

## Appendix 1.

## Open-Ended Responses

## Contents

	Appendix 1 – page
<b>FACULTY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
GENERAL COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION.....	1
PERSONALNESS, ACCESSIBILITY, FLEXIBILITY .....	1
EXCELLENCE, REPUTATION.....	2
COMMITMENT, DEVOTION .....	3
CLASS PLANNING/CONTENT AND TEACHING STYLE .....	3
CURRICULUM, ASSIGNMENTS, THEOLOGICAL EMPHASIS .....	3
<b>ACADEMIC PROGRAMS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
PRE-SEMINARY PREPARATION, REMEDIATION, INTRODUCTION .....	3
CURRICULUM DISTINCTIVES (GENERAL).....	4
CURRICULUM DISTINCTIVES (IN PARTICULAR) .....	5
SUGGESTIONS FOR PROGRAMS/COURSES .....	7
<i>On-Line Courses</i> .....	9
SPIRITUAL LIFE.....	9
SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION GROUPS .....	9
FIELD EDUCATION AND INTERNSHIPS.....	11
WORKLOAD, TIME COMPRESSION .....	11
EVENING PROGRAM.....	13
EXTENSION PROGRAM.....	13
<b>STUDENT LIFE .....</b>	<b>14</b>
CAMPUS ATMOSPHERE .....	14
DIVERSITY .....	17
<b>ADMINISTRATION .....</b>	<b>18</b>
ACADEMIC DEAN’S OFFICE.....	19
ADMISSIONS OFFICE.....	20
BAYLOR FITNESS CENTER.....	20
BOOK CENTER.....	21
BUSINESS OFFICE SERVICES .....	21
CAMPUS COMMUNICATIONS .....	21
(E.G., KERYGMA, THRESHING FLOOR AND THE DTS WEBSITE) .....	21
CAMPUS POLICE.....	21
CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP .....	22
CHAPEL PROGRAMS .....	22
CLASSROOM CONDITIONS .....	22
COUNSELING SERVICES.....	23
FINANCIAL AID SERVICES .....	23
FOOD SERVICES .....	24
HOUSING AND RELOCATION OFFICE AND RESIDENCE HALLS .....	24
LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES, MEDIA CENTER, AND STUDENT COMPUTER LAB .....	24
MINISTRY PLACEMENT SERVICES AND ALUMNI OFFICE .....	25
PARKING .....	25
REGISTRAR’S OFFICE SERVICES .....	25
REGISTRATION PROCEDURES/REGISTRAR ITEMS .....	26
<i>Graduation</i> .....	26
STUDENT SERVICES.....	26

<b>SEMINARY</b> .....	<b>26</b>
THE COMMITMENT TO THE BIBLE AND ITS EXEGESIS, PREACHING, AND TEACHING .....	26
THE THOROUGHNESS OF THE TRAINING .....	27
THE COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AND INTEGRITY .....	28
THE COMMITMENT TO ITS HERITAGE OF CONSERVATIVE DOCTRINE AND INTERPRETATION ..	28
TEACHING ABOUT NON-DTS VIEWPOINTS VS. THE DANGER OF INSTITUTIONAL ARROGANCE	28
THE COMMITMENT TO DISPENSATIONALISM .....	29
<b>GENERAL ENCOURAGEMENT</b> .....	<b>29</b>

## Faculty

### *General commendation and appreciation*

- I Liked best.. The excellent professors (Resp) 1
- I Liked best... It's professors. There are a number of Godly and gifted men and women around here who love God and us students. (Resp) 6
- I Liked best... The professors and their strong teaching of God's Word. (Resp) 7
- I Liked best... The professors. Although I did not agree with all of them, most all of them exhibited grace in the classroom with a real love for the students and the Lord. (Resp) 11
- I Liked best... The quality of professors and support staff (Resp) 16
- I Liked best... highly qualified professors (Resp) 18
- I Liked best... The opportunity to grow and learn from those who love God and His word and love to teach (Resp) 29
- I Liked best... being able to study under gifted professors who challenge me intellectually and spiritually (Resp) 69
- I Liked best... Christ likeness and competency of the professors. (Resp) 73
- I Liked best... The professors and their teaching. (Resp) 83
- I Liked best... the passion of the prof's and the content. (Resp) 96
- I Liked best... the unique life perspectives each professor brings to the classroom while all coming from the same doctrinal agreement. (Resp) 108
- I Liked best... Learning from godly men who have dedicated themselves to good academic and Spirit- led study of the the Bible and the church. (Resp) 109
- I Liked best... The wealth of spiritual knowledge and the support and encouragement of the professors. My time at DTS has been wonderful and very uplifting. (Resp) 116
- I Liked best... the biblical expertise and Christ like character of the instructors. (Resp) 146
- I Liked best... The Spirit of the Living God I saw demonstrated in the lives of faculty and students alike. (Resp) 151
- I Liked best... Godly men and women teaching (Resp) 153

### *Personalness, accessibility, flexibility*

#### **Kudos**

- I Liked best... the quality of the professors both personally and in the classroom (Resp) 49
- I Liked best... personal attention from professors - that they are available and desire to talk with students (Resp) 74
- I Liked best... The professors who bring a wealth of knowledge and ministry experience to the classroom and genuinely care about the students, learning their names. I think of particular profs like Dr. Burns, Dr. Constable, Dr. Malphurs and Dr. Larry Waters. (Resp) 124

I Liked best... the professors, staff, administration is excellent, and above that, they care about each individual student, which I really enjoyed and I really respect each of them for (Resp) 125

I Liked best... the professors really care about the students and the reputation of the seminary (Resp) 129

I Liked best... professors and the passion that they had for the bible and the students. They had knowledge of the subjects and did a great job of communicating it. I loved learning new material. (Resp) 143

I Liked best... the faculty and how they care about the students (Resp) 144

I Liked best... The time I was allowed to study God's word and the quality of professors that I had. I enjoyed professors who took a genuine interest in their students and were willing to help and minister when there where 'bumps' in the road. (Resp) 149

### **Concerns**

I liked least... The fact that Profs rarely get to actually see you work and provide feedback on it. It is mostly grades that do this. (Resp) 4

I liked least... I think the seminary sometimes gets dangerously close when some professors try to be 'all things to all people' in a negative way. I mean sometimes a few of the professors won't take a stand on an issue perhaps out of a sense of humility. However, in doing so, the students may start to think that it is best not to hold to a strong theological position, but rather to be in a state of 'flux' and that does not encourage steadfastness when heresy occurs in the church. Please keep in mind that I am not referring to all of the professors, but rather to a minority of them. (Resp) 11

I liked least... The lack of professor-student interaction in a non-classroom environment. (Resp) 27

I liked least... I wish I could have had more interaction with the professors. I honestly think it would be a good idea to have them more involved in the Spiritual Formation process. (Resp) 48

I liked least... While the instructors are dedicated to helping the students, they don't always honor appointment times. There have been times where I've had to wait at least a half-hour past my scheduled meeting time because an instructor has either overbooked or never got the message I was coming to see him. I understand that grace has to be extended because everyone is busy, but this has happened to me enough that I think it has to be addressed. Sometimes this has happened because the instructor never got word that I was coming. Other times because they got bogged down in other business. (Resp) 57

I liked least... Lack of discussion regarding a variety of viewpoints. Professors have (at times) addressed theological conflicts with other institutions or perspectives that do not align with their own beliefs in a manner inconsistent with a spirit of grace. (Resp) 103

### **Suggestions for Improvement**

The Seminary could improve by... Hiring a theology professor whose primary specialty is in Philosophy/Apologetics. (Resp) 42

The Seminary could improve by... Hiring top-notch professors like Bingham, Hannah, Pyne...and keeping the top-notch professors already here! (Resp) 86

### *Excellence, Reputation*

I Liked best... Academic excellence and spiritual commitment of faculty and students. (Resp) 12

I Liked best... Godly, well-learned faculty who helped me learn God's word and better apply to real life situations. quality of education across the board. (Resp) 41

I Liked best... some of the professors, exposure to ideas, learning how to think Critically (Resp) 56

*Commitment, devotion*

I Liked best... the professors commitment to the classes that they taught (Resp) 21

I Liked best... the professor's devotion both to God and to the students.(Resp) 77

I Liked best... The commitment of the Professors to our spiritual growth and learning. I'm a glad that they taught me to think critically. I received an education, that will carry on, not indoctrination. Thanks!! (Resp) 121

I Liked best... the level of commitment demonstrated by professors in the lives of students. (Resp) 122

I Liked best... The professors were not only well prepared to teach their classes, most demonstrated the Influence of Christ in lives to their students by the various ministries that they were involved in, their grace, and by serving on short term mission trips. I was very inspired to see professors in various depts that were willing to serve in the mission field. They truly demonstrated the Great Commission! (Resp) 155

*Class planning/content and teaching style*

I liked least... Our infatuation with being relevant, contemporary and practical to the detriment of valuing theological/historical/philosophical reflection upon God, the Bible and our culture. (Resp) 6

*Curriculum, assignments, theological emphasis*

I Liked best... commitment to the scriptures; quality of the faculty (Resp) 130

I Liked best... The Curriculum and Professors. God honoring, Biblically sound, logical, equipping courses on a clear learning path with men of the highest moral character leading the way. I wanted to submit to and follow the humble leadership of these men. They earn their respect. (Resp) 133

I Liked best... Strong emphasis on the Bible and the excellent faculty. (Resp) 134

**Academic Programs**

*Pre-seminary preparation, remediation, introduction*

I think that I am very thankful for professors who made me realize that this is not just a 'school with a cross on it.' The Holy Spirit is very much involved in this educational process. I think that emphasizing that more could help those disgruntled students to see that if they're mad at the school, they're probably actually mad at God. It took me awhile to understand that since no one had really prepared me for the emotional and spiritual toll that seminary would take on me (I was prepared for the academic toll but not the others). I'm not sure how to get that across to the students any more than you already do though. (Resp) 67

