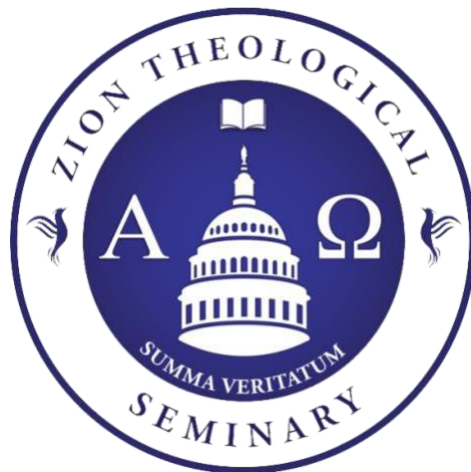




# **Zion Theological Seminary**

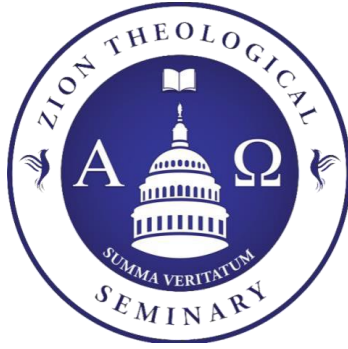
## *Academic Catalog*



*Zion Theological Seminary is a religious institution exempt from state regulation and oversight in the Commonwealth of Virginia.*

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## VISION | OUR IMPACT

Pursuing the highest truth through God's Word – one Scripture, one purpose, one heart.

## MISSION | WHAT WE DO

Zion Theological Seminary (ZTS) offers a comprehensive, advanced post-graduate degree and is committed to equipping students with a full understanding of the Scripture, preparing them as faithful stewards of Christ.

## OUR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

**Strategic Initiative #1:** We will be the leader in postgraduate theological excellence through thorough scripture-examination and evidence-based teaching.

**Strategic Initiative #2:** We will increase student engagement with ZTS student and staff and create a ZTS environment that supports recruitment, increases retention and yields high graduation rates.

**Strategic Initiative #3:** We will sustain and support institutional growth through fiscal, technological, environmental and human resource responsibility.

## ABOUT ZION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The Zion Theological Seminary (ZTS) is a tuition-free, non-denominational institution that offers a clear, holistic and in-depth study of Scripture shaped by the pursuit of God's truth and divine purpose for believers today.

With a desire and heart to equip all individuals in the Christian community at little to no cost, ZTS was established in 2016 by a group of passionate missionaries and church leaders who wanted to spread their knowledge of the Word of God.

## A Message to Current and Prospective ZTS Students

At the Zion Theological Seminary, we are constantly working to provide theological training to those who want to grow in their faith. With a **vision** to pursue the *highest truth* through God's Word, we have committed ourselves to equip our students with the skills necessary to becoming impactful leaders in ministry today. We are a diverse community of believers working to shape today's ministerial leaders through gaining the highest truth

from the Holy Scriptures. Our ministry leaders are fully trained to equip individuals with the skills necessary to faithfully and effectively teach, evangelize and maintain their faith walk.

We offer a comprehensive, advanced post-graduate degree and is committed to equipping students with a full understanding of the Scripture, preparing them as faithful stewards of Christ.

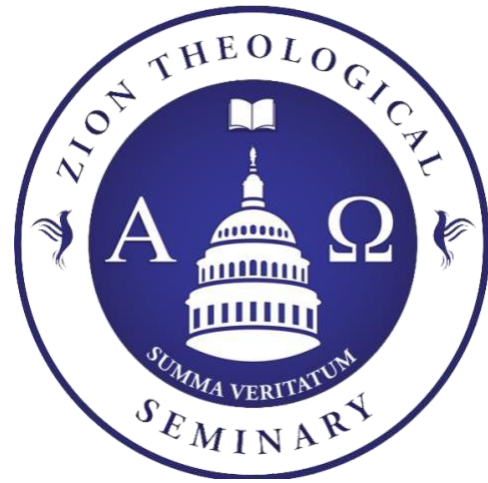
Today, because of the faithful service of ZTS faculty and staff, we will continue to work earnestly to prepare women and men for Christian ministries rooted in faith, love, integrity and scholarship.

