



*South India*  
Baptist Bible College & Seminary

# Master of Divinity (Online)

Credible, Flexible, Affordable Theological & Ministerial Training

## Description of the Program

Greetings, dear friend! We're thrilled to welcome you to an enriching journey of faith, deep biblical learning, and practical ministerial training through South India Baptist Bible College & Seminary's Online Master of Divinity Program. For over forty years, SIBBC&S has passionately prepared individuals for impactful ministry, and now, this same in-depth seminary education is available to you online. Guided by our mission, "...commit thou to faithful men," we aim to equip you with a profound understanding of God's Word, preparing you to make a difference in the world. Dedicated to the Great Commission, our M.Div. online degree blends advanced technology with a comprehensive curriculum to empower you in winning souls for Christ.

Designed with precision to address the challenges faced by working individuals, the program offers a flexible and enriching learning experience. It stands as a beacon of comprehensive education, providing indispensable training in biblical studies, theology, and practical ministry skills. What sets it apart is the emphasis on leadership and organizational management, recognizing the evolving landscape of Christian ministry. The curriculum embraces the multifaceted nature of Christian ministry, covering evangelism, church planting, teaching, preaching, pastoral care, counselling, mentoring, church administration, and leadership and management within church-affiliated organizations.

This program is not just an academic pursuit; it's a transformative experience where theory meets real-world application. Whether you're a seasoned minister looking to enhance your skills or a working Christian answering the call to leadership, our Online Master of Divinity program is your gateway to a holistic education that empowers you for a lifetime of meaningful service.

# Curriculum of the Program

The program is equipped with 96-credit curriculum and carefully structured into 4 levels to provide an in-depth theological education. The program is designed to equip students with a profound understanding of Christian doctrine, biblical studies, pastoral care, and ministerial leadership. This curriculum is ideal for those seeking to deepen their theological knowledge and enhance their ministerial skills in a variety of church and mission contexts.

## Level 1

1. Orientation - Theological Research & Writing (GEST O501 - 1 Cr.)
2. Introduction to Old Testament (BIST O502 - 3 Cr. )
3. Introduction to New Testament (BIST O503 - 3 Cr. )
4. Introduction to Christian ministry (CHMI O504 - 3 Cr.)
5. Biblical Hermeneutics (BIST O505 - 3 Cr. )
6. World Religions (REMI O506 - 3 Cr. )
7. History of Christianity (HIST O507 - 3 Cr. )
8. Introduction to Missions (REMI O508 - 3 Cr. )

## Level 2

1. Pentateuch (BIST O601 - 3 Cr.)
2. Evangelism & Church Planting (CHMI O602 - 3 Cr.)
3. Major Prophetic Books (BIST O603 - 3 Cr.)
4. Synoptic Gospels (BIST O604 - 3 Cr.)
5. Pauline Epistles (BIST O605 - 3 Cr.)
6. Dispensations (THST O606 - 3 Cr.)
7. Christian Ministry to Children & Youth (CHMI O607 - 3 Cr.)
8. Preliminary Greek (BIST O608 - 3 Cr. )

## Level 3

1. Biblical Theology (THST O701 - 3 Cr.)
2. Christian Ministry to Men & Women (CHMI O702 - 3 Cr.)
3. History of Indian Christianity (HIST O703 - 3 Cr.)
4. Constitutional Rights & Responsibilities (GEST O704 - 1 Cr.)
5. Christian Ethics (THST O705 - 3 Cr.)
6. Homiletics (THST O706 - 3 Cr. )
7. Christian Apologetics (REMI O707 - 3 Cr.)
8. Preliminary Hebrew (BIST O708 - 3 Cr.)

## Level 4

1. Systematic Theology 1 (THST O801 - 3 Cr.)
2. Indian Christian Theology (THST O802 - 3 Cr.)
3. Mentoring in Ministry (CHMI O803 - 3 Cr.)
4. Pastoralia (CHMI O804 - 3 Cr.)
5. Systematic Theology 2 (THST O805 - 3 Cr.)
6. Christian Leadership (CHMI O806 - 3 Cr.)
7. Christian Organizational Development (CHMI O807 - 3 Cr.)
8. Administration & Management of Church & Church Based Organizations (CHMI O808 - 3 Cr.)

