



DICKERSON-GREEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



2026-2029

DICKERSON-GREEN SEMINARY CATALOG



Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary

Allen University-Waverly Building
2200 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC, 29204
803-376-5700
dgtseminary@allenuniversity.edu

DGTS Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm



DICKERSON-GREEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



Allen University is an academic community that allows students to obtain associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in liberal arts and professional programs in traditional and distance education formats. The University has a strong, unalterable commitment to teaching and delivering its associate, baccalaureate, and graduate programs.

Dickerson Green Theological Seminary has a rich legacy that has illuminated the hearts and minds of countless students for well over a century. As an integral pillar of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church of South Carolina, our storied institution has been an inspiration of spiritual and intellectual nourishment, offering both non-credit enrichment opportunities for clergy members within the AME denomination and an undergraduate program open to all seekers of theological wisdom. Today, we are pleased to continue an enduring commitment to faith and learning, marked by the expansion into graduate-level theological studies. This monumental development will be housed under the distinguished banner of Dickerson-Green Seminary.

The University reserves the right to change its policies, procedures, program requirements, fee structure, and calendar without prior notice.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

HISTORY OF ALLEN UNIVERSITY

Allen University was founded by the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in South Carolina under the leadership of Bishop John M. Brown on July 29, 1870. In an effort led by Reverend Simon Miller, 150 acres of land was purchased for the institution in Cokesbury, SC. The newly founded school was named Payne Institute in honor of Bishop Daniel A. Payne, a South Carolinian noted advocate for Black education. For its first ten years, the school prospered in fulfilling its mission of developing an educated clergy in the face of repression and violent opposition during the Reconstruction Era.

Delegates to the Annual Conference in Spartanburg, SC, in 1880, with Bishop William F. Dickerson presiding, voted to move Payne Institute to Columbia, SC. Concurrently, Payne Institute was renamed Allen University in honor of Bishop Richard Allen, founder of the AME Church. Into the 20th century, Allen met the needs of students at all educational levels. The curriculum included courses in law, theology, and the arts, as well as elementary and high school-level coursework. It was possible to enter Allen as a child in first grade and leave prepared to teach, preach, or prosecute/defend in the courts as fully trained educators, ministers, and lawyers. The grammar school closed in the mid-1920s, and the high school in 1933.

An influx of veterans pursued studies at Allen following World War II. In the 1940s, Departments of Humanities, Philosophy, Psychology, and Religion were added to existing academic programs. During the 1960s, the University fielded highly successful athletic teams that competed in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC). In 1970, the University marked a century of service with a Centennial celebration and rededicated itself to the principles upon which it was founded. Responsive to societal changes, Allen revised its curricula in the 1980s and pursued regional accreditation. The 1990s was a period of growth and development that resulted in the first accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges. During that period, the John Hurst Adams Gymnasium was constructed. In the early 2000s, Arnett Hall received a major restoration, the Williams Residence Halls were erected, and Chappelle Auditorium and Gallery were restored/renovated.

In 2016, Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. brought an enlightened system of governance to the institution that fueled dramatic change and growth. Under the leadership of its 30th President, Dr. Ernest McNealey, the University moved from Level II to Level III to offer its first graduate program, the Master of Divinity degree, via the newly formed Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary. The campus received a dramatic aesthetic facelift, NCAA athletics were returned, Reid and Higgins Halls were renovated, the Seminary attained membership in the Association of Theological Schools, noteworthy capacity in information technology was acquired, the historic Waverly Hospital building was renovated and expanded, and the Boeing Institute on Civility at Allen University was launched. The university has a distinguished history of

promoting personal and spiritual growth and educating men and women to become productive leaders and citizens in an ever-changing world.

MISSION STATEMENT

Allen University is an academic community that allows students to obtain associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in liberal arts and professional programs in traditional and distance education formats. The University has a strong, unalterable commitment to teaching and delivering its associate, baccalaureate, and graduate programs.

Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary's (DGTS) mission is to provide a high-quality graduate theological education. The program equips graduates to engage in Christian congregational life and other settings in which the expectation is to think theologically and minister to the spiritual, social, and physical development of all people within a Christian spiritual context. The program aims to ecumenically prepare those who qualify and desire to extend the transformational love of Jesus Christ via the empowerment of education and Christian spiritual formation.

VISION STATEMENT

Allen University is a Christian liberal arts institution that prepares leaders to think critically, communicate, and possess high moral character. We will create a nurturing environment that fosters academic excellence and heightens our students' chances of succeeding in a diverse and global world. We will utilize various creative paradigms delivered in traditional and innovative modes. The vision for Allen University is driven by her call to serve the present age by providing opportunities to persons who seek to prepare themselves to fulfill their purpose. In her vision, Allen must demonstrate faithful stewardship of its curricular and fiduciary responsibilities, properties, and hardware resources. The vision, in part, is influenced by current trends in higher education, an honest and objective survey of the present state of the University, and accreditation updates by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College.

CORE VALUES

Selected principles govern the institution's behavior and operation as an organized body.

Integrity: Allen University seeks to practice truth and propriety in our personal and corporate practices and relationships.

Accountability: Allen University accepts its responsibility to be consistent in sound practices and loyal in duties, agreements, obligations, and relationships.

Respect: Allen University faculty, staff, and students aspire to live and work in harmony with peers, superiors, and subordinates by respecting each other's right to exist, think, and speak appropriately with dignity for each one honored by all.

Excellence: Allen University is committed to pursuing excellence in educational and behavioral endeavors.

Faith: Allen University is a Christian liberal arts institution of higher learning. We seek to be governed by what we know and believe about God as prescribed by the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

DICKERSON-GREEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Admission Requirements (M.Div. & M.A.)

1. A completed application form
2. \$45 nonrefundable application fee
3. Official transcripts from all previous colleges, universities, graduate schools, and seminaries attended. These must show a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 2.5. (Students with a lower GPA may be considered for provisional admittance.)
4. Personal Statement
Your personal statement should answer the following questions: ([Please see an example of a personal statement here](#))
 1. Reflecting on your spiritual life, how would you describe your journey of faith and how it has shaped who you are today?
 2. What are your short and long-term career goals?
5. Three letters of recommendation.

Qualifications for Transfer Students

1. A completed application form
2. A \$45 nonrefundable application fee
3. Official transcripts from all previous colleges, universities, graduate schools, and seminaries attended. These must show a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 2.5. (Students with a lower GPA may be considered for provisional admittance.)
Present or prior enrollment in a parallel accredited program.
A minimum grade of B is required for transferred courses.
A maximum of 18 credit hours is accepted via transfer.
Courses taken more than ten years ago will not be considered for transfer.
4. Personal Statement
Your personal statement should answer the following questions: ([Please see an example of](#)

[a personal statement here](#))

1. Reflecting on your spiritual life, how would you describe your journey of faith and how it has shaped who you are today?
2. What are your short and long-term career goals?
5. Three letters of recommendation

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Students are expected to make satisfactory academic progress toward completing their degree each semester. SAP is based on a student's GPA, the pace at which a degree program can be completed (Completion Rate), and the total amount of time allotted to complete a degree program 150% (Maximum Time Frame Criteria). This policy also applies to veteran standards of progress.

