



COURSE CATALOG

With projected offerings for:
2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027

Phillips Theological Seminary

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Note: This Course Catalog is subject to change. Please check the course enrollment materials each semester to confirm course availability.
For up-to-date course information contact Virginia Thompson, Registrar
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Term Abbreviations:

FALL = Fall JAN = January SPR = Spring SMR = Summer AUG = August
OCT = October

Modes/Formats of Course Delivery

Courses at Phillips Seminary are taught in five modes:

- On Campus – in person (13-week format during the fall or spring semesters)
- Concentrated Week – two concentrated weekends or one to two-week format;
- Asynchronous –online (13-week format during the fall or spring semesters)
- Synchronous – video-conference course format
- Hybrid – combination of on campus (in person) and/or Synchronous/Asynchronous coursework

TBA = Timeframe to be announced

TBD = Format to be determined

Academic Calendar (Summer 2024 – Summer 2025)

Summer 2024

Summer Term	Jun 03-28
Concentrated Course Week 1	June 03-07
Concentrated Course Week 2	June 10-14
DMin Session	Jun 10-14
DMin Project Courses	Jun 15
Juneteenth Holiday (seminary closed)	June 19
Independence Day (seminary closed)	Jul 04
Master Student Grades Due	Aug 02
Incomplete Request Deadline – DMIN	August 30
DMIN Student Grades Due	Sep 15

Fall 2024

Registration reopens for Fall 2024	Aug 01
A-Term Week 1	Aug 05-09
New Student Orientation	Aug 20-22
First day of classes	Aug 26
Labor Day (seminary closed)	Sep 02
Concentrated Course Week 1	Oct 7-11
DMIN Student Grades Due	Sep 15
DMIN Session	Oct 7-11
Concentrated Course Week 2 (Immersion: BorderLinks)	Oct 14-18 (Oct 12-19)
Registration for Spring 2025	Oct 28-Nov 08
New Student Registration for Spring	Nov 11
Thanksgiving Recess (seminary closed Nov 27-29)	Nov 25-29
Incomplete Request Deadline – Masters / DMIN	Dec 06
Last Day of Classes	Dec 13
Winter Break (seminary closed)	Dec 25-Dec 31
Master Student Grades Due	Jan 02, 2024
DMIN Student Grades Due	Jan 02, 2024

Spring 2025

Registration reopens for Spring 2025	Jan 02
J-Term Week 1	Jan 06-10
DMIN Session	Jan 06-10
DMIN Project Courses	Jan 11
MLK Jr. Day (seminary closed)	Jan 20
New Student Orientation	Jan 21-23
First Day of Classes	Jan 27
Incomplete Request Deadline – DMIN	Mar 01
Ash Wednesday	Mar 05
Concentrated Course Week 1	Mar 10-14
Concentrated Course Week 2	Mar 17-21

Registration for Summer/Fall 2025	Mar 31-Apr 11
New Student Registration Summer/Fall	Apr 14
Holy Week Recess (seminary closed Apr 18)	Apr 14-18
Easter Monday (seminary closed)	Apr 21
Incomplete Request Deadline - Masters	May 9
Senior Grades Dues	May 9
Awards Day	May 13
Last day of classes & Senior Banquet	May 16
Graduation	May 17
Memorial Day (seminary closed)	May 26
Master Student Grades Due	June 02
DMIN Student Grades Due	June 02

Summer 2025

Summer Term	Jun 02-27
Concentrated Course Week 1	June 02-06
Concentrated Course Week 2	June 09-13
DMIN Session	Jun 09-13
DMIN Project Courses	Jun 14
Juneteenth Holiday (seminary closed)	June 19
Independence Day (seminary closed)	Jul 04
Master Student Grades Due	Aug 01
Incomplete Request Deadline – DMIN	August 29
DMIN Student Grades Due	Sep 15

Courses of Instruction in Master's Programs

The seminary's master's level courses of instruction are organized into six academic areas: I. General Theological Studies; II. Biblical Studies; III. History of Christianity; IV. Theology and Ethics; V. Practices of Theological Leadership in Communities; and VI. Faith and Public Discourse.

Note: Projected courses (subject to change), offered only for planning purposes. A final listing will be published in corresponding semester Course Schedules.

Area I: General Theological Studies

A. Core Courses

- EXT 512 Practicum for Social Justice 3 hours
This course combines a non-profit and/or social justice-based internship with in-class reflection. Building from FDC 700 (Theology and Social Justice: Theory and Methods), students will perform work in their internship setting for an average of 10-hours-per-week during the 13-week semester, combined with an intensive, in-class weekend reflecting upon the application of theories of faith-based social change in praxis settings. Students will develop tools for identifying goals related to social change, will develop strategies for implementation of change methods, and will develop reflective tools for articulating the effectiveness of social change efforts. Prerequisites: Phase 1 courses. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Hybrid), FALL 26 (Hybrid)*
- FDC 501 Invitation to the Seminarian's Journey 3 hours
Orientation is a hybrid, semester-long experience. In this introductory course, students will engage the essential questions: "What is my embedded theology, where did it come from, and where might it need to change?" and "What does it mean to practice what I believe with integrity?" The intent is to help students understand what theological education entails and introduce them to PTS's culture. It will introduce students to the learning community of PTS -- values and commitments that shape the work we do. It will provide students with basic skills and strategies needed for academic success, including technology, study/learning approaches, research, and writing. The course is designed to help students participate fully in the seminary journey. This course, graded as pass/fail, is required for all students enrolled in a master's degree program and first-semester students admitted on probation. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Hybrid), SPR 25 (Hybrid), FALL 25 (Hybrid), SPR 26 (Hybrid), FALL 26 (Hybrid), SPR 27 (Hybrid)*
- FDC 700 Theology and Social Justice: Theories and Methods 3 hours
This introductory course, required for all MA(SJ) students, equips students to describe, evaluate, and analyze the relationship between theological reflection and social justice, and to apply that analysis to differing contexts. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Hybrid), SPR 26 (TBD), JAN 27 (TBD)*
- FDC 800 Foundations in Black Church Traditions and African American Faith-Life 3 hours
This course introduces students to the diversity of Black Church Traditions with the US context. Through survey and thematic exploration, the origins and development of black faith and religiosity in America are presented as integral to broader – domestic – transnational – theological, political, and cultural discourses and practices. Upon

conclusion, students will have a foundational framework for further study of Black Church Traditions and African American Christian practice. No prerequisites. Satisfies Phase II, Vital Conversations Polity/Denominational History requirements for MDIV and MAMC students that are: non-denominational students; associated with underrepresented denominations at Phillips where history/polity is taught with irregularity; and/or denominations that don't have polity requirement. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 26 (TBD)*

B. Theological Field Education

TFE 505 Theological Field Education I 3 hours

The purpose of Theological Field Education is for students to engage in ministry in a supervised context, in pursuit of the development of pastoral identity and toward the identification and crafting of effective ministry practices. During this semester, students will engage in 10-hours-per-week of ministry work in an approved context, for a total of 130 hours (13 weeks). Using case studies arising from the student's experiences of ministry in context, this course will provide opportunity for integrated reflection focused upon vocational exploration, theological reflection, development of pastoral identity, and identification of effective ministry practices. **Prerequisites:** completion of Phase One courses and submission of requirement paperwork to the Director of Theological Field Education. See course enrollment materials for additional hybrid requirements. Read the Theological Field Education Handbook on the seminary's web site for further details about program requirement.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Hybrid), FALL 25 (Hybrid), FALL 26 (Hybrid)*

