

ACADEMIC CATALOG

2022-2023

1/4/2023



UNITED
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
OF THE TWIN CITIES

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INTRODUCTION

This catalog includes the official academic calendar; course registration and tuition payment dates; the learning outcomes and requirements for the degrees, concentrations and certificates offered at United; descriptions of all courses offered by United; tuition and fees for the current year; and a list of all current faculty and staff. It is the student's responsibility to read and understand the contents of this catalog.

An updated version of this catalog is published once per year in July and posted on United's website at <https://unitedseminary.edu> as well as the Student Resources page of United's Canvas website at <https://unitedseminary.instructure.com/courses/35>. By default, students are subject to the degree and concentration program requirements of the catalog published in the academic year that they enroll in that program. Students may choose, however, to change their program requirements to the current year by contacting the Registrar.

For details on academic policies and procedures, see the *Student Handbook* located on United's website as well as the Student Resources page of United's Canvas website.

Some of the contents of this catalog may also appear on United's website or its Canvas website. In case of discrepancies, the most recently posted version of this catalog on the Canvas website takes precedence.

Accreditation

United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools.

The following degree programs are approved by both commissions: Master of Arts (MA), Master of Arts in Leadership (MAL), Master of Divinity (MDiv), Doctor of Ministry (DMin)

Contact information:

The Higher Learning Commission

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500

Chicago, IL 60604-1411

Phone: (800) 621-7440

Website: www.hlcommission.org/

The Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

10 Summit Park Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15275

Phone: (412) 788-6505

Website: www.ats.edu

State Registration

United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities is registered with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education pursuant to Minnesota Statutes sections 136A.61 to 136A.71. Registration is not an endorsement of the institution. Credits earned at the institution may not transfer to all other institutions.

Minnesota Office of Higher Education

1450 Energy Park Dr., Suite 350

St. Paul, MN 55108

www.ohe.state.mn.us

651-642-0567

United's Mission, Vision and Values

Our Mission

United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities prepares innovative and compassionate leaders for the equipping of churches, other faith communities, and society toward justice and peace.

Our Vision

United will be recognized as a progressive Christian seminary that engages its multifaith world respectfully to create a beloved community both within the seminary and beyond.

Our Values

United values:

Community

- **Building upon its heritage** as a seminary of the United Church of Christ
- **Ecumenical engagement** as an expression of the unity of the church
- **Interreligious engagement** that embraces religious diversity
- **Intercultural engagement** that appreciates a multiplicity of lived experiences

Commitment to Intersectional Justice

- **Racial justice** that dismantles every aspect of white supremacy
- **Sexual and gender justice** that affirms and values every person
- **Eco-justice** that cares deeply for all living beings and our planet
- **Economic justice** that builds sustainability and wholeness for all

Creativity and Curiosity

- **Rigorous academic studies** as an expression of the human spirit
- **Formative practices** that shape spiritual, ecclesial, and community leaders
- **Integration of arts and theology** that awakens imagination and intellect
- **Public witness** for the common good

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2022–2023

Dates are subject to change. See the next page for course registration and tuition payment dates.

Fall Term

September 5	Labor Day (seminary closed)
September 12	First Day of Fall Term
September 22	Fall Convocation
October 24–28	Symposium Week (no weekly classes)
November 24–25	Thanksgiving Holiday (seminary closed)
December 9	Last Day of Fall Term
December 23–26	Christmas Holiday (seminary closed)

Spring Term

January 2	New Year's Day observed (seminary closed)
January 9	First Day of Spring Term
January 16	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (seminary closed)
February 20–24	Reading Week (no weekly classes)
April 3–7	Holy Week Break (seminary closed)
April 14	Last Day of Spring Term
April 28	Spring Banquet
April 30	Commencement

Summer Term

May 15	First Day of Summer Term
May 29	Memorial Day (seminary closed)
June 19	Juneteenth (seminary closed)
June 26–30	Reading Week (no weekly classes)
July 4	Independence Day (seminary closed)
August 11	Last Day of Summer Term

COURSE REGISTRATION AND TUITION PAYMENT DATES 2022–2023

Dates are subject to change.

	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Summer 2023
First day of term	September 12	January 9	May 15
Last day to add courses	September 16	January 13	May 19
Last day to drop course with full tuition charge reduction	September 23	January 20	May 26
Last day to drop course without “W” on transcript	September 23	January 20	May 26
Last day to pay tuition without late fee charge*	September 27	January 27	May 27
Last day to drop course for 50% tuition charge reduction	September 30	January 27	June 2
First day of no tuition charge reduction for dropped course	October 1	January 28	June 3
Next term course registration opens	November 1	March 1	July 1
Last day to drop course without grade on transcript	November 11	March 10	July 14
Next term course registration closes	December 1	April 10	August 1
Last day of term	December 9	April 14	August 11
Final Grades available in USRP	January 2	May 8	September 5

* Financial Aid credit balance payments are typically processed the third week of classes.

MASTER'S DEGREE

Degrees Offered

Master of Arts (MA)

United's Master of Arts degree is designed for those who want to pursue theological and religious questions in a broad and systematic way, would like to add theological depth to their existing professional work, or wish to prepare for doctoral study in religion and theology. The Master of Arts is adaptable to a broad array of interests and purposes through its concentrations.

Core Degree Learning Outcomes

A graduate of United's MA degree program will be able to:

- critically interpret and reflect on Hebrew Bible texts, primarily from Genesis to Kings, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;
- apply to their academic study the critical interpretation of and reflection on New Testament texts, primarily from the Gospels OR the Epistles, Acts and Revelation, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;
- critically interpret, analyze and reflect on 1st–17th Century OR 18th–20th Century theological texts and perspectives in their historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
- apply to their vocational context an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on moral dilemmas from a variety of Christian OR interreligious ethical perspectives;
- critically analyze and reflect on the religious history and theological perspectives of populations traditionally marginalized by the dominant voices of their religious traditions (this outcome not addressed in the MA in Bahá'í Studies concentration);
- demonstrate a competent understanding of a selected topic within their chosen degree concentration through the effective critical interpretation, analysis and synthesis of appropriate sources; and
- demonstrate effective academic theological research and writing skills.

Degree Requirements

The MA requires 36 credit hours of study. The degree can be completed on a full- or part-time basis. The specific requirements are as follows:

- Completion of the ASDIC Study and Dialogue Workshop for new United students or an equivalent course within one year of enrollment in the MA degree program. See the Antiracism Training section of the *Student Handbook* for details.
- Satisfactory completion of the Required Courses for the concentration in which the student is enrolled. See the appropriate MA concentration Guide Sheet in the *Academic Catalog* for the list of Required Courses.
- Obtain recommendation by the faculty, which takes into account academic, personal and professional standing based on expectations in the *Student Handbook*.
- Completion of all degree requirements within five (5) years after matriculation.

Master of Arts in Leadership (MAL)

The MAL is designed for various lay roles in professional religious leadership or ordained roles where the MDiv is not an ordination requirement. The degree provides a broad foundation in theology, ethics and leadership, as well as focused study in areas specific to a chosen career path.

Students are prepared for one or more of the classic functions of leadership/ministry: e.g. leading social change, leading an organization and providing spiritual care. In the context of a changing society, MAL students gain the capacity to analyze new situations and respond as innovative leaders.

Core Degree Learning Outcomes

A graduate of United's MAL degree program will be able to:

1. critically interpret and reflect on Hebrew Bible texts, primarily from Genesis to Kings, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;
2. apply to their vocational context the critical interpretation of and reflection on New Testament texts, primarily from the Gospels OR the Epistles, Acts and Revelation, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;
3. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on 1st–17th Century OR 18th–20th Century theological texts and perspectives in their historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
4. apply to their vocational context an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on moral dilemmas from a variety of Christian OR interreligious ethical perspectives;
5. critically analyze and reflect on the religious history and theological perspectives of populations traditionally marginalized by the dominant voices of their religious traditions (this outcome not addressed in the MAL in Spiritual Direction concentration);
6. demonstrate understanding of each of the Formation Six Key Qualities and self-assess their capacity in each quality;
7. critically analyze and reflect on the global expressions of Christianity OR other religions in relation to their own faith tradition;
8. articulate an informed understanding of the historical OR contemporary use of the arts as a means of theological or religious expression and reflection;
9. develop a plan for a social change initiative that demonstrates the effective application of theoretical and practical tools for interpreting and leading social transformation within various organizational contexts;
10. add to the body of knowledge and practice in a chosen specialized vocational setting through the thoughtful synthesis of knowledge and skills in religious texts, theology, ethics, formation, contextualization, the arts, social transformation, and/or vocational practice; and
11. demonstrate effective academic theological research and writing skills.

Degree Requirements

The MAL requires 48 credit hours of study. The degree can be completed on a full- or part-time basis. The specific requirements are:

- Completion of the ASDIC Study and Dialogue Circles for new United students or an equivalent course within one year of enrollment in the MAL degree program. See the Antiracism Training section of the *Student Handbook* for details.
- Satisfactory completion of the Required Courses for the concentration in which the student is enrolled. See the appropriate MAL concentration Guide Sheet in the *Academic Catalog* for the list of Required Courses.
- Recommendation by the faculty, which takes into account academic, personal, and professional readiness for ministry based on expectations in the *Student Handbook*.
- Completion of all degree requirements within six (6) years after matriculation.

Master of Divinity (MDiv)

The MDiv is a graduate professional degree primarily for ordained and lay leaders planning to serve in a church, or in other forms of ministry such as chaplaincy or spiritual direction. The degree provides intellectual and analytical capacity, as well as practical skills to lead faith communities in a complex, pluralistic society. Faculty and staff work with each student and their denomination or tradition to provide the necessary courses to meet ordination or ministerial authorization requirements.

Students learn to draw on historic resources of the Christian faith and their own and others' experience of God for the classic functions of ministerial leadership: leading worship, preaching, giving care, educating and forming people in the faith, and leading a congregation or religious organization. Graduating with a MDiv opens the door to many traditional possibilities in church-related ministries, as well as other faith-based pursuits such as leadership in emerging communities, nonprofits or social justice organizations. At United, we have begun talking about our alumni as "spiritual entrepreneurs." As the

church changes and the nature of the spiritual life takes on new forms, so have our curriculum and the ministries of our graduates.

Core Degree Learning Outcomes

A graduate of United's MDiv degree program will be able to:

1. apply to their vocational context the critical interpretation of and reflection on religious texts from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives (see alternative outcomes for MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus);
2. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on theological texts and perspectives in their historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges (see alternative outcomes for MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus);
3. construct a theological perspective that is rooted in their particular context and faith tradition, is meaningfully engaged with other perspectives, and is creatively responsive to the contemporary situation (this outcome not addressed in the MDiv in Social Transformation and MDiv in UU Studies concentrations; see alternative outcomes for MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus);
4. apply to their vocational context an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on moral dilemmas from a variety of Christian OR interreligious ethical perspectives;
5. critically analyze and reflect on the religious history and theological perspectives of populations traditionally marginalized by the dominant voices of their religious traditions (see alternative outcome for MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus);
6. demonstrate understanding of each of the Formation Six Key Qualities; self-assess their capacity in each quality; and apply/integrate each quality, appropriate to their capacity, into their ministerial/vocational context;
7. articulate effective organizational planning and leadership practices in the oversight of congregations, non-profit organizations, institutional programs, or social change initiatives;
8. critically analyze and reflect on the global expressions of Christianity OR other religions in relation to their own faith tradition;
9. articulate an informed understanding of the historical OR contemporary use of the arts as a means of theological or religious expression and reflection;
10. develop a plan for a social change initiative that demonstrates the effective application of theoretical and practical tools for interpreting and leading social transformation within various organizational contexts (this outcome not addressed in the MDiv in Methodist Studies concentration);
11. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other ministry path;
12. demonstrate a broad capacity for effective ministerial leadership through the thoughtful integration of knowledge and skills in religious texts, theology, ethics, formation, contextualization, the arts, social transformation, and vocational practice; and
13. demonstrate effective academic theological research and writing skills.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Divinity requires 72 credit hours of study. The degree can be completed on a full- or part-time basis. All work must be completed within seven years. The specific requirements are as follows:

- Completion of the ASDIC Study and Dialogue Workshop for new United students or an equivalent course within one year of enrollment in the MDiv degree program. See the Antiracism Training section of the *Student Handbook* for details.
- Satisfactory completion of the Required Courses for the concentration in which the student is enrolled. See the appropriate MDiv concentration Guide Sheet in the *Academic Catalog* for the list of Required Courses.
- MDiv in Methodist Studies students must complete all required United courses on campus in order to be considered for UMC ordination.
- MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Studies—students must attain a passing grade for Fawakih Institute's Level 4 assessment for Arabic Proficiency and memorize 1 juz of Qur'an with

tajwid. The student will not be able to register for the final nine course credits of the MDiv program until they have met these requirements. Contact TISA for more information.

- Recommendation by the faculty, which takes into account academic, personal, and professional readiness for ministry based on expectations in the *Student Handbook*.
- Completion of all degree requirements within seven (7) years after matriculation.

Denominational judicatories may have additional requirements for ordination. Students should be in conversation with denominational representatives for candidacy procedures.

Certification by BCCI as a board certified chaplain also requires ordination, endorsement, or their equivalent by a recognized authority. See the relevant master's degree concentrations in the following section.

Master's Degree Concentrations

Degree concentrations make it possible for students to meet a variety of educational goals and interests, including personal or professional enrichment, preparation for religious leadership or doctoral studies, as well as special expertise in particular dimensions of ministry. Each concentration has specific learning outcomes in addition to the degree outcomes.

Bahá'í Studies (MA)

The purpose of this program is to develop students' skills in academic theological study with an emphasis on the interdisciplinary themes of the Bahá'í faith.

The following learning outcome replaces the Religious Texts core MA degree learning outcome:

- critically interpret and reflect on Hebrew Bible texts, primarily from Genesis to Kings, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives OR
apply to their academic study the critical interpretation of and reflection on New Testament texts, primarily from the Gospels OR the Epistles, Acts and Revelation, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;

The following learning outcome replaces the Theological Traditions core MA degree learning outcome:

- Effectively apply an informed understanding of epistemology, hermeneutics and context to the critical interpretation and analysis of given theological texts.

This concentration does not address the Marginalized Voices core MA degree learning outcome.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Arts degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MA in Bahá'í Studies program will be able to:

- Apply their knowledge of and interdisciplinary insights into the Bahá'í faith to the creation of statements of their individual reality as well as their participation in social discourse, community-building, and social action.

Bahá'í Pastoral Care (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to develop students' competency in interreligious and intercultural spiritual care in preparation for Bahá'í endorsement in pastoral care vocations including chaplaincy. Although completion of the MDiv only requires one unit of CPE, employment as a chaplain requires completion of three additional CPE units and endorsement by the Baha'i National Spiritual Assembly. BCCI certification, which is a common employment requirement, requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and an additional 2,000 hours of chaplaincy work experience after CPE.

The following learning outcomes replace the Religious Texts core MDiv degree learning outcome:

1. critically interpret and reflect on Hebrew Bible texts, primarily from Genesis to Kings, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives; and

2. apply to their academic study the critical interpretation of and reflection on New Testament texts, primarily from the Gospels OR the Epistles, Acts and Revelation, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives.

The following learning outcome replaces the Theological Traditions core MDiv degree learning outcome:

- Critically interpret, analyze and reflect on 1st–17th Century OR 18th–20th Century theological texts and perspectives in their historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Bahá'í Pastoral Care program will be able to:

1. apply their knowledge of and interdisciplinary insights into the Bahá'í faith to the creation of statements of their individual reality as well as their participation in social discourse, community-building, and social action;
2. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
3. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
4. articulate effective strategies for pastoral/spiritual care and counseling with a person or group of a given cultural identity that demonstrate an informed understanding of the student's own culture(s) and theology, as well as the behavioral and social sciences;
5. articulate effective strategies for providing spiritual care in a given interreligious setting; and
6. demonstrate skills and articulate strategies for providing effective spiritual care for those experiencing trauma in a variety of given situations.

Biblical Studies (MA, MDiv)

MA in Biblical Studies

The purpose of this degree program is to enable students to engage the historical and cultural contexts, overarching narratives, theological themes, and critical issues of the Bible.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Arts degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MA in Biblical Studies program will be able to:

1. apply to their academic study appropriate critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on Hebrew Bible, New Testament, and/or other religious texts from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;
2. apply knowledge of the meaning in the original language of selected Hebrew Bible OR New Testament texts to the critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on those texts;
3. demonstrate a competent understanding of a selected topic within the academic study of religious texts through the effective critical interpretation, analysis and synthesis of appropriate sources; and
4. demonstrate methodological and method based understandings of biblical studies on a selected topic.