Master of Divinity Degree

Cumulative Attempted Hours (with transfer credit)	*Minimum Cumulative GPA Allen University (GPA)
0-18	2.50
19-28	2.80
29-46	2.90
47-Above	3.00

Master of Arts Degree

Cumulative Attempted Hours (with transfer credit)	*Minimum Cumulative GPA Allen University (GPA)
0-19	2.80
20 - Above	3.00

Treatment of Courses and Grades in Determining Satisfactory Academic Progress

Withdrawals (W)

Withdrawals from courses count toward the total hours attempted for the Cumulative Completion Rate and are included in the GPA calculation; only Administrative withdrawals do not count against the GPA.

Incomplete (I) or Not Reported (Blank)

Incomplete or non-reported grades count toward total hours attempted for the Cumulative Completion Rate.

Transfer Credits

Transferred credits accepted by the university count toward the Cumulative Completion Rate and will not count in the GPA calculation.

Repeated Courses

Repeated count toward total hours attempted for the Cumulative Completion Rate. The highest grade is included in the GPA calculation. Federal student aid is available for only one retake of a passed course.

Change in Majors.

Only courses count toward a student's program of study (major) toward the maximum timeframe. Students are allowed to change majors a maximum of three times.

Failing (F)

Failing grades count toward total hours attempted for the Cumulative Completion Rate and are included in the GPA calculation.

SAP Notification and Appeal

SAP Notification

The SAP notification will appear each semester on the student's grade report/transcript in the MYALLEN Portal.

SAP Appeal

When a student fails to meet SAP, they return to the university under a warning status. If a student fails to meet SAP for two consecutive semesters they are suspended. Upon suspension, a student may appeal to the Admission Committee for reinstatement. If the appeal is approved, the student may return under a probation status with an academic plan.

The Appeal Process

1. Submit a completed SAP Appeal Form and supporting documentation.
2. Submit the appeal during the following times:
 - a. Second week of August
 - b. Last week of December
 - c. Third week of May
 - d. Third week of July
 - e. Summer submission may vary by term
3. Students will be notified of the decision by mail or email within 48 hours of the decision.

Submit Appeals Form and Supporting Documents to:
ALLEN UNIVERSITY
Dean of Enrollment Management
Attn: Admissions Committee
1530 Harden Street Columbia, SC 29204
Email To: admissioncommittee@allenuniversity.edu

Transfer Credits

In order that the application may be processed in time for registration, the Office of Admissions recommends that transcripts be sent at least six (6) weeks prior to the beginning of the semester in which the student plans to enroll. Transcripts will be evaluated prior to the end of the first semester. The following criteria are used to determine acceptability of prior college course work for advanced standing:

1. The final grade for the course(s) must be a “B” or higher and must have been earned within ten years prior to the date of transfer.
2. The course(s) must have been taken at an accredited institution.
3. The course(s) must be applicable to the program in which the student plans to enroll.
4. The course(s) must be college-level. Course(s) remedial/ developmental in nature will not be accepted.

Tuition and Fees

Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary is dedicated to offering comprehensive theological education and training for individuals pursuing careers in religious leadership or ministry. Tuition fees typically cover the cost of instruction, access to resources such as libraries and research materials, and administrative services. The seminary offers financial aid, scholarships, or grants to support students’ educational pursuits. Investing in seminary education is a significant commitment toward deepening one’s understanding of religious principles, fostering personal growth, and preparing for a fulfilling vocation in service to a faith community.

Tuition	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00
Room	\$1516.00	
Board	\$2,990.00	
Total Academic Semester	\$8,556.00	\$4,050.00
Total Academic Year	\$17,112.00	\$8,100.00
Part-Time Cost (per credit hour)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Part-Time Enrollment Fee (per semester)	\$ 531.00	\$ 531.00

MASTER DEGREE PROGRAMS

As part of the University's mission to provide students with a comprehensive liberal arts and professional course of study, students enrolled in either the Master of Arts in Religious Studies or the Master of Divinity program enter a committed and qualified academic community. Courses within the programs offer the student a platform where, upon completion, he or she can pursue additional graduate degrees in the discipline or continue ministering to faith-based communities.

Master of Divinity

The mission of the Master of Divinity program is to provide a high-quality graduate theological education. The program will equip graduates to engage in Christian congregational life and other settings in which the expectation is to think theologically and minister to the spiritual, social, and physical development of all people within a Christian spiritual context. The aim of the program is to ecumenically prepare those who qualify and desire to extend the transformational love of Jesus Christ via the empowerment of education and Christian spiritual formation. The M.Div. degree is geared to broadly attract students who are intentional about training for Christian parish or parachurch ministry. Such areas include the following but are not limited to, pastoral ministry, chaplaincy, Christian education, campus ministry, religious archivist, or curatorial work. Such a degree will equip graduates for ministry and leadership in broad circles and buttressing general ethical leadership skills.

MASTER OF DIVINITY*

First Year / Fall Semester				First Year / Spring Semester			
BI	501	Introduction to Hebrew Bible I	3	BI	502	Introduction to Biblical Hebrew II	3
BI	511	Introduction to New Testament	3	BI		NT Elective	3
HC	521	Church History I	3	HC	522	Church History II	3
TE	530	Introduction to Theological Ed.	3	TE	533	Christian Ethics	3
Total Credits			12	Total Credits			12
First / Summer Semester				First Year / Summer Semester			
BI		Elective	3				
TE		Elective	3				
Total Credits			6				
Second Year / Fall Semester				Second Year / Spring Semester			
TE	540	Systematic Theology I	3	TPM	541	Systematic Theology II	3
HC	523	Church History III	3	PT	532	Introduction to Pastoral Theology	3
TPM	542	Fundamentals of Preaching	3	TE		Elective	3
TPM	541	Intro to Pastoral Care and Counseling	3			Elective	3
Total Credits			12	Total Credits			12
Third Year/ Fall Semester				Third Year / Spring Semester			
PT	561	Field Education I	3	PT	562 560	Field Education II or Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)	3
TPM	543	Teaching for Faith Development	3	TPM	550	Multicultural Preaching	3
TPM	544	Christian Public Worship	3			Elective	3
		Elective	3				
Total Credits			12	Total Credits			9
Total Hours Required				Total Hours Required			75

*Students have up to five years to complete the MDiv. Program

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Biblical Interpretation Requirement (15 cr. hrs.)

