on which he is expected to build throughout all his biblical classes and life-long study.

Christian Evidences I (The Existence of God)

This course consists of acquainting the student with that which serves as the basic foundation for the case of Christianity, viz. (1) the law of rationality and the laws of thought, (2) the essentiality of logic, and (3) the logical proof which necessitates the conclusion that God exists. Emphasis is given to the validity of general revelation (in the world and man) as proof that God exists.

Christian Evidences II (The Inspiration Of The Bible)

This course aims to establish (1) the necessity and probability of special revelation, (2) the proper role of reason in identifying special revelation, and (3) the logical argument which proves that the Bible is the word of God. Emphasis is given to identifying the list of characteristics which individually and collectively necessitate the conclusion that the Bible is the word of God.

Christian Evidences III (The Deity of Jesus Christ)

This course seeks to (1) establish that Jesus of Nazareth lived as a real historical person and (2) set forth the evidence from His person and work which prove that He is the Son of God. The evidence for the Deity of Christ is presented within the framework of a logical argument which involves the premise that His person and work are beyond human invention.

Church History

The study of Church History is a fast paced study that takes the student from the first century to the latter part of the 18th century. The student is able to plot the early departures from the truth and is able to see the results of what happens when truth is displaced by the doctrine and commandments of men.

Some areas of interest this course considers are persecution in the early church and early man-made creeds and councils. This study takes an inside look at the crusades as well as an examination of the Reformation Movement and the personalities involved.

Reasons for studying Church History include: building a deeper affection for the church and her struggles, warnings against departure from the truth, informing concerning the beginning of some denominations, and understanding (not approval) of other beliefs.

Introduction To Computers

This course of thirty hours of classroom instruction is designed to introduce the student to the basics of proper computer use, and its particular value to the student and preacher. The student will also learn the basics of word processing, spreadsheet, desk top publishing, and Bible software. Additionally, instruction will be given on the proper form to be used for research papers, reports, and sermons. Each student will have the benefit of hands on training in the school's computer lab.

First Corinthians

This course involves a verse-by-verse treatment of the biblical book. Additionally, background information is evaluated, including authorship, date of writing, place of writing and canonicity.

This study impresses upon the student the real conflict between the divine ideal for the Lord's church and the reality of its imperfect, human membership. Yet, error is not condoned but to be corrected to make Christians and the church they comprise pleasing to God. The several doctrines enumerated throughout the epistle are carefully studied, including unity versus division, human wisdom versus divine wisdom, sexual sins, miracles, the resurrection, and New Testament worship. A film helps the student visualize the biblical surroundings and history relative to the city of Corinth.

Students are required to memorize outstanding Scriptures that doubtless they will use often in their ministry over the years. Further, students are afforded the opportunity for oral homiletic exercises in class where they can employ what they learn from the book of First Corinthians.

Second Corinthians and James

This course involves a verse-by-verse treatment of the biblical books. Additionally, background information regarding each book is evaluated, including authorship, date of writing, place of writing and canonicity. New Testament doctrine in Second Corinthians is carefully examined, including the replacement of the old law with the gospel, righteousness, apostolic authority, judgment, Christian living and service, and worship. Also, the exemplary life of service by the apostle Paul in the face of great adversity is duly noted.

New Testament doctrine found in the book of James is reviewed, too, including temptation to sin, trials, the gospel as law, Christian service, biblical faith, sins of the tongue, Christian living and service, prayer and evangelism toward erring Christians. The book of James is also favorably compared with other New Testament biblical books that treat some of the same material.

Students are required to memorize outstanding Scriptures that doubtless they will use often in their ministry over the years. Further, students are afforded the opportunity for oral homiletic exercises in class where they can employ what they learn from the book of Second Corinthians and James.

The Book of Daniel

Daniel was taken captive as a youth to the land of Babylon where he was trained to serve in the court of Nebuchadnezzar, the great king. He lived through the entire seventy years of Captivity and into the reign of Cyrus the Great of Persia. During this time God revealed to him many great and wonderful prophecies of the coming King who would set up a Kingdom which would surpass all the kingdoms of men. Daniel and his book come under great attack by the liberal theologians because of the accuracy of his prophecies. The book of Daniel is a rewarding study.