ZTS provides a welcoming community of learning and worship where one's knowledge of Scripture constantly grows and where one's faith walk is maintained and nurtured. The combination of knowledge and faith is a key component to a successful life here at ZTS and we are devoted to ensuring that each student makes the most of their experience. Our curriculum, along with our focus on fellowship and evangelism will allow students to effectively carry out their lives of faith with love, strength and conviction as future ministry leaders.

We are thoroughly excited to do God's work together.

Sincerely,

ZTS Faculty and Staff



## *Master of Divinity (M.Div) Overview*

At ZTS, our students are awarded the opportunity to master the highest truth through a methodical study of Scripture. The curriculum equips students with the biblical and ministerial acuity to confidently teach and evangelize.

Through continual refinement and feedback from ZTS faculty and staff, local pastors and missionaries, each course is designed to challenge students to grow in the knowledge and understanding of Scripture, while honing the skills most important to effective ministry today.



Our curriculum is designed for students who are devoted to improving and deepening their commitment to growing in the knowledge of God. Through our curriculum, ZTS students will emerge with an aptitude for advanced theological study.

Our M.Div course curriculum is divided into three trimesters, each with courses that are designed to build upon students' knowledge of Spiritual truth.

Our curriculum is structured so that we may actualize our institutional mission in the lives of our students. The degree requires a minimum of 44-credit hours, consisting of required courses and electives.

The M.Div Program covers a variety of topics, including those regarding biblical theology and history, morality and Christian ethics, Old Testament and New Testament synergies, along with ministerial field training. The M.Div curriculum, along with our focus on fellowship and evangelism, will allow students to effectively carry out their lives of faith with love, strength and conviction as leaders in ministry.

Upon completion of the Masters-level coursework, students will be awarded their Master of Divinity to be used for ministerial leadership. On the next page, you will find a brief overview of each M.Div. curriculum program and the related courses.

**Current Course List:**  
***Master of Divinity (2020 – present)***

**MASTER OF DIVINITY**

	Trimester 1	# of credits	Trimester 2	# of credits	Trimester 3	# of credits
<b>TERM 1</b>	The Story of God	3	Biblical Analysis Old Testament Pt. I	3	Comprehensive New Testament Scripture Pt. I	3
	Scriptural Truths for Today	3	Biblical Analysis New Testament Pt. I	3	Contemporary Theology Pt. I	3
	Biblical Foundations Pt. I	3	Required Elective: Biblical Oratory Training	1	Required Elective: Outreach and Evangelism	1
<b>TERM 2</b>	Biblical Truths Pt. I	3				
	Biblical Foundations Pt. II	3	Biblical Analysis OT Pt. II	3	Comprehensive New Testament Scripture Pt. II	3
	Biblical Truths Pt. II	3	Biblical Analysis NT Pt. II	3	Contemporary Theology Pt. II	3
<b>TOTAL # OF CREDIT HOURS</b>		<b>18</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>13</b>
					Minimum # of Credit Hours:	<b>44</b>

## Sample Student Schedule

The Master of Divinity (M.Div) curriculum is divided into three trimesters, each with courses that are designed to build on students' knowledge of Spiritual truth. Our curriculum is structured to actualize the institution's mission in the lives of our students. With its mission as the core, ZTS is committed to achieving the following strategic initiatives:

**Strategic Initiative #1:** We will be the leader in postgraduate theological excellence through thorough scripture-examination and evidence-based teaching.

**Strategic Initiative #2:** We will increase student engagement with ZTS student and staff and create a ZTS environment that supports recruitment, increases retention and yields high graduation rates.

**Strategic Initiative #3:** We will sustain and support institutional growth through fiscal, technological, environmental and human resource responsibility.

### Trimester #1

	Course Title	Day	Time
Term 1	001 – The Story of God	Mon	10a – 12:00pm
	002 – Scriptural Truths for Today	Tue	10a – 12:00pm
	100 - Biblical Truths Pt. I	Mon	7:00–9:00 pm
	101 - Biblical Foundation Pt. I	Tue	7:00–9:00 pm
Term 2	102 - Biblical Truths Pt. II	Mon	7:00–9:00 pm
	103 - Biblical Foundations Pt. II	Tue	7:00–9:00 pm

### Trimester #2

	Course Title	Day	Time
Term 1	200 – Biblical Analysis – OT Pt. I	Mon	7:00–9:00 pm
	201 – Biblical Analysis – NT Pt. I	Tue	7:00–9:00 pm
Term 2	202 – Biblical Analysis – OT Pt. II	Mon	7:00–9:00 pm
	203 – Biblical Analysis – NT Pt. II	Tue	7:00–9:00 pm
	400 – Biblical Oratory Training	Sat	10:00–11:30am

**Trimester #3**

	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Term 1</b>	300 – Comprehensive NT Scripture Pt. I	Sat	3:30–5:00pm
	301 – Contemporary Theology Pt. I	Sun	7:00–8:30 pm
<b>Term 2</b>	302 – Comp. NT Scripture Pt. II	Sat	3:30–5:00 pm
	303 – Contemporary Theology Pt. II	Sun	7:00–8:30pm
	401 – Outreach and Evangelism	Sat	10:00–11:30am



## COURSE LISTINGS

<b>COURSE NUMBER</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>
001	The Story of God
002	Scriptural Truths for Today
100	Biblical Truths Pt. I
102	Biblical Truths Pt. II
101	Biblical Foundations Pt.I
103	Biblical Foundations Pt. II
200	Biblical Analysis – Old Testament Pt. I
202	Biblical Analysis – Old Testament Pt. II
201	Biblical Analysis – New Testament Pt. I
203	Biblical Analysis – New Testament Pt. II
300	Comprehensive New Testament Scripture Pt. I
302	Comprehensive New Testament Scripture Pt. II
301	Contemporary Theology Pt. I
303	Contemporary Theology Pt. II
400	Biblical Oratory Training (Elective)
401	Outreach and Evangelism (Elective)

## Course Descriptions

- **001 – The Story of God:** An introductory course offering a high-level overview of the Story of God from Genesis to Revelation.
- **002 - Scriptural Truths for Today:** An introductory course on practical methods for seeking Scriptural truth and organizing the Scriptures across the Old and New Testament.
- **100 - Biblical Truths Pt. I:** An analysis of Biblical inerrancy through the prevalence of God's divine nature in Old and New Testament Scripture. Students will discuss the basis of theology today and the salience of modern Christianity globally. Discussion topics will include the origin and nature of man, Biblical covenants, atonement of sin, God's divine will, and more.
- **102 - Biblical Truths Pt. II:** A continuation of Biblical Truths Pt. 1. This course is designed to help students combine the biblical knowledge gleaned through the previous course with the reality of an active faith walk today.
- **101 - Biblical Foundations Pt. I:** A systematic introduction to the fundamental elements of the Bible. BHI 101 serves as a thematic overview of the composition and structure of Scripture. Students will learn Biblical events through their historical and cultural milieu and will analyze the significance of Old Testament and New Testament theology.
- **103 - Biblical Foundations Pt. II:** A continuation of Biblical Foundations Pt I. Students will build upon the material discussed in BHI 101, gain understanding of the chronological order of significant Biblical events and discuss the development of Biblical figures throughout the Old Testament and New Testament.
- **200 - Biblical Analysis -- Old Testament Pt. I:** An in-depth examination of the prophetic elements of Scripture across the Old Testaments. Students will begin to explore the coherence of the Scriptures across eras and gain a holistic understanding of the continuity of God's divine purpose. Students will develop the skills necessary to engage effectively in critical analyses of Biblical passages.

- **202 - Biblical Analysis -- Old Testament Pt. II:** A continuation of Biblical Analysis – Old Testament Pt. I. Students will be introduced to consistent motifs that span across Biblical eras and are expected to write and present speeches based on course content. Students will be evaluated and given constructive feedback from faculty.
- **201 - Biblical Analysis -- New Testament Pt. I:** An in-depth examination of the prophetic elements of Scripture across the New Testament. This course is intended to challenge students through a nuanced analysis of New Testament scriptures.
- **203 - Biblical Analysis -- New Testament Pt. II:** An advanced-level course in New Testament Scripture. This course is a continuation of Biblical Analysis – New Testament Pt. I and brings together recurring themes introduced in the previous course. Students will build upon their understanding of the Four Gospels through the Book of Revelation and study various motifs presented throughout Scripture.
- **300 - Comprehensive New Testament Scripture Pt. I:** An advanced-level course in New Testament Scripture with special emphasis on the historical background of the Gospels and their purpose in Scripture. Special attention will be given to the Book of Matthew.
- **302 - Comprehensive New Testament Scripture Pt. II:** A continuation of Comprehensive New Testament Scripture Pt. I, this course builds upon the instruction in Pt. I. Students will go beyond historical knowledge and understand the reality of the New Testament Scriptures for believers today.
- **301 - Contemporary Theology Pt. I:** An in-depth study of the New Testament Scripture with linkages to Old Testament passages and nuanced focus on their relevance to modern Christian theology. Students will also gain a deeper understanding of Apostle Paul's distinctive theology and apply it to their individual spiritual lives.

- **303 - Contemporary Theology Pt. II:** A continuation of Contemporary Theology Pt. I. This course is designed to build upon the material from the previous course, with a special emphasis on how the teachings of the New Testament apply to modern Christianity and discipleship today.
- **400 - Biblical Oratory Training (Elective):** An elective designed to prepare students to execute informative public speaking on Biblical content in a persuasive and professional manner. Students will work to formulate organized speeches to be presented in a group setting for critical feedback. Students will develop their skills in active listening and confident public speaking as a foundation for effective ministerial leadership.
- **401 - Outreach and Evangelism (Elective):** A hands-on elective to develop students' practical skills for evangelism in various settings. Students will hone their skills in a variety of conversation topics and approach methods used to evangelize to believers and non-believers. Students will put their skills into practice by evangelizing in different settings and providing feedback on successful conversations and approaches.

## Student Policies

### Admissions

Students applying to the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) program offered on-site must adhere to standard university admission requirements. All applicants are verified to meet the minimum admissions standards.



All applicants applying to master's degree program must have obtained either a high school diploma or equivalent. The application requires students to include information concerning demographic, language, employment information, availability, church membership information, and statement of educational purpose.

### Protecting Student Privacy

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, known as FERPA, is the federal law that protects student records, privacy review and disclosure rights. ZTS seeks to abide by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. Confidential educational records include student account records and academic records. The seminary does not release such information without written consent from the student, except to the extent that the student authorizes disclosure by consent. The Administration and Communications office at ZTS obtains permission from student(s) in order to release academic information not excluded by FERPA laws through the FERPA release form, "Consent to Release Student Information" which is available in the Administration and Communications office and the Admissions office; the form is also distributed to new students at New Student Orientation. Individuals whom the student wishes to permit to have access to confidential information must be named on the form and the relationship to the student must be identified. The student may also revoke authorization at any time by completing the same form and turning it into the Administration and Communications office.

## **Photography and Video Policy**

Zion Theological Seminary is authorized to reproduce photographs and/or video images taken of students, faculty, staff, and/or board members for the purpose of publication, promotion, illustration, advertising, or trade, in any manner or in any medium. Zion Theological Seminary is released from all claims and liability relating to any images or videos used. Furthermore, permission is granted to use any statements provided during an interview or guest lecture, with or without a name, for the purpose of advertising and publicity without restriction, with the understanding and agreement that there will be no compensation.

To opt-out of this agreement, please contact [legal@ziontheologicalseminary.org](mailto:legal@ziontheologicalseminary.org).

## **Refund Policy**

Since ZTS is a tuition-free institution, students will not have to be refunded the cost of tuition. However, any expenses incurred by the student for any other student-related (personal) purposes will not be refunded by the institution. These student-related (personal) expenses include: travel, food, supplies (notebooks, pens, paper, laptops), subscriptions (personal Zoom accounts). This refund policy is recorded in the Academic Catalog.

## **Grading Policy**

Our Grading policies are listed on the syllabi for each respective course, and consists of the following breakdown of assignments:

1. Quizzes
2. Homework Assignments
3. Class Participation
4. Final Examination

The final examination is a critical component of students' grades as it is a culmination of a student's mastery of the course content. These examinations are looked at and graded thoroughly.

## **Grading System**

Grades are based on the progress in achieving course goals and is reported as a letter grade based on the grading system adopted by Zion Theological Seminary.

The 12-point grading system allows a student the possibility of graduating with a perfect 4.0 average. A cumulative grade point average of 2.0, however, will constitute the lowest passing average to graduate. A cumulative grade point average below 2.0 will be the basis for academic probation.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Grade Descriptions</b>
<b>A+</b>	4.0	<b>Excellent</b>
<b>A</b>	4.0	
<b>B+</b>	3.33	<b>Good</b>
<b>B</b>	3.0	
<b>C+</b>	2.33	<b>Fair</b>
<b>C</b>	2.00	
<b>D+</b>	1.33	
<b>D</b>	1.00	
<b>F</b>	0.00	Failure

## Spotlight on Student Resources

### **Faith Maintenance**

Just as our body needs physical healing, our spirits also need spiritual healing. Faith maintenance services are provided by trained and equipped staff who are able to guide and lead students through the Word of God. These services will allow students to understand what it means to not only maintain their own faith walk, but to also counsel and guide others through their spiritual journey. Students will deepen their understanding of what it truly means to serve others and sharpen their individual skills in one-on-one and group leadership.

### **Supplemental Instruction**

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is an academic assistance program that uses student-led group study sessions to assist students in traditionally difficult courses. The typical SI session—an hour-long meeting held in a classroom on campus—offers ZTS students an opportunity to engage actively with the course content by participating in discussions about the lecture, clarifying notes, practicing problem-solving techniques, and developing effective study skills strategies

### **Library and Resource Center**

The Resource Center provides access to a collection of books, along with electronic resources, including full- text databases, e-books, and journal indexes. Special services to students include 24/7 virtual reference, appointment-based reference, and adaptive computer software and equipment for patrons.

The Main Campus of Zion Theological is also conveniently located near the [Kings Park Library](#). All students, both face to face and distance learning are eligible for free membership at any [Virginia public library](#). Distant learning students also have access to library resources virtually, leveraging the OverDrive application. Hours for the library are listed in the Student Portal.

### **Student Complaints**

Complaints can be sent to [students@ziontheologicalseminary.org](mailto:students@ziontheologicalseminary.org). If students have any issues with Student Services, they can contact [president@ziontheologicalseminary.org](mailto:president@ziontheologicalseminary.org).



## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **How was ZTS founded?**

ZTS was originally founded as a biblical study ministry comprised of passionate missionaries and pastors. Through their faithful conviction to evangelize and teach the Word free of cost, this ministry has grown into a seminary school structured to prepare believers to lead in ministry and evangelism today.

### **Do I have to have a specific undergraduate major to apply to ZTS?**

ZTS is committed to preparing all students to serve as God's faithful servants. We will attract applicants from a range of vocational disciplines and academic backgrounds during our admissions process.

### **Does ZTS have a denomination affiliation?**

ZTS is a non-denominational Bible school. Enrollment is open to all students in the Christian faith.

### **What opportunities are available for me after ZTS?**

ZTS prepares students to lead ministries rooted in the faith and complete understanding of God's word.

### **What is spiritual life like at ZTS?**

ZTS not only prepares students in the classroom setting, but also encourages students to grow together in all aspects of their faith walk. Our faculty and staff are committed to supporting students through fostering engagement and fellowship through various group activities and growth opportunities. We encourage students to gather and study outside of class, while also holding each other accountable through prayer and faith maintenance.

Our faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and embrace the vocational diversity of the overall student body. We will work with individual students to ensure that course content can be structured and adapted for students regardless of their locale.

### **Is ZTS accredited?**

ZTS is accredited by the American Accrediting Association of Theological Institutions (AATI) and is grounded in the core principles of academic integrity, quality and faith-based student development.

### **What classes does ZTS offer?**

Please visit [ziontheologicalseminary.org/courses](http://ziontheologicalseminary.org/courses) for a complete listing of current courses.

## CONTACT US

**If you have any questions or would like to get in touch with any faculty and/or staff,** please go online to complete the ‘Contact Us’ form or email [info@ziontheologicalseminary.org](mailto:info@ziontheologicalseminary.org)

**Mailing Address:**

5810 Kingstowne Center Dr. Suite 120  
Alexandria, VA 22304

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