## Practicum

1. Spiritual Formation (CHMI O509 - 3 Cr.)
2. Ministerial Formation & Internship (CHMI O709 - 3 Cr.)

## Optional Electives (Not required for graduation)

1. Wisdom Literature (BIST O609 - 3 Cr.)
2. Writings & Theology of John ( BIST O610 - 3 Cr.)
3. Expository Preaching (THST O710 - 3 Cr.)
4. Modern Theological Trends (THST O711 - 3 Cr.)
5. Cultural Anthropology (REMI O712 - 3 Cr.)
6. Trends in Modern Mission (REMI O713 - 3 Cr.)
7. Principles of Church Growth (CHMI O611 - 3 Cr.)
8. Church Music & Theology (CHMI O714 - 3 Cr.)

At the end of every level (1-4), students meet with the academic office for review and promotion.

## Format of the Courses

The Master of Divinity Online Degree program combines three distinct course formats, offering students a well-rounded and flexible learning experience. Students will participate in each of these formats throughout their studies:

### 1. Fully Pre-Recorded Courses

These courses are entirely accessible on the Canvas Learning Management System. With all lectures and assignments pre-recorded, students have 24/7 access to materials for the full 8-week duration, allowing them to learn at their

own pace. A facilitator will be available throughout the course for ongoing support.

## 2. **Zoom-Based Live Virtual Courses**

Some courses are conducted live on Zoom, typically in the evenings, featuring real-time lectures, interactive discussions, and Q&A sessions. This format fosters an engaging and collaborative environment with instructors and fellow students.

## 3. **Residential Courses (Annually, One Course)**

Each summer, students are invited to campus for a five-day intensive course, providing a traditional classroom setting and a hands-on seminary experience in a focused period.

Together, these formats create a comprehensive educational experience, allowing students to fulfill their program requirements through a balanced combination of flexible, interactive, and immersive learning.

# Objectives of the Program

The program aims to accomplish the following in the lives of the students:

- To cultivate a profound understanding of Scripture and the rich theological heritage of the Church. Through rigorous study, students will dive into the depths of God's Word and the historical context.
- To equip students with practical skills essential for effective pastoral care, leadership, and ethical decision-making. We believe in nurturing leaders who not only understand the theory but can apply their knowledge with wisdom and compassion in real-world situations.
- To foster personal transformation and spiritual development in student. The program provides a nurturing environment for individuals to deepen their faith, cultivating a spirit of continuous growth and reflection.
- To enhance students' communication skills, empowering them to deliver impactful sermons that resonate with the hearts of their congregations.
- To prepare students for the evolving challenges and opportunities they may encounter. We aim to equip students with the adaptability and resilience needed to thrive in today's diverse ministry contexts.
- To instil a deep sense of commitment to ministry and social engagement. We believe that Christian service extends beyond the church walls, and our goal is to nurture individuals who actively engage with and impact their communities.

- To inspire a lifelong commitment in students to grow in the likeness of Christ. This commitment forms the bedrock of their ministry, guiding them in their service to God and humanity.

## Duration of the Program

Our program is designed to meet the diverse needs of our students, offering a flexible journey to complete your degree in as little as 3 years or up to 8 years, depending on your personal schedule. Structured in a modular format, the program consists of 30 modules, each lasting 8 weeks.

For those eager to progress quickly, you can take two modules simultaneously, while those who prefer a steadier pace can complete one module at a time. Each course generally requires about 12–15 hours of learning each week. If your goal is to finish within 3 years, you can increase your weekly learning hours to move through the program at an accelerated rate.

## Accreditation of the Program

The program received in-principle approval from the Asia Theological Association (ATA) in June 2023 for its launch. In September 2024, it underwent an initial review by ATA and received positive feedback. We now look forward to the upcoming accreditation visit from ATA. We are committed to maintaining high standards, and upon successful program completion, students will be awarded ATA-certified degree.