*Curriculum distinctives (general)*

What I Liked

I Liked Best.. The training I received in how to do scholarly research. (Resp) 48

I Liked Best... felt very prepared for how to approach a correct study of the Bible. However, I must say that this is overwhelming to me right now and I am very intimidated by it. I feel prepared though and feel like I have the necessary tools. (Resp) 59

I Liked Best... learning to study the Bible more effectively. (Resp) 64

I Liked Best... the education and experience I received to do pastoral ministry. (Resp) 110

I Liked Best... The high level of education (Resp) 117

I Liked Best... Thank you so much for a great ministry education. Although the languages were tough for me, I think i enjoyed and appreciated those classes the most... along with the preaching classes. I feel as though I can think more critically (hopefully only in an academic sense), and have the tools to use. I have really appreciated the pros and the general attitude at the seminary of keeping the big picture. (Resp)131

What I didn't Like

I liked least... the focus and pressure of academicians on academics. The amount of work required for 3 hours of credit is ungodly and does not contribute toward the balanced living that will be productive for graduates upon entering ministry. (Resp) 3

I liked least... a prevalent attitude in some departments and in a large portion of the student population that genuine academic rigor is unimportant or anti-spiritual. (Resp) 6

I liked least... This is difficult to put into words, but DTS can be a place which is overwhelmed with academia or scholarship. While I understand this is an educational institution - and while I appreciate the great work and mental power that goes into much of what comes out of DTS - it can leave those who are here to gain practical ministry preparation a bit overwhelmed. Personally, I found myself playing the academic game and forfeiting real learning at times.... The Seminary could improve by... Re-evaluating the culture of academia. Although, the minute I write that I am reminded of the incredible scholarship that comes from DTS and the long legacy that has produced incredible evangelical minds here. Maybe some flexibility in dealing with those who are not as highly academic, or perhaps beginning to create an environment (through communication, chapel experiences, etc.) that includes less 'academia' and more openness to the diversity that exists among the student body as it relates to academic background and future ministry goals. (Resp) 44

I liked least... It's danger of elevating academics over devotion (Resp) 54

## What Should Be Changed

I learned a lot of pieces about the Bible, but I would have certainly not gotten the overarching big picture of the Bible if I had not gotten this through discussions with several professors on my own. This fragmentation leads me to mention something else--i.e. INTEGRATION of the various classes is a must. I don't know of anyone who is graduating who does not complain that their seminary training as been compartmentalized and fragmented. This is a fundamental problem. E.g. the preaching classes are not well connected with the language classes, the CE and PM classes are often disconnected from theology, etc...  
The premillennial dispensational theology is hardly talked about except for eschatology class.  
And, when it's taught, it's typically taught in a very confusing way...

Sit in an RS102 class and see how much confusion there is over such basic doctrines as Trinity, Christ's person and work, etc... and you will realize that some fundamental issues of the faith are being taken too lightly...

The OT Exegetical method and the Preaching method taught at DTS needs to be modified to get in step with the first article of the DTS Doctrinal Statement--i.e. the OT is not properly read until it leads to Christ. You feel embarrassed to talk about Christ in OT passages and in sermons from the Jacob narrative. The issue of how the NT uses the OT must be addressed...

My friend's tract for his Evangelism class was required to be re-drafted because it referred to repentance. The prof said repentance is not part of conversion in contradiction to our doctrinal statement. (Resp) 6

The main problem I encountered was engaging the culture. When Sept. 11th happened not one of my classes took the time to address it and how Christian leaders should respond to these situations. Thankfully chapel made a little bit of an effort. I remember Dr. Pyne talked about it. Also not one of my classes ever addressed the issue of homosexuality. I can think of no other issue that will be more important for the church to deal with in the near future. As I look back on my career here at seminary I wish a professor would have taken at least one class period on how to minister to these individuals in spite of contemporary (Christian) culture. Interpersonal skills at seminary are difficult. I spent so much time in the books that I accomplished little else. I probably should have been more involved in student organizations. (Resp) 48

The Seminary could improve by... Better integrating the various academic departments, they all seem to be disconnected islands. (Resp) 75

The Seminary could improve by... More skills/implementation acquisition and a little less content *acquisition.* (Resp) 114

There was not enough biblical teaching and how to incorporate both the spiritual aspect and the mental aspect of a persons life. It would be helpful to learn more about how to integrate the two. (Resp.) 144

## *Curriculum distinctives (in particular)*

### What I Liked

I Liked Best... The quality teaching at the NT, Missions, and Historical Theology Courses (Resp) 4

I Liked Best... Bible-centered, preaching classes that teach the process of exegesis, theology, homiletics and not just a 'comm' course, Dr. Bingham's classes, preparation for exegetical studies(Resp) 31

- I Liked Best... The single book courses, usually in the original language. That is where I truly learned something, permanently, not just for a test or to mark off a reading report. I learned it, can take it away, and reuse it. (Resp) 37
- I Liked Best... learning to study the Bible more effectively. (Resp) 64
- I Liked Best... Interacting with so many other believers from different places and learned how to live with doctrinal uncertainty in areas. Also, really gaining a great foundation of theology and skills from which to build off of. (Resp) 91
- I Liked Best... The counseling department (Resp) 118
- I Liked Best... its standard of excellence in teaching and expectations of students. (Resp) 123
- I Liked Best... Its commitment to providing a solid foundation of biblical and theological knowledge for its students. I feel that this foundation will undergird my ministry through my life. I am very thankful for such a solid foundation unavailable at most seminaries. (Resp) 126
- I Liked Best... Bible exposition was what I liked the most. I made some incredible friends that I will always treasure, both students and faculty. I loved Prof and Dr. Toussaint, and all the rest of the profs. I loved the three years that I spent there and will be back in the summer hopefully for the next couple of years. (Resp) 152
- I Liked Best... programs preparing for ministry and committed professors (Resp) 156

### What Should be Changed

- For Greek, I would try and pick a non-Pauline letter to go through or perhaps part of a gospel. Though I love Paul, it would have been great to do some work in a narrative or non-Pauline letter. Also, and I am not a Greek scholar or someone who loves languages, but I would add another Greek class. It's too valuable to get so close to being proficient and then stop short. Another class would really help...In the ThM track, a philosophy course and more historical theology must be added. Also, I would try and substitute a non-Pauline letter for Philippians and probably add a 6th Greek class going through a Gospel narrative. An ethics class would be nice. (Resp.) 6
- The Seminary could improve by... For a Th.M graduate A requirement for graduation would be to share key passages of Scripture that teach the core doctrines and be able to summarize specific material for each book. This is not a requirement, but make that an option for a class or set of classes in a given track. (Resp) 29
- The Seminary could improve by... Focusing more on evangelism. It seems that the seminary is focusing on training us to minister more among believers, when there are more number of nonbelievers in the world. (Resp) 36
- I don't feel I have been given adequate training on how to counsel. People turn to pastors for spiritual advice. I just don't feel I've been given the necessary tools to help people if they were to come into my office with a problem. I don't expect to have the level of expertise as a professional, licensed counselor, but I would think I need some skills in how to listen in order to assess whether or not I could help an individual. (Resp.) 57
- There is an assumption of an understanding of English grammar that is unfounded. Some professors do not know how to communicate with students with such little knowledge and understanding. also the covering of OT background material is disruptive and redundant, to the process of learning Hebrew as was the NT background was to Greek. (Resp.) 89
- More practical application needed- Preaching a few times in 3 classes is not real preparation. Perhaps a program set up to have students preaching and teaching in some of the churches in the greater DFW area. Most of us attend large churches where there are few opportunities. ~In my language classes I was forced to spend way to much time memorizing words when the time could have been spent learning how to translate given the vocab.- I have forgotten most of the vocab anyway... (Resp.) 97

The Seminary could improve by... by not offering the MA programs. (I say this somewhat as a joke, kind of). I sometimes get the impression that students think that graduating from DTS is graduating from DTS. But I cannot begin to describe the tremendous benefit (and pain) of the languages and preaching classes above the regular core theology and BE classes. To each their own and perhaps I should just restate that I appreciated the language classes. (Resp) 131

Provide more opportunity for creativity in personal assignments. (Resp.)141

More practical use of Hebrew and Greek-- continued practice in other classes so that the languages do not get left behind. (Resp.)142

I didn't grade anything with a 3 or below, but I wanted to say that Hebrew exegesis was much more dicey than Greek. There needs to be more teaching on how to do Hebrew textual criticism, since it's a different ball game than Greek. (Resp.) 148

### *Suggestions for programs/courses*

You should compensate those who took Bible 301 by CD in the Spring (and Summer) of 2001 by offering them free access to Hendricks' lectures on the web site or by giving them the DVD's or videos. (Resp. 5)

History of Doctrine must be added to the 6 hours of a Church History Survey. Too many of us are graduating with no idea of historical development. It's as if we jump from the NT to 2005. It's truly scary to talk to some students graduating this place who have no idea how much they have been influenced by the culture and the 2nd Great Awakening...

Need an ethics class for the contemporary issues and how to apply theology to addressing them. ...

