

## Course Catalog and Program Overview

Non-Degree Courses for Credentialing, Leadership  
Development, and Christian Enrichment

AKSOM  
ALASKA SCHOOL OF MINISTRY



**PLANTED ♦ ROOTED    GROWING ♦ FRUITFUL**  
**Educating & Equipping Leaders for Ministry in Alaska**

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### **Mission Statement**

Partnering with the Alaska Ministry Network, the Alaska School of Ministry is committed to excellence in educating and equipping Spirit-empowered, servant leaders who are being **planted** within the community of believers, **rooted** in Biblical truth, **growing** to their full potential in Christ, and **fruitful** in ministry.





### Values Statement

**EXCELLENCE:** AKSOM will set high standards and pursue excellence in every aspect of our work. Colossians 3:17

**EDUCATING:** AKSOM commits to exploring truth with scholarly excellence, integrating faith and instruction into life, and inspiring students to pursue life-long learning. 2 Timothy 1:13-14.

**EQUIPPING:** AKSOM values the transference of practical and life-giving ministry skills and tools from master-teachers to apprentice-students. Ephesians 4:11-13.

**PLANTED:** AKSOM believes facilitating interaction and relational networking among faculty and students provides an enriching community environment. Acts 2:44-47.

**ROOTED:** AKSOM values developing and deepening biblical, theological, and practical roots as a way to equip and strengthen men and women for Pentecostal leadership in the church and world. 2 Timothy 2:15.

**GROWING:** AKSOM desires to stimulate spiritual growth and development where future biblical leaders live lives consistent with the Assemblies of God tenants of faith. Colossians 1:28.

**FRUITFUL:** AKSOM values fruitfulness as a bi-product of faithful servant-leadership and a measurement of activities and effectiveness. John 15:16.

### Vision Statement

The vision of AKSOM is to facilitate our ministers in moving to their next credential level and to equip the called as they prepare to lead and minister in the churches of Alaska. The mission of AKSOM and the realization of its values will be accomplished in the following ways:

- Students will be able to complete the educational requirements for one complete credentialing or enrichment level in a twelve month period of time or less.
- Students will be taught in a classroom environment by qualified faculty.
- Innovative technologies will be utilized to teach courses in various areas of Alaska while still meeting the requirements of in-class participation.

### **Commitments**

- AKSOM is totally committed to teaching and upholding the principles, doctrines, and polity of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.
- AKSOM fully ascribes to the Official Statement of Fundamentals Truths of the Assemblies of God.
- AKSOM is committed to providing biblical, theological, and practical courses meeting the General Council of the Assemblies of God's educational requirements for ministerial credentialing.

### **Endorsements**

- The Alaska School of Ministry has been recognized and endorsed by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God as a member of the Association of Assemblies of God District Schools of Ministry.

### **Disclaimers**

- Courses offered through AKSOM meet the educational requirements of the Alaska Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God for ministerial credentialing. **Completion of AKSOM courses do not automatically qualify an individual for ministerial credentialing—the credentialing process is separate from AKSOM.**
- Courses offered through AKSOM are non-accredited courses and do not automatically qualify for college credit.
- AKSOM is an alternative to a college education. Those who can enroll in college are encouraged to do so. The level of education in a college program will go far beyond the basic requirements of ministerial training. However, for those who cannot attend college, AKSOM is a viable and profitable approach to ministry training.



- AKSOM is open to all Christ-followers, not just those who wish to pursue ministerial credentials.



- The Alaska District School of Ministry is exempt from State of AK authorization requirements under AS 14.48 and 20 AAC 17.015.
- At least one course from each of the three credentialing levels will be taught September—May (provided sufficient students are enrolled for each course). Thus, completion of one level of credentialing courses can be finished in one class-year.

### Teaching Methodology

- Pre-class work will require the complete reading of an approved textbook and completion of a text-overview based on the text. **The Text Overview must be submitted before class.**
- Class time will be for at least five hours with a qualified instructor—all students are required to attend the class session. **Projected class time is from 9am-3pm with a one hour lunch break. Students are encouraged to bring their laptop to class.**
- **On-line exams** based on the text-overview and class presentation will be given at the end of each class session. A test will be available to the student following the lunch break.



