



**Gardner College**

A Centre for Christian Studies

# **DISTANCE EDUCATION**

## **2007-2008**

4707-56 Street

Camrose, Alberta T4V 2C4

780-672-0171

[distanced@gardnercollege.org](mailto:distanced@gardnercollege.org)



## A Message from the President

Thank you for taking the time and opportunity to see what Gardner College can offer you through our new Distance Education Department. These are exciting times in the life of the college as we work to bring the college to you.

This catalogue is a work in progress and will continue to be fine tuned. My hope is that it will always remain “fluid” in order to bring you new and innovative courses of study pertinent for today's ever changing needs.

I am excited to also introduce to you the Director of our Distance Education Department, Michael Blackmer. Michael is an ordained minister in the Church of God (Anderson, Indiana) and has pastored for a number of years in Western Canada. He has a passion for learning and an even greater passion for spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As you familiarize yourself with this new program, feel free to contact Michael. He would be happy to help you develop a program for learning that best suits your desires and needs.

Donnalyn Froese  
President

# Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

My name is Michael Blackmer and I am the Director of Distance Education at Gardner College: A Center For Christian Studies. You may or may not have been aware that Gardner College has branched out to provide opportunity for you to do ministry training from where you live and serve.

You may be a vocational pastor, associate pastor, youth pastor, music minister or children's director. You may be the Christian education director, men's or women's group leader, a Sunday School teacher, board chair, youth sponsor, or Bible study leader. You may be a senior who never got the chance to go beyond high school and now you have time and means to accomplish your educational dream. You may be a young person who wants to do more in ministry and serve your church. Whatever your situation, Gardner College wants to bring opportunity to your door and help you to gain the training you need to minister to a hurting and dying community.

This catalogue is your introduction to the exciting opportunity. It will give you a basic overview of our Distance Education programs and it will help you to plan out a course of study with "hands-on" practical ministry that will bring you through to a place of confidence in your abilities to be a servant-leader in whatever opportunity God may provide for you.

We live in a world that needs the healing power and the message of hope that is provided through our Lord Jesus Christ. This is a time when we do not have enough trained and dedicated ministers of the Gospel - full-time or volunteer. As Jesus told us to do, we must "pray for the Lord of the Harvest to send workers for the fields are white for harvest."

So whether you are in your last couple of years of high school, seeking to begin your college studies, a leader in your church, a pastor who needs to fill in some educational gaps, or someone who just wants to keep learning, Gardner College is your road to future ministry opportunities, training and development. Contact us today to get started right away.

In the service of Christ,

Rev. Michael P. Blackmer  
Director of Distance Education

# Table of Contents

# DISTANCE EDUCATION OVERVIEW AND GUIDELINES

## THE GOAL:

To create a flexible learning environment that allows students to customize their training to their own unique ministry and life situation. Gardner College will strive to provide a valuable experience that is educational, practical and that also mentors the student to become strong in faith and leadership ability.

For this department to succeed students must feel positively engaged with the material and must be receiving feedback both on their course work and their practical ministry experiences. To this end it will be important that a team form between the student, instructor, pastor (church leaders) and the program director.

Communication with students may be done in a variety of ways including telephone, email, instant messaging, and VOIP if it is available. Currently we are researching various ways to communicate in the distance program. Future communication tools may include online forums, list serves, and gotomeeting.

## Student Guidelines:

1. The student is responsible for their educational motivation.
2. As a first step upon receiving and gathering all of the required course materials a student should plan out a study/work schedule. It will be important to maintain some sort of regular study times.
3. The student should contact the instructor as soon as the materials arrive. If the study schedule is set up email the schedule to your instructor and to the Director of Distance Education. [distanced@gardnercollege.org](mailto:distanced@gardnercollege.org)
4. Work with your instructor to plan times when you will touch base, discuss materials, give updates on ministry related aspects of your course, update your instructor with regard to course related discussion you have had with your local pastor or church supervisor, or to share new resources or discoveries. We want your distance studies to be as interactive as possible. Right now we are recommending being in contact with your instructor once a week. Contact may be by phone, email or Instant Messenger.
5. Distance students have up to six (6) months to complete each course. If an extension is required please request it through your instructor. Additional fees may apply.
6. Ultimately the student is responsible to initiate contact at the scheduled times. If you miss a time the instructor will contact you. All of our instructors have on-campus responsibilities, other students, church commitments and families so please let them know if you will miss a schedule phone call or online chat (be proactive and make other arrangements in advance).

