



The Sunday School Publishing Board (SSPB) Institute



New Course Offerings Start Soon!

The SSPB Institute is an online learning experience utilizing digital technology, quality digital instruction, and relevant resources to provide a quality, standardized learning experience.

OBJECTIVES

The SSPB Institute is an online learning experience utilizing digital technology, quality digital instruction, and relevant resources to provide a quality standardized learning experience. It will serve as the primary means for certification, recertification, and leadership training for deans, instructors, and Christian educators, who serve as leaders, administrators, and instructors of Christian Leadership Schools (CLS).

In addition, the institute will provide courses in the Specialization Education Studies Program, selected COPP courses, and other certificate courses. The SSPB Institute is administered by and fulfills the mission of the Division of Christian Education Accreditation and Credentials of the Sunday School Publishing Board.

SSPB INSTITUTE COURSES 2025

January 2025

2099A—Dean Certification (Part I)
9008—Public Speaking
Pastor's Alternative for Teacher Certification (PATC)
SP0015—Church Administration

February 2025

2099B—Dean Certification (Part II)
2097—Rethinking Christian Education for Contemporary Innovations
2100—Guidelines for Recertification of Deans
SP0016—Church Staff Development

March 2025

2099C—Dean Certification (Part III)
2100—Guidelines for Recertification of Deans
9024—Artificial Intelligence in the Church
SP0017—Christian-based Organizational Management

May 2025

2099D—Dean Certification Part IV
2097—Rethinking Christian Education for Contemporary Innovations
2100—Guidelines for Recertifications of Deans
2023—Creative Ways of Teaching
9927—The Theology of the Old Testament

July 2025

Pastors Alternative for Teaching Certification (PATC)
1065—Intertestamental Period
2009—Debt-free Living
1057—Micah

August 2025

SP0019—Leadership Development

September 2025

SP0020—Conflict Management

October 2025

9920—The Doctrine of the Christian Church

January

2099A—Dean Certification (Part I)

The Principles and Procedures for Dean Certification classes will provide the students with practical information and tools for organizing and leading a Christian Leadership School. Each class's specific focus culminates in preparing the student for Christian Education leadership. While the Dean Certification classes are unique to the SSPB Christian Leadership School, we have designed them to enhance additional leadership skills beyond the CLS.

Instructor: Dr. Roberta Hatcher

9008—Public Speaking

This course identifies the process and principles for writing and delivering speeches in public. The instructor will relay basic verbal and nonverbal communication skills that enable the students to communicate with audiences of all sizes.

Class Dates: 9, 16, 23, 30

Instructor: Dr. Carolyn Gordon

Pastor's Alternative for Teaching Certification (PATC)

Pastors with three or more years of pastoral experience are eligible for this program. Participants must complete twelve (12) hours of training in the PATC. The twelve hours include an emphasis on the following components: "Introduction to the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., and the Sunday School Publishing Board"; "Introduction to the Christian Leadership School Programs"; "The Christian Education Ministry for Local Congregations"; "Creative Ways of Teaching"; and "The Spiritual Life of the Pastor."

Class Dates: 9, 16, 23, 30

Instructor: Dr. George Brooks Jr.

February

2099B—Dean Certification (Part II)

The Principles and Procedures for Dean Certification classes will provide the students with practical information and tools for organizing and leading a Christian Leadership School. Each class has its specific focus that culminates in preparing the student for Christian education leadership. While the Dean Certification classes are unique to the SSPB Christian Leadership School, we have designed them to enhance additional leadership skills beyond the CLS.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 21

Instructor: Rev. Eric Williams

2097—Rethinking Christian Education for Contemporary Innovations

This course examines current trends, methodologies, and practices in Christian education to determine their validity and their alliance with the Scriptures.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 21

Instructor: Dr. Rory Thompson

2100—Guidelines for Recertification of Deans

"Guidelines for Recertification of Deans" is the recertification course for CLS Deans. The course will address contemporary issues, trends, and leadership in Christian education.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 27

Instructor: Dr. Edward O. Williamson

March

2099C—Dean Certification (Part III)

