

A vintage map with a compass rose and a compass. The map is aged and yellowed, showing various geographical features and text. A compass is placed on the map, with its needle pointing towards the top right. The compass has a brass ring and a white face with black markings.

Welcome to 2026-2027!

Metro Atlanta Seminary Student Orientation August 4, 2026

“that I may know Him ...” – Philippians 3:10



AGENDA

- Opening
- Academics
- Mentoring
- Practicum
- Reminders





Opening Remarks

Randy Schlichting



Academics

Luke Van Cleave

Our “Three-Legged” Stool Approach to Spiritual Formation

- Metro Atlanta Seminary has always approached student education / spiritual formation with these three things in mind:
 - Rich Academics (“Know”)
 - Spiritual Mentoring (“Be”)
 - Practical Application (“Do”)
- As we approach 2026-2027, I think you’ll see that we’re emphasizing a balanced approach towards all three of these elements.



Handbook Updates

Based on a Faculty Survey (March 2026)

- Updated the Academic Catalog
 - New sections, new organization, new courses and descriptions
- Updated the Student Handbook
 - Clarified role of an Auditor
 - Class Attendance / Recording Policy
 - Clarified citation policy (default = Turabian, counseling = APA)
 - Clarified the priority of ***Mentoring*** and ***Practicum*** in all degree plans
 - Clarified roles of Mentor / Mentee



A Few Academic Changes

- The ***Homiletics*** requirement (CCS, MATS, BTh/MDiv) is now fulfilled by Dr. Bryan Chapell's "***Preparation and Delivery of Gospel Messages***", offered in Term 1, Wednesdays from 4:30pm-6:50pm.
- Three Courses moving to Elective status:
 - ***Apologetics*** (2026-2027, Term 1);
 - ***Catechism for All*** (not scheduled for 2026-2027);
 - ***Eschatology*** (not scheduled for 2026-2027).
- Two new Elective Courses:
 - ***Engaging Cultures with a Biblical Worldview*** (2026-2027, Term 2);
 - ***Early Christian Women*** (2026-2027, Term 3).

A Few Academic Changes

- For Additional Electives – we now have a Visiting Student Arrangement with Metro Baltimore Seminary.
- MBS Term 1 – ***Theology and Practice of Personal Worship*** (1 credit) – Thursdays, 7:00-8:15pm;
- MBS Term 3 – ***Eastern Religions*** (1 credit) – Thursdays, 7:00-8:15pm;
- MBS Term 4 – ***Monotheistic and Western Religions*** (1 credit) – Thursdays, 7:00-8:15pm;
- Summer Term 2027 – ***Introduction to Philosophy*** (2 credits) – June-July, four Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30pm.
- [Apply as an MAS Visiting Student](#) online (at no charge) **by Thursday, August 13** for Term 1 classes (MBS Term 1 starts August 17).

A Few Schedule Changes

- Kingdom Purpose Workshop
 - Formerly offered every other year in a Saturday Intensive;
 - NOW, will be offered in Term 3 (January 2027) as an 8-week regular course;
 - LIMITED enrollment, Monday night class, alternate location.
- Teaching and Learning Workshop
 - Formerly offered every other year in a Saturday Intensive;
 - NOW, will be offered in Term 4 (March 2027) as an 8-week regular course;
 - Monday night class (2nd session), MAS Classroom.

A Few Policy Changes

- Course Absence Policy
 - Notify the professor in advance, if possible, and obtain their permission to view the recording in lieu of attendance;
 - Submit a [Recording Request Form](#) (link on the main MAS page footer);
 - View the Class Recording in its entirety;
 - Submit your class notes (into Populi) within 7 days of the missed class session.
- Students may utilize this policy once per course during a term.
- Students who miss two classes (with no makeup video / submission of notes) will automatically fail the class.