#### Faculty Guidelines:

1. Receive initial contact with your student and help them to get organized to take the course, make sure they understand the syllabus, get their contact information and let them have your contact information.
2. Explore their educational, ministry and leadership goals with them and make notes, ask about family, church involvement, community activities and hobbies. This will help you interact with the student better and by including these notes in the student file will help build that student's relationship with other teachers and with Gardner in general.
3. Make contact with distance education students once a week to make sure that they are progressing, to answer questions and to discuss assignments and issues. This should be initiated by the student but no more than a day should go by if a contact is missed by the student for some reason. Please let your students know if you will miss a scheduled contact (be proactive and reschedule in advance if at all possible).
4. Contacts may be scheduled for the same time each week or may have to vary due to scheduling issues.
5. Please forward a basic contact report to the Director of Distance Education (i.e. student name, course, time/date contacted and basic description of the contact. Information that will help us to better serve the needs of the student should also be communicated. [distanced@gardnercollege.org](mailto:distanced@gardnercollege.org)

#### Director of Distance Education Guidelines:

1. The Director of Distance Education is responsible to oversee the entire program and is to be available to help students, faculty and staff solve challenges as they become evident.
2. To help students with program design (in conjunction with the Dean) and to help them to get started well and maintain momentum.
3. To be in contact on a regular basis with students and instructors to ensure that courses are running smoothly. This is to give the student one more contact with the school and it is also for the purpose of aiding each instructor in their efforts to serve the needs of the student. For the initial stages of this program regular is defined as every two to three weeks.
4. To promote and recruit for the program in team with pastors, existing students, faculty and staff.
5. The Director of Distance Education will serve as the point person for the establishment of satellite campuses and programs at the request of our outlying congregations and agencies.
6. The Director of Distance Education will be the liaison between the Western Canadian Church of God Agencies and Teams and Gardner College to assist in the development of programming which support the overall training goals of the Western Canadian Church of God.

# DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES OF STUDY

1. [Bachelor of Theology Degree](#) - a 130 hour, 4 year degree with majors in Pastoral Ministry, Children's Ministries, Youth Ministries and Christian Education.
  - a. When this program is chosen, all courses will align with the present degree offered by Gardner College on campus.
  - b. Fee schedule will be the most current schedule approved by the Gardner Board of Trustees for on-campus and distance ed. students.
  - c. Students graduating with the Gardner Bth degree have been accepted in Seminaries in Canada and the U.S.A.

2. [Bachelor of Ministry Degree](#) - a 100 hour, 4 year degree program.
  - a. Offered **ONLY** as a distance education program as it is designed to help a mature adult to complete a baccalaureate degree in order to change careers or to complete a previously started B.Th. degree
  - b. This program will be individually designed for each student depending on their professional needs.
  - c. BMin students will complete 4 internship segments (60 hours) plus an additional 40 credit hours of required and elective course work.
  - d. Fee schedule will be the most current schedule approved by the Gardner Board of Trustees for on-campus and distance ed. Students.
  - e. Students graduating with the Gardner BMin degree may need to complete additional studies if they choose to continue on to Master's level programs.

