**License to Preach School Student Orientation Packet**

Welcome to the Mississippi Annual Conference’s License to Preach School!

Please read carefully the orientation notes below. For all questions, please call 601-974-1488 or email the Center for Ministry team at [ministry@millsaps.edu](mailto:ministry@millsaps.edu)

***Communication***

Check the Website:

Most information regarding Licensing School is available on our website ([www.centerforministry.com](http://www.centerforministry.com)), on the License to Preach School page. Resources are available for download.

Email:

The Center for Ministry’s primary way of communication is email.

* + Registration requires an active email address. Correct spelling in required for access to the online learning platform and instructor contact. Incorrect spelling changes delay access to the course materials.
  + In email contacts, add [ministry@millsaps.edu](mailto:ministry@millsaps.edu) to the safe senders list. Center for Ministry emails may go to a spam or junk folder, so monitor all folders for information.

Phone:

Enter the best number for quick contact on the registration form.

***Academic Expectations***

* All required textbooks must be read in full prior to the beginning of their corresponding classunless specifically noted otherwise on the syllabus. The list below is provided for convenience, but students should always consult the syllabus for the most up-to-date information.
* All required textbooks can be purchased online through Amazon, Ebay, Cokesbury, or a retailer of choice. Both audio and print are approved methods of reading.
* Students are expected to abide by the Mississippi Annual Conference Honor Code and Attendance Policy in order to receive course credit. Please refer to the License to Preach School Policies and Procedures found on our website.

**Required Textbooks**

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| All Classes | The Harper Collins Study Bible, New Revised Standard Version (Including Apocryphal Deuterocanonical Books) (Publication Date: 08/2006) |
| Spiritual Formation | Three Simple Rules, Bishop Ruben Job  A Spirituality of Living, Henri Nouwen Spirituality Series (published by Upper Room Ministries)  From Invitation to a Journey: A Roadmap for Spiritual Formation by M. Robert Mulholland, Jr.: Chapters 1-4 and 8-11. |
| United Methodist Traditions | The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 2016 (The BOD 2016 can be found for FREE online at <https://www.cokesbury.com/forms/DynamicContent.aspx?id=87&pageid=920>.  An easily access copy is needed for class. A downloadable e-book or a hard copy is suggested.  From The Book of Discipline:  Discipline ¶ 104. Section 4–Our Theological Task  Discipline ¶ 102. Section 1— Our Doctrinal Heritage  Discipline ¶ 103. Section 3–Our Doctrinal History  Belief Matters: United Methodism’s Doctrinal Standards, Charles Yrigoyen  John Wesley, Holiness of Heart and Life, Charles Yrigoyen  Introduction to Theology for Ministry by Elaine A. Robinson |
| Worship and Sacraments | United MethodistBook of Worship  United Methodist Hymnal  Worshipping with United Methodistsby Hoyt Hickman This Holy Mystery and By Water and the Spirit by Gayle Felton |
| Leadership and Administration | Administration in the Small Membership Church by John Tyson  The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 2016  Complete this online spiritual gifts assessment and bring your results to class: [**http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/spiritual-gifts-online-assessment**](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/spiritual-gifts-online-assessment)**.**  Sign up for the online conference newsletter, *The Circuit Rider*.  Obtain a copy of your local church budget and bring it with you to class. |
| Preaching | From Pew to Pulpit: A Beginners Guide to Preaching by Clifton F. Guthrie  The Witness of Preaching, Third Edition by Thomas G. Long  Readings from The Harper Collins Study Bible NRSV as assigned |
| Mission and Evangelism | Go! How to Become a Great Commission Church by Mark R. Teasdale  Transforming Evangelism: The Wesleyan Way of Sharing Faith by Henry H. Knight III and F Douglas Powe, Jr. |
| Pastoral Care | Pastoral Care in the Small Membership Church, James Killen, Jr. |
| Educational Ministries | Christian Education in the Small Membership Church by Karen B. Tye  Guidelines for Christian Education 2017-2020 |

**Other Helpful Resources**

* [The Office of Spiritual Leadership of the Mississippi Annual Conference](https://www.mississippi-umc.org/spiritualleadership) (601-354-0515)
* [Your District Office](https://www.mississippi-umc.org/ourdistricts)
* [The Center for Ministry website](http://www.centerforministry.com)
* [The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the UMC](https://www.gbhem.org/)
* [The United Methodist Church’s website](http://www.umc.org/)