Denominational Doctrines

The course requires 60 hours of classroom instruction, involving an in-depth look at some of the major religious denominations today in light of New Testament teaching. Consideration is given to organization and to some of the primary doctrines held by these groups.

English Grammar I, II, III, IV

English Grammar, with particular emphasis on spoken English, is considered a necessary tool in preaching from the English translations. It is the conviction of the Hillview Terrace eldership, the administration and faculty of the West Virginia School of Preaching that every preacher be thoroughly prepared in all aspects of spoken as well as written communicative skills. The structure, grammatical marking, parsing and diagramming of sentences are studied in considerable detail. Composition of bulletins and pertinent articles for publication in brotherhood and secular periodicals is encouraged. Also, time is devoted to spoken English in which brief public discourses are made and critiqued by peers and faculty members.

Ephesians and Colossians

The course involves 30 hours of classroom instruction, during which each verse is examined. These prison epistles of the great apostle Paul are two of the thirteen books in the New Testament that are directly attributed to him. The book is a great spiritual primer and gives us many insights into the spiritual side of Christianity. Paul explains to us that Christ died to make it possible for us to sit in heavenly places in Christ.

The book of Colossians deals with the second heresy to come up in the apostolic period of the church. Paul is dealing with a form of Docetism that has Judaism mixed with it, and therefore has some of the aspects of the mystical as well. We devote a whole quarter of half-day study to these books, and do so hoping that the students will catch a sense of the high teaching of the great apostle in these books

Ezekiel

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction. This Old Testament book is a real gem of prophecy, and is necessary if one is to find all that the Bible teaches about the fall of Jerusalem to the heathen king Nebuchadnezzar. Some of Ezekiel's book is written in apocalyptic language; that is, in symbolic language. His views of heaven and his valley of the dry bones are examples of this. Ezekiel also gives some very unique and outstanding prophecies of the things to come under the New Testament dispensation. It is a pity that more time and attention are not given to the book of Ezekiel in our personal Bible study, and in the Bible study of the church. The book is full of important matters for us to know. The name Ezekiel is found nowhere else in the Old Testament, other than in the book that bears his name, but his name and his book are profoundly important both to the Jew of that time and to the Christian of our time. Our study of the text is a paragraph-by-paragraph study. In some places we slow to word-for-word exegesis.

General Biblical Introduction

The course consists of the study of the great biblical doctrines of Revelation, Inspiration and Canonicity. We prove that Revelation plus Inspiration equals the Bible ($R + I = B$). Emphasis is placed upon the Word of God as the final, written Revelation from God and man's amenability to the Bible. We show that Revelation is the divine message given by inspiration (breathed-out) of God using "holy men" to inscripturate the Holy Scriptures.

Canonicity shows how and why the sixty-six books composing the Bible make a complete canon. The tripartite study provides evidence of the inerrant, infallible, inspired, authoritative Word of God. The last section under Canonicity includes a brief study of the Apocryphal books of the Roman Catholic Old Testament.

Genesis and Exodus

This is a textual survey of Genesis through Exodus. Content includes introductory material for each book, textual outline, historical background, and enduring principles. Since much of the Bible is predicated upon the foundation truths found in these early chapters, creation and deluge evidences are heavily emphasized. Also, rather than dismissing skeptical theories, we learn to disprove and dismantle them.

The Godhead

The class involves a 60 hour study of the Godhead with an emphasis on the part Each has played and does now play in the atonement in all of its facets, including conversion and the Christian life. The nature of Each Person of the Trinity is studied with the atonement as central to an understanding of the righteousness of God, of grace, faith and morality. This will include a comprehensive view of God's purpose in Christ; of the work of Christ as Spirit in conversion and in the production of Christian doctrine to guide the church in Christian work and worship, and to guide the Christian in the abundant life in the home, in the church and in the world. An effort will be made to use biblical terminology and to avoid speculation regarding those things not specifically revealed by the Holy Spirit through the Word.

Hebrew History I, Joshua – 2 Samuel

This class covers the books of Joshua through 2 Samuel (including parallel material from 1 Chronicles). This is a study of the periods of conquest of Canaan, the judges, and the united kingdom. Our first objective is to learn facts from these historical events, and then to investigate the proper application of them in the Christian age. Questions of textual integrity are also considered in light of external evidence.

