

University of Houston
BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRY
Fall 2008 :: CORE Introduction

Baptist Student Ministry :: 4801 Calhoun Road :: Houston TX 77004 :: 713.741.0967 :: www.uhbsm.org

What is BSM CORE?

The BSM exists to encourage UH students to follow in the way of Jesus. This includes two primary aspects of the spiritual Journey: 1) learning & developing spiritual disciplines and 2) sharing with one's TRIBE (*those we see on a daily basis*) what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

BSM is a student-led organization that depends on current UH students to accomplish its vital ministry. **BSM student leadership consists of two primary groups: Executive CORE Leaders & CORE Leaders.** BSM leadership consists of students taking on leadership/ownership roles within a specific BSM ministry area. Members of BSM leadership plan and implement all BSM events. The BSM staff exists to mentor, encourage, and equip students to follow Jesus as well as share with others what it means to walk with Jesus. Students are selected as Executive CORE Leaders and CORE Leaders based on previous involvement, giftedness, maturity, and passion for ministry.

What are the requirements for students on CORE? You must:

1. be currently enrolled as a UH student progressing toward a degree.
2. have a 2.0 GPA or better.
3. be in your second year of college.

Freshman in their second semester may serve as Community Group Leaders, FREE LUNCH Table Hosts, be a part of a TAG Team, and assist Executive CORE Leaders in specific areas of ministry (ex: planning parties or helping prepare for HINGE).

What is the TIME expectation for students on CORE?

Basically, the commitment is for ONE semester for 1 ½ hours per week plus your ministry time. Fall CORE Leaders will have the option of extending their commitment to the spring if both the BSM Staff and student desire to do so.

1. a commitment of one semester (fall &/or spring) is expected.
2. attend weekly CORE meetings (each Tuesday, 5:30pm – 6:00pm)
3. attend FOCUS Conference (TBD. We will attend either early Sept. or Oct. Cost \$110)
4. attend the BSM Leadership Retreat: Saturday, August, 16, 2008
5. attend the BSM Lock-In: January 16-17, 2009
6. support the ministry of the BSM by helping with Welcome Week activities, as well as attending HINGE, FREE LUNCH, parties, work-a-thon, mission fundraisers, & mission trips regularly.

What are the Spiritual expectations for students on CORE? You must:

1. attend weekly/bi-weekly meeting with assigned BSM Staff for encouragement, discipleship, accountability, and support in your area of ministry. (*Frequency - TBD*)
2. be active in a local Christ-following community of faith (church - *not necessarily Baptist*).
3. have a humble heart, willingness to serve others, friendliness to help our guests & new students feel welcome @ the BSM, & a desire to grow in your spiritual journey.

What is the application process for CORE? Simple, just follow these steps:

1. read and complete the rest of this packet.
2. turn your application into a BSM staff member before April 9, 2008 (for Fall) & Nov 24, 2008 (for Spring).
3. sign up for an interview on April 10-11, 2008 (for Fall) & Dec 1-4, 2008 (for Spring).
4. attend the fall 2008 planning meeting on April 29, 2008 (9am – 1pm). *Lunch provided.*

Interviews will be conducted & assignments made by committee process. The committee will consist of the current BSM Ambassador, Graduating Seniors, & BSM Staff.

UH BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRY

CORE Descriptions – Page 1 of 2

Please prayerfully consider in what capacity you should serve on CORE.

AMBASSADOR:

To be eligible for the BSM Ambassador you must have already served on CORE for one year and must be an active member of a Baptist church.

You will work with BSM staff to guide the BSM Leaders to accomplishing God's mission at UH.

You will:

- be responsible to **lead the monthly Executive CORE meetings & weekly CORE meetings.** (note: you will coordinate the prayer time during the weekly CORE meetings with the Prayer Ministry Coordinator)
- meet with staff to select GO NOW Missionaries & new leaders.
- represent the BSM to UH, the community, and local churches when needed.

