



BEESON  
DIVINITY SCHOOL

SAMFORD UNIVERSITY | BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Beeson Divinity School  
prepares God-called persons  
to serve as ministers in the  
church of Jesus Christ.



# WELCOME

## Welcome

I am so glad that you are considering preparing for ministry at Beeson Divinity School. As you discern where the Lord is leading you, allow me to share a few things about our approach to theological education.

In an age when many seminaries are virtual most of the time, and still others have decided on an impersonal approach to theological education, Beeson remains committed to rigorous, classical discipleship together in community. The COVID-19 pandemic reinforced our belief that this kind of life-on-life, in-person theological education is the best way to prepare for ministry.

If you join us here at Beeson, you will get to know your teachers, staff and fellow students in a very personal way. You will study, worship, pray, eat and have fun with us. You will be the body of Christ with us on campus, in our homes and in our local churches. We will do life together, forming lifelong friendships and partnerships in ministry with you.

I pray that God will bless you in a special way in days ahead, drawing you nearer to Himself and equipping you more fully for the kingdom work He has in store for you.

—Dean Douglas A. Sweeney



# Who will shape you for ministry?

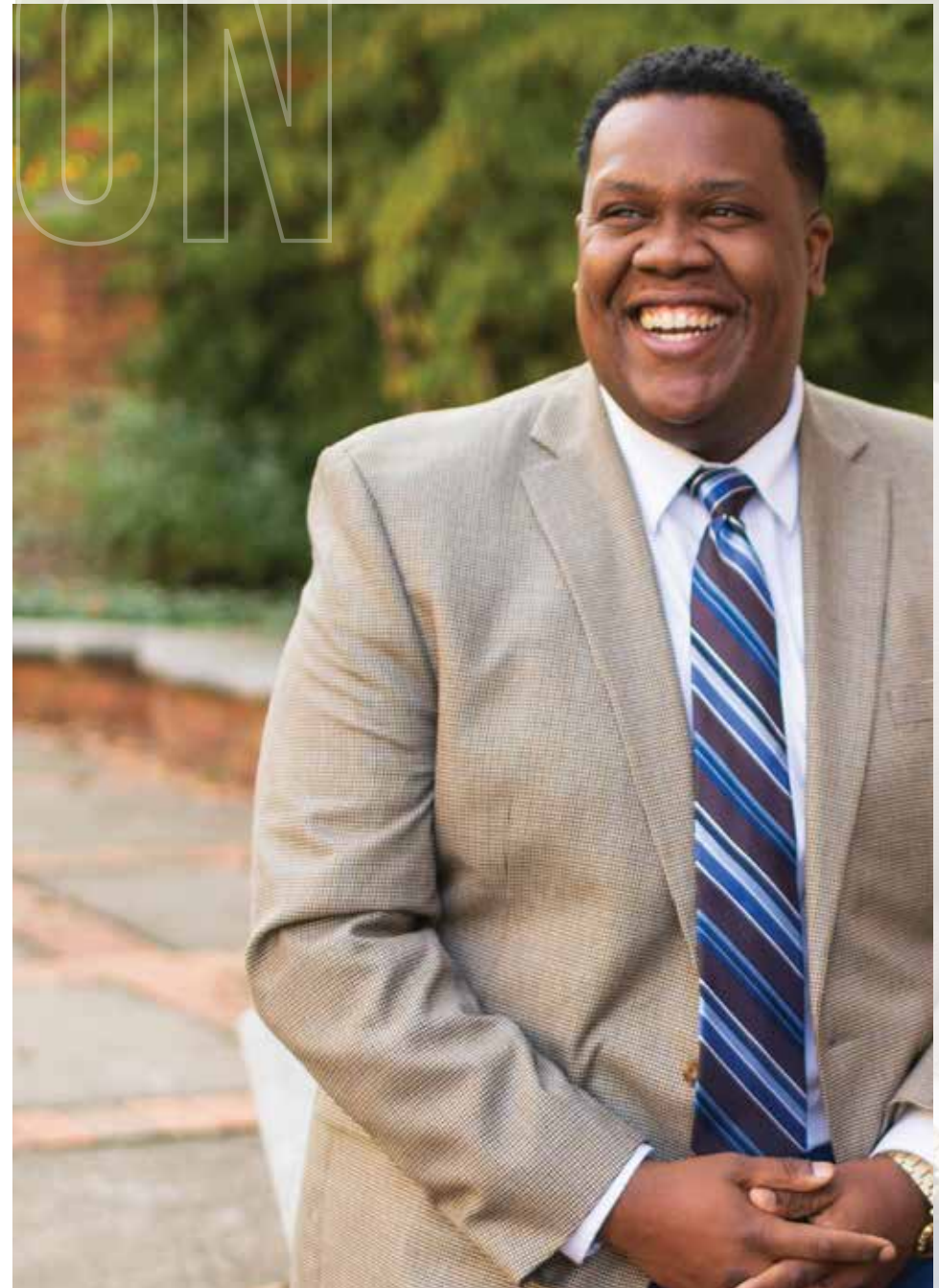
At Beeson, we believe in formation—formation as a Christ-follower and as a minister of the gospel. That's why we take seriously learning and training in an academically rigorous community context where students can encourage each other's gifts and our faculty can mentor and disciple our students intentionally and in person.