## **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAMS\*:**

3. [Bachelor of Theological Studies](#) - a 120 hour degree, 4 year program.
  - a. This course is designed by Vision Bible College in Marsing, Idaho and is offered to a student by Gardner College in partnership with VBC.
  - b. Course materials and curriculum will follow the VBC design but will be administered through Gardner College.
  - c. Fee schedule will be the most current schedule approved by Vision Bible College.
  - d. Students graduating with the BTS degree may need to complete additional studies if they choose to continue on to Master's level programs.
4. [Advanced Ministry Diploma](#) - a 90 hour, 3 year program.
  - a. This course is designed by Vision Bible College in Marsing, Idaho and is offered to a student by Gardner College in partnership with VBC.
  - b. Course materials and curriculum will follow the VBC design but will be administered through Gardner College.
  - c. Fee schedule will be the most current schedule approved by Vision Bible College.
5. [Associate Theology Diploma](#) - a 60 hour, 2 year program.
  - a. This course is designed by Vision Bible College in Marsing, Idaho and is offered to a student by Gardner College in partnership with VBC.
  - b. Course materials and curriculum will follow the VBC design but will be administered through Gardner College.

c. Fee schedule will be the most current schedule approved by Vision Bible College.

6. [Certificate of Biblical Studies](#) - a 30 hour, 1 year program.

a. This course is designed by Vision Bible College in Marsing, Idaho and is offered to a student in partnership with VBC.

b. Course materials and curriculum will follow the VBC design but will be administered through Gardner College.

c. Fee schedule will be the most current schedule approved by Vision Bible College.

\* Due to the Gardner College Board of Trustee policies, students desiring to transfer from a Christian Discipleship Program to either the Bth or BMin program may be required to submit additional fees and course material.

# GARDNER COLLEGE

## DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSE OFFERINGS

For Bachelor of Theology and Bachelor of Ministry Degree programs contact the college to plan courses pertinent to those degree programs.

### CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM COURSES:

#### BIBLICAL STUDIES

##### **BI 100 Hermeneutics: How to Study The Bible (2 Credit Hours)**

The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God. This course outlines how we obtain our Bible, the importance of God's Word, its revelation, inspiration, and how to study it effectively.

##### **BI 101 Encountering the Old Testament (3 Credit Hours)**

Systematic study of the major teachings of the Old Testament. The course outlines the principle themes of scripture and provides a solid overview of their chronology and origin.

##### **BI 102 Encountering the New Testament (3 Credit Hours)**

Systematic study of the major teachings of the New Testament. The course outlines the principle themes of scripture and provides a solid overview of their chronology and origin.

##### **BI 107 The Bible: It's Origins and Intent (3 Credit Hours)**

A study on how the Bible came to be and it's infallibility.

##### **BI 205 Answers To Common Bible Questions (3 Credit Hours)**

A fun course looking quickly at hundreds of commonly asked questions regarding the Bible.

##### **BI 207 Encountering the Book of Hebrews (3 Credit Hours)**

Students will look deep into the book of Hebrews writing their own commentary and applying sound hermeneutical principles to the interpretation.

##### **BI 208 Encountering the Book of Romans (3 Credit Hours)**

Students will look deep into the book of Romans writing their own commentary and applying sound hermeneutical principles to the interpretation.

### **BI 301 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians: The Church vs. The World (3 Credit Hours)**

Paul's first letter to the Corinthians was directed to a deeply troubled church in the midst of a very challenging world. The problem was that the church was contaminated by society's sins and confused in its thinking. Students will learn to relate the Bible truth found in the book to today's church.

### **BI 302 Advanced Hermeneutics (3 Credit Hours)**

Detailed description coming soon.

### **BI 310 Bible Symbols and Types (3 Credit Hours)**

The number seven, the color red, the tabernacle, the Morning Star . . . when symbols like these appear in Scripture, are Christians meant to understand them on more than one level? In this course students look at the symbols and types used in scripture and how to interpret them accurately.

### **BI 402 The Gospels (3 Credit Hours)**

A study, comparison, and application of the four Gospels with an emphasis on application to today.