### Course Grades

- Course grades will be weighted as follows:
  - Class attendance and participation is mandatory.
  - Completion of study guide—40% of grade
  - Course Exam—60% of grade

Total grade of 70% or higher is needed to pass each course. Grades can be contested for up to three months following the class. All completed student assignments, text overviews, and tests will be kept in the AKSOM office for six months following the course instruction.



### **Application**

All students must complete the online “New Student Application” at [aksom.net](http://aksom.net) under the “New Student” tab and submit the completed application along with a one-time \$50 application fee (non-refundable). Upon completion of the application, a student may enroll for courses online at [aksom.net](http://aksom.net).

### **Course Enrollment**

To enroll in a course, go to [aksom.net](http://aksom.net) and select the “Enroll Now” tab. Under this tab, search for the month the course is taught in and select appropriate class. Please enroll no later than two weeks prior to the course teaching date.

Select the course, add the course text (if needed), and pay for course/text.

### **Costs**

- Tuition per Course: \$90
  - Textbooks: Varies per Course
  - Shipping/Handling: \$10
- (Prices subject to change without notice)

Textbooks may be purchased elsewhere at the discretion of the student. If purchasing other than from AKSOM, students are responsible for ensuring proper edition, etc. of the text. Textbooks for upcoming courses may be purchased during live AKSOM classes in order to avoid shipping and handling costs.



### **AKSOM Payment Policy**

- It is expected that a student pays for the course and textbook upon enrollment.
- A student may not have an outstanding balance. If there is an unpaid balance, the student may not register for additional courses until the bill is paid. Also, AKSOM will not release a transcript to the student, credentialing office, or to any other entity, unless the student's bill is paid in full.
- If a student cannot attend the class, for any reason, the student can apply his/her unused class tuition to any future course within three months of the original absence.

### **Catalog Scholarship Statement**

A limited number of scholarships are available to help students meet their financial obligations to attend the Alaska School of Ministry, AKSOM. Eligibility for all financial assistance is based upon students completing the free application which can be downloaded from the AKSOM Website and returned by September 1. Scholarships are based on the financial need of the student and the completed Pastoral Reference form.

Scholarships cover the cost of tuition. Students are responsible to pay for books and any other AKSOM fees. Students must earn a course grade of at least 70% to continue receiving scholarship.

The Alaska Native Scholarship is a scholarship for an Alaska Native student who will be attending an accredited Assemblies of God College/University, or an approved school of ministry, who upon completion intends to pursue full time vocational ministry within the state of Alaska. You can learn more information, including how to apply, by visiting [www.akyouth.org](http://www.akyouth.org), and clicking on the "Resources" tab.

### **General Policies**

- AKSOM courses are open to all members and adherents of Alaska churches.
- Students may enroll in any course for the purpose of meeting ministerial credentialing requirements or for the purpose of personal enrichment and education.
- Students desiring credit for previously completed college level work may have official copies of their transcripts sent to AKSOM.
- Students must enroll no later than two weeks prior to the course they wish to take. Earlier enrollment is encouraged in order to gain full benefit from each course.
- Students are required to complete a minimum of 10 hours of preparatory self-study in advance of each class session.
- Students are required to read the course textbook(s) and to complete the course text-overview and any other assignments prior to each class. Text overviews should be submitted the day before the class.

### **Student Code of Ethics, Conduct, & Honor**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a Christ-like and biblical manner at all times, in both their personal conduct and pursuit of their studies. Students are to strive to maintain the highest of ethical standards, including honesty and integrity. Failure to adhere to such standards may result in the student's dismissal from AKSOM, subject to the decision of the school's administration.

In the classroom, students should be respectful of their peers and instructors. Behavior that is disruptive to the learning process and disrespectful to others will not be tolerated and will be addressed, first by the instructor of the class and, if necessary, by the administration. Students refusing to be cooperative may be dismissed from the school.



