



**Southeastern**  
**Baptist Theological Seminary**

# **Master of Arts in Church Planting**



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*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go and therefore make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

*Matthew 28:18-20*

# Welcome & Introduction

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Dear Prospective Student,

We're excited that you're checking out the Master of Arts in Church Planting (MACP). At Southeastern, we seek to provide degree options that understand ministry in the field and help equip students to serve the church and fulfill the Great Commission. In addition, we have developed this degree track in consultation with key mission agencies. In particular, the MACP was created to engage students preparing for or engaging in church planting.

This degree can be completed entirely through Distance Learning or a combination of Distance Learning and some on-campus options. It also incorporates field-based ministry and practicum courses. Basically, some of the coursework can be integrated with what you're already doing to engage in or prep for church planting and missionary work.

At Southeastern, several scholarship options may also be available for church planters, especially in the NA context. Make sure you go to the financial aid page on the [sebts.edu](http://sebts.edu) website and call the Financial Aid Office if you'd like to check out your options. It is our desire to be a Great Commission seminary and serve those who are seeking to be equipped so they can better fulfill their God-given mission. Please let us know if there is some way that we can serve you.

Blessings,

Dr. Mike Dodson

Mobilization Missionary, NAMB

Degree Program Coordinator, MACP

Professor of Church Planting, SEBTS

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At Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, our mission is, **“to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ by equipping students to serve the church and to fulfill the Great Commission.”** Great Commission fulfillment is at the heartbeat of everything we do, and equipping students to boldly and faithfully proclaim the message of Christ is the means by which we share our heartbeat with a lost and dying world.

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# Program Description

The Master of Arts in Church Planting is a specialized 36 hour degree track offered by SEBTS in consultation with denominational missions sending agencies. It is designed to prepare students who are called to serve as church planters.

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary strongly believes that students are best prepared for Great Commission ministry when their education includes a significant, practical experience on the ministry field as students are mentored and taught by experienced practitioners in the field. So, when the North American Mission Board (NAMB) and the International Mission Board (IMB) approached us about developing a program that would allow church planters and missionaries to earn a theological degree while going through intense training in a local church setting or new ministry context, we immediately went to work.

In developing this degree, we have worked in consultation with key leaders from both missions sending agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) to propose and craft a 36 hour Master of Arts in Church Planting (MACP) that combines online courses, some on-campus courses, along with field-based ministry and practicum requirements. This degree can be earned completely through Distance Learning, including the field ministry and practicum components. This means that a student is able to combine the robust online education that Southeastern offers in conjunction with a residency (or internship) in church planting in an existing church, church plant or international context.

Students must be in an official interviewing and/or deployment relationship with either the North American Mission Board or the International Mission Board in order to participate in this degree. The curriculum requirements of this degree are coordinated with various aspects of the assessment and training process of these denominational sending agencies. Its purpose is to give the church planter basic training in the key areas of Bible, hermeneutics, theology, and history in addition to practical training in missions, evangelism, pastoral ministry and church planting.

Other students may request to enter this degree track who are connected to the EQUIP Network at SEBTS or other missions agencies. If they receive approval from the MACP Degree Program Coordinator or the Dean of Graduate Studies, they can participate in this degree track. Again, this degree track is crafted to provide a master's level introduction to theological education for people serving in off-campus missionary and church plant settings.

Southeastern's EQUIP program already partners with some churches that have established church planting residencies through which a student is able to earn the practicum, field ministry, and additional requirements of this degree. For more information about how to become an EQUIP Church and/or training church planters, please contact the EQUIP Office at (919) 761-2460 or [equip@sebts.edu](mailto:equip@sebts.edu).