## Financial Information

The tuition fee of the program has been kept minimal compared to the quality of education provided.

- Admission fee: ₹2000.
- Tuition fee: The total tuition fee for the entire program is ₹90,000, but scholarships are made available for all students in need, up to ₹24,000. Students with scholarship will only pay ₹66,000 for the entire tuition. This means over 36 months, student will be paying ₹1833 per month. Fee payments can be made as per the courses or monthly or in installments.
- ATA Registration fee: ₹2000.
- Graduation & Transcript Fee: ₹2000.

## Admission Requirements

1. **Born-Again Commitment:** Candidates must demonstrate a born-again commitment and a fervent dedication to effectively serve in Christian ministry. A sincere desire to deepen understanding of God's Word is essential.
2. **Educational Qualification:** Candidates should be at least 25 years old and hold a bachelor's degree from a recognized institution, either in secular or theological education. Individuals with a minimum of 5 years of ministry experience and aged over 30 may be considered, even if they do not possess a bachelor's degree, on a case-by-case basis. Please contact us for confirmation.
3. **Technological Requirements:** Candidates are required to have access to a personal computer with stable internet connectivity to facilitate seamless online learning.
4. **Spiritual Mentorship:** Candidates should have a local pastor or a trusted spiritual leader who can serve as a mentor throughout their studies for ministerial skill development.
5. **Minimum Fluency in English:** Candidates are expected to have a basic proficiency in English to effectively express themselves. Depending on their initial assessment, candidates may need to undergo a qualifying exam or an interview to evaluate their capability to succeed in our programs.

## Document Submission Required for Admission

- **Educational Certificates:** Scanned copies of 10th, 12th, and degree certificates along with mark sheets. Please note that only scanned copies are accepted.
- **Personal Testimony Letter:** A typed account of your personal faith journey and reasons for pursuing the selected program.
- **Recommendation Letter:** A letter from a mentor or someone familiar with your commitment to faith and passion for theological studies.
- **Formal Digital Profile Image:** A soft copy of a formal profile image for student profile.
- **Identification Document:** A scanned copy of an ID card, such as an Aadhar Card or any national identity card.
- **Mentor Consent Form:** Ensure your mentor submits the digital consent form to confirm their mentorship role. Click [here](#) to access and share the mentor form

with your mentor.

- **Ministry Experience Documentation (if applicable):** Applicants without a bachelor's degree must provide proof of at least five years of ministry experience, including specific details on the nature and duration of the involvement. This can be a scanned document,
- **Scholarship Form:** If you have opted for the 8000 rupees annual scholarship, you need to digitally submit the scholarship form during your application. Click [here](#) to access and submit your scholarship request form.

## Academic Calendar (January 1- December 31)

**Term 1:** From January 1-7 to February 19-25 (8 Weeks)

**Term 2:** From February 26-March 4 to April 16-22 (8 Weeks)

**Term 3:** From April 23-29 to July 2-8 (8 Week Term + 1 Week Residency, 2 week Vacation)

**Term 4:** From July 9-15 to August 27 - September 2 (8 Weeks)

**Term 5:** From September 3-9 to October 15-21 (7 Weeks)

**Term 6:** From October 22-28 to December 10-31 (8 Week Term + 2 Week Vacation)

Each term begins with a new set of courses, typically spanning 8 weeks. Students will enroll in courses and complete them within the designated time frame. Extensions are available for a nominal fee, providing additional time when needed.

## Wholistic Formation Framework

The M.Div program equips students for effective Christian ministry through a holistic approach that integrates spiritual growth, character formation, and practical ministry experience. Below framework is designed to nurture students in every aspect of their spiritual and ministerial journey.

### Spiritual Mentorship Program

Students engage in one-on-one mentorship with experienced ministry leaders for personal guidance and spiritual growth. Monthly meetings foster accountability and development, with mentors submitting progress reports to ensure continuous support. Personal mentor has to be chosen by the student himself/herself.