A Few Policy Changes

- Language Students
 - Please update your LOGOS subscription for the 2026-2027 Academic Year;
 - Cost remains at \$100 via the [MAS Bookstore](#) (via the website footer);
 - Once you've completed your purchase, our team (Todd) will assign you the license, and you will hear directly from Populi about access.



Mentoring

Bob Carter

Overview

- Spiritual Mentoring is one part of the three-legged stool of spiritual formation.
- The mentor is to pray for the student, meet together at least twice per term, listen to the student's needs, and discuss mentor and course assignments.
- At the conclusion of the term, the student will document their mentor meetings by completing an online form.

Assignments

- Part of your discussion with the mentor may include course content, personal issues, and the assigned book.
- Two assignments will be e-mailed to students twice per term, once at the beginning of the term, and the second at the conclusion of the fourth week.
- Each student and mentor will read *The Holiness of God*, by R.C. Sproul. There will specific reading to discuss each term.



Practicum

Luke Van Cleave

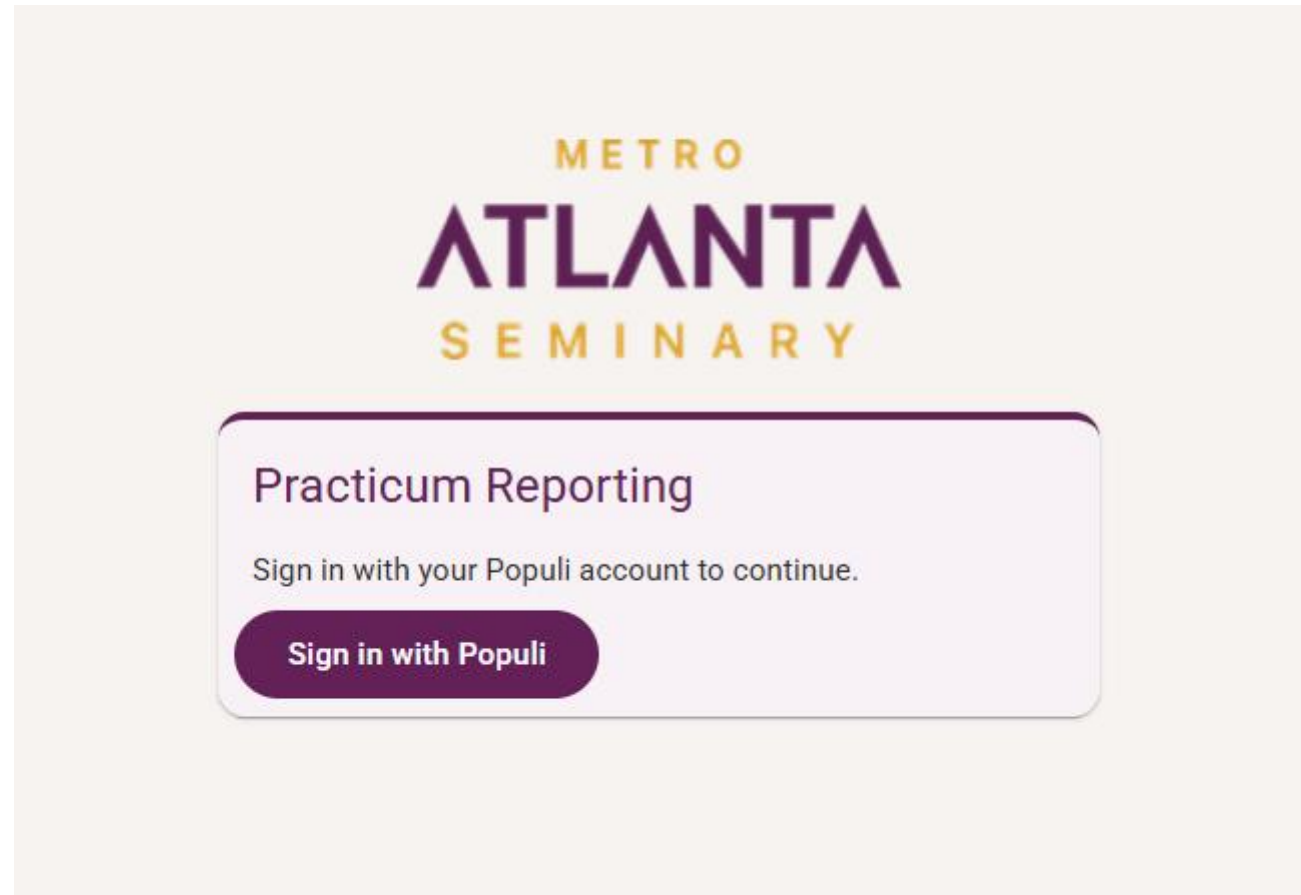
Practicum Reporting at MAS

Master of Divinity Practicum hours required		300	Student _____ Academic Year _____			Hours Carried from Prev Year	Summer and Summer Term	Fall Term	Winter Term	Spring Term	Total To Date
 DO NOT INCLUDE PREP TIME		Description of Work Completed	Min Hr	Max Hr							
Teaching and Leading											
Preach/Teach (ask one of the leaders to give you feedback and send an email to admin@metroatlantaseminary.org)			Address students or adults at a retreat, preach in church or worship setting. Lead a bible study or Sunday school class. Facilitate worship or a bible study in Senior Living Home.	30.00	50.00						-
Lead a Discipleship Group (document and share your prework with your mentor)			Co-Leading a group is acceptable (only count hours when you lead the group).	25.00	50.00						-
				55.00	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Church											
Time With Church Members (Discuss your summary sheet with your mentor)			Intentional time spent - perhaps in a class/meeting setting where you have a meaningful encounter before or after (coffee/meal)	2.00	4.00						-
