

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Twelfth of December, Two Thousand Fourteen



COMMENCEMENT

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Friday, December 12, 10 a.m., Binkley Chapel

Prelude *He is Born*
 French Carol
 arr. Diane Bish

*Processional *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
John Frances Wade
arr. Marilyn Arison

*Hymn *Joy to the World*
arr. Benjamin Harlan

*Invocation J. Gregory Lawson
Professor of Christian Education

Greeting Mark D. Liederbach
Vice President for Student Services/Dean of Students/Professor of Theology, Ethics and Culture

*Hymn *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
arr. Richard Kingsmore

Scripture Reading.....Charles L. Quarles
Professor of New Testament and Biblical Theology

Charge to Graduates.....Daniel L. Akin
President/Professor of Preaching and Theology

Prayer of Dedication..... Stephen B. Eccher
Assistant Professor of Church History and Reformation Studies

Conferring of Degrees James K. Dew, Jr.
Dean of the College at Southeastern/Associate Professor of History of Ideas and Philosophy

Charles E. Lawless, Jr.
Dean of Graduate Studies/Professor of Evangelism and Missions

*Hymn *In Christ Alone*
arr. Dave Cleveland

*Benediction. Keith S. Whitfield
Associate Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Faculty Communication, Assistant Professor of Theology

*Postlude..... *Joy to the World*
George Frederick Handel
arr. Kenneth D. Varner

Music Leader Joshua A. Waggener
Asst. Professor of Music and Christian Worship

Pianist.....Jenny Dobberstein
Instructor of Music and Staff Accompanist

Organist Nannette M. Godwin
Professor of Church Music and Keyboard (Retired)

* Please stand

As a courtesy, please silence cell phones and other personal electronic devices for the duration of the service.

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

The College at Southeastern

Associate of Arts

The Associate of Arts degree is a College program designed to provide students with the Christian background and foundation that is needed for informed lay leadership in the local church. In addition, the degree is designed as a two-year college transfer program. Students should consult the institution to which they intend to transfer in order to determine admission and transfer requirements.

in Biblical Studies

Joseph Trey Watkins.Hartsville, SC

Rachel L. Taylor *ia*Fort Wayne, IN

Associate of Divinity

The Associate of Divinity degree helps prepare students for various Christian ministries through courses in Bible, theology, ministry and liberal arts. The degree is available for students 30 years of age and older. The Associate of Divinity degree requires a minimum of 60 hours.

in Biblical Studies

Brian Richard OttingerHuntersville, NC
William B. Wheeler, Jr.Oxford, NC

William Dero Vaughn *ia*Hartsville, SC

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies

The Bachelor of Arts degree is built around a core curriculum of biblical, theological and liberal arts studies, including courses in the History of Ideas, resulting in a major in Christian Studies. Students may also choose either a second major from English, History, Humanities, Missions, Music, Pastoral Ministry and Theology, or one or two minors in Apologetics, Biblical Studies, English, History, Humanities, Missions, Music, Organizational Leadership, Pastoral Ministry, Preaching, Student Ministry and Theology. The degree provides students with foundational knowledge in theology,

philosophy, literature and history and with essential skills to think and communicate well in their future vocations. The Bachelor of Arts degree requires a minimum of 126 hours.

Rachel Allison AppleWinston Salem, NC
Robert B. HartOrlando, FL
William Shannon KelleyJacksonville, FL
Darrell Wayne PierceTaylorsville, NC
Samuel Buck ShepherdAlbemarle, NC
Rebecca Nicole SorgeThomasville, NC
Hilary Hyatt StarrSaint Pauls, NC

