

Candidate Handbook



For Ministerial Ordination

By

The Board of Christian Education

Under the auspices of

The Methodist Protestant Church

Candidate Handbook

Introduction

As advancements in communications technology continue to open doors for distance learning, the potential for the enhancement of the course of study for the ordination of Elders increases. The advantages of directed courses over self study are attested to by the ongoing proliferation of colleges, Bible schools and seminaries.

The academic requirements put forth in this study course shall, therefore, be enhanced as suitable courses become available. No curriculum structure enhancement will become a required part of the course of study until it has been carefully evaluated and endorsed by the Board of Christian Education. All adopted courses shall be open to review by the following Quadrennial Conference to ensure their conformity to the spirit of the curricular requirements as originally stated.

Candidates for ordination who are in the course of study shall be held to the requirements of the particular course year in which they are enrolled as they existed upon his/her enrollment in that year. A Candidate Handbook shall be published each year by the Board of Christian Education that shall contain the entire current three-year course of study as revised to include the adopted courses. Copies of the Candidate Handbook shall be made available to all ministerial candidates. The handbook may also contain other information and aids as deemed useful by the Board of Christian Education.

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Practical Ministry Internship

Information is in development and will be added to future printings.

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Approved Colleges, Universities & Seminaries

1. Kentucky Mountain Bible College
www.kmbc.edu
2. Wesley Biblical Seminary
www.wbs.edu
3. God's Bible School & College
www.gbs.edu
4. Hobe Sound Bible College
www.hsbc.edu
5. Mid America University
www.macu.edu
6. Indiana Wesleyan University
www.indwes.edu
7. Southern Wesleyan University
www.swu.edu
8. Nazarene Bible College Online
www.nbc.edu

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Ordination

1. Persons ordained or licensed to administer the ordinances shall:
 - A. Be of exceptional moral character
 - B. Demonstrate practical holiness
 - C. Demonstrate respectable accomplishments
 - D. Be grounded in the beliefs as stated in our Articles of Religion
 - E. Be faithful in the discharge of Christian duties.
2. The Annual Conference shall not receive a person into its membership until he/she has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent at a minimum.
3. Ministers or preachers, in order to be eligible to membership in an Annual Conference, must have a written recommendation from an Official Board of a Methodist Protestant Church, or a certificate from some other Annual Conference or its President, or suitable testimonial from another Wesleyan-Armenian denomination. In addition, a three year probationary period is required.
4. If a person under the auspices of the Ministerial Education and Relations committee is assigned to a church as pastor, he/she will be issued a license to administer the ordinances on an annual basis by the annual conference, signed by the president and secretary of the Conference.

If the progress of the candidate for ordination does not satisfy the requirements of the Ministerial Education and Relations Committee, his/her license shall not be granted; neither shall he/she be assigned to a pastoral charge the following

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1. Write a sermon outline on “The Second Coming of Jesus Christ.”
 2. Using this outline, write a sermon of not less than 1500 words on “The Second Coming of Jesus Christ.”
 3. Using this outline and sermon, write a plan for a religious service around the theme, “The Second Coming of Jesus Christ.”
- E. The Ministerial Education and Relations Committee shall evaluate each undergraduate at the end of the course of study to verify all the requirements for ordination (Education, Probationary and Preaching) are satisfied before being ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church.

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Level Three

- A. Each undergraduate shall study the following:
1. Study and provide a written report on the following books of the Bible:
The Historical Books - Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I and II Samuel, I and II Kings, I and II Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther;
The poetic books - Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon;
The Acts of the Apostles;
The General Epistles - James, I and II Peter, I, II, and III John, Jude, and the Revelation.
 2. The following resource books are to be studied with the Scriptures:
Exploring the Old Testament, W. T. Purkiser
Exploring the New Testament, Ralph Earle
- B. Each undergraduate shall study and provide a written report on the following:
- Christianity Through the Centuries*, Earle E. Cairns
Christian Purity, R.S. Foster
Perfect Love, J.A. Wood
Preaching Holiness Today, Richard S. Taylor
The Disciplined Life, Richard S. Taylor
- C. The undergraduate should study the following in a classroom environment (online permitted), but a personal study and written report will be accepted:
- Christian Theology*, Vol. 3, H. Orton Wiley
The Master Plan of Evangelism, Robert Coleman
- D. Each undergraduate shall complete the following:

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year.

(Note: This does not give the licentiate a right to vote in the Annual Conference until after he/she is ordained.)

5. In order to be ordained or to be licensed to administer the ordinances, a person shall first pass the respective examination provided by the Board of Christian Education and administered by the Ministerial Education and Relations Committee elected by the Annual Conference.
6. Ordination shall be performed by the president, assisted by two or more elders. When circumstances make it necessary, the Annual Conference may substitute an elder in place of the president.
7. No Minister or Preacher shall hold membership in any Annual Conference who does not believe in and preach Sanctification as a "Second Definite Work of Grace."
8. Following ordination, ministers are expected to continue their education by whatever means is available. Continuing education hours should be pursued at a minimum of three (3) clock hours per year. The Ministerial Education and Relations Committee shall provide educational sessions for ministers to meet this obligation.