Interview Pastors and senior church leaders (Submit a summary of your time to your mentor)			Meet over a meal? Arrange a time to ask them questions about their calling, their seminary experience. What surprises confronted them initially. Their "words" for you.	4.00	6.00						-
				6.00	10.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outreach											
Visit the Sick (You will need to validate your participation.)			This should be done with a Pastor, Elder or Mentor. If not possible consult them ahead of time to discuss your approach. Includes Nursing home, hospitals as well as home visits	5.00	10.00						-

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Lead a Discipleship Group (document and share your prework with your mentor)		Co-leading a group is acceptable (only count hours when you are the group).	25.00	50.00						-
			55.00	100.00		-	-	-	-	-
Local Church										
Time With Church Members (Discuss your summary sheet with your mentor)		Additional time spent - perhaps in a classroom setting where you have a meaningful encounter before or after (coffee/meal)	2.00	4.00						-
Interview Pastors and senior church leaders (Submit a summary of your time to your mentor)		Meet with a meal? Arrange time to ask them questions about their calling, their senior experience. What surprises confronted you? Their "words" for you.	4.00							-
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Practicum Reporting at MAS



Practicum Reporting at MAS

- Number of hours for your degree hasn't changed;
- Categories / Activities haven't changed;
- Only your reporting mechanism (and status checks) have been changed (streamlined) for easier student input and tracking / reporting.
- By the way – MABC Students won't work on Practicum until Year 3 – so this is directed at MATS, MABS, and BTh/MDiv students.

Practicum Reporting at MAS

- The first time you log in to use this, please check for:
 - Correct Name / Program
 - Correct Term
 - Correct Total of hours *

* All Practicum hours have been carefully checked and double-checked against your latest submission from 2025-2026.

