



SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



Ministry Leadership Certificate

Training for SDB Leaders by SDB Leaders

About SDBU & the Ministry Leadership Certificate

Seventh Day Baptist University (SDBU) is an initiative of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference of the USA & Canada which means to train distinctively Seventh Day Baptist leaders in the context of their local churches in an efficient and affordable way. SDBU faculty and staff partner with local SDB churches to equip their leaders as we strive to accomplish our mission to actively advance God's Kingdom. The SDB School of Ministry is responsible for the administration of SDBU, under the auspices of the Christian Education Council, and in collaboration with the Council on Ministry

The Ministry Leadership Certificate is one part of the SDBU program, and exists to train and equip SDB leaders in basic ministry skills which are transferable to most SDB contexts. The expectation of students in the program is that they are already performing or feel called to perform ministry functions in their local church, regardless of whether they are carrying the title "pastor" at present. The certificate focuses attention specifically on skills related to understanding and communicating Biblical truth as well as the personal and interpersonal skills necessary to thrive in ministry in SDB churches.

Because this certificate program has been designed by the USA/Canada Conference for leaders in our Conference of churches, we are only admitting students from our Conference at this time. Those wishing for education outside the USA and Canada are advised to consult their local SDB Conference or the SDB Missionary Society for available educational opportunities in your context.

Faculty & Mentoring

The faculty for this certificate program is comprised entirely of experienced and well-trained SDB leaders. The instructors in the program have studied at accredited Association of Theological Schools (ATS) institutions and have multiple years of experience in ministry work among Seventh Day Baptists. The certificate is designed to expose students to the distinctive faith and practice of Seventh Day Baptists, both through interactions with the course material and faculty, but also with continued engagement with their local church throughout their participation in the program. Continued guidance and mentorship through the local church is essential to success in the program.



Virtual Classrooms

The majority of course content will be delivered online through the learning management software CANVAS, using a variety of educational technologies which provide for easy and face-to-face interaction with instructors and other students. This permits students to participate in their local SDB church while taking classes. Because the majority of course content is delivered online, students need to have reliable access to the internet and a computer.

Certification & Credentialing

Those who successfully complete the program will be honored with a certificate of their achievement from the School of Ministry.

The Ministry Leadership Certificate counts towards official credentialing and accreditation by the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference.



Course Sequence

Course Number	Course Title	Expected Time Investment
SDBU 201	Ministry Leadership in the Church prerequisites: none	13-15 Weeks
SDBU 210	Bible Interpretation (English Bible) prerequisites: none	15-18 Weeks
SDBU 211*	Biblical Preaching prerequisites: SDBU 210	15 Weeks
SDBU 220	Old Testament Survey prerequisites: none	13-15 Weeks
SDBU 230	New Testament Survey prerequisites: none	13-15 Weeks
SDBU 250*	Intro to Theology prerequisites: SDBU 210, 220 & 230	13-15 Weeks
SDBU 260	Intro to Evangelism & Apologetics prerequisites: none	13-15 Weeks
SDBU 280	Practical Ministry Skills prerequisites: none	8-10 Weeks

*denotes courses with one or more prerequisites

Suggested Course Sequence (2 years):

Year One Fall:

SDBU 201	Ministry Leadership in the Church	<i>taken concurrently with</i>
SDBU 210	Bible Interpretation (English Bible)	

Year One Winter/Spring:

SDBU 211*	Biblical Preaching	<i>taken concurrently with</i>
SDBU 280	Practical Ministry Skills	

Year Two Fall:

SDBU 220	Old Testament Survey	<i>taken concurrently with</i>
SDBU 250*	Intro to Theology	

Year Two Winter/Spring:

SDBU 230	New Testament Survey	<i>taken concurrently with</i>
SDBU 260	Intro to Evangelism & Apologetics	

Please note: Classes require varying amounts of work based on content. Some of the classes listed above require significant work which may require in excess of 15 hours per week. We advise all students to consult with the Dean or other faculty before registering for classes to make sure they are aware of the work they are taking on and are positioned to complete it.

If you . . .

- Are you currently leading or do you aspire to lead ministries in your local SDB church?
- Are you recognized by your local SDB church as a leader?
- Are 18 years old or older

then we want YOU to apply!!!

Local Church Endorsement

All participants in the Ministry Leadership Certificate program must be endorsed by their local church to be admitted to the program and must retain the endorsement of their local church throughout the process to continue. As a ministry of SDBs working to aid local churches, we depend on local churches to send those who they wish to be trained to the program and confirm the church's wishes before beginning the training process. Because this training is meant to benefit local churches, we also encourage local churches to consider providing some tuition assistance for students they endorse for the program.

What does it cost?

There is a one-time application fee of \$50. Following admission, classes currently cost \$125 each. There are additional costs for textbooks. These fees total \$1000 for the program (not including the application fee or textbooks).

Is Financial Assistance Available?

Yes, on a case-by-case basis. Contact the Dean for more information.

How do I apply?

Local church members interested in the training should contact their pastors. Pastors looking to begin students in the program should send an email to sdbu@seventhdaybaptist.org.

Applications can be found online at <http://www.seventhdaybaptist.org/sdbu>.

Questions??

If churches, pastors or prospective students have questions about any aspect of this program, we encourage you to contact the Dean of the School of Ministry, Nick Kersten, at nkersten@seventhdaybaptist.org, or send an email to the administrators of the program at sdbu@seventhdaybaptist.org.

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