Students are expected to complete the required text-overview by their own efforts. While it is reasonable and beneficial for two or more students from the same family, church, or community to study together, it is essential that each student's work be his or her own endeavor. Students should not combine their study results to make a common line of thought that appears identical on multiple pre-class session text overviews. Situations of this nature will be brought to the attention of the school's administration and will be investigated to determine if discipline is warranted.



### Attendance Policies and Class Make-up

- Students are expected to attend the full five hours of class time required for each course.
- **In the event the student misses a class: Students may elect to wait until the course is offered again (and receive a refund) or take the missed class through Berean School of the Bible, Pathway, or other approved program for separate fees.**
- In the event of an emergency (such as hospitalization, family or church crisis), students must notify the AKSOM office of their absence. The student may elect to take the missed course through Berean School of the Bible, wait until the course is offered again, or explore other options. Students will not be allowed to make-up more than one course per school year.
- If a student cannot attend the class, for any reason, the student can apply his/her unused class tuition to any future course within three months of the original absence.
- Students are expected to arrange for their own transportation, lodging, and meals to, from, and during live class sessions.

## *Level 1—Certified Minister Courses*

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CM-LOC Life of Christ—A study of the major events in the life of Christ. The course will focus on the time, place, circumstances, and people involved in Jesus' ministry. The goal of the course is to increase students' understanding of the Lord's message, ministry, and mission, as well as to inspire a deeper commitment to proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus. Textbook: *Four Portraits, One Jesus*—Mark L. Strauss

CM-OTS Old Testament Survey—A study of the books of the Old Testament, acquainting the student with key facts in each book. The development of God's plan of redemption throughout the Old Testament canon is a highlight of this course. Textbook: *Encountering the Old Testament*—Bill T. Arnold

CM-NTS New Testament Survey—An overview of the books of the New Testament, emphasizing the key facts and teachings of each book. Applications to contemporary life and ministry are included in this study. Textbook: *Encountering the New Testament*—Walter A. Elwell & Robert W. Yarbrough

CM-ST1 Systematic Theology I—An introduction to theology and a detailed study of the following theological areas: Bibliology, Theology Proper, Christology, Anthropology, and Soteriology. Textbook: *Systematic Theology* (2007 edition) - Stanley Horton

CM-HIB How to Interpret the Bible—An introduction to the various methods of Bible study, with special attention given to basic principles of scriptural interpretation. Emphasis is placed on the grammatical-historical exegesis of Scripture. Textbook: *Living by the Book*—Howard Hendricks

CM-SEC A Spirit Empowered Church— This course points us to the heart of dynamic church growth: creating Spirit-empowered disciples who are involved in five activities — connect, grow, serve, go, and worship — to change individuals, families, and communities with the love and power of God's mighty Spirit. Textbook: *A Spirit Empowered Church* — Alton Garrison.



CM-HMG Assemblies of God History, Missions, and Governance—A study of the historical development and governing policies of the Assemblies of God. The Fellowship's history in North America and its worldwide missions program is told through stories of the personalities involved. This course includes a study of the ecclesiastical structure of the Assemblies of God, with particular attention given to the General Council Constitution and Bylaws in relation to credentialed ministers, local churches, district councils, the General Council, and doctrines and practices that are approved and disapproved. Textbook: *AG History, Missions, & Gov*—Global University, current copy of General Council Constitution & Bylaws

CM-MSE Ministerial Ethics—An examination of the moral principles governing human conduct in light of the teachings of Scripture. Special attention is given to the minister's personal and professional code of ethics as well as contemporary personal and social issues affecting ministry. Textbook: *Ethics for Christian Ministry* — Joe E. Trull & R. Robert Creech

CM-IPD Introduction to Pentecostal Doctrine—An introduction to theology (its meaning and purpose) and historic Christian doctrines. Emphasis will be placed upon the *Statement of Fundamental Truths* of the Assemblies of God as the framework for this study. Textbook: *Bible Doctrines: A Pentecostal Perspective*—William Menzies and Stanley Horton

CM-BMI Beginning Ministerial Internship— (Note: prior to enrollment, student must contact Internship Coordinator.) This course requires a student to be mentored by a senior pastor or other licensed or ordained minister for a period of at least three months. A specified list of activities with required documentation of completion comprise the basis of the course's method of evaluation. Textbook: *Celebration of Discipline*—Richard J. Foster



## *Level 2—Licensed Minister Courses*

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LM—EVA Evangelism—A practical study of the Great Commission of sharing the Gospel with the world, both personally and in cooperation with other believers. Textbooks: *Evangelism Outside the Box* — Rick Richardson and *The Celtic Way of Evangelism: How Christianity Can Reach the West...Again* (Tenth Anniversary Edition) —George Hunter.

