



The Asia-Pacific Leadership Academy

ACADEMIC
CATALOG

2017-2020

Thank you for your interest in the Asia-Pacific Leadership Academy!

**We rejoice with you in opening this window of opportunity for personal growth.
We hope the information below will be helpful. May God bless your heart to learn.**

HERITAGE & VISION

כִּי־מִלְאָה הָאָרֶץ דַּעַה אֶת־יְהוָה כַּמַּיִם לַיָּם מְכַסִּים

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea – Isaiah 11:9b

Asia-Pacific Leadership Academy began with a need. Early in 2008, the demand for leadership training for churches across the Asia-Pacific region was both obvious and urgent. A steering committee was appointed to map the way: Frank Kim, Chris Jacobs, Cesar Lopez, Ken Chau, Koko Enrile, Rolan Monje and Gordon Ferguson. Prayer, discussion, and several rounds of coffee led to the genesis of a new training program.

The Board of the Beam Missions Fund also approved a three-year grant to fund a number of projects in this region of the world, including the Academy.

Today, Providence has blessed the Asia-Pacific Leadership Academy (APLA) with an enrollment of over 600 students from 16 nations. Our vision parallels Isaiah's and remains steadfast. We seek to offer to Christians faithful instruction that is both biblically rooted and culturally relevant.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The APLA currently offers three qualifications to prepare students to be more productive in life and ministry:

- Certificate in Biblical Studies
- Diploma in Christian Studies
- Further Diploma in Christian Studies

Requirements

Certificate in Biblical Studies (CBS) - awarded after completing three foundation courses (see below)

Diploma in Christian Studies (DCS) - awarded after earning the Certificate and completing five additional courses, at least two of which should be core courses (eight additional courses for full-time staff members)

Further Diploma in Christian Studies (FDCS) - awarded after completing five electives beyond the basic Diploma



Features

- APLA courses usually run from two to three months, with three main elements:
 - Pre-seminar coursework. Some book or reading material is assigned for advance reading. A question set may be given ahead as well.
 - Teaching weekend. The typical APLA weekend has 10-12 hours of classroom time, which includes lectures, videos, Q&A, and discussion groups.
 - Post-seminar coursework. This includes readings and a final exam (online).
- Any student may choose to audit a course, that is, to enroll without earning a grade or credit. Some take classes for the purposes of self-enrichment or personal reflection.
- Some courses are not available for audit.
- Audit students may later choose to take a course for credit. To convert a course from audit to credit:
 1. Inform the registrar through email
 2. Pay the corresponding tuition difference
 3. Do additional coursework if the decision to convert to credit was made after the final exam was given
- Credits taken for the Certificate are carried over to the Diploma.
- Students may enroll in any course throughout the year, although for the first year we recommend foundation and core courses. Visit apla-online.org for updated schedules.
- There is no time limit for completing any qualification.

Courses

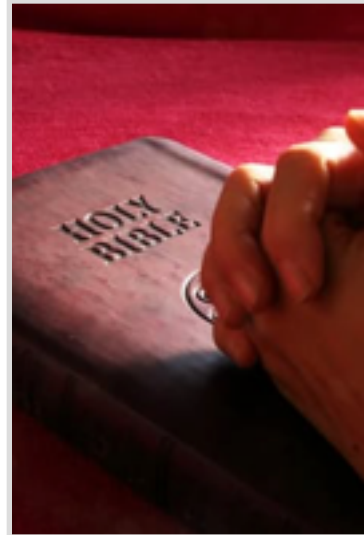
Foundation Courses and Core Courses explore fundamental Bible truths as students gain familiarity with Scripture. Each course enhances interpretative skills and proper attitudes to handle God's word.

Foundation Courses:

- Old Testament Survey (OTS)
- New Testament Survey (NTS)
- Homiletics I (HOM1)

Core Courses:

- Church History (CHH)
- The Book of Romans (ROM)
- Christian Apologetics (CAP)
- Paul's Ministry and Message (PMM)
- Biblical Prophecy (BP)
- Sound Doctrine and Church Discipline (SDCD)



Electives are offered throughout the year. Courses are selected individually to meet the needs of each participant, based on three variables: their own prior training and experience, the leadership role in which they are presently serving, and the needs of the ministry group they are serving.

Elective Courses - Biblical Track:

- The Letter to the Hebrews (HEB)
- The Letter of James (JAM)
- Psalms for Christian Living (PSA)
- Ezra-Nehemiah (EZN)
- Postexilic Prophets: Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi (PEP)
- Prophets of the Exile: Ezekiel and Daniel (POTE)
- The Book of Exodus (EXO)
- The Bible and Archeology (ARC)
- Paul's Prison Letters (PPL)
- The Book of Genesis (GEN)
- Research Tools for Preachers (RTP)
- Homiletics 2 (HOM2)

Elective Courses - Shepherding Track:

- Marriage and Family I (MF1)
- Marriage and Family II (MF2)
- Regaining Emotional Health (REH)
- Building Healthy Relationships (BHR)
- Leadership Development (LDEV)
- Conflict Resolution (CRES)
- Emancipators Purity Course (EMAN)

Biblical languages will be offered starting 2018, in association with Rocky Mountain School of Ministry and Theology in Colorado (rmsmt.org). These courses are spread out over 12 sessions. Face-to-face attendance is required.

Elective Courses - Languages:

- Biblical Greek I (BGRK1)
- Biblical Greek II (BGRK2)
- Biblical Hebrew I (BHEB1)
- Biblical Hebrew II (BHEB2)



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



Foundation Courses

Old Testament Survey (OTS) - A foundational course on the Old Testament from a Christ-centered perspective, with emphasis on certain books and passages for understanding the New Testament and how the Scriptures are a united whole. Reading: *God and History* by Gordon Ferguson.

