

Frequently Asked Questions

Question 1: Why a new Theological School called Providence Theological Seminary (PTS)?

Answer: There are seminaries that teach theology well from the standpoint of the doctrines of grace and Baptist ecclesiology. There are virtually none, however, that are wholly committed to teaching biblical truths from a New Covenant perspective. New Covenant Theology (NCT), as held by PTS, is not to be detached from holiness of life under the Law of Christ. New Covenant Theology focuses upon sound doctrine grounded upon the exegetical, biblical-theological and systematic teaching of principles of biblical interpretation—a hermeneutic—based upon how Christ and the writers of the New Testament understood the final, special revelation of God spoken in His Son and inscripturated in the 66 books of the Holy Bible. PTS' theological position is conveniently summarized in "The First London Baptist Confession of Faith, 1646 Edition, with a 1646 Appendix by Benjamin Cox." For a long time pastors of Sovereign Grace Baptist churches that hold a New Covenant theological position have prayed and longed for a place to train men and women in ministry. PTS is, we believe, the Lord's answer to those prayers. PTS inaugurated resident night classes in Colorado Springs, CO on September 4, 2007. A full curriculum was offered during the inaugural year of studies less the Biblical Languages. Instruction in the Biblical languages commenced with the fall semester of 2008. Beginning in 2013, PTS transitioned to an online curriculum, and two years later in 2015, the seminary moved from Colorado Springs, CO to Franklin, TN.

Question 2: What if I do not agree with this theological position, may I still attend PTS?

Answer: Yes, *all* applicants who believe that they are called by God for further biblical training will be considered for admission. Students need only to agree with the following doctrinal essentials: (1) the authority and inerrancy of Scripture; (2) the Trinity; (3) the full deity and humanity of Christ; (4) the spiritual depravity of fallen mankind; (5) the substitutionary atonement and bodily resurrection of Christ; (6) salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone; (7) the indwelling ministry of the Holy Spirit; (8) the church which is the body of Christ; (9) the future, bodily and visible return of Christ; and (10) eternal condemnation for the unbeliever and eternal blessing for the believer. Students should also be aware that PTS does not discriminate against any applicant or student on the basis of race, gender, age, or ethnic origin.

Question 3: Where is the new theological school located?

Answer: PTS is located in Franklin, TN (see the '*Contact Us*' web page).

Question 4: Is PTS an accredited institution?

Answer: On February 2, 2006 the Colorado Commission on Higher Education approved Providence Theological Seminary to offer degrees in Colorado under its Degree Authorization Act. Such authorization does **not** imply that the State of Colorado recognizes such academic achievement by PTS, but it does permit PTS to offer its own diplomas and degrees when the religious field of study is included in the title (e.g., Diploma in Theological Studies). PTS is not accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the United States and Canada or by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U. S. Department of Education. Achievement of such accreditation is monetarily expensive and can take many years to attain. However, an agreement has been arranged with Toronto Baptist Seminary in Ontario, Canada whereby it will fully accept all bachelor- and master-level courses successfully completed at PTS for credit toward its own degree programs. Toronto Baptist Seminary does not have nor is it seeking ATS accreditation, but it has had the legal right in Canada to confer degrees from its inception in 1927 and to confer graduate-level theological degrees since 1982. The credit arrangement with Toronto Baptist Seminary will allow PTS students to transfer

their credits and continue their seminary education there until PTS expands its curriculum into multiple-year programs of study.

Question 5: What kind of degrees are offered?

Answer: A graduate-level Master of Divinity Degree; two year bachelor-level degrees (Bachelor of Theology and Bachelor of Divinity and a special one-year under-graduate level course curriculum designed as a Diploma in Theological Studies (DTS). The DTS will emphasize a Christ-centered hermeneutic based upon the New Covenant Scriptures, the Doctrines of Grace and Baptist Ecclesiology. (See the '*Program of Instruction*' web page.)

Question 6: Who may attend Providence Theological Seminary?

Answer: Both men and women having evidence of a godly Christian walk may attend PTS according to its twofold purpose which is: (1) first, to train spiritually gifted (Rom. 12:3-8) and qualified men (I Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9) called by God to preach and teach the gospel of Christ; and (2) second, to train spiritually gifted women to exercise their gifts (Rom. 12:3-8) in a woman's role (Acts 18:26; I Tim. 2:12-14; II Tim. 1:5; 3:15) in the service of Christ (Rom. 16:1).

Question 7: What will it cost to attend courses at PTS?

Answer: There is a non-refundable application for admission fee of \$25 for enrollment in any of the programs of study. The current tuition fee for Master of Divinity graduate level credit is \$200 per credit hour; for under graduate B.Th. and B.Div. level credit \$150 per credit hour; for a Diploma in Theological Studies \$125 per credit hour; and, for auditing \$100 per course. Cost for textbooks and other materials is additional. (See '*Students*' and '*Program of Instruction*' web pages.)

Question 8: Is financial aid available?

Answer: PTS is not in the position to provide grant aid at this time. PTS attempts to help offset the need for financial aid by keeping course tuition low in comparison to other evangelical seminaries and conducting evening classes to permit part-time work during the day. There is a special scholarship fund available for limited tuition help for graduate-level students who excel in scholarship and personal need.

Question 9: Where can I live and, if necessary, find employment?

Answer: Distance Learning Online (DLO) students may take courses from their home or other desired location with web access. When PTS resumes resident training, resident students will need to provide for their own living arrangements and employment needs in the Franklin, TN metropolitan area.

Question 10: Who is sponsoring PTS?

Answer: The current sponsors are Killeen Bible Church in Killeen, Texas, Dayspring Chapel in Austin, Texas, Highland Bible Church in Woodland Park, Colorado, and Grace Church in Franklin, Tennessee. All four churches are sovereign grace New Covenant Churches. It is our hope and desire that other doctrinally-minded Churches may willingly help support PTS with student input, finances and prayers as the Seminary proceeds in the awesome task at hand. There are also a number of doctrinally-minded individuals that regularly support the seminary.

Question 11: Does PTS have a Distance Learning Program via the Internet or Correspondence Program via U.S. Mail?

Answer: Distance Learning Online courses have been offered since the fall semester 2013. Currently, the online courses are the focus of the PTS curriculum.

Question 12: How can I find out more?

Answer: See the '*Contact Us*' web page.

©2016 Providence Theological Seminary (www.ptstn.org)