with a Minor in Biblical Studies

John Baker BolinskyGastonia, NC

with a Minor in English

Sarah May DomitrovichRaleigh, NC

with a Minor in English as a Second Language

Blaire HayesCary, NC

with a Minor in Pastoral Ministry

Maliek Juan BladeWashington, DC
Paul Anthony Wright, Jr.Rising Sun, MD

with a Minor in Student Ministry

Isaac Andrew ArnoldMomeyer, NC
Amanda Elizabeth BevilleWake Forest, NC

with a Minor in Theology

James J. SteeleMcDonough, GA

and Music with a Minor in English as a Second Language

Kaitlin Thompson ShipleyGloucester, VA

and Pastoral Ministry

William Clay EllisonClayton, NC
Ryan David KelloggRaleigh, NC

and Theology

Leonard Paul Piechocki, IIIWake Forest, NC

Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies

The College at Southeastern offers the Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies, a campus-based degree program designed to prepare students for effective service in a cross-cultural setting. The curriculum can be completed in two years of full-time study.

Peter Jered HunterColumbia, SC
Olivia Harsham PottsTampa, FL
Kelley SmithPine Level, NC
Naomi Kimiko StrawhornPukalani, HI

Rebecca Bernice Farley *ia*Wolfeboro, NH
Breckenridge Lee Merkle *ia*Colorado Springs, CO

ia - in absentia

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Master of Arts

The Master of Arts degree has two forms. First there are M.A. degrees that provide a basic understanding of theological disciplines for further graduate study or for general educational purposes. These programs adopt a nomenclature reflecting the goal of the degree, which is to provide survey knowledge of various theological disciplines or focused knowledge of a specific discipline. The second type of M.A. degree will include the nomenclature "in (area of specialized ministry)." The purpose of these M.A. degrees is to equip persons for competent leadership in some form of specialized ministry in the local church or other settings. All Master of Arts degrees require a previous baccalaureate degree and are designed to be completed over two years of full-time study. The Seminary offers five degrees of the first kind: Bible Languages, Christian Studies, Ethics, Theology and Culture, Old Testament and Philosophy of Religion; and six degrees of the second kind: Biblical Counseling, Christian School Administration, Christian Education, Christian Education and Biblical Counseling, Ministry Leadership and Women's Studies.

Christian Studies

Charles Matthew Agee Gastonia, NC
Christopher Broome Raleigh, NC
David Brian Nettles Gastonia, NC
Jeffrey William Parsons Albemarle, NC
Wendy Lee Romine Swansboro, NC
Todd Gunter Sorrell Fuquay-Varina, NC
James F. Ward, III Raleigh, NC
Lauren Elizabeth Wolfe Niceville, FL

Robert Lee Dean, III *ia* Wendell, NC
Scott Allen Mowery *ia* Harriman, TN
Benjamin C. Neiser *ia* Jonesboro, AR
Joseph Edward Santerelli *ia* Brooksville, FL

Ethics, Theology and Culture

Benjamin A. Francis Durham, NC
Major Professor: Daniel R. Heimbach, Senior Professor of Christian Ethics
Second Reader: Mark D. Liederbach, Vice President of Student Services, Dean of Students, Professor of Theology, Ethics and Culture
Research Project: *An Evaluation and Critique of Friedrich Nietzsche's Doctrine of the Uebermensch*

Matthew Brooks Oakley Plumtree, NC
Major Professor: David W. Jones, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics
Second Reader: Daniel R. Heimbach, Senior Professor of Christian Ethics
Research Project: *Gospel Centered Correction: Constructing a Christian Ethic of Parental Discipline*

Becca Gayle Owens Bryant, AR
Major Professor: David W. Jones, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics
Second Reader: Mark D. Liederbach, Vice President of Student Services, Dean of Students, Professor of Theology, Ethics and Culture
Research Project: *A Case for Faithful Stewardship of the Human Body: A Study of the Created Order, the Body of Christ, and the Resurrection Body and Their Implications of Bodily Stewardship as a Part of Holy Living*

Old Testament

Christopher Shawn Bryant Wake Forest, NC
Major Professor: Tracy J. McKenzie, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies
Second Reader/Faculty Reader: J. Todd Borger, Associate Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew
Thesis Title: *Intertextuality: An Argument for the Placement of the Book of Daniel After the Book of Esther in Codex Leningrad and the Purpose of the Arrangement*

in Biblical Counseling

Julia Lynn Black Chesapeake, VA
Ashley Claire Farrow Ashland, AL
Samuel Lewis Knight Elkin, NC
Jeffrey Scott Shaeffer Cary, NC
Lauren Elizabeth Womack Chattanooga, TN