LM-EPH Ephesians—An exegetical study of the Epistle to the Ephesians with emphasis on its doctrinal and moral teachings. This course highlights the epistle's theme of the glory of God in Christ and the believer's high calling to life in Christ. Textbook: *Positioned to Win* — Jack Aiken

LM-ACT Acts—A detailed study of the origin and development of the Apostolic Church. The course emphasizes the Church's mission in its proclamation of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Included in the course is an overview of Paul's missionary journeys. Textbook: *Acts*—Stanley Horton

LM-SMP Sermon Preparation—An introduction to the practical techniques of sermon preparation. Attention is given to sermon types and to the content, logical structure, and principles for organizing a sermon. Students are required to demonstrate learned skills by preparation of sermon outlines. Textbook: *Choosing to Preach*—Kenton C. Anderson

LM-AGM Introduction to Assemblies of God Missions—An introductory courses in the science of missions, surveying the theology, history, and methods of Christian missions in general and within the Assemblies of God in particular. Textbook: *Missions in the Age of the Spirit* – John V. York

LM-ESC Eschatology—An advanced study of the doctrine of last things, including topics such as death, resurrection and rapture, views of the Great Tribulation, views of the Millennial Reign of Christ, judgment, and the final state of the righteous and the wicked. Textbook: *Our Destiny, Bible Teaching on the Last Things* – Stanley Horton



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LM-LDD Leadership Dynamics—A study of the principles of leadership, applicable to all phases of life and ministry. Practical applications are offered to help students use these dynamics in the local church. Textbook: *Spiritual Leadership*—Henry & Richard Blackaby

LM-CFR Conflict Resolution—A study devoted to the resolution of conflict in the local church. The reasons for churches becoming unhealthy and how God wants to heal them will be examined. The Lordship of Jesus Christ and his methodology in resolving conflict will form the basis of this study. Textbook: *Making Peace* – Jim Van Yperen

LM-ROM Romans—A practical study of Paul’s letter to the Romans. The course deals with the letter’s background and its relation to the rest of Paul’s writings. The book’s relevance to every day Christian living is a featured theme. Textbook: *Encountering the Book of Romans*—Douglas J. Moo

LM-IMI Intermediate Ministerial Internship—(Note: prior to enrollment, student must contact Internship Coordinator.) This course requires a student to be mentored by a senior pastor or other licensed or ordained minister for a period of at least three months. A specified list of activities with required documentation of completion comprise the basis of the course’s method of evaluation. Textbook: *Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership*—Gary L. McIntosh and *Last Frontier: The Assemblies of God in Alaska 1917-2017* by Rev. Jack Aiken



OM-PEN Pentateuch—An in-depth study of the first five books of the Old Testament. Highlighting God’s personal relationship with his creation and the loving covenants he made with his people, this study examines the Pentateuch’s revelation of God’s character and the requirements for relationship with him. Textbook: *The Torah Story*—Gary Edward Schnittjer

OM-PSM Psalms—A study of Psalms as the Hebrew-Christian prayer book and hymnal. This course includes a study of selected Psalms, noting the authorship, historical setting, structure, meaning, and spiritual application of each. Also studied are the classification of the Psalms, the Messianic applications and citations of Psalms in the New Testament writings, and the function of the Psalms in the Early Church. Textbook: *How to Read the Psalms*—Tremper Longman III

OM-COR Corinthian Correspondence—An expository study of First and Second Corinthians. Highlighted are Paul’s responses to the problems affecting the Corinthian church, the appropriate operation of the Gifts of the Spirit within a congregation, and Paul’s view of Christian character and ministry. Textbook: *I & II Corinthians*—Stanley Horton