New Testament Survey (NTS) - A foundational course on the New Testament, emphasizing the person and work of Christ. Includes excursus on early missions. Reading: *New Testament Survey* by Bob Utley or Merrill Tenney.

Homiletics 1 (HOM1) - An essential course on how to accurately and effectively preach God's word. The range of topics purposely begins with Bible interpretation and ends with sermon delivery. Reading: *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart, "New Testament Criticism" article by Gordon Fee.

Core Courses

Church History (CHH) - A stimulating survey of two thousands years of Christianity, giving attention to various denominational doctrines which developed at various stages. Reading: *Church History in Plain Language*, 4th ed. by Bruce Shelley.

The Book of Romans (ROM) - A detailed, exegetical study of Apostle Paul's great letter, noted by scholars as his magnum opus. Reading: *Romans: The Heart Set Free* by Gordon Ferguson.

Christian Apologetics (CAP) - A broad exploration of various worldviews and religions, with emphasis on explaining Christian ideals to seekers. Reading: *Reasons for Belief* by John Oakes.

Paul's Ministry and Message (PMM) - PMM surveys Apostle Paul's general ministry and timeline from Acts and the Epistles, with several biblical themes covered in more depth. Reading: *The Apostle Paul* by Gordon Ferguson.

Biblical Prophecy (BP) - BP features a general OT treatment for background understanding, followed by a survey of Revelation. Reading: *Mine Eyes have Seen the Glory* by Gordon Ferguson.

Sound Doctrine and Church Discipline (SDCD) - A focused study of basic theology and fundamental biblical doctrines. False doctrines are also tackled. Concludes with a segment on church discipline—rationale, implementation, issues, etc. Reading: *Prepared to Answer* by Gordon Ferguson.

Elective Courses (Sampling)

Leadership Development (LDEV) - Learn about leadership roles defined biblically and practically (elders, deacons, evangelists, teachers, administrators). Be equipped to help new Christians and to build a team in church contexts.

Paul's Prison Letters (PPL) - What was Paul thinking and preaching while under Roman arrest? This course explores the amazing heart and convictions of Paul as expressed in his four prison letters: Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, and Philippians.



Psalms for Christian Living (PSA) - God has given his people a songbook and prayerbook. But is there more to glean from the Book of Psalms? Find out how these lyric poems can transform your life and your church.

The Book of Genesis (GEN) - Genesis is a treasure trove for Bible study, never ceasing to amaze and inspire. Take a deep dive into this first book of the Bible, with historical, linguistic, and practical insights.

ADMISSION

Members of the International Churches of Christ, constituent congregations in the Asia-Pacific regional group, and affiliated congregations may enroll. Our vision is to create both a family and an institution brimming with rich diversity, with people from various backgrounds, each with a love for God and ministry.

The APLA considers the following as fair requirements for enrollment:

1. Good standing within the church community
2. The ability to read and write in English
3. Access to a computer and internet (for credit students)

PHILOSOPHY

In view of the many different approaches to ministry and leadership training, the APLA steering committee determined to incorporate elements of several types of learning situations into one.

- The teaching approach used is more akin to that of a ministry training school than a seminary. Both cover much the same material, but the former focuses more on the practical application of material than on the academic aspects of it.
- Advance assignments will be broken down into several sections, which will include reading from a *primary* book on the subject, since trying to read too broadly in a short time may contribute to lack of retention.
- All courses are Christ-centered and assume a high view of Scripture. Liberal views are considered and mentioned but a conservative stance dominates the teaching.

COSTS

Higher education is not an inexpensive proposition. Neither is education for ministry. At APLA we offer quality education at a financial level within reach for those in the third world.



Our goal is to keep our expenses moderate so that we can offer scholarships to assist our needy brothers and sisters.

Audit tuition per course: \$35 USD

Credit tuition per course:

\$85 USD (developing countries)

\$110 USD (other countries)

STUDENTS

Since its inception, APLA has attracted more than 600 students from 16 nations (below), Christians from all kinds of backgrounds. Visit apla-online.org to see what our students say.



FACULTY

Rolan Monje, Manila

- Education: University of the Philippines; Heythrop College, UK; University of London; American Bible College, Florida
- Experience/Affiliations: Over 20 years of full-time ministry, author of 4 books; adjunct professor, Rocky Mountain School of Ministry and Theology-Colorado



John Oakes, San Diego

- Education: University of Connecticut; University of Colorado
- Experience/Affiliations: Professor of Chemistry and Physics, Grossmont College, CA; President, Apologetics Research Society; author of over 15 books



Bill Moulden, Chicago

- Education: University of New Mexico, Trinity Southwest University
- Experience/Affiliations: Over 23 years of ministry; Evangelist/Teacher, Chicago Church of Christ; adjunct professor, Rocky Mountain School of Ministry and Theology-Colorado



David Jung, Winnipeg

- Education: University of Toronto, Vancouver College
- Experience/Affiliations: Evangelist, Winnipeg Church of Christ; mediator, Restorative Justice (Court Diversion Program), Province of Manitoba; instructor, Canadian School of Missions



Gordon Ferguson, Dallas (video archive courses)

- Education: Northwestern State University; Preston Road School of Preaching; Harding Graduate School of Religion
- Experience/Affiliations: Over 45 years of full-time ministry, author of over 15 books; teacher, Dallas Church of Christ



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visit apla-online.org