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# At a Glance

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<b>I. SEBTS Core Courses</b>	<b>21 Hours</b>
Hermeneutics (BTI5100)	3 Hours
Baptist History (HIS5130)	3 Hours
Intro to Great Commission Studies (MIS5000)	3 Hours
Intro to Christian Theology (THE6100)	3 Hours
Intro to Old Testament Interpretation (OTS5100)	3 Hours
Intro to New Testament Interpretation (NTS5100)	3 Hours
Christian Growth and Discipleship (EVA6610)	3 Hours
<b>II. SEBTS Church Planting Requirements</b>	<b>15 Hours</b>
Pastoral Ministry (PMN6500)	3 Hours
Developing a Church Planting Methodology (MIS6550)	3 Hours
Church Planting in a Global Context Practicum (MIS6560)	3 Hours
Supervised Field Ministry (PMN6591)	3 Hours
Missions Practicum (MIS6901)	3 Hours
<b>Total: 36 Credit Hours</b>	

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# Course Formats

The Master of Arts in Church Planting (MACP) combines online courses, some on-campus course options, along with field-based ministry and practicum requirements. This degree can be earned completely through Distance Learning, including the field ministry and practicum components.

<b>I. SEBTS Courses Available Online or On-Campus</b>	<b>12-18 Hours</b>
Hermeneutics (BTI5100)	3 Hours
Baptist History (HIS5130)	3 Hours
Intro to Great Commission Studies (MIS5000)	3 Hours
Developing a Church Planting Methodology (MIS6550)	3 Hours
Christian Growth and Discipleship (EVA6610)	3 Hours
Pastoral Ministry (PMN6500)	3 Hours
<b>II. SEBTS Courses Available Online</b>	<b>9 Hours</b>
Intro to Christian Theology (THE6100)	3 Hours
Intro to Old Testament Interpretation (OTS5100)	3 Hours
Intro to New Testament Interpretation (NTS5100)	3 Hours
<b>III. SEBTS Courses Available through Approved Field Locations</b>	<b>0-9 Hours</b>
Supervised Field Ministry (PMN6591)	3 Hours
Missions Practicum (MIS6901)	3 Hours
Church Planting in a Global Context Practicum (MIS6560)	3 Hours
<b>IV. SEBTS Courses Available through Participating EQUIP Churches</b>	<b>0-15 Hours</b>
Christian Growth and Discipleship Practicum (EVA6611)	3 Hours
Pastoral Ministry Practicum (PMN6501)	3 Hours
Church Planting in a Global Context Practicum (MIS6560)	3 Hours
Supervised Field Ministry (PMN6591)	3 Hours
Missions Practicum (MIS6901)	3 Hours

**Total: 36 Credit Hours**

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# Course Formats

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Students who are part of an approved, participating EQUIP Church, can earn up to 15 hours of their degree through their church. The courses listed below may be instructed by an approved EQUIP leader.

Christian Growth and Discipleship Practicum (EVA6611)	3 Hours
Pastoral Ministry Practicum (PMN6501)	3 Hours
Church Planting in a Global Context Practicum (MIS6560)	3 Hours
Supervised Field Ministry (PMN6591)	3 Hours
Missions Practicum (MIS6901)	3 Hours

Students not in an EQUIP Church, have two options:

## Option 1

Take the available 30 credit hours listed on the previous page online (some could be taken on campus). Work with a qualified Mentor at church for Supervised Field Ministry, and the Missions Practicum. For Supervised Field Ministry, contact the Field Ministry Office, [fieldministry@sebts.edu](mailto:fieldministry@sebts.edu). For more information on the Missions Practicum and to see sample syllabi for this course, contact Dr. Mike Dodson, [mdodson@sebts.edu](mailto:mdodson@sebts.edu).

## Option 2

Speak with your pastor about becoming an EQUIP Church. If someone in the church has an M.Div. and 5 years of experience, they can offer Supervised Field Ministry (PMN6591) and the Missions Practicum (MIS6901). If someone has a post-M.Div. degree (PhD, D.Min., Ed.D., Th.M.), they may offer all of the above courses. See next page for a description of Southeastern's EQUIP Network.