Hebrew History II, 1 Kings – Esther

In this class, we study the historical books of 1 Kings through Esther, including the divided kingdom, the captivity, and the restoration periods. Our primary goal is to know the text, but historical and introductory data which may help to enlighten it are also emphasized. The successes and failures of this dramatic period teach unmistakable and invaluable lessons, thus we seek to apply these principles whenever appropriate.

Hebrews, Philemon and Philippians

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction. These three books are a trio of great teaching from the New Testament. The book of Hebrews deals with the great concerns of the Christian priesthood and the matter of living by faith. Our study of this book is a paragraph-by-paragraph, almost word-by-word study of the great book.

Philemon is the study of Paul's attitude toward the master of a run-away slave by the name of Onesimus, as well as Paul's attitude toward the slave. The instructions in this book are great for making an application as to how those who are enemies of Christ can find reconciliation in Christ.

Philippians is a book which expresses Paul's love and optimism to the church at Philippi. Probably no church was as dear to Paul as was this one. As we do with the book of Hebrews, we make a very careful study of the English text of this book.

Hermeneutics

To properly know and teach God's Word, the student is taught how to properly interpret God's Word so that he understands how the Word of God guides us in life as God so designed. God has obligated us to "walk by faith" (2 Cor. 5:7). Our "faith" comes from hearing God's Word (Rom. 10:17). The student must come to know how the Bible authorizes. Unless we learn and understand how the Bible authorizes, we cannot be sure/certain about anything we say or do in the realm of religion.

Homiletics I

This course is the first in a series, the focus of which is the preparation and delivery of sermons. Homiletics I is foundational with regard to the ultimate objective of preaching (i.e. to be approved of God), the basic qualification for the preacher (i.e. character) and the major task of the preacher (i.e. to proclaim the Gospel of Christ). Emphasis is also given to a definition of biblical preaching and the essential elements of a sermon.

Homiletics II

This course helps provide the student a practical awareness of sermon design and delivery by explaining and providing laboratory experience in the art of outlining sermons. Emphasis is given to a biblical definition of topical and textual preaching, and the student is given opportunity to outline and deliver several of both types of sermons.

Homiletics III

Expository preaching is the total emphasis of this course. The challenge, preparation, explanation, structure, and delivery of the expository sermon are basic elements of this study. The student is provided opportunities to prepare and deliver expository sermons with the objective of leading him to an understanding of the potential power of this method of declaring the word of God and motivating him to become an expository preacher.

Homiletics IV

This course is based upon the practical work of the Gospel preacher. The course is divided into three distinct sections: (1) The Preacher's Service, (2) The Preacher's Study, and (3) The Preacher's Life. Section One is based on a thorough exegetical study of 1 Timothy 4:12-16. Section Two is based on the Gospel preacher being a man of the one Book — the Bible. This section includes the importance of how to build, develop and organize the preacher's tools — his library. A book list suggesting valuable books for the preacher is given to each student. Section Three discusses the life of the preacher, his wife and his family, finances, and his work (i.e., bulletin, counseling, weddings, funerals, visitation, taxes, etc.).

The Book of Isaiah

Isaiah was the statesman prophet giving counsel and admonition to rulers and kings and rebuking a sinful nation urging them to come back to God or face the consequences of Divine wrath. This lengthy book of sixty-six chapters is the most Messianic of all the prophetic books. It gives great insight into God's unfolding Scheme of Redemption through the coming Christ and His Kingdom. The student will appreciate and respect this great prophet and his book when the study is completed.

Jeremiah and Lamentations

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction. Jeremiah is one of the most prolific writers in the Old Testament. We believe that history books of the Kings and Chronicles were written by this great man, as well as the book that bears his name, and the one that bears the name which means a dirge or a song of sadness. (The latter two books were written by the hand of Jeremiah's faithful servant Baruch, rather than by the prophet himself.) Jeremiah is one of the most unusual characters of all time. From the reign of Josiah until the fall of Jerusalem, a period of about forty years, he preached to the people concerning the great danger from the north which was Babylon. Even though the Babylonian army made three visits to Jerusalem before she finally fell, still the people would not accept the fact that the holy city of the Jews would fall, and she would do so because God wanted to punish her for her rebellion and idolatry. Jeremiah was resisted by the Jews on every hand just as Ezekiel was resisted by the Jews who had already gone into captivity in Babylon. Jeremiah wrote the book of Lamentations, which is a series of poems lamenting the fall of the city of Jerusalem. In both these books, as well as in Ezekiel, God promised that the children of Israel would someday return to their homeland. In the book of Jeremiah there are several beautiful prophecies of the coming of Christ and of the Christian era. During the quarter, we give a paragraph-by-paragraph study of these great books.

