

# **ACADEMIC CATALOG**

## **2024-2025**

7/1/2024



**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 Higher Learning Commission**

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500

Chicago, IL 60604-1411

Phone: (800) 621-7440

Website: [www.hlcommission.org/](http://www.hlcommission.org/)

### **The Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools**

10 Summit Park Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15275

Phone: (412) 788-6505

Website: [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu)

The following degree programs are approved by both commissions: Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Leadership, Master of Arts in Ministry, Master of Divinity, and Doctor of Ministry.

## 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](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us)

651-642-0567

Procedures for filing a complaint related to accreditation or state registration are located in United's *Student Handbook*.

# 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 2024–2025

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

## Fall Term

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| September 2           | Labor Day (seminary closed)            |
| September 16          | First Day of Fall Term                 |
| October 28–November 1 | Symposium Week (no weekly classes)     |
| November 28–29        | Thanksgiving Holiday (seminary closed) |
| December 15           | Last Day of Fall Term                  |
| December 25           | Christmas Holiday (seminary closed)    |

## Spring Term

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| January 1      | New Year's Day (seminary closed)             |
| January 13     | First Day of Spring Term                     |
| January 20     | Martin Luther King Jr. Day (seminary closed) |
| February 24–28 | Reading Week (no weekly classes)             |
| April 13       | Last Day of Spring Term                      |
| April 14–18    | Holy Week Break (seminary closed)            |
| April 27       | Commencement                                 |

## Summer Term

|            |                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| May 12     | First Day of Summer Term           |
| May 26     | Memorial Day (seminary closed)     |
| June 19    | Juneteenth (seminary closed)       |
| June 23–27 | Reading Week (no weekly classes)   |
| July 4     | Independence Day (seminary closed) |
| August 10  | Last Day of Summer Term            |

# COURSE REGISTRATION AND TUITION PAYMENT DATES 2024–2025

Dates are subject to change.

|   | <b>Fall 2024</b> | <b>Spring 2025</b> | <b>Summer 2025</b> |
|---|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| First day of term   | September 16     | January 13         | May 12             |
| Last day to add courses                                     | September 20     | January 17         | May 16             |
| Last day to drop course with full tuition charge reduction  | September 27     | January 24         | May 23             |
| Last day to drop course without “W” on transcript           | September 27     | January 24         | May 23             |
| Last day to pay tuition without late fee charge*            | September 28     | January 28         | May 28             |
| Last day to drop course for 50% tuition charge reduction    | October 4        | January 31         | May 30             |
| First day of no tuition charge reduction for dropped course | October 5        | February 1         | May 31             |
| Next term course registration opens                         | November 1       | March 1            | July 1             |
| Last day to drop course without grade on transcript         | November 15      | March 14           | July 11            |
| Next term course registration closes                        | December 1       | April 1            | August 1           |
| Last day of term  | December 15      | April 13           | August 10          |
| Final Grades available in USRP                              | January 6        | May 5              | September 2        |

\* 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:

1. interpret a selected passage from a selected religious text from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. identify and pose distinctly theological questions in texts, art works, and/or human existence;
3. articulate the value of theological study in light of their own religious convictions;
4. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
5. apply to their vocational context or academic study an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on a selected moral dilemma from a variety of Christian OR interreligious ethical perspectives;
6. critically analyze and reflect on the religious history and theological perspectives of a selected population historically marginalized by the dominant voices of their religious traditions;
7. 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
8. 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:

- 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 to prepare students for specialized vocational ministry roles in which the MDiv is not a requirement, as well as non-ministry leadership positions. The degree provides a broad foundation in theology, ethics and leadership, as well as focused study in areas specific to a chosen vocation or career path.

Students are prepared for one or more of the classic functions of ministry and/or leadership such as leading social change, leading a faith formation program, 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. interpret a selected passage from a selected religious text from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. identify and pose distinctly theological questions in texts, art works, and/or human existence;
3. articulate the value of theological study in light of their own religious convictions;
4. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
5. apply to their vocational context or academic study an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on a selected moral dilemma from a variety of Christian OR interreligious ethical perspectives;
6. critically analyze and reflect on the religious history and theological perspectives of a selected population historically marginalized by the dominant voices of their religious traditions;
7. evaluate one's spiritual development in light of one's own "sources of the self" and religious horizons;
8. identify, transform, and/or create specific sources of spiritual power that resist human degradation and enhance human life;
9. critically analyze and reflect on the global expressions of religions in relation to their own faith tradition;
10. articulate an informed understanding of the historical use of the arts as a means of theological or religious expression and reflection OR an informed understanding of the complex relationships among art, culture and religion;
11. analyze a historical or contemporary artistic or cultural work for the ways it expresses spiritual and religious ideas;
12. interpret cultural and vocational contexts and identify strategic points of leadership for social transformation;
13. develop an effective plan for a social transformation initiative that includes a needs assessment, strategies and plans that address those needs, a communications plan, and a plan for acquiring needed resources;
14. 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
15. 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:

- 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 Arts in Ministry (MAM)**

The MAM degree is designed to provide focused academic and practical training for vocational ministry with flexibility and efficiency. The degree prepares students for non-ordained ministry roles. For students with an existing theological and formational foundation, the degree provides the necessary supplemental practical training for congregational leadership positions when an MDiv degree is not needed or desired.

Graduates of this program can pursue vocations in ministry that do not require an MDiv, such as bi-vocational church ministry, associate pastoral ministry, youth/children/family ministry, and church planting.