TFE 510 Theological Field Education II 3 hours

The purpose of Theological Field Education is for students to engage in ministry in a supervised context, in pursuit of the development of pastoral identity and toward the identification and crafting of effective ministry practices. During this semester, students will engage in a 10-hour-per-week approved context for ministry, for a total of 130 hours (260 hours (about 1 and a half weeks) across two semesters). In addition, each student will be required to complete an intercultural, community-based ministry project totaling 24 hours across the semester. The focus of this semester is upon building skills for and reflecting upon ministry in intercultural contexts as these skills intersect with the student's pastoral identity. Using case studies arising from the student's experiences of ministry in context, this course will provide opportunity for integrated reflection focused upon vocational exploration, theological reflection, development of pastoral identity, and identification of effective ministry practices. Prerequisites: TFE II: TFE I and submission of required paperwork to the director of Theological Field Education. See course enrollment materials for additional hybrid requirements.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Hybrid), SPR 26 (Hybrid), SPR 27 (Hybrid)*

C. Research and Writing

RW 600 Integrative Paper Research and Writing 4 hours

Individual research and writing under faculty guidance. This course is normally taken in the student's last semester of the MTS Track I program or MA(SJ) program.

RW 650 MTS Thesis Research and Writing I 3 hours
Individual research and writing under faculty guidance. This course is normally taken in the student's next to last semester of the MTS Track II program.

RW 660 MTS Thesis Research and Writing II 4 hours
Individual research and writing under faculty guidance. This course is normally taken in the student's last semester of the MTS Track II program.

RW 750 MDiv Thesis Research and Writing I 3 hours
Individual research and writing under faculty guidance. This course is normally taken in the student's next to last semester of the MDiv program.

RW 760 MDiv Thesis Research and Writing II 4 hours
Individual research and writing under faculty guidance. This course is normally taken in the student's last semester of the MDiv program.

D. Capstone Course

LC 600 Capstones in Theological Leadership 3 hours
Sustainable and effective theological leadership is built upon three primary strategies: Collaboration, integration, and articulation. In this course students will explore these strategies in light of their theological commitments as they prepare for their next steps in leadership/ministry. This course should be taken in one of the last two semesters of the degree program. Satisfies Launch Course requirement in Phase III. Prerequisite: Completion of Theological Field Education for students in the MDiv or MAMC; completion of 28 hours in the MA(SJ).
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Weekends), FALL 25 (TBD), FALL 26 (TBD)*

Area II: Biblical Studies

Goals

The Bible is regularly invoked as an authority in various arenas of discourse, ranging from public policy to church doctrine, yet there is often little agreement on what the Bible actually says or means. Therefore, it is imperative that those who are engaged in varied Christian ministries be fluent in interpretation of the Bible that is responsive to the historical processes that gave rise to it and to its hermeneutical potential.

To be fluent in biblical interpretation, the student must be able to employ appropriate exegetical models to understand the Bible as emerging out of the historical development of communities, institutions, and texts in ancient Israel and early Christianity. Because the Bible is a product of historical processes, interpretation pays attention to several interpretive concerns such as the following: historical context; literary character; social and cultural environment; theological heritage and development and hermeneutical implications. Fluency in interpretation enables the student to use the Bible with an awareness of scholarly understandings as a resource for thinking about the issues and concerns of everyday life.

A. Hebrew Bible

- HB 500 Introduction to Hebrew Bible 3 hours
This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the Hebrew Bible. Students will learn about the historical backgrounds of these texts as well as the process of their composition and canonization. The biblical materials will be approached from an academic/critical perspective with insights into how they might be used in different contemporary contexts. Successful completion of the course will satisfy one of the basic Bible requirements for the Master's degree programs.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Asynchronous), SPR 25 (TBD), FALL 25 (TBD)*
- HB 575 Exegesis of the Hebrew Bible: Women in the Hebrew Bible 3 hours
This course is designed as a survey of the Hebrew Bible from the perspective of the female characters in these ancient stories, in an effort to uncover what can be known about these important women, including: personalities, actions, and faithfulness. Once more familiarity with these female characters has been gained, the course will discover ways in which these women and their stories may be introduced and integrated into the life of the community of faith (e.g., sermons, bible studies, pastoral care, etc.).
Prerequisite: HB 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*
- HB 600 Exegesis of the Hebrew Bible: Selected Topics 3 hours
This course consists of advanced exegetical study of Hebrew Bible writings and/or themes. Recent topics offered include: Justice and Prophets, 8th Century Prophets, Psalms, and Job. It meets all Masters' degree requirements for an advanced HB course. Students may repeat this course with different topics. Prerequisite: HB 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*
- HB 825 Biblical Hebrew I 3 hours
An introduction to the basic grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew. This course is designed to give students a basic understanding and working knowledge of biblical Hebrew. Since this is an introductory course, emphasis will be placed on the acquiring of vocabulary and basic grammar. Exercises and examinations will be designed to prepare students to translate and exegete texts from the Hebrew Bible. No prior study of Hebrew or any other foreign language is a prerequisite for the course.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (On Campus, Synchronous)*
- HB 835 Biblical Hebrew II: Exegesis 3 hours
This course is the continuation of HB 825 in that it will continue the study of Biblical Hebrew grammar beyond where HB 525 ended. In addition, this course will teach students how to do exegesis of biblical texts. The purpose of exegesis, along with the different methodologies of exegesis, will be covered. Students will then apply both their Hebrew knowledge and their exegetical skills in reading/interpreting the Book of Ruth. Prerequisite: HB 825 or equivalent.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 26 (On Campus, Synchronous)*

HB 850 Hebrew Readings 1 hours
Reading of a variety of Hebrew texts with some attention given to advanced syntax.
Prerequisite: HB 835 or equivalent. May be repeated.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (On Campus, Synchronous), FALL 26 (TBD)*

HB 900 Research in Hebrew Bible 3 hours
Advanced individual research on selected issues in Hebrew Bible studies. Offered on request only to advanced students.

B. New Testament

NT 500 Introduction to the New Testament 3 hours
An introduction to the writings of the New Testament, to the worlds from which they emerge, and to a range of interpretive methods or questions that interpreters might ask in making meaning of these texts. No Prerequisites.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Synchronous), SPR 25 (Asynchronous), FALL 25 (Synchronous), SPR 26 (Asynchronous), FALL 26 (TBD), SPR 27 (Asynchronous)*

NT 600 Exegesis of the New Testament: Selected Topics 3 hours
This course consists of advanced exegetical study of New Testament writings and/or themes. Recent topics offered include: Luke-Acts, Gospel of Mark, 1 Corinthians, Galatians, Gospel of John, and Revelation. It meets all Masters' degree requirements for an advanced NT course. Students may repeat this course with different topics.
Prerequisite: NT 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Asynchronous), FALL 26 (Hybrid)*

NT 600.09 Exegesis of the Gospel of Matthew (3 hrs.)
This course provides students engagement with the text of the Gospel of Matthew, the contexts from which it emerges, which it engages, and to which it is addressed. It employs a range of approaches or critical methods of interpretation such as historical-critical, literary, imperial-critical, and gender approaches. The course cultivates skills necessary for care-full and informed exegesis or meaning-making of the Gospel involving the worlds behind the text, of the text, and in front of the text. It requires students to become familiar with some of the worthy resources that will sustain and inform ongoing interpretive work in various contemporary ministry/leadership contexts. Class size limited to 15. Prerequisite: NT 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): FALL 25 (Asynchronous)

NT 600.10 Reading the New Testament in the Context of Judaism (3 hrs.)
This course engages some of the intertwined first-century Jewish socio-political, economic, military, ideological, and religious constructs that constituted (something of) the every-day, multicultural world in which the early Jesus movement came into being. We examine some of the interactions between the early Jesus movement and the diversities of first-century Judaisms including Jewish traditions that Jesus-followers coopted and reinterpreted in New Testament writings. The course satisfies curricular requirements for the NT Exegesis class. Prerequisite: NT 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 27 (TBD)*

NT 600.11 Reading the New Testament in the Context of Empire

This course is for Masters students who participate concurrently in DMin 808, "The Biblical Message and the Praxis of God: Reading the New Testament in the Context of Empire." See the course description for DMin 808. The course requirements will be adjusted for Masters students. Prerequisite is a pass in NT500. On campus, intensive, with pre- and post-course assignments. This course meets the degree requirement for a New Testament exegesis course (AH 700).

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Week)*

- NT 825 New Testament Greek I 3 hours
An introduction to New Testament grammar and exegesis. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Greek text and how the Greek language affects the formation of the biblical message.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Synchronous Only), FALL 26 (Synchronous)*
- NT 835 New Testament Greek II: Greek Exegesis 3 hours
A continuation of NT 825. Includes further study of grammar and the development of sufficient vocabulary to make reading Koine Greek easier. The use of Greek as a foundation for exegesis is the primary emphasis. The course will include among other evaluations writing an exegesis paper based on a New Testament Greek text.
Prerequisite: NT 825 or equivalent.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Synchronous), SPR 27 (Synchronous)*
- NT 850 Greek Readings 1 hour
Selected readings from the Greek New Testament and other Greek literature from the New Testament world. Students may repeat this course with different topics.
Prerequisite: NT 825 and NT 835 or equivalent.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Synchronous)*
- NT 880 New Testament Seminar 3 hours
This course addresses a variety of issues in New Testament studies for church and ministry today. Students may repeat this course with different topics. Prerequisite: NT 500.
- NT 880.01 New Testament Seminar: Reading Race, Interpreting Scripture 3 hours
The ways that people define race and racism play an integral role in their experiences and interpretation of reality and the world. Frequently, one's view of justice, liberation, theology, and community intersect within the convictions and constructs of racialized understandings. These views of race inform, often unconsciously, how people interpret scripture and understand the presence of the divine in the world. Through careful study of i) ancient geopolitical and ethno-racial difference, ii) scholarly approaches to ethno-racial and minority biblical hermeneutics, and iii) contemporary discourses on race, ethnicity, and racism, this course in New Testament exegesis will help students become more attentive to the ways that race and racism (within a US context) organize understandings of early Christianity and more proficient in drawing on discourses of race/racism to interpret Christian scriptures. Prerequisite: NT500; fulfills Phase II NT Exegesis Requirement
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 26 (Asynchronous)*

Area III: History of Christianity

Goals

Historical studies help students gain broad perspectives on the various and often radically different expressions of Christianity from its early beginnings to the present. Students completing coursework in the area should be able to contextualize contemporary Christian thought and practice by understanding the multiple and often competing narratives that humans have constructed to explain the formation and development of the faith. Students will be able to discuss the impact of earlier structures, disputes, and movements on the shaping of contemporary theological and cultural issues.

Students will understand that personal and contemporary contexts were factors in the choices made by historians as they chronicled Christianity's past and see these factors as integral to the continuing development of Christian histories.

Students who complete the appropriate denominational studies courses should be able to teach and transmit the narratives that explain the origin and development of their particular denominational tradition within the broader context of the history of Christian faith.

A. History of Christianity

HC 502 History of Christianity I 3 hours

This course is a survey of the development of the Christian church from the second century C.E. through the Middle Ages, examining the institutional history of the church as well as the theological developments in the church. Attention will be given to various theologians, theologies, and movements that shaped the period. The course highlights Christianity's intellectual and cultural history with an emphasis on the church's evolving relationship to political and social structures that allowed Christianity to be both a religion of protest and liberation as well as a religion of empire and conquest.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (On Campus), FALL 25 (Asynchronous), FALL 26 (On Campus)*

HC 504 History of Christianity II 3 hours

This course is a survey of the development of the Christian Churches from the Reformation era to modern times. Attention will be given to the political, economic, and theological contexts that allowed for both the expansion and division of Christianity throughout diverse communities in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas. No Prerequisites.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Asynchronous), SPR 26 (Synchronous)*

HC 507 Readings in the History of the Modern Ecumenical Movement 3 hours

Guided individual research or seminar designed to acquaint students with the history and character of the modern ecumenical movement. Prerequisites: Phase I courses.

HC 650 History of Religions in the U.S. 3 hours

This course is a survey of the formation and development of a variety of forms of religious experiences and expressions in the United States from the colonial era to the present. While paying close attention to the normative European and American Christian traditions (especially Protestant Christianity) that constitute the central narrative around U.S. national identity, this course will also examine the fundamental

religious pluralism of America and engage voices from other religious expressions that have been a part of the history of the country. This course will give attention to key themes, figures, and movements affecting religious life and society in the United States and consider the intersections of race, gender, geography, socio-economics, and other cultural markers of identity that inform understandings of religion in America.

Prerequisite: HC 504. This course fulfills requirements as an advanced HC elective OR a required denominational studies (DS) course for students in the MDiv and MAMC programs who represent religious denominations or traditions outside of the current PTS course offerings.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Asynchronous)*

HC 675 Women and Religion in the United States 3 hours
This course is a survey of the history of women and religion in the U.S. from the colonial period to the present. The primary focus is on women who practice the Christian faith, but some attention is given to women in other religions. Students will explore the contributions of women to the development and expression of religions; the complex relationships among society, religion, and culture; and ways that these relationships have impacted, and been impacted by, the lives of women. Prerequisites: HC 504.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

HC 880 Seminar in the History of Christianity 3 hours
A study of selected issues, figures, or movements in the history of Christianity. May be repeated with different topics (see course schedule for topics). Prerequisite: HC 502 or HC 504.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Concentrated Week), JAN 26 (Concentrated Week), SMR 26 (Concentrated Week)*

HC 880.06 History of Religion and Social Justice in the U.S. 3 hours
This course explores a diverse range of religious traditions in their concern over social justice issues in the U.S. history from the Second Great Awakening (and its establishment of the “Benevolent Empire” melding religion and reform movements) to the present. In examining a myriad of social justice issues, students will critically reflect upon justice-oriented practices (e.g., grassroots organizing, nonviolent or violent action, voting, economics, etc.) utilized by various social movements intended to effect change. The merging of religious beliefs and social action practices to shape a larger public consciousness reveals both positive and negative consequences for America’s ideal of liberty, equality, and opportunity for all. Prerequisites: HC 504.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Concentrated Week)*

HC 880.07 Hell in America, A Cultural History 3 hours
This course will survey the texts and thinkers associated with the Christian doctrine of hell in the Western imagination, especially as it becomes part of the American theological narrative. It will begin with ancient understandings and development of the concept as well as popular texts such as Dante’s *Inferno*. However, most of the course will focus on these ideas and theological constructs brought into an American context to show as historian Kathryn Gin Lum argues, “hell was not antithetical to, but rather part and parcel of, the modern nation-building project in the US.” This course will explore the

multifaceted cultural histories of hell in America that have shaped different social, political, and theological contexts. Prerequisites: HC 502 or HC 504.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Concentrated Weekends)*

HC 880.08 African Christianity: The Origins of Christian Faith Across the Continent 3 hours
Over against the misconception that Christianity first arrived in Africa as a result of modern missions from the West, this course highlights instantiations of Christianity as practiced by local and indigenous communities. From the North African theologians of the early church; to the Kingdom of the Kongo in the fifteenth century; to the present-day Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians, Africans have been contributing to the development of Christian faith and practice in ways which Christians in the West may find both meaningful and challenging. This course provides an opportunity for students to encounter, engage, and learn from expressions of Christianity arising out of the African continent, considering themes of gender, ecology, nationalism, religious cosmology, and interreligious interaction. Prerequisite: HC 502.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Synchronous), SPR 26 (Asynchronous)*

HC 880.09 Women Who Changed Christian History 3 hours
Although men hold most of the leadership positions in Christian communities today, women comprise the vast majority of the members. This course highlights the role of women in the development of Christianity from the New Testament to the present day. Women's contributions to the formation of Christian theology and practice have tended to become obscured in that history so often has been written by men. In this course, students will have the chance to learn about women's impact on Christian history through historical documents either penned by women or, alternatively, in which women's voices can be discerned by readings through the lines. The course will highlight the work of women pastors, mystics, theologians, activists, and others whose names might be lost to us, but whose witness nevertheless shaped the expressions of Christianity with which they identified.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *JAN 25 (Concentrated Week), JAN 27 (Concentrated Week)*

HC 900 Research in the History of Christianity 3 hours
Advanced individual research on selected issues and topics. Offered on request only to advanced students.

B. Denominational Studies

DS 500 History and Polity of the Disciples of Christ 3 hours
This course examines the development of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and related groups within the Stone-Campbell Movement. This course will focus on important principles as articulated by the founding generations and re-interpreted by subsequent generations in different contexts of social and religious history. This course also explores the contemporary identify, ethos, and structure of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in North American. Required of all Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) students preparing for ordination and encouraged for United Church of Christ students. Recommended Prerequisites: Phase I Courses.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *AUG 24 (Concentrated Week), AUG 25 (Concentrated Week)*

DS 550 United Methodist History 3 hours
This course, required for candidates for ordination in the United Methodist Church, will inform students about the basic periods of United Methodist history. Particular attention will be paid to events, movements, and persons that have shaped the denomination. Recommended Prerequisites: HC 504.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 27 (Concentrated Week)*

DS 575 United Methodist Doctrine 3 hours
This course is designed to provide an introduction to theology in the Wesleyan tradition as practiced in United Methodism. Students are expected to gain an understanding of and to be able to articulate basic aspects of John Wesley's theology and how it is distinctive, to demonstrate a grasp of UMC understandings of sacraments, and to become conversant with the current debate about theological method. Through case studies and other methods, students will consider how Methodist theology should and does affect decisions of clergy in UMC pastorates, our practices within our UMC life together, and our practice toward the world around us. Recommended Prerequisite: TH 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

DS 625 United Methodist Polity 3 hours
This course, required for candidates for orders in the United Methodist Church, is designed to acquaint students with the 2016 Book of Discipline and a sense of how its rules and requirements come to life in the practical affairs of the church, as well as to help students understand how polity is related to the church's historical and theological development. Recommended Prerequisites: Phase I courses.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

DS 650 Baptist History and Polity 3 hours
A study of Baptist life and thought from the seventeenth century to the present with particular attention to the development of diverse Baptist communities in the United States. Recommended Prerequisites: Phase I courses.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

DS 725 Presbyterian Polity 3 hours
A reflective and practical study of leadership in church government (polity) as defined in the Presbyterian Book of Order. The class will learn how to apply current polity to a variety of pastoral situations. The course will also help students become more familiar with parliamentary procedure in order to plan and moderate session meetings.
Recommended Prerequisites: Phase I courses.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

DS 750 History and Polity of the United Church of Christ 3 hours
An exploration of the history, theology, structure, and practice of ministry within the United Church of Christ. Required for all United Church of Christ students preparing for

ordination. Enrollment is encouraged for Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) students.
Recommended Prerequisites: Phase I courses.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Asynchronous), SPR 27 (TBD)*

DS 800 History and Polity of Unitarian Universalism 3 hours
An exploration of the history, theology, structure, and practice of ministry within the Unitarian Universalist Church in America. Recommended Prerequisites: Phase I courses.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

DS 900 Research: Denominational Studies 3 hours
Advanced individual research on selected topics or issues related to a student's denomination and/or to the modern ecumenical movement. May be repeated with different topics. Prerequisites: Phase I courses.

Area IV: Theology and Ethics

Goals

The theology and ethics area aims to nurture a contemporary expression of Christian faith and ethics, rooted in respect for Christian traditions but responsive to the differing voices and multiple contexts of today's world.

Students completing coursework in the area should be able to: explain basic vocabulary, topics, and approaches to conversations in theology and ethics; to differentiate and compare theological/ethical arguments from various historical periods and/or social locations; and integrate these studies into a coherent theological/ethical voice that informs a vocation of ministry and leadership.

A. Theology

TH 500 Introduction to Theology 3 hours
An introduction to the vocabulary, tasks, aims, and scope of theology, and various contextual methods and approaches to the discipline. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to identify, describe, classify, and evaluate influential theological arguments, as well as place those arguments in their historical context.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Asynchronous), FALL 25 (TBD)*

TH 535 Exploration of Postcolonial Theory and Theologies 3 hours
This course is a survey of the explorations of postcolonial theory and theorists in literature and anti-imperial political contexts and the impact on Christian theologians and theologies. The interplay between the history of Christianity and colonialism for both reinforcing and/or subverting colonial power are explored. The student will be able to identify, describe and analyze the themes of Postcolonial theory as it intersects with the discipline of theology. No Prerequisites.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Asynchronous), SPR 26 (Hybrid)*

TH 545 Philosophy of Religious Experience 3 hours
This course introduces ministry students to foundational issues surrounding philosophical understandings of religious experience. More specifically, it equips students to examine cultural practices and beliefs through the lenses of phenomenology, philosophy of religion, and critical theory. Students are

encouraged to reflect theologically on the relation between theory and practice in the philosophy of religion, with special attention to how race, gender, ability, and subject position shapes philosophical discourse on faith. No prerequisites.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 2024 (Synchronous), FALL 2027 (Synchronous)*

TH 550 Christology 3 hours
An exploration of theological answers to questions about Jesus and his significance, and the historical models that have resulted. The time period covered begins with the Christological controversies of the latter half of the second century and continues through images of Jesus in popular U.S. American culture. Prerequisite: TH 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

TH 560 Context is Key: Theological Hermeneutics 3 hours
The student is introduced to a variety of theological movements and expressions including but not limited to Feminist, Black, Womanist, Native American, Asian, Queer, Latinx, Continental, and Postcolonial. The course goals include defining and describing what hermeneutics is and its importance regarding the discipline of theology; identifying and discussing how historical, social, and political contexts impact the formation of a theology; examining categories of contextual theological formation considering intersectionality/the complexity of human being. No Prerequisites.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Hybrid), SPR 26 (Hybrid)*

TH 625 Constructive Theology 3 hours
An investigation of the systematic interconnected character of the major doctrines/symbols of the Christian faith. This course requires each student to write a constructive essay, or credo, expressing her or his understanding of those basic doctrines of the faith. Prerequisite: TH 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Asynchronous), SPR 26 (Asynchronous)*

TH 750 The Theology and Ethics of Martin Luther King 3 hours
This course is an examination of the salient themes in the theology and ethics of Martin Luther King, Jr. Through careful reading of sermons, speeches, essays and books, students will identify and assess King's theological and ethical understanding of concepts such as justice, freedom, love, human dignity and nonviolent protest, to name only a few. Particular attention will be given to King's important leadership role in the Civil Rights movement and the ways this movement shaped and was shaped by his theology and ethics. Prerequisite: TH 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

TH 800 Queer Theology 3 hours
This course introduces students to theologies and theological methods that incorporate queer theory. This course will not focus on debates over a handful of Bible verses and specific sexual behaviors. Rather, this course assumes that valuable theological insights are to be gained through queer approaches to theology, in which identities – including especially sexual and gender identities – are queered in order to rethink, subvert, and reinterpret understandings of human life and of God. Prerequisite: TH 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

TH 825 Theology and Autobiography 3 hours
The course explores how and why the autobiographies of theologians are among their most compelling theological texts. Prerequisite: TH 500. May be repeated with different topics.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Concentrated Week)*

TH 880 Seminar in Theology 3 hours
A seminar on a selected theological theme, theologian, or school of theology. May be repeated with different topics. Prerequisite: TH 500.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (TBD)*

TH 880.03 The Historical Jesus and Christs of Faith 3 hours
The Historical Jesus and the Contemporary Christ explores the significance of historical Jesus research on the development of contemporary theological constructions of Christology. We will focus on mid-twentieth to twenty-first century models. Prerequisite: TH 500.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 26 (Concentrated Weekends)*

TH 900 Research in Theology 1-3 hours
Advanced individual research on selected topics. Offered on request only to advanced students.

B. Ethics

ET 525 Ethics, Cultures, and the Missions of the Church 3 hours
A study of ethical reflection as a practice of cultural analysis. The churches' mission in the world will be considered in relation to the ethical challenges presented by the new media, bioethics, globalization, religious pluralism, race, sexuality, and other issues.

Satisfies Ethics, Culture and Mission requirement. Prerequisites: TH 500.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Hybrid), FALL 26 (TBD)*

ET 900 Research in Ethics 1-3 hours
Advanced individual research on selected issues in the field of ethics. Offered on request only to advanced students.

Area V: Practical Theology

Goals

Courses in this area prepare students to become theologically reflective practitioners of ministry. Preparation is accomplished at a beginning level and includes: integrating all areas of the theological curriculum with practices of preaching, public worship, care, administration, and spirituality.

A. Preaching

PR 500 The Art and Practices of Preaching 3 hours
A consideration of the nature of Christian preaching. The course explores the issues and dynamics of preaching, as well as the practices that support preaching. Class size is limited. Prerequisites: HB 500, NT 500 and TH 500.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Concentrated Week Week)*

PR 545 Critical Issues in Preaching and Public Communication 3 hours

In this course students will explore issues related to preaching for social change and transformation, principles of topical preaching, speeches of advocacy, and the development of sermons from difficult texts. Prerequisites: HB 500, NT 500 and TH 500. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

- PR 675 Culture and Context: Preaching Toward Social Transformation 3 hours
What is the role of preaching in social transformation and the move towards a more whole and just world? This course will explore this question through deep considerations of the necessity of attending to the culture around and context within one's preaching. We will explore preaching both in and beyond the pulpit, pushing ourselves to consider the possibilities toward an expansive preaching practice and the partners needed for preaching to be a vehicle towards social transformation. Students will leave with practical tools towards their preaching ministries for whatever platform they choose to proclaim on, as well as tools for exegetical work and cultural analysis. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SMR 25 (Concentrated Week)*
- PR 700 Preaching Across Platforms 3 hours
What is the role of sacred rhetoric in the 21st century? This course will explore sacred rhetoric across different proclaiming platforms. From the open mic stage, to music, to pulpits, to hospitals and other venues, sacred rhetoric is not limited to one space. In our exploration of multiple platforms, proclaimers will consider the multitude of places they might use their voice while crafting strategy based upon contextual particularity. Together, we will wonder about the possibilities of rhetorical agility and how that impacts vocation and our understanding of preaching. Students will leave with a deeper understanding of contextual rhetoric as well as practical tools towards their preaching ministries. No Prerequisites. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*
- PR 880 Seminar in Preaching 3 hours
Advanced study focusing on an issue, person, or practice in Christian preaching. Prerequisite: completion of a preaching course listed above or permission of instructor. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*
- PR 880 Prophetic Preaching 3 hours
This course will explore the theoretical and practical contours of prophetic proclamation. This course is designed to help students understand their own commitments to the prophetic as they develop the abilities and skills necessary to deliver impactful and engaging sermons. The course addresses three important ideas (1) What is prophetic preaching? (2) What are critical components in prophetic preaching? (3) Who are key figures we can look to as important examples of this practice? The class will include readings, lectures, video presentations, discussions, individual, group and class exercises, as well as performance training and preaching practice. No Prerequisite. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*
- PR 900 Research in Preaching 3 hours
Advanced individual research of selected issues. Offered on request only to advanced students.

B. Public Worship

- PW 540 Theology and Practice of Public Worship 3 hours
An introduction to liturgical theology, or the discipline of theological reflection on the words and actions of the church's worship, designed for students who will lead worship in communities of faith. While some attention is given to liturgy for occasional services, the primary focus will be on the people of God's regular Sunday worship. Prerequisites: TH 500.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Asynchronous), FALL 26 (Asynchronous)*
- PW 880 Seminar in Worship and Liturgy 3 hours
Advanced study of selected issues in the areas of worship and liturgy. May be repeated with different topics. Prerequisite: PW 540.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *JAN 26 (Concentrated Week), SPR 26 (Asynchronous)*
- PW 900 Research in Worship and Liturgy 3 hours
Advanced individual research on selected issues in worship and liturgy. Offered on request only to advanced students.

C. Practical Theology and Pastoral Care

- PT 515 Introduction to Chaplaincy Studies 3 hours
Chaplains provide specialized spiritual care and serve as public practical theologians in particular contexts, with expertise in interreligious care, ethics, religious beliefs and practices, and religious diplomacy. This course introduces the theory, practices, experiences, and major issues of chaplaincy as a specialized form of religious leadership. Buddhist, Muslim, and Christian approaches are engaged to illustrate interreligious issues in chaplaincy. The course is appropriate for those preparing for ministries in healthcare, military, prison, higher education, and emerging contexts within chaplaincy. Course will follow the Center for Chaplaincy Studies Academic Calendar to be provided upon course registration.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*
- PT 520 Theory and Practice of Spiritual Care 3 hours
This course introduces ministry students to foundational theories and practices of spiritual care. Students are invited to reflect critically on how the spiritual need for care emerges individually, interpersonally, and systemically. This course serves students by encouraging practical engagement with common scenarios of care in ministry, religious non-profit, pastoral psychotherapeutic, intercultural, chaplaincy, and ecclesial settings. Special attention is paid to the identities, narratives, and unique vulnerabilities of both givers and recipients of spiritual care. Students are expected to articulate basic theological positions derived from spiritual caregiving practices. No Prerequisites.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Asynchronous), SPR 26 (Asynchronous), SPR 27 (Asynchronous)*
- PT 530 Daughters of God: An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Girlhood 3 hours
This introductory course places sociology and developmental psychology in conversation with practical theology in order to explore the development of girls from birth to late adolescents. As we interrogate what it means to be a girl, we explore pay attention to

developmental concerns specific to girls and the teaching of gender norms. We also explore the work of practical theologians as our overall focus is to understand the implications for ministry.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

PT 562 Empathy and the Ethics of Pastoral Care 3 hours

This course introduces ministry students to foundational theories, practices, and methods of empathy in pastoral care and counseling. More specifically, it is designed to train seminarians to become attentive to how empathy functions in caregiving practices, and to help them develop critical tools for understating both the strengths and limitations of empathic caregiving. Students are expected to reflect carefully on their own social location, in order to hone ministry practices that are aware of the limits of their empathy. They will also be challenged to consider how empathic listening gives way to other forms of communal pastoral and political praxis. Special attend is paid to the identities, narratives, and unique vulnerabilities of both givers and recipients of pastoral care-including but not limited to race, gender, sexuality, socio-economic status, and trauma. No prerequisites.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 26 (Synchronous)*

PT 564 Trauma-Informed Care 3 hours

This course introduces students to essential theory and practice for providing trauma-informed spiritual care. Enrolled students will be trained in foundational principles for offering strategic care for establishing safety and fostering recovery within a variety of settings relevant to ministry and social justice labor. This course also challenges students to think theologically and philosophically on the concept of traumatic experience, including how trauma resists definition. Students are expected to formulate basic positions on the relation of theology to trauma. No prerequisites.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Concentrated Week), FALL 27 (Concentrated Week)*

PT 568 Grief, Loss, and Death 3 hours

This course introduces ministry students to foundational theories for understanding and ministry practices for responding to grief and loss in a faith context. More specifically, it offers seminarians a basic framework for conceptualizing grief processes, and for developing a practical skillset for offering spiritual care to those impacted by loss. Students are invited to reflect theologically on the significance of death, including its implications for spiritual practice and advocacy work.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 26 (Synchronous)*

PT 880 Seminar in Pastoral Theology and Care 3 hours

Advanced study of selected issues in the understanding and practice of care in Christian communities. May be repeated with different topics.

Prerequisite: PT 520.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

PT 900 Research in Pastoral Theology and Care 1-3 hours
Advanced individual research on selected issues in the understanding and practice of care in Christian communities.

D. Pastoral Leadership

PL 650 Pastoral Leadership and Administration 3 hours
A survey of practices involved in leading a congregation or faith-based, non-profit organization, with special attention to processes for discerning a particular church's present and future mission, handling administrative tasks, and carrying out the ongoing integrative work in which such practices are shaped by theology and Christian tradition. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 26 (TBD), SPR 27 (TBD)*

PL 675 Issues for Women in Christian Ministry 3 hours
This course examines issues often encountered by women performing ministerial functions (e.g., preaching, teaching, counseling, managing conflict) and the gifts of leadership which women commonly bring to the pastoral role. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

PL 800 Conflict in Community 3 hours
This course explores constructive approaches to conflict resolution in congregations and other contexts drawing on creative nonviolent communication, human relations approaches, systems theory, and contemporary organizational theory. Prerequisite: None. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 25 (Concentrated Week)*

PL 900 Research in Pastoral Leadership 1-3 hours
Advanced individual research in the area of church administration, focusing on a particular practice, topic, or author. Offered on request only to advanced students.

E. Christian Education

CE 535 Teaching and Learning in the Community of Faith 3 hours
This required core course will examine different approaches to Christian Education both inside and outside of the congregational walls. This course will interrogate different ways of cultivating and sharing knowledge. Students are invited to explore how teaching and learning may be different through the different stages of life. Students will be asked to articulate and challenge their own approach to Christian education and develop focused educational planning for their current or envisioned ministry context that would also lead the community of faith to grow in personal and communal transformation. No Prerequisites. Instructor: Annie Lockhart-Gilroy, Assistant Professor of Christian Education and Practical Theology. Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 26 (Synchronous), SPR 27 (Asynchronous)*

CE 540 Educating Through the Different Stages of Life 3 hours
This first level course will explore cognitive, moral, and faith changes that often happens throughout the life span and will engage questions concerning teaching and learning through the human lifespan and multiple styles of learning. Students will examine burgeoning research on brain and cognitive development, qualitative research on how one's culture aids one in the forming of their reality, and work on how faith is

understood at different stages of life in different contexts. Students will have the opportunity to design and practice teaching lessons for specific age groups.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Week)*

CE 685 Education as a Practice of Freedom 3 hours

In order to oppress a group of people, oppressors limit and/or take control of their education. Oppressors recognize the power of education. So do those who work for liberation. This first level course provides the learner with an introduction to the theory and methodology of Christian Education from a liberation perspective. Christian Education, for the purposes of this course, is the theory and practice (praxis or art) of nurturing faith for the liberation of all oppressed peoples. The cornerstone notions of the course are ubuntu and freedom. The course teaches that education is a practice of freedom and is best accomplished through and with the entire community for the purposes of justice and social transformation. This course fulfills the Christian Education requirement. Prerequisite: CE 535 or another education course.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Concentrated Week)*

CE 900 Research in Christian Education 1-3 hours

Advanced individual research on selected issues. Offered on request only to advanced students.

F. Spirituality

SP 500 History of Christian Spirituality 3 hours

A survey of the theology and practice of spirituality in various historical contexts from the beginnings of the church to contemporary times. Special attention will be given to influential persons and their spiritual writings.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

Area VI: Faith and Public Discourse

Goals

Students completing coursework in this area should be able to reflect on Christianity in the context of the general history of religions, utilizing research in the humanities and social sciences; to serve in church and society as a leader in the critical study of many of the contemporary global issues that are challenging our understandings of Christian faith and order; and to model for followers of Christ how to participate in the increasingly important interaction between Christians and people of other living faiths and ideologies.

A. History of Religions

HR 500 Contemporary World Religions 3 hours

An introduction to comparative considerations in the study of religious myth, ritual, and community life, as well as to central doctrines and practices of major religious traditions of the world.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

B. Global Christianity and Interreligious Dialogue

GC 625 Decolonizing Mission 3 hours

This course analyzes the history of Christian mission as a term and as a phenomenon, with special attention to the perspectives of Christians from Africa, Asia, Latin America,

and the Pacific. We will engage postcolonial theory with respect to the history of Christian mission; search historical missionary sources for the names and contributions of the indigenous Christians who played key roles in the development of Christianity in their own communities; learn about the Western missionary movement through the eyes of Christians from the Global South; encounter forms of mission outside of commonly featured Western Christian models, including reverse mission, South-South mission, minority-led mission, and non-Christian religious mission; and use this information to further develop our own perspectives on the utility and relevance of the word “mission” today. This course corresponds to the “Mission of the Church in the World” Area of Ministerial Practice of the Christian Church—Disciples of Christ. May be used to satisfy upper-level HC requirement. No Prerequisites.
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SPR 27 (Synchronous)*

IU 775 Seminar in Interreligious Dialogue 3 hours
 A study of the history of selected interreligious encounters or the dynamics of particular interfaith dialogues in which contemporary Christians participate (e.g., Jewish-Christian, Muslim-Christian, Buddhist-Christian, Hindu-Christian). May be repeated with different topics.
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

IU 800 Christianity in Latin America 3 hours
 An historical survey from the Spanish Conquest to the present with attention to cultural expressions of religion; church/state relations, especially during the Revolutionary Period; and effects of Vatican II and Protestant missionary activities
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

IU 825 Seminar in Global Christianity 3 hours
 A study of the history and current practices of selected Christian communities outside of North America (e.g., Asian Christianity, African Christianity, etc.). May be repeated with different topics.
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

IU 900 Research: Interreligious Understanding and Christian Mission 3 hours
 Advanced individual research on selected issues. Offered on request only to advanced students.

C. Interreligious and Cross-Cultural Immersion and other Educational Travel Courses

TC 900 Immersion Travel 3 hours
 All course options include pre-tour educational preparation and post-tour evaluation, including but not limited to experiences in Arizona with BorderLinks, a non-profit organization that promotes study of issues on the border between Mexico and the United States, in Nicaragua with JustHope, a non-profit organization that serves the people of Chacraseca, Nicaragua, Ferguson, MO, St. Croix, and Native America-OK. Dates, places, and foci of immersion courses will be announced. Prerequisite: completion of one introductory course.
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (BorderLinks), SMR 26 (St. Croix), FALL 26 (BorderLinks), JAN 27 (Ghana), TBA (Israel/Palestine)*

(Note: destinations/timing tentative; see semester course enrollment materials for full details).

D. Arts and Humanities

AH 525 The Bible and Contemporary Issues

3 hours

This course is designed to provide students with skills that will be useful in leading their congregations/communities in the study and discussion of the bible and the difficult issues confronting people of faith in the 21st century (e.g., Stem Cell Research, Creationism/Evolution/Intelligent Design, Immigration, Human Sexuality, etc.). Students will gain an appreciation for the influence their particular reading location has on how they interpret texts, and they will begin to develop their own hermeneutical approach for reading/interpreting biblical texts. Through readings and class discussions/lectures, students will struggle with the question of “What is ethical biblical interpretation?” Students will apply this knowledge and awareness to the examination of some contemporary issues in order to determine a responsible way to apply the bible in difficult ethical discussions and decision-making. Each student will choose one difficult issue to focus on for a final project. Prerequisites: HB 500 and NT 500.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

AH 545 Native American Cosmologies, Creation and Being Human

3 hours

This course is a survey of Native American cosmologies/spiritualities as compared with the US culturally christian worldview. Native American Studies resources, giving special emphasis to Indigenous writings, are placed in conversation with texts regarding euro-american christian history and theologies. The human being’s relationship with nature is interrogated by analyzing concepts like theological anthropology, interdependence, creation, reciprocity, settler colonialism, commodification, exploitation, and salvation.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

AH 550 Theological Themes in the Contemporary Novel

3 hours

An exploration of how contemporary novels pose theological questions about, and prompt theological reflection upon, human and cultural experience in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. A variety of styles and sub-genres will be considered.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Synchronous)*

AH 575 Preaching in the Black Church Tradition

3 hours

A survey course of Black Preaching in its historical, social, and religious context. Attention will be given to defining within such preaching a specific “Black Hermeneutic” that explains its unique style, methodology, theology, and contribution to the general practice of preaching. Through special readings, listening, and experiencing Black preaching, students should be able to identify its essential distinguishing characteristics, describe its historical context, and learn to appreciate its socio-theological methodology.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

AH 580 Indigenous and Womanist Theory and Theology

3 hours

This course is a survey of contemporary indigenous and womanist theory and theology giving special emphasis to women’s writings and praxis. Indigenous and womanist context will be brought into conversation with one another to interrogate themes of

embodied theology, different ways of knowing, and praxis. This course also counts as an elective for the Black Church Traditions and African American Faith-Life concentration. Our theological starting point is the lived experience of people. We will explore what the embodiment and lived experience of indigenous people and Black women teach us about God, the church, and our practices. No prerequisites.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

AH 625 Native American, Christian Women's Survival and the Holy Spirit 3 hours
This course investigates the interplay between the impact of trauma and the Holy Spirit on Native American women and their communities. Focusing on three instances of historical, traumatic violence in the lives of Native women of Oklahoma, the Christian doctrine of pneumatology as a means of liberative resistance and healing is discussed. The student will identify, describe, and analyze the development of the Christian doctrine of the Holy Spirit. The student will also demonstrate how this theological locus, pneumatology, can be a source of empowerment despite the embodied social realities of the literal and cultural genocide in the lives of Indigenous women who identify as Christian.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

AH 645 Psychology of Religious Experience 3 hours
This course introduces ministry students to foundational issues surrounding psychological understandings of religious experience. More specifically, it equips students to examine cultural practices and beliefs through the lenses of psychoanalysis, psychology of religion, and the social sciences. Students are encouraged to reflect theologically on the relation between theory and practice in the psychology of religion, with special attention to how race, gender, ability, and subject position shapes philosophical discourse on faith. No Prerequisites.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Synchronous)*

AH 650 Religion and Politics 3 hours
An exploration of the inevitable but also intentional mixing of political and theological discourse in both public life and theology. While attending to the legal separation of church and state, the course investigates how and why political discourse invokes theological claims and how and why various theologians offer interpretations of cultural and public life.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Weekends)*

AH 700 Reading the New Testament in the Context of the Roman Empire 3 hours
This course examines some NT Texts as participants in the discourses (literature; archeology; material objects/coins etc.) concerning societal structures, practices, and personnel of the first-century Roman imperial world in which the early Jesus movement came into being. Methods include literary, social science, imperial-critical, ideological, and historical approaches. Prerequisite: successful completion of NT 500 Introduction to the New Testament. This course fulfills either the AH Requirement or the NT Exegesis Requirement.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Week)*

- AH 725 Political Pastoral Theology 3 hours
 This course introduces ministry students to the political dimension of pastoral caregiving and theology. More specifically, it offers seminarians a basic framework for understanding how the theological principles of pastoral care call us to move beyond traditional counseling settings, and into social advocacy and political interventions. Toward this end, students will be invited to examine and identify strategies for offering pastoral care to their ecclesial and community setting, which include politically contentious topics. In the process, students are expected to analyze how matters of race, gender, sexuality, disability, and socio-economic status shape our pastoral decisions for political advocacy and witness. This course will meet on campus January 10-14 8:30am-5:00pm. No Prerequisites.
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Week), FALL 26 (Concentrated Week)*
- AH 745 Ritual and Rhetoric in African American Faith Traditions 3 hours
 African American Faith Traditions have a rich history that has grown and expanded across time. We emphasize the plurality in tradition(s) such that we remember that African American faith is not a monolith. This course will explore the ritual practices and rhetorical nuances in African American faith traditions. This includes but is not limited to pulpit preaching in Black Church traditions, prayers across traditions, rituals of water and Sunday Christian worship. We will explore institutions such as the Black church and consider the cultural, political, and pastoral impacts of these different spaces. Students will leave with a deeper understanding of African American faith histories, ritual practices, and rhetorical particularities. No Prerequisites.
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*
- AH 750 Research in Religion in the Arts and Humanities 1-3 hours
 Advanced individual research on selected issues. Offered on request only to advanced students.
- AH 880 Seminar in Religion in the Arts and Humanities 3 hours
 Advanced study in selected issues in Religion, the Arts and the Humanities. May be repeated with different topics.
 Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (TBD)*
- AH 880.09 Introduction to Native American Religious Beliefs and Practices 3 hours
 This course is an introductory study of Native American religious traditions and spiritual expressions among Native peoples in the United States. Utilizing theories and processes from the sociology of religion, the course explores a variety of themes related to foundational indigenous perspectives around theological concepts, indigenous value systems as expressed in individual and communal contexts, and lived expressions of ritual practice. The course will also examine indigenous forms of Christianity as well as the resistance to Anglo Christian culture expressed in the rise of Native prophets and messianic and revitalization movements. It is impossible to categorize the variety of Native American sacred ways into a single construct known as "Native American religions," so the course will focus on certain tribes representing different geographies

and historical time periods to examine the diverse experiences of Native peoples. No Prerequisites.

Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

AH 880.11 Jesus in America, A Cultural History 3 hours
Jesus has an American history, and the meanings around the imagery of Jesus in literature, film, music, and other forms of mass media are interwoven with the history of that imagery in specific social, political, and theological contexts. Many depictions of Christ tell a story about race, class, gender, and religion in America. As Stephen Prothero says, "Jesus may or may not be God, but he is certainly an American hero." The aim of this course is to study the various identity constructions of Jesus of Nazareth throughout America's historical experience. The course will explore the multifaceted cultural histories of Jesus in America that transformed him from an abstract theological principle into an American icon. No Prerequisites.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *TBA*

AH 880.14 Colonialism and Complexities of Indigenous Identities 3 hours
This course is a survey of US settler imperialism and its attempts to interpret and narrowly define Native American identity to normalize the processes of colonization. The oeuvre of Indigenous scholars and artist will be deployed as a counternarrative and provide insights into the multiplicity found within Native American self-expressions and relational identities.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Weekends)*

Courses of Instruction in the Doctor of Ministry Program

The seminary's doctoral level courses of instruction are organized into three phases: core, specialization, and project. For questions concerning credit hours and plan year requirements, please contact the Registrar.

Core Courses (all specializations)

DMIN 807 Pastoral Leadership in Context 3-4 hours*
This course invites students to engage and critique leadership concepts and theories drawn from both Christian traditions and a variety of current disciplines and arenas. Students will also be given opportunities to reflect upon leadership issues within the context of their ministerial settings and in conversation with the material studied in class. Lectures, large and small group discussions of readings, and case studies are among the methods that will be used to achieve the outcomes of the course.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *JAN 25 (Concentrated Week), OCT 25 (Concentrated Week), OCT 26 (TBD), JAN 27 (Concentrated Week)*

DMIN 808 The Biblical Message and the Praxis of God 3-4 hours*
This course will explore Biblical paradigms that define a theological approach to the practice of ministry. The Biblical themes chosen for emphasis in the course may vary from year to year based on the interests and preferences of the professor.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 24 (Concentrated Week), JAN 26 (Concentrated Week)*

DMIN 809 Constructive Theology of Ministry 3-4 hours*
The core course in Theology, required of all DMin students, is designed to clarify and deepen students' theological perspectives as they begin their studies. The course prepares students for the final project by requiring students to situate the vital tasks, practices, and prayer-life of ministry within an explicit theological framework. Readings, in-class work, and assignments will encourage competence in understanding contemporary theological methods and skill in articulating a vision of the Christian faith for our time and context. Issues receiving special attention will include: the process of contextual description, clarity of one's own theological method, awareness of denominational perspective, and attention to the ethical implications of theology for the engagement of society and other religious traditions.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *JAN 25 (Concentrated Week), FALL 26 (Concentrated Week)*

Project Courses (all specializations)

DMPR 900 Research Methodology and Methods 3 hours
This project course focuses on different approaches to research with congregations, individuals, and on acts of ministry. The methodologies and methods learned in this course will not only aid students in the completion of their DMIN project, but also provide skills for regular congregational study and assessing the success of congregational changes. Students will leave the course with a draft project proposal.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *SMR 25 (Concentrated Week), JAN 27 (Concentrated Week)*

DMPR 902 Project Proposal Course 2 hours
In this course, students work with their advisers and readers to prepare a project proposal.

DMPR 902.01 Project Proposal Continuation 2 hours
A continuation of DMPR 902, a student enrolls in this course if her or his proposal was not completed or accepted while enrolled in the project proposal course. If the student's proposal is still not completed or accepted in three subsequent and consecutive semesters, s/he must re-enroll in DMPR 902.

DMPR 905 Project Development Seminar II .5 hours
This course provides an opportunity for students to share project research and development and receive feedback from one another, members of the faculty, and the DMin Director. Students must participate in a minimum of 4 sessions (.5 credit hours per session) in the duration of their program.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *JAN 25 (Synchronous), SMR 25 (Synchronous), JAN 26 (Synchronous), SMR 26 (Synchronous)*

DMPR 906 Project Course 2 hours
In this course the student carries out the project and writes the project report that is submitted to the advisers and readers.

DMPR 906.01 Project Continuation 2 hours
A continuation of DMPR 906, a student enrolls in this course if her or his project was not completed or accepted while enrolled in the project course. If the student's project is still not completed or accepted after enrollment in the continuation course for three subsequent and consecutive semesters, s/he must re-enroll in DMPR 906.

Research Courses

DPLC 743 Advanced Research Colloquy 3-4 hours*
This course provides DMin students with a structured group setting for self-directed learning, peer learning, and research-based learning. This course also fulfills the independent study requirement for particular specializations. Students will select a topic for study before the DMin session begins and spend the week focused on that topic in a variety of ways while developing and strengthening the inquiry forming, library research, information literacy, and bibliographic management skills necessary for students to engage in in-depth study and complete the DMin project.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *JAN 26 (Concentrated Week), SMR 26 (Concentrated Week), SMR 27 (Concentrated Week)*

DPLH 720 Core Homiletic Seminar I 3 hours
In this course students will build upon the preceding core courses in Constructive Theology and biblical hermeneutics by taking a homiletical turn. They will critically examine and assess their embedded theologies and practices of preaching in relationship to emergent ones. The aim is to develop, articulate and embody fresh approaches to the preaching ministry, framing them as congregational leadership.
Projected Offering Dates (Format): *FALL 25 (Concentrated Week), SMR 27 (Concentrated Week Week)*

DMIN 898 Elective Research Practicum 3-4 hours*
Each student, in consultation with the DMin Director and the Lead Professor of her or his track, may select or design a course that relates to her or his proposed project. This course may be chosen from advanced MDiv course offerings at Phillips (in which additional work will be required) or DMin Specialization courses for other tracks. It may also consist of an independent study with an appropriate faculty member.

** Credit hours will be applied based upon student's DMin plan year requirement.*

Specialization Courses

See DMIN Handbook.

For all other information inquiries, please refer to the *Academic Handbook* and/or the *Student Handbook* available on the Phillips Theological Seminary website:

<https://ptstulsa.edu/current-students/academic-resources/>