### **BI 405 The Writings of Paul (3 Credit Hours)**

A look at the books written by the Apostle Paul and their application. Students will learn much of the theology presented by Paul as well as the structure and intent of the New Testament Church

## **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

### **Rs 101 Walking With Jesus (3 Credit Hours)**

This course provides a solid overview of critical issues in the Christian Life. Covered are foundation truths and sound doctrine as they are found in God's Word.

### **RS 106 Vision and Evangelism (3 Credit Hours)**

A study in the proper motivation and application of soul-winning.

### **RS 108 Prayer Life (3 Credit Hours)**

Prayer as a lifestyle and as communion with the Lord is discussed with an emphasis on the intimacy of a true walk with God

### **RS 109 Discipleship In The Local Church (3 Credit Hours)**

A study in the establishment and emphasis of a strong discipleship ministry in the local church setting. The student will learn practical ways to bring Jesus' model of ministry to the modern church.

### **RS 111 Introduction to Christian Theology**

An overview of the theology essential to the Christian life and witness.

### **RS 200 Church History I**

A study of Church history during the Apostolic Age, the Ante-Nicene period, and the post-Nicene period, noting particularly the doctrinal developments during this time.

### **RS 205 Soteriology: The Study of Salvation (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will learn the essentials of true salvation and the nature of Jesus Christ our Lord. Through this understanding the student will be able to better explain salvation to others as well.

### **RS 206 Pastoral Perspectives (mobile classroom) (3 Credit Hours)**

Students travel with the Lifeline team and take part in active ministry for two weeks. At several locations various pastors lecture on their experiences and vision as pastors.

### **RS 207 The Roots Of Character (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will look deep at what it means to have true depth and strength of Christian character. Personal growth and application are strengths of the course.

### **RS 210 Homiletics: Preaching With Power (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will learn how to prepare and deliver effective sermons and lessons. There is a strong emphasis on the spiritual preparation of the preacher as well as the material presented.

### **RS 211 Christology (3 Credit Hours)**

An extensive look at the person, humanity, and Godhood of Jesus Christ.

### **RS 222 Creation (3 Credit Hours)**

This is a video course using the excellent materials produced by Answers In Genesis. Students will learn to understand and defend the biblical account of creation and to refute evolution.

### **RS 312 Apologetics: Defending the Faith (3 Credit Hours)**

A student should not simply know what they believe, but also why they believe it. This course will challenge the student to have a deep conceptual understanding of Bible truths and to be able to answer tough questions posed by others.

### **RS 315 Finances and Ministry (3 Credit Hours)**

Finances have a large bearing on every ministry and individual who is serving our Lord. The student will learn principles that apply not only to the church but to individual financial freedom as well.

### **RS 401 Local Church Structure (3 Credit Hours)**

A study in the biblical form of local church government. Students will learn the requirements for leadership as well as the proper methods for selecting leaders. The class will also cover methods for taking a church with non-biblical structure through the process of changing.

### **RS 403 Conflict Resolution In The Church (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will learn how to deal with various scenarios and to apply biblical principles to different situations.

### **RS 407 World Religions (3 Credit Hours)**

This course offers a solid introduction to major world religions, including Judaism, Islam, Zoroastrianism, African and Native American traditional religions, Hinduism, Shinto, Bahi, Chinese popular religion, and more. Corduan emphasizes how each is practiced in daily life and how Christians can engage with people of other faiths without being offensive.

### **RS 409 The Holy Spirit (3 Credit Hours)**

This course looks intently at the person, work, baptism, and power of the Holy Spirit with direct application to the life of the believer.

### **RS 410 The Interpretation of Prophecy (3 Credit Hours)**

This course deals with principles of interpretation. It discusses the prophet and his calling, the nature of prophecy and its place in Scripture. In addition, he considers the conditional element in prophecy, the characteristics of the prophetic style and the interconnectedness of prophecies. Part Two applies these principles to different kinds of prophetic material, including prophecies concerned with the coming of the Messiah and those related to the future of the Jewish people. Particular attention is given to the books of Daniel and Revelation.