I would love to see our school emphasize more Pastoral theology and less pastoral technique. (Resp) 6

The RS101 class could teach students how to use modern media in research and communication (Resp) 18

More practical theology (Resp) 20

Along with the strong biblical content there must be a required course in Christian worldview and Christian ethics. This is what the world is talking about and just knowing the Bible is not good enough. You have to know how to live ethically in order for the gospel to be well represented. (Resp) 27

I think it is lacking in what Noll argues about in 'The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind.' There was little teaching on ethical issues (how do we articulate our stand on euthanasia, abortion, stem-cell research, etc.) and there are no departments that cover this or think through ethics or other contemporary issues (nature, society, arts - more in depth than what we have with Dr. Grant). The seminary is great but is lacking in preparing us to deal with some of these contemporary issues. There should be an ethics class. Humanity and Sin (the book and class) does not do the job. (Resp) 31

I believe a course in practical ministry to other persons, such as dealing with conflicts in ministry or how to love the unloveable would be helpful. Prior to coming to the seminary I did not have much experience working in a church setting. Sometimes, I feel intimidated and unequipped. Often church leaders will assume that since you attend DTS, you possess all the tools to run any area of ministry. They rarely take into account your personal background or whether you are in your first year or last year of seminary life. I personally, would have taken less classes to spend more time knowing people and surrounding myself with an accountability group that would help me to develop further. (Resp) 34

I think more attention needs to be given to developing pastoral counseling skills for pastoral leadership majors. If they are going to be spiritual leaders of the church, people will naturally go to them for counseling of some sort. I don't think the training has to be to the depth of counseling majors, but a required class or two (beside BC101) in how to walk a person through an issue they're struggling with would be great. At this time, I just don't feel very adequate to provide much assistance to someone struggling with marital problems or other issues other than to listen. (Resp) 57

The Seminary could improve by... Perhaps offering more focused degrees that cut down on the overall amount of hours. For the ThM, perhaps hours could be cut by considering the specific track and eliminating course work outside of that track. I also felt that the Bible Exposition classes could be consolidated. For many of the courses in this area, I felt that the class could have been summed up in a good commentary rather than taking it for credit. How to chart a book and specific facts about them does not need to take up so many courses. It was my experience that we never covered the majority of books described in the syllabus b/c of time. I think consolidating them is a good option. (Resp) 59

Require internships for MABS and MACM. Perhaps a little less paperwork to make up for the time. (Resp) 61

The Seminary could improve by... Making 'Creativity' be a required 1st year course for students...one of the best classes I've taken....most spiritually edifying. An elective? It costs students too much money to just take an elective course taught by a teacher as great as Prof. Hendricks if they've got other classes they 'have' to take. Couldn't elements of it be morphed with 'Ed. Cycle of the Church'? Thank you. (Resp) 63

We were never taught how to be servants, it was just assumed it would happen It needs to be addressed in Spiritual Life (Resp) 66

The Seminary could improve by... 1. requiring the men students to take the class: The Role of Women in Ministry~2. doing more to promote spiritual formation on campus. The students need to learn more people and caring skills.~3. having a Master of Divinity program for those who don't want to take the language courses (Resp) 74

The research class should be mandatory for everyone, or at least encouraged. I did not even know what it was until it was almost too late for me to take the course. I think this would have helped me improve my research skills. (Resp) 82

I think that more classes on culture and ministry are needed...the two classes that shaped my life and ministry the most at the seminary were cultural dynamics and acts: the church and culture. Both of these classes were electives and mostly for missions people. However, I am not the same person after those classes as I was before. Acts: the Church and Culture especially shaped the way I read my bible. I would say that it did more for my hermeneutic than any BE class I took at DTS, and it shaped my theology, especially my ecclesiology, more than any theology class. That class taught me to think theologically and changed the way I read and interpreted the Bible. (Resp) 88

I liked least... how MABS program was viewed differently than the Th.M. (Resp) 105

The Seminary could improve by... Having all degree programs take History of Doctrine and History of Church classes (Bingham and Hannah specifically!) I though these functioned as great capstone classes! (Resp) 108

I think a course in interpersonal communication would help all students. Interpersonal communication is vital to sharing the faith with others and teaching. Included in this course could be a dissection of the various learning styles and behavior types. (Resp) 124

I liked least... The failure for certain courses listed in the DTS catalog to be offered during my two and a half years here. Specifically PM 741(Introduction to Hymnology),742(Introduction to Praise and Worship Music),743 (Seminar in Worship Arts). These would have been invaluable to me and were part of my decision to attend here. DTS has misrepresented itself by listing these courses and then not offering them... The Seminary could improve by... Offering a program in worship ministry. This is a very real and growing need in the church which should be reflected at this seminary (Resp) 126

The Seminary could improve by... Offering a brown bag on turabian style for students. (Resp) 137

The Seminary could improve by... 1. In light of recent research tools, the seminary should relax their 'old school standards on language exegesis. 2. The school should focus more on character formation and actual ministry experience. An internship between the second and third year of school would be helpful, thus setting up a more productive final two years (instead of burnout and doubt) Also, the expectation for students to be full-time students(12 and even 15 hours if they graduate according to plan), yet also work 12-15 hours in order to qualify for scholarships seems a little hypocritical. (Resp) 139

More practical, inchurch programs. Also more freedom of personal expression and development. (Resp) 141

### **On-Line Courses**

The Seminary could improve by... adding more on-line courses. (Resp) 13

I really disliked the experiment of putting (a particular) class online. I hate the setup for students that are on campus but I can see it being a great thing for those taking the course strictly online. (Resp. 108)

The Seminary could improve by... Continue to increase on line courses. (Resp) 134

The Seminary could improve by... utilizing technology for non-resident students (developing more on-line courses etc.). (Resp) 146

The Seminary could improve by... offering more courses via Internet, so more students all over the world could study a portion of the program without coming to the US (Resp) 156

### *Spiritual life*

Keep communicating that the spiritual life of the minister is more important in the long run than his knowledge acquisition. (Resp) 114

I liked least... the lack of a mentorship program and an organized effort to nurture and protect the spiritual lives of students, faculty and staff. (Resp) 136

### *Spiritual Formation and Spiritual Formation Groups*

The Seminary could improve by... Reaching out to the extension campus a little more in terms of spiritual formation groups. (Resp) 21

The Seminary could improve by... Once again making it beneficial for professors to be involved in the Spiritual Formation groups so they can have a relational impact upon students. (Resp) 27

I Liked best... Godly profs, good teachers, good library, good spiritual formation (Resp) 36

I Liked best... Emphasis on excellence, scholarly credibility, Spiritual Formation Program. (Resp) 42

Spiritual Formation groups can aid in this process, but some students invest so much time with their books and fellow Christians, they lose touch with the reality of the world around us. (Resp.) 47

I liked least... the false expectation of brotherhood and friendship promoted in the Spiritual Formation classes. I have been here for five years and will leave without one solid friendship--and not for a lack of trying. Both my wife and I were deeply saddened in a recent reflection over our time here. (Resp) 53

I Liked best...the instructors go all out in helping the students. This adds a sense of 'family' to the campus. This has probably been accomplished not only by the openness of the instructors but also the SF program at the school. (Resp) 57

The Seminary could improve by... 1. Better integrating the various academic departments, they all seem to be disconnected islands. 2. The importance of Spiritual Formation needs to be championed more effectively from the professors and administration (Resp) 75

The Seminary could improve by... Challenging the students to keep the habit of spirit disciplines as they struggle to excel academically. Spirituality is more important than knowledge. (Resp) 80

The Seminary could improve by... providing a spiritual formation format for non-THMer's that could continue throughout their seminary experience. It's just that the whole seminary process of having to use the Bible as a textbook takes away some of the intimacy of studying the scriptures. Also, the feeling of leaving with more questions than I had when I started is challenging, though welcoming. I think the overall process is tough, and I would have liked to have been made to go through Spiritual Formations and kept a small group throughout my seminary experience. (Resp) 96

I Liked Best...Spiritual formation group, Homiletical classes (Resp) 100

The Seminary could improve by...Increased mentorship opportunities from alumni or staff (Resp) 128

I think the spiritual formation course needs continued evaluation as to vision & purpose vs. the course curriculum (Resp) 129

I Liked best...Spiritual formation program and the legacy of Howard Hendricks (Resp) 139

The Seminary could improve by... Spiritual formation is good and chapel is critical but I would love to see DTS find a core group of men and women who will develop a comprehensive program where every student can feel connected to the DTS community and mentored by an older man or woman. This could be a faculty member or man/woman that a faculty member recommends. The spiritual life is extremely challenging during seminary but when the body of Christ is working together by God's Spirit, prayer and commitment to your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ the right environment is created for his servants to thrive. While every believer has access to all the power we need, not every believer at DTS has the same disposition or struggles. So while many will naturally place themselves in a system of healthy accountability, some either don't know how to do this or may not see the value until afterward. I know many struggle at DTS and I know that we have so many people here who could be ministering to our fellow brothers and sisters. (Resp) 136

Spiritual Formation needs to either not delve into deep heart matters, or get more counseling involved in the process – especially for women's groups (since generally men's groups don't get that deep in the first place). (Resp.) 148

*Field Education and Internships*

The Seminary could improve by... To help students be involved in the local church would be great; DTS does do well in that area, but perhaps some more concentration in that area. We need the body of Christ, the local church to be an instrumental part of our lives. I think we could do a better job. (Resp) 61

The Seminary could improve by... Treating DTS as more of a Graduate School and not an extension of undergrad. ~This is why you are seeing the dress code being violated, why there are more problems with male/female student relationships. Why you will see more and more young men who live in the dorms flounder in ministry. They are becoming more and more immature. They don't need to be babied to go to chapel and have SF and be in student government. They need to be in churches doing ministry hands on and being involved in Dallas and the community not sitting in the dorms playing video games and having theological debates. I know that's part of it, but it is getting to be more and more prominent. Make them do longer internships or make the requirements stiffer. I know so many students who go to our church who do nothing but come on Sunday morning and then they are back to the bubble at DTS where it's safe and fun for the whole family. Ministry is hard and messy. Get them in the game and get them to have more ministry experience. (Resp) 83

The Seminary could improve by... expanding opportunities to study in other contexts (mission field, other seminaries and Christian leaders) (Resp) 130

I liked least... Field education (Resp) 139

The Seminary could improve by... Providing more real life church assignments... I liked least... Little opportunity for real life church assignments (Resp) 141