The Principles and Procedures for Dean Certification classes will provide the students with practical information and tools for organizing and leading a Christian Leadership School. Each class's focus culminates in preparing the student for Christian Education leadership. While the Dean Certification classes are unique to the SSPB Christian Leadership School, we have designed them to enhance additional leadership skills beyond the CLS.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 27

Instructor: Rev. Benjamin Lett

2100—Guidelines for Recertification of Deans

"Guidelines for Recertification of Deans" is the recertification course for CLS Deans. The course will address contemporary issues, trends, and leadership in Christian education.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 27
Instructor: Dr. Edward O. Williamson

2097—Rethinking Christian Education for Contemporary Innovations

This course examines current trends, methodologies, and practices in Christian education to determine their validity and their alliance with the Scriptures.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 27
Instructor: Ms. Lawana Griffin

9024—Artificial Intelligence in the Church

This course explores how AI can enhance church ministry in the modern age. It focuses on adults and explores the implications of integrating AI, offering insights into its potential in Christian ministry.

Dates: 4, 11, 18, 25
Instructor: Dr. Leticha Heflin

NO CLASSES IN THE MONTH OF APRIL

May

2099D—Dean Certification (Part IV)

The Principles and Procedures for Dean Certification classes will provide the students with practical information and tools for organizing and leading a Christian Leadership School. Each class has its specific focus that culminates in preparing the student for Christian Education leadership. While the Dean Certification classes are unique to the SSPB Christian Leadership School, we have designed them to enhance additional leadership skills beyond the CLS.

Dates: 1, 8, 15, 22
Instructor: Dr. Edward O. Williamson

2097—Rethinking Christian Education for Contemporary Innovations

This course examines current trends, methodologies, and practices in Christian education to determine their validity and their alliance with the Scriptures.

Dates: 1, 8, 15, 22
Instructor: Dr. Albertine Marshall

2100—Guidelines for Recertifications of Deans

"Guidelines for Recertification of Deans" is the recertification course for CLS Deans. The course will address contemporary issues, trends, and leadership in Christian education.

Dates: 1, 8, 15, 22
Instructor: Dr. Roberta Hatcher

2023—Creative Ways of Teaching

This course assists teachers in discovering innovative ways to teach that lead to transformation in students' lives, and in discovering new ways of teaching that will include learning behavior and strategies of student learning and behavior.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 22
Instructor: Dr. Mary McConnell

NO CLASSES IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

July

Pastor's Alternative for Teaching Certification (PATC)

Pastors with three or more years of pastoral experience are eligible for this program. Participants must complete twelve (12) hours of training in the PATC. The twelve hours include an emphasis on the following components: "Introduction to the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., and the Sunday School Publishing Board"; "Introduction to the Christian Leadership School Programs"; "The Christian Education Ministry for Local Congregations"; "Creative Ways of Teaching"; and "The Spiritual Life of the Pastor."

Dates: 10, 17, 21, 28
Instructor: Dr. George Brooks Jr.

1065—Intertestamental Period

This course will examine the period between the writings of the Old Testament book of Malachi and the gospel of Matthew in the New Testament. Students will study the notable events that took place during this period and learn how these events shaped the course of the New Testament period and the coming of the Messiah.

Dates: 10, 17, 21, 28
Instructor: Rev. Nicole Guns

2009—Debt-free Living

This course emphasizes money management through the study of the Bible. It will help the students discover God's design for money and how to manage it, so that it may best glorify God.

Dates: 10, 17, 21, 28
Instructor: TBD

1057—Micah

This course will examine this short Old Testament prophetic book that exhibits God's condemnation of the rich because they exploited the poor. Experience God's anger as He judges and punishes sin.

Dates: 8, 15, 22, 29
Instructor: TBD

SPECIALIZATION EDUCATION STUDIES PROGRAM

Certificate of Church Administration and Leadership

January—SP0015 Church Administration

In this course, we will discuss the governance and leadership structure in organizations. The instructor will emphasize administrative principles and practice, staffing, budgeting, and public relations for leading a religious organization.

January: 4, 11, 18, 25
Instructor: TBD

February: SP0016—Church Staff Development

This course discusses how to assess a church's or religious organization's staff needs. The instructor will emphasize recruiting, training, and employing the proper staff. In addition, the course will emphasize creating job descriptions, learning how to communicate with staff, and how to provide leadership in meetings, retreats, and other church-sponsored activities.

