

Bethel Seminary San Diego Teach Out

In October 2018, Bethel University announced the decision to close Bethel Seminary San Diego after the 2018-2019 academic year. To assist students in completing their programs, the following options have been made available:

1. Students in the Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy or Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling programs will have the opportunity to continue their programs face-to-face in San Diego, taught by Bethel faculty. At the end of June of 2019, Bethel will have located a new site in San Diego which will allow for face-to-face teaching in these programs. No additional costs will be incurred by students in these programs as they will continue on in the same way they have been to complete their degrees, albeit at a different location.
2. Students in the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ministry, Master of Arts (Theological Studies), and Master of Arts (Christian Thought) programs will be given the option to complete their programs in the existing online options for these programs at Bethel Seminary. No additional costs will be incurred by students who choose this option as they will still be students taking courses at Bethel Seminary.
3. Students in the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ministry, and Master of Arts (Theological Studies) programs will also be given the opportunity to complete their programs through Azusa Pacific University – San Diego campus (APU) and transfer their credits back to Bethel University in order to graduate from Bethel. Bethel has established a teach out partnership with APU that will allow for a streamlined transfer of credit from APU back to Bethel. Please see below for specific teach out partnership details. APU is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Association of Theological Schools (ATS).

Students are not limited to taking courses at APU, however, for those students that choose to take courses at APU, the partnership agreement will make the process for completing courses more streamlined than will be the case with other institutions. Bethel will only accept credits from ATS-approved schools, and students who pursue this option are required to obtain pre-approval of any courses taken at those schools. This can be accomplished by emailing the registrar's office (caps-sem-gs-evaluation@bethel.edu) with the school, course number, title, description or course syllabus, and total credits, including how the students hope to apply these courses toward their Bethel degree program.

4. Finally, students in the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ministry, and Master of Arts (Theological Studies) in good standing and with the requisite grade point average will be given the opportunity to transfer to APU and receive their degrees from APU. Students transferring to APU will be provided a fast-track admission process (specific details outlined below). Those who do not meet the minimum required grade point average may be admitted conditionally to APU.

The formal teach out will end on May 31, 2022. Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ministry, Master of Arts (Theological Studies) and Master of Arts (Christian Thought) students who have not yet completed their programs by May 31, 2022 will be permitted to remain in their current program online and continue to complete all program requirements beyond that date. Bethel's face-to-face teach out of the Master of Arts in Marital and Family Therapy and Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling programs in San Diego will conclude in the spring term of 2022.

After this date, face-to-face course options will no longer be available in San Diego. Students should speak with their student success advisor about options that may be available if they have experienced any barriers to completing degrees within the official teach out time.

All requirements for the Master of Divinity degree are to be met within 10 years of the time of the student's initial enrollment. All requirements for the Masters of Arts degree are to be met within eight years of the time of the student's initial enrollment.

Academic Advising

The Office of Student Success & Retention will provide students with resources to aid in making a decision about how and where they will complete their seminary program. These resources include the student's individual degree evaluation, course listings that identify both online and residential courses, a description of the options available to BSSD students for completing their programs, and the list of course equivalencies at APU. Students may contact their student success advisor (seminary-advising@bethel.edu or 651.638.6868) to obtain this information or to review plans for completing their programs.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid options for BSSD students vary depending upon the teach out option the student selects. Students who choose to enroll in fully online courses will continue to have access to their current financial aid opportunities. Those students who choose to transfer to another school to complete their degree will need to apply for financial aid at that school. Students who choose to take some courses from Bethel and some courses at another school may be eligible for financial aid and should contact the Bethel Financial Aid Office for more information (finaid@bethel.edu).

Azusa Pacific University Teach Out Partnership

Overview

Students who are currently in the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ministry, or Master of Arts (Theological Studies) programs who enrolled in good standing at Bethel and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher may apply to transfer to APU in the Summer term 2019, Fall term 2019, and Spring term 2020. Any Bethel student who transfers before the Summer term 2019 or after the Spring term 2020 will not be eligible for the teach out partnership.

The following Bethel and APU programs are equivalent:

Bethel: Master of Divinity = **APU:** Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Bethel: Master of Arts in Ministry = **APU:** Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (MAPS)

Bethel: Master of Arts (Theological Studies) = **APU:** Master of Arts: Theological Studies (MA:TS)

Admission Process

APU will provide a fast-track admission process for Bethel students in good academic standing upon receipt of an official Bethel transcript as well as official transcripts submitted as part of their admission to their Bethel program and the following:

- Students will complete an initial application to APU through the Graduate and Professional Admissions office.
- APU will waive the \$45 application fee for Bethel San Diego students.
- Students will [request of Bethel](#) that a copy of their Bethel admission files be sent to APU Graduate and Professional Admissions Office for application file completion. The file will contain, at minimum:
 - Bethel application
 - All submitted official transcripts
 - Personal statement/letter of intent
 - All test scores if student provided them to Bethel
 - Letters of Recommendation, if available
 - Copy of admission letter
 - A statement from Bethel that the student is in good standing at Bethel. For purposes of this understanding, “good standing” means students who have not received any discipline at Bethel or who are not currently under investigation that could lead to any discipline.
- Upon completion of the application file, and review from the APU academic school and program, students will be notified of the admission decision.