BI 501	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament I
BI 502	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament II
BI 511	Introduction to the New Testament
BI	Bible Electives (2)

Theology and Ethics Requirement (15 cr. hrs.)

TE 530	Introduction to Theological Education or TE Elective
TE 540	Systematic Theology I
TE 541	Systematic Theology II
TE 533	Christian Ethics
TE	Elective

History of the Christian Church (9 cr. hrs.)

HC 521	Church History I
HC 522	Church History II
HC 523	Church History III

Theory, Practice and Ministry (15 cr. hrs.)

TPM 541	Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling
TPM 544	Christian Public Worship
TPM 542	Fundamentals of Preaching
TPM 550	Multicultural Preaching in Diverse
TPM 543	Teaching for Faith Development

Applied Ministry (9 hrs.)

PT 563	Field Education I
PT 564	Field Education II or
PT 560	Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

Pastoral Theology – (12 cr. hrs.)

PT 532	Introduction to Pastoral Theology
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Electives – (9 cr. hrs.)

Master of Arts

The Master of Arts in Religious Studies degree is geared to broadly attract students who are intentional about training for Christian theological education. Such a degree will equip graduates for teaching and broad leadership in religious education circles, ministry contexts, or buttressing general ethical leadership skills. The focused Master of Arts program in religious studies provides the chance to engage in in-depth study within a specific theological discipline. The following concentrations are in African American Religious Thought, Women's Studies, or Religion and Ethics.

MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Fall Semester				Spring Semester			
TE	569	Exploring the Essence of Humanity in Religious Thought	3	TE	538	Womanist/Fem Ethics and Theology	3
HC	523	Church History III	3	TE	533	Christian Ethics	3
		Elective	3			Elective	3
		Elective	3			Elective	3
Total Credits			12	Total Credits			12
Fall Semester				Spring Semester			
		Elective	3	RE	789	Master Thesis	6
		Elective	3				
Total Credits			6	Total Credits			6
				Total Hours Required			36

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PROGRAM

The Doctor of Ministry (DMin) program at Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary is an advanced professional degree designed for those who wish to pursue higher-level leadership within the church, ministry, or other areas of vocational Christian service. Unlike academic doctorates in theology or religious studies, the DMin focuses on the practical application of theological knowledge. Candidates will engage in projects or research that address specific practical issues in their ministerial context, aiming to bring about transformative change in their communities. Our program is designed to attract experienced ministers and pastoral leaders seeking deeper understanding, enhanced skills, and a renewed vision for effective ministry. Throughout the DMin journey, students are encouraged to integrate scholarly inquiry with their lived experiences, leading to enriched perspectives and innovative strategies in their ministerial endeavors.

- Admission Requirements (D.Min.) Qualifications for New Students
- A completed application form
- Master's degree - Divinity, Theology, Religious Studies, or Philosophy
- Experience – three or more years as a pastor or leader in other capacities related to the application of denominational tenets.
- Other - graduate credentials and experience that would indicate a high probability of successfully completing the program.
- Essay – Statement of Purpose (minimum of 500 and maximum 800 words).
- Letters of recommendation – Church or denomination, former professor, and character reference/lay person.

Qualifications for Transfer Students

- A completed application form
- Present or prior enrollment in a parallel accredited program.
- A minimum grade of B is required for transferred courses.
- A maximum of 18 credit hours accepted via transfer.
- Courses taken more than ten years before enrollment will not be considered for transfer.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

First Year / Fall Semester				First Year / Spring Semester			
BIM	700	Biblical Interpretation for Effective Church Ministry	3	CMS	791 752	Ministry with Multigenerational and Multicongregational Models or Preaching in the Multiethnic and Multicultural Settings	3
TSE	740	Ethics and Research	3	CMS	753	Ministry in the Virtual World	3
Total Credits			6	Total Credits			6
Second Year / Fall Semester				Second Year / Spring Semester			
CMS	750	Leadership and Administration in the Church	3	CMS	756	Ministry in Small Town and Rural Communities	3
CMS	755	Urban Ministries	3	RES	790	Research Methods	3
				DMP	797	Doctoral Proposal	0
Total Credits			6	Total Credits			6
Third Year / Fall Semester				Third Year / Spring Semester			
DMP	798	Doctoral Project	6	DMP	799	Doctoral Project	6
Total			6	Total			6
Credits				Credits			
				Total Hours			36
				Required			

- **BIM** – Biblical Interpretation for Ministry
- **CMS** – Christian Ministry
- **CLN** – Counseling in Church Contexts
- **TSE** – Theology, Ethics, and Sociology
- **RES** – Research Methods
- **DMP** – Doctoral Project

PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION (BI) / BIBLICAL LANGUAGES (BL)

BL 501 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I

Credit 3 hrs.

This is the first course in a two-semester sequence leading to a reading knowledge of Biblical Hebrew. The course emphasizes the vocabulary and grammar of the language of the Hebrew Bible.

BL 502 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BL 501

This course is a continuation of Biblical Hebrew I, where students will continue to master basic Hebrew Bible grammar, vocabulary, and syntax, leading to advanced exegetical skills.

BL 505 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL GREEK I

Credit 3 hrs.

This is the first course in a two-semester sequence leading to a reading knowledge of the Greek New Testament. It emphasizes the vocabulary and grammar of the New Testament language.

BL 506 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL GREEK II

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BL 509

This course is a continuation of Biblical Greek I, where students will continue to master basic biblical Greek grammar, vocabulary, and syntax, leading to advanced exegetical skills.

BI 501 INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW BIBLE I

Credit 3 hrs.

The course will explore historical contours of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and its place and theological significance in the life of Christian Bible-believing communities. In that this is the first course in a two-part course sequence, attention will be given to the first five books of what is also known as the Pentateuch. Focus will be on understanding the content, genre, social, cultural, and political milieu of this literary corpus in conjunction with its literary style and authorial intent.

BI 502 INTRODUCTION TO HEBREW BIBLE II

Credit 3 hrs.

The course will explore the historical, prophetic, and writing sections of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and its place and theological significance in the life of Christian Bible-believing communities. This is the second course in a two-part course sequence, where attention will be given to the books of Joshua through Malachi with an understanding of each work's content, genre, social, cultural, and political milieu in literary and historical continuity. Key personalities and themes of this portion of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament will also be examined.

BI 503 OLD TESTAMENT LITURGICAL AND WISDOM LITERATURE

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 501 and BI 502

A biblical studies course examining an Old Testament liturgical or wisdom literature text. This course will explore a particular book's historical context, genre, theology, and overall content for meaning.

BI 505 THE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY

Credit 3 hrs.

