

# COURSE CATALOG



## CHRIST-CENTERED FORMATION FOR LEADERS

MSU EXISTS TO HELP STUDENTS ABIDE IN CHRIST, GROW IN THE WORD, AND LEAD IN THE SPIRIT—WITH MATURITY, INTEGRITY, AND LOVE.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MorningStar University's core program is designed to form students in spiritual life, biblical foundation, and Spirit-led leadership. The core curriculum runs on a three-year cycle. Students typically enter in the Fall and, by completing three years, experience the full scope of the formation pathway.

## Weekly Rhythm

---

Core classes meet Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings (three class blocks per day; nine total per week). Students also participate in required spiritual life elements such as chapel, community discipleship rhythms, service, and assigned reading.

01

## Afternoon Academics: Majors

---

In addition to the core curriculum, students choose a major track with classes and labs scheduled primarily in the afternoons. Majors provide focused skill development and ministry preparation while remaining fully rooted in MSU's Christ-centered mission.

02

## Available majors include:

---

- Communications
- Company of the Prophets
- Worship
- Special Forces / Missions
- School of Ministry

03

# YEARLONG COURSES

The following courses span the full academic year and are awarded 1 annual credit each upon completion.

## FAITH COURSE

Faith Course trains students to put their faith into action through practical evangelism, outreach, and Spirit-led ministry. Students are challenged to step outside the classroom and engage people with courage, compassion, and love.

Through supervised outreach opportunities, students will practice sharing the gospel, praying for others, giving prophetic encouragement, and responding to the leading of the Holy Spirit. The goal is to help students grow in boldness, faith, compassion, and confidence as witnesses of Jesus Christ. (1 CR per year).

## REQUIRED READINGS

Required Readings are a yearlong formation component designed to strengthen biblical worldview, spiritual maturity, and leadership development. Students read assigned books throughout the year and participate in regular discussion groups where they engage the material, reflect on key themes, and connect what they are reading to their life with God.

These discussions may include reading portions of the assigned books together, processing the content in community, and applying the lessons to discipleship, ministry, leadership, and Christian formation. The goal is to cultivate a lifelong love for reading and to expose students to books that broaden their understanding of God, leadership, ministry, and Christianity. (1 CR per year).

# PROPHETIC FOUNDATIONS

Prophetic Foundations introduces students to the biblical and practical foundations of prophetic ministry. Taught by Rick Joyner and Tom Hardiman, this course helps students understand prophetic leadership, hearing the voice of God, receiving and giving prophetic words, and walking in prophetic responsibility with humility and maturity.

Students will be trained to recognize the voice of the Lord, grow in discernment, and understand the purpose of prophetic ministry as a means of strengthening, encouraging, and building up the Body of Christ. The course emphasizes that prophetic ministry must be rooted in Scripture, love, accountability, and the character of Christ. (1 CR per year).

# SPIRITUAL IMPARTATION

Spiritual Impartation gives students the opportunity to receive wisdom, ministry insight, prayer, and impartation from seasoned leaders with years of experience in the gospel and ministry. Guest speakers may include pastors, ministers, missionaries, prophetic voices, leaders, and men and women with proven testimony and long-term faithfulness.

These sessions are designed to expose students to a broader range of ministry experience and spiritual wisdom. Students will learn from leaders who carry insight in areas such as ministry, leadership, missions, faith, Scripture, the local church, and the work of the Holy Spirit.

The goal is to help students receive from mature voices in the Body of Christ and grow in wisdom, hunger, faith, and ministry readiness. (1 CR per year).

# CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Christian Service trains students to understand servanthood as foundational to leadership. Students serve consistently in the church and ministry environment, contributing practically while growing in humility, responsibility, and faithfulness.

Service placements allow students to activate what they are learning in real ministry contexts and to be disciplined by active ministry leaders. (1 CR per semester).

# CONNECT GROUPS

Connect Groups are one of the primary ways MSU pursues real formation. Students meet consistently in small discipleship groups of 3–5, organized with wisdom—same-sex groups and, when applicable, similar season of life (including single status). These meetings are built on honor, maturity, and biblical accountability so students don't hide, but grow. Connect Groups follow the Four C's: Confession (bringing sin and struggles into the light), Commitment (practical obedience and repentance), Consecration (praying and dedicating commitments to the Lord), and Community (ongoing support, follow-up, and burden-bearing). Trust and confidentiality are essential, with appropriate leadership involvement when safety is at risk. (1 CR per semester).