MDiv in Biblical Studies

The purpose of this program is to provide students pursuing an MDiv the opportunity to engage in depth the historical and cultural contexts, overarching narratives, theological themes, and critical issues of the Bible, as well as attend to the ethical implications of biblical interpretation.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Biblical Studies program will be able to:

1. apply to their vocational context appropriate critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on Hebrew Bible, New Testament, and/or other religious texts from historical and contemporary perspectives;
2. apply knowledge of the meaning in the original language of selected Hebrew Bible OR New Testament texts to the critical interpretation of those texts;

3. construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum that arises from, and addresses the needs of specific populations/issues within ministry contexts and is based on solid theological and religious understanding;
4. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
5. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

Church Leadership (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students for pastoral ministry who are pursuing ordination by a denomination with rigorous church leadership curricular expectations, but which does not fall under any of the designated denominational concentrations.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Church Leadership program will be able to:

1. articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
2. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
3. effectively apply specialized practices of ministry to their ministerial or vocational context according to their religious tradition; and
4. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

Directed Study (MA)

The purpose of this program is to deepen a student's knowledge of an area of study that does not fall under the four other Master of Arts concentrations offered at United, in preparation for doctoral studies, teaching, or various specialized ministries. In addition to the core Master of Arts degree learning outcomes, the outcomes for the MA Directed Study program will be based on the elective courses that the student selects in consultation with their advisor.

Eco-Justice (MA)

The purpose of this program is to provide students focused academic training in theological and ethical disciplines with a focus on environmental ethics, ecological justice, and eco-theology.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Arts degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MA in Eco-Justice program will be able to:

1. accurately and clearly articulate core scientific, economic, and social understandings of ecology;
2. appropriately and respectfully apply knowledge of multiple religious, spiritual and ethical frameworks to situations of ecological justice;
3. effectively articulate a stance on a chosen ecological justice issue that demonstrates a clear understanding of the issue and draws from appropriate scientific and economic perspectives, and religious and/or ethical frameworks;
4. articulate a theological or religious perspective that describes the theological and spiritual basis of ecological justice, engages current scholarship in eco-theology and eco-spirituality, demonstrates an informed understanding of the science of ecology, and addresses climate change and other crises of the Anthropocene; and
5. articulate and analyze effective strategies to address a specific eco-justice issue that demonstrates an informed understanding of appropriate theory and practices.

Ethics and Justice (MA)

The purpose of this program is to provide students focused academic training in theological disciplines with a focus on theological and religious ethics.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Arts degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MA in Ethics and Justice program will be able to:

1. apply to their academic study an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on social issues from a variety of ethical perspectives; and
2. demonstrate a competent understanding of a selected topic within the academic study of ethics and justice through the effective critical interpretation, analysis and synthesis of appropriate sources.

Faith Formation (MAL)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students to lead congregations in developing and overseeing religious education programs, specialized ministry programs such as youth and/or children's ministries, adult or senior adult formation programs, or other community life programs, such as small group or outreach ministries.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Arts in Leadership degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MAL in Faith Formation program will be able to:

1. construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum that arises from, and addresses the needs of specific populations/issues within ministry contexts and is based on solid theological and religious understanding;
2. articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
3. effectively apply specialized practices of ministry to their ministerial or vocational context according to their religious tradition; and
4. integrate, synthesize, and apply material learned throughout their MAL program into a work that adds to the body of knowledge and practice in the area of faith formation.

General Studies (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students for pastoral ministry who are not pursuing a pre-defined ordination track or authorization by a denomination in United's constituency.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in General Studies program will be able to:

1. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
2. effectively apply specialized practices of ministry to their ministerial or vocational context according to their religious tradition; and
3. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

Humanist Studies (MAL, MDiv)

The purpose of the Humanist Studies concentration is to foster leadership that is ethically grounded, informed, skillful, globally responsible, personally sustainable, and committed to meeting the needs of the Humanist community.

This program is designed for students interested in becoming leaders who intend to work in humanist settings and/or interreligious settings that include Humanists. The concentration offers a nondogmatic and nondoctrinal approach to learning leadership within an interreligious and ecumenical seminary community.

Graduates of the MAL in Humanist Studies program can pursue careers in community, chapter-based, regional or national organizational leadership. Graduates of the MDiv program can pursue careers in congregational leadership, chaplaincy, and specialized leadership roles of spokesperson, educator, and advocate.

In addition to achieving the core master's degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the Humanist Studies program will be able to:

1. articulate the core values of Humanism and how these values have been expressed in multiple historical and cultural contexts;
2. articulate a personal Humanist philosophy that is informed by a critical interpretation and analysis of the perspectives of multiple Humanist philosophers;
3. articulate opportunities for practicing Humanist values in the world that incorporate their expressed personal beliefs derived from those values as well as critical reflection on their social position and past experiences; and
4. articulate strategies for effective organizational leadership in multiple Humanist-oriented non-profit contexts.

Interreligious Chaplaincy (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to promote interreligious and intercultural spiritual care competency for chaplaincy students. Although completion of the MDiv only requires one unit of CPE, employment as a chaplain requires completion of three additional CPE units and endorsement/support by a recognized faith group, which may require additional coursework. BCCI certification, which is a common employment requirement, requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and an additional 2,000 hours of chaplaincy work experience after CPE.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy program will be able to:

1. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
2. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
3. articulate effective strategies for pastoral/spiritual care and counseling with a person or group of a given cultural identity that demonstrate an informed understanding of the student's own culture(s) and theology, as well as the behavioral and social sciences;
4. articulate effective strategies for providing spiritual care in a given interreligious setting; and
5. demonstrate skills and articulate strategies for providing effective spiritual care for those experiencing trauma in a variety of given situations.

Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to promote interreligious and intercultural spiritual care competency for chaplaincy students with a focus on serving Muslims in interreligious contexts. Graduates of this program can pursue careers in chaplaincy in a variety of contexts as well as pastoral and spiritual care within religious and spiritual communities. This program is offered in partnership with The Islamic Seminary of America (TISA).

Although completion of the MDiv only requires one unit of CPE, employment as a chaplain requires completion of three additional CPE units and endorsement by a recognized religious authority. BCCI certification, which is a common employment requirement, requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and an additional 2,000 hours of chaplaincy work experience after CPE.

MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Studies—students must attain a passing grade for Fawakih Institute's Level 4 assessment for Arabic Proficiency and memorize 1 juz of Qur'an with tajwid. The student will not be able to register for the final nine course credits of the MDiv program until they have met these requirements. Contact TISA for more information.

The following learning outcomes replace the Religious Texts core MDiv degree learning outcome:

1. critically interpret and reflect on Hebrew Bible texts, primarily from Genesis to Kings, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;
2. apply to their academic study the critical interpretation of and reflection on New Testament texts, primarily from the Gospels OR the Epistles, Acts and Revelation, from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives;
3. demonstrate an informed understanding of the fields of 'ulūm al-Qur'ān and 'ulūm al-Ḥadīth.

The following learning outcome replaces the Theological Perspectives and Constructive Theology core MDiv degree learning outcomes:

- demonstrate an informed understanding of the sīra, Islamic law and Usul al-Fiqh, Islamic spirituality and Aklaq, and the history of Islam in America.

The following learning outcome replaces the Marginalized Voices core MDiv degree learning outcome:

- articulate a constructive theological proposal that is conversant with core theological categories and addresses a social or political issue that relates to students' vocational context.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes not replaced by the above exceptions, a graduate of the MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus program will be able to:

1. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
2. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
3. articulate effective strategies for pastoral/spiritual care and counseling with a person or group of a given cultural identity that demonstrate an informed understanding of the student's own culture(s) and theology, as well as the behavioral and social sciences;
4. articulate effective strategies for providing spiritual care in a given interreligious setting; and
5. demonstrate skills and articulate strategies for providing effective spiritual care for those experiencing trauma in a variety of given situations.

Lutheran Studies (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students—in collaboration with their respective synodical Candidacy Committee—for pastoral ministry or other rostered leadership within the Lutheran Church. This particular program is designed around the ELCA requirements for seminary preparation and includes a “Lutheran year” or equivalent of coursework which can be taken at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.

Graduates of this program can pursue careers in ordained ministry as rostered leaders in the Lutheran Church (ELCA) including, but not limited to, roles as pastors in local congregations or as chaplains in hospital or other professional and ministerial settings.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Lutheran Studies program will be able to:

1. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
2. articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
3. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
4. demonstrate competence in Systematic Theology and Christian Ministry Praxis (see Luther Seminary).

Methodist Studies (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students to become ordained as Elder and Deacon in the United Methodist Church. This concentration will also help the students seek appointments in the local church and in the Conference without seeking the approval of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the United Methodist Church. Students can pursue other non-ordained ministry opportunities in UM related boards, agencies, seminaries, colleges, and universities.

MDiv in Methodist Studies students must complete all required United courses on campus in order to be considered for UMC ordination. United courses completed online—either via Zoom or asynchronously—are not recognized by the UMC for ordination purposes.

This concentration does not address the Social Change core MDiv degree learning outcome.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Methodist Studies program will be able to:

1. demonstrate understanding of the history of the Methodist movement;
2. demonstrate understanding of the theology of John Wesley based his writings and interpretations by Wesleyan theologians;
3. discern the significance of John Wesley's theology within the historical context of the eighteenth-century and within the history and present of the United Methodist Church;
4. reflect theologically on John Wesley's theology as a resource for justice and service to the world;
5. demonstrate understanding of the development of the Methodist tradition and the doctrines of The United Methodist Church;
6. demonstrate understanding of the doctrinal standards of The United Methodist Church as reflected in the Book of Discipline;
7. demonstrate understanding of the formation, function, polity and structure of The United Methodist Church;
8. effectively use the Book of Resolutions as a resource on important issues affecting both church and society;
9. apply the General Rules and Social Principles in addressing issues that confront the church and society today;
10. express a personal vision of evangelism that incorporates an understanding of the theological and biblical foundations of evangelism, contemporary approaches to evangelism, and the cross-cultural dimensions of evangelism;
11. develop and articulate their own theology of mission, demonstrating understanding of the theological basis of the Christian vocation, the historical purpose of the church in the world, and contemporary practices and models of mission (this outcome replaces the social transformation MDiv degree outcome);
12. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
13. analyze, construct, and lead the basic elements of Christian worship according to their denominational traditions and theological commitments;
14. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
15. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

Presbyterian Studies (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students—in collaboration with their respective Committees on Preparation for Ministry—for pastoral ministry and ordination as a Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Presbyterian Studies program will be able to:

1. articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
2. construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum that arises from, and addresses the needs of specific populations/issues within ministry contexts and is based on solid theological and religious understanding;
3. analyze, construct, and lead the basic elements of Christian worship according to their denominational traditions and theological commitments;
4. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
5. articulate their vocation as a presbyterian minister;
6. effectively use the Directory of Worship and the Book of Common Worship in the development of Reformed worship services;
7. incorporate each of the four parts of the Book of Order into the practice of Presbyterian ministry;
8. effectively moderate a meeting;

9. successfully complete the standard ordination exams in Church Polity and in Worship and Sacraments;
10. explain the historical development of the Reformed tradition, including the central theological ideas of John Calvin;
11. reflect theologically on what it means to be Reformed in the contemporary world;
12. explain the basic theological foci of the creeds and confessions found in the Book of Confessions;
13. apply knowledge of the meaning in the original language of selected Hebrew Bible and New Testament texts in the exegesis of those texts; and
14. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

Religion and Theology (MA, MDiv)

MA in Religion and Theology

The purpose of this program is to prepare students for doctoral work in religion and theology or to become religious/theological educators and thought leaders in a variety of contexts.

MDiv in Religion and Theology

The purpose of this program is to prepare students for doctoral work in religion and theology (particularly doctoral programs that require the MDiv) or to become pastors, ministers, or religious leaders whose ministerial focus is religious or theological education.

Learning Outcomes

In addition to achieving the core master's degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the Religion and Theology program will be able to:

1. construct a theory of religion and articulate the ways in which it shapes their religious and theological commitments, as well as their vocational practice or academic study;
2. apply an appropriate critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on religious and theological issues to their vocational context;
3. MA: construct a theological perspective that is rooted in their particular context and faith tradition, is meaningfully engaged with other perspectives, and is creatively responsive to the contemporary situation;
4. MA: demonstrate a competent understanding of a selected topic within the academic study of religion and theology through the effective critical interpretation, analysis and synthesis of appropriate sources;
5. MDiv: construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum that arises from, and addresses the needs of specific populations/issues within ministry contexts and is based on solid theological and religious understanding;
6. MDiv: craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
7. MDiv: achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

Social Transformation (MAL, MDiv)

MAL in Social Transformation

The purpose of this program is to equip students with the moral, ethical, strategic, organizational, cultural and practical skills to lead social transformation in a wide variety of contexts including non-profits, philanthropy, congregations, community organizing, public service, education, business, politics, social justice advocacy and other community contexts. The MAL ST equips students to think critically about our world and engage in constructive work toward a more just and equitable society. The program provides a broad foundation in theology, religious texts, ethics, and leadership as well as focused study in areas specific to a chosen career path.

MDiv in Social Transformation

The purpose of this program is to prepare students for the classic functions of ministerial leadership: leading worship, preaching, giving care, education and faith formation, and leading a congregation or religious organization, integrated with the strategic, organization and practical skills to lead and sustain social transformation work within their organizational context.

The MDiv ST equips students to think critically about socio-political dynamics and reflect constructively on the role of spiritual and theological traditions in movements for social justice. This professional, ministerial program combines the tools and methodologies of social change with practical and constructive theology to prepare innovative and effective leaders for an increasingly pluralistic and complex world.

Praxis Orientation

The Social Transformation concentration for the MAL and MDiv programs focuses on equipping leaders with the tools, competencies, frameworks and strategic thinking required for effective social transformation. This praxis focus is reflected in a number of the program elements:

Contextual Learning. Students are expected to spend 400 hours in an organization/community context(s) related to their Social Transformation Project. This may be any variation of paid or volunteer work, which holds social transformation potential. The context provides both a learning context and a community of accountability; the student, organization(s) and United Theological Seminary will enter into a covenant with specific learning goals and responsibilities. We assist students as needed to secure a contextual placement.

Practicum. While working on their project, each student will be part of a practicum, focusing on leadership development and reflection on the contextual learning experience, moving toward the successful completion of their Social Transformation Project.

Capstone Document. The Capstone Document is the culminating professional and academic component of the Social Transformation program. The Capstone Document demonstrates the learner's ability to integrate, synthesize, apply and evaluate the praxis of social transformation. The Capstone Document should add to the body of knowledge/body of practice of social transformation.

Learning Outcomes

The MDiv concentration does not address the Constructive Theology core MDiv degree learning outcome.

In addition to achieving the core master's degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the Social Transformation program will be able to:

1. articulate a moral-ethical praxis of social transformation situated within the justice imperatives of the student's faith tradition or community and in conversation with broader movements for justice (this outcome replaces the Constructive Theology MDiv degree outcome);
2. demonstrate cultural competence and strategic skills necessary for just and effective engagement in diverse social, cultural and political contexts;
3. understand and relate historical and contemporary knowledge of social transformation movements in a variety of cultural settings;
4. utilize a variety of tools and methodologies to critically analyze sociopolitical issues. (i.e. race, class, gender, sexuality, disability, nationality etc.);
5. identify appropriate strategic points of leverage for transformational change for a specific social issue that demonstrate a deep understanding of complex organization and social dynamics;
6. utilize appropriate core strategies for social change that reflect an understanding of those strategies including intended outcomes, strengths and weaknesses, and required competencies;
7. demonstrate transformational leadership through the intentional, real world application of hermeneutical and strategic frameworks for faithful public witness and action in the world;
8. document and reflect upon the completed project, including its impact on the community and contribution to the field of social transformation; and
9. MDiv: craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context.

Specialized Ministry (MAL)

The purpose of this program is to provide students with an applied ministry degree that is flexible enough such that the student can create a customized curriculum around their vocational goals. Their specialization would not already be represented by another United MAL concentration, such as Faith Formation, Theology and the Arts, or Social Transformation. In addition to the core Master of Arts in Leadership degree learning outcomes, the outcomes for the MAL in Specialized Ministry program will be based on the elective courses that the student selects in consultation with their advisor.

Spiritual Direction (MAL, MDiv)

United's Spiritual Direction programs prepare students to support others in their personal spiritual development. The programs are offered for both the MAL and MDiv degrees, depending upon the student's planned ministerial path.

MAL in Spiritual Direction

The purpose of this program is to prepare students with knowledge and skills required for effectively practicing spiritual direction in both one-on-one and group settings along with core theological and leadership training.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Arts in Leadership degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MAL in Spiritual Direction program will be able to:

1. engage in the ministry and practice of Christian spiritual direction; and
2. integrate, synthesize, and apply material learned throughout their MAL program into a work that adds to the body of knowledge and practice in the area of spiritual direction.

MDiv in Spiritual Direction

The purpose of this program is to prepare students with knowledge and skills required for effectively practicing spiritual direction in both one-on-one and group settings along with generalized training for congregational pastoral care.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in Spiritual Direction program will be able to:

1. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
2. engage in the ministry and practice of Christian spiritual direction.

Partnership with St. Catherine University (St. Kate's)

United has an agreement with St. Catherine University (St. Kate's) through Spring 2023 that allows United students to enroll in specific courses at St. Kate's that are required for completion of United's MAL and MDiv degrees in Spiritual Direction. Starting in Fall 2023, all of United's Spiritual Direction program courses will be offered only at United. Credits earned from St. Kate's Spiritual Direction courses will continue to be accepted towards completion of United's Spiritual Direction programs.