The course will explore the book of Deuteronomy as historical literature and ancient scripture. This class will undertake an exegetical analysis of Deuteronomy to understand its major themes, its overall context, and the biblical theology that emerges that informs Judeo-Christian communities. This course will build upon exegetical methods necessary for doing in-depth biblical and theological study.

BI 506 THE BOOK OF JOSHUA

Credit 3 hrs.

The course is an exegetical examination of Joshua, considering its literary, historical, and textual features.

BI 507 THE BOOK OF JOB

Credit 3 hrs.

A study of the book of Job, attending to its literary features, religious themes, internal disputes regarding theodicy, and its relation to other texts from the Ancient Near East.

BI 508 HEBREW BIBLE EXEGESIS SEMINAR

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: Biblical Hebrew

This course explores the exegetical and hermeneutical research methods in reading the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament in an academic context.

BI 509 ECCLESIASTES

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 502 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible II. Fulfills a BI elective requirement.

The course will explore the wisdom literature of Ecclesiastes as historical literature and ancient scripture. This class will undertake an exegetical analysis of Ecclesiastes to understand the work's themes, literary style, overall message, and the biblical theology which emerges. This course will build upon exegetical methods necessary for doing in-dept biblical and theological study.

BI 511 INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

Credit 3 hrs.

This course will examine the historical, social, cultural, and theological contexts that shape the New Testament. It will review the literary genres and theological topics present throughout the New Testament, as well as the content of each book. We will look at the New Testament both as historical literature and as a sacred text, analyzing the theology that arises from its literary context. Key figures and themes, including Jesus, the Gospels, and the Pauline and non-Pauline letters and epistles, will be explored.

BI 512 THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Credit 3 hrs.

This course addresses historical context of Mark's account of the Gospel. It will study the book's Christology, depiction of the disciples, and the ramifications of the political, social and gender views that it espouses.

BI 513 THE PARABLES OF JESUS

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the nature of parable as a literary form, the history of the interpretation of parables, the study of parables in the setting of the ministry of Jesus and the theology of the Evangelists, and literary criticism and the interpretation of parables.

BI 514 INTERPRETING THE GOSPELS: MATTHEW

Credit 3 hrs.

This class will examine how, through the centuries and today, Christian believers have interpreted and interpret this gospel as Scripture, that is, as a text with a teaching for or about their lives in specific religious, socio-economic, and cultural contexts

BI 516 THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Credit 3 hrs.

This course will consider, (1) John's use of the Hebrew Bible (2) the Gospel's consideration of economics and politics related to Rome's occupancy; (3) its depiction of social roles and groups and (4) Christology.

BI 517 THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Biblical Greek is a prerequisite.

Exegesis course of selected passages from Acts 1-15 with attention on the various methods of textual analysis.

BI 515 SYNOPTIC GOSPELS

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 511 Introduction to the New Testament

This course is an exegetical examination of a New Testament synoptic gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Issues pertaining to the synoptics will be examined including some synoptic problems. This course will undertake a parallel examination of the synoptic pericopes with an understanding of the various sources that may have contributed to their literary accounts.

BI 519 GALATIANS

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 511 Introduction to the New Testament. Fulfills a BI elective requirement

This is a New Testament exegetical course on the study of Paul's letter to the Galatians. Emphasis is on exegetical methodology wherein various reading and hermeneutical strategies will be introduced and employed through examining certain passages. Focus will be on how this letter may be understood as a unique literary Second Temple work and as sacred text.

BI 526 PHILEMON

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 511 Introduction to the New Testament. Fulfills a BI elective requirement

This is a New Testament exegetical course which examines Paul's letter to Philemon. Emphasis will be on the historical, textual, and literary nature of the letter as well as its theological and social-political clues. An examination of this letter employing various exegetical and hermeneutical strategies will be highlighted so as to propose a contextualized reading methodology.

BI 538 THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS AND THE BIBLE

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 501, 502 and 511 and permission from instructor. Fulfills a BI elective requirement

This course examines the literature and material content related to the Dead Sea Scrolls. Emphasis is placed on the scholarly nature and Judeo-Christian interest of the scrolls particularly highlighted through reading primary texts. Texts will be read in light of their historical milieu, particularly as this relates to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament and explored for their exegetical nature.

BI 539 EARLY JUDAISM

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 501, 502 and 511 and permission from instructor. Fulfills a BI elective requirement

This course will survey the history and literary corpus of Early Judaism. From Late Second Temple Period writings, known as Jewish Intertestamental Literature, to early Jewish Rabbinic texts, this course highlights the ideology, theology and thought of this particular period which further explicates the nature of the Hebrew Bible/ Old Testament, and serves as a backdrop leading up to the New Testament Jesus communities.

BI 530 BIBLICAL EXEGESIS AND RESEARCH METHODS

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 501-502 and BL 501-502 or BI 511 and BL 505-506

This is a seminar course that explores the exegetical methods used in biblical interpretation. This course explores the approaches to and practice of Bible interpretation, paying close attention to the method and ideology behind hermeneutical readings. Attention also will be given to the place of cognate literature used in biblical interpretation as well as the place of archaeological and anthropological findings.

BI 540 REVELATION

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 511 Introduction to the New Testament

This course looks at the New Testament book of Revelation, examining its content, theological message, and focused themes. Attention will be given to understanding the book's genre and historical milieu as first-century ancient literature and sacred scripture.

HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (HC)

HC 521 CHURCH HISTORY I

Credit 3 hrs.

An introductory survey of life and thought in ancient and early medieval Christianity from the Gnostic crisis (second century) to the parting of the Greek and Latin churches (eleventh century). Some of the issues covered are the multi-cultural and multi-ethnic character of ancient Christianity; the rise of doctrinal and biblical canons; ethics of war, wealth, and sexuality; the flourishing of the ascetical principle; major theological writers and controversies of the early period.

HC 522 CHURCH HISTORY II

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: HC 521

This course offers an introduction to the history of the Christian Church in the Western European tradition between the rise of the medieval Church in the West c. 1000 and the twentieth century. It includes some discussion of the high and late Middle Ages, the Reformation and Confessional era, the Enlightenment, the era of Romanticism, the movements of Higher Criticism and Liberalism, and the modern Church.

HC 523 CHURCH HISTORY III

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: HC 521 and HC 522 The main outlines of the history of Christianity from seventeenth-century Puritanism to the ecumenical movement, with emphasis on the experiences of U.S. churches in their immense diversity.

HC 524 HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Credit 3 hrs.

A survey course of the history of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and its leaders from its inception to the present. Attention is given to those forces that have shaped the movement and its impact on culture.

HC 525 RELIGION AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Credit 3 hrs.

The seminar will examine the religious ideas and individuals that played pivotal roles in the civil rights movement by exploring the theological foundations of the black freedom struggle for freedom and equality.

HC 526 RELIGION, SLAVERY, AND THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Credit 3 hrs.