# CHAPEL

Chapel is a required formation practice each semester and serves as a central part of MSU's spiritual life. Students gather for worship, prayer, ministry, preaching, and seeking the Lord together as a community.

Chapel is designed not only as a time of receiving, but also as a place of student activation and leadership development. Students may be given opportunities to lead worship, lead prayer, share a short teaching or ten-minute message, minister prophetically, pray for one another, and grow in confidence serving the Body of Christ.

Through Chapel, students learn to cultivate the presence of God, minister with humility and discernment, and participate in a spiritual environment where worship, prayer, the Word, and the gifts of the Spirit work together for formation. (1.5 CR per semester).

# FALL SEMESTER COURSES

## **Spiritual Disciplines I: Foundations of Abiding (1 CR)**

This course introduces students to the foundational spiritual disciplines that sustain a life of abiding in Christ. Students study and practice Scripture reading, meditation, prayer, worship, repentance, daily obedience, and devotion to the Lord.

The course emphasizes that spiritual disciplines are not performed to earn God's love, but are practiced as a response to His grace and as a means of communion with Him. Students are trained to develop rhythms that strengthen intimacy with Jesus, spiritual consistency, and long-term endurance in the Christian life.

## **Emotional Intelligence (1 CR)**

This course develops self-awareness and emotional maturity for discipleship and leadership. Students explore emotional patterns, relational dynamics, communication habits, personal triggers, and healthy boundaries.

The course helps students understand how emotional health connects to spiritual formation and leadership responsibility. Students learn to lead themselves well before leading others, growing in humility, steadiness, wisdom, and maturity in relationships and ministry contexts.

## **Principles of Leadership (1 CR)**

This course introduces leadership fundamentals through a Christ-centered and Scripture-shaped lens. Students study leadership as stewardship under God, emphasizing servant-hearted influence, responsibility, trust, vision, consistency, humility, and integrity.

The course teaches that leadership is not self-promotion or control, but faithful responsibility before the Lord. Students learn how leadership functions in teams, organizations, ministries, and relationships while remaining anchored in biblical character and dependence on the Holy Spirit.

## **Biblical Theology I: Scripture, Context, and Interpretation (1 CR)**

This course trains students to approach Scripture with reverence, humility, and care. Students learn the foundations of faithful biblical interpretation, including immediate context, book context, historical setting, authorial intent, genre, and the unity of Scripture.

# FALL SEMESTER

## **New Testament Studies I: Gospels, Acts, and First-Century Context (1 CR)**

This course introduces students to the world of the New Testament, with special attention to the historical, cultural, and religious context of the first century. Students study the Gospels and Acts, exploring the life and ministry of Jesus, the message of the Kingdom, the birth of the Church, and the early expansion of the gospel.

Students gain a deeper understanding of authorship, audience, purpose, setting, and major themes so they can read the New Testament with greater clarity and faithfulness.

## **Christian Apologetics I: Worldview and the Case for God (1 CR)**

This course equips students to understand and defend the Christian faith with clarity, humility, and courage. Students are introduced to the purpose of apologetics, worldview thinking, the nature of truth, and the importance of reasoning well.

The course explores foundational arguments for the existence of God, including creation, design, morality, meaning, and the limits of naturalism. Students learn that apologetics is not about winning arguments, but about removing obstacles, speaking truth in love, and pointing people to Christ.

## **Foundations of Communications I: Biblical Speech and Communication Fundamentals (1 CR)**

This course begins with the biblical weight of words, showing how Scripture presents communication as spiritually significant. Students study the power of words, truthfulness, integrity, listening, understanding, and the responsibility of speech.

The course also introduces the basic communication process, including sender, receiver, message, channel, feedback, context, and barriers to understanding. Students learn how communication affects relationships, leadership, ministry, and discipleship.

# SPRING SEMESTER COURSES

## **Spiritual Disciplines II: Rhythms of Consecration and Rule of Life (1 CR)**

This course continues the study and practice of spiritual disciplines with emphasis on fasting, Sabbath, generosity, service, worship, Scripture meditation, and building a sustainable rule of life. Students learn how spiritual rhythms help protect intimacy with God and strengthen long-term obedience.