Theology and the Arts (MA, MDiv)

MA in Theology and the Arts

The purpose of this program is to prepare students to engage theological questions through the lens of the arts. This degree engages these questions in a broad and systematic way drawing on art history, aesthetics and practical arts. This program has an academic focus for exploring justice, spirituality, and the human condition through the lens of art and theology.

MDiv in Theology and the Arts

The purpose of this program is to prepare students for the classic functions of ministerial leadership including worship, preaching, pastoral care, education, outreach and faith formation. Drawing upon the arts as the primary lens, the program prepares a graduate to lead a congregation or religious organization

with practical skills that draw upon creativity and innovation to lead faith communities in a complex, pluralistic society.

Learning Outcomes

In addition to achieving the core master's degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the Theology and the Arts program will be able to:

1. apply the arts to their ministerial or vocational context in a way that demonstrates an informed understanding of the use of the arts as a means of theological or religious expression and reflection:
 - a. articulate an informed understanding of the historical use of the arts as a means of theological or religious expression and reflection;
 - b. articulate an informed understanding of the complex relationships among art, culture and religion;
 - c. analyze a contemporary artistic or cultural work for the ways it expresses spiritual and religious ideas;
 - d. express a studied theological or religious concept, question, or issue via an art form;
 - e. MA: demonstrate, within the scope of a particular arts-related religious or theological topic, question or issue, their capacity for analysis and evaluation of the topic in relation to diverse contexts, and for integration of diverse resources in the service of construction of a theology or worldview. OR
Work of Art Thesis: create a work of art that expresses a religious or theological concept, question or issue and demonstrates an advanced degree of technical skill, and reflect substantively on the work;
2. MDiv: craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
3. MDiv: articulate strategies for effective pastoral and spiritual care OR youth ministry, OR construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum OR worship service according to their religious tradition; and
4. MDiv: achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

UCC Studies (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students, in collaboration with their respective Committee on Ministry and local church, for pastoral ministry and ordination as an Authorized Minister in the United Church of Christ (UCC). The program has been designed in collaboration with the Minnesota Conference Committee on Ministry but should be generally applicable to other regional Committees on Ministry within the national UCC, though members in discernment should confirm with their respective authorizing bodies.

Note: Completion of the United UCC Studies MDiv does not in itself fulfill the requirements of ordination. Any additional requirements should be noted by the member in discernment in conversation with the Committee on Ministry and/or local ordaining church.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in UCC Studies program will be able to:

1. complete an Ordination Paper according to the UCC Manual of Ministry that demonstrates an informed critical reflection of the history, polity and ecclesiology of the United Church of Christ;
2. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
3. construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum that arises from, and addresses the needs of specific populations/issues within ministry contexts and is based on solid theological and religious understanding;
4. analyze, construct, and lead the basic elements of Christian worship according to their denominational traditions and theological commitments;
5. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and

6. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

UU Studies (MDiv)

The purpose of this program is to prepare students, in collaboration with their local congregation and the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC), for ministerial fellowship in the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and for ordained ministry in a Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregation.

Note: Completion of the UU Studies MDiv at United does not in itself fulfill the requirements of ordination or ministerial fellowship. Any additional requirements should be noted by the candidate in conversation with the Ministerial Fellowship Committee and the local ordaining congregation.

This concentration does not address the Constructive Theology core MDiv degree learning outcome.

In addition to achieving the core Master of Divinity degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the MDiv in UU Studies program will be able to:

1. articulate their own constructive theological position and interpret the theological context of their call to UU ministry or other vocation in a way that demonstrates a critical reflection of a number of Unitarian and Universalist theologies and the influences of other liberal traditions (this outcome replaces the constructive theology MDiv degree learning outcome);
2. effectively apply their knowledge of UU history, UUA polity structures, and the opportunities and challenges of Unitarian Universalism to the practice of UU ministry;
3. prepare rituals for life passages and creatively and effectively utilize multicultural, multigenerational, and multisensory approaches to worship and liturgy in one's religious context;
4. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
5. construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum appropriate to a UU audience that demonstrates understanding of religious education history and philosophy, human development, learning processes, and teaching strategies;
6. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
7. apply an appropriate critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on a selected topic in religion or theology to their vocational context.

UU Studies and Social Transformation (MDiv)

This concentration program is designed to prepare students both for ordained UU ministry and leadership in social transformation work. See the program descriptions for UU Studies and MDiv in Social Transformation for the purposes and learning outcomes of this program.

Required Courses

The required courses for each master's concentration are listed on the following pages.

MA in Bahá'í Studies

See the Master of Arts (MA) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	Choose one: RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels WI2002 Introduction to Bahá'í Scripture*
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation WI2003 Bahá'í Theology*
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics WI2006 Approaches to Non-Violent Social Change*
Core Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Academic Contextualization	5	WI2001 The Bahá'í Faith* WI2004 Bahá'í History, 1844–2021* WI2005 Baha'i Institutions, the Community, and the Individual* Two elective courses†
Academic Skills	1	MS3103 MA Thesis†
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* United courses offered online in affiliation with the Wilmette Institute

† The course requirements for this program may also be fulfilled by MS3106 MA Thesis (6 Credits) and only one elective, or a 0-credit Research Paper in lieu of the MA Thesis course and a third elective.

MA in Biblical Studies

See the Master of Arts (MA) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation One of two New Testament courses: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Core Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Academic Contextualization	5	RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation Second of two New Testament courses: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels One Hebrew or Greek language RT course One additional RT course One elective course*
Academic Skills	1	MS3103 MA Thesis*
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* The course requirements for this program may also be fulfilled by MS3106 MA Thesis (6 Credits) and no electives, or a 0-credit Research Paper in lieu of the MA Thesis course and a second elective.

MA Directed Study

See the Master of Arts (MA) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Core Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Academic Contextualization	5	Five elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Academic Skills	1	MS3103 MA Thesis*
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* The course requirements for this program may also be fulfilled by MS3106 MA Thesis (6 Credits) and only four electives, or a 0-credit Research Paper in lieu of the MA Thesis course and a sixth elective.

MA in Eco-Justice

See the Master of Arts (MA) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	Two RT courses, 1000- and/or 2000-level
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose One: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Core Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Academic Contextualization	5	TR2009 Eco-Theologies and Eco-Spiritualities EJ2002 Eco-Justice and Ethics EJ2003 Applied Issues in Eco-Justice Two elective courses*
Academic Skills	1	MS3103 MA Thesis*
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* The course requirements for this program may also be fulfilled by MS3106 MA Thesis (6 Credits) and only one elective, or a 0-credit Research Paper in lieu of the MA Thesis course and a third elective.

MA in Ethics and Justice

See the Master of Arts (MA) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Core Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Academic Contextualization	5	Two additional EJ courses Three elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Academic Skills	1	MS3103 MA Thesis*
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* The course requirements for this program may also be fulfilled by MS3106 MA Thesis (6 Credits) and only two electives, or a 0-credit Research Paper in lieu of the MA Thesis course and a fourth elective.

MA in Religion and Theology

See the Master of Arts (MA) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Core Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Academic Contextualization	5	TR2010 What is Religion? TR2100 Constructive Theology Three elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Academic Skills	1	MS3103 MA Thesis*
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* The course requirements for this program may also be fulfilled by MS3106 MA Thesis (6 Credits) and only two electives, or a 0-credit Research Paper in lieu of the MA Thesis course and a fourth elective.

MA in Theology and the Arts

See the Master of Arts (MA) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Core Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Academic Contextualization	5	AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar Two elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Academic Skills	1	MS3103 MA Thesis*
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* The course requirements for this program may also be fulfilled by MS3106 MA Thesis (6 Credits) and only one elective, or a 0-credit Research Paper in lieu of the MA Thesis course and a third elective.

MAL in Faith Formation

See the Master of Arts in Leadership (MAL) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Core Subtotal	10	30 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	6	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2001 Faith Formation Two additional PM courses FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship* MS3200 MAL Final Project
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	16	48 Credits

* CPE Internship or Ministry Practicum may be substituted upon advisor approval.

MAL in Humanist Studies

See the Master of Arts in Leadership (MAL) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	Two RT courses, 1000- and/or 2000-level
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation
Cultural Contextualization	1	CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Core Subtotal	10	30 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	6	AH1001 Humanist Worldviews: Then and Now* AH2001 Humanist Philosophy: A Journey Through All the Big Questions* AH2002 Humanist Aesthetics and Practices* AH2003 Humanist Leadership: How to Run Organizations* One United elective course MS3200 MAL Final Project
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	16	48 Credits

* United courses offered online in affiliation with the American Humanist Association Center for Education

MAL in Social Transformation

See the Master of Arts in Leadership (MAL) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	Two RT courses, 1000- and/or 2000-level
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Core Subtotal	10	30 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	6	ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement Choose one: 2000-level FL course ST2003 Social Enterprise One elective course FE3004 & FE3005 Social Transformation Practicum FE3006 Social Transformation Capstone
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	16	48 Credits

MAL in Specialized Ministry

See the Master of Arts in Leadership (MAL) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Core Subtotal	10	30 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	6	Two PM courses Two elective courses (as approved by advisor) Choose one: FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*† FE3003 & FE3030 Ministry Practicum MS3200 MAL Final Project
Concentration Subtotal	6	18 Credits
Degree Total	16	48 Credits

* Although not specifically required for degree completion, Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care must be completed to be eligible for CPE Internship registration.

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MAL in Spiritual Direction

See the Master of Arts in Leadership (MAL) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	2	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	2	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Core Subtotal	10	30 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	7	THEO6740 Introduction to Spiritual Direction* (2 credits) THEO6750 Foundational Issues in Spiritual Direction* (2 credits) THEO6820 The Art of Discernment* (2 credits) THEO6780 Spirituality and Life Stages* (2 credits) Choose one: THEO6440 History of Spirituality I* (4 credits) THEO6540 History of Spirituality II* (4 credits) THEO7764 Spiritual Direction Practicum* (4 credits) MS3200 MAL Final Project
Concentration Subtotal	7	19 Credits
Degree Total	17	49 Credits

* Courses offered through St. Catherine University (St. Kate's) through Spring 2023. Starting in Fall 2023, these courses will be offered only at United. Any of these courses completed at St. Kate's will continue to be accepted towards completion of United's MAL in Spiritual Direction.

MDiv in Bahá'í Pastoral Care

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements. See the MDiv in Bahá'í Pastoral Care concentration description for additional chaplaincy employment requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels WI2001 The Bahá'í Faith* WI2002 Introduction to Bahá'í Scripture*
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies WI2003 Bahá'í Theology* TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation One 2000-level FL course
Cultural Contextualization	1	CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	10	WI2004 Bahá'í History, 1844-2021* WI2005 Bahá'í Institutions, the Community, and the Individual* WI2006 Approaches to Non-Violent Social Change* PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care One elective course FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship†
Concentration Subtotal	10	30 Credits
Degree Total	26	78 Credits

* United courses offered online in affiliation with the Wilmette Institute

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in Biblical Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration*
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2001 Faith Formation One Hebrew or Greek language RT course Two additional RT courses Two elective courses† FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship‡
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Another 2000-level FL course or Social Enterprise may be substituted upon advisor approval

† The 3- or 6-credit MA Thesis course may be substituted for one or both electives.

‡ CPE Internship or Ministry Practicum may be substituted upon advisor approval.

MDiv in Church Leadership

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration*
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice Three additional PM courses† Two elective courses† FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship‡
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Another 2000-level FL course or Social Enterprise may be substituted upon advisor approval

† Consult church/denomination ordination recommendations and/or requirements for optimal course selections.

‡ CPE Internship or Ministry Practicum may be substituted upon advisor approval.

MDiv in General Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation Choose one: One 2000-level FL course ST2003 Social Enterprise
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice Three additional PM courses Three elective courses Choose one: FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*† FE3003 & FE3030 Ministry Practicum
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Although not specifically required for degree completion, Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care must be completed to be eligible for CPE Internship registration.

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in Humanist Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels Two additional RT electives
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies Choose one: ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies One additional TR course
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation AH2003 Humanist Leadership: How to Run Organizations*
Cultural Contextualization	1	CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice AH1001 Humanist Worldviews: Then and Now* AH2001 Humanist Philosophy: A Journey Through All the Big Questions* AH2002 Humanist Aesthetics and Practices* Two United elective courses Choose one: FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship† FE3003 & FE3030 Ministry Practicum
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* United courses offered online in affiliation with the American Humanist Association Center for Education

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements. See the MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy concentration description for additional chaplaincy employment requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation* Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, & Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels One additional RT course
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation Choose one: TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology One additional TR course
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation One 2000-level FL course
Cultural Contextualization	1	CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care Two elective courses FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship†
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students may petition the Registrar to substitute RT2101 for an RT course about another religious tradition.

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements. See the MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy—Islamic Focus concentration description for additional chaplaincy employment requirements. **Students in this program must attain a passing grade for Fawakih Institute’s Level 4 assessment for Arabic Proficiency and memorize 1 juz of Qur’an with tajwid. The student will not be able to register for the final nine course credits of the MDiv program until they have met these requirements. Contact TISA for more information.**

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, & Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels TISA-601 Advanced Qur’anic Studies* TISA-602 Advanced Hadith Studies*
Theological Tradition	4	TISA-615 Advanced Sirah* TISA-620 Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh* TISA-631 Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality* TISA-642 Islam in America*
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation One 2000-level FL course
Cultural Contextualization	1	CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care Two elective courses FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship (Islamic focus)†
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Online courses taken through The Islamic Seminary of America (TISA)

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in Lutheran Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies HT0801 Lutheran Confessional Writings* TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1001 Christian Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice WO0515 Public Worship* Congregational Internship* (6 Credits) FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship† Two Luther Seminary elective courses*
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Courses completed in affiliation status with Luther Seminary. Consult with Synod Candidacy Committee/Luther Seminary.

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in Methodist Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements. **All Required United courses must be taken on campus in order for a graduate of this degree program to be eligible for UMC ordination. United courses completed online—either via Zoom or asynchronously—are not recognized by UMC for ordination.**

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR2007 The Theology of Wesley TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1001 Christian Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	PM2009 Mission of the Church in the World
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills*	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2002 Worship of the Church PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2004 Evangelism in Cultural and Contemporary Contexts TR2003 United Methodist History and Polity TR2004 United Methodist History and Doctrine FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship†
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

Additional courses recommended by Denomination: PM2001 Faith Formation, ST1004 Social Enterprise

MDiv in Presbyterian Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR2008 Classics of Protestant Reformed Theology TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1001 Christian Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills*	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2001 Faith Formation PM2002 Worship of the Church RT2400 Biblical Hebrew RT2401 New Testament Greek TR2006 Presbyterian History, Worship and Polity FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship*
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Additional course recommended by the PC(USA): FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship. Some Presbyteries may require CPE for ordination.

MDiv in Religion and Theology

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation Choose one: 2000-level FL course ST2003 Social Enterprise
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2001 Faith Formation TR2010 What is Religion? Two additional TR courses Two elective courses* Choose one: FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship†‡ FE3003 & FE3030 Ministry Practicum
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* The 3- or 6- credit MA Thesis course may be substituted for one or both electives.

† Although not specifically required for degree completion, Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care must be completed to be eligible for CPE Internship registration.

‡ CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in Social Transformation

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation One 2000-level FL course
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement ST2003 Social Enterprise Three elective courses FE3004 & FE3005 Social Transformation Practicum FE3006 Social Transformation Capstone
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

MDiv in Spiritual Direction

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation One 2000-level FL course
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	9	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice Two United elective courses† THEO6740 Introduction to Spiritual Direction* (2 credits) THEO6750 Foundational Issues in Spiritual Direction* (2 credits) THEO6820 The Art of Discernment* (2 credits) THEO6780 Spirituality and Life Stages* (2 credits) Choose one: THEO6440 History of Spirituality I* (4 credits) THEO6540 History of Spirituality II* (4 credits) THEO7764 Spiritual Direction Practicum* (4 credits)
Concentration Subtotal	9	24/25 Credits
Degree Total	25	72/73 Credits

* Courses offered through St. Catherine University (St. Kate's) through Spring 2023. Starting in Fall 2023, these courses will be offered only at United. Any of these courses completed at St. Kate's will continue to be accepted towards completion of United's MDiv in Spiritual Direction.

† THEO 6992 Soul Care for Lay and Ordained Ministers* (2 credits) may substitute for one United elective.

MDiv in Theology and the Arts

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation Choose one: 2000-level FL course ST2003 Social Enterprise
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice One additional PM course Three elective courses Choose one: FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*† FE3003 & FE3030 Ministry Practicum
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Although not specifically required for degree completion, Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care must be completed to be eligible for CPE Internship registration.

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in UCC Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1001 Christian Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration
Cultural Contextualization	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2002 Worship of the Church PM2001 Faith Formation TR2005 UCC History, Theology and Polity One elective course FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in UU Studies

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements. **Eligibility for ordination by UUA requires completion of an internship and additional external courses, completed either during or after seminary.** UUA recommends enrollment in the Ministerial Formation Network (MFN).