*Workload, time compression*

The seminary should not do anything to 'improve' in this area. Instead, it should do less--or it should decide, Are we an academic institution or are we a ministry institution? The answer cannot be 'Both.' The vast majority of the classes are academic not practical ministry oriented classes (e.g. How To X). Consequently, stop pressuring the student to do enormous amounts of ministry while in school. Take a look at my week--25 hours at UPS (required by DTS in order to receive financial aid). 13 hours in Class. 3 hours of study for every one hour in class. I automatically have a 77 hour work week. That doesn't include my working for our landlord on Saturday or teaching Sunday school. An 80 hour week is normal--and you want us to spend more time outside of school doing practical ministry? That's crazy. Stop the pressure. Either decrease the academic demands and allow more time for ministry or stop pressuring us to do it all. There are only so many hours in a week... I liked least... The quantity over quality approach. I don't want to just be exposed to everything, but I want to actually understand and be able to teach something. Decrease quantity and increase quality. (Resp) 37

The Seminary could improve by... More emphasis in the classroom for students to spend time with families and friends, and to take time away to nurture personal relationships instead of focusing on writing a 'perfect paper' or investing too much time in a project... I liked least... The tendency of fellow students and/or faculty to 'over commit' in ministry or school work and get burned out (Resp) 47

I liked least... Too much busy work (Resp) 55

I felt as though the disciplines of prayer, meditation, acts of service, etc... were crowded out by assignments and surviving the time pressures of going to school and working a considerable amount of hours. While I certainly appreciated my assignments, I still felt they were just that and often incurred more stress from them rather than growing spiritually. I hope to integrate this two areas as I progress. At this point I feel a certain need to re-focus on applying what I am learning. That is the difference. I study about facts and learn study methods, but converting that to daily expression is the heart of my struggle. (Resp) 59

I liked least... The reading load. For many of my classes, I was asked to read well over 1000 pages for the class. I found that when I tried to read that much, I did not learn much because I could not process what I was reading. I feel like I learned the most in any one class from church history I. In that class I received a D, however because I only completed half of the required reading. However, I don't regret that decision on my part. I know that if I had help myself to all of the assigned reading, my life would have been very unhealthy and out of balance and I would not have learned as much. (Resp) 68

Less stress on work and more stress on personal growth (Resp) 71

The Seminary could improve by... possibly making a 'family friendly' course schedule that wouldn't be such a burden for students who have family responsibilities... I liked least... Work load was quite heavy at times (Resp) 76

I liked least... I had to come to grips with the unrealistic expectations that are placed upon the students. What I mean by that is this: we, as students, are told over and over again do not neglect your family, your ministry, your health, your own spiritual life and perform with academic excellence all the time because that honors the Lord. I think that generally that the program should not be advertised as a four year program for people who need to work and have families. The educational model of operation, in my opinion, is still built upon the unmarried early 20's Bible college graduate. (Resp) 91

I liked least... at times it was extremely hard to balance work, ministry, and family. Seminary was a time of great enjoyment, but also stress. (Resp) 111

The Seminary could improve by... Decreasing the workload for students in addition to making them take a mandatory course in maintaining balance in their lives as well as sign some kind of document that they will commit to ministry and family first then their seminary education. (Resp) 119

DTS has a dilemma, since it is primarily an academic institution, but it is teaching spiritual things. We are to study, but we can get so bogged down in busy work that we don't look up to see who's sitting next to us. Chapel becomes a requirement, not a privilege. Academics - learning, questioning, thinking - is replaced by jumping through arbitrary Turabian hoops and checking off reading assignments for the contract, not for the ideas presented in the reading. This is a shame. I hope the seminary can develop the minds and academic habits of its students, rather than force-feeding requirements to grown people. However, it is my responsibility alone to be sure that my relationship with God doesn't become a mere exercise. I failed at that, because reading the Word became so strenuous and lifeless, that I didn't want to pick it up when I didn't have to. I take the blame for that. (Resp) 148

I liked least... It was hard to separate God and academics. It seemed like God always became one more thing to do. With a large work load it made finding still quiet time with God. (Resp) 149

I liked least... load and intensity (Resp) 156

### *Evening program*

I liked least... The lack of night classes for those who work. (Resp) 5

The Seminary could improve by... being able to finish the ThM. at night. I attended primarily night classes to complete my ThM until this last year. I think that if a program is not able to be completed at a particular time, that should be made clear upfront. (Resp) 53

I liked least... I took classes part/time in the evenings for two years ... we need to make sure if p/t evening students are accepted into a degree program that the degree is possible to get in the evenings or weekends. I did not complete the degree I entered under because I could not take the classes I needed the first two years. (Resp) 123

I liked least... The lack of flexibility for MA(BS) night students. I was forced to leave my job to enroll in the daytime after two years of night study because some of the classes I needed to graduate weren't offered at night. Or if they were offered, they conflicted with other classes I needed. Other night students I have talked to hold this opinion as well. Every class an MA(BS) student needs to get a degree needs to be offered at night within at least a three-year period of time. (Resp) 124

### *Extension Program*

I liked least... I was not able to communicate well with the extension office....don't know if it was there fault or mine. At times it took too long for them to respond to my questions/needs. Didn't have any real guidance with my program until Mr. Hebbard came along and the young man (Ben??)... I greatly value my time spent at DTS...on campus and off, Charles Baylis was very influential and encouraging to me in Tampa. All the professors are wonderful! (Resp) 7

I liked least... BEING AWAY FROM THE MAIN CAMPUS. (Resp) 9

I liked least... the lack of adequate library services at the Houston campus. (Resp) 13

I did approximately 1/3 of my studies in the Tennessee extension (now moved to Atlanta), the Tampa extension and at the DTS campus. I found the quality of my extension site classes equal to or greater than on campus, except for the libraries. (Resp.) 49

I never thought those \$100+ student services fees per semester made sense for extension students. Some semesters I took only 2 credits, and I never took more than 5. I've never been to the main campus. But I still paid the same amount of these fees as a full-time student on the main campus. The education was fabulous. I wish I could have done an M.A., but for family reasons I need to reside in San Antonio for now and it's too far to consider taking 30+ hours in Dallas or Houston... I liked least... That I'm not allowed to do a MA Biblical Studies due to my interest in missionary service, and I'm not allowed to do more than 30 hours by extension for the other MA degrees... The Seminary could improve by... Offering a professional MA at San Antonio or Austin. (Resp.) 73

The Seminary could improve by... making an effort to get to know extension students personally... I liked least... the seminary did not take a genuine interest in developing me personally (perhaps because I was an extension student) (Resp) 132

The Seminary could improve by... Finding more ways to bring the chapel experience to the satellite campuses. (Resp) 133

The Seminary could improve by... Responding quicker to extension students...giving them guidance in figuring out a course of action to complete their degree. (Resp)

## Student Life

### *Campus atmosphere*

#### What I Liked

- I Liked Best...the relationships developed with students. The education was by in large great. Classes like Dr. Bingham's Church History, Dr. Young's Intro to Missions, and Dr. Raymer's third preaching class were spectacular. (Resp) 17
- I Liked Best...the faculty and staff. The people that work at DTS are committed to integrity and to making the school a better place. As an employee and a student, I have been pleasantly surprised to find that DTS functions as a Christian institution should. (Resp) 26
- I Liked Best...The godly professors and the great conversations with fellow students over a hot cup of coffee! (Resp) 27
- I Liked Best... Learning in a strong Christian environment, and the grace exhibited by the professors. (Resp) 32
- I Liked Best...The Christlike character of so many of its professors and staff members. This is a place which takes relationship with Christ very seriously. Also, I believe that DTS places a high priority on relationships (community) which is so needed in the world and in the Church today. I have really appreciated seeing it modeled here. (Resp) 44
- I Liked Best...The deep relationships I have developed with fellow students and faculty. (Resp) 47
- I Liked Best...The community. The programs/on-campus groups offered to students in which we can use our spiritual gifts, build community, and prepare for ministry. (Resp) 82
- I Liked Best...the relationships I have developed and the teaching I have received (Resp) 92
- I Liked Best...The relationships I have made while here for three years. The Bible knowledge that has elevated my personal relationship with the Lord. I also really appreciated the authenticity of the professors in all of the classes I took. (Resp) 93
- I Liked Best...the location, as well as the ability to really plug in as a student and develop leadership and other skills to help in the future. (Resp) 102
- I Liked Best...the quality of education I received, the input of so many professors in my life, and the relationships with other students (Resp) 111
- I Liked Best...Godly professors and pastoral ministry they extend to students. They have set up good examples to students who are preparing to be ministers. Great environment to focus on learning. Rich spiritual resources to prepare students to do a variety of ministries. (Resp) 113
- I Liked Best...Living on campus to have access to study and to relationship with other guys living on campus. (Resp) 114
- I Liked Best...Spring fling. fall fling, and bible exposition class (Resp) 120
- I Liked Best... the students, professors, staff and their desire to train men and women to effectively communicate God's Word. (Resp) 136
- I Liked Best...The relationships I have made with faculty, staff and fellow students here. The staff generally is really supportive, and they work hard on our behalf. The faculty teach for the love of God, His Word, and the students, and that shows. (Resp) 148

### What I Didn't Like

I liked least... It is overly rigid as an institution with forms and rules for some of the silliest things (Resp) 1

I liked least... The drive to get here (Resp) 16

I liked least... The faculty and staff seem somewhat detached. I don't sense the love of Christ on campus at times. This is a reflection of the culture - everyone is busy. But more could be done to develop godly character. This is a personal responsibility, but if the faculty was more personal, or encouraged prayer more, etc. it could change the atmosphere of the campus. Maybe the SF dept. needs to learn from other models, or ways of integrating students in the beginning. I also think more time of praise in chapel, and not just a focus on preaching could help. Chaplain is great, but he chooses many of the same songs and they are old. Someone is needed in that dept. who is more contemporary and is a gifted worship leader. (Resp) 31

I liked least... antiquated alcohol policy, somewhat of a bent towards legalism. Arrogance by some students to non-dispensationalist as either less intelligent or less spiritual. (Resp) 41