John Muster
Master of Divinity

2026-2027: MAS Term 1
PRAC2601

Current Practicum Report DRAFT

Date	Activity Type	Logged	Credited	
TEACHING AND LEADING				
Aug 1, 2026	Lead a Discipleship Group	15 h	15 h	
Aug 1, 2026	Preach/Teach	5 h	5 h	
COUNSELING AND TRAINING				
Aug 1, 2026	Larry Crabb SoulCare	20 h	20 h	
Total			40 h	

[+ Add Activity](#) [Submit Report](#)

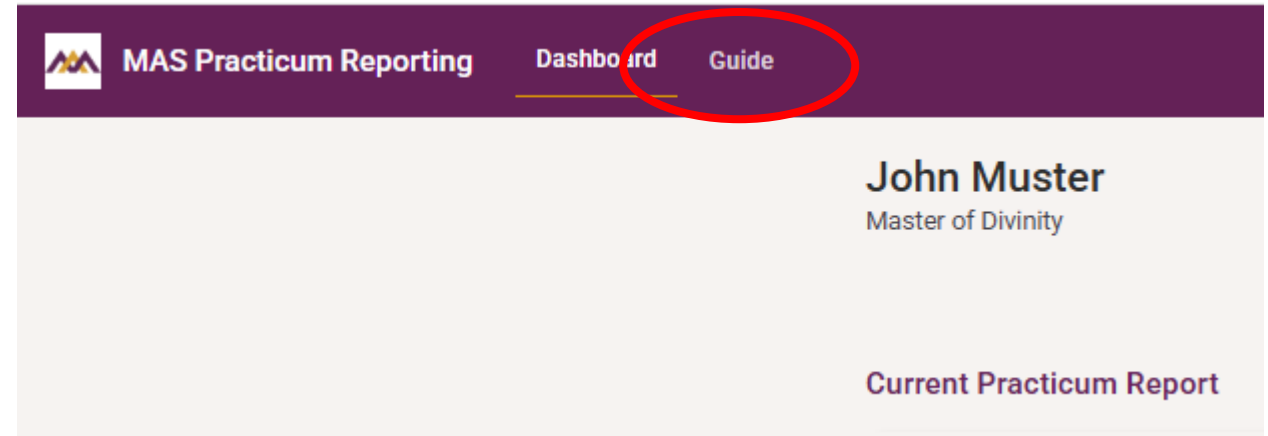
Total Hours for Degree

Show
Logged activities

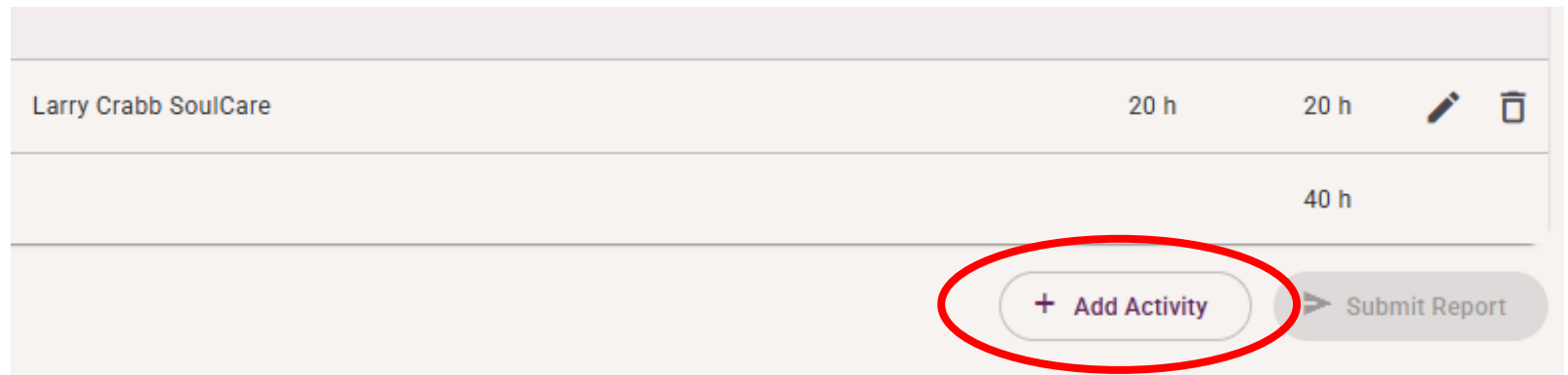
Activity Type	Logged	Credited	Degree Min	Degree Max	Progress
TEACHING AND LEADING					
Preach/Teach	28 h	28 h	30 h not yet met	50 h	56%
Lead a Discipleship Group	4 h	4 h	25 h not yet met	50 h	8%
LOCAL CHURCH					
Time With Church Members	4 h	4 h	2 h	4 h	100%