EXECUTIVE CORE LEADERS:

*The following individuals are required to attend the monthly **executive meeting on the first Tuesday of each month @ 5:30-6:00pm & CORE meetings each additional Tuesday from 5:30-6:00pm.** These individuals have an ownership role over a specific area of BSM ministry. They will be responsible for carrying out the duties of their particular area of ministry and enlisting others to help. **All individuals on the Executive CORE Leadership are responsible for helping new students complete info cards as well as greeting new students during HINGE and FREE LUNCH throughout the semester.***

HINGE: *(One leader, one support student)* You will work with BSM staff to organize the BSM's weekly worship through music and Bible study. Your duties will include coordinating weekly band leaders, encouraging and supporting community leaders, set-up worship area for HINGE, guest registration, greeting, announcements, etc. You will also be in charge of preparing (or delegating the preparation of) the weekly audio/visual (sound system / PowerPoint) needs during HINGE.

PARTIES: *(Two to three students.)* You will plan & organize the BSM's parties. Specifically, coordinate a monthly BSM party where all students (including Christians, non-Christians, and international students) are welcomed, encouraged to attend, and feel comfortable inviting their friends. You will also be responsible for helping staff organize annual beginning and end of the year events such as the Welcome Parties, Christmas Party, and Spring Celebration Banquet.

NEW STUDENT MINISTRY: *(One male, one female)* You will be a vital part of transition to the University of Houston for many freshman & transfer students. You will coordinate a ministry targeting these students. Activities could include but are not limited to: August and September Welcome to UH events, service projects, an overnight retreat / lock-in, big brothers & sisters, movie nights, etc... You will also be responsible for representing the BSM at Cougar Preview Days during the summer and one per semester, as much as possible.

PRAYER MINISTRY: *(Two students)* You will organize and coordinate weekly/biweekly BSM prayer events as well as maintain and promote interest in the BSM prayer room. You will work with the BSM Ambassador to creatively facilitate the prayer time during weekly CORE meetings (each Tuesday). You will also be responsible for leading the prayer time immediately before HINGE (6:15pm each Tuesday evening).

UH BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRY

CORE Descriptions – Page 2 of 2

CORE LEADERS:

The following individuals are required to attend the weekly CORE meetings each Tuesday 5:30-6:00pm (excluding the Executive Meeting on the 1st Tuesday of each month). They are responsible for weekly development of their ministries and developing relationships with others as they walk in the way of Jesus.

SMALL GROUPS:

Community Group Facilitator: (five leaders) As a Community Group Facilitator, you are responsible for facilitating discussion during your Community Group at HINGE. Paired with a Community Group Leader, you will lead your group members to grow as they follow Jesus.

Community Group Leader: (five leaders) As a Community Group Leader, you are responsible for building unity in your Community Group at HINGE. You will:

- create a warm and caring environment in your community group by leading ice-breakers, games, and prayer times.
- encourage group members by praying for them weekly & telling them that you've done so (in person, by email, facebook, phone, etc)
- personally contact new group members and group members who are absent.
- plan monthly ministry project for your group.

TAG - Tribal Action Groups:

You will get together with 2–3 fellow Christ-followers and adopt a “TRIBE” on campus. Tribes are: any group of students on campus that you see on a regular weekly basis, such as a residence hall, apartment complex, academic major, ethnic or international student group, etc. Your TAG (group of 2-3 Christ-followers) will provide weekly accountability for each other and strategize possible ways you can build intentional relationships with individuals in your Tribe such as: conversations, sharing meals, play, and creative intentional acts of kindness. One goal for your TAG is to eventually begin a seeker discussion group for individuals interested in spiritual things. *If you're interested, but still want further details – be sure to attend the TAG Team Interest Dinner at the beginning of next semester.*

WEDNESDAY CORE LEADERS:

*The following individuals are not required to attend weekly CORE meetings each Tuesday evening but are welcome and encouraged to do so. These individuals are required to attend **FREE LUNCH** each Wednesday from noon – 1:00pm (11:00 am-1:30pm is preferred). ALL FREE LUNCH CORE Leaders are expected to meet with BSM Staff monthly, except the **FREE LUNCH Coordinator**, who is expected to meet with BSM Staff on a weekly basis.*