I liked least... the lack of community and opportunities for ministry. there is no method (that I found) for finding ministry opportunities in the Dallas area - for example - a file with lists of ministries needing volunteers that DTS students could fulfill (Resp) 49

I liked least...The lack of practical ministry experience. (Resp) 62

I liked least...It feels a little like going through a cookie-cutter sometimes...i.e., I'm still not sure exactly of my spiritual gifts or felt that I could've talked any more about them as much as I have...I felt like I had to be like everyone else and compare myself to them. (Resp) 63

I liked least... how stressful life (overall) can be for a family. (Resp) 64

I liked least... sometimes I feel like I have to work against the flow in order to be me. I just don't feel like I fit the expectations of a seminary student sometimes and have to take risks to put myself out there. For example, I wrote a paper once that was more creative and less ('This paper will state...') and did not receive a great grade. On the other hand, I decided to do a dance for part of my last sermon (long story but ask Reg Grant about it if you want) and that was well received. I guess I'd just like to see even more support of people working outside the cookie cutter seminary student image. (Resp) 67

I liked least... The identity crisis: Is this a university to train the mind or a seminary to train the heart? (Resp) 75

I liked least... The feeling of being on the outside of the community based on being a single female pursuing ministry and because of living off campus. (Resp) 93

I liked least... some students become very prideful of their academic success and be disillusioned of it's irrelevance to their ministry success. May be they have abused grace. Also, sometimes, family and personal spiritual growth are sacrificed in light of the pursuit of academic excellency. (Resp) 113

I liked least... The lack of true community on-campus. I may have missed out on what was there, by not being involved in SF, but most of my friends would agree. Also, I was saddened that non-Dispensational viewpoints were not presented in a accurately or charitably. (Resp) 121

I liked least... location, I just don't like Dallas that much. (Resp) 125

I liked least... the rigorous rules (Resp) 130

I liked least... I wish I lived closer. (Resp) 134

I liked least... At times it seemed like there was a bit of majoring on the minors in some less important doctrinal areas-- a bit of animosity and closed-mindedness. (Resp) 142

I liked least... the difficulty of completing programs without moving to Dallas. (Resp) 146

I liked least... There was often a negative or judgmental attitude among some students and it led to competition and criticism that doesn't belong in the body of Christ. Some professors had a negative attitude also and it was depressing at times. (Resp) 152

### What Should Be Changed

It might help if there was a women's dorm to give women a place to find accountability and social activity. Most of the seminary students don't seem to want to put effort into relationships unless they are readily available. More ministry options at different times, like hospital chaplains. (Resp) 19

We need to stress more local church involvement. Ambiguous and ubiquitous references to 'community' are too obscure to affect real change. (Resp) 28

I wish there were more emphasis on evangelism and prayer (Resp.) 36

The Seminary could improve by... Maybe offering more of an incentive for those who are not living on campus to be involved in the community activities on campus. (Resp) 93

The Seminary could improve by... continuing to become more student friendly on campus. Encourage people to talk to one another. Get to know each other. Simply because people go through seminary, and have studied the appropriate classes, doesn't mean they are ready for ministry. They need to be loving one another throughout their time on campus. (Resp) 105

The Seminary could improve by... I don't know how you could improve the above area except to frequently acknowledge and encourage students in areas such as their marriage, personal spiritual disciplines, and just remaining optimistic about the seminary in the midst of huge stressors. I think students like myself would greatly appreciate it if faculty/staff would have simply acknowledged these struggles and issues more often. There were many times I needed encouragement and thankfully I had other seminarians to encourage me. When issues such as marriage, personal holiness, and the general stress of seminary are not mentioned it seems to communicate to students that DTS does not care at a deep level for its students. I know this is not true because so many professors showed care for me, but I didn't see it coming from the 'top down' necessarily. (Resp) 111

The Seminary could improve by... require students to sit down with a budget coach of some sort to plan out a budget and then work in some accountability to make them stick to the budget they have laid out. (Resp) 119

The Seminary could improve by... more interaction between the studies and life (Resp) 120

## *Diversity*

### What I Liked

I Liked Best...The fellowship with different ethnic groups. (Resp) 25

I Liked Best...the international flavor of the student body - I absolutely loved getting to know people from all around the world! It has helped me a lot in many ways including accepting people different from myself, understanding people from other locales, being accepted for who I am personally not as one of a particular ethnic group. (Resp) 70

I Liked Best...the opportunity to meet believers from all over the world and learn from them and with them for the equipping of the body of Christ! (Resp) 76

I liked least... There are too few female professors which makes it very difficult for an older women, like myself, to have personal contact with professors in general. There were times I really wanted to sit and talk with a professor, but because I am a female who is the same age as many of the male teachers, I felt I could not engage in any conversation that was outside of class time. This was only true of the classes outside of the MABC program since Dr. Marten was available for any extra conversation in that department. Specifically, it was a factor in the theology classes where I really had questions about certain topics. (Resp) 77

I Liked Best...the diversity of the student population in regards to denominational and cultural/country of origin. (Resp) 89

### What I Didn't Like

I liked least... The campus culture is heavily weighted toward the predominant Anglo culture. (Resp) 22

I liked least... The lack of diversity on the faculty. (Resp) 25

I liked least... I feel many of the students (including me when I started) are judgmental and lack grace. Many times they seem to live in a Christian bubble that they aren't willing to leave. I wonder how effective we can be in the world if we don't know the cultures we are working with. (Resp) 26

I liked least... at times feeling excluded (maybe due to my ethnicity). (Resp) 92

I liked least... lack of diversity (Resp) 104

I liked least... The student body struggles to know how to relate accross lines created by difference in culture (even within the US), gender, marital status, and sometimes race. (Resp) 109

I liked least... preparation of women for ministry. Many of us do not want to be a women's minister and yet I felt boxed in to 'women's ministry'. (Resp) 123

I liked least... It continues to be uncomfortable being a woman here. It's also tough to be a person of color here. Or single. The curriculum is narrow and alienating at times. It's a stretch for profs to empower women unless it's in connection with cooking or child-rearing or taking care of their husbands (all good things!). But now that I am out in ministry and in a position of responsibility - and leadership - I feel like there's a lot more I could have learned before I got the position - if only I were a man. (Resp) 148

### What Should be Changed

The Seminary could improve by... Having a more culturally diverse faculty. (Resp 4)

The Seminary could improve by... Hiring qualified professors from other racial and cultural backgrounds. (Resp) 5

The Seminary could improve by... Balancing the above through more interactive dialogue with African American students and leaders. Bring more of our leaders and those successful in ministry on to campus. (Resp) 22

The Seminary could improve by... Hiring diverse faculty. It would be a better reflection of heaven. (Resp) 25

It would be wonderful to increase the unity among different groups of people on campus. The student leadership has sought to address these concerns through student chapels. The challenge is to get everyone on the same page. (Resp.) 62

The Seminary could improve by... Hiring more women to teach in the theology department. (Resp) 77

The Seminary could improve by... Not having a separate orientation for minority students. (Resp) 78

The Seminary could improve by... making sure all ethnicities are rep. in the faculty and chapels. (Resp) 92

As a woman student, I would like to see the school will raise up more elderly women to mentor women students on campus, not just academically but spiritually and personally. I would like to see more women being nurtured and taken care of before they go to ministry. (Resp) 113

The Seminary could improve by... make a WM 325 (Ministry in Multicultural America) or a course similar to it mandatory in all programs so students will learn how to determine and meet people's needs to more effectively incarnate Christ to them. (Resp) 119

The Seminary could improve by... 1. Hire more upper-level/management staff of color, and who are women. 2. Hire more female faculty and faculty of color. If you're letting in more students that are women or of color, they will need to be encouraged that the Seminary cares enough to hire people like them for more than custodial jobs.~3. Adapt more master's-level learning: less requirements, more written assignments, more concentrated study. (Resp) 148

### **Administration**

I understand that DTS is one of the best places to work, but it also well know that the work ethic in most offices is unacceptable, in my opinion. I am almost always greeted with a smile, but way to often paper work is lost or something is not operation. The institution, as it improves, technologically must be wary of the problem of agency shift. Agency shift is when the responsibility for things gone wrong shifts from people to things. Consequently, inevitably when a work order is not filled out or graduation paperwork isn't properly filed, no one can be found responsible... I liked least... A visible lack of excellence in administrative staff in some departments. (I do want to add that the attitude is always good, I just take issue with the work ethic). (Resp) 28

I liked least... Its inability to communicate effectively, its placement of finances over the needs of the student, and lack of willingness to evaluate itself and see possible problem areas for the student. (Resp) 58

I liked least... The indifference of staff members i.e., Financial Aid, Registrar, and Deans Office, etc. (Resp) 78

I liked least... The way the Dean of Students handles sin issues. (Resp) 118

I liked least... on more than one occasion during my time at DTS I failed to see the evidence of Grace that DTS claims to have, from the business side to professors. It was hard to see such rigidity while I was facing difficult times and trials. (Resp) 149

I liked least... stodgy administration (Resp) 153

I was very impressed with the individuals I had contact with in various DTS depts. and services in my three years on the Dallas campus. Whether the contact was due to something I had schlepped-up on or some service I was needing the individuals I had contact with were always most professional and courteous...Tim Campbell (Resp.) 154

### *Academic Dean's Office*

The Seminary could improve by... Eliminating Turabian formatting and replacing it with an easy to use, practical standard formatting for all assignments. Especially needed is a system that fits with modern word-processing programs that all students use and that does not require unnecessary duplication of information in footnotes and bibliographic entries. (Resp) 1

The Seminary could improve by... Cutting down the ThM program, reducing the required languages and offering practical classes dealing with real life ministry. ThM program should only be 3 years...4 year program creates a hardship on marriages and limits practical ministry experience students can get while in ministry. Some churches are shying away from seminary grads because they are perceived as 'all head knowledge' with no substantial ministry experience. (Resp) 2