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# The EQUIP Network

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## **EQUIP Purpose**

*To partner with local churches and para-church organizations to provide practical theological training through internships.*

## **EQUIP Information**

EQUIP partners with churches and para-church organizations that provide opportunities for students to participate in intentional, intensive training and internships, in order for them to gain significant ministry experience and mentorship from qualified supervisors. Depending on the requirements and length of the internship, a student can earn up to 12 credit hours of field ministry at their EQUIP Church towards a degree program.

In addition to field ministry credit hours, some participants have been approved to be field instructors of a certain number of our EQUIP practicums, based on its leader's qualifications and field of expertise. The practicum course options are predetermined by the EQUIP Office and listed on the website. All practicums are offered every semester for approved and qualified EQUIP locations. Students may earn up to 9 more hours of academic credit through these practicum courses.

All EQUIP courses are offered every semester (spring, summer, fall). Qualified EQUIP leaders are individuals who have at least a Masters of Divinity and 5 years of experience in ministry. All EQUIP leaders may offer Supervised Field Ministry and our Missions Practicum. In addition, EQUIP leaders who hold a post-M.Div. degree may offer the other practicum courses. While Supervised Field Ministry will remain a P/F class, the practicums are graded A-F based on the SEBTS grading scale.

**Go to the EQUIP website to download our application forms and get started!**

Casey Orr  
Administrative Assistant for EQUIP  
(919) 761-2460  
equip@sebts.edu

EQUIP Office  
P.O. Box 1889  
Wake Forest, NC 27587

[www.sebts.edu/equip](http://www.sebts.edu/equip)

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# SEBTS Online and EQUIP Course Schedule

The Master of Arts in Church Planting is designed to be completed in two years. There is some freedom in determining the order of your degree, however the courses taken online and on-campus are not offered every semester. The chart below shows the schedule of the online course offerings:

<b>Fall Semester</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>	<b>Summer Semester</b>
Hermeneutics (BTI5100)	Hermeneutics (BTI5100)	Hermeneutics (BTI5100)
Baptist History (HIS5130)	Baptist History (HIS5130)	Baptist History (HIS5130)
Intro to Great Commission Studies (MIS5000)	Intro to Great Commission Studies (MIS5000)	Intro to Great Commission Studies (MIS5000)
Intro to Old Testament Interpretation (OTS5100)	Intro to New Testament Interpretation (NTS5100)	Intro to Christian Theology (THE6100)
Pastoral Ministry (PMN6500)	Christian Growth and Discipleship (EVA6610)	
Developing a Church Planting Methodology (MIS6550)	Church Planting in a Global Context (MIS6560)	

The following EQUIP and Field Ministry courses are offered every semester:

Christian Growth and Discipleship Practicum (EVA6611)

Pastoral Ministry Practicum (PMN6501)

Church Planting in a Global Context Practicum (MIS6560)

Missions Practicum (MIS6901)

Supervised Field Ministry (PMN6591)

**DISCLAIMER:** All SEBTS students and faculty involved in this partnership and/or program are subject to and will be held accountable for all of the policies and procedures found in the current SEBTS Student Handbook and SEBTS Catalog in addition to any specific details described in this document. Each individual involved in the partnership is responsible for familiarizing himself with the SEBTS Student Handbook and Catalog. SEBTS reserves the right to make changes to the Student Handbook and Catalog as needed and directed by the administration and/or trustees.

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# Example MACP Schedule

This is one example MACP plan done through an EQUIP Church. Your actual course sequence may vary as much as the set SEBTS schedules allow.