This seminar examines slavery in relation to the religious history of the American Civil War. Based on reading and discussion of primary and secondary sources, the seminar will assess slavery in colonial America and its relation to religious groups through the American Revolution and the early republic.

HC 527 HISTORY OF RELIGION IN AMERICA

Credit 3 hrs.

An introduction to the history of the religions in America beginning with colonial religious experiments in the New World. The course examines American church history, as well as the influence of non-Christian religions in American culture with special attention to African American muslims.

HC 528 HISTORY OF CHAPLAINCY - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: This is a recommended course for those on a chaplaincy track

This course looks at the history of chaplaincy in various settings. Students will become familiar with the history, function, and future of chaplaincy within the different branches of the military, hospitals, hospice care, convalescent facilities, prisons, and school campuses.

HC 560 BAPTIST HISTORY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is a survey of Baptist history, including the origins of Baptists in England and America, key leaders, events, and movements in Baptist life, and the work of Baptist in other parts of the world. This course will also place the history of Baptists within the larger context of American and world Christianity. Because of this course, students find support and assistance in preparation for ministry in a variety of Baptist contexts. Social movements and the role of women are a particular focus in the course.

HC 565 CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST THEOLOGY & HISTORY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course surveys the content, development, and the guiding theological ideals of American Pentecostalism, as these are embodied in the theology of the Church of God in Christ (COGIC), the largest African American Pentecostal denomination in the world. It will explore how Pentecostal approaches to the study of Scripture, which are rooted in their distinctive Pneumatology, helped to shape the content and expression of COGIC theology.

HC 566 UNITED METHODIST HISTORY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course explores the historical journey of the United Methodist Church, beginning with the Methodist revival in 18th-century England and moving through its spread to North America and beyond. Students will study the lives and work of early leaders, particularly John and Charles Wesley, and examine the ways Methodist faith and practice took root in different cultural and political settings. Further exploration will be given to major splits, reunions, and shifts that have shaped the church, with attention to issues like slavery, race, gender, and social reform. The course also considers how Methodism has adapted to global contexts and what its history suggests about the future of the denomination. By the end of the term, students should be able to connect historical developments with contemporary questions of identity, mission, and leadership in the United Methodist tradition.

THEOLOGY AND ETHICS (TE)

TE 530 INTRODUCTION THE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Credit 3 hrs.

This is an introductory course that prepares students to think and write in a theological context. It will help students understand their role as critical thinkers and interpreters in a faith context, with particular regard to addressing issues such as morality, righteousness, evil, racism, and injustice.

TE 531 INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Christian doctrines and beliefs and is designed to develop a foundation of theological discourse about faith and practice in the Christian tradition. Students will examine Christian Theological doctrines as it relates to other religions, secularly philosophies and commonly held beliefs.

TE 533 CHRISTIAN ETHICS

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: TE 531 – Christian Theology and/or TE 540 – Systematic Theology

This course explores the concepts of morality and ethics within the Biblical and Christian contexts with particular emphasis on clarifying how our interpretation of these concepts shapes our thinking and actions as it relates to issues such as race, gender, and other justice issues. It challenges students to look at these concepts and their implications for action in the areas of social justice and freedom for the individual, the church, society, and the world community.

TE 534 AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL: A THEOLOGICAL TRADITION

Credit 3 hrs.

This course will survey the history of theology in the African Methodist Episcopal Church with emphasis on the major doctrinal concerns that have shaped the church historically, informed its social witness and influenced its polity.

TE 536 THE FOUNDATIONS OF ETHICAL LEADERSHIP

Credit 3 hrs.

The Foundations of Ethical Leadership. This course will stimulate learning and reflection as key elements and dynamics of leadership and ethical responsibility in professional life. The course uses readings, group and individual exercises, peer consultations, films, and written assignments to deepen our moral imaginations and leadership capacity.

TE 537 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. AND THE SOCIAL ROLE OF RELIGION

Credit 3 hrs.

Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Social Role of Religion. Examines King's role as a religious leader and agent of social change with some attention to the intellectual sources of his thought and social activism.

TE 538 WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course explores the rich and diverse expressions of women's spirituality and their role in resisting patriarchal systems throughout history and across cultures. Students will examine how women have

cultivated spiritual practices, fostered communities of empowerment, and developed theological frameworks that challenge and transcend societal structures of oppression. Through an interdisciplinary approach, the course integrates historical, theological, and cultural perspectives, engaging texts, rituals, and lived experiences to illuminate the ways women's spirituality has shaped movements for justice, equality, and liberation. By the end of the course, students will gain a deeper understanding of the transformative power of women's spiritual resilience and its relevance in contemporary struggles against patriarchy.

TE 539 BLACK THEOLOGY

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: TE 540 and 541. Fulfills a TE elective requirement

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the study of black theology in North America. It surveys the origins of black theology as an academic discipline and studies the key persons, movements and traditions that have shaped black theology. It also looks at the distinctive methodological approaches that theologians employ in their approach to black theology. Moreover, it offers both an affirmation and critical examination of black theology within the context of constructive systematic theology and African American religious practices.

TE 540 SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: TE 530 - Christian Theology

This course is the first half of a two- semester examination of the methods of doing theology. Special emphasis will be given to the centrality of Scripture, the primacy of human experience and social location, and the priority of history in shaping how and why we do theology. We will also emphasize the relevance of Christian theology to the church's place in contemporary life.

TE 541 SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: TE 531 - Christian Theology and/or TE 540 - Systematic Theology I

As the second half of theology core, this course will specifically engage students in understanding the key doctrines and practices that comprise the core of Christian life and thought, including the doctrine of God, Christology, Pneumatology, the Trinity, anthropology, sin, salvation, ecclesiology, eschatology, ethics, sexuality, and more. Students are required to write a paper that outlines their own theological perspectives.

TE 542 GENDER, POWER, AND SOCIETY: WOMEN'S ROLES IN RELIGIOUS SOCIAL CHANGE

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines women's roles in driving social change and challenging power structures within a religious context. This course investigates the intersections of gender, power, and religion, focusing on women's activism, leadership, and contributions to religious and social movements. Students will analyze case studies from various religious traditions around the world, exploring topics such as women's roles in religious reform, interfaith dialogue, theology, and contemporary gender issues within faith communities. The course provides a comprehensive understanding of how women have navigated and transformed religious norms and institutions. Through critical readings, multimedia resources, group projects, and class discussions, students will gain insights into the ongoing struggles and achievements of women in their quest for religious equality and justice.