Practicum Reporting at MAS

- Please take advantage of the built-in GUIDE that should explain any details about the categories / activities related to your degree practicum.



- To ADD an activity, please select the “Add Activity” button.



Practicum Reporting at MAS

- Select the Date
- Choose the Activity from the Dropdown box
- Input the number of hours for that activity
- Tell us WHERE the activity took place
- Describe (briefly) WHO was involved
- Identify any particular outcome of this activity
- Explain what you learned, and what you might do differently next time.

The screenshot shows the 'Add Practicum Activity' form. At the top, it says 'Add Practicum Activity' and 'DO NOT INCLUDE PREPARATION TIME'. Below this, there are four fields: 'Date*' (with a calendar icon and the value '8/1/2026'), 'Activity Type*' (a dropdown menu), 'Logged Hours*' (with the value '0'), and 'Location*'. These four fields are circled in red. Below these fields are three text input areas: 'Involvement*', 'Ministry Outcome*', and 'Self-Evaluation*'. Each of these three areas has a red arrow pointing to it from the right. At the bottom of the form, there is an 'Attach file' button. In the bottom right corner, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Save'. The 'Save' button is circled in red.

REMEMBER TO SAVE YOUR WORK!

Practicum Reporting at MAS

- We will be publishing some training videos over the next few weeks, and will make sure that all students have access to, and are aware of the training videos.
- But, in the meantime, use the “Guide” function for your initial questions.
- For more complex issues, please use the “Support” link in the lower right-hand corner of the page.

A Few Last-Minute Reminders

- Zoom links for every course are posted in the Dashboard on the main course page. As comments are added to the Dashboard, you may need to look down further, but the link will be there.
- We will ALSO post a zoom link on the right-hand side of the page under the “Meeting Time”, so you can find it there, as well.

Todd Breyman · 5 months ago

Class Zoom Link

Please sign in approximately 10 minutes before your class.

Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85849768721?pwd=t42NOaoQraJczik0f6kRV78SRnFQ.1>