## **Virtual Chapels**

Online students gather for interactive worship, prayer, and fellowship through virtual chapels. These sessions cultivate a sense of community and encourage spiritual engagement.

## **Ministry Internships**

Practical ministry experience is an integral part of the program, with students completing a 360-hour internship after completing at least 50% of their coursework. Internships allow students to apply their theological training in real-world contexts, guided by mentors and a formation coordinator. Student can choose the place and context of the internship.

## **Annual Campus Visits**

Students are required to visit the campus annually for a 5-day immersive experience, strengthening connections with the community through workshops, prayer services, and events.

## **Useful Links:**

<https://www.sibbcs.online/applynow>

To know about our Master of Divinity Online Program

<https://www.sibbcs.online/masterofdivinity>

To know about our MA in Biblical Studies Online Program

<https://www.sibbcs.online/ma-in-biblical-studies>

To know about our Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies Online Program

<https://www.sibbcs.online/graduate-diploma-in-christian-studies>

To submit your application

<https://www.sibbcs.online/applynow>



To know about the fee structure, payment options and scholarship

<https://www.sibbcs.online/tuition>

<https://www.sibbcs.online/communityupdates/policies-on-fee-payments-sibbc-s-online-programs>

To pay Admission Fee

<https://pay.jodo.in/pages/AndELZLaccWb7TCF>

To know about our Admission Criteria

<https://www.sibbcs.online/admission-requirements>

To Know about the Admission Procedure

<https://www.sibbcs.online/admission-procedure>

To meet our admissions Office via Zoom Conference

<https://calendly.com/sibbcsonline/admissions>

To Request a call back

<https://www.sibbcs.online/contact>

To know more information on many of your questions

<https://www.sibbcs.online/faq>

To know about our statement of Faith

<https://www.sibbcs.online/statement-of-faith>

To explore our gallery

<https://www.sibbcs.online/gallery>

To know about our Holistic Formation Framework

<https://www.sibbcs.online/communityupdates/policies-on-holistic-formation-framework-sibbc-s-online-programs>

To know about how exams are done

<https://www.sibbcs.online/communityupdates/policies-on-course-examinations-sibbc-s-online-programs>

To know about the submission of your documents

<https://www.sibbcs.online/communityupdates/policies-on-document-submissions-sibbc-s-online-programs>

To know the benefits of Online Education

<https://www.sibbcs.online/communityupdates/embracing-the-digital-era-the-case-for-online-seminary-programs>

To know how our Online Programs Function

<https://www.sibbcs.online/communityupdates/inside-look-navigating-our-online-programs>

Warm Regards,

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# WHO IS THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION REALLY FOR?

## SIBBC&S ONLINE PROGRAMS, COIMBATORE, INDIA

Growing up, I remember hearing how some people ended up in Bible college as a last resort. Maybe they'd tried everything else and nothing seemed to work, or perhaps their families hoped that Bible training would help turn their lives around. Back then, I didn't fully understand what theological education really meant or who it was truly for. But over the years, I've come to see that a place like a seminary isn't just an academic stop along the way, it's a transformative journey, meant for those who feel called to something much deeper.

Theological education isn't for the aimless or the uncertain; it's for the passionate and the purposeful. It's not for those hoping for an easy way out, but for those who want to give themselves fully to something larger than life.

### **For Those Who Feel Called**

Theological education is for people who feel a calling that's impossible to ignore. It's for those who know, deep in their bones, that they're called for something passionate that it keeps them awake at night. You know the feeling. It's that deep, stirring sense in your heart that God has placed you here to make a difference. It's more than a fleeting thought or a passing idea; it's a persistent, unwavering call that catches hold of your soul.

For those who feel this call, theological education is a place where that calling can be explored, clarified, and prepared for. It's where they can wrestle with the questions that keep them up at night, where they can understand what it truly means to lead, serve, and love with the heart of God. It's a journey that goes beyond textbooks and lectures, moving into the very core of who they are and who they're becoming.

