

Academic Catalog 2021-2022



JOHNNIE COLEMON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, INC. ("JCTS")

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Welcome from the President



Dear Friend,

Welcome to the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary---a place where 'thinking on these things' is encouraged. Whatever your perspective of theology, whatever your spiritual path may be, and even if you have labeled yourself a 'non-believer' in things spiritual, know that you are welcome to study with us.

If you are ready to re-think long held beliefs, concepts and ideologies; if you have yearned to ask questions pertaining to God and spirituality that others dare not ask; if you are a seeker of truth, or you simply want to know why spirituality and religion matter, come and study with us. I look forward to seeing you in class.

You are welcome here.

The Reverend Dr. Sheila R. McKeithen, J.D.
President



Greetings from the Provost/Academic Dean

It is a pleasure as well as an honor to be the first Provost/Academic Dean of the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary (JCTS). Since its inception, the Seminary has evolved to encompass all of the training components of the foundation and is the academic arm of the Universal Foundation For Better Living. We live in a time where people are searching for meaning in their lives. This seminary is dedicated to assisting in this search by educating people to guide the masses.



The time has come for ministers, lay leaders and other interested people to support others in their quest for meaning. Using the technology of today, the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary joins other educational institutions in providing an atmosphere for the study of religion in its sociological, historical, and economic contexts. It provides an atmosphere where academic research is supported and where the gap between religion and science can be breeched. In addition, JCTS is a place where New Thought Christianity, the mystical tradition of Christianity, is added to the knowledge base of academicians.

The Reverend Dr. Anna M. Price, Ph.D.
Provost/Academic Dean



History

The Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary (JCTS) is the academic arm of the Universal Foundation for Better Living (UFBL). It emerged as a part of the vision cast by the Reverend Dr. Johnnie Coleman in 1974. It was in that year that Dr. Coleman founded the UFBL. Her purpose was to create an equitable platform for all people to learn and express the principles for Better Living; principles that she had proved in her own life.

The UFBL was founded on the principles of healing. In 1952, Dr. Coleman was diagnosed with a terminal disease and given only six months to live. In pain, she literally stumbled upon a copy of a Unity periodical that included a poem by Hannah Moore Kohaus. There she read the words: ***“God is my health, I can’t be sick”***. Incredulous words to someone in pain! Confused as to how anyone could make such a statement, she began to question her mother, Mrs. Lula Parker, who subscribed to the magazine. Her mother encouraged her to find out for herself, so she began to attend Unity School to study the spiritual laws that govern healing. As she studied and applied the teachings, she received her healing.

Dr. Coleman completed her ministerial training and became an ordained Unity minister in 1956. She founded Christ Universal Temple in Chicago, Illinois and served in many capacities in Unity before withdrawing in 1974 to establish the UFBL.



In 1976, Dr. Coleman established the Johnnie Coleman Institute (JCI) as the educational component of the UFBL. JCI has educated laypersons, licensed teachers, counselors, and ministers to assume the responsibilities of New Thought ministry.



The growth of the UFBL as a leader in the New Thought Christian Movement prompted Dr. Coleman to recognize that the UFBL must take the initiative in taking the Movement to the next level. Thus the Seminary was born.

On June 6, 2001, the UFBL Board voted to approve the development of the Seminary in Miami Gardens, Florida. A Project Director was identified and a Steering Committee was formed to lead the UFBL Board through the process of establishing the new school. The Seminary opened in Fall 2003.

In August 2010, the JCTS became the academic arm of the UFBL. The Seminary currently offers the following programs:

- *Masters of Divinity Program**
- *Ministerial Training Program**
- *Teacher Training Academy**
- *Master Certificate/Master Plus Programs**
- *Non-Degree Seekers Program**

In November 2018, the JCTS became incorporated in the State of Florida as a non-profit organization for religious education.

Eighteen years after opening its doors, the Seminary continues to empower people from all denominations to study New Thought. People representing the academic community and other faith traditions have come together to discuss the needs of religious and cultural communities as well as identify potential resources to meet them. The JCTS is committed to being an inclusive and responsive school for seekers in the 21st century.



“Where there is no vision,
the people perish.”

– Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)

Purpose

The purpose of the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary is to offer comprehensive spiritual education and training programs that qualify students for the degree, certification, or continuing education of their choice.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary to awaken the Divinity [*the Christ*] within all people and to develop spiritual leaders to carry out this mission.

Vision Statement

It is the vision of the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary to nurture a rich and inclusive community of progressive spiritual thinkers from all walks and traditions.

The purpose is for people everywhere to study the liberating message of Practical Christianity and to share it throughout the world.



Denominational Affiliation

JCTS is rooted in the **New Thought Christian** teachings, as espoused by our parent organization: the Universal Foundation for Better Living, Inc. *New Thought is non-denominational.*

Goals & Objectives

1. Train spiritual leaders and Truth students to serve effectively in the 21st century.
2. Provide a scholarly, metaphysical, and allegorical approach to the Biblical narratives.
3. Advance the New Thought philosophy through further study, application, and research.
4. Support students in enhancing their spiritual gifts, talents and knowledge through mentorship and counseling, educational programs, symposiums and seminars.
5. Explore initiatives that advocate for social and economic equity and justice.
6. Cultivate a safe and inclusive environment where seekers of all backgrounds can ask questions, receive answers, collaborate, and grow.
7. Share the Universal Principles that govern healthy, happy, and prosperous living.



Core Values

The following are core values that JCTS upholds, including biblical evidence that we believe governs or supports each statement:

1. We value the teachings of New Thought Christianity as taught by the Master Teacher, Jesus the Christ, and espoused by the Universal Foundation for Better Living.

- a) "Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people." (Matthew 4:23, NIV)
- b) "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." (Matthew 5:17, NIV)
- c) "Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."" (John 8:31-32, NLT)
- d) "He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'" (Mark 16:15, NIV)
- e) "But he said to them, 'I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose.'" (Luke 4:43, NRSV)
- f) "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners." (Isaiah 61:1, NRSV)



2. We value the Divinity within all people.

- a) "So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."
(Genesis 1:27, NLT)
- b) "I say, 'You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you...'"
(Psalms 82:6, NRSV)
- c) "Jesus answered, 'Is it not written in your law, 'I said, you are gods'?" (John 10:34, NRSV)
- d) "The Father has loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are his children..." (1 John 3:1, NCV)
- e) "For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children." (Romans 8:16, NLT)

3. We value the training and development of spiritual leaders.

- a) "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17, NRSV)
- b) "He cared for them with a true heart and led them with skillful hands." (Psalm 78:72, NLT)
- c) "Without wise leadership, a nation falls; there is safety in having many advisers." (Proverbs 11:14, NLT)

4. We value scholarship, science and new ideas.

- a) "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect"
(Romans 12:2, NRSV)
- b) "Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge." (Proverbs 18:15, NLT)
- c) "Put all things to the test: keep what is good."
(1 Thessalonians 5:21, GNT)



5. We value freedom of thought and expression.

- a) "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." (2 Corinthians 3:17, NRSV)
- b) "For freedom did Christ set us free: stand fast therefore, and be not entangled again in a yoke of bondage." (Galatians 5:1, ASV)
- c) "You were indeed called to be free, brothers and sisters. Don't turn this freedom into an excuse for your corrupt nature to express itself. Rather, serve each other through love." (Galatians 5:13, GW)

6. We value justice, accountability and integrity in all circumstances.

- a) "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5:24, NIV)
- b) "...learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression..." (Isaiah 1:17, ESV)
- c) "Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity..." (Titus 2:7, ESV)
- d) "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out." (Proverbs 10:9, NIV)
- e) "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin." (James 4:17, ESV) [**sin = "missing the mark"*]

7. We value the Truth that health, happiness & prosperity is God's will for every individual on the face of this earth.

- a) "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11; NRSV)
- b) "Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul." (3 John 1:2, NRSV)
- c) "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32; NRSV)
- d) "My God will richly fill your every need in a glorious way through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19, GW)

*Cited from "*The Revealing Word*" (1959) by C. Fillmore.