Meeting ID: 858 4976 8721

Passcode: 278974



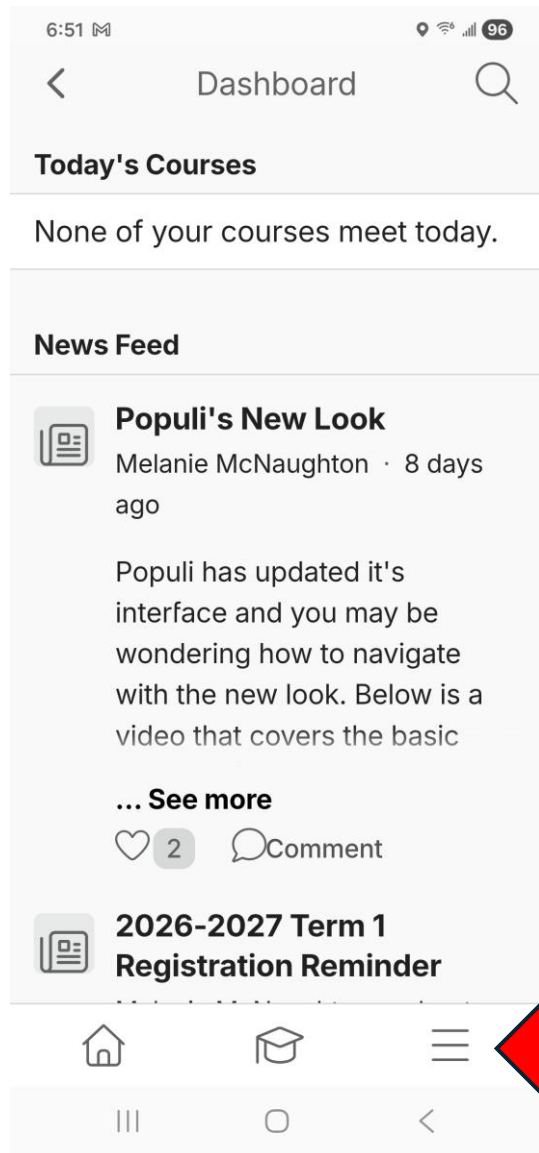
Comment

Meeting Times

add

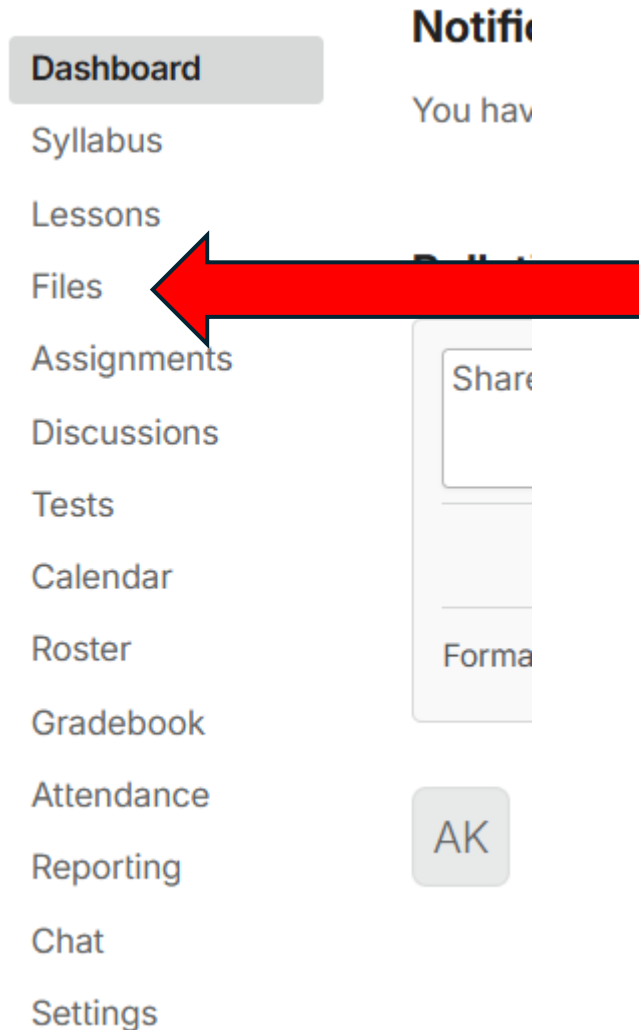
Days	TU	⋮
Time	05:30PM-07:50PM	
Repeats	every week	
Location	Perimeter Church Annex: MAS Classroom	
URL	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6786462369?pwd=N2FGQ0RTR2hVeVFZQk9MQmNNWmRoUT09	

A Few Last-Minute Reminders



- Student ID
 - You can access an MAS Student ID – but only from the mobile app. You can download the Populi app from the AppStore or from GooglePlay.
 - Open the App
 - ***Student ID*** is on the main “hamburger” menu on the initial page

A Few Last-Minute Reminders



- Files Tab in Populi
 - Keep a close eye on the “Files” tab in Populi for your class.
 - Instructors post items there, some mandatory and some optional – but all are helpful.

A vintage map with a compass rose and a compass. The map is aged and yellowed, showing various geographical features and text. A compass is placed on the map, with its needle pointing towards the top right. The compass has a brass ring and a white face with black markings.

THANK YOU!

Q & A