DTS Endnote software requirements and provisions for these are confusing, inconsistently understood and applied. Keep software simple and reliable or just let us use the Turabian manual. The point of a thesis should not be wrestling with software and its enforcers. (Resp.) 3

The Seminary could improve by... (1) Seeking to develop shepherds (Godly servant leaders) rather than simply Bible preachers who can manage the church. I think saying that 'we serve by leading' completely guts the mission statement of DTS which is to produce Godly servant leaders. If servanthood and leadership were synonyms (as the phrase 'we serve by leading' implies), why don't we just take out the word 'servant' and say 'leaders?' (2) INTEGRATION of our courses! (Resp) 6

The Seminary could improve by... dropping the alcohol policy...(Resp) 41

I liked least... I think the Seminary is behind other schools like Talbot School of Theology, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Westminster Theological Seminary in the area of Philosophy/Apologetics. (Resp) 42

The Seminary could improve by... Running the school effectively and efficiently - like any other secular graduate institution. (Resp) 58

I liked least... Rigidity in some areas. Still need more variety in night class offerings. Higher pay for all employees instead of subsistence wages. Proper remuneration for dept. heads. Professors who ramble and don't cover the material properly and then expect us to be on time with our papers when they were not with their lectures. (Resp) 70

The Seminary could improve by... I also find that if I am going to take 120 credits I should pay the same for all credits regardless of when i take the class. if i take them in the summer of winter i have to pay more. what they should do is just have the total price of 120 credits that they need to collect, have you determine if you will take 4 or five years and just start paying a monthly rate for the whole degree. then you can take classes when they are available and not have to take an extra year because summer classes cost more per semester and no scholarships are available. ~I would also love to see all classes offered as 5 week classes and not 15 weeks. if you did this a student could take 2 classes every 5 weeks and be able to complete 18 credit hours in 15 weeks. as it is over 15 weeks the maximum number of classes that I could keep up with was 12 hours. but whenever I took summer classes for 5 weeks two classes of work was a piece of cake. additionally having all classes as 5 weeks would allow for more rotation of classes and shorter teaching blocks for professors. shorter classes also provide a greater synthesis of material and relationships with professor and fellow students. (Resp) 89

The Seminary could improve by... developing a new program that is less intense than the Th.M (Resp) 104  
The Seminary could improve by... changing the M.A.B.S. program so that it is not a 'lesser' degree. (Whether this is true or not it is the perception of most students that administration doesn't like the degree or for students to switch into it. If this is true ... it should be changed so that it has the approval and support of administration. Why are we offering a degree that is not fully applauded?) (Resp) 123

The Seminary could improve by... Treating the MA(BS) students with the same respect as the ThM students and encouraging more prospective students to consider the MA(BS) degree if they desire to go into full-time ministry but can't afford the time and money to go the ThM route. I felt like an inferior graduate student to the ThM students during my time at DTS. Several professors even assumed that all their students were ThM students. I would like to see the MA(BS) program given more respect by the whole seminary. (Resp) 124

The Seminary could improve by... Sorry to say this, but by not becoming too big. The faculty-student connection is wonderful, but numbers may strain that important link. (Resp) 157

### *Admissions Office*

The Seminary could improve by... screening their applicants better. (Resp) 26

I came to visit on a day that was not Discover Dallas and felt really lost. Luckily I had a friend doing business in Dallas at the time because the person I talked to in the Admissions Department told me I could stay at the then Budget Inn. It would have been nice to have the name and number of a person in a residence Hall I could have slept on someone's floor or a lobby couch. (Resp.) 118

The Seminary could improve by... decreasing its enrollment and increasing the academic standards (Resp) 153

### *Baylor Fitness Center*

I liked least... we have to pay for the use of Baylor Fitness Center whether we live near campus or far away and are not able to use it. (Resp) 65

### *Book Center*

DTS Book Center: a 48 hour return policy is the tightest return policy I have ever experienced; the prices are almost always higher than elsewhere. (Resp.) 6

The bookstore is poorly organized and hard to find things. You can't phone them as they don't answer the phone and the web link is useless - can't find anything on it. Please work to upgrade the book center. ..The Seminary could improve by... The book center needs a major overhaul. It's terrible. (Resp) 70

Having the bookstore and some other facilities (Registrar, etc.) occasionally open for weekend students would be a big help, especially early in the semester. (Resp.) 135

### *Business Office Services*

Business office doesn't do a very good job of recording payments I make. (Resp.) 73

### *Campus Communications*

*(e.g., Kerygma, Threshing Floor and the DTS website)*

The website, though much improved is still awkward to use and lacks much useful information that could be included. (Resp.) 1

I liked least... Communication is getting worse. Just communication is an outward thing not an inward thing. I think you all feel as though you are doing better at communication because you put all of this information "online" on the website. Well if its online then all that means is that I have to go FIND it and that isn't always the easiest thing. (Resp) 83

The emails (electronic campus communication) take up too much space. (Resp.) 131

### *Campus Police*

DTS Police: I don't understand why a 'invalid' parker sticker gets you the same \$25 fine that one would get for parking in a handicap spot, being a male parking in female parking, etc... The invalid one seems so less fragrant than the others. And, the irony, is that the ticket says that the \$25 will be charged to the student's account if not contested within a week. It would seem that if you know the student is registered at DTS and simply has an old sticker on his car, you would simply write him or her a note to remind him/her to get a valid parking permit or, at worst, charge ticket him/her for a nominal fee. That an invalid parking permit costs the same as the more flagrant violations seems to be a case where the punishment does not fit the crime. (Resp.) 6

Campus Police are very good and serve well. I appreciate them greatly and God has used them. I think the parking tickets are way too high. \$25 is too much; granted it may prevent some parking violations and keep women's spaces open but still it is too high. (Resp.) 61

### *Center for Christian Leadership*

I Liked Best...The opportunity to sit under incredible teaching and learn theology, the relationships we made with other students and faculty, leadership experience (working at the CCL, leading SF group, teaching Sunday school at church, witnessing at county jail, etc), and the time to mature in my walk with God.... If the mission of the seminary is to make Godly servant leaders, why are there so few leadership classes required (if any depending on your program), and where is the impetus from the seminary for students to take on leadership experience outside of the internship? (Resp) 75

I liked least... RS101- And the lack of real leadership training. Not doing enough to prepare us to be church leaders. (Resp) 97

I liked least... the lack of a mentorship program and an organized effort to nurture and protect the spiritual lives of students, faculty and staff. (Resp) 136

### *Chapel Programs*

I liked least... Required chapel attendance (Resp) 32

The class attendance and chapel attendance policy are too rigid. While most of my time here I did not have any reason to be concerned the last year was very difficult. at time i felt i was wasting time by going to a class that we would only repeat what I read in the book, or cover things i would not utilize in ministry. I also had conflicts that did not allow me to meet the requirements of chapel and the number of chapel available on line is not enough to meet chapel requirements. we are adults here and i think we can make choices for ourselves if going to class or chapel is in our best interest in any given semester. (Resp.) 89

The Seminary could improve by... I am still wondering why a graduate institution is so militant about chapel. We are to be servant leaders in our church and most especially our family. If you only could see the amount of students that are falling asleep from working at UPS until 2am or are studying for a quiz or reading. There is only so much time during the day and something has to give. I have interacted with quite a few scarred seminary wives here at the institution and even more still traumatized wives after seminary. I hope that creative alternatives are sought to ease the educational burden, free up the students time and facilitate true servant leadership in all things. (Resp) 91

The chapel requirements were hard to meet based on my counseling internships and work. I would have liked to attend more chapels, but could not because of other commitments related to my degree program. (Resp.) 93

### *Classroom Conditions*

The Seminary could improve by... Adding or improving classroom space which is what it is doing. (Resp) 65

Classrooms were fine, except that they were extremely cold due to the air conditioning (Resp.) 109

I liked least... Honestly the only thing I can think of is the freezing room in Campbell (I had a lot of classes in that room). It is the first room upstairs on the right. I really enjoyed my time at seminary. (Resp) 137

I liked least... I am from northern Minnesota but felt too cold in some class rooms--(Air Conditioning) (Resp) 157

### *Counseling Services*

The Seminary could improve by... Softening the contractual obligation of faculty and staff to report problems with students to the Dean of students to a suggestion or encouragement and foster an environment of mentorship. I knew dozens of students who did not get the help they needed with sin issues (alcohol abuse, homosexual leanings, pornography, premarital sex and related issues, bitterness and cynicism, marital discord, etc.) because they knew that they were going to get asked to leave the seminary to deal with the issue before returning to classes. All those issues then festered throughout their time in seminary before they then had the opportunity to really deal with them and by that time it was often too late, they got divorced, washed out of seminary, had sex, needed professional treatment for an addiction, etc. In every case I ever heard from students who were referred eventually to the Dean of Students either through a faculty member, staff member, or counseling services being asked to leave the seminary for a period was a stock solution. --With discipline the seminary needs to be more in line with Church discipline as outlined in scripture confronting in love through a process, rather than as an academic institution giving someone an F for cheating. Faculty, staff, and the counseling department should be given more latitude in dealing with these issues themselves without feeling pressure to tell the Dean's office. This should be reserved for students who are in danger, really out of control, or completely unrepentant. DTS students are viewed as leaders in the community so they are dealt with as such by the Dean's office. I think that the unintended consequence of this policy is that the seminary puts out a lot of graduates who have not dealt with sin themselves or that deal with their congregations in a sort of arrogant Draconian style. DTS has put out hundreds of really quality Godly people don't get me wrong. I just think that this particular area should be handled differently. When I was in college student life caught a couple of girls smoking in their dorm room so they made it clear that this was not acceptable and that they needed to quit but didn't leave it there. The girls then kept track of how much they were smoking and weaned themselves away from smoking with the help of student life employees. I don't know that you want to even approach that direction at the seminary but I will tell you with the deepest of conviction that this approach worked and the whole atmosphere of the university was one of grace and spiritual nurturing. (Resp) 118