The course also addresses the dangers of both legalism and spiritual passivity, teaching students to pursue disciplined devotion from grace, love, and union with Christ.

## **Mind Renewal and Inner Formation (1 CR)**

This course explores the inner life by distinguishing brain processes from the mind's formative reality. Students learn how beliefs, thought patterns, internal dialogue, and imagination shape emotions, decisions, and spiritual maturity.

The course emphasizes renewing the mind through Scripture, guarding the thought life, cultivating holy desires, and allowing the Holy Spirit to transform the inner life for long-term faithfulness and freedom.

## **Leadership Development (1 CR)**

This course focuses on developing leaders who can strengthen and multiply others. Students learn how to identify potential, build trust, empower responsibly, model what they teach, give correction and encouragement, delegate clearly, and cultivate a culture of growth.

The course emphasizes that mature leaders do not merely gather followers; they develop people. Students are trained to lead through humility, mentorship, discipleship, accountability, and long-term investment in others.

# SPRING SEMESTER

## **Biblical Theology II: Genre, Application, and Faithful Teaching (1 CR)**

This course continues the work of faithful biblical interpretation by helping students read different genres of Scripture responsibly, including narrative, poetry, wisdom literature, prophecy, letters, and apocalyptic texts. Students learn how genre shapes interpretation and how to move from meaning to application without distorting the text.

The course also emphasizes responsible teaching, helping students communicate Scripture with reverence, clarity, and faithfulness to the intent of the biblical authors and the witness of the whole Bible.

## **New Testament Studies II: Epistles, Revelation, and New Testament Theology (1 CR)**

This course continues New Testament study through the Epistles and Revelation. Students examine major themes in the writings of Paul, the general letters, and the message of Revelation, paying attention to authorship, audience, purpose, historical background, and theological emphasis.

Students learn how the letters address real church problems, how doctrine and discipleship are connected, and how the New Testament forms a unified witness to Christ, the Church, the Kingdom, and the hope of His return.

## **Christian Apologetics II: Scripture, Prophecy, Origins, and Public Witness (1 CR)**

This course continues the study of Christian apologetics by focusing on biblical reliability, canon, manuscript transmission, prophecy and fulfillment, creation and origins, the problem of evil, and public moral witness.

Students learn how to respond to objections with biblical conviction and intellectual clarity while maintaining a Christlike posture. The course strengthens confidence in Scripture, teaches students to identify worldview assumptions, and prepares them to engage culture without fear or hostility.

## **Foundations of Communications II: Leadership, Ministry, and Public Communication (1 CR)**

This course develops communication skills for leadership and ministry contexts. Students study interpersonal communication, conflict communication, team communication, vision communication, pastoral conversations, preaching and teaching foundations, writing with clarity, storytelling, digital communication wisdom, and public speaking.

# YEAR ONE FORMATION OUTCOME

By the end of Year One, students will have established foundational rhythms of abiding in Christ, gained tools for emotional and mental formation, developed basic leadership and communication skills, grown in biblical interpretation, deepened their understanding of the New Testament, strengthened their ability to defend the faith, and participated in practical ministry through Christian Service, Faith Course, Connect Groups, Chapel, Required Readings, Prophetic Foundations, and Spiritual Impartation.

The goal is for students to finish the first year more rooted in Jesus, more grounded in Scripture, more confident in their calling, and more prepared to lead in the Spirit with humility, wisdom, and faithfulness.

# MAJORS & AFTERNOON ACADEMICS

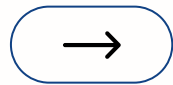
MSU majors provide focused training that complements the core program. Major courses are typically scheduled in the afternoons and may include labs, practicums, creative work, ministry projects, and track-specific leadership development. (1.5-2 CR per semester).

---

## Majors at MSU

- Communications — writing, speaking, storytelling, media communication, and organizational clarity
- Company of the Prophets — prophetic formation, discernment, and Spirit-led ministry under Scripture
- Worship — worship leadership, musical excellence, theology of worship, and heart formation
- Special Forces — mission readiness, endurance, outreach, and real-world ministry training
- Ministry — ministry foundations, pastoral leadership, and practical church service

*Majors exist to strengthen calling, not replace character. Every major is built to serve the central aim:  
Christ-centered maturity and Spirit-led leadership.*



MorningStar University exists to equip the youth for life and leadership rooted in Truth, formed by the presence of God, and made whole in Christ.