Bethel students who may not meet the APU minimum grade point average requirement for admissions may be admitted conditionally with the expectation that their earned APU grade point average will meet the requirement within the first term.

Residency and Transfer Credit Policies

The following policies have been established to transfer credits to APU under the partnership agreement:

- APU will accept all graduate courses completed at Bethel and/or transferred into them, with final grades of A, A-, B+ or B.
- A student may transfer in up to 48 units/credits for the Master of Divinity, up to 32 units/credits for the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies, and up to 40 units/credits for Master of Arts: Theological Studies, less any Advanced Standing units, from other regionally or ATS-accredited graduate degree programs. Advanced Standing credits awarded by Bethel may not be accepted by APU as valid transfer credit.
- Units transferred are limited to one half of an earned master’s degree.
- A minimum of 26 units for the M.Div., 16 units for the MAPS, and 20 units for MA:TS must be completed at APU.
- To be transferable, any other course that a student is seeking to transfer to APU must meet the following requirements:

- The course was completed at a regionally accredited or from an ATS-accredited institution.
- The grade earned was a B or better. (Neither Pass in a pass/fail, Credit in a credit/no-credit course, nor a B- is acceptable for transfer credit. However, up to one-half of the required field education units for a theology degree may be accepted with grades of Pass or Credit.)
- The course was completed subsequent to the awarding of the bachelor's degree.
- The course was taken within ten years of the time in which the student begins work in the degree program. (More recent work may be required in some programs.)
- The course must be applicable to a graduate degree at the institution where it was taken.
- The course must not be professional development or extension coursework.

Transfer credit may be denied if any of the following is requested:

- Undergraduate coursework requested as transfer credit for an Azusa Pacific University master's degree program.
- Transfer credit or course substitution into a subsequent Azusa Pacific University master's degree.

Master's degree coursework does not count as transfer credit into an Azusa Pacific University doctoral degree program.

There are a number of 1-unit/credit courses (four mentored ministry courses, the community retreat, and urban immersion) that Azusa Pacific Seminary requires of their students that a Bethel transfer student may be required to take. The detail of this requirement is as follows:

- 50+ units/credit in transfer: Community Retreat OR Urban Immersion/Israel Trip AND 1 Mentored Ministry
- 25+ units/credits in transfer: Community Retreat, Urban Immersion/Israel Trip, AND 2 Mentored Ministry
- 10+ units/credits in transfer: Community Retreat, Urban Immersion/Israel Trip, AND 3 Mentored Ministry
- 1-9 units/credits in transfer: All required one-unit courses

If you are interested in the transfer credit policy, contact your student success advisor for a document that outlines course equivalencies between Bethel and APU.

Tuition and Fees

Each participating student will be responsible for paying his/her own assessed tuition rates and fees per the deadlines in the APU Graduate and Professional Catalog to APU. APU will provide a 15% tuition discount for the first term of enrollment at APU, excluding any and all fees, for those students transferring from Bethel. Students must be enrolled at least part-time in that first term to receive the discount and, the tuition discount cannot be combined with any other discounts and/or scholarships for that first enrolled term.

Bethel Seminary San Diego Accreditation

Bethel Seminary San Diego is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools (the national accrediting agency for theological schools in the United

States and Canada). The Commission is recognized by the United States Department of Education and by the Council of Higher Education Accreditation.

Bethel Seminary San Diego is a private institution approved to operate by the California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). Approval to operate means the institution is compliant with the minimum standards contained in the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009 (as amended) and Division 7.5 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

Bankruptcy Statement: Bethel Seminary San Diego does not have a pending petition in bankruptcy, is not operating as a debtor in possession, has not filed a petition for bankruptcy within the preceding five years, and it has not had a petition in bankruptcy filed against it within the preceding five years that resulted in reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. Sec. 1101 et seq.).

Current students are encouraged to review this catalog prior to signing an enrollment agreement. Students are also encouraged to review the School Performance Fact Sheet, which must be provided prior to signing an enrollment agreement.

Bethel Seminary San Diego Contact Information

Academic Advising and General Teach-out Information:

Office of Student Success and Retention
seminary-advising@bethel.edu
651.638.6868

Financial Aid:

Financial Aid Office
finaid@bethel.edu
651.638.6541

International Students:

Theola Campbell
t-campbell@bethel.edu

Tuition, Fees, Payments:

Business Office
business-office@bethel.edu
651.638.6208

Veterans Benefits:

Bethel University Registrar
caps-sem-gs-registar@bethel.edu