Emily Jean Gillum *ia* Goodlettsville, TN
Lauren Elizabeth Turner *ia* Durham, NC
Rachael Irene Woodworth *ia* Chandler, AZ
Christen Lea Yates *ia* Hernando, MS

in Christian Education and Biblical Counseling

Jacob Staten Galster Land O' Lakes, FL

in Ministry Leadership

Michael Demetrius Hines, Sr. Cary, NC
Sierra Grace Jones Fort Myers, FL
Michael Joseph Klapp Fayetteville, NC
Mark Stroupe Raleigh, NC

Jason Michael Wilkinson Jacksonville, AR
Carey Lee Keiger *ia* Charlotte, NC
Michael W. Reeve *ia* Greensboro, NC

Master of Divinity

The Master of Divinity degree prepares men for the pastorate and men and women for other significant leadership roles in Christian ministries both at home and around the world. The M.Div. requires 90 semester hours and builds upon a prior baccalaureate degree. It is designed to be completed within three years of full-time study. Southeastern Seminary offers several specializations within the Master of Divinity degree. It also serves as a suitable basis for further graduate theological studies. The degree program consists of 60 hours of foundational core courses in Theology, Church History, Christian Philosophy, Ethics, Evangelism, Christian Missions, Biblical Counseling, Biblical Studies and Biblical Languages. Other specialized requirements fill out the various tracks or concentrations. Most students attending the Seminary enroll in the Master of Divinity program as their first professional degree.

with Advanced Biblical Studies

Christopher Shawn Bryant Wake Forest, NC
Michael Carlton Dickerson Wake Forest, NC

with Advanced Standing

Jacob Burnette Winston-Salem, NC
Joel Griffis Macclenny, FL
Noah Kelley Clymer, PA
Seraph Jade Sharpe Leasburg, NC
Todd Alan Unzicker Durham, NC
Robert Clark Varner Bolivar, MO

with Christian Ministry

John Taylor Alexander Orlando, FL
William Curtis Andrusko Canton, GA
Thomas Martin Beam Forest City, NC
Troy Blalock Timberlake, NC
Olin Bradley Greenville, SC
Namjong Jerry Cho Wake Forest, NC
Christopher Curtiss Clark Wilmington, NC
Joshua Ryan Douglas Eustis, FL
Jason David Elvington Anderson, SC
Joshua W. Grant Wilmington, NC
Caleb Taylor Hays Groteluschen Buffalo, WY
Andrew O'Neal Hardiman Enterprise, AL
Matthew E. Homan Appomattox, VA
Zachary Honeycutt Wake Forest, NC

Timothy D. Horton Cary, NC
Adam Michael Ivey Newman, GA
Daniel Scott Jones Niceville, FL
Ki Tae Kim Anyang, South Korea
Younkab Kim Suwon, South Korea
Vernon R. King, III Waco, TX
Aaron E. Land Ellijay, GA
Eric W. Lockhart Wake Forest, NC
Thomas Luke Lunceford Boone, NC
Kyle William Mercer Durham, NC
Micah Wayne Messersmith Oxford, MS
Jason Lee Miller Canton, NC
Katie Kasey Moats Henderson, NC
Nathaniel Andrew Moats Orlando, FL
Grady Earl Ogburn Winnsboro, SC
Charles Fredrick Perkins Glen Allen, VA
Matthew Murray Poole Raleigh, NC
Russell Alan Post Huntersville, NC
Jason Barry Pounds Jackson, MS
Michael Alan Prevatt Thomasville, GA
Jason Lee Purdy Gaithersburg, MD
Joseph E. Query Monroe, NC
Hilary Beth Ratchford Charlotte, NC
Thomas Houston Ratchford Charlotte, NC
Michael Todd Reinstein Wellington, FL
Aaron Parrish Swain Burgaw, NC
Joseph L. Thigpen Crestview, FL
Andrew William Thomasson Orange Park, FL
Seth McNeal Wise McDonough, GA
Yi Young Yuk Seoul, South Korea