### **RS 415 Church History II (3 Credit Hours)**

This course covers the history and development of the Church from the Reformation until the turn of the 20th century. It looks at influential revivalists and teachers of the past few hundred years.

### **RS 417 Theology II (3 Credit Hours)**

A deeper look at the theology of the truth. Students will contemplate hard questions and varying theories of Bible subjects.

## **CHRISTIAN COUNSELING**

### **CC 100 The Christian Marriage (3 Credit Hours)**

This course will aid the student in developing wisdom for their own marriage as well as in helping others in marriage crisis.

### **CC 101 Marriage and Family Life: A Christian Perspective (3 Credit Hours)**

The course looks at the dynamics of marriage and family life from a counseling and sociological prospective.

### **CC 200 Introduction to Christian Counseling (3 Credit Hours)**

This course is an overview of basic human behavior and response. It will help the student to apply biblical principles to real-life counseling situations.

### **CC 201 Introduction to Christian Counseling (3 Credit Hours)**

This course assists the student in discovering the basic concepts of Christian counseling and to increase their skills and competence in counseling situations.

### **CC 202 Deliverance Ministry and Counseling (3 Credit Hours)**

Restoration of the human personality is part of the atoning work of Grace provided by Christ on the cross. This course looks in depth at the role that demonic influence can have in human personality and behavior, and presents a balanced and biblical viewpoint of deliverance and healing by the power of God.

### **CC 205 Pastoral Counseling (3 Credit Hours)**

A look at the methods, challenges, and ethical considerations that apply to pastoral counseling.

### **CC 218 Marriage & Family II: Parenting on Purpose from a Christian Perspective (3 Credit Hours)**

One of the most stressful and potentially problematic areas of marriage and family is that of parenting. In this course the student will learn God's purpose and plan for effective parenting in our modern world.

### **CC301 Biblical Inner Healing (3 Credit Hours)**

This course uses sound biblical principles in the counseling practice of healing those inner conflicts that prevent Christians from living to the fullest their experience in Christ.

### **CC 302 Abnormal Psychology: A Christian Perspective (3 Credit Hours)**

In this course, the student will discover the etiology of psychopathology, learn the tools used to assess and diagnose abnormal behavior, and review various theoretical perspectives on cause and cure of pathological conditions. This is a broad survey course.

### **CC 401 Pastoral Counseling II (3 Credit Hours)**

This course is intended to help pastors and other Christian leaders develop proficiency in enabling people to solve their problems, while understanding the tensions between psychology and theology.

### **CC 305 Addiction Recovery Counseling (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will learn to apply the Christian 12-step model to the life of the addict. This course also looks at fundamental personality issues that apply to the non-addict.

### **CC 411 A Scriptural View of Men And Women (2 Credit Hours)**

A look at distinctive issues dealing with each gender. The student will learn to understand each at a deeper level. It also enables the student to apply these principles to outreach and ministry in the church. The course explores the true scriptural roles of men and women.

## **GENERAL EDUCATION**

### **GE 103 English Composition (3 Credit Hours)**

The ability to communicate effectively, both in oral and written form is studied in this course. Emphasis on proper grammar, sentence structure etc. is reviewed. Emphasis is placed on writing the term paper.

### **GE 104 English Bible Study Tools (2 Credit Hours)**

The student learns to use concordances, lexicons, Greek-Hebrew study aids, computer study software, and other resources to facilitate a deeper understanding of God's Word.

### **GE 205 Second Language For Ministry (3 Credit Hours)**

Students are able to learn introductory Spanish and/or German to extend their ability to minister in different cultures.

### **GE 206 Research Writing (3 Credit Hours)**

A thorough study in writing quality papers and publications from effective research.

### **GE 207 Greek & Hebrew Study Methods (2 Credit Hours)**

Students will learn to use modern resources, computers, and tools to study the original Greek and Hebrew languages. Students will learn to do word studies to deepen their understanding of the Bible.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

### **ED 101 Introduction to Teaching (3 Credit Hours)**

This course is a study of applied teaching principles. Instruction is given to develop lesson plans, teaching outlines, and evaluation. Emphasis is on skill development related to the teaching/learning process.