OM-MCM Multicultural Ministry—This study examines the principles, processes, and problems of communicating from one culture to another. Special attention is given to the development of attitudes and methods that enable effective communicating of the gospel to people of cultures other than one’s own. Textbook: *Cross-Cultural Servanthood*—Duane Elmer

OM-PTM Pastoral Ministry—A study of the practical aspects of pastoral ministry, including the pastor’s call, preaching, teaching, church leadership, family life, and more. Textbook: *Shepherding the Church* — Joseph M. Stowell





#### OM-CAL Church

##### Administration,

Law, and Finance—A study of American ecclesiastical law, specifically addressing contemporary legal issues affecting churches and ministers. Textbook: *Church Administration* — Robert H. Welch, 2nd edition

OM-ST2 Systematic Theology II—A continuing study of theology with emphasis on the following theological areas: Pneumatology, Ecclesiology, Angelology, and Eschatology. Textbook: *Systematic Theology* (2007 edition) - Stanley Horton

OM-TOW Theology of Worship—An exploration of the scriptural and theological foundations for individual and corporate praise and worship. Various styles and formats of worship are discussed relative to both historical and contemporary settings. Textbook: *The Reward of Worship*—Jack Hayford

OM-TOP Theology of Prayer—A study of biblical prayer, stressing the importance and impact of prayer in contemporary life and ministry. Textbook: *The Spirit Helps Us Pray*—Robert Brandt and Zenas Bicket

OM-AMI Advanced Ministerial Internship—(Note: prior to enrollment, student must contact Internship Coordinator.) This course requires a student to be mentored by a senior pastor or ordained minister for a period of at least three months. A specified list of activities with required documentation of completion comprise the basis of the course's method of evaluation. Textbook: *Advanced Strategic Planning*—Aubrey Malphurs & *Developing Leaders for the Church: Biblical Principles of Leadership Empowerment* Lattis R. Campbell, D.Min.

## *Courses for Christian Enrichment*

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This is a suggested list of classes for this track. You may choose alternate classes from CM, LM, or OM tracks each month to substitute for the ones listed.

CE-LOC Life of Christ—A study of the life and teachings of Jesus as recorded in the Gospels and in light of the historical, cultural, and geographical settings of the First Century. The course emphasizes the ministry of John the Baptist, the proclamation of the Kingdom of God, the miracles and parables of Jesus, the Passion of Christ, the resurrection, and Christ's Messianic titles. Textbook: *A Short Live of Christ*—Everett F. Harrison

CE-OTS Old Testament Survey—A study of the books of the Old Testament, acquainting the student with key facts in each book. The development of God's plan of redemption throughout the Old Testament canon is a highlight of this course. Textbook: *Encountering the Old Testament*—Bill T. Arnold

CE-NTS New Testament Survey—An overview of the books of the New Testament, emphasizing the key facts and teachings of each book. Applications to contemporary life and ministry are included in this study. Textbook: *Encountering the New Testament*—Walter A. Elwell & Robert W. Yarbrough

CE-MCM Multicultural Ministry—This study examines the principles, processes, and problems of communicating from one culture to another. Special attention is given to the development of attitudes and methods that enable effective communicating of the gospel to people of cultures other than one's own. Textbook: *Cross-Cultural Servanthood*—Duane Elmer

CE-HIB How to Interpret the Bible—An introduction to the various methods of Bible study, with special attention given to basic principles of scriptural interpretation. Emphasis is placed on the grammatical-historical exegesis of Scripture. Textbook: *Living by the Book*—Howard Hendricks

CE-ESC Eschatology—An advanced study of the doctrine of last things, including topics such as death, resurrection and rapture, views of the Great Tribulation, views of the Millennial Reign of Christ, judgment, and the final state of the righteous and the wicked. Textbook: *Our Destiny, Bible Teaching on the Last Things* – Stanley Horton



CE-LDD Leadership Dynamics—A study of the principles of leadership, applicable to all phases of life and ministry. Practical applications are offered to help students use these dynamics in the local church. Textbook: *Spiritual Leadership*—Henry & Richard Blackaby