Skylar Anderson *ia* Wake Forest, NC
Christopher Marshall Blalock *ia* Charleston, SC
Larry Bogen *ia* Edmonds, WA
Richard Andrew Bradley *ia* Pelzer, SC
Joshua Lynn Carpenter *ia* Bridgeport, WV
Todd Nathaniel Davis *ia* Pascagoula, MS
Eric L. Hovis *ia* Raleigh, NC
Jeremy S. Little *ia* Tallahassee, FL
Jonathan Stuart Medlin *ia* Cumming, GA
William Ezra Smith *ia* Sandersville, GA

with Evangelism

Brandon Robert Boyles Charleston, SC

with International Church Planting

James Britton Carnes Lancaster, SC
Aaron Josiah Cloer Spartanburg, SC
Julie Ann Peterson Yulee, FL

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with Missiology

Mitchel Rivers McCaskell Crystal Springs, MS
William Taylor Greenville, SC
Shane Y. Tu. Cross Lanes, WV
Nghiem Thai Tran Winston Salem, NC

with Pastoral Ministry

Adam Ryan Furr. Mt. Pleasant, SC
Garrett Thomas Palmer Sparta, TN
Tyler Keith Shepherd Lexington, NC
Daniel Blake Stevens Wake Forest, NC

Master of Theological Studies

The Master of Theological Studies is a basic Seminary program of study and research for international students in a cross-cultural setting who have already completed an initial undergraduate degree in theological studies or another approved field as determined by the Program Coordinator and the Registrar. The purpose of the program is to train God called men and women to be leaders within various international Christian ministries.

Harre Banks *ia* Uganda

Master of Theology

The Master of Theology degree is an advanced theological research degree open to those who have completed the Master of Divinity or its equivalent with high grades and who show an outstanding potential for ministry. Master of Theology students major in Biblical or Theological Studies with a concentration in one of the academic disciplines of the M.Div. curriculum. The degree requirements include intensive bibliographical research, some doctoral-level seminar work, some upper level M.Div. specialty work and the production of an acceptable thesis or research project. The thesis is bound and placed in the Seminary library.

Jeffrey Boe Ellis Raleigh, NC
Major Professor: J. Michael Dodson, Assistant Professor of Church Planting and Evangelism
Second Reader: Dwayne A. Milioni, Assistant Professor of Preaching
Guided Research Project: *Three Essential Traits of Effective Church Planters in New England*

James T. Hughes, III Durham, NC
Major Professor: Daniel L. Akin, President, Professor of Preaching and Theology
Second Reader: Dwayne A. Milioni, Assistant Professor of Preaching
Guided Research Project: *The Influence of Rhetoric in Christian Preaching*

Yamin Park Busan, South Korea
Major Professor: Ferris L. McDaniel, Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew
Second Reader: J. Todd Borger, Associate Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew
Guided Research Project: *Examination and Evaluation of Progressive Dispensational Understanding of the Day of the Lord in Zechariah 12-14*

Christopher Burns Conley *ia* Austin, TX
Major Professor: L. Scott Kellum, Associate Professor of New Testament and Greek
Second Reader: David E. Lanier, Professor of New Testament
Guided Research Project: *Seed of David, Son of God: The Literary and Theological Context of Romans 1:1-7*

Timothy Loren Decker *ia*. Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Major Professor: David A. Black, Professor of New Testament and Greek
Second Reader: Alan S. Bandy, Adjunct Professor of New Testament
Guided Research Project: *Live Long in the Land: Covenantal Allusions in the Seven Messages to the Churches in Revelation 2-3*

Kwee Chen Hang *ia* Malaysia
Major Professor: Sam R. Williams, Professor of Counseling
Second Reader: R. Alton James, Professor of Missions, Associate Dean of Proclamation Studies
Guided Research Project: *Contextualization of Christ-Centered Biblical Counseling in a Malaysian Context*