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Educational and Probationary Requirements for Ordination

1. Candidates for ordination shall serve under the supervision of the Ministerial Education and Relations Committee and may choose one of the following:
 - A. Complete the Course of Study as set forth in the Candidate Handbook for Ministerial Ordination provided by the Board of Christian Education with a minimum of three years' probation and having preached three consecutive years under the appointment of an Annual Conference.
 - B. Have a pastoral ministries or equivalent degree from a College approved by the Board of Christian Education with a minimum of three years' probation and having preached three consecutive years under the appointment of an Annual Conference.
 - C. Have a degree from a Theological Seminary approved by the Board of Christian Education with a minimum of three years' probation and having preached three consecutive years under the appointment of an Annual Conference.
2. Time required for educational requirements, pastoral assignments and probation may run concurrently but each requirement must be met.
3. Each candidate is required to attend instruction provided by the Ministerial Education and Rela-

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classroom environment (online permitted), but a personal study and written report will be accepted:

Christian Theology, H. Orton Wiley (Vol. 2)
The Ministry of Pastoral Counseling, James Hamilton

- D. Each undergraduate shall Complete the following:
 1. Write a sermon outline on "The Second Work of Grace." (Entire Sanctification)
 2. Using this outline, write a sermon of not less than 1500 words on "The Second Work of Grace."
 3. Using this outline and sermon, write a plan for a religious service around the theme, "The Second Work of Grace."
- E. Each undergraduate shall be evaluated at the end of the second year course of study to the satisfaction of the Ministerial Education and Relations Committee in order to be advanced to the third year course of study.

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Level Two

- A. Each undergraduate shall study the following:
1. Study and provide a written report on the following books of the Bible:
The major and minor prophets - Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.
The Pauline Epistles - Romans, I and II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, I and II Thessalonians, I and II Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews
 2. The following resource books are to be studied with the Scriptures:
Exploring the Old Testament, W. T. Purkiser
Exploring the New Testament, Ralph Earle
Meet the Major Prophets, Ralph Earle
Meet the Minor Prophets, Ralph Earle
The Life of St. Paul, James Stalker
- B. Each undergraduate shall study and provide a written report on the following:
A Plain Account of Christian Perfection, John Wesley
Entire Sanctification Explained, C. W. Ruth
Ministerial Ethics and Etiquette, Nolan Harmon
The Methodist Protestant Discipline, latest edition. Study that section entitled "Discipline."
The Old Man, Beverly Caradine
- C. The undergraduate should study the following in a

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- tions Committee of each District on the Historical, Articles of Religion, Constitution and Discipline Sections of the Methodist Protestant Discipline.
4. All Candidates for ordination must pass an examination provided by the Board of Christian Education on the Methodist Protestant Discipline covering the Historical, Articles of Religion, Constitution and Discipline Sections. The Board of Christian Education shall determine the proficiency standards.

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Level One

A. Each undergraduate shall:

1. Study and provide a written report on the following books of the Bible:
The Pentateuch - Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy;
The Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
2. The following resource books are to be studied with the Scriptures:
All About the Bible, Sidney Collett
Exploring the New Testament, Ralph Earle
Exploring the Old Testament, W. T. Purkiser
The Life of Jesus Christ, James Stalker

B. Each undergraduate shall study and provide a written report on the following:

Binney's Theological Compend, Amos Binney and Daniel Steele
Exploring our Christian Faith, W. T. Purkiser
Foundations of Doctrine, Harry E. Jessop
The Methodist Protestant Discipline, the latest edition. Study those sections entitled:
"Historical Sketch," "Constitution," and "Articles of Religion."
God's Great Salvation, Wesley Duewel
A Right Conception of Sin, Richard S. Taylor
Preacher and Prayer, E. M. Bounds

C. The undergraduate should study the following in a classroom environment (online permitted), but a personal study and written report will be accepted:

Writing with a Purpose or a suitable substitute
Christian Theology, Vol. 1, H. Orton Wiley

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The Making of a Sermon, T. Harwood Pattison
Robert's Rules of Order, Henry M. Robert, III

D. Each undergraduate shall complete the following:

1. Write a sermon outline on "the First Work of Grace." (Justification)
2. Using this outline, write a sermon of not less than 1500 words on "The First Work of Grace."
3. Using this outline and sermon, write a plan for a religious service around the theme, "The First Work of Grace."

E. Each undergraduate shall be evaluated at the end of the first year course of study to the satisfaction of the Ministerial Education and Relations Committee in order to be advanced to the second year course of study.