February: 1, 8, 15, 22
Instructor: TBD

March: SP0017—Christian-based Organizational Management

This course will examine the structure, leadership, and goals of the organization. The instructor will emphasize creating a leadership team and organizational structure that will achieve the organization's goals. Emphasis will be on managing time and on the talents of people to achieve the organization's goals.

Dates: 1, 8, 15, 22
Instructor: TBD

NO CLASSES IN THE MONTHS OF APRIL-JULY

August: SP0019—Leadership Development

This course will discuss developing leaders within the organization. Students will consider biblical models and

secular models for developing additional leaders. In addition, the course will examine how cultural traditions, communication methods, and collaboration improve the overall leader. Emphasis will be on helping persons discover their abilities for leadership.

Dates: 2, 9, 16, 23
Instructor: TBD

September: SP0020—Conflict Management

This course will examine the causes of conflict and how to minimize the tension that may result from disputes. Students will focus on putting systems in place, understanding personalities, and cultural traditions, and developing a Christian ethical process for navigating and managing issues that lead to conflict.

Dates: 6, 13, 20, 27
Instructor: TBD

NO CLASSES IN THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

December: SP0021—Leadership Seminar (2024 SSPB Annual Conference)

This leadership seminar will discuss types of leadership, the ethics of leadership and guide students through an assessment of their leadership style. In addition, the seminar will assist students with completing their final writing project.

PASTOR'S ADVANCED TRAINING PROGRAM (PATC)

The courses will be offered on Saturday 9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m. (CST)
These courses are for pastors who have taken the PATC. Although associate ministers are not allowed to take the PATC, they can begin PATP once Phase I of the CCE

(formally known as COPP) is completed and with a letter of recommendation from their pastor.

9906—Baptist Beliefs and Practices

This course serves as a review of Baptist beliefs and practices that distinguish Baptists from other denominations. Discuss what makes Baptists distinctive. Research the distinctive characteristics of other denominational groups, including Pentecostal and more formal liturgical groups, in order to understand what makes Baptists different from these denominational groups. Support their beliefs with Scripture and historical practices.

January 11, 18; and February 1, 8
Instructor: Dr. George T. Brooks Sr.

9914—Connecting the Local Church to the Community

This course will examine the mission of the church to serve the community. It will consider the biblical mandate for the church to be missionaries to the community and serve the spiritual, social, and physical needs of the people therein. Help the students better understand the spiritual nature of the church, thus creating an incentive to reach out as servants to the community.

March 1, 8, 15, 22
Instructor: Dr. George T. Brooks Sr.

9927—The Theology of the Old Testament

In this course, the students will gain theological insight into the Old Testament or Hebrew Bible. It explores past and present theological concepts as they pertain to God and God's relationship with creation. But it will also examine God's mission and purpose for His people

(from Genesis to Malachi) and how those points toward Jesus Christ.

May 3, 17, 31; and June 7
Instructor: Dr. George T. Brooks Sr.

9919—Paul's Epistles and Theology

Lead the students into a contextual study of the apostle Paul's writing and theology. By studying the writings and thoughts of Paul, the students will be better able to accurately apply the intended spiritual context to the historical context of these writings.

September 6, 13, 20, 27
Instructor: Dr. George T. Brooks Sr.

9920—The Doctrine of the Christian Church

This course will identify and examine the major teachings of the church. Take the class through a thorough and close study of relevant biblical texts and revisit the basics of the major doctrines and practices of the church.

October 4, 11, 18, 25
Instructor: Dr. George T. Brooks Sr.



Want to know more? Contact us!

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Division of Christian Education Accreditation
and Credentials (DCEAC)

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Online Registration: Click "SSPB Christian Leadership School Virtual Training." You will use the same username and password you use when registering for the SSPB Conference.

E-mail Registration: Provide the information requested below and e-mail the form to gbrooks@sspbnc.com or christianed@sspbnc.com. One form per person. The DCEAC will e-mail all confirmations and links to the e-mail address you provided.

Mail-in Registrations: Select your class and mail the registration to the address listed to the left. DCEAC will e-mail your course card after completing the training.