Doctor of Ministry

The Doctor of Ministry degree equips students for the practice of ministry at the highest level of professional competency. Candidates for this degree have previously completed the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent with high academic achievement and have demonstrated competence and potential for ministry. Candidates are expected to have had at least three years of professional experience prior to beginning the Doctor of Ministry program and must be continually engaged in ministry throughout their enrollment for the degree. The program currently consists of four on-campus seminars, four courses completed from the ministry field, one year of supervised field experience in preparation for the final project and a project report, which is evaluated by the faculty committee for approval. The Ministry Project Report is bound and kept in the Seminary library. The program requires a minimum of three academic years to complete.

Andrew Austin Bell Baltimore, MD
Major Professor: George G. Robinson, IV, Professor of Missions and Evangelism
Faculty Reader: Charles E. Harvey, Director of D.Min. Studies, Professor of Christian Education
Field Mentor: David Lee, Retired Executive Director, State Baptist Convention Maryland/Delaware
Project Title: *Equipping the Leadership Team of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Missional Leadership for the Purpose of Great Commission Engagement*

Deborah Ann Bowers Birmingham, AL
Major Professor: Kenneth D. Keathley, Professor of Theology, Director of the L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture
Faculty Reader: Benjamin Quinn, Assistant Professor of Theology and History of Ideas, Associate Dean of Institutional Effectiveness for the College at Southeastern
Field Mentor: Alice M. Hardy, Pediatrician, South Trace Pediatrics, Hoover, AL
Project Title: *Developing a Training Model to Prepare Short-Term Missionaries for Evangelism through Evidence-Based Community Health Interventions in South Sudan*

Bobby Joe Gettys, Jr. Ellenboro, NC
Major Professor: Kenneth D. Keathley, Professor of Theology, Director of the L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture
Faculty Reader: John S. Hammett, Professor of Systematic Theology, Associate Dean of Theological Studies
Field Mentor: Chris Schofield, Adjunct Professor of Missions and Evangelism
Project Title: *Developing a Strategy for Members of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church to Engage Missionally in Fulfilling the Great Commandment*

Howard Anson Harden Homestead, FL
Major Professor: Kenneth D. Keathley, Professor of Theology, Director of the L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture
Faculty Reader: David R. Beck, Professor of New Testament and Greek, Associate Dean of Biblical Studies
Field Mentor: Rick Shepherd, Team Strategist, Prayer and Spiritual Awakening Team, Florida Baptist Convention
Project Title: *Developing Prayer Evangelism Training for Members of First Baptist Church of Homestead, Florida*

Willis Lee Herman Creedmoor, NC
Major Professor: Kenneth D. Keathley, Professor of Theology and Director of the L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture
Faculty Reader: Travis Bradshaw, Adjunct Professor of Education and Research
Field Mentor: Bruce Beck, Senior Pastor, Milford Hills Baptist Church, Salisbury, NC
Project Title: *Equipping Select Members of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church to Engage Persons in Doctrinal Error for the Purpose of Evangelization and Reconciliation*

Erick Lyn Ingram Goldsboro, NC
Major Professor: George G. Robinson, IV, Professor of Missions and Evangelism
Faculty Reader: Charles E. Harvey, Director of D.Min. Studies, Professor of Christian Education
Field Mentor: Chris Schofield, Adjunct Professor of Missions and Evangelism
Project Title: *Cultivating Missional Prayer: An Equipping Module for Select Members at Henderson Grove Missionary Baptist Church*

Jeffrey B. Schreve Texarkana, TX
Major Professor: Charles E. Harvey, Director of D.Min. Studies, Professor of Christian Education
Faculty Reader: Larry J. Purcell, Associate Professor of Leadership and Discipleship, Associate Dean of Ministry Studies
Faculty Reader: J. Gregory Lawson, Professor of Christian Education
Project Title: *A Case Study of the Growth Trend from 2003-2013 at First Baptist Church Texarkana to Identify the Key Components of Growth*

