

*Perkins COSS provides excellent and contextually relevant theological education for United Methodist local pastors in a welcoming and supportive community.*

The Course of Study is a program of The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church, in partnership with and administered by Perkins School of Theology. It provides a basic theological education, as prescribed by the United Methodist Book of Discipline (par. 1421.3d), to licensed United Methodist local pastors. The Basic Course of Study is a 20-course curriculum required of all licensed United Methodist local pastors who are not enrolled in a seminary degree program.

Community life and worship is integral to the program. Students participate in cultural heritage programs, student council, fellowship events and a graduation celebration, as well as daily devotionals and chapel service. Students also have access to resources including the Bridwell Library, an on-site academic resources advisor, technology specialist, and a chaplain.

**SUMMER:** The summer Regional Course of Study School at Perkins is offered in a hybrid format with both face-to-face and online learning for full-time and part-time local pastors. Courses are offered in two sessions, and students may enroll in two courses per session. Perkins offers all 20 courses in English and 16 of the 20 courses in Spanish, and all worship and community life events are bilingual.

Each class includes:

Week 1: 10 hours of in-person learning

Week 2: 5 hours of learning in online class

Week 3: 5 hours of learning in online class

**FALL & SPRING:** Starting in February of 2020, the Regional COS School will offer two courses in the spring semester and two courses in the fall semester at Perkins.

## Start Your Journey

Visit our website and apply online:  
[www.smu.edu/coss](http://www.smu.edu/coss)

## Contact Us

### Regional Course of Study School

Perkins School of Theology

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Regional Course  
of Study School

## Extension Schools

The Regional Course of Study School at Perkins oversees three extension schools that offer courses for part-time local pastors only.

### Texas Annual Conference Extension

Classes are offered on second Saturdays in spring (March-May) and fall (September-November). Six courses are offered each semester.

**Contact: Rev. Stephanie Scott**  
903-262-0304  
revsteph1952@gmail.com

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### North Texas Annual Conference Extension

Classes are offered in spring and fall. Visit the North Texas Conference website at [ntcumc.org/board-of-ordained-ministry/licensed-ministry/course-of-study](http://ntcumc.org/board-of-ordained-ministry/licensed-ministry/course-of-study)

**Contact: Rev. Cassie Wade**  
214-763-8084  
cassiewade@gmail.com

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### Arkansas Annual Conference Extension

Classes are offered three Saturdays each spring and fall semester, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. Students can take one class per semester.

**Contact: Rev. Judith (J.J.) Whitney**  
501-450-3801  
whitney@hendrix.edu

## Satellite Schools

Satellite schools are administered directly by Perkins Regional Course of Study School and offer courses semi-annually for part-time local pastors.

### Satellite School for the Western Jurisdiction

Classes are offered in Spanish for local pastors primarily in the Western Jurisdiction. Part-time Spanish-speaking local pastors beyond the Western Jurisdiction are also welcome. Classes are offered in a hybrid format, with 10 hours online and 10 hours of face-to-face class time on a weekend.

**More information:** [smu.edu/coss/wjsatellite](http://smu.edu/coss/wjsatellite)

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### Satellite School at McMurry University

Classes meet once a month on Saturday for three months in the spring and fall.

**Contact: Rev. John Miller**  
millerjb@mcm.edu

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### Satellite for the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

Classes are offered in the spring and fall for members of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and indigenous pastors beyond the conference. Applications from beyond these constituencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Classes begin in spring 2020.

**Contact: Rev. David Wilson**  
DWilson@OIMC.org

## Advanced Course of Study

The purpose of the advanced studies program is to fulfill requirements for both probationary and full membership in an annual conference (where an annual conference permits a non-seminary route). The advanced studies are not a requisite for serving as a local pastor or as an associate member. Educational credentials for local pastors comprise the successful completion of the five-year basic program. Advanced studies are designed for persons seeking probationary membership and commissioning toward ordained ministry.

The Book of Discipline requires that local pastors seeking probationary membership and commissioning complete 32 credit hours of graduate theological study or its equivalent. Advanced studies at Perkins offer the equivalent courses. These courses do not offer academic credit but do offer credit toward attainment of the 32-hour advanced program. Persons seeking academic credit may apply for admission to Perkins degree programs. Advanced Course of Studies courses may be taken during the academic year or during Perkins summer Regional Course of Study School.

*"More than a program, we are a community."*