**At Beeson, you will be shaped within a school that is:**

**INTERDENOMINATIONAL:** From its beginning, Beeson was founded to represent the diversity within the Protestant church. You will learn in community with faculty, staff and students who represent more than 20 Protestant denominations, but who share a common belief in the core, historic beliefs of the Christian faith and are passionate about the unity and witness of the church.

**CONFESSIONAL:** Beeson is committed to the great tradition of historic Christian orthodoxy and confesses the Apostles' Creed as a community. We believe in the central doctrine of justification by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

**EVANGELICAL:** Beeson believes the Bible is the fully inspired and completely truthful Word of God, and we submit to its authority. We are committed to the preaching and teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ and taking the gospel to the ends of the earth.



# FORMATION

## **Faculty shape the person you become.**

Who you become as a minister has everything to do with the people the Lord uses to shape you. At Beeson, you will be shaped by world-renowned scholars who also take seriously the authority of God's Word and our calling to be on mission together. With a low faculty to student ratio (1:7) and required weekly faculty-led mentor group, faculty know the students by name and mentor them with their lives inside and outside the classroom. Get to know the faculty: [beesondivinity.com/faculty](http://beesondivinity.com/faculty).



## **Your peers shape the person you become.**

Gain a special community of faith and learning in the classroom and mentor groups. Enjoy fellowship and learning opportunities through the Center for Women in Ministry, Global Center, Institute of Anglican Studies, Minority Student Fellowship, Preaching Institute, Student Government Association, Thriving Pastors Initiative, Wesleyan Student Fellowship, and the Women's Theological Colloquium.

# Who will shape you for ministry?



# How will you be shaped?

Beeson Divinity School offers two master's degrees and five joint degrees with several graduate schools at Samford University.

## **Master of Divinity (M.Div.):**

The Master of Divinity is the flagship degree of Beeson Divinity School. It combines academic and practical training to prepare students for full-time ministry. This degree offers a balanced curriculum of biblical studies, history and doctrine, spiritual formation, and ministry leadership development. The M.Div. consists of 87 hours and typically requires three to four years to complete.

## **Certificates with the M.Div.:**

- Certificate of Anglican Studies is for M.Div. students who intend to pursue ordination in the Anglican communion.
- Certificate of Missions is for M.Div. students who wish to give special emphasis to Christian missions to prepare for ministry on the mission field.
- Certificate of Wesleyan Studies is for M.Div. students who want to prepare for ordained ministry within the Wesleyan theological tradition.



**Master of Arts in Theological Studies (M.A.T.S.):**

The Master of Arts in Theological Studies is an academic M.A. degree, designed to provide students with a deeper understanding of the content of the Christian faith. The M.A.T.S. program is ideally suited for persons wishing to gain a foundational understanding of the core theological disciplines for personal enrichment and growth, for the enhancement of their ministries in nonordained capacities and/or as an introductory graduate theological degree.

**Joint Degrees:**

The joint-degree programs offered between Beeson Divinity School and three other Samford University graduate schools (business, law and social work) allow M.Div. and M.A.T.S. students to pursue two degrees concurrently and in a reduced amount of time through credit sharing. This allows students to make their divinity degree even more versatile and tailored toward their particular call to ministry.

*Find the degree that's right for you:  
[beesondivinity.com/degrees](https://beesondivinity.com/degrees).*

INFORMATION  
How will you be shaped?

# Who will you become?

Beeson Divinity School graduates serve the Lord and his church in various roles and denominational contexts around the globe. Our interest in our students does not end on the day they graduate. We are interested in who they will become 15, 25 and even 35 years from now as they continue to serve and answer God's call. Our strong degree programs provide the opportunity to sink deep roots in Scripture and Christian tradition that is able to sustain our graduates for a lifetime of ministry.

Beeson graduates serve in a variety of ministry capacities shortly after graduation, including:

- Pastoral ministry and church planting
- Higher education
- Chaplaincy
- Missions
- Campus ministry
- Christian non-profit
- Christian publishing

Beeson Divinity School provides ongoing resources, support, community and continuing ed to its graduates through its Center for Women in Ministry, Lay Academy, Robert Smith Jr. Preaching Institute and Thriving Pastors Initiative.







# Begin your journey

[beesondivinity.com/admission](https://beesondivinity.com/admission)



**Samford University**

Beeson Divinity School

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