Brian Thomas Sherwood Bluffton, SC
Major Professor: J. Gregory Lawson, Professor of Christian Education
Faculty Reader: John E. Boozer, Professor of Church Music
Field Mentor: Carl F. Martin, Associate Pastor of Missions and Outreach, Low Country Church, Bluffton, SC
Project Title: *Equipping Parents at Maye River Baptist Church, Bluffton, South Carolina, to Lead Their Children in Deuteronomy 6 Parenting*

David Scott Kennedy *ia* Atoka, TN
Major Professor: J. Gregory Lawson, Professor of Christian Education
Faculty Reader: James P. Porowski, Professor of Child and Family Development
Field Mentor: Andrew Rogers, Pastor of Soul Care, College Park Church, Indianapolis, IN
Project Title: *The Development of an Ongoing Marriage Enrichment Strategy for Crosspointe Baptist Church in Millington, Tennessee*

Doctor of Education

The Doctor of Education is an advanced research degree for those pursuing a career in education. Candidates for this degree have previously completed the Master of Divinity or a master's degree with a concentration in the field of education. Students accepted into the program have demonstrated strong academic performance, the ability to teach and lead in an educational ministry, and the potential to conduct original research and produce

scholarly writing. The program consists of a two-year modified residency including instruction in advanced statistics, quantitative and qualitative research, pedagogy, leadership, and theology. Students select an area of concentration and work with a major advisor during their mentorship. Following the completion of the core and elective coursework, students must successfully pass a written comprehensive exam and submit a research prospectus to their dissertation committee. This work includes original data collection that will make a significant and unique contribution in the field of education. When this research is complete, their candidates make an oral defense of their research and findings to their dissertation committee. Following a successful defense, graduates have their dissertations bound and placed in the Seminary library.

Andrew Todd Burggraff Raleigh, NC
Major Professor: J. Gregory Lawson, Professor of Christian Education
Second Reader: Ned L. Matthews, Emeritus Professor of Pastoral Ministries
Dissertation Title: *A Historical Study of the Catechumenate and its Implications for Discipleship in 21st Century Churches*

Daniel H. Cook Fredericksburg, VA
Major Professor: Kenneth S. Coley, Professor of Christian Education, Director of Ed.D. Studies
Second Reader: James P. Porowski, Professor of Child and Family Development
External Reader: Dan Wishnietsky, Associate Professor of Mathematics, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC
Dissertation Title: An Examination of Adult Learning Style Preferences: Implications for 21st Century Discipleship and Leadership Training

Marcus Daly, Jr. London, KY
Major Professor: James P. Porowski, Professor of Child and Family Development
Second Reader: J. Gregory Lawson, Professor of Christian Education
Dissertation Title: *The Development of a Theory for Multiethnic Ministry: A Comparative Analysis of the Book of Acts and Yancey's General Principles of the Multiethnic Church*

Thomas Dean Garner, NC
Major Professor: Kenneth S. Coley, Professor of Christian Education, Director of Ed.D. Studies
Second Reader: James P. Porowski, Professor of Child and Family Development
External Reader: Travis Bradshaw, Adjunct Professor of Education and Research
Dissertation Title: *Effects of Student Clubs and Organizations on Leadership Skills Development, GPA, and Engagement in Select North Carolina Community Colleges*

Virginia Claudette Gray Jonesboro, AR
Major Professor: James P. Porowski, Professor of Child and Family Development
Second Reader: Edward A. Buchanan, Emeritus Professor of Christian Education
Third Reader: R. Alton James, Professor of Missions, Associate Dean of Proclamation Studies
Dissertation Title: *A Cross-Cultural Grounded Theory Study of Worldview Characteristics in Concrete Operational Children in Youngsville, North Carolina and Kajo Keji, South Sudan*