### **ED 301 Principles of Education (3 Credit Hours)**

This course is an overview of Christian Education and its importance in the overall strategy of the growth of the church in the community.

### **ED 304 Practical Christian Education (3 Credit Hours)**

A practical application course where students are able to be involved in Christian education from the children's Sunday School level through Christian secondary education.

### **ED 401 Philosophy of Christian Education (3 Credit Hours)**

This course is an introductory study of the biblical and theological foundations for the educational ministries of the church. The organization and administration of church education programs so as to integrate them with the total ministry of the church is emphasized. (Required for ACSI certification).

### **ED 404 Ethics of Education (3 Credit Hours)**

The need for proper ethics in the area of education is carefully studied in this course.

### **ED 405 Educational Psychology (3 Credit Hours)**

This is a course in the application of psychological principles to the design and guidance of educational experiences. The course provides the tools needed to make the teaching/learning process a more effective and rewarding part of Christian ministry.

### **PRACTICAL APPLICATION COURSES**

#### **PA 104 Introduction to Small Groups (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will learn to minister through small groups in a typical local church program. They will learn to lead activities, studies, and to organize the overall program.

#### **PA 106 Leading Worship In The Local Church (3 Credit Hours)**

Through practical application and experience combined with study the student will learn to effectively lead worship.

#### **PA 110 Children's Ministry (1 Credit Hour)**

Through active participation in a local church program students learn to evangelize and disciple children.

#### **PA 112 Personal Prayer and Devotional Life (3 Credit Hours)**

Assists the student in developing a solid personal life of devotion and prayer. The course stresses practical ways in which the individual can grow closer to God.

#### **PA 117 Songwriting For Ministry (1 Credit Hour)**

Assists the student in developing a solid personal life of devotion and prayer. The course stresses practical ways in which the individual can grow closer to God.

#### **PA 203 Small Group Ministry II (3 Credit Hours)**

Students must have completed Small group Ministry I. In this course they will go deeper and actually lead their own small group for a period of time.

#### **PA 204 Practical Youth Mentoring/Discipleship (3 Credit Hours)**

Students learn how to fulfill Jesus' model of ministry through mentoring/discipleship relationships. You will work closely with your instructor and your pastor or ministry supervisor to develop the practical outpourings of this course in your ministry setting.

### **PA 205 Growing in Holiness (3 Credit Hours)**

Through study and practical application the student will look at their own walk with Christ and what it means to walk in holiness before God. The student has an opportunity to gain not only knowledge, but a deeper personal experience with the Lord as well.

### **PA 209 Christian Education (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will learn to plan and execute an effective Christian Education program in the church for all age groups. Though the course focuses primarily on the local church program, it includes the higher education of adults.

### **PA 209 Benevolence & Local Missions (3 Credit Hours)**

Students work with local missions, food banks, clothing ministries, and other methods of outreach and meeting needs. Students learn to organize these functions and to interact with the people involved with the direct assistance of experienced leaders.

### **PA 215 Practical Preaching (3 Credit Hours)**

The student will learn through practical experience, sharing with various groups in various settings. They will be supported by their staff mentor and have opportunity to grow in their gifting as they study.

### **PA 217 Ministry Administration (3 Credit Hours)**

A study of the scriptural structure for leadership. Students learn administration for church and para-church organizations. Relationship skills and the motivation of others is taught by example. This course contains a substantial amount of hands on experience in these areas.

### **PA 218 Drama Ministry (3 Credit Hours)**

Through participation and study the student will learn to effectively run and participate in an effective drama program.

### **PA 309 Youth Ministry (3 Credit Hours)**

A practical application course that leads students in effective youth ministry. Students become involved in a variety of real-life youth ministries at the local church level and in para-church settings. Working with experienced youth pastors and leaders, the student will gain a working knowledge of youth ministry from events to personal discipleship.