The Biblical Women’s Institute seeks to train women to know God’s Word in such a way that it structures their beliefs, directs their lives, impacts their teaching, and motivates them to make disciples in the ministry context God has given them. The BWI program includes fourteen non-degree classes designed specifically to train women to know, explain, use, and teach the Word of God. Our certificate courses also fulfill the IMB spouse education requirement. Classes are available on-campus or online.

The structure of the semester is such that students take “Part 1” of a given course for 6 weeks, and then after a 1-week break (usually Fall or Spring Break) begin the 6-week “Part 2”. Each week, students read a portion of the textbook, watch one hour of video lectures which are taught by our seminary professors and/or PhD students. There is a second 30-minute lecture to watch, that is given by the teacher for the course. For students who are near the seminary, this lecture will be in-person, and they will spend the other 30 minutes in an in-class discussion. For online students, the lecture is a 30-minute video, and the “discussion” is a threaded discussion on the Moodle page. The teacher is the one who does the grading, Moodle-page management, and in-person lectures which apply and supplement the professor lecture videos.

BWI CLASSES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

How to Study Your Bible Old Testament 1 (Old Testament Hermeneutics): (Content Lectures by Dr. McKenzie and Dr. Hardy) This course is designed to introduce the student to the process of studying, interpreting and applying God’s truth as found in the Old Testament. The course includes a consideration of why we should study the Old Testament and even what the Old Testament is as a group of texts. Moreover, we present the main ideas from the major sections of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible in order to facilitate students’ ability to understand, study, and teach the Old Testament.

How to Study Your Bible Old Testament 2 (Old Testament Hermeneutics): (Content Lectures by Dr. McKenzie and Dr. Hardy) This course is the second of two courses designed to introduce the student to the process of studying, interpreting and applying God’s truth as found in the Old Testament. This second course includes the main ideas from the Latter Prophets and the Writings of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible in order to facilitate your ability to understand, study, and teach the Old Testament.

How to Study Your Bible New Testament 1 and 2 (New Testament Hermeneutics): (Content Lectures by Dr. Shaddix and Dr. Quarles) This course is designed to introduce the student to the process of studying, interpreting and applying God’s truth as found in the New Testament. The course includes a consideration of principles for interpreting the various kinds of New Testament literature in order to discover and apply the Holy Spirit’s intended meaning in each passage of Scripture, and with a view toward developing that meaning into engaging Bible lessons.
Knowing God 1 and 2 (Theology Course): (Content Lectures by Dr. Whitfield and Christy Thornton) This course is designed to introduce the student to Christian theology, its Trinitarian contours, biblical basis, and historical formulation, in order to cultivate in students a greater love for God and passion for his mission. This course involves learning how to “do” theology, and how to wrestle through big theological questions biblically.

Church Life 1 and 2 (Ecclesiology Course): (Content Lectures by Dr. McKinion, Dr. Akin, and Amy Whitfield) This course is designed to introduce the student to the history of God’s work in the church, the current landscape of the Southern Baptist Convention, and to help the student find her place of personal engagement within the local church.

Loving God and Loving Others 1 and 2 (Ethics Course): (Content Lectures by Dr. Jonathan Six) This course is designed for students to leave the class with a foundation knowing how to ask critical questions in difficult circumstances, specifically through the lens of the greatest two commandments.

Speaking Truth 1 and 2 (Counseling Course): (Content Lectures by Dr. Kellen) This course is designed for students to leave the class understanding the importance of women counseling women and the different issues that women face.

Growing Together 1 and 2 (Discipleship Course): (Content Lectures by Claudine Snyder) This course is designed for students to understand the breadth and depth of discipleship in order to be able to implement it in their ministry contexts.