TE 544 THE THEOLOGY OF HOWARD THURMAN

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: TE 540 and 541. Fulfills a TE elective requirement

This intensive reading course introduces students to the life and thought of Howard Thurman, one of the most distinctive and leading American religious thinkers of the 20th Century. Thurman's meditations, prayers, sermons, and other writings were rooted in his experiences as an African American Christian in the American south. His work embraced a broad spectrum of religious traditions, both mainstream and marginal, Christian and non-Christian, in so doing, he impacted a cross-sectional, multigenerational group of public figures, pastors, theologians, artists and believers from all walks of life. We will engage his writings, view, and listen to audio-visual material, and otherwise explore his relevance to the church in 21st Century America. This course will assess both the enormous impact and the limits of Thurman's groundbreaking religious vision.

TE 545 CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE: THEOLOGY ANTHROPOLOGY

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: TE 531 - Christian Theology & TE 540 - Systematic Theology I

This course examines the biblical and theological understanding of what it means to be a human person, created in the image of God (Imago Dei). We will read and discuss both historical and contemporary approaches to this topic. The aim of the course is to help students to understand how the notion of the Imago Dei shapes what we believe about sin, gender, sexuality, capital punishment, human frailty, social justice, and much more.

TE 546 PERSPECTIVES ON PENTECOSTALISM IN THE SHAPING OF MODERN CHRISTIANITY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the emergence and spread of Pentecostalism throughout North America, Africa, the Caribbean, and South America. It will examine the centrality of the modern Pentecostal movement's African American and African roots. Likewise, we will explore the theological roots of classical Pentecostalism, the Charismatic movement, and indigenous churches in Africa, the Caribbean, and South America.

TE 547 THE CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN CHURCH: THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Credit 3 hrs.

This course explores the theological roots of American Christianity from the Colonial Period to the present. We will examine some of the specific socio-cultural, economic, historical, spiritual, and theological factors that have shaped the theological traditions of American churches.

TE 548 AFRICAN AMERICAN CRITICAL THOUGHT

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is designed to introduce students to critical thinking through the lens of race-based theories and selected historical and contemporary discourses of African Americans on race relations and multiculturalism in American society. It examines the intersection of race, gender, and class.

TE 549 ETHICS FOR LEADERS AND LEADERSHIP ROLES

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: This is a recommended course for those on a chaplaincy track and fulfills a TE elective. This course deals with ethical concepts for leaders and leadership roles. Students will explore ethical and moral responsibilities and roles required for leadership in parish, military, law enforcement, educational, and corporate settings.

TE 558 WOMEN'S VOICES IN RELIGIOUS CONTEXTS: LITERATURE, HISTORY, AND IDENTITY

Credit 3 hrs.

Explore the rich narratives of women within various religious traditions and historical contexts in this interdisciplinary course. This course explores the religious literature, historical accounts, and personal testimonies to uncover the complexities of women's identities and experiences within their faith communities. Students will engage with a variety of texts, including sacred scriptures, hagiographies, and autobiographies, to understand how women's voices have both shaped and been shaped by religious beliefs, practices, and institutions. The course emphasizes critical analysis and encourages students to reflect on contemporary issues of gender and spirituality. Through discussions, written assignments, and research projects, students will develop a deeper appreciation for the contributions and challenges of women in religious history and practice.

TE 559: WOMEN AND SACRED TEXTS

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the intersection of women's voices and sacred texts, exploring how women have historically engaged with, interpreted, and reimagined scriptural traditions. Students will analyze both traditional and contemporary interpretations of sacred texts, with a focus on how women have challenged patriarchal readings and contributed to theological discourse. The course also investigates feminist hermeneutics, alternative readings, and the ways women's perspectives reshape understandings of spirituality and sacred writings. Through critical engagement with historical and modern contexts, students will gain insight into the transformative power of women's interactions with sacred texts and their enduring impact on spiritual and religious thought.

TE 560 BAPTIST POLITY

Credit 3 hrs.

Seeking separation and independence, at one point, Baptist had become the largest Protestant denomination by the 20th Century. This course explores theological beliefs upheld within this tradition and will investigate Baptist polity, mission, theological distinctives, key personalities, major movements, ministry expressions, and polity structures from the seventeenth century to the present. Because of this course, students find support and assistance in preparation for ministry in a variety of Baptist context. Special attention will be given to contemporary Baptist both in North American and around the world.

TE 566 POLITY, STRUCTURE AND PROTOCOL IN THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Credit 3 hrs.

This course will employ a historical theology methodology in examining the distinctiveness of COGIC polity, structure, and protocols. It explores these governing and liturgical matters as they emerge from the early history of the denomination, as a product of American Christianity in the late 19th Century and the early to

mid- 20th Century. Specific attention is given to the life and ministry of Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, founder of the Church of God in Christ.

TE 569 THE SACREDNESS OF HUMAN LIFE

Credit 3 hrs.

This course employs theological anthropology to examine the idea and theological notion of what it means to be human. Theological anthropology is situated within its larger Judeo-Christian context and nomenclature.

TE 571 UNITED METHODIST POLITY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course introduces students to the structure, governance, and decision-making processes of the United Methodist Church. Through close study of *The Book of Discipline* and related documents, students will examine how authority is shared among laity and clergy, the role of conferences, the appointment system, and the connectional nature of the Church. The course will also explore the historical roots of United Methodist polity and how it has developed over time, particularly in relation to Wesleyan theology and practice. Special attention will be given to current challenges and debates within the denomination, including questions of leadership, accountability, and global structure. Students will leave the course with a practical understanding of how the Church functions at every level, from the local congregation to the General Conference, and how that structure shapes ministry in the United Methodist tradition.

TE 572 UNITED METHODIST DOCTRINE

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the core teachings of the United Methodist Church with a focus on their historical development and theological significance. Students will study key documents such as the Articles of Religion and the Confession of Faith, along with relevant sections of *The Book of Discipline*. Emphasis will be placed on doctrines related to grace, salvation, sanctification, and the sacraments, as understood within the Wesleyan tradition. Discussions will explore how John Wesley's use of scripture, tradition, reason, and experience continues to shape Methodist belief and practice. The course also looks at how doctrine influences the Church's approach to mission, ethics, and leadership. By engaging with both classic texts and contemporary issues, students will develop a working knowledge of United Methodist doctrine that supports informed ministry and thoughtful theological reflection.

THEORY AND PRACTICE IN MINISTRY (TPM)

TPM 541 INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the counseling aspect of pastoral ministry, human spiritual/emotional development, the practice of basic techniques, and self-evaluation.

TPM 542 FUNDAMENTALS OF PREACHING

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: BI 501, BI 502, BI 511 and a BI Elective as well as HC 521, TE 540, TPM 543 and TPM 544
Examination of theologies and methods of preparing sermons from biblical texts. Development of hermeneutical approaches, oral/aural skills, rhetorical strategies, narrative and connective logic. Students are responsible for developing a working theology of the Word, review of major homiletic theories, exegetical assignments, skill-building exercises, sermon sketches, and sermon manuscripts. In-class preaching required.