### **For Those Ready to Be Transformed**

Theological education is not about simply acquiring knowledge. It's for those who are ready to be deeply and profoundly changed. This isn't a path for the faint of heart; it's for those who are willing to let go of who they thought they were to become who they're meant to be.

Theological education challenges people to think, to feel, and to see the world in new ways. It confronts them with their own limitations, yet empowers them to grow. Just as Moses guided Joshua, or Paul mentored Timothy, seminary is about guiding each student toward their own potential, through experiences that build character, faith, and resilience. It's for those who want to be vessels, shaped and refined, so that they can pour into others' lives with wisdom and compassion.

### **For Those Willing to Serve**

If your heart longs to serve others, then theological education is for you. In a world where success is often defined by what you can gain, theological education is a path toward giving. It's for those who want to lead by example, not from a stage but by walking alongside others, helping them through their struggles, sharing in their joys, and guiding them with love and humility.

Seminary is preparing students to lead; it's preparing them to serve. It's for people who are ready to live selflessly, who are willing to lay down their own desires to make a difference in the lives of others. If you're someone who feels this call to serve, then theological education can equip you with the tools, the wisdom, and the inner strength to do just that.

### **For Those Who Value Relationships and Community**

Theological education isn't a solo journey. It's for those who find strength and meaning in community, who are willing to learn alongside others and grow together. In a seminary, you become part of a family—a family that challenges you, supports you, and pushes you toward becoming the best version of yourself.

This journey of faith and learning isn't just about "you." It's about all the people who will one day be touched by your life and ministry. It's for those who value mentorship, who are open to the wisdom and experience of others, and who want to be part of something bigger than themselves.

### **For Those Who Seek Depth, Not Titles**

Theological education is not about prestige or titles. It's not a path for those seeking to bolster their résumés or add letters after their name. It's for those who want depth, who want a relationship with God that's unshakable, and who want to understand what it means to walk in faith, especially in times of darkness.

It's for those who aren't satisfied with a superficial faith, who need to dig deeper, to wrestle with the mysteries of God, and to uncover the truths that go beyond easy answers. It's for those who hunger for more, who want their faith to mean something not just to themselves, but to the people they'll serve.

### **For Those Who Want to Make a Real Difference**

At its heart, theological education is for people who want to bridge the gap between faith and the real world. It's for those who want to go beyond the walls of the church and bring hope, healing, and love to the world. It's for those who are ready to meet people in their pain, to stand with them in their struggles, and to remind them that God's love is real, tangible, and life-changing.

If you want to be someone who brings light into dark places, who can offer strength when others feel weak, and who can be a voice of compassion and truth, then theological education is a place where you can grow into that calling. It's not about becoming a

“professional Christian” but about learning how to live a life that reflects God’s love in everything you do.

### **A Path of Purpose and Passion**

So, who is theological education for? It’s for those who feel called, who want to be transformed, who are ready to serve, who value community, who seek depth, and who long to make a difference. It’s not just a career path or an academic pursuit; it’s a journey of the heart, a path that leads to purpose, passion, and a life lived fully for God.

For those who feel that unmistakable calling, theological education is a place where that call is nurtured and grown. It’s a place where leaders are shaped, where the seeds of faith and purpose are sown, and where they will bear fruit for years to come. If you feel that pull on your heart—if you feel called to give, to love, and to serve in ways that will impact others—then theological education may just be the place where God is calling you to begin your journey.

I am proud to introduce to you a seminary that is committed to all the above stated values: **South India Baptist Bible College & Seminary**. A seminary that had changed my life and the lives of thousands of other students over the last 42 years and is still changing today. You can become a part of this movement where India and our neighbouring countries are being turned to Christ through our Alumni.

As you ponder over this, it is my prayer that the Lord would give you the wisdom and guide your heart to find a place that equips you for the higher calling He has placed in your heart.

Signing off!

**Mr. Rajesh Madugula**

Academic Dean of Online Programs,  
South India Baptist Bible College & Seminary.