DeAnn Prosser Henderson. Spartanburg, SC
Major Professor: Edward A. Buchanan, Emeritus Professor of Christian Education
Second Reader: Kenneth S. Coley, Professor of Christian Education, Director of Ed.D. Studies
Dissertation Title: *Shepherds to a Transient Flock: Identification and Analysis of Current Practices in Nursing Home Ministry and Appraisal for Needed Preparation for Chaplains and Ministers*

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***ThM w/Thesis*

Lorie Henry Lee Tuscumbia, AL
Major Professor: J. Gregory Lawson, Professor of Christian Education
Second Reader: James P. Porowski, Professor of Child and Family Development
Dissertation Title: *"Now that You Have Seen": A Historical Look at Compassion International 1952-2013*

Dennis Keith Myers Petersburg, VA
Major Professor: J. Gregory Lawson, Professor of Christian Education
Second Reader Kenneth S. Coley, Professor of Christian Education, Director of Ed.D. Studies
Third Reader: Travis Bradshaw, Adjunct Professor of Education and Research
Dissertation Title: *Perceptions of Online Education among Rural Southern Baptist Pastors in Virginia*

Justin Allen Smith Morganton, NC
Major Professor: Kenneth S. Coley, Professor of Christian Education, Director of Ed.D. Studies
Second Reader: Larry J. Purcell, Associate Professor of Leadership and Discipleship, Associate Dean of Ministry Studies
External Reader: L. Thomas Crites, State Missionary, Research Services, Georgia Baptist Convention
Dissertation Title: *Following the Ways of Ezra: An Exploratory Study of the Relationship between a Senior Pastor's Involvement in Leading Sunday School and Church Health*

Doctor of Philosophy

The Doctor of Philosophy is the most advanced theological research degree available at Southeastern, equipping students for conducting serious academic research and for teaching at the highest level of academic competency. Candidates for this degree have previously completed the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent with high academic achievement. Students must have excellent writing skills and an aptitude for teaching and academic research. The program consists of a two-year residency including instruction in research and teaching, involvement in an integrative seminar and other graduate seminars, proficiency in two research languages other than English and in addition to Greek and Hebrew, and a mentorship in the student's concentration conducted by the student's major professor. Subsequent to successful completion of the residency requirements, including passing a written and oral comprehensive examination, a dissertation prospectus outlining and justifying the relevance and originality of the student's proposed topic for research is approved by the dissertation committee. This is followed by the writing of a research-based dissertation that makes a significant contribution to the student's major field of study. This dissertation is submitted to a faculty committee for review and evaluation, including an external reader with special expertise on the topic of the dissertation. The student must then sit for an oral defense of the dissertation and make any changes required for final approval. Once accepted, the student is cleared for graduation and the dissertation is bound and kept in the Seminary library.

William Scott Byrd Pineville, LA
Major Professor: R. Alton James, Professor of Missions, Associate Dean of Proclamation Studies
Faculty Reader: John S. Hammett, Senior Professor of Systematic Theology, Associate Dean of Theological Studies
External Reader: Mike Edens, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, LA
Dissertation Title: *The Historical, Biblical, Cultural and Missiological Wisdom of Not Using Dedicated or Sacred Space for Church Planting in the Pioneer Setting of Turkey*

Jedidiah Roberts Coppenger Franklin, TN
Major Professor: Daniel L. Akin, President, Professor of Preaching and Theology
Faculty Reader: John S. Hammett, Senior Professor of Systematic Theology, Associate Dean of Theological Studies
External Reader: Randy L. Stinson, Senior Vice President for Academic Administration, Provost and Associate Professor of Leadership and Family Ministry at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
Dissertation Title: *A Baptist Assessment of Feminist Ecclesiology*

Heath H. Kahlbau Lebanon, VA
Major Professor: Daniel L. Akin, President, Professor of Preaching and Theology
Faculty Reader: John S. Hammett, Senior Professor of Systematic Theology, Associate Dean of Theological Studies
External Reader: J. Ligon Duncan III, Chancellor, John E. Richards Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology, Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, MS
Dissertation Title: *Is Anything New Under the Sun? A Comparative Evaluation of the Ante-Nicene Patristic Episcopacy and Common Polity Models within the Contemporary Multi-Site Church Movement*