TPM 543 TEACHING FOR FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the theology and practice of educational ministry in the local church and its role in faith development. Biblical and theological foundations for spiritual formation in the local church's life are explored.

TPM 544 CHRISTIAN PUBLIC WORSHIP

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the importance of worship in the life of the church. It further provides a framework for the development and practice of worship based upon a biblical and theological foundation. Key elements in the planning and leadership of worship will be explored including the ordering of worship, the role of prayer and music, and models of collaborative worship planning.

TPM 546 BIBLE AND SERMON: THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Credit 3 hrs.

This course focuses on developing exegetical skills for use in preaching. By focusing on one book of the New Testament (in this case, the Gospel of John), students will develop skills that they can apply to other portions of the Bible. The class meetings and assignments are designed to help students develop an in-depth and nuanced understanding of this text and its relevance for preaching. The course seeks to balance a rigorous introduction to the critical issues of scholarship regarding this text and the question of how, if or when these insights are relevant for preaching. Throughout the semester, students will be asked to reflect on what aspects of their exegesis are useful or important for preaching and to discuss the process of sermon preparation in relation to their exegetical insights.

TPM 547 ADAPTIVE LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH TODAY: NAVIGATING, CHANGE, RESISTANCE, AND CONFLICT

Credit 3 hrs.

The ongoing paradigm shifts in the mainline American church continue to complicate the role of pastoral leaders. Adaptive leadership denotes the type of leadership required to help an institution negotiate these kinds of new realities. Church leaders who understand the nature of adaptive work are better equipped to help their congregations discover new solutions to problems that, at times, seem overwhelming.

TPM 548 PRINCIPLES OF CHURCH GROWTH AND HEALTH

Credit 3 hrs.

An introduction to biblical principles and practices of growing strong churches in rural and urban contexts. Students will explore practical aspects of establishing Christian ministries which effectively serve the felt needs of people groups and contribute to the healthy growth of Christian congregations.

TPM 549 MULTICULTURAL PREACHING IN DIVERSE SETTINGS

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: This is recommended course for those on a chaplaincy track and fulfills TPM 542 requirement. This course will help students to understand and present lessons and sermons in military, multicultural and multifaith settings. Students will learn how to understand audience and setting dynamics and expectations of military culture.

TPM 550 CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is designed to equip current and future pastors with leadership and managerial skills. Students will receive instruction in time management, planning and managing budgets and organizational planning. Students will also be given principles for identifying his/her leadership style for effective administrative ministry.

TPM 551 SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND EFFECTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS

Credit 3 hrs.

This course will examine principles and practices for establishing and maintaining an effective and stable Christian walk and witness through prayer and personal Bible study. The course will also explore creative methods of Bible reading and study for personal enrichment and evangelism.

TPM 552 CHURCH POLITY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines the biblical and theological basis for church government and organization. The course will also focus on church discipline and parliamentary procedure, administration of the sacraments and conducting church meetings using standard rules of order for public meetings.

TPM 561 ADVANCED SUPERVISED MINISTRY AND SEMINAR

Credit 3 hrs.

Students are given opportunities in field placements to engage in more advanced theological reflections on the experiences of ministry. At the advanced level, students are expected to make more intentional connections between the work of the Academy and the work at a placement site. Attention will be given to developing a profound understanding of the theologies and worldviews that guide one's work.

PASTORAL THEOLOGY (PT)

PT 532 INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL THEOLOGY

Credit 3 hrs.

The course is designed with the belief that we learn best by doing and by reflecting on our actions. With this in mind, our course will make use of pastoral case material from both parish and clinical settings to help students develop skills in integrating theological and psychological frames of reference in responding to a variety of pastoral care settings. Additionally, this course will involve both a theoretical and a practical focus. Approximately the first two-thirds of the semester will be spent rereading and discussing models and methods in pastoral theology. The remaining class sessions will involve reflection as the case material presented by students from the parish settings.

PT 551 INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE AND THEOLOGY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course focuses on practical application in pastoral care ministry based on sound pastoral theological understanding. It explores areas of congregational life and ministry.

PT 552 ETHICS IN HEALTH CARE: THEOLOGICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL PERSPECTIVES

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines a broad range of theological and philosophical methods for dealing with ethical questions as they arise in contemporary American healthcare. Student will study the dialectic between practice and theology being attentive to their reciprocal influences on healthcare.

PT 553 PASTORAL THEOLOGY FOR TRANSITIONS AND CRISES

Credit 3 hrs.

Examines various pastoral responses to persons facing transitions (e.g., birth, vocational choice, partnering, marriage, aging, and dying) and crises (e.g., illness, bereavement, and interpersonal discord). Close attention paid to the theological and psychological dimensions of these experiences.

PT 554 PASTORAL CARE WITH OLDER ADULTS

Credit 3 hrs.

This course explores theories of pastoral care and specific interventions for predictable human needs, including death, illness, trauma, and aging.

PT 555 PASTORAL THERAPY WITH GROUPS

Credit 3 hrs.

This course examines practical ways in which to do pastoral therapy with specific target groups, e.g., abused teens and adults, drug and alcohol abuse, and concerns related to gender and sexuality.

PT 556 PASTORAL CARE WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILIES

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is designed to assess and address the specific needs of African American families in relation to the Black Church as extended family, ecclesiological dimensions of family life, emerging lifestyles and challenges, ethical understandings of black love and sexuality, and pastoral care. In addition, this course includes a social and ethical analysis of programmatic pastoral praxis

PT 559 INTRODUCTION TO THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION

Credit 3 hrs.

The primary objective of this course is to introduce psychology of religion and its focus on understanding religious experience from psychological perspectives. The nature of the interdisciplinary relationship between psychology and religion will be explored with a review of classical and contemporary theories on religion. Life cycle development and religion, fundamentalism in the US and around the world, the psychology of religious belief and conversion, and religious biography are among various topics to be surveyed.

PT 560 CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE)

Credit 3 hrs.

Students apply to work in an approved clinical pastoral educational setting under the direction of a supervisor who is certified by the board of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE); departmental permission is required before enrolling in this intermediate-level course. (Pastoral Theology course is a prerequisite).

PT 561 FIELD EDUCATION

Credit 3 hrs.

Students serve in local churches or in church or community agencies.

PT 562 FIELD EDUCATION II

Credit 3 hrs.

This is a continuation of PT 561.

PT 564 PASTORAL CARE FOR MEMBERS AND FAMILIES IN SPECIALIZED SETTINGS

Credit 3 hrs.

Prerequisite: This course is recommended for students interested in a chaplaincy track and fulfills the PT 556 or 557 requirement or a PT elective requirement. It will allow students to study Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) as a process and further explore literary concepts of pastoral care in specialized settings.