## Year One

<b>Fall Semester</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>	<b>Summer Semester</b>
Hermeneutics (BTI5100) Online	Intro to Great Commission Studies (MIS5000) Online	Intro to Christian Theology (THE6100) Online
Pastoral Ministry Practicum - (PMN6501) EQUIP Course	Christian Growth and Discipleship Practicum (EVA6611) EQUIP Course	Missions Practicum (MIS6901) EQUIP Course

## Year Two

<b>Fall Semester</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>	<b>Summer Semester</b>
Intro to Old Testament Interpretation (OTS5100) Online	Intro to New Testament Interpretation (NTS5100) Online	Baptist History (HIS5130) Online
Developing a Church Planting Methodology (MIS6550) Online	Church Planting in a Global Context Practicum (MIS6560) EQUIP Course	Supervised Field Ministry (PMN6591) EQUIP Course

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# Getting Started

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## STEP 1: ADMISSIONS

Graduate applications for admission to SEBTS can be found on the school's website: [www.sebts.edu/admissions](http://www.sebts.edu/admissions). Students wishing to enroll in the MACP degree program should follow the "Apply Now" link on the website and create an account.

Students must create an account in order to begin the application and should retain the password that they create in order to check application status or finish submitting their materials. The online application form does allow students to save content in an unfinished/unsubmitted application, so it can be completed in multiple parts, if necessary.

Admissions requirements: MACP students must be in an official interviewing and/or deployment relationship with either the North American Mission Board or the International Mission Board in order to participate in this degree. Evidence of their official relationship with the appropriate denominational missions sending agency must be provided in the application process. Other students may request to enter this degree track who are connected to the EQUIP Network at SEBTS or other missions agencies. Students seeking to complete this program must have completed a Bachelor's degree from an accredited school and meet the general criteria for admissions to SEBTS.

**Students are encouraged to complete the application for Admission as soon as possible in order to be accepted before the start of the desired semester. Students must be fully accepted and in possession of a SEBTS student ID number in order to move forward with registration.**

# Getting Started

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## STEP 2: SCHOLARSHIP

### NAMB Related Scholarships

- **NAMB Ironman Reimbursement** This tuition reimbursement is available to SBC lead church planters and lead bi-vocational pastors (who receive the majority of their salary from a job outside of the church). Students are required to have completed a bachelor's degree and must first qualify for the reimbursement through North American Mission Board (NAMB). Approved students will be reimbursed for their master's degree tuition.
- **Church Planting Aid Fund** Recipients of NAMB's Iron Man Reimbursement who are also enrolled in the MACP degree track may qualify for additional scholarship funds to help support living expenses.
- **NAMB Scholarship** This scholarship is for degree-seeking NAMB missionaries/personnel who are currently serving on a full-time field assignment. Eligible candidates must be fully-funded employees of NAMB and pursuing any undergraduate degree through a first Masters' degree at Southeastern. Reapplication must be made every academic year.

### IMB Related Scholarships

- **Active IMB Scholarship** This is available to degree-seeking, fully-funded IMB missionaries/personnel who are currently serving on the mission field or a stateside assignment. Applicable to any undergraduate degree through a first Masters' degree at Southeastern.
- **MK Scholarship** This is available to children of "active-duty" IMB or NAMB missionaries who are serving on the mission field. "Active-duty" means fully-funded, full-time, field assignment personnel. This is applicable to any undergraduate degree through a first Master's degree at Southeastern.
- **Returning Journeyman/ISC Scholarship** This is available to full-time, Master's degree-seeking students who have completed the ISC or Journeyman programs and who have a vocational commitment to mission services (returning from the field within the last three years).

For more information about any of the above scholarships, please contact the office of Student Resources & Financial Aid at [financialaid@sebts.edu](mailto:financialaid@sebts.edu) or (919) 761.2317 or visit this webpage: [www.sebts.edu/admissions/financial-aid/missions.aspx](http://www.sebts.edu/admissions/financial-aid/missions.aspx).

### SEBTS & Other Scholarships

Students may also be eligible for other sources of aid, such as Southeastern's institutional and designated scholarships, as well as other external and state-based scholarships. However, please note that students who receive substantial missions-related scholarship may not be eligible for some sources of institutional aid. Please explore all possible scholarships at the SEBTS Financial Aid website: [www.sebts.edu/admissions/financial-aid/default.aspx](http://www.sebts.edu/admissions/financial-aid/default.aspx).