The Book of Job

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction. Chapter by chapter study of the book of Job includes a study of Job's suffering from losses of possessions, children, health, and poor advice from his wife and friends. It is stressed that all righteous people suffer, but their ability to overcome is determined by their faithful trust in God. God will not allow one to be tempted above that he is able to bear and will provide blessings many times more than man's losses.

The Book of John

The Gospel of John is the last written account of the life and ministry of Christ. John selectively writes of signs, wonders and miracles which are designed to bring the reader to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and the Savior of the world. Your appreciation for this great book will grow and your faith in Jesus will be firmly established as you study this Gospel account by John the apostle.

Leviticus – Deuteronomy

In this textual survey of Leviticus through Deuteronomy, introduction, history, text and principles are studied. In this brief time period, we study the wilderness wandering and the giving of God's law through Moses. This class emphasizes not only the specifics of the law, but also the nature of it and the principles it teaches. We also learn evidence which supports the traditional integrity of the text.

Life of Christ

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction. This course is designed to give an overall view of the life of Jesus from his preexistence to his ascension into heaven. The course emphasizes the geographical movement and the chronological movement of the life of Christ during his earthly ministry. Consideration is also given to the evidence that Jesus is the Son of God and the training of the twelve to carry on his mission of seeking and saving the lost. The course covers the entire text of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Marriage and the Family

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction. Study for this class begins with responsibly choosing a mate for life. The material covered emphasizes what the Bible teaches about marriage, divorce and remarriage with analysis of many currently held errors in this regard. The practical applications of this study deal with the topics of husbands, wives, parents, children, conflict resolution and family finances.

The Minor Prophets

No study of the Bible is complete without a study of the prophets. The prophets of the Old Testament were God's spokesmen delivering His word without fear or favor. The Twelve Hebrew Prophets are wonderful sources of information and inspiration. The prophets show that God rules in the kingdoms of men (a message sorely needed by modern men). This study will cover each of the Minor Prophets verse by verse. It will strengthen your faith and put zeal in your preaching!

The New Testament Church

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction. Covered in this class are the nature, origin, mission, membership, government, identity and worship of the New Testament church. The closing lessons draw from the examples of several churches recorded in the New Testament. The texts of the Bible relating to each section are considered with an attempt to familiarize the student with the New Testament church.

New Testament Greek for Beginners

The course involves 30 hours of classroom instruction. This course is designed with a holistic emphasis on the Koine Greek of the New Testament. In forty weeks of study the student is introduced to textual criticism, morphology, word study, syntax and discourse. The goal of this study is to enable each student to read from the actual Greek text, translate from the original text and utilize the Greek study tools and commentaries available for such work. This course aims to produce a workable knowledge of Koine Greek to enhance one's exegesis and exposition of God's Word.

Personal Evangelism & Prayer

This is among the most practical and foundational courses available to the Bible student. It gets to the heart of the work of a preacher which is the saving of lost souls. During thirty hours of classroom study, this course endeavors to instill within the student a zeal for evangelism, as well as equip him with the proper tools and methods which will help him to be effective. The student will learn how to set up and teach home Bible studies. The textbook for this course is the Bible and the student will leave with a greater knowledge of the Scriptures.

First Peter — Jude

This course of sixty classroom hours covers the epistles of Peter, John, and Jude. These six epistles (sixteen chapters) provide a wealth of instruction for today's Christians and a multitude of sermons for today's preacher. Emphasis will be placed upon understanding these epistles as intended for their original recipients, as well as, how they apply today.

Premillennialism

The doctrine of Premillennialism is one of the most widespread among religious people in the United States. Some estimate that between 75-85 percent of Protestant denominations believe this doctrine. The purpose of this course is to study the history of Premillennialism with its basic tenants and show from the Holy Scriptures that it is indeed a false doctrine which will destroy the soul eternally unless one repents. It is a contradiction to the

Scheme of Redemption revealed in the Bible. The student will have a more complete understanding of Bible prophecy and the kingdom of Christ after this study.

Proverbs and Ecclesiastes

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction in two of the great books of Wisdom Literature. The course involves a careful study of the text with an emphasis on the practical nature of these two books for man today.

Psalms & Song of Solomon

This course, containing sixty hours of in-class instruction, provides the student with a better understanding of Hebrew poetry which is necessary for proper study of these two Old Testament books. The primary focus of the class will be upon the examination of the biblical text. Student expectations will include preparing a notebook, writing sermons, and memorizing portions of text. These two books are deep wells of knowledge which can more than satisfy the thirst of the eager student.

The Restoration Movement

The uniqueness of this course is in the principle that no person is asked to give up any truth he holds, but rather to surrender all things not consistent with the word of God. This principle is based on the fact that the Bible is the divine standard of authority by which all spiritual and moral matters are measured. The course deals with nine pleas of New Testament Christianity, which are based on "the seed of the kingdom," the Word of God (Luke 8:11).

Historically, the course studies the struggles, sacrifices and successes of men through centuries past, both in Europe and America, to return to New Testament Christianity. Many European and American men are studied with emphasis placed upon Barton W. Stone, Thomas Campbell, Alexander Campbell and Walter Scott.

The Book Of Revelation

The course is designed to make the book of Revelation relevant and meaningful to the preacher so that he can feel comfortable preaching and teaching from it. The theme of Revelation — VICTORY IN JESUS — is emphasized both in its first century setting and its present-day meaning.

Romans and Galatians

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction, during which each verse is examined. These two books go hand in hand in studying both briefly, and in depth, the problems that faced the early church so far as the Jews and the Judaizers were concerned. Both these books teach that one is no longer guided by the law of Moses, but by the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ. It can be said that the theme of both these books is that "The Just Shall Live By Faith." Paul points out that the Gospel is for everyone, both Jew and Gentile, and that it is the Christian people who are God's chosen ones, and no longer the Jews because they have descended from Abraham. Very careful attention is given to the many arguments in both these books that "The just shall live by faith," and not by fleshly descent, or by the law of Moses. The study of these books is intentionally slow, so that the student has the opportunity to grasp the fullness of the arguments that Paul makes in these books.

I Thessalonians-Titus

The course involves 60 hours of classroom instruction, during which each verse is examined. The Thessalonian epistles detail the New Testament doctrine concerning final things. Particular interest is shown in sermon outline and presentation of these letters from Paul. Also, mock Bible study classes offer the students a forum in which they may gain practical experience in fielding a myriad of questions and comments covering this subject material. The epistles to Timothy and Titus serve to further emphasize the character and responsibilities of evangelists.

Student Information

Student Load

All students are required to live in Moundsville, or close enough to commute daily, and are required to take a full load of six courses, two of which meet three hours a week, and four of which meet six hours a week in each division. Those students entering school at the same time cover the same material and graduate together.

Grading System

The quality of work done by each student is expressed in the following table:

90-100	A-Excellent	4 Quality points per term
80-89	B-Above Average	3 Quality points per term
70-79	C-Average	2 Quality points per term
60-69	D-Low Passing	1 Quality point per term
0-59	F-Failure	0 Quality points per term
	I- Incomplete	0 Quality points per term

A student who has an incomplete must make it up within one week of the next term. An "F" or an "I" may be removed by repeating the course, or fulfilling special work requirements as may be imposed by the instructor and approved by the director. All students will be counseled when such seems necessary.

Policy For Writing Papers

It has been discussed and decided, with the approval of the Elders of the Hillview church, that in the future we will teach all students, through our grammar classes, to use the MLA (Modern Language Association) style for the preparation and documentation of all papers and reports required in various classes in the school. This style is outlined in the grammar book being used in the school, which is Hodges' Harbrace College Handbook, 12th edition. The style for writing research compositions is outlined between pages 419 and 472 of the current text. The teacher requiring the papers will notice that this system requires all footnotes, or endnotes be put in the text in parentheses, and not listed at the foot of the page, or the end of the paper unless there is some further explanation to be made by the writer. This saves a note number system. Regarding necessary footnotes or endnotes, which are to contain only further statements or evidence upon the

subject, these are to be done at the teacher's discretion. This system is being inaugurated in the school to keep from confusing our students with a half dozen different styles that the various teachers have learned in a half dozen different places over the years. One may find a copy of this text in the library and is asked to consult it if he is unfamiliar with the format.