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation* RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation* RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels*
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration
Cultural Contextualization	1	CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	8	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2010 Contextual UU Faith Formation PM2006 Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual: UU Theories & Praxis TR2001 UU History and Polity One additional RT or TR course One elective course FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship†
Concentration Subtotal	8	24 Credits
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students can petition the Registrar to substitute one Religious Texts course about another religious tradition.

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

MDiv in UU Studies and Social Transformation

See the Master of Divinity (MDiv) section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements. **Eligibility for ordination by UUA requires completion of an internship and additional external courses, completed either during or after seminary.** UUA recommends enrollment in the Ministerial Formation Network (MFN).

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Religious Texts	4	RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation Choose one: RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts and Revelation RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels Two additional RT courses, 1000- and/or 2000-level
Theological Tradition	4	TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation TR1002 History of Christian Theologies TR1003 History of Modern Theologies TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies
Ethics/Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	2	FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration
Cultural Contextualization	1	CC1002 World Religions
Arts and Theology	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Integration	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Core Subtotal	16	48 Credits
Vocational Contextualization & Skills	9	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2010 Contextual UU Faith Formation PM2006 Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual: UU Theories & Praxis TR2001 UU History and Polity ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship—Social Justice Focus* FE3006 Social Transformation Capstone
Concentration Subtotal	9	27 Credits
Degree Total	25	75 Credits

† CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the Student Handbook for details.

Dual Master's Degree Option

The dual degree option allows students to complete two master's degrees at United concurrently and apply required course credits from one degree towards the fulfillment of up to two-thirds of the required course credits of a second degree that has an equal or lesser number of required credits.

The dual degree option allows students who desire or need to take more credits than a degree requires for reasons such as academic interest, vocational preparedness, or to fulfill certification or ordination requirements to reuse course credits from their first degree towards the completion of a second degree. A common case in which the dual-degree option would be useful is the combination of an ordination-track MDiv (UCC, UU, UMC, etc.) and an MA, MAL, or additional MDiv in a focused area of study such as Interreligious Chaplaincy or Social Transformation.

To earn both degrees, the student must complete all required courses for the first degree, as well as all of the required courses for the second degree that do not overlap with the first degree, totaling at least 12 additional credits for the MA, 16 for the MAL, and 24 for the MDiv.

Required Courses for Selected Second Master's Degrees

Additional courses may be required if all second degree course requirements are not met by the first degree.

MA in Bahá'í Studies (21 credits)

WI2001 The Bahá'í Faith
WI2002 Introduction to Bahá'í Scripture
WI2003 Bahá'í Theology
WI2004 An Introduction to Bahá'í History
WI2005 Baha'i Institutions, the Community, and
the Individual
WI2006 Approaches to Non-Violent Social Change
MS3103 Master's Thesis

MA in Biblical Studies

RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2*
One Language elective
One Religious Text elective
MS3103 Master's Thesis

MA Directed Study†

Two electives as approved by advisor
MS3103 Master's Thesis + one addl. elective OR
MS3106 Master's Thesis

MA Directed Study—Interreligious Chaplaincy

PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral/Spiritual Care*
IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy
One IC elective as approved by advisor
MS3103 Master's Thesis

MA in Ethics and Justice

Two EJ electives
MS3103 Master's Thesis + one addl. elective OR
MS3106 Master's Thesis

MA in Religion and Theology

TR2010 What is Religion?
One elective as approved by advisor
MS3103 Master's Thesis + one addl. elective OR
MS3106 Master's Thesis

MA in Theology and the Arts

AT1001 History of Arts and Theology*
AT1002 Art, Religion, & Contemporary Culture*
AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar
MS3103 Master's Thesis

MAL in Faith Formation

PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual
Care*
PM2001 Faith Formation*
Two PM electives
FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship*
MS3200 MAL Final Project

MAL in Social Transformation

ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation*
ST2002 Social Analysis and Community
Engagement
ST2003 Social Enterprise
FE3004 & FE3005 Social Transformation
Practicum
FE3006 Social Transformation Capstone
MS3200 MAL Final Project

MAL Specialized Ministry†

Two PM electives

Two additional electives (as approved by advisor)

Choose one:

FE3001 & FE3010 Congregational Internship

FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship

FE3003 & FE3030 Ministry Practicum

MS3200 MAL Final Project

MAL in Spiritual Direction (19 credits)

THEO6740 Introduction to Spiritual Direction

THEO6750 Foundational Issues in Spiritual
Direction

THEO6820 The Art of Discernment

THEO6780 Spirituality and Life Stages

Choose one:

THEO6440 History of Spirituality I

THEO6540 History of Spirituality II

THEO7764 Spiritual Direction Practicum

MS3200 MAL Final Project

MDiv in Interreligious Chaplaincy

CC1002 World Religions*

EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics*

PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral/Spiritual Care*

PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice*

IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy

IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy

IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care

FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*

* If this course is already completed as a requirement for the other degree, substitute one additional elective as approved by the student's advisor.

† Students must consult with the Registrar or their faculty advisor to develop a custom MA Directed Study or MAL Specialized Ministry course plan.

MDiv in Social Transformation

PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice*

ST2002 Social Analysis and Community
Engagement

ST2003 Social Enterprise

Three electives

FE3003 & FE3030 Social Transformation
Practicum

FE3006 Social Transformation Capstone

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY (DMIN) DEGREE

The Doctor of Ministry at United is an advanced study in theology and the contextual practice of ministry in a multicultural, multi-religious global environment. The program is preparation to responsibly interpret theology and culture. The degree offers four concentration options from which to choose, each designed to prepare leaders for advanced ministry settings. The dissertation focuses on the selected concentration. All the coursework (32 credits) can be completed in 18 months (full time) or spread over two or three years. The dissertation takes two years.

Core Degree Learning Outcomes

A graduate of United's Doctor of Ministry degree program will be able to:

Formation

exhibit continued growth in spiritual, personal, and moral maturity necessary for deepening and reinvigorating their vocational calling and conduct in the practice of ministerial and community leadership;

Contextualization

identify, frame, and respond to crucial ministry and community issues through the competent engagement with diverse contexts, as defined by culture, religion, or global location;

Leadership Capacity

demonstrate an advanced competency in the praxis of ministerial and community leadership that combines critical and contextual understanding with reflective theological/religious practice; and

Integration

acquire new knowledge of the praxis of ministerial and community leadership through analytic and practical research that engages with various theological and other related disciplines and that demonstrates engagement of their cultural context with theological acumen and critical thinking.

Degree Requirements

- Completion of the ASDIC Study and Dialogue Workshop for new United students or an equivalent course within one year of enrollment in the DMin degree program. See the Antiracism Training section of the *Student Handbook* for details.
- Satisfactory completion of the Required Courses for the concentration in which the student is enrolled. See the appropriate DMin concentration section in the Academic Catalog for the list of Required Courses.
- Recommendation of the faculty, which takes into account academic, personal and professional standing based on expectations in the *Student Handbook*.
- Completion of all degree requirements within six (6) years after matriculation.

Concentrations

United's DMin degree offers four concentrations and a Directed Study option. The purpose, learning outcomes, and required courses for the Directed Study and each concentration are listed on the following pages.

DMin Directed Study

The purpose of this program is to provide working pastors and other vocational ministers who have already attained the MDiv (or equivalent) a guided, educational, and flexible learning experience. The directed study program offers students the opportunity to construct their own concentration curriculum, whether choosing among select DMin-level courses (Public Theology and Theology and the Arts), pursuing independent study courses in an area of their interest, and/or taking other masters United courses at an enhanced, 4-credit level.

In addition to achieving the core Doctor of Ministry degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the DMin Directed Study program will be able to:

- demonstrate competence in a specific area of theological study or form of ministry leadership, and develop methodological skills for applying that knowledge to the practice of ministry.

Required Courses

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
Contextualization	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Core Subtotal	2	8 credits
Leadership Capacity	5	Three DMin level courses (as approved by advisor) One DMin level independent study (as approved by advisor) DM5300 DMin Practicum
Integration	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Concentration Subtotal	7	28 credits
Degree Total	9	36 credits

DMin in Interreligious Chaplaincy

The purpose of this program is to provide working chaplains who have already attained the MDiv (or equivalent) a guided, educational, and professional cohort learning experience in which they acquire knowledge and skills necessary for them to be institutional leaders and thought leaders in a chaplaincy context.

In addition to achieving the core Doctor of Ministry degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the DMin in Interreligious Chaplaincy program will be able to:

1. articulate strategies for providing effective spiritual care in interreligious contexts;
2. articulate strategies for providing effective spiritual care in intercultural contexts; and
3. employ their personal principles and values in the resolution of ethical dilemmas in their chaplaincy context.

Required Courses

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
Contextualization	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Core Subtotal	2	8 credits
Leadership Capacity	5	IC5001 Advanced Topics in Interreligious Practice IC5002 Chaplains at Work: Exploring Systems, Values, and Ethics IC5004 Advanced Topics in Intercultural Practice One DMin level course or independent study (as approved by advisor) DM5300 DMin Practicum
Integration	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Concentration Subtotal	7	28 credits
Degree Total	9	36 credits

DMin in Public Theology

The purpose of this program is to provide working pastors and other vocational ministers who have already attained the MDiv (or equivalent) a guided, educational and flexible cohort experience in the area of public theology. The program offers students in-depth exposure to the academic and practical elements of theology as applied in the public sphere and provides students opportunity to craft their own research project (dissertation) in the area of public and applied theology, using their vocational ministry context as a base for that work.

In addition to achieving the core Doctor of Ministry degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the DMin in Public Theology program will be able to:

1. apply the field of public theology to their own ministerial or vocational context in a way that demonstrates a critical analysis of and reflection on the field and its various expressions as well as its relevance to the practice of ministry;
2. apply the theologies of liberation to their own ministerial or vocational context in a way that demonstrates a deep knowledge of the field and the contributions of its key figures as well as its relevance to the work of social transformation; and
3. complete a research investigation that makes a significant contribution to the effective application of public theology to the practice of ministry, chaplaincy, or other vocational leadership.

Required Courses

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
Contextualization	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Core Subtotal	2	8 credits
Leadership Capacity	5	TR5001 Public Theology TR5002 Theologies of Liberation Two DMin level courses or independent studies (as approved by advisor) DM5300 DMin Practicum
Integration	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Concentration Subtotal	7	28 credits
Degree Total	9	36 credits

DMin in Social Transformation

The purpose of this program is to provide working pastors and other vocational ministers who have already attained the MDiv (or equivalent) a guided, educational, and flexible cohort experience in justice and community transformation. Grounded in liberation theology and social analysis, the program focuses on the development and application of practical tools for lasting, effective social transformation. Students will craft their own project (dissertation) that addresses an area of needed social change, using their vocational ministry context as a base for that work.

In addition to achieving the core Doctor of Ministry degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the DMin in Social Transformation degree program will be able to:

1. formulate a moral-ethical praxis of social transformation situated within the justice imperatives of the student's faith tradition or community and in conversation with broader movements for justice;
2. construct a working theory of change and definition of social transformation;
3. demonstrate cultural competence and strategic skills necessary for just and effective engagement in diverse social, cultural and political contexts;
4. utilize a variety of tools and methodologies to critically analyze and positively impact sociopolitical issues. (i.e. race, class, gender, sexuality, disability, nationality etc.);
5. apply an understanding of historical and contemporary knowledge of social transformation movements to a variety of cultural settings;
6. identify strategic points of leverage for transformational change in a way that demonstrates a deep understanding of complex organization and social dynamics; and
7. demonstrate transformational leadership through the intentional, real world application of hermeneutical and strategic frameworks for faithful public witness and action in the world.

Required Courses

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
Contextualization	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Core Subtotal	2	8 credits
Leadership Capacity	5	ST5001 The Leader as Change Agent TR5002 Theologies of Liberation Two DMin level courses or independent studies (as approved by advisor) DM5300 DMin Practicum
Integration: Interdisciplinary Research	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Concentration Subtotal	7	28 credits
Degree Total	9	36 credits

DMin in Theology and the Arts

The purpose of this program is to provide working pastors and other vocational ministers who have already attained the MDiv (or equivalent) a guided, educational and flexible cohort experience at the intersection of theology and the arts. The program offers students in-depth exposure to the ways in which theology and ministry can be illuminated by the arts, and conversely the ways in which the practice of the arts can be illuminated by theology and religious understanding. It provides students the opportunity to craft their own research or “practices of ministry” project (dissertation) at the intersection of theology and the arts, using their vocational ministry context as a base for that work.

In addition to achieving the core Doctor of Ministry degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the DMin in Theology and the Arts program will be able to apply the arts to their ministerial or vocational context in a way that demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the ways that the arts inform one’s own theological and ecclesial tradition, spiritual formation, and vocation as a leader:

1. integrate personal and professional artistic practices into the creation of a new model for leadership in a congregational, chaplaincy, or other setting;
2. apply the academic understanding of the function of “images” and their relationship with beliefs to the analysis of an “image” in the student’s context; and
3. Dissertation: complete a research investigation that makes a significant contribution to the effective application of the arts to the practice of ministry, chaplaincy, or other vocational leadership. OR
Work of Art Dissertation: create a work of art that demonstrates an advanced degree of technical skill and reflect substantively on the work, conveying its contribution to ministry, chaplaincy, or other vocational leadership.

Required Courses

Learning Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
Contextualization	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Core Subtotal	2	8 credits
Leadership Capacity	5	AT5002 Images and Ideologies AT5001 The Arts for Leadership Two DMin level courses or independent studies (as approved by advisor) DM5300 DMin Practicum
Integration	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Concentration Subtotal	7	28 credits
Degree Total	9	36 credits

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Courses are numbered according to the following key:

- 1000 1st year master's core courses—all are pre-/co-requisites for higher-level courses
- 2000 2nd or 3rd year master's core courses
- 3000 Final year master's core courses
- 4000 Elective and special studies courses
- 5000 DMin core courses
- 6000 Continuation courses

American Humanist Association (AH)

The following courses are delivered in the distance format only using the AHA Center for Education's online learning platform.

AH1001 Humanist Worldviews: Then & Now

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

There is not one single "Humanism," but many. That is the fundamental assumption of this course, which seeks to explore a number of "Humanisms" which have arisen and flourished in different parts of the world and across time. Students new to Humanism will end the course with an appreciation of the core values of Humanism, and how they can be discovered and applied in different ways in different cultures. Students who already have a basic understanding of Humanism will deepen their appreciation of the worldview, learning how complex and variegated are the expressions of Humanism. The intent of the course is to broaden students' understanding of what "Humanism" can mean, by complexifying traditional Humanist narratives and presenting lesser-known ones.

AH2001 Humanist Philosophy: A Journey Through All the Big Questions

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: Humanist Worldviews: Then and Now

Planned offerings: TBD

If you are not religious, how do you answer the great questions of life? Who Am I? Why am I here? How do I know what is true? How should we treat each other? These are questions religions exist to answer - but if you are not religious, is there anything to say? Humanist philosophy can be understood as an attempt to provide nonreligious answers to these questions, answers which question traditional assumptions about God and the soul and embrace a secular, this-worldly view. In this course we will explore these existential and spiritual questions through a Humanist lens, clarifying the nature of Humanism by seeing how different Humanist philosophers respond. You will be invited to dialogue with their ideas, and in the process develop your own.

AH2002 Humanist Aesthetics & Practices

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: Humanist Worldviews: Then and Now

Planned offerings: TBD

This course will focus on axiology, how we 'do' Humanism, through an exploration of aesthetics and practices. Building on work from the Humanist Worldviews course, students will be invited to align Humanist values with action, making concrete articulated beliefs. This class will consider the variety of ways in which Humanist leadership takes shape from caretaking, social justice initiatives, group

management, ritual making, and spiritual practices. Students will also be introduced to methods of conflict transformation, spiritual assessments, and visioning. Course materials are drawn from a variety of secular and religious Humanist authors and communities. This class also will require students to reflect on their positionalities, through a process of reflection & self-inventories; determining the gifts their past experiences may bear for the Humanist movement and communities.

AH2003 Humanist Leadership: How to Run Organizations

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: Humanist Worldviews: Then and Now

Planned offerings: TBD

Humanist Leaders occupy an interesting cross-section of roles within the United States. They are a combination of nonprofit managers, community builders, and can be the equivalent of religious leaders for the non-theistic with many of the same roles as clergy. This course will explore the necessary skills to run a nonprofit organization, manage staff & volunteers, and how to continue developing as a professional leader throughout one's career. We will also learn about multiple paths to Humanist Leadership, both established and emerging.

Arts and Theology (AT)

AT1001 History of Arts and Theology

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course is a survey of Christian art from its precedents and genesis to today. Our approach to this material will be through the lens of the Second Commandment, which states that “you shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything...” Images seem to have been prohibited, but early Christians made images of God almost immediately. How do we reconcile this apparent contradiction? Our course will not only plot the various debates and creative solutions around this tension, but will also track the development of major iconographic themes in Christian art. The objective is to familiarize students with the art historical continuity and change of 2,000 years of the Christian movement, but even more so to train students to see theologically. That is, this course is especially concerned with Christianity as a visual and visionary religion in which believing is inextricably tied to seeing.

AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course will use contemporary art and popular culture as lenses through which to examine theology in the twenty-first century. Content producers across the world are drawing on religious and spiritual traditions to articulate their cultures, values, and visions through media such as comics, cartoons, movies, television shows, dance, music, paintings, graffiti and much more. What do these expressions tell us about contemporary religious life? About pressing spiritual questions in today's world? The class will consider both what cultural content communicates about spirituality and how it might impact us both personally and as religious leaders. Course materials are drawn from diverse communities and religions, with a focus on works created for the public. The class will also consider ways to use these materials with community groups and in church settings.

AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: TR1001, AT1001 or AT1002.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

In this experientially based course, students focus on their art forms and/or a particular art concern and its interpretation. Students will demonstrate ability through performing, exhibiting and/or interpreting the arts

through a project. Through course discussions and comments, students will develop and put into practice project plans. Examples might include the creation of an art exhibit, a recital performance of music or dance, a poetry reading, a presentation integrating the arts in worship or a series of lectures for a selected audience on the arts in the life of faith and worship. The practicum assumes class participation, reading, critical reflection, project design, practice and a performance/presentation as appropriate before a group at the seminary or other designated settings.

AT4001 Arts and Social Transformation

Previous Course Number: AT1003

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

The arts provide a way to understand questions related to the human condition. Artists frequently offer critique that can inform, educate and transform the conversation. In this course, we will study the role of the arts and artists to be prophetic agents of change and what that means for communities of faith. Guest teaching artists from multiple art forms will be part of this class.

AT4003 Sacred Space, Sacred Place

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course is a survey of sacred architecture, beginning with the first-century transition from the Jewish synagogue to the Christian house-church all the way to the modern mega-churches of America and will include case studies in Jewish, Islamic, and interfaith architecture. In addition to being a historical survey, this course also explores the large question: what makes a space sacred? By exploring this and related issues, we can constructively reflect upon our own expectations and experiences of religious architecture. The historical and theoretical components of this course combine to undergird practical applications, as students go out into the world better equipped to examine and form the sacred spaces of their own faith communities. Following a series of site visits, this course culminates in a collaborative group project, in which students design and build a model of an architectural space for a religious community, taking into consideration issues of physical location, spiritual tradition, symbolism, accessibility, and so on.

AT4004 The Art of Scripture

3 Credits.

Most classes in Religion include reading sacred texts and analyzing their contents. This course, however, focuses on the physical forms of the sacred text itself. What does Scripture look like? Feel like? Taste like? Who creates sacred books, who owns them, and who uses them? Our course, focusing on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, will explore the aesthetic and material aspects of sacred books (including, but not limited to, the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, and the Qur'an) and their associated artistic traditions. Through readings, participant observation, hands-on sessions with rare books, and artistic activities, this course offers a unique window into Scripture, and an opportunity for students to develop their own bookmaking skills.

AT5001 The Arts for Leadership (DMin)

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for master's students: TR1001, AT1001 or AT1002

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course draws upon artistic practices and research to expand an understanding of leadership in new and challenging times. Utilizing case studies, research, and one's own context, we explore how to apply artistic methods of thinking to leadership roles. Students integrate artistic practices - personally and professionally - to create new models for leadership in congregational, chaplaincy, and other settings.

AT5002 Images and Ideologies (DMin)

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for master's students: TR1001 and AT1001 or AT1002

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

Beginning with grounding texts in semiotics, viewer response, and ritual, this course in visual literacy will trace the historical development of religious symbols in visual art and architecture around the world. Students will gain a sophisticated understanding of the development of symbols over time, as well as their multivalent meanings in a given context. Final projects will give students an opportunity to integrate and apply the course material and methods to their respective faith, ministry, and/or work contexts. This course is available to masters students upon request.

Culture and Context (CC)

CC1001 Global Christianities

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course introduces students to how Christianity has changed and is expressed globally. Christianity is growing despite rumors of its decline—but it is growing in different ways and in different places. This growth is more pronounced in the Southern Hemisphere or the global South. But this is not the end of the story, for the Christianity of the global South has come to the global North through migration, and migrants and immigrants are redefining Christianity in the global North. All this will be studied in the course and assessed in relation to the life, mission, and history of the church.

CC1002 World Religions

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course provides a basic overview of major world religions. Specific focus will be given to religious traditions from within Southeast Asian Traditions (e.g. Hinduism and Buddhism), East Asian Traditions (e.g. Daoism), West Asian Traditions (e.g. Judaism and Islam), and Indigenous Traditions (e.g. Navajo/Diné). Students will examine three forms of religious expression in each tradition: theoretical, practical, and sociological. Special attention will be given to their central beliefs and teachings, their ritual and spiritual practices, and their social and political manifestations in the contemporary global context. As students learn about each religious tradition, students will also address a number of important issues in the academic study of religion and acquire several different skills for observing, appreciating, understanding, and engaging the world's religious traditions; students will also do that critical engagement with other religions in relation to their own faith tradition. Field research in the growing local multi-religious community will be included as well.

CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World (DMin)

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for master's students: TR1001; CC1001 or CC1002.

Planned offerings: annually

Encounters of people of various cultures and religious faiths have become more acute in our globalized and globalizing world. These encounters have triggered an array of responses and reactions, some wholesome and, at other times, destructive to our social life. We need to find wholesome and creative ways to dwell together if we are to thrive in our shared and highly interconnected world. This course explores ways of thinking, dwelling, and acting that promote life-giving ways of relating across religious differences. Adopting this posture, this course, moreover, provides an avenue for students to develop theologies of religions that are faithful to their traditions while hospitable of others and to learn relevant ways of being church and of doing ministry in a religiously diverse world.

Doctor of Ministry (DM)

DM4300 DMin Independent Study

Previous Course Number: DM6000

4 Credits.

This is a special studies DMin course in which a student or group pursues independent study (reading, other appropriate methods of investigation) on a topic or problem of interest to the student. See the *Student Handbook* for a full description of the requirements of this course. The student must complete a special studies registrar form, approved by the professor and Dean, prior to registering for this course.

DM4400 DMin Directed Study

Previous Course Number: DM9000

4 Credits.

This is a special studies DMin course in which a student or group asks a faculty member to plan and guide the student in the study of a particular area or topic of interest to the student. See the *Student Handbook* for a full description of the requirements of this course. The student must complete a special studies registrar form, approved by the professor and Dean, prior to registering for this course.

DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal

4 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually; not offered 2023–2024 academic year; offered each fall starting 2024–2025

Students will be introduced to common research methodologies suitable for the writing of a Doctor of Ministry dissertation. They will also be equipped to choose appropriate mixes of methodologies for their particular research interests and individual topics. This includes hands-on advice in the area of available research resources, as well as feedback on the dissertation structure and content proposed by each student. There will be an emphasis on helping the student move from a place of writing "about a topic" to the "proposal of topic for research.

DM5300 DMin Practicum

4 Credits.

Advisor approval required prior to registration.

Planned offerings: annually

This is the capstone course for Doctor of Ministry students in all concentrations (including directed study); it should be taken at or toward the end of coursework and prior to the beginning of dissertation. The practicum integrates students' Doctor of Ministry coursework into their ministry and/or vocational context. The practicum includes a project, related to the student's dissertation, that will be undertaken in one's ministry and vocational context. Students bring insights gained from their project into conversation with other students during the course of the term.

DM5400 DMin Dissertation

4 Credits.

Prerequisites: DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal; DM5300 Practicum; approval of proposal by dissertation advisor.

Planned offerings: annually

In this course, students begin work on their dissertation, write a focused thesis statement, collect research or other materials necessary for their projects, and engage with the instructor(s) and with other students in a cohort experience. Dissertation students are automatically registered for the Dissertation Continuation course each academic term subsequent to their registration for this course, including summer, until the completion and approval of their dissertation.

DM5401 DMin Dissertation Continuation

Previous Course Number: DM4201

0 Credits.

Prerequisite: DM5400 DMin Dissertation

In this course, students continue work on their dissertation started in the DMin Dissertation course. Dissertation students are automatically registered for this course each academic term subsequent to their registration for the DMin Dissertation course, including summer, until the completion and approval of their dissertation.

Ethics and Justice (EJ)

EJ1001 Christian Ethics

3 Credits.

Corequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: annually

This is an introduction to ethical theory and ethical reflection that includes a critical study of various approaches to Christian ethics as they are expressed in biblical, classical and contemporary sources. It includes systematic analysis of moral reasoning and Christian responsibility and explores some contemporary ethical issues.

EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics

3 Credits.

Corequisite: TR1001 except for Interreligious Chaplaincy (Islamic Studies) concentration.

Planned offerings: annually

This course introduces students to ethical traditions in world religions. The course will give primary attention to challenges and opportunities of comparative moral inquiry across the “major” world religions of Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism, but will also invite exploration of American Indian traditions, among others. Discussion of case studies and specific ethical topics (i.e. body, sex, truth and reconciliation, terror, and ecology) will direct the comparative study. The course is an opportunity to explore the diversity of approaches to religious ethics, to engage the practical significance of religious reflection on moral action, and to analyze one’s own moral experience.

EJ2002 Eco-Justice and Ethics

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: EJ1001 or EJ1002.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

Using scientific, social, economic, spiritual, and theological lenses, this course will examine the perilous state of the environment today and what we may do to ensure the sustainability of life on earth. We will explore the justice imperatives related to creation that arise from our religious traditions, drawing on multiple sources ranging from sacred texts to direct experiences of nature. We will then apply these within a variety of ethical frameworks from the monotheistic, karmic and earth-centered beliefs to topics such as love of neighbors, interdependence, and non-violence as they relate to earth and its inhabitants. We will then ask: to what are we called to do and be as a result of our inquiries?

EJ2003 Applied Issues in Eco-Justice

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: TR1001; EJ1001 or EJ1002.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

The course will articulate and analyze effective strategies to address eco-justice issues; specific attention will be given to one issue in particular and the ways that various approaches to that issue demonstrate an

informed understanding of appropriate theory and practices. The course will take into account data from the physical, life, and social sciences, and other areas of study at the intersection of theory and practice in ecological issues, such as economics, race and racism, and interreligious approaches to ecological care.

EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: EJ1001 or EJ1002.

Planned offerings: annually

Grounded in liberation theology and feminist theology, LGBTQ, queer, and trans theologies embrace sexual orientation and gender identity as key lenses through which to understand sacred texts, spirituality, and religious heritage. This course begins by tracing the origins of gay and lesbian theology and then examines how the conversation and scholarship expanded to include bisexual, queer, transgender, intersex, and non-binary voices from multiple religions. Topics will include the roles of apologetics, queer and trans hermeneutics, embodiment, and radical theology from multiple social locations including womanist, Black, mujerista and other liberation movements. The majority of readings will be from primary sources and the course will include conversations with theologians and religious leaders.

EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: EJ1001 or EJ1002.

Planned offerings: annually

The struggle for survival, political liberation, and human wholeness have been the central concerns for Black and Womanist theology since their inception as theological disciplines. Emerging from the contributions of the Black Church, Black Power, and the Black Arts movement, Black and Womanist theologies have developed a thread of constructive theology that integrates sacred and secular sources to address racism and white supremacy, sexism and heterosexism, and exploitation based on class. In this course, we will engage the contextual origins and ancestral minds of Black and Womanist theology, understand the internal conversations, critiques, and developments, and follow contemporary growing edges of both disciplines and their overlap. In keeping with the integrative and creative nature of Black and Womanist theologies, this course will also engage key black thinkers adjacent to, but outside of Christian theological perspectives.

EJ4001 Sex and Religion in the Public Square

Previous Course Number: EJ2004

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: EJ1001 or EJ1002.

Planned offerings: TBD

Many of the most hotly contested topics in public policy and current debate occur at the intersections of sex, gender and religion. In this class, we will examine these controversial and often divisive issues and consider how to respond ethically, constructively, and faithfully to them. Subjects will include the debate between comprehensive and abstinence-only sex education, the use of religious liberty to deny goods and services to LGBTQ people, reproductive justice, abortion, HIV/AIDS, and sex work. This course will draw on a variety of disciplines, including theology, Biblical studies, ethics, education, pastoral ministry, economics, and LGBTQ studies. Diverse perspectives welcome and expected.

EJ4002 Comparative Religious Bioethics

Previous Course Number: EJ2001

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course is an introduction to Bioethics in World Religions through reading of some classic texts, examining ways of being moral and ethical and exploring the bioethics-related teachings in various

traditions. Selected world religious traditions and cultures include Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. The course begins with meeting ground of the six religions regarding the principle of vulnerability in bioethics, and then moves to each individual religion's moral values and principles relevant to medical practice and bioethics. The focus is on examination of various topics such as reproductive issues (contraception, artificial reproduction, abortion) and arguments on end-of-life decision-making (euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide) etc. With students being allowed to explore all ethical dimensions of the topics, the consideration extends to how major world religions respond to controversial issues such as cloning and stem cell research.

Field Experience (FE)

FE3001 Congregational Internship 1

FE3010 Congregational Internship 2

1.5 Credits each.

Prerequisites: PM1001, FL1001, TR1001; approval from the Dean of the Seminary prior to registration.

FE3001 is a prerequisite for FE3010.

Planned offerings: annually

The congregational internship consists of a 10–12 hour per week supervised ministry experience in a congregational setting over the course of at least two academic terms (at least 400 hours). Students will enter the internship with a completed Development Plan, allowing them to achieve the spiritual, personal and vocational goals needed to move into the next phase of professional ministry. Students will meet regularly with an action-learning team of other internship and practicum students and evaluation assignments will be included during and at the end of the experience. Arrangements for placements and selection of a mentor/supervisor are made in conjunction with the Dean of the Seminary. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

FE3002 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Internship 1

FE3020 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Internship 2

3 Credits/0 Credits.

Prerequisites: PM1001, FL1001, TR1001; approval from the Dean of the Seminary prior to registration.

FE3002 is a prerequisite for FE3020.

Planned offerings: annually

This ministry internship consists of a 400-hour supervised ministry experience, in a variety of settings (hospitals, long term care facilities, community service organizations, incarceration and reentry facilities, etc.) certified by the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education. CPE is an educational model based on repetitive action and reflection that provides the student with an opportunity to experience chaplaincy as a vocation and also clarify ministerial identity and gain ministerial agency. Arrangements for CPE placements and selection of a site are made in conjunction with the Dean of the Seminary. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade. Note: CPE Internship is not a classroom course. The student is responsible for securing a placement site before registering for the course. See the *Student Handbook* for details.

FE3003 Ministry Practicum 1

FE3030 Ministry Practicum 2

1.5 Credits each.

Prerequisites: PM1001, FL1001, TR1001; approval from the Dean of the Seminary prior to registration.

FE3003 is a prerequisite for FE3030.

Planned offerings: annually

The ministry practicum consists of a 400-hour supervised ministry experience. These internships may consist of ministry in a faith-based or secular setting. Students will enter the practicum with a completed

Development Plan, allowing them to achieve the spiritual, personal and vocational goals needed to move into the next phase of professional ministry. Students will meet regularly with an action-learning team of other internship and practicum students. Evaluation assignments will be included during and at the end of the experience. Students are required to determine the setting and activities of the practicum in conjunction with the Dean of the Seminary. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

FE3004 Social Transformation Practicum 1

FE3005 Social Transformation Practicum 2

Previous Course Titles: FE3004 Social Transformation Practicum 1, FE3006 Social Transformation Practicum 2

1.5 Credits each.

Prerequisites: Advisor approval prior to registration. FE3004 is a prerequisite for FE3005.

Planned offerings: annually; FE3004 summer, FE3005 fall

Students are expected to spend 400 hours in one or more organization/community context(s) related to their Social Transformation Project. While working on their project, students enroll in the two-term practicum, which focuses on leadership development and reflection on the contextual learning experience, moving toward the successful completion of their Social Transformation Project. Only open to students in the Social Transformation concentration.

FE3006 Social Transformation Capstone

*Previous Course Number and Title: FE3005 Social Transformation Project/Capstone
3 Credits.*

Advisor approval required prior to registration.

Planned offerings: annually spring

The Capstone Document of the Social Transformation Project is the central and culminating professional and academic component of the Social Transformation program. The Capstone Document demonstrates the learner's ability to integrate, synthesize, apply and evaluate the praxis of social transformation. The Capstone Document should add to the body of knowledge and practice of social transformation. Only open to students in the Social Transformation concentration.

FE6000 CPE Internship Continuation

0 Credits.

A student is automatically registered for this course each academic term that the student continues work completing their required CPE hours after the CPE Internship 2 course.

Formation and Leadership (FL)

FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course investigates the human person as a religious phenomenon and our process of becoming as a religious project. As such, students will interrogate their pre-understandings of the "self," its relation to "the sacred", and the diverse powers (bodily, psychological, social, and theological) that alternatively dignify and diminish us. Course readings represent a variety of religious, disciplinary, and social perspectives that illumine the multidimensional depths of personhood and offer resources for interpreting, evaluating, and shaping what it means to be human. Course assignments prompt students to articulate their emerging understanding of the self, the sacred, and the ambiguous powers pulsing between them for the sake of integrating these insights with their own spiritual and vocational self-understanding. Mindful that this course introduces students to theological study at United, special attention will be paid to the role of intellectual practices (reading, writing, conversation, contemplation) in the spiritual life. This, in turn, will

provide a foundation for students in their practical courses at United by facilitating deep reflection on their personhood in relation to the callings of spiritual leadership.

FL2001 Congregational Leadership and Administration

Previous Course Title: Organizational Leadership and Administration

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: FL1001

Planned offerings: annually

Congregations are religious organizations and nonprofits, legal entities built to achieve a community-based mission rooted in theological values. In this course, students learn what it takes to lead thriving, mission-driven organizations by exploring organizational leadership models, clarifying what leadership means, and learning about administrative functions like planning, accounting, HR, marketing, and fundraising. By the end of the course, students will create or evaluate congregational models, and practice building each administrative function in that creation or evaluation.

FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader (DMin)

4 Credits.

Prerequisite for master's students: FL1001

Planned offerings: annually

This course explores the dynamics of spirituality, personal formation, and emotional development as they apply to leadership in a wide variety of ministry contexts. Students will learn and engage, at a Doctoral level, a diversity of approaches to leadership formation, including both individual and communal aspects. Students will apply their learnings of formation and leadership theories and skills to standards of professional ethics and conduct as articulated in various ministry and institutional settings. Finally, students will explore areas of personal strengths and identify potential growth areas as they consider their present and future contributions as leaders within their vocations and ministry contexts.

FL5002 Narrative Leadership (DMin)

Previous Course Number: FL5001

4 Credits.

Prerequisite for master's students: FL1001

Planned offerings: TBD

This course invites participants to increase their awareness of their narrative identity, i.e., the internalized and changing story about who they were, are, and may become. Students will draw upon content from their own lived experience in order to author their own narratives. They will be encouraged to critically examine the points of resonance and dissonance between their own story and the story of their faith tradition(s), and creatively imagine how their story can serve as a resource for more authentic and effective ministerial or vocational leadership.

Interreligious Chaplaincy (IC)

IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy

Previous Course Title: Intercultural Chaplaincy

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: PM1001.

Planned offerings: annually

The term “culture” encompasses a wide array of personal identities and communal connections. Our cultures inform our worldview, including our religious and spiritual belief systems. Likewise, culture informs our particular approaches to chaplaincy and spiritual care. In culturally-diverse settings, it becomes critically important to reflect on our own practices and approaches to chaplaincy rooted in our

cultural identities as well as draw on alternative approaches rooted in the cultural identities of those whom we may provide care. Students in this class will be invited to examine their cultural identities and explore how such identities inform their chaplaincy practice, as well as explore various chaplaincy approaches rooted in other cultural identities so that they may efficiently practice cultural compassion within the field of chaplaincy.

IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy

Previous Course Title: Interreligious Chaplaincy

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: PM1001.

Planned offerings: annually

The institutions in which we practice chaplaincy are increasingly interreligious and multifaith. As chaplains, we maintain professional affiliation with our particular religious and spiritual affirming and endorsing bodies and these spiritual and religious affiliations often inform our practices and approaches to chaplaincy. Within diverse religious contexts, however, it is critical for chaplains to demonstrate a broad knowledge of and deep respect for approaches to spiritual care rooted in religious practices outside of one's own traditions. Care receivers and their families embody religious diversity that necessitates interreligious approaches to chaplaincy and spiritual care. Students in this class will be invited to examine their religious and spiritual beliefs and how such beliefs inform their chaplaincy practice as well as explore chaplaincy approaches rooted in religious and spiritual communities outside of their own so that they may provide appropriate spiritual care within religiously diverse contexts.

IC2003 Trauma, Suffering, and Care

Previous Course Number: IC4001

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: PM1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

In this introductory course we will examine the role that pastoral caregivers, faith communities and faith-based organizations can provide in the aftermath of traumatic experiences. We will explore relevant theories and theologies for understanding the spiritual, psychological and emotional impact, as well as coping responses, to interpersonal violence (sexual trauma, child abuse and domestic violence), spiritual, historical trauma, cultural trauma, and war trauma on individuals, families, cultures and communities. We will also focus on: the meaning and place of trauma-informed pastoral care and counseling, reflect on vicarious traumatization and self-care, and we will explore response models and collaborative efforts between mental-health professionals, faith-based and other community organizations.

IC4001 Womanist Spiritual Care Practices

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

In her 1983 definition, Alice Walker describes a womanist as one who is "committed to survival and wholeness of entire people." (Alice Walker, *In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens: Womanist Prose* (New York: Harcourt), 1983.) This course explores spiritual and pastoral care practices that contribute to such a womanist commitment. Womanism embodies the pursuit of flourishing and liberation by and amongst women of African descent and their circles, taking into account the intersections of classism, racism, sexism, and heterosexism rampant in their lives. Through engaging Black fiction (such as *The Hate U Give* and *Parable of the Sower*), storytelling, community engagement, and pastoral theological reflection, students will locate and develop proficiency in care methods rooted in African American women's spirituality that both honor resiliency and support thriving in society. Awareness of such care practices enhances students' abilities to provide culturally relevant and culturally respectful spiritual care for African American women and all those entangled within webs of injustice and oppression.

IC4002 Buddhist Pastoral and Spiritual Care

Previous Course Number: IC2003

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: PM1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

The purpose of this course is to prepare Interreligious Chaplaincy students to attend to the spiritual, pastoral, and religious needs of Buddhist practitioners. In this course, students will be introduced to the scriptural foundations of Theravada, Insight, Mahayana, Tibetan, Zen, and Nichiren Buddhist philosophy, religious, and ethical thought. Students will also be expected to participate in Buddhist practices in meditation, ritual making, and chanting. The prerequisite for this course is Introduction to Interreligious Spiritual Care.

IC4003 Muslim Pastoral and Spiritual Care

Previous Course Number: IC2004

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: PM1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

The purpose of this course is to prepare Interreligious Chaplaincy students to attend to the spiritual, pastoral, and religious needs of Muslims. In this course, students will be introduced to topics such as Muslim prayer and devotional practices; calendar and holiday observances; dietary rules; attitudes concerning attire; and attitudes concerning illness, healthcare, use of life-extending technology, organ donation and reception, death, and grieving. The prerequisite for this course is Introduction to Interreligious Spiritual Care.

IC5001 Advanced Topics in Interreligious Practice (DMin)

Previous Course Title: Interreligious Spiritual Care

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for master's students: PM1001, IC2002.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course is designed for Interreligious Chaplaincy students. Interreligious chaplains engage vast religious diversity within the institutional contexts in which they practice. This interreligious engagement often relies on broad understandings and interpretations of religious expression outside of one's own tradition. Within this course, students will delve into interreligious practice by: exploring the praxeological implications of engaging interreligiosity within institutional settings; identifying and engaging with religious diversity within one's own context while paying particular attention to how one's own religious identities interplay with such religious diversity; and creating and establishing a model of care that draws upon the interreligious dimensions of your care practice and context.

IC5002 Chaplains at Work: Exploring Systems, Values, and Ethics (DMin)

Previous Course Title: Principles in Values and Mission Integration

4 Credits.

Prerequisite for master's students: PM1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course is designed for Interreligious Chaplaincy students. Within the workplace, chaplains are often considered theologians of their institutional contexts. This consideration brings with it the responsibility to engage with ethical concerns pertaining particularly to care receivers and their decision-making processes, as well as with the broader ethical deliberations of entire institutional systems. This course involves reflection on: ethical dilemmas that can arise when a chaplain's values and their institution's mission are incongruent; the system of the institutional context; and systems within systems, i.e., the

family system within the hospital system. In this course, chaplains will be asked to reflect on themselves as leaders and collaborators within systems.

IC5003 Advanced Topics in Intercultural Practice (DMin)

*Previous Course Number and Title: IC5004 Advancing Intercultural Competency
4 Credits.*

Prerequisite for master's students: PM1001, IC2001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course is designed for Interreligious Chaplaincy students. Intercultural chaplaincy and spiritual care involves a deep engagement with broad concepts of cultural identity and cultural belonging and involves fostering a critical understanding of how one's own cultural identity impacts relational dynamics including the role of power within institutional care contexts. Within this course, students will delve into intercultural practice by: exploring the praxeological implications of engaging interculturality within institutional settings; identifying and engaging with cultural diversity within one's own context while paying particular attention to how one's own cultural identities interplay with such cultural diversity; and creating and establishing a model of care that draws upon the intercultural dimensions of your care practice and context.

Master's Studies (MS)

MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar

*Previous Course Title: Capstone Seminar
3 Credits.*

Prerequisites: TR1001, FL1001.

Planned offerings: annually

The purpose of this seminar, to be taken in the student's final year, is to assist the student in integrating course work, formational activities and contextual experiences into a clear statement of ministry. In addition, each student will develop a case study that presents issues around their understanding of ministry, which will be peer reviewed and explored. Issues around spiritual formation in various contexts of ministry will also be addressed.

MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits

MS3106 MA Thesis—6 Credits

*Previous Course Titles: Master's Thesis—3 Credits, Master's Thesis—6 Credits
3 Credits/6 Credits.*

Prerequisites: Advisor approval prior to registration.

Planned offerings: annually

In this capstone project of the MA degree, the student will write and defend a thesis that demonstrates their understanding of a selected topic within their chosen degree concentration that incorporates critical interpretation, analysis, and synthesis of appropriate sources. The student may choose to complete either the standard 3-credit thesis or an extended 6-credit thesis, either of which fulfill the MA thesis requirement. The *Student Handbook* details the complete thesis process that culminates in the completion of this course. The thesis is expected to be completed during the term the student enrolls in the thesis course. A student who does not complete their thesis within this timeframe will be automatically registered for the 0-credit MA Thesis Continuation course each subsequent term, including summer, until completion of the thesis.

MS3200 MAL Final Project

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: Advisor approval prior to registration.

Planned offerings: annually

The Final Project is the capstone document of the MAL program: It is the central and culminating professional and academic component of the curriculum. The Capstone Document demonstrates the learner's ability to integrate, synthesize, and apply material learned throughout the MAL program in the context of a setting appropriate to the learner's vocational goals. The capstone document should add to the body of knowledge and practice in the area of the learner's vocational goals. The Final Project course should be taken during the student's final year of seminary. At least several weeks before the start of the course term, the student should consult with their faculty advisor and the Dean of the Seminary in securing a faculty member as their project advisor. The final project proposal must be approved by the project advisor prior to registration for the course. After initial registration for this course, one academic term is normally allowed to complete the final project. A student who does not complete their project in this timeframe will be automatically registered for the 0-credit MAL Final Project Continuation course each term, including summer, until completion of the project. Note: This course is only open to students in an MAL degree program other than the MAL in Social Transformation.

MS4000 Master's Directed Study

Previous Course Number: MS9000

3 Credits.

This is a special studies master's course in which a student or group asks a faculty member to plan and guide the student in the study of a particular area or topic of interest to the student. See the *Student Handbook* for a full description of the requirements of this course. The student must complete a special studies registrar form, approved by the professor and Dean, prior to registering for this course.

MS4001 Master's Independent Study

Previous Course Number: MS4000

3 Credits.

This is a special studies master's course in which a student or group pursues independent study (reading, other appropriate methods of investigation) on a topic or problem of interest to the student. See the *Student Handbook* for a full description of the requirements of this course. The student must complete a special studies registrar form, approved by the professor and Dean, prior to registering for this course.

MS6000 MA Thesis Continuation

Previous Course Number and Title: MS3100 Master's Thesis Continuation

0 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

A student is automatically registered for this course each academic term that the student continues work on an MA thesis beyond the allowed one academic term for a 3-credit thesis or two academic terms for a 6-credit thesis.

MS6001 MAL Final Project Continuation

Previous Course Number: MS3100

0 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

A student is automatically registered for this course each academic term that the student continues work on their MAL final project beyond the allowed one academic term for the MAL Final Project course.

Practices of Ministry (PM)

PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care: Theories and Practices

Previous Course Title: Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

Spiritual care involves caring for the “spirit” of persons, families, and communities and is practiced within many ministerial and religious contexts including congregational leadership, chaplaincy, community settings, and pastoral/spiritual counseling. This introductory course focuses on developing students’ theoretical and practical knowledge of spiritual care. Particular attention will be given to the role of spiritual care within clinical settings, communal settings, and within intercultural contexts. Students will broaden their practical skills in listening, intercultural communication, spiritual assessment, and spiritual intervention through activities such as guest speakers, in-class discussion, verbatim narratives, and role playing. Students will broaden their theoretical awareness in trauma informed care, grief theory, and relational dynamics through dynamic readings and drawing on lived experience. No prerequisite class is required for this course, but this course is a prerequisite for all other spiritual care and chaplaincy courses.

PM2001 Faith Formation

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course explores the theories and practices of faith formation (religious education) across the lifespan in primarily ecclesial contexts. The course covers theological frameworks undergirding religious education and faith formation, current educational, pedagogical, and experiential models of faith formation, and approaches to religious education curriculum. Objectives include the acquisition of skills necessary for planning and leading educational programming in church contexts at various stages of emotional, spiritual, and cognitive development.

PM2002 Worship of the Church

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This is the beginning survey course in worship and liturgical basics. The course explores the meaning of worship within differing ethnic contexts, the theological commitments behind liturgy and the structure of worship using the transposition of scriptural texts. We examine liturgical history, emancipatory liturgical language, sacraments, weddings, funerals and other aspects of worship practice. Students will learn to access worship resources, write liturgies and survey different denominational and cultural styles of worship.

PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: TR1001 and at least one RT course.

Planned offerings: annually

Preaching is an act of religious and theological interpretation and naming. It nurtures, sustains and transforms religious communities. This course will give attention to preaching as an act of ministry in the context of worship. Furthermore, as the dynamics of institutional religion continue to shift, religious leaders need to learn skills of communication and verbal persuasion outside the traditional worship and liturgical context; whether in chaplaincy settings, in boardrooms, or community organizing and public protests. Preachers will prepare and deliver sermons in class, examine the social dimensions of

preaching, explore a variety of sermonic forms, as well designs and develop concrete strategies to engage whole religious communities in the work of proclamation.

PM2004 Evangelism in Cultural and Contemporary Contexts

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course explores contemporary approaches to evangelism through a postcolonial lens and with concern for communicating the gospel in life-giving, liberative, and culturally-sensitive ways. The course will explore the theological and biblical foundations of evangelism, the cross-cultural dimensions of evangelism with anthropological and sociological considerations, and will both articulate and critique current practices of evangelism within the Christian context. This course meets the requirement in evangelism for United Methodist students.

PM2006 Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual: UU Theories and Praxis

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

What is worship? What are we actually doing? How do we create and hold a sure container for the power we invoke? In this class, we will explore the theory of worship and practice its crafting. This course will explore how worship may be understood in a theologically pluralistic context and how its elements may be handled competently, creatively and responsibly. Students will consider rites of passage and worship for all ages, as well as the more traditional Sunday morning service with preaching. We will get conscious of the what, how and why of worship.

PM2009 Mission of the Church in the World

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course examines the theological and biblical basis for the vocation of the Christian and the purpose of the church in the world. What were the church and its congregations designed to be and to do in the broader society and culture? What should it strive to do and to be today? Practices and models of mission are analyzed and critiqued, with attention to contemporary discussions of missiology and the missional church. Students will develop their own theology of and articulation of mission as they anticipate leading a congregation toward renewal and spiritual and social transformation in and for the broader social context. This course meets the requirement for mission for United Methodist students.

PM2010 Contextual UU Faith Formation

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course is a broad introduction to the theory and praxis of lifespan religious education and faith formation in Unitarian Universalist congregations and beyond. Topics include the history and philosophy of religious education, learning processes and teaching strategies, human development, innovation, and shared ministry. Coursework includes field observations and interviews, weekly discussions and journaling, periodic written assignments, and a final group project.

PM4001 Couple Counseling for Religious Leaders

Previous Course Number: PM2007

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

Over the last 35 years, there has been an explosion of research and theory development in the field of couples counseling. Rather than understand itself as a subset of individual counseling, couples

counseling acknowledges the significance of relationships itself as a focus of counseling work. It will give attention to a range of couples contexts, including: romantic co-habitation, whether legally married or not, pre-marital counseling, LGBTQI, interracial and interreligious contexts.

PM4002 Unmarking the “Beast”: “Care” as Social Transformation

Previous Course Number: PM2008

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course prepares students to engage a critical trajectory in (pastoral) care, where care is understood primarily in sociopolitical perspective. Students will understand this public trajectory of care and will develop skills of performing care that move beyond one on one therapeutic engagements. Students will also develop the capacity to analyze contextual forms of suffering, and to critically and creatively imagine appropriate care interventions. The particular context of young black male athletes will serve as a case for reflection on significant course themes.

PM4003 Worship and Music Skills Training

Previous Course Number: PM1002

1 Credit.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course will include thirteen 45-minute morning sessions, with an invitation for further conversation over lunch. Intended to be concrete, hands-on, fun, participatory, and experiential workshops—not lecture-based classes. Each session will focus on building skills and developing a greater sensitivity for worship and music leadership. The aim is to help worship leaders in imagining and leading transformative worship and music. Intended for students and others interested in worship leadership. Musical interest is helpful, but not necessary.

PM4004 Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Previous Course Number and Title: PM2005 Children and Family Ministry

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course introduces students to the theoretical and theological underpinnings of effective ministry to children, adolescents, and families in church contexts. Students will also learn skills of communication, organizational leadership, and educational and spiritual formation that are necessary to serve as children, youth, and family ministers in program churches or as solo pastors in smaller churches with focused ministries for children, youth, and families. Students will engage contemporary literature on issues pertaining to the spiritual, emotional, and personal development of children and adolescents and to the dynamic and evolving nature of the family.

Religious Texts (RT)

RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course orients students to critical study of the Hebrew Bible and introduces students to the history, literature and theologies of the Torah and the Former Prophets (equivalent to Genesis through 2 Kings in the Christian canon, not including Ruth). Emphasis is on a dialogical model of interpretation, which takes seriously both the biblical texts in their contexts and the experience of the interpreter in their social and

religious contexts. Additionally, basic critical hermeneutical methods and methodologies of contemporary biblical scholarship will be covered.

RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course is designed to give an overview of the content and background of the Epistles of Paul including the Epistle to the Hebrews, the Epistles of John, the Epistle of Peter, the Epistle of James, the Epistle of Jude, the Acts of the Apostles, and the Book of Revelation that comprise the New Testament canon. These books will be examined within the context of the unfolding history of the earliest Christian communities as they sought to relate to the Jewish and Hellenistic cultures that gave them birth. Emphasis will be placed upon the historical, textual, social and cultural issues presented by these ancient texts. The methods, tools and technical language of scholarly research appropriate to the texts of the New Testament will be introduced. Divergent beliefs and practices of early Christianity will be studied. Practice of ancient and contemporary letter writings and interpreting those books of the New Testament in the contemporary context will be emphasized.

RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: TR1001 and RT1101.

Planned offerings: annually

Students in this course examine selections from the Latter Prophets and Writings in the Hebrew Bible (equivalent to 1 Chronicles through Malachi in the Christian canon, as well as Ruth), with a focus on how to interpret the texts in ministry settings. Attention is also given to the role of the trained biblical student in empowering laity to interpret Hebrew Bible texts.

RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course is a detailed study of the Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) as contained in the New Testament canon. The historical background and the sources for studying these Four Gospels will be emphasized. Authorship, date, purpose, place of writing, and theology of each of the Four Gospels will be discussed. Each Gospel writer's distinctive ways of presenting the life and ministry of Jesus will be analyzed. The method of exegesis in interpreting the Four Gospels will be examined in relation to teaching and preaching in the contemporary context. Emphasis will be placed upon the historical, textual, social and cultural issues presented by these ancient texts.

RT2400 Biblical Hebrew

Previous Course Number: RT3101

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: TR1001 and RT1101.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

Familiarity with Biblical Hebrew can give a student new access to the text and its interpretation. In this course, students are introduced to basic Hebrew grammar and vocabulary, and to an array of Hebrew-based exegetical tools. Students apply their learnings through exegesis of select biblical texts.

RT2401 New Testament Greek

Previous Course Number: RT3201

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: TR1001 and RT1201.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

A basic knowledge of the original language of the New Testament is a valuable tool for study and interpretation. In addition to acquiring a basic vocabulary and grammar, students will become acquainted with the fundamentals of text criticism and practice using resources for translation and exegesis. Students apply their learnings through exegesis of select New Testament texts.

RT4001 Buddhist Scriptures: From Ancient Sutras to Contemporary Interpretations

Previous Course Number: RT2002

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course will cover 2500 years of Buddhist texts in a wide variety of cultures, from the very first sutra of the Buddha, through Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Tibetan, and other contributions to the textual tradition, as well as contemporary American Buddhist authors. Students will gain skills in interpreting ancient Buddhist texts and critically dialoguing with interpretations of texts. Texts will be supplemented with visuals (slides, videos, etc.) and at least one field trip to a Buddhist institution. Students will discover how these teachings are lived in contemporary Buddhist communities.

RT4002 Introduction to the Qur'an

Previous Course Number: RT3002

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course introduces students to the history, themes, and message of the Qur'an. We will survey its historical development. This course examines the Qur'an as an expression of religious life and the foundational text of Muslims. A wide range of topics will be explored including the historicity of the Qur'an, methodologies of interpretation, modern questions and problems, themes and literary styles, and art. Special emphasis is placed on the lived experience of Muslims as they interact with the Qur'an culturally, spiritually and religiously.

RT4101 Food, Culture and Justice in the Biblical Tradition

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

Food informs and reflects many aspects of human life and community. It also appears on nearly every page of the Hebrew Bible. This course examines a variety of narrative and poetic biblical texts about food and land, placing them in conversation with cultural discourse (both pop and scholarly). Particular attention will be paid to Israel's agrarian society, cultural attitudes about food with respect to gender, class, race, and other social boundaries, and the theological importance of establishing a more just relationship with the land and the food it yields.

Social Transformation (ST)

ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This course explores leadership and strategies of organization and social transformation. Drawing from the best practices of faith-based and secular justice work, students will explore a variety of theoretical and practical tools for interpreting and leading social transformation within various organizational contexts. Grounded in a real life project, students will employ a theo-ethical leadership framework to deepen

understanding of complex organization and social dynamics, apply core strategies for social transformation, and develop a 12 month implementation plan for their project.

ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation

Previous Course Number: ST1002

3 Credits.

Corequisites: TR1001 and ST1001.

Planned offerings: annually

This course explores the theological and spiritual foundations enabling and inspiring a more just, more humane, and more Shalom-oriented society. The course argues for an understanding of theology as a "public" discipline, one that is attentive to issues emerging from and pertaining to the world (rather than merely the church). Along with reflection on the nature of the various manifestations of the "public," we will also explore the connections between theology and politics, culture, economics, and other social issues.

ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement

Previous Course Number: ST1003

3 Credits.

Corequisite: ST1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course empowers students to think critically about injustices as complex, structural realities embedded in our cultural, economic, religious, and political systems. The social sciences and critical theory offer rich tools and knowledge that can be deployed for dismantling systems of oppression, creating social change, and building just communities. Using these conceptual tools, students will engage in community-based action research and assess the issue they anticipate addressing in their capstone project.

ST2003 Social Enterprise

Previous Course Number: ST1004

3 Credits.

Corequisite: ST1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course introduces students to the field of Social entrepreneurship; the practice of identifying, designing, starting and growing successful mission-driven ventures. The course provides an applied understanding of the processes, challenges and demands associated with creating ventures that seek to integrate financial and social/environmental benchmarks of success. Students will design a real world social transformation project, related to their capstone issue that is scalable and sustainable in today's economic and social realities.

ST4001 Sports Activism

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: Fall 2023

Sports in America is a complex and contested space. On one hand, it exists as a microcosm of American politics, reflecting common struggles of racism, sexism, and other forms of social inequality. On the other hand, sport is also a unique space where a diversity of identities, values, and cultural performances are held together in ways that occasion new possibilities for political resistance. This course examines the relationship between sport and the politics of race, class, gender, and sexuality, with the goal of understanding how activism in sport contributes to broader movements for justice in the United States. In addition to learning from the ways athletes, coaches, and executives are currently participating in justice work from their social locations and platforms, this course also explores the theological implications of embodiment, care, and moral imagination as it relates to sports activism. We will explore key questions such as: How are athletes uniquely positioned to transform society, and what can we learn from them

theologically? What role has religion played in the historical development of sport in American society? How might the critical study of sport and politics evince new theological possibilities for social transformation in the United States?

ST5001 The Leader as Change Agent (DMin)

4 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

In this course, DMin students will closely examine issues of social justice and develop concrete plans and skills to effectively address them. The class invites students to explore the depth and complexity of injustice related to issues with which they are currently (or potentially) engaged in their ministry contexts. Students will use critical theoretical and theological approaches to locate their contextual issues of concern in broader cultural, socioeconomic, and political systems. Students will also engage a variety of theoretical and ethically grounded strategies for social transformation that reflect a deepening understanding of the complex relational, organizational, and sociopolitical structures that hold injustice in place. Students will employ such strategies in their development of a 12-month implementation plan for a project meant to address the issues they have identified.

The Islamic Seminary of America (TISA)

The following courses are delivered in the distance format only using TISA's online learning platforms.

TISA-601 Advanced Quranic Studies and Tafsir

3 Credits.

This course will introduce students to an in-depth study of the field of 'ulūm al-Qur'ān, along with some of the primary concerns and challenges raised by modern researchers in this field.

TISA-602 Advanced Hadith Studies

3 Credits.

This course will introduce students to an in-depth study of the field of 'ulūm al-Ḥadīth and the primary compilations of Ḥadīth with their commentaries, along with some of the primary concerns and challenges raised by both competing views on ḥadīth and modern researchers in this field.

TISA-615 Advanced Sīra

3 Credits.

This course presumes a familiarity with the sīra as narrative and provides focus and depth in the following areas: pre-sīra history, the development of sira as a science, the genealogy of the Prophet(s), modern issues, sira as applied to leadership/ chaplaincy/ imamship.

TISA-620 Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh

3 Credits.

This class will investigate general sources of Islamic law and jurisprudence while elucidating the relationship between these sources and substantive rulings of law. It includes theoretical discussions of the nature of religious law, its relationship to reason and ethics, and principles of Islamic law. The course will provide an opportunity to learn about a well-developed religious-ethical-legal system in the Abrahamic tradition as well as analyze challenges faced by Islamic jurisprudence in modern and western contexts.

TISA-631 Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality

3 Credits.

This class will introduce the students to the Islamic concept of 'iḥsān' and how it has been understood by various authorities and strands across Islamic history. The course will have two running tracks: an academic track, and a spiritual one. In the academic track, the students will study figures, authors, and

concepts that have been instrumental in the field of Islamic spirituality, and be exposed to how their writings have been interpreted and, at times, strongly contested. In the spiritual track, students will cover an entire classical manual of Islamic spirituality: the 'Ranks of the Divine Seekers' of Ibn al-Qayyim.

TISA-642 Islam in America

3 Credits.

This course will be an in-depth exploration of the Muslim experience in America with the express purpose of understanding Muslim's present situation and future direction better. Up to two-thirds of the course will closely study the historical and cultural history of Muslims in America, while at the same time, situating the Muslim experience with the American political and cultural context. A significant portion of the course will focus on the contemporary Muslim situation, analyzing its institutions, social issues, cultural manifestations and political dynamics. The course focuses on preparing Imams, chaplains, and other Muslim leaders to serve Islam and the Muslim American community, by combining rigorous Islamic scholarship with a commitment to strengthening the Muslim American community, and striving for justice worldwide.

Theology and Religion (TR)

TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: annually

This interdisciplinary course introduces students to a variety of readings in the religious and theological interpretation of human experience. The approach gives particular attention to methodological concerns, inviting students to engage in the practice of religious and theological interpretation through the interpretation of texts, their own observations and writing, small group conversation, and class discussions.

TR1002 History of Christian Theologies

3 Credits.

Corequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: annually

This course introduces students to the history of Christian theology from the beginnings of the patristic period (c. 100 CE) to the eve of the Enlightenment (c. 1650 CE). We will survey the historical development of the three main branches of Christianity (i.e. Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, and Protestantism) and read several of the major theological figures associated with them. Our chief purpose is to identify certain perennial issues within the discipline of Christian theology. However, we will also pay special attention to the ways in which classical theologians adapted inherited Christian beliefs to new understandings and cultural situations, balancing fidelity to the past with theological ingenuity. This will both enable us to account for the dynamism and diversity of historical Christian theology and give us insight into how we might become critically reflective theologians in our own right.

TR1003 History of Modern Theologies

3 Credits.

Corequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: annually

Beginning in the 17th Century and coming to full fruition in the 18th, the Enlightenment fundamentally called into question inherited Western notions of religion and theology. Modern Christian theology is basically an attempt to come to terms with these unprecedented challenges posed by the Enlightenment: the full triumph of natural science in explaining how the world works, historical consciousness with its resulting insight into cultural and hence also religious relativity, and a new awareness of our common ethical and political responsibility as human beings for shaping society. In this course, we will study

representative figures and movements from the 18th to the 20th Centuries in order to see whether and, if so, how religious faith and Christian theology are still possible in our modern or, as some now call it, postmodern situation.

TR2001 UU History and Polity

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course traces the history of Universalists and Unitarians down to the present and explores polity structures and issues of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies

Previous Course Number: TR2007

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course will explore UU theologies and the liberal theological tradition in which they are rooted. We will read a number of UU theologians, both classical and contemporary, as well as track the wider streams of liberal and progressive theological thought that flow into and out of UU from the Christian liberalism of Friedrich Schleiermacher, to empirical, process, ground-of-being, feminist, and pagan theologies, to present-day religious naturalism, to the rich legacy of religious humanism, especially African-American humanist theology. A survey course, assigned texts are representative rather than exhaustive; several are on the reading lists of MFC. This course is designed to familiarize you with the historical, philosophical, ethical, and theological resources needed to do theology as religious leaders. Students will engage in intensive study, write and deliver a theological sermon and a constructive theological statement, intended as the initial draft of your MFC “theological context” essay.

TR2003 United Methodist History and Polity

Previous Course Number: TR2002

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course provides the instruction in United Methodist history, and polity that are part of The United Methodist Church ordination requirements. This course examines the emergence of the Methodist movement in England and the development of Methodism in America, leading to the creation of The United Methodist Church. It then explores the nature and functioning of The United Methodist Church as the institutional expression of its theological history with an emphasis on its unique form of connectionalism. The four spheres of church organization, local church, annual conference, jurisdictional conference, and general conference are covered so that students are prepared to use the Book of Discipline effectively in their ministry.

TR2004 United Methodist History and Doctrine

Previous Course Number: TR3002

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course, along with United Methodist History and Polity, is required for ordination in The United Methodist Church. This course will explore the historical development of the Methodist tradition and doctrines in The United Methodist Church from John Wesley and those sources upon which he built (the primitive church, Anglicanism, Puritanism, Pietism, and mysticism) to the present. Special attention will be given to the distinctive emphases of the doctrinal standards as found in the Articles of Religion, John Wesley’s Sermons, Wesley’s Exegetical Notes on the New Testament, and the General Rules as identified in the United Methodist Book of Discipline. It will cover vital theological inquiries and our theological engagements that arise from the practice of the Doctrinal Standards in The United Methodist

Church. Distinctive heritage of historic Wesleyan emphases will be studied in the context of theological understanding of ministry for the transformation of both individuals and society.

TR2005 UCC History, Theology, and Polity

Previous Course Number: TR2003

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: annually

The formation of the United Church of Christ has been characterized as a special development in church history moving beyond traditional forms of polity in response to the influence of modern ecumenism and the need for a new style of organization appropriate for God's mission in these times. Polity-in-process best expresses the spirit and form of this model. This course also explores the ecclesiology of the UCC and its implications for the ministry and mission of various UCC settings—local congregations, associations, conferences, and the national church and the role of authorized ministers in these settings. This course completes the UCC History, Theology, and Polity sequence expected by most UCC committees on ministry for authorization.

TR2006 Presbyterian History, Worship and Polity

Previous Course Number: TR2004

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course is designed to equip students to become effective presbyters as ordained ministers of Word and Sacrament. It addresses Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) history, worship, polity, and contemporary issues affecting the life of the church.

TR2007 The Theology of Wesley

Previous Course Number: TR2008

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

John Wesley, a pastor and theologian, is credited with the foundation of the “Holy Club” movement known as Methodism. John Wesley, through his preaching, teaching and writings, engaged in theological reflection perceived as “practical divinity.” To study the works of John Wesley is to enter into a meaningful theological disposition in the life of the world. This course will examine the writings of John Wesley, especially his sermons and letters, theological tracts, and his journal. This course will also explore John Wesley’s theology as a resource for justice and service to the world.

TR2008 Classics of Protestant Reformed Theology

Previous Course Number: TR2009

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course focuses on the Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA). In addition to close exegesis of the various documents within this compendium, attention will be devoted to the precise nature of confessional authority within the Reformed tradition (“open confessionalism”) in distinction from the understanding of creedal and confessional authority in the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Lutheran traditions (“closed confessionalism”) as well as non-creedal churches wherein creeds and confessions of faith play no role.

TR2009 Eco-Theologies and Eco-Spiritualities

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course investigates the theological and spiritual underpinnings of environmental ethics and activism. We will explore how religious traditions understand the relationship between divinity, humanity, and nature; how religious cosmologies interface with contemporary science and its multidisciplinary story of the unfolding and interconnected universe; and how religious worldviews can (and do) support and sustain the work of ecological justice. We will engage these issues from a variety of Christian theological perspectives—e.g. ecofeminism and ecowomanism, liberation and postcolonial theologies, process theism—and in conversation with several other religious and philosophical frameworks, including indigenous spiritualities, the new animism, queer theory, and varieties of religious naturalism. Ultimately, this course aims to provide theological and spiritual resources for addressing the daunting planetary crises of the Anthropocene (climate change, loss of biodiversity, the collapse of ecosystems, etc.) and their disproportionate and devastating impact on communities already victimized by poverty, colonialism, racism, and other forms of oppression. Our central task will be to study—and construct—ecocentric theologies and spiritualities that affirm the sacredness of the earth, acknowledge our evolutionary kinship with nonhuman life, and foster respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part.

TR2010 What Is Religion?

Previous Course Number: TR1004

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: annually

What is religion, where did it come from, and why has it been at the center of nearly every culture and civilization since the dawn of human consciousness? This course introduces students to the academic study of religion—i.e. to the multiple ways in which scholars examine and endeavor to explain religion as a human phenomenon. We will explore some research methods for studying actual religious communities and consider a number of classical and contemporary theories of religion, including psychological, historical, philosophical, phenomenological, sociological, and biocultural approaches. Special attention will also be given to the complexities involved in defining “religion” and to the ever-shifting relationship between religious studies and theology.

TR2100 Constructive Theology

Previous Course Number: TR3010

3 Credits.

Prerequisites: TR1001, one RT course, and TR1002 or TR1003.

Planned offerings: annually

This course provides a basic introduction to the nature, content, and methods of “constructive theology,” an approach to theology that emphasizes the ways in which theological discourse is both constructed and engaged in an ongoing process of reconstruction. Students will be exposed to the rich diversity of Christian theological interpretation, both ancient and modern, explore classical as well as current perspectives on major doctrines, themes, and issues, and read a variety of contemporary constructive theologies, all with the expectation that they will acquire the necessary background and hermeneutical tools for finding and developing their own theological voices.

TR4001 Contemporary Paganism

Previous Course Number: TR2016

3 Credits.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

This course surveys the history, practices, and denominations of the contemporary Pagan (Neo-Pagan) movement in the US. The course aims to support students venturing into interreligious work, Pagan

ministries or Pagan academic studies, and ministries incorporating contemporary Paganism into other ecumenical settings (Unitarian Universalist or other inclusive traditions), as well as students who simply want to learn about Paganism as a world religion. The course encourages critical thinking regarding defining "Paganism" and invites challenges to the academic field of contemporary Pagan studies, such as regarding the "contemporary Pagan" versus "Neo-Pagan" debates.

TR4002 Global Journey

Previous Course Number: TR2011

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course involves both theoretical knowledge and practical experience of most of World Religious traditions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Islam, and Bahá'í). Students will take some on campus/zoom classes to orient themselves to the theoretical knowledge of the World Religious traditions and undertake a journey to the Sacred Places of India to observe and experience diverse religious practices in real life situations. In addition to the tuition for this course, students will incur a travel cost (details to be provided). Participation in the trip is required in order to fulfill the requirements of the course. Students who have failed to complete the journey to India will not receive any credit and tuition will not be refunded. Students will write a thirty page academic paper that addresses their observation and experience of different religious traditions in India.

TR4003 Islam: History and Theology

Previous Course Number: TR2013

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

No theologian or scholar of religion in the contemporary West can afford to ignore Islam as a vital religious, cultural, social, and political force today. This course introduces students to the history and main theological tenets of Islam. Attention will be paid to the Qur'an as revealed scripture, the Hadith as normative tradition, and the main division within Islam between Sunni and Shiite. Finally, comparisons will be made between Islam and the other two monotheistic religions descended from ancient Israel's heritage: Judaism and Christianity.

TR4004 Modern Jewish Theology

Previous Course Number: TR2014

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

Modernity offered a new opportunity for Jews to become full participants in Western civilization and occasioned serious internal controversy among Jews as to how they should respond to modernity. This course examines the various movements that arose in response to modernity (Orthodoxy, Conservative, Reform, and Reconstructionist) as well as interrogates various Jewish responses to the failure of modernity to integrate Jews represented by the Holocaust as well as to the founding of the state of Israel. The basic question to be addressed is: What does it mean to be a Jew today?

TR4005 Peace Church Theologies

Previous Course Number: TR2005

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

This course explores historic and current theological expressions of the major streams within Christianity which advocate pacifism, or principled nonviolence. Students read, discuss, and analyze significant texts

from within the radical Reformation stream with the purpose of achieving in-depth understanding of the theological and ethical arguments for nonviolence.

TR4006 Radical Theologies and the Challenge of Atheism

Previous Course Number: TR2012

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

Modern atheism has posed a fundamental challenge to Christian theology by calling into question its underlying premise of the reality of God. This seminar will examine in depth varieties of modern atheism from the eighteenth century to the present day as well as consider various 'radical theologies' that have been developed in response and in which the question of what 'God' means is thought through anew.

TR4007 Religion and Politics in America

Previous Course Number: TR2010

3 Credits.

Prerequisite: TR1001.

Planned offerings: TBD

The United States has become the most religiously pluralistic nation in the history of the world. Nevertheless, conflicts abound as to just what exactly the "disestablishment of religion" means today. This introductory course will examine the remarkable history of this nation's diverse religious groups through reading of short selections of primary texts as well as wrestling with the implications of religious pluralism in the context of contemporary American society and culture.

TR5001 Public Theology (DMin)

4 Credits.

Prerequisite for master's students: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

The course argues for an understanding of theology as a public discipline, one that is attentive to issues emerging from and pertaining to society and other public spheres (rather than merely the church). This course builds on the idea that pastors, ministers, and other religious leaders are by definition public theologians. Students will gain competence in the discipline of public theology and in methods for applying knowledge of the discipline to the practice of ministry.

TR5002 Theologies of Liberation (DMin)

4 Credits.

Prerequisite for master's students: TR1001.

Planned offerings: biennially (every other year)

Liberation Theology is a profoundly influential theological trajectory within modern theology in both Roman Catholic and Protestant traditions. Students will study in-depth the theologies of key liberation theologians across various cultural and social contexts and will apply their learning of liberation theology to their own ministry and/or vocational contexts.

Wilmette Institute (WI)

The following courses are delivered in the distance format only using the Wilmette Institute's online learning platforms.

WI2001 The Bahá'í Faith

3 Credits.

The Bahá'í Faith: A Comprehensive Introduction offers a thorough and systematic study of the Bahá'í religion. We will start with a review of the vastness of the Bahá'í Faith's authoritative texts (21 million

words), which sets it apart from other religions. In subsequent units we will examine the fundamental concept of unity and its implications for creating community, reforming the world, and re-conceptualizing such subjects as leadership, politics, and conflict; the nature of God, revelation, manifestation, humanity, creation, religion, and the Bahá'í Faith's relationship to other faiths; the nature and spiritual development of human beings and the role of marriage and family life; and the Bahá'í approach to reorganizing the social life and civilization of the human species. In the historical section of the course we will examine the development of the Bahá'í community from the time of the Báb (1844) to the present, considering the development of new Bahá'í institutions and the Faith's focus on several important priorities: diversity, geographical spread, and empowerment of the membership.

WI2002 Introduction to Bahá'í Scripture: The Writings of Bahá'u'lláh

Previous Course Title: Baha'u'llah's Revelation
3 Credits.

The writings of Bahá'u'lláh (1817-92) are a singular phenomenon in religious history. They are estimated to comprise 18,000 works and in excess of six million words, composed in Arabic, Persian, and a unique mixture of both. They also represent a remarkably broad range of genres: poetry (both mathnavi and ghazal forms), mystic treatises, Qur'anic and biblical commentary, theological and philosophical texts, prayers, ethical works, polemics, personal letters to relatives and followers, public epistles to kings and rulers, and summary/compilation of previous works. They address nearly every imaginable subject, but their overall theme is to elaborate on the twofold purpose of humanity: to develop our inherent individual potentialities and to contribute to the transformation of global society. Bahá'u'lláh Himself, looking back at His corpus toward the end of His life, said "Never since the beginning of the world hath the Message [the revelation of God] been so openly proclaimed." In this course we will undertake a systematic survey of twenty-five of Bahá'u'lláh's most important works produced between 1853 and 1892. We will read all or part of 12 of them. We will study the works in chronological order of composition to examine the themes in the works, their contributions to humanity's social and spiritual advancement, and the historical, social context in which each was revealed. The course will appeal to anyone seeking a deeper understanding of Bahá'u'lláh's prodigious corpus and its implications for humanity.

WI2003 Bahá'í Theology

3 Credits.

Bahá'í Theology: Concepts of God, Revelation, Manifestation, Creation, Humanity, Afterlife, and Covenant provides an in-depth study of the fundamental teachings of the Bahá'í Faith that deal with the study of God, creation, and the relationship between them. The units are organized around a series of topics such as creation and evolution, the nature of God's Manifestations and their revelations, religious ethics, and theology in action. This course is ideal for both Bahá'ís and others who want to delve more deeply into the teachings of the Bahá'í Faith.

WI2004 Baha'i History, 1844-2021

Previous Course Title: An Introduction to Bahá'í History
3 Credits.

Introduction to Bahá'í History will begin with an overview of the background out of which the Bahá'í Faith emerged in the 1840s, specifically religious and social developments in nineteenth century Iran and the Ottoman Empire; Shi'ism and the Shaykhi movement; and the emergence and impact of Babi Faith. Our exploration of the major themes of Bahá'í history focuses on four distinctive historical periods: the emergence of the new Bahá'í religion under Bahá'u'lláh (c. 1856-1892) and the subsequent development of the religion under his successors: `Abdu'l-Baha (1892-1921); Shoghi Effendi and the Custodianship of the Hands of the Cause (1922-1963); and the Universal House of Justice (1963-2021). Finally, we look at several themes that can be traced across Bahá'í history, including geo-social expansion and the 'cultural breakthroughs' which that entailed; leadership development and construction; dominant religious concerns; and persecution and its impact on the Bahá'í community.

WI2005 Bahá'í Institutions, the Community, and the Individual

3 Credits.

Every society has three “protagonists”: the individual; the community; and the institutions of government and civil society. These protagonists are all too often in conflict, pursuing their own interests, rather than acting for the well-being of all. But the Bahá'í community is learning—with the guidance of the Universal House of Justice—about a new conception of the protagonists and the transformation of their relationships to ones “characterized by cooperation and reciprocity.” Through this course we will study the nature of the three protagonists, their roles and relationships. Enriched by our deeper understanding, we will be better equipped to play our parts in the building of the new civilization envisioned by Bahá'u'lláh.

WI2006 Approaches to Non-Violent Social Change

Previous Course Title: Baha'i Approaches to Social Change

3 Credits.

This course explores the history, theory, and practice of nonviolent social change, in dialog with the principles of the Bahá'í Faith and the relevant experience of the Bahá'í community. As students reflect on how to become effective protagonists of social change, we will explore the following questions: How has the philosophy of nonviolent social change contributed to societal development? What is the spiritual or inner dimension to social change? In the pursuit of peace and justice, how can the means we employ become fully coherent with the ends we seek? What is the role of knowledge, learning, training, and capacity building in processes of social change? Students will contribute to public discourse and community building efforts through dynamic discussions, analysis, research, and presentations.

WI4001 Science, Religion, and the Bahá'í Faith

Previous Course Number: WI2007

3 Credits

Science and religion are “the two most potent forces in human life” according to Shoghi Effendi. In *Science, Religion, and the Bahá'í Faith*, we explore how science and religion relate to each other from a Bahá'í perspective. We examine the Bahá'í writings as they relate to physics and cosmology, biology and evolution, and technology; and consider perspectives they inspire with regards to the crises of our age. We investigate the relationships between science, the scientific method, and the systematic endeavors of the Bahá'í Faith. A major focus is the idea that the “Bahá'í Revelation... is scientific in its method.”

TUITION AND FEES 2022–2023

See the *Student Handbook* for information on payment methods, dropped courses, and financial aid.

Description	Amount	Explanation
Tuition	\$698.00	Per academic term credit hour.
Course audit fee	\$276.00	Per course. See the Auditing Courses section of the <i>Student Handbook</i> for exceptions.
Background check fee	\$50.00	Conducted when a student applies for enrollment in a degree program, as well as prior to any contextual education placement. The one fee payment covers both background checks.
Late payment fee	\$50.00	Charged each month that fees not paid or payment plan not arranged with the Financial Services Office by the 28th day of the first month of the academic term. Non-refundable.
Payment plan fee	\$50.00	Charged each academic term a plan is established with the Financial Services Office to defer fee payments beyond the fees due date. Payment plans requested after the fees due date and each late plan payment subject to additional late payment fee.
Non-sufficient funds fee	\$50.00	Payable each time a check is returned.
ID card replacement fee	\$25.00	For access to campus parking lot and building
CPE internship site fee	varies	Students enrolled in the CPE Internship course are charged for any amount of the internship site fee above \$1,000; United pays the total site fee amount up to \$1,000.
Thesis/Dissertation/MAL Final Project continuation course fee	\$300.00	Charged per academic term after registration for initial thesis/dissertation/final project course
Master's graduation Fee	\$125.00	One-time fee paid with the petition to graduate.
DMin graduation Fee	\$200.00	One-time fee paid with the petition to graduate.

FACULTY

Core Faculty

Jennifer Awes Freeman, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Theology and the Arts

Jessica Chapman Lape, M.Div., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Interreligious Chaplaincy

Gary F. Green II, M.Div., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology and Social Transformation

Munjed M. Murad, Th.D.

Assistant Professor of World Religions and Intercultural Studies, Supported by the Johnson-Fry Endowment

Andrew Packman, M.Div., Ph.D.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Theological Ethics and Practical Theology

Kyle Roberts, M.Div., Ph.D.

Schilling Professor of Public Theology and Church and Economic Life

Justin Sabia-Tanis, D.Min., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Social Transformation and Leadership Supported by the McVay Endowment

Tim Sena, M.L.I.S., Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Theological Bibliography

Demian Wheeler, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology and Religious Studies

Adjunct Faculty

Mark Berkson, Ph.D.

Anita Bradshaw, M.Div., Ph.D.

Marian Broida, Ph.D.

DeWayne Davis, D.Min.

Kate DeConinck, Th.D.

Bryan Demeritte, M.Div., Ph.D.

Victor Ezigbo, Ph.D.

Jimmy Hoke, M.Div., Ph.D.

Ryan Higgins, Ph.D.

Sandhya Jha, M.Div.

Cindi Beth Johnson, D.Min.

Rachael Keefe, D.Min.

Anna Marsh, Ph.D.

Joretta Marshall, M.Div., Ph.D.

Anna Mercedes, STM, Ph.D.

James Mitulski, M.Div.

Michelle Mueller, M.Div., Ph.D.

Travis Norvell, M.Div.

Pamela Prouty, M.Div.

T. Michael Rock, M.Div.

Tandi Rogers, MAPS, M.Ed.

Tanya Sadagopan, D.Min.

Nicholas Schaser, Ph.D.

Crystal Silva-McCormick, Th.M.

Melissa Harl Sellev, M.Div., Th.D.

Jia Starr Brown, M.Div.

Nancy Victorin-Vangerud, M.Div., Ph.D.

Rebecca Voelkel, D.Min.

STAFF

Office of the President

Molly T. Marshall

President of United Seminary
mtmarshall@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6104

MJ Luna

Executive Assistant to the Offices of the President and the Dean
mluna@unitedseminary.edu
651-255-6162

Student Enrollment

Ronny Bradtke

Director of Student Enrollment
rbradtke@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6119

Cindy Bohrer

Admissions Counselor
cbohrer@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6114

Mason Mennenga

Admissions Counselor
mmennenga@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6118

Academic Affairs

Kyle Roberts

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Seminary
kroberts@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6108

MJ Luna

Executive Assistant to the Offices of the President and the Dean
mluna@unitedseminary.edu
651-255-6162

Jennifer Awes Freeman

Program Director for Theology and the Arts
jawes-freeman@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6140

Nikki Darlene Frontz

Seminary Chaplain
nfrontz@unitedseminary.edu
612.286.0236

Gary F. Green II

Director of Anti-Racism Initiatives
ggreen@unitedseminary.edu
210.392.1334

Jessica Chapman Lape

Program Director for Interreligious Chaplaincy
jchapmanlape@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6129

Michael Moua

AV Specialist
mmoua@unitedseminary.edu
612.361.9268

Munjed Murad

Program Director for Eco-Justice
mmurad@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6131

Justin Sabia-Tanis

Program Director for Social Transformation
jsabia-tanis@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6130

Tim Sena

Director of the Library
tsena@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6144

Matt Stollenwerk

Director of Academic Operations, Assessment, and Distance Education
mstollenwerk@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6123

Demian Wheeler

Director of Advanced Studies
dwheeler@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6135

Student Success

Hillary Vamstad

Director of Student Success, Registrar, and Title IX Coordinator
hvamstad@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6120

Tafeana Lindsey

Financial Aid Advisor
tlindsey@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6121

Advancement

Cindi Beth Johnson

Vice President for Advancement
cbjohnson@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6137

Andrew Fox

*Donor Records and Advancement
Administrative Assistant*
afox@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6110

Cindy Schriever

Donor Engagement Officer
cschriever@unitedseminary.edu
651-255-6111

Finance and Administration

Jeff Swenson

*Vice President for Finance and
Administration, CFO*
jswenson@unitedseminary.edu
651-255-6113

Vonda Pearson

Director of Human Resources and Operations
vpearson@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6115

Adam Pfuhl

Director of Information Services
apfuhl@unitedseminary.edu
651.260.7438

Marketing and Communications

Diane Riggs

Communications Specialist
driggs@unitedseminary.edu
651.255.6122

Leadership Center for Social Justice

Ry Siggelkow

Director
rsiggelkow@unitedseminary.edu
651.204.8581

Stella Pearce

Administrative Assistant
spearse@unitedseminary.edu
612.286.0279

The Ministry Lab

Emily Meyer

Executive Director
ministrylab@unitedseminary.edu
651.894.2927
Website: theministrylab.org