CE-TOW Theology of Worship—An exploration of the scriptural and theological foundations for individual and corporate praise and worship. Various styles and formats of worship are discussed relative to both historical and contemporary settings. Textbook: *The Reward of Worship*—Jack Hayford

CE-TOP Theology of Prayer—A study of biblical prayer, stressing the importance and impact of prayer in contemporary life and ministry. Textbook: *The Spirit Helps Us Pray*—Robert Brandt and Zenas Bicket



*Celebrating our heritage!*

*Far North Bible College  
Class approximately 2007  
(above) and Class of 1989  
(below)*

## *AKSOM Faculty (Anchorage Venue)*

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**Faculty members are limited to ordained ministers in the Assemblies of God or persons with proper academic credentials.**

**Rev. Lewis (Jack) Aiken**—ordained minister, former Alaska Ministry Network Treasurer, and Master of Science Degree

**Rev. Sam Atwell**—ordained minister and Master of Arts Degree

**Rev. Melanya Berg**—ordained minister and Alaska Ministry Network Credentialing Specialist

**Rev. Stephen Brown**—ordained minister, pastor, AKMN Treasurer, and Master of Arts Degree

**Rev. Crystal Burkhart**—ordained minister, U.S. Missionary to Chi Alpha, Director of UAF Chi Alpha

**Dr. Wade Cogan**—ordained minister, U.S. Missionary, M.A. Education, and Doctor of Education Degree

**Dr. Cindy Cohen**—ordained minister, MA Training and Development, BA Occupational Education, and Doctor of Education Degree

**Rev. Tracy Fick**—ordained minister and AKSOM Exec. Assistant

**Rev. April Foster**—ordained minister, World Missionary, BS and Master of Arts Degree

**Rev. Ryan Gluth**—ordained minister, pastor, Alaska Ministry Network Youth Director, and MBA Leadership

**Rev. Brad Kesler**—ordained minister, Alaska Ministry Network Secretary & Business Administrator, and Master of Divinity Degree

**Rev. Bo Melin**—ordained minister, attended Oral Roberts University as a music major, and full time ministry since 1969

**Rev. Gary Morton**—ordained minister, former Alaska Ministry Network Assistant Superintendent, pastor, and Master of Arts Degree

**Rev. Steven Pavek**—ordained minister, Director of UAA Chi Alpha, U.S. missionary

**Rev. Michael Pettijohn**—ordained minister, pastor, and BA Degree

**Rev. Todd Stafford**—ordained minister, pastor, academy manager for Prison Fellowship



*Bethel Bible Training School 1979-1980*

**Zoom Info & Features:** Zoom Video Communications is the communication platform we use for remote students. Students outside of the Anchorage Bowl/Valley area are allowed by DSOM to use remote access to participate in classroom discussions and lectures.

**Get Started:** Before you can use Zoom, you must install the Zoom software on your device.

The app looks like an old fashion camera



It's a good idea to install the Zoom software ahead of time so it doesn't delay your first meeting.

**Want to Learn More:** To learn about Zoom please visit <https://zoom.us/>

**Moodle:** Moodle is an educational learning platform. Moodle is web-based, so it can be accessed from anywhere in the world on multiple devices. With Moodle, students can access the text overview, view handouts, participate in class chats, and take their test. Check out [moodle.org](https://moodle.org) for more information.

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## COURSE SCHEDULE

Class Date	Level One	Level Two	Level Three
September	Life of Christ	Evangelism	Pentateuch
October	Old Test. Survey	Ephesians	Psalms
November	New Test. Survey	Acts	Corinthian Correspondence
December	Systematic Theo. 1	Sermon Preparation	Multicultural Min
January	How to Interpret the Bible	Intro to AG Missions	Pastoral Ministry
February	The Spirit Empowered Church	Eschatology	Church Admin., Finance, and Law
March	AG History, Missions, & Gov.	Leadership Skills	Systematic Theo. 2
April	Ministerial Ethics	Conflict Resolution	Theo of Worship
May	Intro to Pentecostal Doctrine	Romans	Theology of Prayer
Summer	Beginning Internship	Intermediate Intern.	Advanced Internship



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