We recognize the Universal Foundation for Better Living (UFBL) as our parent organization and as a pioneer in the New Thought movement. As the academic arm of the UFBL, we remain steadfast in the principles and beliefs espoused by the Foundation.

UFBL 5 Basic Principles

1. The Omnipresence of God

Everything that exists, or ever will exist is pressed out of the body of God (God-Substance) in different forms of manifestation. Since the nature of God is absolute good, and everything is God- Substance, there can be no evil in reality.

"Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there." Psalm 139: 7-8 (KJV)

2. The Divinity of Humankind

Humankind is made in the image-likeness of God.

SPIRITUAL "MAN" - *"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." Genesis 1:26 (KJV)*

MANIFEST "MAN" - *"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 2:7*



3. The Value and Power of Thought

It is through thinking that humankind forms that which we have in our lives.

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)

4. Practicing the Presence

Living in the presence of God through Prayer: communication with God, Meditation: conscious thought on aspects of God, and Silence: listening to God.

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.” Philippians 4:8 (KJV)

5. The Law of Demonstration

The Law of Mind Action: Like begets like. Humankind’s responsibility as Children of God:

- Right Thinking
- Right Words
- Right Feelings
- Right Actions
- Right Reactions

“Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” Luke 12:32 (KJV)



UFBL Statement of Faith: “What We Believe”

By: Don Nedd

WE BELIEVE that it is God’s will that every individual on the face of this earth should live a healthy, happy and prosperous life.

WE BELIEVE that such a life is within the reach of each one of us and the way to its attainment begins with the realization that the Kingdom of God is within us, waiting for us to bring it into expression.

WE BELIEVE that we can bring this Kingdom forth by practicing the universal spiritual principles handed down through the ages and taught by our Way-Shower, Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE with Jesus that our experiences are the reflections of our beliefs and therefore the key to happy and successful living is right thinking followed by right action.

WE BELIEVE with Jesus that the basis for right thinking is LOVE - love of God and all that is good in our fellowman and ourselves.

WE BELIEVE that learning to listen to the whispering of the “still small voice” within us will ensure that we are guided into right action.

WE BELIEVE that rather than devoting our primary efforts to providing for the needy of the world, the time has come to make available to all people everywhere a teaching that will enable



them to provide for themselves by learning to release the divine potential within them.

WE BELIEVE that the Universal Foundation for Better Living is a vehicle for the spreading of such a teaching.

WE BELIEVE that a mighty new wind is blowing. People everywhere are hungry for practical techniques that will show them how to fulfill the good desires of their hearts. We in the U.F.B.L. believe that we have these techniques and we offer them to everyone without distinction, confident that with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can teach all who are willing to learn how to overcome whatever would keep them from their highest good.

**WE BELIEVE IN GOD!
WE BELIEVE IN HUMANITY!
WE BELIEVE IN THE UNIVERSAL FOUNDATION
FOR BETTER LIVING!**

Our Commitment to the Legacy

All persons of the JCTS community are expected to conduct themselves in ways that positively reflect the name and legacy of our Founders, the Rev. Dr. Johnnie Coleman & the Rev. Dr. Mary Tumpkin. It is our collective duty to ensure that all JCTS representatives, events, interactions, publications, and policies comply with this commitment. *#HonorOurRoots*
#ProtectOurLegacy





Interim Board of Trustees

An Interim Board of Trustees was formed to help establish the Seminary as an independent organization.

The Rev. Dr. Sheila McKeithen

President (Minister, Attorney)

Kingston, Jamaica

The Rev. Dr. Anna Price

Treasurer (Minister, Retired Educator)

Miami, Florida

The Rev. Evelyn Hill Coleman

Secretary (Minister, Retired Businesswoman)

Baltimore, Maryland

Administration

President

The Rev. Dr. Sheila McKeithen

*B.S., Florida State University

*M.S., Florida International University

*J.D., Nova Law School

Provost/Academic Dean,

Master of Divinity Program

The Rev. Dr. Anna Price

*B.A., Central State University

*M.A., University of Miami

*M.L.S., Wright State University

*Ph.D., University of Miami



**Associate Provost &
Dean, Credentials & Certification Department**

The Rev. Evelyn Hill Coleman

*B.A., Chicago State University

Assistant to the Provost & Registrar

Mr. Mitchell Walthour Jr.

*B.A., Florida International University

*M.Ed., Post University

Dean, Ministerial Training Program

The Rev. Alberta Ware

*B. Msc., University of Metaphysics

Dean, Teacher Training Academy

The Rev. Lameteria Hall

*B.S., Calumet College of St. Joseph

Dean, Master Certificate/Master Plus Programs

The Rev. Lelia Harris

*B.S., Ohio State University

*M.A., University of Santa Monica

We acknowledge the following individuals for their support:

- ❖ Ms. Darnetia Parrott, the Business Manager for the UFBL
- ❖ The Rev. Vernon F. Ward Jr., for his technical support
- ❖ The UFBL Ministers and Teachers who aid in our educational and training programs online and at their respective center



Faculty (Graduate)

The Rev. Dr. Daniel “Danny” Medina

- *B.Sc., Florida International University
- *M.Ed., University of Oklahoma
- *M.Div., St. Thomas University
- *D.Min., St. Thomas University
- *Ph.D., Nova Southeastern University (2025)

The Rev. Dr. Will Coleman

- *B.A., Rhodes College
- *M.Div., Columbia Theological Seminary
- *Ph.D., Graduate Theological Union

The Rev. Dr. Derrick Wells

- *M.A., Governors State University
- *Ed.D., Olivet Nazarene University

Professor Tawnicia Ferguson-Rowan

- *B.A., Spelman College
- *M.A., Vanderbilt University
- M.Div., Interdenominational Theological Center

Dr. Edward Eady

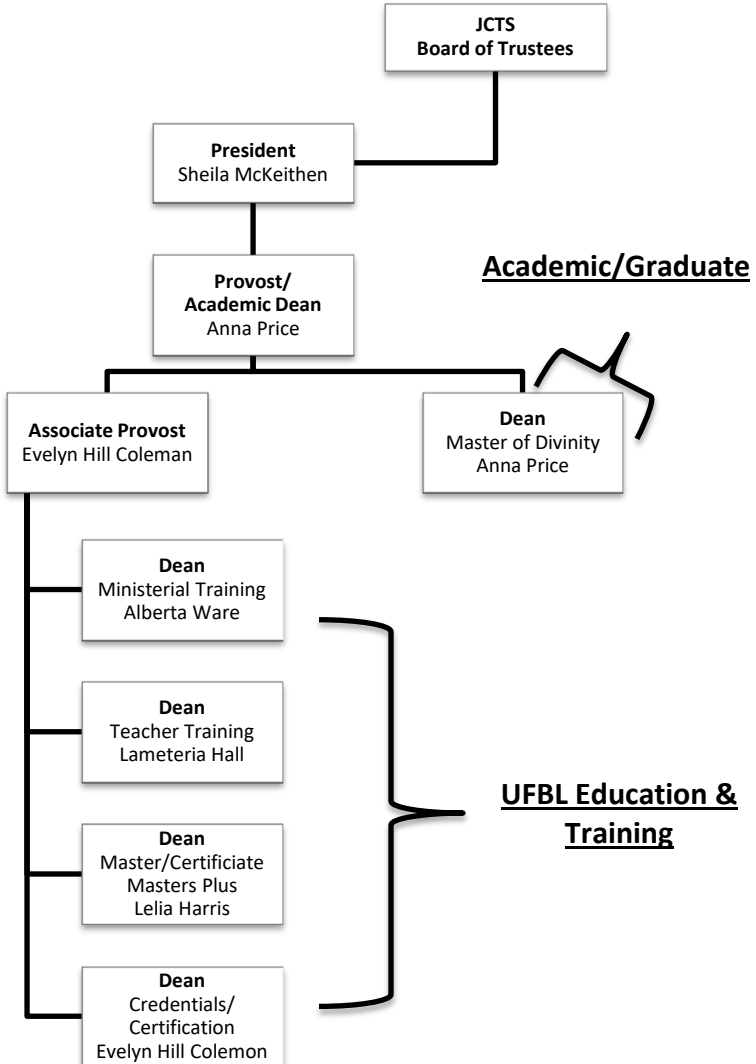
- *B.A., Florida Memorial College
- *M.A., University of Phoenix
- *D.M., University of Phoenix

**Note: Every active UFBL Minister and Teacher is recognized as a faculty member of the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary.*



Organizational Chart

The Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary is the **Academic Arm** of the Universal Foundation for Better Living, Inc.





Library

To support the research efforts of our Master of Divinity (MDiv) candidates, JCTS has established a relationship with the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. The institution will provide our MDiv students and faculty with acceptable access to their electronic resources and services.

A library of the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary is still being determined.



Accreditation

The Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary is an accredited member of the Accrediting Commission International. ACI, the world's largest non-government related accrediting association, is not connected with any State Department of Higher Education or the U.S. Department of Education. All credits are transferable to the other 316 members of ACI. Contact ACI at P.O. Box 1030 Beebe, AR 72012, or call (501) 882-3361 for questions about the accreditation.

In August 2021, the Seminary applied for accreditation with the Association of Theological Schools / Commission on Accrediting (ATS/COA). Official updates on our status and progress will be recorded on our website and applicable social media networks.



Seminary Policies

Statement of Non-Discrimination

The Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary shall admit qualified students of all human expressions of the Creator without regard to race, ethnicity, color, gender, national origin, or sexual preference, to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students.

Statement on Code of Ethics

As an online institution where communication and instruction is primarily accomplished through technology, the Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary still commits to adhering to and enforcing the highest standards of moral and ethical values and conduct for all persons affiliated with the Seminary.

The leadership of the Seminary has no tolerance for the following offenses:

- dishonesty, slander, libel, cheating, and plagiarism;
- bullying, hazing, battery, assault, and verbal/physical/sexual violence or abuse;
- theft, robbery, burglary, trespassing, and vandalism;
- the unlawful use, possession or distribution of drugs, alcohol, or any illegal substances, including weapons and firearms;
- threats of harm, violence, and domestic and international terrorism; and
- any illegal or demoralizing activity that threatens the life, body, safety or rights of any individual regardless of their affiliation to our Seminary.



Such standards also apply to virtual engagement. Violent or threatening language, whether verbal or written, explicit graphics, abuse of technology (not limited to sending viruses, spam, phishing, hacking, etc.) and other related offenses go against the image, mission and integrity of our institution and will not be tolerated.

Additionally, as a non-denominational Seminary with a relatively high population of individuals who are often not embraced in traditional religious settings, we have **no tolerance** for anyone being harassed or penalized for their beliefs, appearance or lifestyle. We vow to promote environments where all persons and perspectives are welcomed. *While it is acceptable for viewpoints to be challenged within the classroom, we aim to ensure that such discourse remains tactful and productive.*

Any of the offenses described in this statement will result in reasonable and lawful consequences, not limited to suspension or termination from our institution, or involving applicable local, state or federal authorities.

If such acts have been perpetrated onto a student, then he/she is encouraged to report this to their Advisor. We encourage all persons to report any suspected wrongdoing, as this will help us maintain the integrity of the institution.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Some personal freedoms and **rights** of students include, but are not limited to:

1. A right to pursue an education free from discrimination based upon sex, race, color, cultural background, national origin, religion, political creed, marital status, veteran status, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, disability or age.



-
2. A right to fair and impartial academic evaluation.
 3. A right to be free from involuntary disclosure of private information that professors or administrators acquire in the course of their work as advisors, examples include information regarding their gender identity, sexual orientation, health information, personal views, beliefs and political associations.
 4. A right to have the Seminary maintain and protect the private status of all educational records except as directed by appropriate legal authority.
 5. Students, through student representatives, may have a right to participate in formulating and evaluating institutional policies.
 6. A right to organize and join associations to promote interests held in common with others.
 7. A right to peaceful protest at Seminary headquarters. These protests may not interfere with entrance to and exit from facilities, unreasonably disrupt the educational process or damage property.
 8. A right to an environment conducive to intellectual freedom characterized by safety and order.
 9. A right to submit a grievance and not be retaliated against for doing so.



Some of the **responsibilities** of the student include, but are not limited to:

1. Acting in a manner that does not infringe upon the rights or property of others.
2. Maintaining an atmosphere that promotes respect for learning and human dignity.
3. Knowing and complying with the Code of Ethics, other Seminary policies, and applicable laws.
4. Facilitating the learning environment and the process of learning, including attending class regularly, completing class assignments, and coming to class prepared.
5. Recognizing that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved as well as upon the entire Seminary community.
6. Recognizing the Seminary's obligation to provide an environment conducive for learning and academic inquiry.
7. Upholding and maintaining academic and professional honesty and integrity and to adhere to the academic requirements determined by individual instructors.
8. Serving as a responsive bystander, reporting safety concerns and violations of the Academic Catalog and Code of Ethics.

Grievance Procedure

JCTS commits to being responsive to the reasonable concerns and requests of all students. To best serve and honor the dignity of all persons, the Seminary will follow fair and orderly practices for resolving student complaints.



Grievances fall under four (4) general categories:

1. **Academic** - concerns related to program or course requirements, policies, grades, course content, or Faculty conduct. (Program or classroom related.)
2. **Administrative** - concerns related to Seminary operations, policies, services, or an administrator/staff member's conduct. (Non-program or classroom related.)
3. **Financial** - concerns related to tuition, fees, billing, payment plans, collections, or any issues concerning purchases made at the Seminary.
4. **Peer** - concerns related to another student's conduct that directly and adversely affects the student. (For circumstances where students are not directly and adversely affected but would like to report any suspicious activity, then they may reach out to their Advisor.)

At the outset, students are encouraged to first address complaints with the person to whom they are directing the grievance. If the student does not find satisfaction with the response of the person, then they are encouraged to speak with their assigned Advisor for guidance. If the student does not find satisfaction with the Advisor, then they may submit an official grievance in writing to the Provost's Office. Depending on the severity of the grievance, the Seminary's General Counsel may become involved.

The petition must be made within thirty (30) days of the alleged incident and should be as detailed as possible. Students are encouraged to put everything in writing. They may send the grievance through U.S. mail or through electronic mail. If sending by email, then students are encouraged to ensure that they are only including the applicable and approved party in their correspondences, also ensuring the correct



email address is being used. The Seminary is not responsible if a student sends a private email to an inapplicable party.

When a grievance is received, a case will be opened and the student will be notified. The investigation process may include interviewing, mediation and other avenues to arrive at a fair solution for all parties. The dignity and privacy of all parties will be respected during this process, and all involved are expected to follow in this order.

Furthermore, the Seminary guarantees no retaliation against students filing a grievance. However, if any information provided by the student was found to be untrue, or if confidential details of the investigation, including the personal information of involved parties, are released to the public by the student, then the Seminary reserves the right to dismiss the case and suspend the student indefinitely.

Students who have graduated who have been found to have reported false information could have their degree, license or certification suspended, rescinded or revoked. In such events, students will still be responsible for any outstanding balances owed to the Seminary and will not be entitled to a refund.

Academic Regulations

The Registrar's Office is responsible for maintaining all official academic records for students and applicants for admission to programs. The Seminary is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of educational records in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended.

All students have the right to review their academic records to determine their content and accuracy. Documents submitted by other students as part of the admission requirements may not be reviewed by students, nor may they be released to third parties. A student wishing



to review his or her academic record should make an appointment with his/her Advisor.

Official transcripts may be requested by contacting the Registrar's Office. Transcripts will be issued for students whose accounts are current, or directly to academic institutions or potential employers when authorized by the student. There is a fee for official transcripts that must be paid before the transcript is processed. All official transcripts are sent via mail.

An official transcript bears the signature of the Registrar or applicable Seminary representative along with the official seal of JCTS.

Unofficial transcripts and audits are available for free on the *myJCTS* Student Portal.

Language of Instruction

All courses are conducted in English. Students who need translators for courses in English are expected to provide them at their own expense.

Copyright Compliance

All members of the JCTS community are personally responsible for adhering to the requirements of the federal Copyright Permission Act of 1976 regarding intellectual property rights. Without permission of the copyright holder, copyrighted materials may be reproduced only under limited circumstances. The Seminary subscribes to the fair use policy of U.S. copyright regulations.

Writing Standards

Students and faculty are expected to use language that is bias-free in regard to gender, race, handicap or any other category. This means that



language should be inclusive rather than exclusive, avoiding terms which seem to demean or exclude others.

The Seminary accepts the American Psychological Association (APA) and Chicago/Turabian writing styles for papers, reports and projects submitted as course work or as JCTS publications. Each faculty may establish which style of writing is required for their course.

The Seminary expects all students to adhere to the highest standards of ethics and academic integrity. All forms of academic fraud are strictly prohibited. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, collusion, falsification, and violation of professional ethics or misrepresentation of research data. Students certify that all work submitted for evaluation, presentation, or publication meets these standards.

Change of Name and/or Demographics

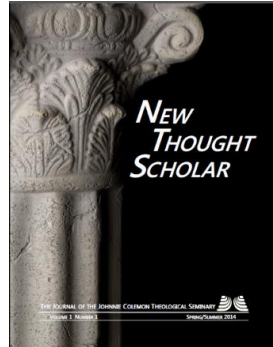
Changes in name, address, e-mail address and/or telephone number may be made on the Seminary's *myJCTS* online platform. Students are requested to make any necessary changes as soon as possible. The Seminary is not responsible if the student does not update their profile.

If the student is unable to access myJCTS, then they are encouraged to contact their Advisor of the changes.



Journal Publication

It is a milestone when a religious movement engages in serious self-study and produces trained scholars prepared to apply the methods of scholarship to its own history and beliefs. Thanks to the vision of Dr. Coleman and the intellectual zeal of Dr. Tumpkin, New Thought can begin to reclaim its historic Christian identity and biblical roots with the “New Thought Scholar,” our academic journal. The first issue was released in 2014.



Colloquiums

The Seminary hosts 3-day colloquiums in the Spring of each year in Miami Gardens and online. We provide a venue where leaders, scholars, and students can present papers and arguments before the JCTS community, and engage in discourse on relevant topics. Our symposiums have explored the following themes:

- ❖ 2019: Straight, White, Christian & Male: Are These the Requirements to Power & Privilege?
- ❖ 2018: The Incredible Shrinking Church 2.0: Where Are the Millennials?
- ❖ 2017: The Politics of Jesus
- ❖ 2016: Christianity, Racism & White Privilege
- ❖ 2015: The Prosperity Gospel
- ❖ 2014: The God Particle
- ❖ 2013: The Spiritual Awakening
- ❖ 2012: Is Hell Real?



- ❖ 2011: Miracles
- ❖ 2010: Metaphysical Bible 2.0: Scholarship Meets Allegory
- ❖ 2009: The Incredible Shrinking Church
- ❖ 2008: The Evolution of Creation
- ❖ 2007: The Biblical Foundation of the New Thought Movement
- ❖ 2006: A Traveler's Guide to Heaven
- ❖ 2005: Contemporary Spirituality: The Role of Organized Religion in Meeting the Spiritual Needs of Contemporary Life
- ❖ 2004: Christianity: Jesus or Paul?

Due to covid-19, the 2020 and 2021 colloquiums were postponed. The Seminary anticipates picking back up in 2022.

2013 Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary Colloquium

May 16-18, 2013

**The GREAT Global
Spiritual
Awakening**

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Featuring:
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Dr. Robert Price — Author, Jesus Seminar Participant
Dr. Dexter Callender — Author, University of Miami Professor
Rev. Dr. Mary Tumpkin — President Johnnie Coleman Seminary
Dr. Gary Laderman — Author, Emory University Professor

Attend in person or LIVE ONLINE from home or office.
All sessions recorded for on-demand playback.
Contact us for directions on setting up a group near you.
May 16 & 17: 7-9 PM Eastern May 18: 9 AM-1 PM Eastern

ATTEND In Person or ONLINE!
<http://www.jctseminary.org>



Program Policies

The following policies apply to all JCTS programs unless noted otherwise. If a program has a separate and/or specific policy, then such policy will take precedence for students in that program.

Academic Calendar

The Master of Divinity (M.Div.) Program operates on a Quarter system: Fall, Winter, Spring and optional Summer terms. Courses taught in the Fall, Winter and Spring are 11 weeks. Courses taught in the Summer are up to six (6) weeks but will still meet for a total of 11 class sessions.

The Ministerial Training Program is conducted on a three-session cycle.

The Teacher Training Academy is conducted on an 18-24-month cycle.

The Master Certificate/Master Plus Program operates on a Quarter system with optional Summer terms. Courses in this program are 10 weeks in length.

The Credentials & Certification Dept. calendar is determined based on need. Continuing Education is conducted on even-numbered years.

General Admission Requirements

All those seeking admission into the M.Div. program must submit a completed application packet, which includes the following:

- The completed application;
- Official transcripts of all college work
- Application fee of \$50.00 (USD); and
- Three letters of recommendation



All applicants must hold at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). A degree conferred outside of the United States will be evaluated by the Office of the Academic Dean.

Completed application packets are due 90 days before the start of the first Fall session. Applications received after this date will be considered for the subsequent Fall session. While applications are accepted on a continual basis, a student's start date is contingent upon this 90-day deadline. (Note: M.Div. sessions launch in the Fall of even years.)

The application can be submitted online or mailed. If mailed, payment must be in the form of a check or money order and should be paid to the order of "Johnnie Colemon Theological Seminary, Inc." or "JCTS".

M.Div. applicants may be required to undergo psychological and career testing as part of admission in addition to drug testing and a background check. Entrance interviews may also be required.

All students may also be required to sign a Covenant Agreement with the Seminary as part of the application package. In this agreement, the Seminary pledges to provide quality instruction and other support services as needed. The student agrees to uphold ethical, personal, academic and fiscal conduct.

The Seminary further reserves the right to require a student to withdraw at any time under appropriate procedures. It also reserves the right to impose probation on any student whose conduct is unsatisfactory.

Any admission on the basis of false statements or documents is void when the fraud is discovered, and the student is not entitled to any credit for work which the student may have done at the Seminary. When a student is dismissed or suspended from the Seminary for cause,



there will be no refund of tuition and fees paid. If a dismissed student has paid only a part of his/her tuition and fees, the balance due the Seminary will be considered a receivable and will be collected.

Admission Requirements for the Ministerial Training, Teacher Training Academy and the Master Certificate/Master Plus Programs can be found on their respective pages.

Transfer Credit

Academic Transfer: Transfer credits from an accredited college, university or seminary may be applied toward the M.Div. degree up to 9 credit hours. A passing grade of “C” is required for acceptance of credit. Courses must be graduate-level (Masters or higher). The Dean’s office will determine the acceptability of any course. Such transfer can only be processed during the application/admissions process.

Work Experience Transfer: M.Div. applicants who have professional ministry/church experience may request to have at least two (2) of the Ministry and Church Development courses waived. This request will be considered under one of three conditions:

1. The applicant has served as a Senior, Executive or Assistant Minister, or any similar position, for at least five (5) years;
2. The student has at least seven (7) years professional experience as an Ordained Minister; or
3. The student has at least seven (7) years leadership or administration experience in a church or spiritual organization.

Such transfer can only be processed during the application/admissions process. Experience gained while in the program cannot be considered.

Experience should be with legally-recognized religious organizations, i.e., a church or spiritual center. Documentation may be requested.



Course Transfer/Equivalency within JCTS: Courses in the JCTS M.Div. program may satisfy course requirements in the JCTS Ministerial Training and Teacher Training Academy. Interested persons should contact the respective Dean for further information and/or approval.

Note: Course transfer is not guaranteed. All requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Furthermore, the Field Education, Capstone Project, and UFBL (Denominational) courses must be completed at JCTS.

Transient Student

Students currently enrolled in the JCTS M.Div. program may take up to two (2) M.Div. courses at another approved accredited college, university or seminary simultaneously to satisfy requirements in the JCTS M.Div. program.

Requests will only be considered when a student falls behind in the program and wishes to catch up by enrolling in courses at another school. Requests must be submitted to and approved by the Dean before the course can be taken at the institution. Courses taken without prior authorization will not be accepted as a transient or transfer credit.

To receive credit, the course must be equivalent to the required JCTS course. Students must also receive a grade of “C” or higher and submit the official transcript to the Dean for review. The Dean will forward the transcript to the Registrar for processing.

The student is responsible for costs. Audit credits will not be accepted.

Note: The Field Education, Capstone Project, and UFBL (Denominational) courses must be completed at JCTS.

Course Registration & Add/Drop

Students must register for courses online. Course registration is required for each new term. The required fees must be paid or



arrangements made with the Program Dean at that time. Failure to pay the required fees may result in dismissal or late charges.

Students are permitted to add or drop classes up to the date specified in the academic calendar, which is typically *before* the start of the second class session or on the final day of enrollment for the course. Courses dropped during this period will not appear on a student's transcript. This policy and deadline also applies to changes from audit to credit or from credit to audit.

With the exception of certain electives, students should consider that all courses are required and are only offered once every few years. Thus dropping courses may extend their time in their program. Students are encouraged to speak with their Advisor before dropping any course.

Note: Students are responsible to ensure prerequisites are satisfied before registering for courses. Additionally, the ability to register for a course does not automatically indicate acceptance into the program.

Due to shorter class sessions, the Ministerial Training and Teacher Training Academy programs maintain a separate course registration and Add/Drop process.

Withdrawal

Requests to Withdraw from the Seminary, a program or a course (after the Add/Drop period) must be submitted in writing to the Program Dean. The Dean will notify the Registrar. Students will receive "W's" for courses from which they are withdrawn. This will not affect the student's GPA. (Note: Students not officially admitted into a program should contact the Dean or Admissions to withdraw their application.)

Students must submit their withdrawal request by 5:00pm E.S.T. on the Friday of the fourth week of the term. Students who do not officially withdraw from courses or who are No Shows will be assigned F's for



those courses. The date of withdrawal is that in which the student notifies the Dean or the date of receipt of a letter requesting withdrawal. No withdrawal is official until the Registrar has approved.

Students who withdraw from courses *after* the Add/Drop period will not receive a refund for tuition charged. If a student withdraws *before* the Add/Drop period ends, then the student will receive a full or partial refund for tuition charged for that term.

Students should speak with their Advisor before withdrawing.

Due to shorter class sessions, the Ministerial Training and Teacher Training Academy may maintain a separate withdrawal deadlines.

Tuition & Refunds

Please see the respective program pages for tuition and fee schedules.

General Seminary Refund Policy:

- a) Application fees are non-refundable.
- b) A full or partial refund (up to 75%) is due to the student if he/she drops a course or withdraws during Add/Drop period.
- c) A full refund is due to the student should a course be cancelled.
- d) No refund is due to student in such cases as:
 - administrative dismissals or withdrawals;
 - student not receiving a passing or desired grade;
 - student paying tuition for courses where admission requirements or course prerequisites were not met;
 - student paying tuition for a course not required; or
 - an admissions or course registration issue due to student's error.



- e) There will be no refund of tuition, fees, charges or any other payments made to the Seminary in the event the operation of the Seminary is suspended at any time as a result of any reason beyond the control of the Seminary.

Student Classification

A degree-seeking student is one who has been admitted as a candidate for the M.Div. program. All students are admitted on a full-time basis, which includes completing two (2) courses per term, excluding Summer.

Part-time students complete one (1) course per term. Such classification must be approved by the Dean.

A student who is not officially admitted into the program or is taking courses for no grade or credit is an Auditor.

The Ministerial Training, Teacher Training Academy and Master Certificate/Master Plus programs may define a full-time and part-time student differently.

Auditors

Any person who wishes to participate in a class without receiving credit is an Auditor.

Furthermore, any person who has enrolled in a course without being admitted into the program or satisfying all prerequisites will receive an audited status for the course. No refund is due in such cases.

The status of a student cannot be changed from audit to credit or credit to audit after the Add/Drop period.

No letter grade is provided to Auditors.



Attendance

Students are responsible for communicating with their instructor if they intend or are unintentionally absent or tardy. Instructors can allow make-up assignments at their discretion.

Unexcused absences may result in up to a 10-point/percentage reduction from the student's final grade for every unexcused absence.

As a Seminary, we understand that life happens. Thus we will take into consideration the death of a loved one, medical or legal matters, natural disasters, ministerial related responsibilities and other emergency situations beyond a student's control. However, documentation may be required if attendance becomes a recurring issue.

Students in the Master Certificate/Master Plus Program are allowed two (2) unexcused absences. Three (3) or more will disqualify the student from receiving credit for the course, and the student must retake.

Due to shorter class sessions, the Ministerial Training and Teacher Training Academy programs maintain a separate attendance policy. However, students are still responsible for communicating with their Instructor.

Leave of Absence

A student may be granted a leave of absence (LOA) for a reasonable amount of time as determined by the Dean. A request for LOA must be in writing and the date of expected return must be specified. If a LOA extends over a year, then the student may be subject to our Readmission policy.

During this time, the student's status will become "Inactive." Any outstanding balance must still be paid to the Seminary.



Grades

GRADE	DESCRIPTION	QUALITY POINTS	NUMERICAL VALUE
A	Excellent accomplishment	4.0	93-100%
A-		3.7	90-92
B+		3.3	87-89
B		3.0	83-86
B-		2.7	80-82
C+	Good accomplishment	2.3	77-79
C		2.0	73-76
C-		1.7	70-72
D+		1.3	67-69
D		1.0	63-66
D-	Average	0.7	60-62
F		0.0	59 or less
W			
I			
NG			
AU			
	Withdrawn / Course dropped		
	Incomplete		
	No grade submitted by the instructor		
	Audit - Course completed but not taken for credit		

The following honors might apply:

- *Cum Laude* (With Great Praise) = 3.5 GPA
- *Magna Cum Laude* (With Great Distinction) = 3.6 - 3.9 GPA
- *Suma Cum Laude* (With Highest Distinction) = 4.0 GPA

The grading chart applies to the Master of Divinity, Ministerial Training and Teacher Training Academy programs. The Master Certificate program uses a Pass/Fail scale based on attendance, though students are encouraged to participate in the learning experience. The Master Plus program uses a Pass/Fail scale based on both attendance and coursework. On a Pass/Fail scale, a "C" or higher is passing.



Readmission

A student who has cancelled, withdrawn, did not return from an approved leave of absence or has been terminated and wishes to re-enter their program of study must notify the Program Dean and follow the required admission procedures.

Academic Probation

A student will be placed on academic probation if his/her cumulative grade point average drops below 2.0. A student may also be placed on probation if he/she earns two or more grades of C- or lower in two consecutive terms, or owes an outstanding balance (in tuition or any college fees) for three consecutive terms.

If a student fails to bring their grade point average up to a 2.0 or higher within three consecutive terms or pay an outstanding balance in full within one (1) calendar year, then they will be administratively withdrawn from the Seminary.

The student will not be able to complete any field education, internship or practicum, or submit any capstone or final project if their grade point average drops below 2.0.

Incompletes

Incompletes are given to designate incomplete work in a passing status. The “I” should be changed to a letter grade within four (4) weeks after it is given, unless the Dean approves the delay. If the “I” is not changed within four weeks, a grade of “F” will be issued. The student must retake the course to replace the “F”.

The Instructor must communicate any new grade with the Dean. The Dean will then notify the Registrar’s Office for processing.



Orientations

A “New Student Orientation” will be conducted for all new students before the start of their first Fall session; and a “Final Year Orientation” will be conducted before the start of the student’s final Fall session. Both orientations will be online. While these are non-credit, M.Div. students are required to attend both.

Orientations for the Ministerial Training and Teacher Training Academy programs may be found on their respective pages.

Time Limits on Completion of Degree/Certificate/License/Ordination

The time limit for graduation is seven years. Students failing to complete their program within this timeframe will be required to show why they should not be dropped from the program/candidacy.

The Master Certificate/Master Plus program is excluded from this requirement.

Graduation

Specific graduation dates are to be announced. However, the following requirements must be met by applicable deadlines if the student expects to graduate:

- Payment of the graduation fee
- Payment in full of any moneys owed the Seminary
- Completion of all applicable residential requirements
- Return of all outstanding Library material
- Satisfactory completion of all courses and projects required for the degree, including hanging of all “Incompletes” to letter grades.



Master of Divinity Program

General Information



The Master of Divinity (M.Div.) is a professional graduate degree in theological education. The program is designed to prepare men and women for a full-time professional ministry. The program is also suited for individuals whose calling may be to develop 21st century platforms, services, or publications that promote spiritual formation, education and empowerment.

Those who enter this program must have a Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university. However, others are welcomed to take courses for professional development as a non-degree seeking student or auditor.

The program offers academic support for persons seeking credentials within their religious community. It also offers an introduction of the New Thought Christian tradition to those that are seeking new approaches for spiritual growth. The M.Div. program is an advanced and socially relevant academic experience open to seekers of all walks and backgrounds. The program offers two tracks:

1. The **General Track**, for those seeking spiritual or theological knowledge for the purpose of advancement within their current or desired field -- not necessarily for certification, licensing or ordination.



2. The **UFBL Track**, for persons interested in becoming a Licensed/Ordained Universal Foundation for Better Living (UFBL) Minister. This track encompasses the *General Track*, but it requires Summer enrollment and the completion of 13 additional credit hours of *UFBL (Denominational)* courses mandated by the Foundation.

Note: Successful completion of the UFBL Track qualifies students to become candidates to be interviewed by the Licensing & Ordination (L&O) Committee. Candidates who have successfully completed the L&O process will be recommended to the UFBL Board of Directors for licensing or ordination.

The program of instruction seeks to assist students in developing the following:

- ❖ Proficiency in identifying the biblical, theological, and historical traditions which form the basis of ministry.
- ❖ Proficiency in scriptural interpretation and application.
- ❖ Personal spiritual growth and formation.
- ❖ Knowledge of the various trends and challenges facing the faith community, and becoming proactive in addressing those challenges.
- ❖ Awareness of the role that spiritual leaders and faith-communities have in matters of social advocacy.

Disclaimer: While a M.Div. is the academic standard for licensing, certification or ordination within many religious organizations, it is the student's responsibility to determine whether the M.Div. offered through our institution will satisfy their organization's licensing, certification or ordination policy and requirements.



Tuition & Fees

The following list of charges is effective for the Master of Divinity Program, academic year of 2021-2022. (*All charges are subject to revision at any time.*)

Application fee: \$50.00 (non-refundable)

Tuition: \$75.00 per credit hour

Audit fee: \$25.00 per credit hour

Note: A *late fee* per course may apply if the student or auditor registers for a course after the start time of the first class/session. An *administrative fee* may apply per term, which includes, but is not limited to, costs associated with enrollment processing, technology and other academic services.

Curriculum

The M.Div. degree is designed to be completed in approximately three years: in the Fall, Winter and Spring. Six-week Summer terms are required for those on the UFBL Track.

The curriculum emerges from the Seminary's identity as one founded in the New Thought Christian community of the UFBL. It aims to lead students to a new understanding of the place of New Thought Christianity as the mystical tradition of Christianity and its relationship to the teachings of Jesus.

The curriculum is designed to foster in the student a deeper personal and spiritual understanding. The program is offered fully online. It also offers an opportunity for field placements and internships.



The curriculum is compiled into three years:

First Year - The Foundation

The first year curriculum provides a foundation for students to build upon. It is expected that students will begin the process of theological reflection and development. Emphasis is placed on the exploration of the Holy Bible and the complicated history highlighting the origins and politics surrounding the sacred text.

First Year Courses:

- Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament)
- History of Judaism
- Christian Scriptures (New Testament)
- History of Christianity
- Allegorical Interpretation

Second Year - The Bridge

This second year, or “bridge period”, will help students identify specific areas of interests, and form plans and expectations to explore in their final year of study.

Second Year Courses:

- Theological Studies (*varies*)
- Social Justice (Spiritual Activism)
- Christian Ethics
- Greek or Hebrew



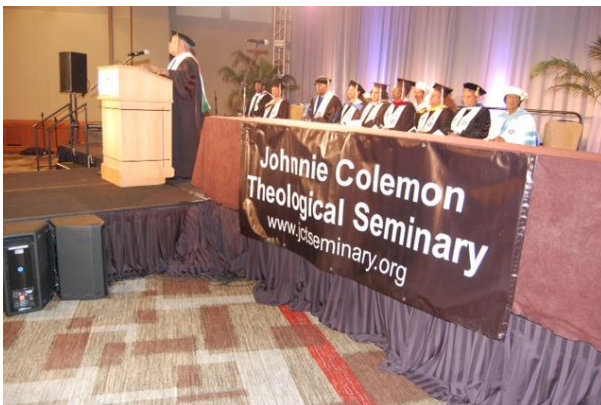
Third Year - The Application

The third year of study will be directed to provide hands-on experience and exposure in actually doing ministry. Field work will be required, concluding with a final project that will remedy a real world church/religious/theological-based problem.

Third Year Courses:

- Role of the Minister (Pastoral Care)
- Homiletics
- Leadership
- Administration
- Field Education
- Capstone Project

Note: Electives and UFBL (Denominational) courses will be offered in all years.





Required Course Areas

Program Credit Hours: General Track: 80 | UFBL Track: 93

A. Scriptural Studies - 18 credits

- ❖ Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) - 6 credits
- ❖ Christian Scriptures (New Testament) - 6 credits
- ❖ *Allegorical Interpretation - 6 credits

B. Language - 6 credits (choose one)

- ❖ Essentials of Greek - 6 credits
- ❖ Hebrew Language - 6 credits

C. Theological Studies - 8 credits (*certain electives can satisfy*)

D. Historical Studies - 8 credits

- ❖ History of Judaism - 4 credits
- ❖ History of Christianity - 4 credits

E. *Ministry and Church Development - 13 credits

- ❖ Role of the Minister (Pastoral Care) - 4 credits
- ❖ Homiletics - 3 credits
- ❖ Leadership - 3 credits
- ❖ Administration - 3 credits

F. Justice and Ethics - 6 credits

- ❖ Social Justice (Spiritual Activism) - 3 credits
- ❖ Christian Ethics - 3 credits

G. *Field Education - 6 credits



H. Capstone Project - 6 credits

I. Electives - 9 credits

J. *UFBL (Denominational) - 13 credits

- ❖ Introduction to the UFBL - 3 credits
- ❖ History of New Thought - 3 credits
- ❖ Spiritual Healing - 3 credits
- ❖ **Fillmorian Theology - 4 credits

K. Non-Credit Requirements

- ❖ New Student Orientation
- ❖ Final Year Orientation

* = This course and/or course area are required by the UFBL for persons seeking recommendation for Ministerial Licensing/Ordination. Students on the UFBL Track must receive a grade of "B" or higher in these courses.

** = Fillmorian Theology may satisfy the Theological Studies course area requirements for students on both tracks.

Note: UFBL (Denominational) courses may satisfy Elective requirements for students on both tracks.



Course Descriptions

ADM500: Administration (3 credits) - This area of study introduces students to the requirements of developing a church and the tools necessary to sustain and grow it. Topics studied include: Incorporation, accounting procedures, specific areas of ministry, job descriptions, legal/law, working with a Board of Directors, etc. (Formerly CDA502)

ALL500: Allegorical Interpretation (6 credits) – An overview of the study of religious texts as metaphorical. Emphasis is placed on providing the student a foundational understanding of the Jewish roots and Christian branches of this approach to interpreting scripture.

CAP600: Capstone Project (6 credits) – The student is expected apply knowledge learned in the program to address a real world church, religious or theological related issue. Student should thoroughly demonstrate a relationship between the topic and either New Thought philosophy or biblical principles, and should demonstrate benefits to humanity.

CHE500: Christian Ethics (3 credits) - This is an introduction to the various doctrines and methodologies of moral theology. A Christian Ethics course provides hermeneutics useful for pastoral care, spiritual direction, Christian education, social justice, and interfaith work.

CHS500: Christian Scriptures (New Testament) (6 credits) - This course introduces the New Testament along with its background, history, and origins. This course aims to give students the skills necessary to interpret these texts responsibly with methodologies proven useful for contemporary audiences. This course provides a comprehensive breadth of perspective and coverage for students.

FED500: Field Education (6 credits) - Students will be guided through supervised practical experiences in “doing ministry” in an approved church/center or organization.



FMT500: Fillmorean Theology (4 credits) - Charles Fillmore wrote on metaphysics and theology for almost 60 years. He adopted a new religious perspective called “New Thought” and “Christian Science.” This course will present the foundational teaching of Fillmore.

GRK500: Essentials of Greek (6 credits) - This course is the beginner’s course in the study of Koine Greek; the language of the New Testament. Generally offered during the summer term, this course gives students a fundamental tool in Bible exegesis.

HBL500: Hebrew Language (6 credits) - This course is an introduction to Hebrew grammar, syntax, and vocabulary with exercises in reading and writing. This course is introductory and is designed to be a first step toward competency in this biblical language.

HEB500: Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) (6 credits) - Comprehending the formation and development of the Hebrew Scriptures – as well as the key theological constructs found within the texts – will inform how Judaism developed, as well as, how Christianity and Islam were also influenced as later world religions.

HEM500: Hermeneutics (3 credits) – An introduction to methodology for determining the original meaning of biblical texts and applying their modern significance. Attention is given to historical development, principles of interpretation, and relationship to key biblical themes.

HOC500: History of Christianity (4 credits) - Many events and people contributed to the formation of the Christian church. This course will explore the complete history of struggle, growth, controversy, faith, and commitment as it sought to understand to give expression to its understanding of the teaching of Jesus.

HOJ500: History of Judaism (4 credits) - The history of Judaism covers the incomparable and unique story of the Jewish people. From its tribal commencement to the establishment of the Messianic lineage and its



ultimate entry into the state of Diaspora, the course intends to provide historical, cultural, theological, and socioeconomic perspectives to this complex story.

HOM500: Homiletics (3 credits) – This course is designed to empower students with skills and introduce resources to assist them in the preparation and presentation of lesson sermons that are based on the needs of the hearers.

HNT500: History of New Thought (3 credits) - This course examines the various philosophical, biblical, theological, therapeutic and pragmatic antecedents that came together to create the modern New Thought Christian Movement. Attention will be given to the modern thinkers who have formulated systems and built institutions that carry on the work of the movement in today's world.

HSJ500: The Historical Jesus (3 credits) – A study of the life, character and views of Jesus of Nazareth, the man, compared to views of him as Christ. Exploration of recent and early attempts to identify the historical Jesus and his messages as debated by scholars and theologians.

LED500: Leadership (3 credits) - This area of study introduces students to an in-depth and practical exploration of the various leadership styles and approaches necessary to influence ministry formation, growth and prosperity. (Formerly CDA501)

MDG600: Modern Gospels (3 credits) – Review of several modern gospels, some of which claim to be rediscovered ancient texts, others admittedly modern works of fiction.

MYS500: Mysticism and Spirituality (3 credits) – Analysis of the theology of mysticism and spirituality. Comparison of the lives of major mystics: the Kabbalah, Sufi, Buddhist, Hindu, New Thought Christian and others.



PNV500: Peace and Nonviolence Theology (4 credits) – Studies related to the various efforts on the part of major religious leaders to promote and affect peace and reconciliation (e.g. the history of pacifism), including aspects of race relations and the nature of other social conflicts (e.g. nonviolent peace strategies.)

POR500: Philosophy of Religion (3 credits) – Advanced approaches to how philosophical inquiry impacts religious issues. The nature of the divine, the problem of evil, the gods of the philosophers compared to the gods or God of the theologians.

ROM500: Role of the Minister (Pastoral Care) (4 credits) - This area of study leads the student through an in-depth exploration of their “calling” and a review of ministerial responsibilities. Course topics include, but are not limited to: pastoral care, designing a prayer life, becoming a minister, ministerial ethics, and worship/special services.

SPH500: Spiritual Healing (3 credits) - Spiritual healing is the cornerstone of the New Thought Christian movement. This area of study follows this practice from antiquity to modern history. It focuses on the methods of healing practiced by Jesus and taught/implemented by New Thought teachers: specific emphasis given to Phineas Quimby and the Rev. Dr. Johnnie Colemon.

UFB500: Introduction to the UFBL (3 credits) – This course is an exploration of the Universal Foundation for Better Living’s history, core beliefs, and impact, including an analysis of the life and works of its Founder, the Rev. Dr. Johnnie Colemon.

Theological Studies courses are surveys and introductions to the various approaches to practicing and understanding Christianity.

Note: As we continue to improve upon and add courses to our catalog, course names, descriptions, course/section numbers, etc. may be subject to change. Students will not be penalized in such cases.



Other Programs & Department

Ministerial Training

**Dean of Ministerial Training:
The Rev. Alberta Ware**

The Ministerial Training Program integrates principles, theory, and practice that focus on cultivated peak performance, leadership, and success in the church. Students are given the tools to build a strong biblical, historical, theological, and ethical basis for ministry. Satisfactory completion of this program qualifies the student to be a candidate for Ordination by the Universal Foundation for Better Living (UFBL).



The Ministerial Training Program offers two tracks; the Previously Ordained Clergy (POC) Track and the Ordinand Track.

Tuition (POC & Ordinand): \$750.00

Note: The \$750.00 tuition is per session, and prices are subject to change

Application Fee: \$100.00 (non-refundable)

Location: Both tracks are online and may include an on-site component.



A. Previously Ordained Clergy (POC) Track

The UFBL Previously Ordained Clergy Track is custom-designed and can be completed in a minimum of 18 months and a maximum of three years. The track is specifically designed for people Ordained as ministers by other religious organizations seeking Ordination by the UFBL.

Requirements for admission into the POC Track will include:

1. Must be an ordained clergy
2. Provide documentation of Ordination; to include an official certificate or letter from ordaining body.
3. Must provide proof of at least five years experience as a licensed or ordained Minister.
4. Complete and submit an application packet

B. Ordinand Track

The Ordinand Track is specially designed for men and women seeking Ordination within the UFBL. In this track, a Ministerial Candidate must complete a project approved by the UFBL. A three-year Ministerial License is issued to complete the project.

Requirements for admission into the Ordinand Track will include:

1. Active UFBL Teacher's license
2. Complete and submit an application packet



Teacher Training Academy

**Dean of the Teacher Training Academy:
The Rev. Lameteria Hall**

The Johnnie Colemon Theological Seminary (JCTS) Teacher Training Academy is an 18-24 month training program (divided into semesters) designed to prepare all people who aspire to become or demonstrate the potential to become teachers within the Universal Foundation Better Living (UFBL).



Academy students will undergo rigorous training in subject areas such as Basic Truth Principles as espoused by the UFBL; Bible (history, allegorical/metaphysical); The History of New Thought to include the works of Johnnie Colemon, Charles Fillmore, and H. Emilie Cady. Courses will also be offered on Spiritual Healing, Critical Thinking, and Effective Teaching.

Tuition: \$500.00 per semester (*prices are subject to change*)

Note: The \$500.00 tuition is per session, and prices are subject to change

Application Fee: \$100.00 (non-refundable)

Location: The program is online and may include an on-site component.



Requirements for admission to the Teacher Training Academy:

1. A Master Certificate is desired
2. At a minimum, the candidate must have completed Basic Truth Principles I & II and Bibles I through VI from accredited JCTS courses
3. Completion and submission of the application packet
4. Successfully pass an entrance exam and interview

Master Certificate & Master Plus Certificate

**Dean of Master Certificate & Master Plus:
The Rev. Lelia Harris**

The Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary (JCTS) Master Certificate Program is a systematic study of New Thought Christian/Metaphysical teachings espoused by the Universal Foundation for Better Living (UFBL).



There are two tracks, the Master Certificate Track, and Master Plus Track. Both tracks are non-degree Spiritual Adult Education opportunities.

Registration Fees (MC & MPP): Varies at Church/Center and Online

Location: Onsite at Church/Centers and Online



A. Master Certificate

This program is open to all seekers, no matter their background, affiliation, or denomination.

1. A total of 45 credits must be earned:
Core Credits: 39 Elective Credits: 6
2. The attendance requirement must be met in all courses to receive credit; not to exceed 2 absences.
3. All prerequisites must be met to receive credit.

Note: A course is considered as “audited” if the prerequisite for the course is not satisfied. In such case, no credits will be issued. However, a Certificate of Completion may be issued if attendance requirements are met. (A Certificate of Completion for audited courses will not reflect any credits earned.)

4. There are no prerequisites for Elective courses.

B. Master Plus Certificate

The Master Plus Certificate is for students who desire to further their spiritual journey beyond the Master Certificate courses.

Requirements to earn a Master Plus Certificate

1. Prerequisite: JCTS Master Certificate
2. Complete three semesters of classwork and one semester researching and writing an assigned paper.



Credentials & Certification Department

Dean of Credentials & Certification
The Rev. Evelyn Hill-Coleman

The Credentials and Certification Department (C & CD) maintain a system of Examination, Licensing, Ordination, and Certification for religious professionals seeking to become UFBL License Teachers and Ordained Ministers.



The C & CD consists of two components; Licensing and Ordination and Continuing Education.

A. Licensing and Ordination (L and O)

The C & CD is responsible for convening a Licensing and Ordination Committee once a year to interview potential candidates in three categories:

- a. Teacher Licenses,
- b. 3-year Ministers License
- c. Ordination

Candidates must pass the L & O interview, drug test, criminal background check, and (where applicable) credit check. Upon successful completion, candidate names are submitted to the UFBL Board of Directors for approval.



B. Continuing Education (CE)

Continuing Education is responsible for the administration and tracking of continuing education units (CEUs).

All UFBL licensed teachers are required to earn a minimum of 25 CEUs within two years. The C & CD is responsible for identifying, developing, and approving areas from which units may be earned.



In the consciousness of:

THE REVEREND DR. JOHNNIE COLEMON

Founder & 1st President of the UFBL, Co-Founder of the JCTS

THE REVEREND DR. MARY TUMPKIN

Co-Founder & 1st President of the JCTS, 2nd President of the UFBL

THE REVEREND DR. HELEN WARD CARRY

"The Teacher of Teachers" in the UFBL

THE REVEREND DR. JESSELYN (PENNY) SAFFOLD

The 1st & Former Associate Provost of the JCTS

For any questions, comments, or concerns regarding policy matters not addressed in this catalog, please contact the Seminary's Provost.