PT 570 PASTORAL CARE, RITUAL, AND HEALING

Credit 3 hrs.

The ministry and practice of Pastoral Care consist of helpful acts of service performed by representative Christian persons directed towards the celebrating, healing, sustaining, guiding, and reconciling of persons whose troubles and joys arise out of ultimate meaning. This course seeks to explore the relationship between religion and healing, with special attention devoted to the phenomenon of ritual healing. Students will examine diverse research and findings that articulate the relationship between pastoral care, ritual, and healing.

SR 500 SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

Credit 3 hrs.

This course will introduce students to the basic ideas and methods with which sociologists have analyzed the relationship between religion and society. It will examine what it means to think about religious language, symbols, communities, and practices a social phenomenon. We will also explore the social processes at work in congregations and denominations, new religious movements and conversion, religious communal identity, and ethnic conflict

SR 510 SOCIOLOGY OF BLACK RELIGION

Credit 3 hrs.

This course will survey the major classic and contemporary themes in social scientific studies of Black religion in the 20th Century in the United States. Students will interrogate, among other things, popular conceptions of Black religion, the Black church, and Black religious experience. The course will also survey connections and contributions of: Sojourner Truth, Anna Julia Cooper, W.E.B. DuBois, Charles S. Johnson, E. Franklin Frazier, Oliver Cromwell Cox, Cyril Lionel Robert James, St. Clair Drake, James Baldwin, Frantz Fanon, and Audre Lorde.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

BIM 700 BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION FOR EFFECTIVE CHURCH MINISTRY

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is designed to equip future church leaders, pastors, and ministry workers with the essential skills and methodologies for interpreting the Bible. Participants will learn to accurately understand, apply, and communicate the truths of Scripture in various ministry contexts. The course emphasizes the importance of historical, cultural, and literary contexts in hermeneutics, while also encouraging personal spiritual formation through engagement with biblical texts.

CMS 791 MINISTRY WITH MULTIGENERATIONAL AND MULTI-CONGREGATIONAL MODELS

Credit 3 hrs.

This is an advanced course that explores the dynamics of leading and serving in multigenerational and multi-congregational church settings. The curriculum is tailored for ministry leaders, church planters, and pastoral staff who aim to create inclusive communities that honor diversity in age, culture, and worship styles. Through a blend of theological inquiry, sociological research, and practical ministry models, students will learn strategies for fostering unity within diversity, promoting intergenerational relationships, and managing the complexities of multiple congregations under one mission.

CMS 752 PREACHING IN MULTIETHNIC AND MULTICULTURAL SETTINGS

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is designed for current and future religious leaders, pastors, and communicators who seek to effectively convey biblical messages in multiethnic and multicultural environments. Recognizing the rich tapestry of cultures and ethnicities in many communities, this course provides students with the tools to navigate and celebrate this diversity in their preaching. It focuses on developing sermons that resonate across cultural boundaries, promote inclusivity, and foster understanding within a varied congregation.

TSE 740 ETHICS IN RESEARCH

Credit 3 hrs.

This essential course is for students pursuing advanced studies in any discipline where research is a fundamental component of their academic and professional endeavors. This course provides an in-depth examination of the ethical considerations and responsibilities that come with the conduct of research. Students will explore the principles of ethical research, the development of research protocols, and the resolution of ethical dilemmas across various research settings.

CMS 753 MINISTRY IN THE VIRTUAL WORLD

Credit 3 hrs.

This course explores the burgeoning field of virtual ministry, addressing the unique challenges and opportunities presented by digital spaces. This course is crafted for ministry leaders, pastoral staff, and religious educators seeking to understand and engage with congregations online. It combines theological reflection, digital communication theory, and practical tools for cultivating a vibrant virtual ministry that complements and enhances traditional church functions.

CMS 750 LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE CHURCH

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is tailored for individuals who are preparing for or are currently in leadership roles within church settings. It offers a comprehensive look at the principles and practices essential for effective leadership and administration in the church. It delves into biblical leadership models, contemporary management techniques, and practical applications to equip students with the skills to guide a church in its various facets of operation and ministry.

CMS 755 URBAN MINISTRIES

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is designed for ministry leaders, church planters, and community outreach coordinators who are called to serve in urban environments. This course offers an in-depth look at the challenges and opportunities of ministering in the city, providing students with the knowledge and skills needed to develop effective ministry strategies that address the unique needs of urban populations. The curriculum integrates theological principles with social science insights to equip students for transformative ministry in diverse and densely populated areas.

CMS 756 MINISTRY IN SMALL TOWN AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

Credit 3 hrs.

This course is specifically tailored for those called to minister in small town and rural settings. It focuses on the unique cultural, social, and spiritual dynamics of non-urban environments. This course equips students with the knowledge and tools to build resilient, impactful ministries that resonate with the values, pace, and needs of small-town and rural communities.

RES 789 MASTER THESIS

The Master Thesis is a culminating course tailored for master's candidates nearing the completion of their degree program. This course centers on the development of a master's thesis that exhibits significant expertise and introduces fresh perspectives within the student's area of study. It offers organized support, mentorship, and resources as students carry out their research, integrate theoretical knowledge, and articulate their discoveries in a detailed thesis document.

RES 790 RESEARCH METHODS

Credit 3 hrs.

RES 790 is a foundational course designed for graduate students across various disciplines who seek to deepen their understanding of the fundamental methodologies of academic research. This course provides a comprehensive overview of the research process, from the formulation of research questions to the dissemination of findings. Students will engage with both qualitative and quantitative research methods, gaining the skills necessary to design, conduct, and evaluate research projects.

DMP 797 DOCTORAL PROPOSAL

Credit 3 hrs.

The Doctoral Proposal course is a critical course that guides doctoral candidates through the process of developing their dissertation proposals. This course is pivotal in transitioning from coursework to dissertation, with a focus on identifying a significant research problem, formulating research questions, and designing a study that is methodologically sound and theoretically grounded. Candidates will refine their scholarly voice and argumentation skills necessary for academic discourse at the doctoral level.

DMP 798 DOCTORAL PROJECT

Credit 3 hrs.

The Doctoral Project is a capstone course designed for doctoral candidates who are at the final stage of their degree program. This course is focused on the completion of a doctoral-level project that demonstrates a high level of expertise and contributes original insights to the candidate's field of study. It provides structured support, guidance, and resources as candidates conduct their research, apply theoretical concepts, and present their findings in a comprehensive project report.

DMP 799 DOCTORAL PROJECT THESES

Credit 3 hrs.

The Doctoral Project Theses is a culminating course for doctoral candidates, focusing on the completion and presentation of their doctoral thesis. This course is designed to support candidates in finalizing their research, writing up their findings, and preparing for the thesis defense. It emphasizes synthesizing research data, articulating findings in the context of existing literature, and demonstrating original contributions to the field of study.