The seminary should have a counseling center for students run by the counseling department that would be governed by the principles above stated. It could be a practicum and LPCI cite for students and would be an asset to the student body. (Resp.) 118

My dream would be to see a counseling center where practicum students as well as professors could counsel other students and the community at different monetary rates or pro bono. I think this would be an incredible outreach opportunity for the school. Further, when I begin making some money my wife and I would like to designate some of our gifts to the counseling program. Overall, I loved my time at DTS. It is an incredible school that the Lord uses greatly. Thank you for all of the hard work. (Resp.) 137

### *Financial Aid Services*

Financial aid office just wanted to let Karen know she was great and would not be graduating without her help. (Resp.) 29

The Seminary could improve by... Not making people work and be full time in order to get financial aid. Should just be one or the other. If you work, you can take less hours. If you don't work you have to take a full load. (Resp) 54

The Seminary could improve by... offering more financial assistance to working parents who cannot attend full time. In other words, lower the 12 hour requirement for scholarship assistance and for tuition discounts for working parents. Parents who are already working cannot take 12 hours and get the break and still have time to spend with their families... I liked least... its lack of financial support for working parents with families who cannot attend full time. (Resp) 110

The Seminary could improve by... Impose stronger measures and accountability to those who have received scholarships but did not keep what they have promised in the contract. (Resp) 113

The Financial Aid office can be friendlier. (Resp.) 148

### *Food Services*

The food at Mitchell is very good. I was quite pleasantly surprised again and again over my 5 years here. (Resp.) 70

The Seminary could improve by... not charging the international students that work in the cafeteria for their meals when they live in the dorms (Stearns/Lincoln). They struggle to get the funds, and they get their meals for free, so why do we still make them pay for the 'board' portion of the room and board? (Resp) 125

There should be a special financial option for off-campus guys for Mitchell caf. (Resp.) 131

### *Housing and Relocation Office and Residence Halls*

Although I appreciate the amount of stress that the housing department is often under, they sometimes seem to be coldly sticking to rules & policies, rather than treating us with a listening ear and grace. Overall, my experience with them has been positive, but they are just known as the department where you better 'dot your i's and cross your t's' or else. (Resp.) 67

### *Library Facilities and Services, Media Center, and Student Computer Lab*

Copy services could improve its functionality if it had printers in addition to copiers, so that it could take print orders. (Resp.) 45

The Seminary could improve by... The assignments that are given need to be more varied as the institution grows. Many of my classes demanded the same assignments from everyone due at the same time. This put an incredible amount of demand on a handful of books in the library. For example if one looks at the commentaries on Ephesians; chapters 2 and 5 of each commentary are stained and worn out from over use. I found the same problem in some of my Bible Ex. and Theology classes. It is very difficult to do research on a subject when most of the books in the library concerning the subject are checked out well in advance because everyone has to do the same assignment due at the same time. This was a very frustrating experience that only got worse as time went on because of the increase in enrollment. Please address this issue. (Resp) 48

The Seminary could improve by... Being a better steward of the money spent on keeping the library so cold in the warm months of the year. And by rethinking the philosophy of assigning more reading than the students can process... The temperature in the library is usually too cold for my preference. I think we could be better stewards of funding by being more conservative with the a/c. (Resp.) 68

The Seminary could improve by... Better trained media center personnel - they're very nice but some of them don't know anything about Macs...posting of syllabi on website so Mac users can use it without the major pains I've had in the past. They need to be using industry standards! ... The library is excellent and I'll miss it a lot! Great resources there. (Resp.) 70

*Ministry Placement Services and Alumni Office*

The Seminary could improve by... Reaching out to churches and telling them to set aside funds in their budget to send members to seminary, investing in future leaders. (Resp) 31

Placement office has little to offer in terms of academic postings. (Resp.) 45

Perhaps another area of improvement could be in the area of development and placement. While I believe that I have developed my gifts reasonably well, I guess I'm still at a loss as to what to do next. I don't know what is appropriate to expect from the seminary as to their level of responsibility for placement. I just can't get over how many DTS grads live in Garland. Is it because they never got hooked into a ministry role. Is that just God's will? or, Is there more that can be done to get workers into the appropriate (and white) fields. (Resp) 131

*Parking*

Parking is insufficient. Parking across the street and having to cross in the middle of the street is extremely inconvenient and potentially dangerous. (Resp.) 45

The Seminary could improve by... improving the parking situation (Resp) 82

I liked least... The parking... The Seminary could improve by... Developing better parking for women students. Making women students, especially older women, park across the street is dangerous. (Resp) 116

Parking, parking, parking. I was late for numerous classes not because I didn't arrive on campus on time, but because I circled the block numerous time trying to find a parking space. There were times I thought about turning around and going home. The lack of parking is tragic and very discouraging. A parking garage would help tremendously, especially since I heard the school is considering building a new apartment dorm on one the few commuter student parking lots. And visitors stand little chance of parking on-campus during the daytime. (Resp.) 124

I liked least... not enough parking! (Resp) 155

*Registrar's Office Services*

The Seminary could improve by... A FEW MORE PEOPLE IN THE REGISTRARS OFFICE. THEY ARE VERY HELPFUL BUT SEEM SHORTHANDED. (Resp) 9

Certain people in the registrars office were fantastic others seem to miss the mission statement of the department. (Resp.) 29

Not require full time status at 12 hours per semester. At most other graduate schools 9 hours is considered full time. 12 hours is too much. It does put a strain on your relationships, your marriages, friendship times, especially when most people have to work 30-40 hours per week as well. And your devotional and personal time with God isn't supposed to suffer? I think that's a little unrealistic. (Resp) 58

The Registrar's office was great to me, but was unavailable and flip with many of my friends. (Resp.) 148

### *Registration Procedures/Registrar Items*

I liked least... The prices are high but I understand why. (Resp) 21

I liked least... The emphasis on money (Resp) 29

I liked least... classroom size - the classes are too big (Resp) 74

I liked least... there are only 6 free elective credits available to ThM students. (Resp) 84

I liked least... the inflexibility and rigidity of the schedule of classes. Also the attitude of unhelpfulness and disregard for students problems that the registers office exudes whenever you have a problem. (Resp) 89

I liked least... The cost- wow! However, as in any endeavor, 'you get what you pay for'. (Resp) 133

I liked least... price, excessive reading that at times could easily be eliminated (Resp) 100

### **Graduation**

The Seminary could improve by... Getting rid of the requirement to have seniors turn in their work a week early. Why not simply move graduation back a week, especially since seniors have to take finals? Making seniors turn everything in early just adds stress to an already stressful situation. (Resp) 57

### *Student Services*

I liked least... the non-existent child care. It would have made it a little easier at times to take classes. This was not a big issue but it would have been helpful. (Resp) 122

I was very impressed with student services. In particular, Chaplain Bill Bryan. He spent many hours mentoring me as I attended seminary. He even performed my wedding in June of 2002. He is a valuable asset to the seminary family. Thank you! (Resp.) 137

### **Seminary**

#### *The commitment to the Bible and its exegesis, preaching, and teaching*

#### What I Liked

I Liked Best... commitment to the Word of God and teaching that God is much bigger than His Word or than Evangelicalism has tried to make Him. (Resp) 3

I Liked Best... its commitment to conservative evangelical theology alongside a commitment (in at least some departments) to scholarly rigor. (Resp) 6

I Liked Best... Its uncompromised dedication to the absolute truth of God's word. This statement extends to include the original language texts. (Resp) 22

I Liked Best... The high standard on God's word, theology, and study. (Resp) 28

I Liked Best... All programs emphasize the Bible. (Resp) 61

I Liked Best... The focus on teaching languages and sound theology (Resp) 62

- I Liked Best... It's focus on God and grace. (Resp) 63
- I Liked Best... Integrity to the Scriptures. (Resp) 65
- I Liked Best... passion in training leaders for the proclamation of the Word and building up of the Christ worldwide. (Resp) 80
- I Liked Best... The strong emphasis on God's word. (Resp) 94
- I Liked Best... The Bible based Theology (Resp) 101
- I Liked Best... Emphasis on teaching the Scriptures systematically. I now have a much better grip on the content of the Scriptures. (Resp) 103
- I Liked Best... Its focus on the word of God. (Resp) 104
- I Liked Best... grace-based approach to creativity and ministry (Resp) 106
- I Liked Best... The solid Bible teaching (Resp) 107
- I Liked Best... The skills and confidence instilled in one, to authoritatively exegete and present sound biblical teaching, based on a 'world-class' level of competent teaching of the biblical languages-Hebrew and Greek. (Resp) 127
- I Liked Best... their commitment to the Scriptures (Resp) 132
- I Liked Best... The principles it teaches regarding exegetical research (Resp) 141
- I Liked Best... The commitment to understanding and proclaiming God's Word to us. (Resp) 142
- I Liked Best... The commitment to the word (Resp) 150

### What Should Be Changed

The Seminary could improve by... Taking a stronger stance on issues concerning the integrity of Scripture, the 6 day view of Creation, and other issues that could help them be a little more united in their theology. Don't get me wrong, I enjoyed receiving teaching from differing view points; however, some issues in theology I think need to be less open to one's own interpretation. (Resp) 11

The Seminary could improve by... By bringing more Bible into theology courses. There seems to be a lot of movement toward less content and more application. For example I am finding that a lot of classmates are saying things like 'We shouldn't be dogmatic about eschatology.' But at a deeper level, it seems the reason why classmates avoid theological subjects is because the content is not always taught systematically. (Resp) 28

### *The thoroughness of the training*

### What I Liked

- I Liked Best... Studying all 66 books of the Bible and studying the 6 areas of systematic theology in depth. I especially appreciated theology lectures that focused on what difference theology makes in contemporary culture. (Resp) 68
- I Liked Best... The comprehensiveness of the Th.M. program. (Resp) 78
- I Liked Best... the broad range of courses offered. (Resp) 84