FREE LUNCH COORDINATOR:

(One leader & support students) You will coordinate the BSM's weekly outreach / seeker lunch – the BSM's largest event. You will be responsible to mc for prayer and announcements during FREE LUNCH, enlist a team of students to greet guests as they enter and exit, do set-up & clean-up (beginning @ 11:00am) as well as preparing lemonade. The FREE LUNCH ministry goal is to move not-yet-followers of Jesus one step closer to following Jesus through an atmosphere where relationships and conversations happen naturally.

FREE LUNCH TABLE HOST:

(Five – ten students) You will welcome, greet, and make FREE LUNCH guests feel at home and comfortable at the BSM during FREE LUNCH. Facilitate discussion around tables and include new individuals in discussion using the “Question of the Day,” and build relationships with individuals who attend FREE LUNCH on a regular basis.

UH Baptist Student Ministry Statement of Faith

We believe there is one and only one living and true God. God is intelligent, spiritual, and personal. He is the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each with distinct attributes but without division of nature, essence, or being. We believe that Jesus Christ is God the Son and was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born to the Virgin Mary, and is both fully God and fully man.

We believe that man was created in the image of God, and that man chose to sin and rebel against God. This brought sin to the entire human race. Every person sins and incurs spiritual death, which is separation from God.

We believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, as our representative and as a sacrifice for our sins, and that all who receive him are made right with God. We believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, and his ascension to heaven.

We believe that those who receive Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit, are children of God, have begun an eternal relationship with Him, and are the ambassadors of His kingdom at hand.

We believe that Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly to earth, the dead will be raised, and Christ will judge all people. We believe in an eternal heaven and an eternal hell.

We believe that the Bible was written by people inspired by God and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to Man. The Bible has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. The Bible is a relevant guide for the daily lives of all followers of Jesus.

We believe that a New Testament church is a group of baptized believers in a covenant commitment to one another, organized for worship, service, and the spread of the Gospel. We believe that the Lord's Supper is a memorial of the death of Christ and is a symbolic act where Believers examine their lives and remember the sacrifice of Christ. We believe that Baptism is a public sign that a person has decided to follow the way of Jesus.

We believe that it is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church to endeavor to make disciples of all nations through evangelism and missions.

Please sign here stating that you have read the *UH BSM Statement of Faith* & agree not to actively promote doctrine contrary to it.

_____ Date: _____
Sign here

Print here

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_____ Date: _____
Sign here

Print here

UH BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRY

CORE APPLICATION

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: _____

Email (2): _____

UH Address: _____

Parents' Address:

City, State, Zip: _____

Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

Birth Date: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email (1): _____

Parents' Email: _____

1. Are you currently enrolled at UH? Yes No *If "NO" please explain on separate sheet.*

2. Where is your church membership? _____

3. Where do you attend church while @ UH? _____

4. How many semester hours have you completed? _____

5. How many hours are you currently enrolled in @ UH? _____

6. Including the current semester, how many semesters have you studied @ UH? _____

7. What is your approximate GPA? _____

8. On a separate sheet of paper, briefly describe your spiritual journey thus far.
(Please include how you came to walk with Jesus).

9. Why are you applying for BSM Leadership?

10. What are your personal strengths? What are your spiritual gifts?

11. How have you been involved in ministry through your church, BSM, etc?

12. Rank (1,2,3...) the top few leadership positions in which you would prefer to serve. Mark out any position you are unwilling to do or are uncomfortable doing.

Ambassador

New Student Ministry (fall only)

HINGE Coordinator

Community Group Facilitator

Free Lunch Coordinator

Community Group Leader

Free Lunch Table Host

TAG Team: _____

Party Coordinator

(List a possible Tribe.)

Prayer Ministry Coordinator

If your answers do not fit in the above provided space, please make additional comments on a separate sheet of paper. Please staple all additional pages to this application.