# Getting Started

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## STEP 3: NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Students will receive instructions for how to register and complete New Student Orientation (NSO) in their acceptance letter. NSO is a mandatory two-part process for all students newly accepted or re-accepted: Online Orientation and Foundations.

### Part One

Online Orientation is a process which familiarizes all new students with important SEBTS policy and procedural information. This will be made available to you soon after you register for NSO.

### Part Two

Foundations is a two-day event for all new on-campus students. During Foundations students will learn the identity of SEBTS as well as resources available to them as a student, meet for academic advisement, and finalize all logistics needed for enrollment. Distance learning students are invited to attend Foundations, or they may access this information online.

Once NSO is completed, students will be able to register for classes and make payment.

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# Getting Started

## STEP 4: REGISTRATION

Before registration, create a tentative degree plan for when and how to take the required courses. Once a general degree plan is established, register for the first semester. Registration will differ with each course type.

### 1. Online and campus courses.

The Online New Student Orientation (NSO) will outline the registration process. Students with questions about online registration should contact the SEBTS Registrar's Office, [registrar@sebts.edu](mailto:registrar@sebts.edu).

### 2. EQUIP Courses

The EQUIP Church liaison must email the EQUIP Office at [equip@sebts.edu](mailto:equip@sebts.edu) requesting the student's registration including the SEBTS student ID number and a syllabus for each course. Registration must be requested each semester an EQUIP course is taken. Syllabus guidelines for each course can be found on the EQUIP website. Once everything is submitted the EQUIP Office will register and contact the student with confirmation.

### 3. Non-EQUIP Supervised Field Ministry and Missions Practicum

If not in a participating EQUIP Church, contact the Field Ministry Office, [fieldministry@sebts.edu](mailto:fieldministry@sebts.edu), to register for Supervised Field Ministry at least a semester in advance. To register for the Missions Practicum, contact Dr. Mike Dodson, [mdodson@sebts.edu](mailto:mdodson@sebts.edu), at least a semester in advance.

First semester registration (online and on campus) and payment will take place during NSO. Registration deadlines and other important dates for subsequent semesters can be found on the SEBTS Academic Calendar, available at [www.sebts.edu](http://www.sebts.edu).

NOTE: Failure to register on time results in late fees charged to the student's account. The student will be responsible for paying these fees in a timely manner as outlined in the account statement; otherwise additional late fees will also apply.

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# Help for Distance Learners

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We understand that some of our students will be travelling and that internet and mail access may be difficult at times. The Distance Learning Office is committed to helping our students in whatever way possible. Contact Distance Learning at [distancelearning@sebts.edu](mailto:distancelearning@sebts.edu) or (866) 816-0273.

## **Help with Textbooks**

Students who need assistance ordering and receiving books may contact the Distance Learning Office and they will be happy to assist you.

## **Help with Online Lectures**

Lectures in SEBTS classes can be streamed or downloaded (options vary from course to course). If you do not have internet access that allows for streaming or downloading, contact the Distance Learning Office and they will work with you to provide the lectures.

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# Contact Information

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## **Center for Great Commission Studies**

Dr. Mike Dodson, Associate Director  
Degree Program Coordinator, MACP  
919.761.2165 (phone)  
mdodson@sebts.edu

## **Admissions**

Eli Byrd, Admissions Counselor  
919.761.2281 (phone)  
919.761.2110 (fax)  
ebyrd@sebts.edu  
admissions@sebts.edu

## **Financial Aid**

Jesse Parker, Assistant to the Director of Student  
Resources and Financial Aid  
919.761.2370 (phone)  
919.761.2313 (fax)  
jparker@sebts.edu  
financialaid@sebts.edu

## **EQUIP Office**

Casey Orr, Administrative Assistant  
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