Donald Love Lynchburg, VA
Major Professor: Andreas J. Köstenberger, Senior Research Professor of New Testament and Biblical Theology
Secondary Reader: David R. Beck, Professor of New Testament and Greek, Associate Dean of Biblical Studies
External Reader: Ardel B. Caneday, Professor of New Testament Studies & Biblical Theology at the University of Northwestern, St. Paul, MN
Dissertation Title: *The Literary Function of John 2-4*

Gregory D. Mathias Wake Forest, NC
Major Professor: Mark D. Liederbach, Vice President for Student Services, Dean of Students, Professor of Theology, Ethics, and Culture
Faculty Reader: David W. Jones, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics
External Reader: Edward L. Smither, Professor of Intercultural Studies, Columbia International University, Columbia, SC
Dissertation Title: *A Critical Analysis of the Relationship Between Virtue Ethics and Missionary Practice Employing the Works of David J. Bosch, Christopher J. H. Wright, and John M. Frame*

Grant David Taylor Johnson City, TN
Major Professor: L. Scott Kellum, Associate Professor of New Testament and Greek
Faculty Reader: Ferris L. McDaniel, Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew
External Reader: Michael F. Bird, Lecturer in Theology, Ridley Melbourne Mission & Ministry College, Melbourne, Australia
Dissertation Title: *The Fruitful Vineyard of God: Jesus and His Disciples at John 15:1-17*

Faculty Marshals

Anthony B. Greenham, *Chief Faculty Marshal*
Associate Professor of Missions and Islamic Studies

Brent J. Aucoin, *Faculty Marshal*
Associate Professor of History,
Associate Dean of the College for Academic Affairs

Student Marshals

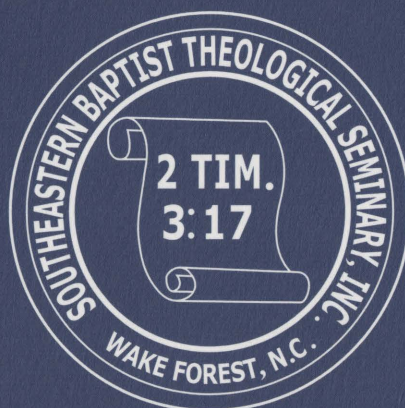
Rebecca Byrd
Stuart Lewis
Timothy Moreland
Jeremy Parker
Dana Perry

Academic Regalia

The hoods, gowns, and caps worn in academic ceremonies today are modified versions of clothing worn by ecclesiastics and students in the 12th and 13th centuries. They wore gowns and hoods to their lectures, probably for warmth in the damp, unheated halls where classes were held. The designs and colors of these costumes have come to symbolize the level of academic attainment and the institution attended.

The bachelor's robe has an elaborate yoke but is otherwise a plain garment with a closed, pleated front and long, full-pointed sleeves. The master's robe is identifiable by its sleeves, cut for the arm at the wrist and just above the elbow, which have a distinctive oblong back and are squared at the ends. The doctor's robe, full cut and with voluminous long sleeves, is distinguished by its rich velvet trim. Robe-length front panels and velvet sleeve bars are either black or symbolize, by their color, the field in which the doctorate was obtained. The mortarboard or tam is worn with tassels that are usually black but may represent the degree held by the wearer. Tassels worn are signified by the following:

- Scarlet: Theology, Divinity
- Light Blue: Pedagogy, Education
- White: English, History, Arts, Letters, Humanities
- Purple: Jurisprudence, Law
- Dark Blue: Political Science, Social Ethics, Philosophy
- Pink: Music
- Gold: Physics, Mathematics, Science
- Lemon: Library Science



The seminary expresses its special appreciation to The Lockman Foundation, to Dr. and Mrs. Bob Lambeth, and to former Southeastern Trustee Edwin Bailey for the gift to every graduate of a new leather-bound NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE.