



NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



2020-2021 COURSE CATALOG

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NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Think Critically • Act Justly • Lead Faithfully

COURSE CATALOG

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MASTERS PROGRAMS

BIBLICAL STUDIES

BS520 BIBLICAL RESEARCH AND WRITING

This course will provide hands-on-skills for the intensive study of a biblical text at a graduate level. The course will be taught using resources in the library with a focus on developing a thesis statement and presenting a coherent and comprehensive argument in a paper. *Prerequisites: NT510 and OT510. A required course in the M.Div. and M.A.T.S. programs.*

NT504 THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

This course aims to orient students toward a critical reading of the Gospel of Luke, with particular focus on the life of Jesus from conception to resurrection. Specific attention will be given to various religio-spiritual movements within the story narrative, including journey motif, miracles, repentance, and revelation. The contemporary significance of the reading of the Gospel of Luke for today's faith and the world will also be explored. *Prerequisite: NT510. Elective.*

NT510 INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT

This introductory course focuses on the contextual interpretation of the documents of the New Testament. The nature of interpretation, of both texts and contexts, receives primary focus in the course. The course attends to ancient and contemporary contextual analysis (literary, sociological, and historical) and the intellectual skills required to engage in such analysis. The integrity of the interpreter is key to all responsible interpretation and thus will be a persistent theme throughout the course. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div. and M.A.T.S. programs.*

NT511 NEW TESTAMENT GREEK I

This course is designed to introduce the student to Greek grammar and to develop superior skills in translating New Testament texts in service of the church and the community. *Elective: however, some denominations require this class. No Prerequisites. Elective: however, some denominations require this class.*

NT512 NEW TESTAMENT GREEK II

This course is a continuation of NT511. This term students will continue to learn and strengthen their translation skills and exegetical skills *Elective; however, some denominations require this class. Prerequisite: NT511 Elective: however, some denominations require this class.*

NT514 SERMON ON THE MOUNT

The Sermon on the Mount is justly famous as a collection of some of Jesus' most lasting teachings. These chapters, however, have also engendered many scholarly discussions, especially about ethics and "how are we to live?" In this course, we will work through the text of Matthew 5-7 with great care. We will also read and discuss various theories about Jesus' ethic in the Sermon on the Mount. The focus of this course, however, will be on the text itself. *Prerequisite: NT510. Elective.*

NT516 THE GOSPEL OF MARK: STRUGGLING TO UNDERSTAND GOD

The course aims toward a critical interpretation of the Gospel of Mark, with a focus upon the struggles of the disciples to understand and come to terms with Jesus as Son of Man. Examination of the socio-historical setting, the author's specific interests, and particular themes, including secrecy, hierarchy, and discipleship will receive attention. The meaning and significance of the Gospel of Mark for today's world and faith will also receive attention. *Prerequisite: NT510. Elective.*

NT517 JESUS AND THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

This course aims to orient students toward a critical reading of the Gospel of Matthew. Focus upon

the overall life of Jesus from birth to death, rebirth, and reappearance will occur. Themes including dreams, interiority, religio-spiritual formation, and *praxis* will receive attention in light of the Matthean context and our own today. Specifically, in what ways does the Jesus of Matthew speak to divine-human relationship within shaken and recovering worlds? *NT510. Elective.*

NT530 THE GOSPEL OF JOHN: BRINGING LIGHT INTO DARKNESS

The course aims to orient students toward a critical reading of the Gospel of John and the socio-historical, religio-spiritual, and cultural setting out of which the text issues. Themes including healing and salvation, the relationship between the human and the Divine, and the relationship between the masculine and the feminine elements will receive attention. The significance of the text for contemporary life and faith will also be examined. *Prerequisite: NT510 Elective.*

NT531 THE PARABLES OF JESUS

This course aims to orient students toward a critical reading of the parables of Jesus. The socio-historical and spiritual circumstances and needs of early Christian communities will be considered, as will specific themes including notions of the Kingdom of God, reversal, repentance, and rebirth. Consideration of the liberating significance of Jesus' parables as deepening, transformative experience within today's church and the world, as well as one's faith will receive attention. *Prerequisite: NT510 Elective.*

NT550 POWER OF THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS

This course aims toward a critical reading of the Epistle to the Ephesians, with focus on issues of social justice within and resulting from cultural and religious power structures and hierarchies. Themes include human suffering, alienation and identity, reconciliation, spiritual wisdom, and transformation on both personal and collective levels. These themes will receive specific attention in light of today's faith and society. Secondary source readings include writings by D. Bonhoeffer, J. Cone, and R. Gross. *Prerequisite: NT510 Elective.*

OT510 INTRODUCTION TO OLD TESTAMENT

Students in this course will gain knowledge in the methods of biblical study and interpretation by engaging themselves, the biblical text, and ancient cultures. We will read, research, engage, and enter into the history and cultural norms of the Old Testament period. We will also confront age-old interpretations and understandings of these biblical texts that have produced colonial, sexist, and racist interpretations which still function today. Students will gain skills in their own interpretation of texts based on ancient [not modern] historical and contextual contexts and gain valuable research skills. Students will use their research skills to create their own projects. We will engage in historiography. Students will gain an understanding of how the contexts of particular biblical books impact the theological message of the biblical book. Students will also focus on honoring the timeline of the Bible. This means a New Testament text written hundreds of years after the Old Testament one cannot be its primary lens of interpretation. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div. and M.A.T.S. programs.*

OT511 BIBLICAL HEBREW I

This course is designed to introduce the student to biblical Hebrew, beginning with a study of essential grammar and vocabulary, as well as discussion on the theological importance of studying the texts in the original language. *Elective: however, some denominations require this class. No Prerequisites. Elective: however, some denominations require this class.*

OT512 BIBLICAL HEBREW II

This course is a continuation of OT511. This term students will continue to learn and strengthen their translation skills and exegetical skills *Elective: however, some denominations require this class. Prerequisite: OT511 Elective: however, some denominations require this class.*

OT527 THE BOOK OF ISAIAH: CONCEPTS IN JUSTICE AND PROPHETIC SPEECH

The Book of Isaiah offers a complex portrait of power and politics as these dynamics intersect the religious life of the people of Israel. This course examines the ministry and message of Isaiah, the prophet. Attention will be given to biblical passages where the themes of “social justice,” “righteousness,” and “salvation,” appear as integral aspects of the prophet’s piety and protest. In this regard, we will explore the historical and social context of prophetic utterance and its significance to the prophetic witness of God and God’s word. As a prophet to both individuals and nations, Isaiah’s message of justice, righteousness, and salvation epitomize what it means to speak truth to the powerful on behalf of the powerless. These explorations will be applied to contemporary understanding of the Book of Isaiah and its relevance for the Christian faith. *Prerequisite: OT510 Elective.*

OT539 UNDERWORLD: DEATH AND AFTERLIFE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Any discussion on the Old Testament’s view of the after-life must entail the Hebrew understanding of death. How was death perceived? What happened to individuals after death? Was it considered the end of existence, or was there something more? The fear of death and the dread of what comes afterward is part of the human experience, both in the ancient and modern world. This class explores the variety of ways in which physical death and the afterlife were understood in biblical and post-biblical Judaism. Among the topics to be considered are the netherworld, immortality, and resurrection, as well as the relationship of these concepts to issues of faith and morality. *Prerequisite: OT510 Elective.*

OT571 THE BOOK OF DANIEL

As literature of the marginalized and oppressed, the book of Daniel nuances the dichotomous relationship between empire and the Jews subjugated under imperial rule. For religiously committed readers, the book’s apocalyptic language and complex depiction of group conflict draw our attention to how religion and religious language contribute to the construction and contestation of power relations. This class explores the book’s concerns with power and identity, addressing its radical critique of the Hellenistic empire and its predecessors while simultaneously exposing an on-going power struggle among the Jewish religious elite. To ground our study, we will survey the historical and sociological dimensions of apocalyptic and apocalyptic discourse as it appears in ancient Jewish literary thought. *Prerequisite: OT510 Elective.*

OT577 THE BOOK OF RUTH: DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES: RETHINKING CRISIS AND SURVIVAL

The Book of Ruth offers a rare portrait of struggle and survival as experienced from the perspectives of two women, Ruth and Naomi. Although from different cultures, these two women are inextricably connected by the familial bonds of marriage. In addition to an exegetical examination of the book’s content, this course pays attention to the biblical themes of loss, redemption, and restoration as they intersect the book’s construction of gender roles and women’s agency in a patriarchal society. *Prerequisite: OT510 Elective.*

OT578 AFRICAN AMERICAN BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS

The task of interpreting the bible is a complex one. This complexity is further heightened when factors such as ethnicity and context are taken into consideration. This course examines and explores the distinctive contributions of an Afrocentric hermeneutic that is derived from African Americans’ engagement with biblical texts. Students will also be introduced to the methodologies and ideologies that have historically marginalized the presence of Africans in the bible as well as how these approaches have contributed to the invisibility of this group in our interpretative process. Finally, students will come to understand the significance of social location when employing interpretative strategies to biblical material. *Prerequisite: OT510 Elective.*

CHURCH HISTORY

CH510 HISTORY OF GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY I TO 1450

This course explores the history of Christianity from the second century to the middle of the fifteenth century. We will identify formative stages in Christianity's development as a global religious movement, and engage various models of interpretation and historical methods to consider key theological texts, terms, and traditions in historical context. Attention will be paid to issues of power and authority, violence and imperialism, gender, and diverse or contested religious and social identities. Christianity's complex historical relationships with Judaism and Islam will be discussed. Students will investigate Christian institutions, theology, practice, and social engagement from the emergence of early Christian communities through the Middle Ages. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div. and M.A.T.S. programs.*

CH511 HISTORY OF GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY II SINCE 1450

This course is a continuation of CH510. This course explores the history of Christianity since 1450. We will identify formative stages in Christianity's development as a global religious movement, and engage various models of interpretation and historical methods to consider key theological texts, terms, and traditions in historical context. We will examine the relationship of Christianity with colonialism and imperialism, slavery and capitalism, race and racism, gender, and structures of social and political power. In exploring these histories, we seek a sense of our place, individually and collectively, concerning the Christian movement worldwide. Students will investigate Christian institutions, theology, practice, and social engagement from the era of Reformations to the present. *Prerequisite: CH510. A required course in the M.Div. and M.A.T.S. programs.*

CH519 BLACK CHRISTIANITY IN NORTH AMERICA

How do we understand the role of the Christian faith in the Black experience in North America? In this historical survey, we will consider this question from the seventeenth century to the present. Students will explore the histories of black churches, pastors, and denominations, but also interpret these and other historical actors, institutions, and movements within the large themes, methods, and interpretive issues in African American cultural and religious history. Exposure to a breadth of primary and secondary readings will help us consider the diversity of African Americans' faith and practice in various historical eras and contexts stretching from North America and the Caribbean in the colonial period to the contemporary United States. We will explore lived religion, church foundations, theological developments, and Black Christians' involvements in social and political movements. These investigations will enrich our interpretations of these diverse traditions, and consider complicated paradigms of survival, elevation, and liberation, moving away from a singular, simplistic understanding of 'The Black Church. *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

CH522 HISTORY OF AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY

This course is a survey of Christianity in North America, from early encounters in the Atlantic world to the present-day United States. This class is not just about ministers, denominations, or hymns. We will grapple with material culture, get embroiled in messy fights, probe how faith has been used for social and political change, and influenced or been influenced by society and politics throughout American history. We examine Christian traditions engaged in settler colonialism in North America, awakenings and revivals, the Atlantic age of revolutions, African faiths, and Christianity in the African American experience. Students will pay attention to democratization and the marketplace of faith in the early United States, American Catholicism and anti-Catholicism, and Christianity's relationship to slavery, abolitionism, and the Civil War. Our work will also explore deepening theological divisions and racial injustices post-Reconstruction, divergent traditions of biblical interpretation and perspectives on science, the Cold War, the Civil Rights movement, gender and sex in the church, new conservatism and realignment of Christian traditions concerning American political issues. Our

considerations of colonialism, nationalism, race, class, gender, sexuality, war, diversity, and justice will help us interpret the ways Christianity animates American politics, society, and systems of oppression and resistance. *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

DENOMINATIONAL STUDIES

DS507 RCA CHURCH STUDIES: STANDARDS AND POLITY

STANDARDS (PART I) The purpose of this course is to assist the student in obtaining an understanding of the history, content, and use of the Standards of Unity of the Reformed Church in America. The student will learn the historical contexts of their origins, the meaning of the standards within the framework of the history of theology and situate the standards within the life and ministry of the contemporary church. **POLITY (PART II)** This course is designed to introduce candidates to the office of minister of Word and Sacrament in the Reformed Church in America to the government of the Reformed Church in America. Students will learn the theology and polity that is expressed in the Book of Church Order and will learn how the polity works in the life and witness of the church. *Prerequisites: CH510, CH511, TH510, TH511. Elective, but required for RCA students seeking ordination*

DS508 RCA HISTORY, MISSION, AND WORSHIP

This class is a continuation of DS507. **HISTORY AND MISSIONS (PART III)** The purpose of this course is to assist the student in understanding the historical development of the Reformed Church in America, with a special emphasis on the role and theology of its mission programs, within the context of the history of the global Christian church. The student will become conversant with the arc of RCA history and with how to engage primary source materials to dig deeper into that history and connect it to the work of local congregations, classes, and synods. **WORSHIP (PART IV)** This course is designed to introduce students to the Liturgy of the RCA, with special emphasis on how to lead worship, and especially the sacramental liturgies, creatively and meaningfully. Students will become familiar with the construction of the liturgies, the theological assumptions behind them, and will learn how to construct and adapt the liturgies in ways appropriate to the contexts in which they will serve. *Elective. Prerequisites: CH510, CH511, MS565 Elective, but required for RCA students seeking ordination*

DS524 BAPTIST STUDIES: HISTORY & THEOLOGY

Baptist History is a survey of the 400 years of Baptist existence, starting with the First English Baptist Church in Amsterdam. Baptist Polity is the study of the ways that we do church. While Baptist churches are historically led by one pastor and their deacons, we have evolved to include multi-pastor churches and different leadership structures. If you plan to be ordained in the American Baptist Churches USA or in a Baptist convention that is duly aligned with the ABC-USA, Baptist History and Polity are required for ordination. Our local regions—ABC of NJ, ABC of New York and Metro New York, ABC of Pennsylvania and Delaware, and Philadelphia Baptist Association—will not consider you for ordination until you have completed this course. It is better to complete this course while you are in seminary instead of having to take the class later. *Elective. Prerequisites: CH 510, CH511 Elective, but required for all NJ American Baptist Students seeking ordination*

DS531 PRESBYTERIAN STUDIES

This class covers the items required for ordination examinations including worship, the Confessions, and polity. Students will engage in case studies to aid them in applying the *Book of Confessions* and the *Book of Order* to situations in the life of a church. *Elective. Prerequisites: CH510, CH511 Elective, but required for PCUSA students seeking ordination*

OTHER DENOMINATIONAL STUDIES COURSES ARRANGED FOR STUDENTS AS NEEDED

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

IN331 ANALYZING SYSTEMS OF PRIVILEGE WORKSHOP

Participants will build a common definition of racism and explore the historical development of institutional racism in the US. They will examine ongoing realities of racism including the identity-shaping power racism has on People of Color and White people; explore racism's individual, institutional and cultural manifestations; and consider the link between racism and other forms of oppression. A strategic methodology to dismantle racism will be introduced, focusing specifically on applying principles of organizing and social/cultural change. The two-day workshop [Friday and Saturday] will be led by our partners Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training, <http://crossroadsantiracism.org>. A required course in the M.A and M.Div. Programs and encouraged for the D. Min. For 2021, the workshop will be led by NBTS faculty due to the Covid pandemic.

IN510 TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

In our constant and rapidly changing world, learning to lead communities of faith in ways that help them to creatively experience growth and sustainability while positively contributing to lives of those they serve is critical to our ability to exact transformative impact on society. In this course, students will explore the subject of transformational leadership and the implications of such for the individual leader, the communities s/he serves, and the larger society. Combining intellectual rigor with a personal challenge, and collaboration with creative expression, students will engage in exercises to integrate the readings about leadership development with experiential learning and acquire instantly applicable practices for becoming more effective and dynamic leaders and engaged members of faith communities. Transformational leaders understand, implement, and evaluate strategic equitable leadership practices based on various theories, models, and approaches for achieving organizational transformation. *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

IN511 ANALYZING SYSTEMS OF PRIVILEGE

This class is the second portion of IN 331. During the semester, students will engage in readings, videos, and class interactions around the issues of discrimination and prejudice. First, students will critically engage the subjects and then reflect and write about how these and other -isms impact their lives and the lives of their families. Second, students will look at their church with a critical eye to reflect on where the church has been, where it is, and how to build a new future that names -ism's as sin and seeks to reconcile with those harmed. *Required course in the M.A, M.Div. programs. Prerequisite: IN331.*

IN520 THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND WITNESS

As one of the interdisciplinary courses required for the M.Div. degree at NBTS, asks students to consider a fundamental aspect or dimension of Christian life and ministry that does not belong uniquely to any of the fields of study into which the M.Div. curriculum is divided ("biblical studies", "theological studies," and "ministry studies") but upon which they all have bearing.

How do individuals and communities receive the gospel from others, and then witness to it themselves, in terms of their own culture, social situation and lived experience? How shall we, as witnesses, understand the process by which the gospel becomes a meaningful part of both our own experience and that of others? In the process of addressing those questions, the course will challenge the student to think about issues in the relationship between the Christian gospel and culture, and the place of Christianity in the global community, giving attention to its encounter with other religions. *Required course in the M.Div. program. Prerequisite: IN511.*

IN521 CONTEXTUALIZED MINISTRY AND PUBLIC FAITH

This is a senior-level course designed to view Christian ministry as faith and witness in a multidimensional context. Christian spirituality and ministry today must engage in living dialogue

with multiple publics, secular disciplines, and pluralistic religious and cultural traditions in search of the common good and beloved community. Through this prophetic dialogue and witness, Christian individuals and communities can come to a deeper understanding of Christ's gospel and God's kairos for our historical period.

The course will also assist students in translating their theological education (particularly around race, class and gender) into other contexts and utilizing social science methodologies to research how societal systems and racist structures shape the lived realities of the people in diverse contexts - urban, suburban, rural, global, etc. As such, the course will draw upon faith and developmental psychology, and social science research methodologies (exploring such topics as data collection, constructing research design, interpreting the data, the ethics of research, and more). Students will also engage in dialogue around the joys and challenges of advancing public expressions of their faith/vocation in complex urbanized spaces and a contemporary society that are simultaneously marked by systemic oppression and injustice as well as transformation and progress. Prerequisite(s): OT510; NT510; PC510; IN511; IN520; CH 510 & 511; TH520 & 521; ET520. Senior Level Standing Only. A required course in the M.Div.

IN531 OUR CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS IN CONTEXT

This course will guide the student in a statement of faith that expresses the student's understanding of the Christian faith responsive to the theology of his/her tradition and is appropriate to the context in which she/he ministers. It is recommended that students register for this course in the final year of their program. *Prerequisites:* OT510; NT510; PC510; IN511 CH 510 & 511; TH520 & 521; ET520; IN520. *Senior Level Standing Only. A required course in the M.Div.*

MINISTRY STUDIES

CE510 INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PRACTICE

An introduction to the teaching ministry of the church, examining Christians as an aspect of the ministry to the whole congregation. Studies of the theories in which biblical, theological, and social-scientific insights, especially faith development theory, are integrated to guide educational judgments. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div.*

FE510 FIELD EDUCATION I

In conjunction with an approved field education placement, this course is designed to guide students in the practice of ministerial reflection by examining his/her field education experience. Each student is required to attend the class for theological reflection, peer group support, and discussion on boundaries and best self-care practices. Time will be spent discussing personal spiritual formation. Additionally, the course will focus on developing a model for healthy disciplines/habits for ministry.

Student placements are made, in consultation with the Director of Field Education, based on the educational and experiential needs of the student. Placements are in communities of faith both inside and outside of a student's tradition in denominationally, ethnically, and culturally diverse settings. Field Education sites may also include non-parish ministry setting such as parachurch organizations. A Field Education Learning/Serving Covenant must be approved for each placement. Written evaluations by the student and the supervisor must be submitted for credit to be granted for each completed unit of Field Education. Students should complete 30 credits before enrolling in Field Education. *Prerequisites:* FE511 A required course in the M.Div.

FE511 FIELD EDUCATION SEMINARY [REQUIRED BEFORE BEGINNING FIELD ED]

First-time students registered for FE510 I and who are ready to engage in their initial field placement are required to attend a one-time seminar for orientation. In this seminar, students receive specific instructions on completing the Learning/Service Covenant, which details the goals, objectives, and tasks for the placement, and begins the conversation on appropriate boundaries and practicing theological reflection. *A required course in the M.Div. No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div.*

FE512 FIELD EDUCATION II

This class is a continuation of FE 510. In conjunction with an approved field education placement, this course is designed to guide students in the practice of ministerial reflection by examining his/her field education experience. Each student is required to attend the class for theological reflection, peer group support, and discussion on boundaries and best self-care practices. Time will be spent discussing personal spiritual formation. Additionally, the course will focus on developing a model for healthy disciplines/habits for ministry.

Student placements are made, in consultation with the Director of Field Education, based on the educational and experiential needs of the student. Placements are in communities of faith both inside and outside of a student's tradition in denominationally, ethnically, and culturally diverse settings. Field Education sites may also include non-parish ministry setting such as parachurch organizations. A Field Education Learning/Serving Covenant must be approved for each placement. Written evaluations by the student and the supervisor must be submitted for credit to be granted for each completed unit of Field Education. Students should complete 30 credits before enrolling in Field Education. *Prerequisites: FE510 and FE 511. A required course in the M.Div.*

FE513 FIELD EDUCATION III

This class is a continuation of FE 510. In conjunction with an approved field education placement, this course is designed to guide students in the practice of ministerial reflection by examining his/her field education experience. Each student is required to attend the class for theological reflection, peer group support, and discussion on boundaries and best self-care practices. Time will be spent discussing personal spiritual formation. Additionally, the course will focus on developing a model for healthy disciplines/habits for ministry.

Student placements are made, in consultation with the Director of Field Education, based on the educational and experiential needs of the student. Placements are in communities of faith both inside and outside of a student's tradition in denominationally, ethnically, and culturally diverse settings. Field Education sites may also include non-parish ministry setting such as parachurch organizations. A Field Education Learning/Serving Covenant must be approved for each placement. Written evaluations by the student and the supervisor must be submitted for credit to be granted for each completed unit of Field Education. Students should complete 30 credits before enrolling in Field Education. *Prerequisite: FE510, FE 511 and 512 . A required course in the M.Div.*

MS001 CLERGY ETHICS TRAINING WORKSHOP

The workshop is designed to create awareness of what constitutes ethical clergy behavior. It will cover the relational dynamics, internal motivations, and vulnerabilities that can lead to misconduct; and the positive steps that can be taken to prevent even the appearance of ethical breaches. The goal is to help participants develop a strong and reliable "internal compass" that will help them to steer a safe course even in confusing or difficult situations. All MA degree program students are required to complete this workshop before graduating. M.Div. and M.A. students are required to take the workshop BEFORE they enroll in Field Education or CPE. **Attendance is required to meet graduation requirements.** Students must attend the entire workshop to receive credit. *A requirement of the M.A., and M.Div. and recommended in the D.Min.*

MS510 PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

One of the most important aspects of pastoral ministry is providing visionary leadership for the organization's health and wholeness. While most view pastoral ministry as an answer to the call of God, it is equally imperative that the pastor be a proficient leader and effectively walks in the role of chief administrator. Preaching and shepherding must be accompanied by strong administration if the local assembly is going to experience the totality of growth and development.

To that end, the main objective of this class is to focus on that which defines, develops, and distinguishes one as an effective leader and chief administrator. To accomplish this, we will examine principles of leadership, models of pastoral administration in the local church, the organizational structure of the local church, and the role the local church has within the greater community. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div.*

MS514 EVANGELISM

This course will explore the history and practice of mission, especially in the modern period. It will also include an exploration of the theology and practice of evangelism, and its relationship to revivalism, the social gospel, liberation theology, and Asian and Black theology. Evangelistic methods will be critically reviewed. *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

MS551 DEVOTIONAL FAITH IN THE DIASPORA AND TODAY

This course is a vivid exploration of the evolution of Jewish faith, customs, rituals, and classic texts from antiquity, through the Diaspora, to the present. No prior knowledge of Jews or Judaism is required. There are no pre-requisites. Students will engage in the devotional study of Jewish religious practice. Special attention will be given to liturgy, prayer, ritual, and domestic piety that graduates may expect to use when ministering in multi-faith contexts. Ceremonies, festivals, and institutions of Judaism in America and Israel will all be explored. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

MS565 INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

This course is designed to enable students to analyze, plan, and lead Christian worship with pastoral and theological integrity, and to understand denominational and local church traditions in larger ecumenical and historical contexts. Through this course, students will gain hands-on experience leading Christian rituals, designing traditional, ecumenical and interfaith worship, and critically reflecting on the practice of worship. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div.*

PR510 SERMON PREPARATION AND DELIVERY

This course helps students find their individual preaching voice within the tradition of Christian preaching, as they develop the skills necessary for the construction and delivery of effective sermons. The substance of the course includes readings and in-class content related to the preparation of the person of the preacher, the development and creation of the sermon manuscript, and the effective delivery of the sermon. The format of class sessions may include readings, lectures, video presentations, discussions, and individual, group, and class exercises that will include performance training and preaching practice. Enrollment is capped at 15 students per class. *Prerequisites: NT510 and OT510. A required course in the M.Div.*

WP511 INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

This course will enable students to develop, lead, and evaluate Christian worship in a collaborative environment. Drawing from biblical, historical, theological, ethical, and practical resources, students will reflect upon their denominational and local church traditions in larger ecumenical and socio-cultural contexts. They will explore the worship traditions represented in the class and the larger community while gaining insight into the relationship of culture and Christian worship. They will articulate their personal theology of worship concerning Baptism and Eucharist. Students will also assess options for occasional rites, such as funerals and weddings, in both their practical and theological dimensions. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.Div.*

PASTORAL CARE

PC510 INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE

This course is an introduction to the ministry of pastoral care and counseling, with emphasis on the helping relationship, theological understandings of pastoral care, multicultural contexts of pastoral care, pastoral uses of psychotherapeutic theories and strategies for change, various forms of pastoral care and counseling, and the use of religious/spiritual resources. Exercises for the development of self-awareness and professional skills necessary for pastoral care will be included. Skill practices will focus on theoretical and methodological concerns. This course will bring a gender, race and class analysis to explore how pastoral care engages in the struggle for justice, peace, and human flourishing. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.A. In PC&C, and M.Div.*

PC511 RESEARCH METHODS IN PASTORAL THEOLOGY

The course is a practical guide to researching the field of pastoral care and counseling utilizing quantitative and qualitative methodologies. It will explore developing research questions, collecting data, conducting a literature search, constructing research design, and interpreting the data. It is designed to provide M.A. candidates with the organization and development of their research project. *Prerequisite: PC510 A required course in the M.A.in PC &C.*

PC513 MEDICAL ETHICS AND COMMUNAL HEALTH

An in-depth study of theological and ethical problems arising in the practice of medicine due to the advance of science and technology. Issues include abortion, prenatal screening, genetic manipulation, euthanasia, medical experimentation, living wills, disabilities, addiction, ethics of food, community wellness, environmental and social justice in health care policy. The course will include case studies distinctively related to clergy, congregations, and health care systems in the increasingly global field of bioethics. Also listed as ET 513. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

PC515 SPIRITUALITY OF THE TWELVE STEPS

This course explores the problem of addiction and mandate for the Church in the solution: the embrace and elevation of healing ministry using the Twelve Steps. The course begins by reviewing the latest scientific evidence of addiction to delineate the scope of the problem in society today. Students will examine the common concerns of suffering, brokenness, repentance and healing so central to what the Twelve Step Program calls recovery and the Church calls salvation. By discovering the gospel wisdom of the Twelve Steps, they may be applied to any obvious addiction in any person, including the sometimes hidden addiction to sin shared by all. The class will identify strategies for churches to not only assist addicts, but more fully accept and attract them into their church communities. Students will gradually absorb the spirituality of the Twelve Steps experience through increasing immersion in its devotional practices. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

PC523 PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TO VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The community of faith response to the rising evidence of wounds to the soul among military veterans is to promote awareness while strengthening pastoral care skills and abilities. The increased rate of suicide, homicide, and domestic violence all indicate that the rising tide demands a spiritual component of addressing healing. This course is designed as an introductory course to expose seminarians to the challenges of providing pastoral care to military families and to foster an environment of learning to build better community networks that assumes a leading role in the care, rehabilitation, and support of veterans seeking care to enable them to blend back into the fabric of society. *Prerequisite: PC510 Elective.*

PC525 ADVANCED PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

Advanced Pastoral Care and Counseling: This course is a continuation of the Introduction to

Pastoral Care and Counseling with an emphasis on practical hands-on pastoral care and pastoral counseling theories and techniques. Students will utilize readings, lectures, case studies, small group discussions, role-plays, and multimedia presentations to learn effective counseling techniques to address various pastoral demands. *Prerequisite: PC510 Elective.*

PC527 PSYCHOLOGY AND RELIGION

This course explores both classical and contemporary developments in the psychology of religion with emphasis on the uses of psychological theory for interpreting and understanding religious experience, rituals, and texts. Included are thinkers such as Sigmund Freud, Erik Erikson, D. W. Winnicott, Ana-Maria Rizzuto, W.W. Meissner, Paul Pruyser, and Heinz Kohut. Students will be introduced to their thoughts, concepts, and ideas and expected to develop their own approach to appropriating their material for the understanding of religion. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

PC528 PASTORAL CARE TO WOMEN

An introduction to the unique nature of the ministry of pastoral care and counseling with women. Emphasis will be placed on the role that the image of God and the socio-cultural and psychological particularities of women play in the development of relevant and effective approaches for this ministry. Psychotherapeutic and theological issues will also be addressed. *Prerequisite: PC510 Elective.*

PC532 PASTORAL CARE IN THREE WORLDS

Ethnic Christian faith communities seek to provide care for their members in a variety of ways taking into account the particular needs of their members. This course will explore how three distinctly different cultural groups - African American, Asian American, and Hispanic American - within a majority American context engage in the ministry of the practice of care. It will discuss their similarities as well as their differences and consider what each might have to offer the broader pastoral care Christian community. Guest pastors from each respective community will be invited. *Prerequisites PC510. Elective*

PC535 PASTORAL CARE AND NARCISSISM

This course explores the sociological, psychological, and theological analysis of narcissism. It proposes various strategies of pastoral care to help the church address the issues of narcissism and apply these strategies in specific pastoral care situations. Heinz Kohut's self-psychology will provide the major theoretical framework for the course. *Prerequisite: PC510 Elective.*

PC539 PASTORAL CARE: MENTAL HEALTH AND THE SPIRITUALITY OF CARING

More than three out of four Americans identify with a religious faith, according to a 2014 survey by the Pew Research Center. Faith and spirituality can be part of a person's identity and can be a source of both comfort and turmoil for some individuals. Spirituality can be an effective part of treatment and coping with mental illness in a variety of ways, such as mindfulness therapies, meditation, 12-step programs, bereavement, and grief counseling. Students will learn about common mental disorders, including symptoms, risk factors, and treatment options and possible options in finding solace through faith and spirituality practices. *Prerequisites PC510. Elective.*

PC542 SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AND PASTORAL CARE

Spiritual Direction is a powerful discipline available to those engaged in pastoral care and counseling. Rooted in an ancient tradition in the Christian community, the practice continues to evolve. Sometimes called spiritual companionship, the practice of Spiritual Direction explores a deeper relationship with the spiritual aspect of being human.

Spiritual directors help people tell their sacred stories or everyday encounters with the Divine in safe generative space. Describing spiritual experience requires putting words to a transcendent experience that lies beyond all words. Though language is inadequate, when a spiritual experience is articulated and made concrete in everyday living it can serve as a resource for growth and resilience.

It is easier to describe what spiritual direction does than what spiritual direction is. This course will not seek to form a comprehensive definition of the practice. Nor is this a training in the art and practice of spiritual direction. Rather it will be an introduction to spiritual direction so that the student preparing for ministry can begin to explore the powerful potential of the practice. Spiritual direction helps us learn how to live in peace, with compassion, promoting justice, as humble servants of that which lies beyond all names. *No Prerequisite. Elective.*

PC543 CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) programs, usually located in hospital or prison settings, provide the opportunity for extensive work in pastoral care, along with group and individual reflection on the ministry experience. CPE programs may be taken as summer intensives or extended over nine months of the academic year. Students will engage persons from multiple faiths, often in stressful situations. Students will also engage in reflection with their supervisor and other students in their peer group. Students will learn about themselves and others. Many denominations require C.P.E. for ordination. *No Prerequisites. A required course in the M.A. in PC & C and recommended for the M.Div.*

PC544 CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION

A continuation of CP531. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) programs, usually located in hospital or prison settings, provide the opportunity for extensive work in pastoral care, along with group and individual reflection on the ministry experience. CPE programs may be taken as summer intensives or extended over nine months of the academic year. Students will engage persons from multiple faiths, often in stressful situations. Students will also engage in reflection with their supervisor and other students in their peer group. Students will learn about themselves and others. Many denominations require C.P.E. for ordination. *Prerequisites PC531. A required course in the M.A. in PC & C and recommended for the M.Div.*

PC548 FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION

This course will examine the multifaceted issues involved in forgiveness and reconciliation, what it is, and what it is not, offering biblical, theological, psychological, and social scientific perspective with emphasis on the psychological. It will explore forgiveness and reconciliation from an intrapersonal (looking at intrapsychic processes) and interpersonal (relational, communal, and intercommunal) cross-cultural, and global perspectives that take into consideration the dimensions of human responses to pain, anger and hurt. It will draw upon texts, artwork, music, videos, and personal experience. *Prerequisites PC510. Elective.*

PC567 SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES FOR SELF-CARE

Let's spend one semester together working unapologetically to be healthier, happier, and holier. May we hold each other accountable to be the best you possible. Be open to new possibilities and opportunities to improve your quality of life. We examine the theories and techniques which make for healthy clergy, holy congregations, and holistic communities. Students discover the impact on their ministry of toxic people and unhealthy practices. We analyze a few groundbreaking studies on clergy health and wellness. Caregivers, professionals, and experts are committed to chat with our class for robust forum discussions. Online quizzes, forum participation, and meeting self-care goals you set at the start of the semester are the basis for the final grade. *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

PC573 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND PASTORAL CARE

This course offers a general introduction to theories of human development across the lifespan in consideration of their practical implications for pastoral care and counseling. It will explore what constitutes optimum growth and development; how factors such as one's culture, race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and faith affect and shape human development; and how the understandings of human development (and maldevelopment) inform the practice of pastoral care and counseling.

This course will examine developmental processes that address cognitive, psychosocial, gender/sexuality, moral, and spiritual aspects of a person while taking into account the conditions of developmental impairments and disabilities that pastoral caregivers/counselors may encounter. This *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

PC575 PASTORAL CARE IN BLACK CHURCHES

This course will examine the pastoral care needs present in the Black community and Black churches in the American context. These needs and concerns have varied over the years and attention must be given to analyzing the most significant concerns present at a given time. In this course students will be examining three themes: 1) Interpersonal Relationships, 2) Racial Identity, and 3) Pathways to Freedom. These three themes will be developed as we analyze the following subjects: African American racial identity, the plight of the Black male, the Black family in its variety of constellations (single, two parent and grandparent led households), African American youth, and African American elderly. *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

THEOLOGY AND ETHICS

ET512 BIO-MEDICAL ETHICS AND COMMUNAL HEALTH

A multidisciplinary study of theological and ethical problems arising in the fields of medicine, public health, and hospital chaplaincy due to changing contexts of Covid-19, global and local health, science, technology, pluralism, and globalization. Issues explored include ethics of racial justice, vaccination, medical research, genetic manipulation, abortion, euthanasia, living wills, disabilities, healthcare policy and reimagining global health. It include case studies distinctively related to hospital chaplaincy, leadership, and health care systems in the field of bio-medical ethics and communal health. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

ET520 CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

This course examines methods for doing Christian Ethics and seeking social justice in changing communal and global contexts. It explores the ways that Christian ethical ideals, character, and moral decisions are shaped and formulated in response to normative sources and the changing environments of church and society. Topics include: placing Christian ethics in historical context; developing goals, laws and virtues; ethics and the use of scripture; liberation ethics; feminist ethics; communitarian ethics; economic inequity and globalization; bio-medical and sexual ethics; just war and peacemaking; ecological justice; mass incarceration and criminal justice reform; post-civil rights racism and non-violent resistance. The goals of the course include equipping students with a range of methods for doing Christian ethics and seeking justice, allowing students to practice applying methods of doing Christian ethics to issues that are relevant to the practice of ministry, and to enable students to clarify the core elements and methodology of their Christian ethic. *Prerequisites CH510, CH511. A required course in the M.Div. program.*

TH519 WOMANIST PRACTICAL THEOLOGY IN URBAN CONTEXTS

Being informed by the theologies, lived experiences and religious questions posed by those on the margins is critical for fostering inclusive, relevant and responsive 21st-century communities of faith, especially for those that exist in urbanized spaces. This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to engage and put into practice central aspects of Womanist theological thought, theory and praxis in the 20th and 21st centuries as one of the multiple streams of gender and race-cognizant theological articulation, scholarship, and praxis. We will use an interdisciplinary approach to examine the central concerns of womanist theologians, ethicists and theorists, including the “intersectionality” of race, gender, sexuality, and class; and the historicity and cultural specificity of the

subordination Black women face. Attention will also be given to how this interrogation then informs how Black women engage the church, family, community and the wider society, and in particular the complexity of dynamics that mark the realities Black women encounter in urbanized spaces. We will also examine the place for “other” Black women (immigrants, millennial, LGBTQIA, etc.) within womanist theology and how does this inform praxis in urban spaces. These concerns will be addressed by a critical reading of a wide range of texts and employ postmodern womanist reimagining as a tool for fostering female lives, families, and worshipping communities grounded in love, healing, liberation and just living. *No Prerequisites. Cross-registration as UM519) Elective*

TH520 FOUNDATIONS AND GLOBAL THEOLOGY I

An introduction to Systematic Theology which examines theological methodology, vocabulary, and the formation of doctrine, with special attention given to the development of theological understanding in relation to the church and its mission in the world. *Prerequisites CH510, CH511. A required course in the M.Div. and M.A.T.S. programs.*

TH521 FOUNDATIONS AND GLOBAL THEOLOGY II

A continuation of TH 520. An introduction to Systematic Theology which examines theological methodology, vocabulary, and the formation of doctrine, with special attention given to the development of theological understanding in relation to the church and its mission in the world. *Prerequisites CH510, CH511, TH520. A required course in the M.Div. and M.A.T.S. programs.*

TH522 THEOLOGY IN CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS

This course will help students develop both a familiarity with and facility for understanding the theological discourse represented by postmodern and contemporary theologies. It will also include a brief introduction of biblical and classical views in various theological themes. Special attention will be given to the complexities of theological themes and categories, (1) focusing on subject matters such as the Doctrine of God and the Trinity, Christology, Ecclesiology, and Christian Anthropology both from African-American and Reformed perspectives, and (2) extending them to diverse contemporary theological categories such as Evangelicalism, Liberalism, Post-liberalism, Radical Orthodoxy Theology, Theology as Drama, Narrative, and Action, Hermeneutical Theology, Ecological Theology, Liberation Theology, Feminist/Womanist Theology, Liturgical Theology, and Ecumenical Theology. Thus, the structure of each session is a combination of the two, for example, Creation and Ecological Theology, Christology and Liberation Theology, and Ecclesiology and Liturgical Theology. Examining how theological themes, classically inherited, have been developed in contemporary contexts, students will have an opportunity to both clarify their personal theological stance and come to better understand perspectives radically different from their own. No prerequisites. A required course in the MA PC&C program and an elective in all others.

TH567 STRICKEN BY GOD?

This course will investigate Christian perspectives on the mystery of Christ’s crucifixion, dealing with numerous biblical texts, diverse traditional thoughts from Irenaeus to Pannenberg, and constructive, critical, and creative contextual views from Liberation, Feminist, Ancestor, and non-violent Christologies. Some atonement thinkers have selectively theologized a certain biblical text, holding up their traditional concept of passive aspect of the cross such as punishment and sacrifice. Others have attempted to revise them, emphasizing active and constructive aspects of the cross as gift and peace. Still, others seriously doubt any possibility of atonement theology because they believe that it glorifies violence and abuse. The cross is becoming a stumbling block to them (1 Cor. 1:23). The course will include diverse atonement views based on texts, traditions, and contexts, suggesting “sharing, bearing, and drawing” dimensions of the cross, which will stimulate participants to have more mature and creative perspectives on the divine sacrifice of God in Christ on the cross. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

TH568 A CONVERSATION FOR NEIGHBORS: INTER-FAITH DIALOGUES

This course is designed around a series of inter-faith Conversations scheduled to take place throughout the semester between students and faculty at NBTS and leaders of different religious communities in the New Brunswick area. There will be a total of 8 or 9 Conversations founded on two primary strategies to nurture deeper and broader interaction between participants: 1) a visit to the places of worship/devotion of four or five traditions (e.g., Islam, Judaism, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Sikhism, etc.) where leaders of each tradition present a lecture, followed by extensive Q&A; 2) meetings centered on “scriptural reasoning” where participants commit to encounters with the holy scriptures of traditions other than their own.

The course asks students to engage directly with canonical primary texts as well as contemporary worship practices of each of the major world religions, to understand their social, religious, and philosophical foundations as well as their continuing relevance to people today. Ultimately, this class will challenge the student to think about issues in the relationship between church and society, Christianity and the global community, and what it means to participate in global Christian movement through inter-faith/religious dialogues in the 21st century. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

URBAN MINISTRY

UM510 INTRODUCTION TO URBAN MINISTRY

The urbanization of the world presents the church with the unprecedented opportunity and challenge to recognize and address a complexity of issues in urbanized settings that not only include great progress and change, extraordinary human diversity, creativity and innovation, but also centralized power; systematized racial, gender, economic and political injustice; disenfranchisement and disillusion, violence, and many forms of dysfunctionality, both personal and institutional. Students will examine various contexts and strategies for engaging in urban ministry in the 21st century. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

UM519 WOMANIST PRACTICAL THEOLOGY IN URBAN CONTEXTS

Being informed by the theologies, lived experiences and religious questions posed by those on the margins is critical for fostering inclusive, relevant and responsive 21st-century communities of faith, especially for those that exist in urbanized spaces. This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to engage and put into practice central aspects of Womanist theological thought, theory and praxis in the 20th and 21st centuries as one of the multiple streams of gender and race-cognizant theological articulation, scholarship, and praxis. We will use an interdisciplinary approach to examine the central concerns of womanist theologians, ethicists and theorists, including the “intersectionality” of race, gender, sexuality, and class; and the historicity and cultural specificity of the subordination Black women face. Attention will also be given to how this interrogation then informs how Black women engage the church, family, community and the wider society, and in particular the complexity of dynamics that mark the realities Black women encounter in urbanized spaces. We will also examine the place for “other” Black women (immigrants, millennial, LGBTQIA, etc.) within womanist theology and how does this inform praxis in urban spaces. These concerns will be addressed by a critical reading of a wide range of texts and employ postmodern womanist reimagining as a tool for fostering female lives, families, and worshipping communities grounded in love, healing, liberation and just living. *No Prerequisites. Cross-registration as TH519) Elective*

UM523 URBAN MINISTRY IN GLOBALIZED CONTEXTS

Cities are one of the defining features of humankind. They are the centers of global commerce, governance, information exchange, the arts, faith, opportunities, dreams and much, much more. However, cities are also where inequality and injustice are most visible, making them contested territories where different classes and interest groups jostle for space and influence. As the world becomes more urban, more than half of the world's population now lives in cities. Those who seek to do justice-informed urban ministry need to critically interrogate their local contexts with all its complexity in relation to diverse, globalized contexts. In the 21st century- the urban century, urbanized spaces will be defined increasingly not by New York, London, or Los Angeles, but rather by cities in the global South such as Mumbai, São Paulo, and Shanghai. The course will provide multidisciplinary perspectives on social, cultural, political, and religious life in urban contexts throughout the postcolonial world through attending to histories, cultures, and legacies of colonialism. Along the way, it will unpack dimensions and understandings of global urban ministry that are contextually relevant (from the neighborhood to the transnational), historically grounded, justice-oriented, culturally sensitive, pastoral in nature and prophetic in witness. Though focused primarily on cities in the global South, the class will also examine the global South within the "North." This course, a hybrid of on-campus, online, and field research, will address the above themes and will explore the resources and skills course participants will require to effectively lead congregations and social agencies in globalized urban arenas. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

TRAVEL SEMINARS

ML567 SAMUEL PROCTOR TRAVEL SEMINAR

This immersion travel seminar will help students explore and analyze the critical needs of human and social justice within local, national, and global communities. The background informing our interrogation will be the continued denigration and disenfranchisement of black and brown and poor people by the material and psychosocial dimensions of exploitation and oppression. Therefore, this course will not only focus on the material inequalities generated by structural injustice but also ascertain under what conditions healing is possible for marginalized communities. In particular, black churches will be engaged as sites wherein visions of justice, love, and healing can be envisioned and lived out. Students will attend conference workshops for all attendees as well as sessions specifically for seminarians, which will pay special attention to the relationship between structural quests for justice and communal quests for healing. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

TH595 SUMMER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY IN AMSTERDAM, the NETHERLANDS

Working in collaboration with the IRTI (International Reformed Theological Institute), and in cooperation with the Protestant Theological University and the Vrije Universiteit [VU], will explore these questions with lecturers of multiple nationalities. Set in the international city of Amsterdam, the school provides a unique opportunity for students to engage in conversation with leading scholars in the field as well as with students from other countries. The school will be at VU University, and students will stay in residence nearby. The schedule will include plenty of time to explore Amsterdam and vicinity with its varied cultural and historical opportunities. The Dutch transportation system opens all the Netherlands for exploration. All lectures are in English. *No Prerequisites. Elective*

TH605 PILGRIMAGE TO OMAN: AN EXPERIENCE OF INTERFAITH DIALOGUES

Christianity today is increasingly challenged by the need to understand what it means to be Christians in a global community, engaging with non-Christians as well as Christians of different beliefs, cultures, and needs. This class seeks to gain a better understanding of Islam as a religion, culture, and practice, as well as gain firsthand insight into its long history of cooperation and conflict with Christianity, along with visiting and learning other faith traditions in the non-Islam religions compound including Hinduism, Catholicism, Orthodox and Coptic Churches, through a guided immersion

experience led by the Al Amana Christian mission in Muscat, Oman.

The course will consist of three parts: 1) two (or more) class sessions before the trip to study the fundamentals of Islam from historical, religious, and political perspectives; 2) the 8-day pilgrimage itself; and 3) the post-trip class session to put the experience in perspective, together with submission of a written paper. *No Prerequisites.*

TH524 CHRISTIAN LIFE AND FAITH IN CUBA

Working in collaboration with the Centro Martin Luther King (in La Habana), the Seminario Evangelico de Teologia (in Matanzas) and the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba (IPRC), this travel seminar will interrogate some of the dynamics and questions accompanying Christianity and how it shapes the lives of believers in Cuba. How do we as seminar participants own and lay down the biases/prejudices embedded within us that are rooted in Americas historically contentious relationship with the island so that we can truly see how God has been and is at work in Cuba? What can we learn together (with our Cuban counterparts) about envisioning and living out the Christian visions of mutuality, justice, love and healing? The background informing our learning will include a critical analysis of Western European/US presence (colonial and contemporary) in the Caribbean and Latin America and Christianity's role within these historical and contemporary regional relations. Our exploration of Christianity and lived dimensions of faith in Cuba will also examine the political, social and religious considerations of the Cuban diaspora in the US and in New Jersey in particular. In this manner, this travel seminar seeks to root our learning from the island within our geographical context, thereby challenging us to reassess how we do ministry and live out this faith that we practice. Our ten-day schedule will also include time to explore Habana and its vicinity with its varied cultural, religious and historical expressions. *No Prerequisites. Elective.*

PROJECTS AND THESIS

*SEE ADVISOR AND COMPLETE THE PRELIMINARY PROJECT FORM BEFORE REGISTERING

MA691 M.DIV. HONORS THESIS PART 1: RESEARCH AND DESIGN

In the final year of study, an M.Div. student who has maintained a GPA of 3.0 or better through his or her first 64 credits of academic work may petition the Faculty through the Academic Affairs Committee to be allowed to write a six-credit Honors Thesis under the supervision of a member of the Faculty as a directed study. The study continues for the full academic year. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

MA692 M.DIV. HONORS THESIS PART II: THESIS COMPLETION

This class is a continuation of MA691. The study continues for the full academic year. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

MT691 THESIS: MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES PART 1: RESEARCH AND DESIGN

In the final year of study, the student can select to complete a thesis (MT591) for which six (6) academic credits will be awarded. This is a directed study course with an assigned faculty member in the field, which will culminate in a research project. The study continues for the full academic year. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

MT692 THESIS: MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES PART II: THESIS COMPLETION

This class is a continuation of MT691. The study continues for the full academic year. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

MT593 PROJECT: MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

In the final year of study, the student can select either to complete a project (MT592) three (3) credit as a directed study course with a faculty member in the field, which will culminate in a researched project for a church or community setting. The project is a semester-long term. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

PC691 THESIS: PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING PART 1: RESEARCH AND DESIGN

In the final year of study, the student can select to complete a thesis (PC591) for which six (6) academic credits will be awarded. This is a directed study course with a faculty member in the field, which will culminate in a research project in which the student studies some aspect of pastoral care, develops a project for providing pastoral care that grows out of the student's study and research, and then provides critical reflection on the outcome of the project. The study continues for the full academic year. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

PC692 THESIS PART 2: PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING PART II: THESIS COMPLETION

This class is a continuation of PC691. The study continues for the full academic year. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

PC693 PROJECT: PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

In the final year of study, the student can select to complete a three-credit directed study project (PC592) with a faculty member in the field, which will culminate in a research project in which the student studies some aspect of pastoral care, develops a project for providing pastoral care that grows out of the student's study and research, and then provides critical reflection on the outcome of the project. The project is a semester-long term. *Students must have the permission of their advisor or the Dean to enroll in this course.*

MS006: CONTINUATION OF THE MASTER'S THESIS

This is for students to register for a continuation of the master's thesis beyond the academic year. Students who do not complete the thesis must continue their thesis by registering for this course. Students who do not register for the continuation course will be considered an enrolled student. Students must be enrolled to use the library services and meet with their advisor.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

TRANSFORMATIONAL PREACHING COURSES

TP718 PREACHING THAT REACHES MILLENNIALS (Elective)

This course provides students with an opportunity to raise consciousness and to acquire perspective on the realities and perspectives of millennials, particularly within the context of Christian preaching. Through this course, students will gain insight into the economic, political, social, and religious context of Millennials, and students will develop interpretative, performance, and homiletical strategies for preaching for/with/about/to/as Millennials.

TP725 THE ENGAGED WORD: PREACHING AS CRITICAL INTERPRETATION

This course provides students with an opportunity to raise to consciousness and to acquire perspective on their interpretative strategies for preaching, including critical interpretation of community, culture, self, scriptures, congregation, God and occasion, and to develop their practice of interpretation in dialogue with recent critical thought and one another

TP726 POWER AND PRIVILEGE: THE THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE OF CHANGE

This is a required course in the Doctor of Ministry program. The course will provide students with theological and scientific tools to address the history of power, privilege, and colonialism. Particular attention will be given the manner in which theological and scientific knowledge has been used to both privilege and traumatize. In this course we will name the brokenness of the world and prepare ourselves to proclaim a Gospel of healing and reconciliation. Through readings and interactive assignments, students will engage in the practice of “unlearning” the cultural lessons grounded in a colonial and patriarchal narrative that promote systems of power, privilege and inequality. As pastors/ministry leaders in a politically charged world, students will also critically assess their assumptions of power and privilege and interrogate how these connect with racism and the social constructs of class and gender, within their lives, congregations and communities. Students will engage personal and social analysis of issues that limit the sharing of the Gospel message and the love of Christ in our churches and communities, and grapple with how to include and cultivate the voice/activism of those congregants who feel marginalized while creating space where the others become allies in the work of justice and transformation of all people.

TP728 THE EMBODIED WORD: PREACHING AS EMBODIED PERFORMANCE

This course provides students with an opportunity to raise consciousness in the performative dimensions of Christian preaching. Students will deeply engage their unique embodiment, the roles which they perform, and the physical dimensions of sermon preparation and delivery including but not limited to use of the voice, limbs, feet, diaphragm, and facial expression.

TP729 THEORIES AND PRACTICES FOR PLANNING AND LEADING CHANGE (Elective)

The core dimension of transformational preaching is promoting positive change over time, not only for individuals, but also for the contexts in which they are embedded (e.g., families, institutions, communities, and societies). In this course, we explore the work of major thinkers and leaders from the 20th and 21st centuries in an attempt to build a cohesive theoretical and practical foundation for understanding and fostering positive change in individuals, families, institutions, communities, and societies.

TP730 THE JUST WORD: PREACHING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

In this course students will assess and refine their preaching practice for theological and ecclesiological commitment to social justice. Readings and discussions will focus on best practices in congregational contexts and during times of public crisis.

TP734 THE EMPOWERED WORD: PREACHING AS SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

The mission of this course is to educate persons and strengthen communities for transformational, public ministries in church and society. To fulfill this mission through creative, contextual, and critical engagement with texts, traditions, and practices. New Brunswick Theological Seminary seeks, by our work and worship, to confess that God created all worlds, enters into covenant with Israel, through Jesus triumphs over sin and death, and through Word and Spirit is making all things new: equipping the church, forgiving sins and reconciling our divided humanity, liberating the oppressed, transforming persons, institutions, societies, restoring creation, establishing justice, righteousness, and peace upon the earth. Following this mandate, this course is designed to help doctoral students in the Transformative Preaching concentration wrestle with several central issues around prophetic empowered preaching which enables, renders, and motivates social transformation. Since the course is designed to be a seminar, students will be expected to wrestle with these issues not only in class but also through a sermon. By the end of the course, students should be able to develop their own vision for prophetic preaching in a way that integrates the above concerns by moving from a specific Biblical text to a sermon.

TP736 RESEARCH METHODS SEMINAR FOR HOMILETICS

This seminar introduces students to research methods in the discipline of homiletics. The student will be exposed to a broad range of research methods (i.e., quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods) but will be given extensive exposure to the qualitative method and its implications for the development and practice of homiletics. Also, the student will be provided instruction on transformational preaching and how it impacts practices within the church and broader social contexts. The seminar is intended to mentor students in the development of their final project proposal.

TP797 PROJECT PROPOSAL WORKSHOP

Two-day intensive. Prerequisite for TP 798 Doctoral Project Seminar

TP798 DOCTORAL PROJECT SEMINAR

Oral Project Proposal and Candidacy Review Examination and Project Implementation

TP799 DOCTORAL THESIS SEMINAR

Doctoral Thesis Writing and Oral Thesis Defense Examination

TP007 CONTINUATIONS OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

Students who do not complete the thesis in TP 797 and 798 must continue to enroll in this course until the thesis is complete and the committee has approved the Doctoral Thesis

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING COURSES

PC710 FOUNDATIONS IN PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

This seminar will provide a foundational framework for the practice of pastoral care and counseling designed to enhance the student's level of proficiency in the practice of short-term counseling. The emphasis is on the development of (a) therapeutic relationship, (b) theological understandings of pastoral care and counseling, (c) pastoral uses of psychotherapeutic theories and strategies for change, (d) the use of religious/spiritual resources, and (e) various forms of pastoral care and counseling geared towards enabling the student to engage in therapeutic counseling relationships. It will include a variety of ethical and professional issues that contemporary pastoral care specialists, chaplains, pastoral counselors, and congregational clergy, need to navigate if they are to effectively

serve others. It will consist of extensive independent coursework and online threaded discussions preceding and following the week of face to face on-campus intensive. The seminar will involve lecture, discussion, videos, role plays, individual and group presentations. A race, class, and gender analysis will be appropriated throughout the course.

PC711 RESEARCH METHODS IN PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

This seminar introduces students to research methods in the discipline of pastoral theology, care, and counseling. The student will be exposed to a broad range of research methods (i.e., quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods) but will be given extensive exposure to the qualitative method and its implications for the development and practice of pastoral theory. Also, the student will be provided instruction on pastoral theological methodology and how it impacts practices of care within the church and broader social contexts. The seminar is intended to mentor students in the development of their final project proposal.

PC712 DYNAMICS OF LOSS, GRIEF, AND TRAUMA (Elective)

This course explores the psychological, relational, and theological dynamics of loss, grief, and trauma. It will place these subjects in the larger theoretical contexts of attachment theory and trauma theory. It will give special attention to the growing incidence of trauma in modern life, and the corresponding body of literature that informs how one understands the dynamics of trauma. It will then explore the practical implications of this theory for pastors, chaplains, and counselors who are seeking to help people and families in pain. Attention will also be given to the theological understandings of loss, grief, and trauma in the context of clinical work.

PC715 THEORIES OF COUNSELING

This course will examine many major theories of personality and counseling, as background theory and as having practical implications for one's work as pastoral caregivers and counselors. The primary theme of this comprehensive review is what constitutes change. How do people change? What blocks change? What facilitates change? What is the nature of change? Can people change, or do people simply learn to manage? This effort will result in each student building an integrated theory of pastoral counseling and theology of change. To understand how people heal, one must understand human development along with the many ways people cope. I hope that this course will excite you and develop a passion for continuous learning in the field of mental health. The course will consist of extensive readings and independent work along with online threaded discussions preceding and following the intensive face to face on-campus week.

PC716 PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING WITH COUPLES AND FAMILIES (Elective)

Through the readings and assignments of this course, students will begin to form a better understanding of the underlying psychological factors that are at work in human relationships. The course will finally seek to introduce students to the theories and applications of a variety of clinical approaches to solving issues that are problems between couples and within families. Once terms and theories have been introduced, students will be encouraged to select an approach that best fits their bent, and then work toward perfecting their understanding and skill in at least that one approach. Finally, care will be taken to assist students in developing their interventional plans for using this information within a pastoral counseling context so that they do not attempt to practice outside of their competency.

PC717 ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS IN CLINICAL THEOLOGY

This course will review the major issues and approaches to the assessment and diagnosis of psychological and relational problems from a pastoral perspective. It will look in detail at the prevailing diagnostic scheme based on the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders,

5th Edition (DSM-V). It will attempt to reflect on various diagnoses from theological perspectives and suggest ways that the DSM-V system could be augmented by a spiritual axis. It will look at several of the more common assessment tools used by pastoral counselors today and give students opportunities to become thoroughly acquainted with at least one tool. It will also delve into how to understand some of the more common psychological problems—depression, anxiety, obsessions, and impulse control problems—from both psychological and theological perspectives. This course will teach students how to think theologically about psychological issues.

PC720 PASTORAL CARE INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR

We believe that pastoral care knowledge and skills apply to all of life and living. Pastoral care is a discipline that addresses the dimension of human spirituality. The breadth of spirituality affects all dimensions of life at the deepest level of purpose and meaning - attitudes, values, practices, motivations, influencing how we think and behave, helping us find a true and useful place in our community, culture, and world. As such, all themes in this syllabus are an exploration of spirituality in each area of interest to help us grow personally and professionally in service to our respective caring communities and agencies.

PC726 POWER AND PRIVILEGE: THE THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE OF CHANGE

This is a required course in the Doctor of Ministry program. The course will provide students with theological and scientific tools to address the history of power, privilege, and colonialism. Particular attention will be given the manner in which theological and scientific knowledge has been used to both privilege and traumatize. In this course we will name the brokenness of the world and prepare ourselves to proclaim a Gospel of healing and reconciliation. Through readings and interactive assignments, students will engage in the practice of “unlearning” the cultural lessons grounded in a colonial and patriarchal narrative that promote systems of power, privilege and inequality. As pastors/ministry leaders in a politically charged world, students will also critically assess their assumptions of power and privilege and interrogate how these connect with racism and the social constructs of class and gender, within their lives, congregations and communities. Students will engage personal and social analysis of issues that limit the sharing of the Gospel message and the love of Christ in our churches and communities, and grapple with how to include and cultivate the voice/activism of those congregants who feel marginalized while creating space where the others become allies in the work of justice and transformation of all people.

PC797 PROJECT PROPOSAL WORKSHOP

Two-day intensive. Prerequisite for PC 798 Doctoral Project Seminar

PC798 DOCTORAL PROJECT SEMINAR

Oral Project Proposal and Candidacy Review Examination and Project Implementation

PC799 DOCTORAL THESIS SEMINAR

Doctoral Thesis Writing and Oral Thesis Defense Examination

PC007 CONTINUATIONS OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

Students who do not complete the thesis in PC797 and 798 must continue to enroll in this course until the thesis is complete and the committee has approved the Doctoral Thesis

PROPHETIC URBAN MINISTRY COURSES

UM770 FRAMING A THEOLOGY OF PROPHETIC URBAN MINISTRY AND YOUR PROJECT IDEA

The call of God's prophets was to initiate a necessary critique of Empire (i.e. those in power) to attend to the rebuilding of lives and the restoration of cities. Their prophetic critique and clarion call to care for the widows, orphans, and oppressed disenfranchised was inspired by their desire to correct the oppressive state of affairs of their day and bring these into alignment with the structure of the covenant in the Torah, and what they saw as God's alternatively organized new world order where 'swords would become plowshares and spears pruning hooks' and where 'nations would no longer fight against nations or practice war anymore (paraphrased of Isaiah 2:4 and Micah 4:3). Jesus would also speak against empirical oppression as he proclaimed God's new order and the advent of the Kingdom of God to a number of biblical cities – a kingdom that suggests urban renewal as it speaks of a just world and a reversal of hierarchical order for the poor, disenfranchised and dispossessed. The growing urbanization of our world and the urban realities of today presents the church with the unprecedented opportunity and challenge to recognize and address a complexity of issues in urbanized settings that not only include great progress and change, as evidenced in extraordinary human diversity, creativity and innovation, but also the growing, centralized power of Empire bolstered by institutional racism; systematized gender, economic and political disenfranchisement; and widespread dysfunctionality, violence and disillusion. Through interdisciplinary reading and critical reflection, along with on-the-street engagement of contemporary events, students will begin to lay the foundation for an integral, liberating, and transformative theology of prophetic urban ministry. An examination of 21st-century urban contexts and ministry strategies employed in these contexts will also be explored, particularly in light of the biblical injunction to "seek the welfare of the city."

UM771 BIBLICAL REFLECTIONS ON CITIES: FROM ANCIENT ISRAEL TO THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH

The phenomenon of urbanization is typically characterized by changes that transform sparsely populated agricultural spaces (i.e., rural spaces) to densely populated settlements (i.e., urban or city spaces). This course explores urbanization as it appears in biblical antiquity, most notably its earliest appearance in ancient Israel through the first-century church. Participants will examine various cities in the territories incorporating the land of Canaan, Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome. A comparative analysis of the social and religious practices attending ancient populations will include, but is not limited to, understanding the significance of geo-proximity in the formation of ethnic and religious identity as well as how the cultural productions that emerge in the form of walls, symbols, monuments, etc. are markers of inclusion and exclusion in shaping an ancient urban landscape. The influence of imperial conquest on the formation of biblical cities as it relates to ideology, economics, and social practice will also be explored together with the ways empire (i.e., colonization) continues to shape contemporary processes of urbanization. Finally, students will be expected to develop a well-grounded theology of the city for the urban church specifically informed by the above inspections.

UM777 SEMINAR OF RESEARCH METHODS AND PROJECT PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

The increasing urbanization of our world and the realities that continue to mark urban spaces (emerging and historical) creates various opportunities and challenges for the 21st-century church. For the 21st century church there is the need to address and recognize the complexity of issues embedded within and on display in the urban space (local, national, and global) that in their telos can lead to both great change and progress – evidence in the valuing and celebration of ethnocultural diversity, growth of innovation, fostering advocacy and the fight for justice across generations – and the re-entrenchment of the "status quo" where the perpetuation of structural racism, systematic gender biases, economic and political disenfranchisement; widespread dysfunctionality, violence, and disillusion are herald as the building blocks of the great society. It is within these contexts you will

research your Doctor of Ministry projects. This research seminar is a practical guide to preparing the Doctor of Ministry project proposal utilizing qualitative methodologies. It will examine such topics as developing research question(s), collecting data, interpreting data, the ethics of research, constructing a research design, conducting a literature search, formulating a plan for project completion, and more. This course is designed to give students a framework for the development and organization of their research project.

UM778 URBAN LAND USE: LAND USE, POLICY PLANNING, COOPERATIVE URBAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY (Elective)

This course introduces students to urban ministries and urban problems of a particular sort: those associated with uses (and abuses) of land use and the rights of real property. Engaging in such ministries well requires understanding the tools used for regulating land use, chiefly zoning along with environmental and financial regulations. Understanding their intended purposes and legal underpinnings will sharpen our ability to employ these tools for the benefits of our communities (and perhaps counter their use when these tools are aimed at our communities).

UM779 MEDIA TRAINING FOR THE URBAN PASTOR (Elective)

This course will move from the practical to the theoretical, inviting students to learn about various online platforms, analyze the ways they are used in ministry, develop a philosophy of digital media for ministry, and develop a digital media project for ministry. The first five weeks will focus more on the practical tips for using the various platforms and analysis of ways the platforms are used for ministry. The last five weeks will focus more on the theoretical, exploring the theological implications of these digital platforms and developing a digital media project. This course will require that you have and use Facebook, Twitter, Instagram. You will also be engaging video content on YouTube and podcasts from any podcast app (Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Overcast, etc.)

The first half of the course will focus on the practical. Each week introduces a different platform with a video lecture, reading material, and a discussion board. The goal of each week is that everyone understands the basics of the platforms and can use them. In the fifth week, students will turn in a paper that analyzes one platform and various ways they see it being used for ministry. The second half of the course will move towards the theoretical/theological. Each week explores a philosophical approach and theological implications for each platform with video/written material and a discussion board. Students will also share a weekly update on their project. In the last week, students will “turn in” their project, sharing a link to engage in online, and submit a 6-9-page written summary explaining their project. Students will watch/engage with all the projects and offer feedback on each one.

UM780 ISSUES OF PASTORAL CARE AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN URBAN MINISTRY

This course will explore the building blocks for Christ-like leadership in contemporary urban settings. Cities have unique confluences of cultural issues, gender issues, moral issues, pluralism, and more. The success and significance of prophetic ministry is inextricably tied to the personhood and professionalism of the prophet. Therefore, the pastor/leader must maintain a strong connection to Christ and as well as a consistent self-care routine. Students will be challenged to examine their leadership styles, personal/professional ethics, interpersonal relationships, and practices for preserving their well-being.

UM781 IMMIGRATION, MIGRATION, AND THE CULTURAL DIMENSIONS OF URBAN MINISTRY

(Im)migration has been and remains an important force in the transformation of the United States. It re-shapes cities, suburbs and rural areas; alters racial and ethnic dynamics; and influences families, education, culture, labor markets, and politics. Congregations are a site where immigration and migration intersect. This intersection often changes the composition of the congregation as well as the congregation’s mission. In this course, we will consider the transformative forces of

immigration and migration from two perspectives – the Great Migration of African Americans and the contemporary immigration of African immigrants. What is the cultural and religious legacy of African American migration, both within the African American community and America more broadly? What role do gender, class, culture, religion, and special dynamics play in these migrations, and what clues does this offer about how African Americans experienced migration in a multiplicity of ways? How did urbanized spaces in the North and South change as a result of this migration? In considering the contemporary immigration of Africans, the following questions will be interrogated: What are some of the factors shaping the contemporary migration of Africans, including immigration policy, politics, etc.? How are immigrants being integrated into their new home, and changing notions of membership in contemporary nation-states? What role do faith and the church play in this process? In what ways are relations of kinship, family, and gender being reformulated in response to this transnational movement? What are some of the cultural dimensions that are being re/created, and challenged in this process of crossing borders? Approaching this topic of (Im)migration from these two perspectives, enables students to further interrogate the notions of in/voluntary migration, uncover similarities and differences as it relates to these two movements of peoples of African descent and explore possible areas of collaboration as both groups live out their faith and cultures in contemporary urbanized spaces in the US.

UM782 POWER AND PRIVILEGE: THE THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE OF CHANGE

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MISSIOLOGY AND GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY COURSES

COURSES TO BE ADDED LATER