Scholastic Probation

Graduating students are required to achieve a 2.0 grade-point-average (GPA) based on hours attempted.

Hours Attempted	GPA Required
0-23	1.50
24-40	1.70
41-56	1.90
57 and above	2.00

Any student failing to achieve the minimum satisfactory GPA is placed on probation for one quarter. At the end of the probationary period any student failing to achieve the minimum GPA for hours attempted will be terminated. Any student so terminated will not be allowed to apply for readmission for at least one quarter. His readmission is subject to approval of the director and faculty. No student can graduate from West Virginia School of Preaching with an "F" on his record. Any failure must be removed by repeating the course, or by completing a satisfactory project. Permanent records shall be kept by the school.

Progress Reports

In addition to papers returned, a grade report card will be given to each student at the end of each quarter. Upon request, progress reports will be given to those who provide support directly to the student.

Rules of Conduct

- All students are expected to assume proper responsibility as citizens. Any who are convicted of any law violation will be subject to discipline by the school.
- Everyone is expected to deal honestly and uprightly with fellow students. Each student must deal likewise with those churches and individuals who give him financial support.
- Any words or acts unbecoming to Christians will not be tolerated. At all times the student must conduct himself with proper decorum, and display a proper attitude in all matters pertaining to his school work.

- Students in this school are not permitted to use tobacco, alcohol or drugs (unless prescribed by doctor) in any form, and any who are found doing so will be immediately dismissed.
- Though a specific offense may not be committed, at any time a student's attitude and demeanor are not in harmony with the spirit and purpose of the school, he may be asked to withdraw. This will not be subject to review by any other person or group outside West Virginia School of Preaching and the elders of the Hillview Terrace Church of Christ.
- Business deals of any kind relative to borrowing and lending, involving sizable amounts, between and among students should be avoided both by those who would borrow or who would lend.
- Any student making purchases in sizable amounts such as new or nearly new cars, or involving such financial obligations as may be judged as overly burdensome, credit wise, should clear such with (1) his sponsors, (2) the school director, (3) and/or elders. Any student receiving support from the school fund is subject to losing said support when such purchases are made, unless good evidence can show that such is justified.
- School office computers, files, etc. are off limits to all students.
- No cell phones are to be in operation during class time. Incoming calls for a student will be received at the office of the secretary for any student on an emergency basis only. Classes will not be interrupted for phone calls.
- Students will be expected to address faculty and staff members as brother or sister preceding the first or last name of the person addressed.
- Additional regulations may be presented on the day of registration and afterward as needed.
- A discipline committee consisting of the director, two faculty and elders will deal with problems.

Tuition and Fees

There shall be no charge for tuition or fees. All the costs of administration and instruction are to be borne by the Hillview Terrace Church of Christ. The student is expected to provide only for living expenses, books and materials.

Refund Policy

Since there is no expense involved for tuition or fees, or other charges by the school, as pertaining to any student, including veterans and other such eligible persons, a refund policy is not applicable or necessary.

Credits

Each full-time student must attend classes a total of thirty hours a week on a regular schedule. During the regular school year there will be four such ten-week sessions, or a total of forty weeks each year, eighty weeks in two years.

On a "clock-hour" basis, during two years of intensive study each student will have spent a minimum of 2600 hours required for graduation, including class work and chapel.

Clock Hour Credit

Classes meet six hours a day, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., five days a week, making a total of thirty hours net instruction; chapel adds 2 1/2 hours per week.

Previous Credit

Evaluations will be made on an individual basis. An assessment test may be required.

Requirements for Graduation

- The student must have demonstrated proper Christian character. Each student must complete satisfactorily all the prescribed courses.
- There are no electives in the regular curriculum.
- An over-all average of 2.0 (C) must be maintained.
- Any student having an "F" or "I" on his record must remove such before graduation. There will be a week grace period after each quarter. All work is to be turned in to the office by Friday following the end of the quarter. After this one week grace period ends the drop of a letter grade per day begins. DON'T GET BEHIND!
- Students are encouraged to consult with teachers as to late work or assignments missed due to absence, etc.

School Sessions

Each school year is divided into four terms of eleven weeks each. No regular class schedule is met during the eleventh week.