I Liked Best...the fact that I was able to study every book of the Bible. (Resp) 105

I feel very equipped (although still unpracticed) in both areas of Hebrew and Greek exegesis. (Resp.) 111

### What I Didn't Like

I don't think the seminary takes seriously these complaints, yet they continually come up in conversations with other students. we have a difficult time integrating the skills we learn in one department with the skills we learn in another department (and often the departments are warring against each other... (Resp.) 56

I liked least... The amount of credits required. This is a beast of a program (ThM). I know of no cure, but it is certainly taxing for a Master's level program. (Resp) 59

I liked least... too academic (Resp) 120

I liked least... i feel like sometimes it focuses too much on head knowledge and not enough of how to move that knowledge to ones heart and their everyday lives. (Resp) 144

### *The commitment to excellence and integrity*

The Seminary could improve by... On the higher levels: enhancing its institutional support of rigorous scholarship for faculty and Ph.D. students. But good scholarship takes a huge commitment of time, energy, and money, without which it exists only with great difficulty. ~In the masters programs: paying more serious attention to academic rigor. It seems as if the predominant resources of the seminary are allocated only for the purpose of accommodating as many masters degree students as possible without much regard to the quality of scholarship. It seems as if there is so much attention devoted to student population size that anyone can get admitted so long as they are willing to pay tuition. As a long-time grader, I can attest that some students are doing work that is below undergraduate school standards, let alone those of graduate school. (Resp) 6

### *The commitment to its heritage of conservative doctrine and interpretation*

I liked least... the conflicting viewpoints regarding eschatology, pre-mil, and dispensational approaches which confused me a bit, although it's good to know the varying viewpoints- but as a learner, I felt like if prof's who have been around for a long time are still debating the points, then there's no hope for me! :- ) (Resp) 96

I Liked Best...The doctrine and associated heritage. I am very thankful for the opportunity to have even a modest association with DTS. I am glad that the faculty members are not clones but express(ed) varied points of view, in my experience, with Christ-like grace. (Resp) 157

### *Teaching about non-DTS viewpoints vs. the danger of institutional arrogance*

I liked least... lack of freedom the professors have to espouse other views than those the seminary holds. Also, I din't like it that DTS takes such a hard line on pre-mil, pre-trib, when the Bible clearly states that not even Christ knows the day or time of His own return. (Resp) 2

The Seminary could improve by... Redefining its educational distinctive apart from eschatology. Requiring instructors to sign up to the DTS position on women in ministry or remove themselves from the classroom. (Resp) 3

I liked least... The cessationist view about some spiritual gifts. This contradicts the concept of the sovereignty of God. It puts God in a box. (Resp) 117

### *The commitment to Dispensationalism*

The Seminary could improve by... From my limited perspective on the facts it would SEEM to me that the School could benefit from (and I say this being a dispensationalist myself) Being less dogmatic about dispensational theology. It SEEMS to me that this attitude has been the reason behind the loss of too many excellent faculty members in the past. (Resp) 4

The Seminary could improve by... help students realize that non-dispensationalist can go to heaven, or at least me mature, spiritual Christians. (Resp) 41

I did not receive much instruction on dispensationalism. I think the professors assume that students know more than we do about this subject. (Resp) 82

The seminary could be more dogmatic in teaching the classic dispensational view. I was surprised that my undergraduate experience seemed to teach more about premillennial dispensational Theology than DTS. It seemed 'understood' in a sense that students knew these disciplines. I am not sure if the seminary is not as dogmatic as it used to be but I would like to see more attention given to it and defending it in light of contemporary views. (Resp) 90

I think I did acquire a basic understanding of premil, dispensational theology, but I sure wish I would have been taught more. In the classes I had, I felt as if I never got a good understanding or foundation for the dispensational perspective. I still see myself very much as a dispensationalist, but I just wish I would have been taught better to me. (Resp) 111

I liked least... It's unfortunate reputation in circles outside of dispensational thought, not just the PCA. (Resp) 114

The Seminary could improve by... Continuing to strike a balance and keep open dialogue between progressive and traditional ideas. (Resp) 142

### **General Encouragement**

I loved my time at DTS and will always value it. (Resp.) 1

I Liked Best... stellar reputation (Resp) 2

These past five years have been no doubt the most exciting years of my life, and DTS is highly responsible for it. I look forward to what God will continue to do in the life of his church through the continuing ministry of this institution. Thanks you so much. (Resp.) 4

I Liked Best...IT'S COMMITMENT TO TEACHING GOD'S WORD AND THE ONLINE EVANGELISM COURSE. (Resp) 9

I liked least... I have no significant dislikes- love DTS! (Resp) 12

The Seminary could improve by... It's really pretty good in all the areas I can think of... I am a well satisfied student (Resp) 16

Thank you for five wonderful, exhausting, and life changing years! (Resp.) 27

I really love the school. It's such an honor to graduate from DTS. (Resp.) 28

Thank you for a great experience overall, God has used many of you by the power of the Spirit to conform me to the image of Christ and equip me to make disciples worldwide. God's richest blessing to all of you. (Resp.) 29

The Lord has clearly blessed it and it does so many things so well. I think the key to growing in our personal sanctification and gaining long-term comprehension of skills is to emphasize local church involvement. (Resp.)

My experience at DTS has been one that I will treasure for my entire life. My experience and my wife's experience has topped our greatest expectations. To have the opportunity to sit under true godly leaders, to learn what we have learned, and to become friends with people who will minister around the world has been an immense blessing. If nothing changed about DTS, it would remain the best place for ministry preparation that there is in the U.S. Lastly, the Spiritual Formation program is indispensable. Regardless of what people may say going into the program - and as stiff or artificial as it may seem - the program helps create an environment where people can grow together in Christ. To not only know others, but to be known by them, is crucial to ministry development. !!THANK YOU!! (Resp.) 44

Overall I really enjoyed my time here. I found the classes very rewarding and enlightening. I have definitely experienced spiritual growth and development as a result of coming here. (Resp.) 48

Truly, Truly, DTS is God's gracious gift to us. (Resp.) 61

I will miss my classmates and profs. very much. They're great people that I love lots! (Resp.) 63

Thank you so much for everything. This experience has been a hard yet wonderful time that changed my life. I found that God is so much better and more beautiful than I ever knew... I Liked Best...the people here are concerned about my life and my growth. Thank you. (Resp.) 67

DTS has been a magical time for my wife and I. We have both grown spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally through this season. We will walk away with not only an education but also lifelong relationships. My calling for ministry has been honed and sharpened and I am looking forward to an incredible future in influencing others for Christ. I have treasured my experience here and I am so indebted and thankful for the education. I cannot thank God enough for the privilege of being here. (Resp.) 75

Thanks for a great education! (Resp.) 76

Overall, I will always be so grateful for my time here at DTS. I thank the Lord daily for His leading me here and I will miss it very much. (Resp.) 77

I liked least... I can't think of any. It's a blessing to be here. (Resp) 80

I am certainly glad that my wife and I came to seminary. It has been a trying but wonderful time in our lives. I decided that I would need to do poorly on tests, papers and quizzes at times in order to spend time with my wife. We are so glad that we came but we are so glad that it is over. (Resp.) 91

Overall I would recommend this school to anyone as a fantastic place of training. (Resp.) 97

Great Blessing (Resp.) 101

I loved it here!... I liked least... Not much! (Resp.) 107

I liked least... I can't think of anything. (Resp) 108

I loved DTS. (Resp.) 111

I Liked Best... The classes were very enjoyable and I learned a lot during this time. (Resp) 115

Great job, thank you for giving me chance to study here, it is an honor for me. (Resp) 120

I consider my time at DTS very valuable. I was blessed to have a church context to which I could apply what I learned at DTS while I was at DTS. Not all of my friends could say that. Though I regret that as a commuter student I never made any bonds with the campus or the on-campus students. So I have no fond memories of outside-the-classroom activities. But the in-classroom teaching was wonderful and very spiritually edifying. I look forward to using my seminary knowledge to build up the body of Christ to the glory of God! (Resp) 124

Thank you for helping me. (Resp) 125

I liked least... NOTHING (Resp) 129

Thank you for the greatest academic and spiritual experience of my life!! (Resp.) 130

Thank you so much. Writing this from London, UK (Resp) 131

Thanks for a great experience. I will miss my days as a student but intend to audit classes and continue learning for a lifetime! (Resp.) 133

I had an excellent student experience at the seminary. I hope someday to return. Thanks. (Resp.) 134

This has been a wonderful and enriching experience for me. (Resp) 142

I liked least... Homework :) I really can't think of anything. All of my expectations were met and even exceeded. There were challenges with time management and working and scheduling of classes, but those were my issues, not the seminary's. (Resp) 143

My Dallas experience was truly life changing and was an outstanding preparation for a lifetime of ministry. I would strongly recommend DTS to others without reservation. (Resp.) 146

Joye Baker was such a help to me as were all the professors. I LOVED my experience on Dallas Campus. I only regret not having been able to go through a spiritual formation class. I'm sure I needed it. The Spirit is so evident in Dallas. Chaplain Bill, Sandra Glahn, Joye Baker, the entire CE department could not have been kinder during the months following my husband's death. Dr. Grassmick, Dr. Bramer, Dr. Allman, Dr. Lightner--I love you all. ...I had an absolutely positive experience that changed some of my theology, many aspects of my life and showed me what community can really be like. I love you all. (Resp) 151

The Seminary could improve by... I loved seminary and DTS could improve by being more positive (even dealing with negative things). But DTS is great just the way it is. I miss it already. (Resp) 152

I Liked Best...The caliber of individuals I encountered in all areas and at all levels of the DTS community... I liked least... Having to leave... Thanks to all involved who work so hard to give the students a rich time of growth and edification. (Resp) 154

Praise God for DTS! May it always stay true to the Word. (Resp) 157