School Attendance

Chapel, a period of devotion, is held each morning, 8:30 –9:00, before classes. Every student is required to attend. This service will be composed of songs, Scripture readings, prayers and messages by students, faculty and

visiting speakers, making chapel one of the most profitable periods of the day.

Tardiness and absence from chapel and class sessions, unless there is legitimate reason, will be reflected in the student's conduct and credit record. Three times tardy equals one unexcused absence. Each unexcused absence will be penalized by loss of five percent of grade average.

Attendance at Worship

Every student is required to attend all regular services of the church. This includes Sunday Bible classes, morning and evening worship, and the mid-week service.

All students and their families are expected to attend classes and services at Hillview Terrace Church of Christ.

Exceptions are:

- Local students may attend home congregations.
- Students may work with other churches.
- Students may worship with other congregations if they are obligated due to receiving financial assistance from them.

Preaching Opportunities

Preaching opportunities are available at area congregations. However, we cannot guarantee appointments. Most of the second-year students and some of the first-year students usually preach on Sundays by appointment. Opportunities are dependent on the needs of area congregations, but usually there are several opportunities weekly.

Opportunities for Graduates

The school does not act as a placement bureau. More and more churches are looking for preachers who are schooled in the Scriptures and have received the kind of training given here. Although inquiries will be received for located work, students must make their own arrangements with churches.

Insurance

If possible, students should arrange for some kind of insurance in the event of illness or other emergencies. Perhaps supporting churches will consider this. The school cannot assume financial responsibility for any student.

Fellowship

A closeness exists among students which is heartwarming to observe. Often they contribute to the needs of one another. The spiritual atmosphere is greatly appreciated by all who attend or visit with us. Singing and praying together strengthens everyone.

The daily associations are most enjoyable. A banquet is planned for those graduating, with all students and wives attending. Truly, the ties that bind are strong.

Dress and Cleanliness

- For attending classes, dress pants, dress shirt and tie are expected. No pull over shirts are acceptable. Jeans and other such trousers are forbidden.
- Shoes are to be kept shined. No tennis shoes are permitted.
- All students are requested to dress fully — coat and tie — for regular services at meeting hours, Lord's days, Wednesday nights and at other times when regular services are held, and when speaking in chapel. Coat and tie are expected to be worn by our students when visiting and preaching at other congregations.
- Long hair, and long, thick and shaggy sideburns are not permitted. Sideburns are not to extend below the lobe of the ear. Mustaches and beards are discouraged, though permitted subject to the following: They must not extend beyond the corners of mouth, and they must be kept thin and neatly trimmed at all times. Sideburns, mustaches and beards are subject to the judgment of the faculty and the administration.
- No earrings are permitted on male students.
- Personal hygiene and cleanliness must be maintained at all times.

Use of Library

The librarian will assist students in locating and checking out books. Students will follow library procedure for checking out and returning books. Books being used in the building only need not be checked out but must be returned to the library when students are finished using them. Books may be checked out for one week and may be renewed unless there is a waiting list for the book(s).

Except in cases of a special research, books will not be checked out for extended periods to keep the books accessible for the use of all students. Faculty members may place certain books on reserve, which means they can be checked out only in accordance with their instructions (for example, they may limit use of books to one hour per student). Periodicals and audiotapes are available. Please indicate "Periodical" or "Tape" when signing out these materials.

Students are advised to make good use of their time, not only in class, but in periods of study following classes.

Students' Wives

Students' wives are encouraged to attend classes as provided especially for them. These classes equip wives to assist their husbands in the ministry.

Cost of Living

The cost of living in Moundsville and the surrounding area is moderate compared to most urban areas. Of course, expenses vary between families and depending upon one's selection of a residence. Also, debt attained before enrollment at WVSOP will obviously affect the amount of funds needed for monthly support. One student family rented a three-bedroom house with a basement for \$350 a month. Single students are renting one-bedroom apartments for \$250 to \$275 a month. Student utilities (i.e., electric, gas, water, garbage and phone) average \$185 a month. The price of groceries is a significant variable that is affected by preferences, number of people in the family and the age of children. Clothing stores in the area include national chain retail and discount stores. Medical costs are high as they are everywhere in the country, yet they are slightly less than in adjoining states. Gasoline prices are competitive. Expect also to spend about \$80.00 to \$100.00 per quarter for textbooks.

Student's Agreement

All students by their attendance at West Virginia School of Preaching are in agreement with these school policies.