### ***Core Degree Learning Outcomes***

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

1. interpret a selected biblical passage from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. identify and pose distinctly theological questions in texts, art works, and/or human existence;
3. articulate the value of theological study in light of their own religious convictions;
4. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
5. apply to their vocational context or academic study an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on a selected moral dilemma from a variety of Christian OR interreligious ethical perspectives;
6. evaluate one's spiritual development in light of one's own "sources of the self" and religious horizons;
7. identify, transform, and/or create specific sources of spiritual power that resist human degradation and enhance human life;
8. demonstrate a reflective awareness of how theological study and practical learning at seminary has shaped and empowered oneself as a religious leader;
9. demonstrate effective graduate-level writing and argumentation skills; and
10. demonstrate the capacity to intervene articulately and persuasively in one's existing field of ministry / religious leadership in a way that a) responds to some real-world problem or question, and b) integrates the knowledge and skills cultivated in seminary.

### ***Degree Requirements***

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

- Satisfactory completion of the Required Courses for the concentration in which the student is enrolled. See the appropriate MAM 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 five (5) 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. interpret a selected passage from a selected religious text from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. identify and pose distinctly theological questions in texts, art works, and/or human existence;
3. articulate the value of theological study in light of their own religious convictions;
4. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;

5. 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;
6. apply to their vocational context or academic study an appropriate critical analysis of and reflection on a selected moral dilemma from a variety of Christian OR interreligious ethical perspectives;
7. 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;
8. critically analyze and reflect on the religious history and theological perspectives of a selected population historically marginalized by the dominant voices of their religious traditions;
9. articulate a personal statement of values and ethics as a leader and develop an appropriate mission, vision, strategy, staffing, finances, fundraising, and marketing plan for a congregation OR develop a social enterprise project that utilizes a theory of change model, business concept generation, and a proposal to test the model;
10. evaluate one's spiritual development in light of one's own "sources of the self" and religious horizons;
11. identify, transform, and/or create specific sources of spiritual power that resist human degradation and enhance human life;
12. critically analyze and reflect on the global expressions of religions in relation to their own faith tradition;
13. articulate an informed understanding of the historical use of the arts as a means of theological or religious expression and reflection OR an informed understanding of the complex relationships among art, culture and religion;
14. analyze a historical or contemporary artistic or cultural work for the ways it expresses spiritual and religious ideas;
15. interpret cultural and vocational contexts and identify strategic points of leadership for social transformation;
16. develop an effective plan for a social transformation initiative that includes a needs assessment, strategies and plans that address those needs, a communications plan, and a plan for acquiring needed resources;
17. demonstrate a reflective awareness of how theological study and practical learning at seminary has shaped and empowered oneself as a religious leader;
18. demonstrate the capacity to intervene articulately and persuasively in one's existing field of ministry / religious leadership in a way that a) responds to some real-world problem or question and b) integrates the knowledge and skills cultivated in seminary; and
19. 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:

- 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 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.

### **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. interpret a selected biblical passage from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
3. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected 1st–17th Century Christian or 18th–20th Century theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
4. apply basic knowledge of biblical Hebrew to the exegesis of a given biblical text; and
5. apply knowledge of the meaning in the original language of selected New Testament texts to the critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on those texts.

#### ***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. interpret a selected biblical passage from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
3. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected Christian theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
4. 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;
5. craft and deliver a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
6. apply basic knowledge of biblical Hebrew to the exegesis of a given biblical text OR apply knowledge of the meaning in the original language of selected New Testament texts to the critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on those texts; and

7. 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. interpret a selected biblical passage from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
3. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected Christian theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
4. articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
5. craft and deliver 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.

### **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 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.

### **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; and
3. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path.

### **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. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected Christian theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges; and
2. craft, deliver, and reflect on a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context.

### **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;

4. articulate strategies for effective organizational leadership in multiple Humanist-oriented non-profit contexts;
5. MDiv: 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 OR 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;
6. MDiv: articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
7. MDiv: craft and deliver a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
8. MDiv: achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path OR demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons.

### **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;
5. incorporate an informed understanding of trauma into describing its impact on the spiritual well-being of individuals, families, and communities;
6. articulate their own theology/spirituality of trauma informed pastoral care, particularly as it relates to their ministerial/vocational path; and
7. identify appropriate specific strategies for trauma healing that they can incorporate into their practice as a spiritual/pastoral care provider.

### **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 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 an informed understanding of the sīra, Islamic law and Usul al-Fiqh, Islamic spirituality and Aklaq, and the history of Islam in America;
2. demonstrate an informed understanding of the fields of 'ulūm al-Qur'ān and 'ulūm al-Ḥadīth;
3. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
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 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;
6. articulate effective strategies for providing spiritual care in a given interreligious setting;
7. incorporate an informed understanding of trauma into describing its impact on the spiritual well-being of individuals, families, and communities;
8. articulate their own theology/spirituality of trauma informed pastoral care, particularly as it relates to their ministerial/vocational path; and
9. identify appropriate specific strategies for trauma healing that they can incorporate into their practice as a spiritual/pastoral care provider.

## **Interreligious Studies (MA)**

This program is designed to prepare students to be able to incorporate into the examination of contemporary issues a critical yet appreciative engagement with the texts and theological/philosophical perspectives of multiple religious traditions.

Graduates of this program can pursue doctorates in religious studies with a focus on interreligious issues and eventually pursue careers as scholars and professors in a seminary, divinity school, or college, as religion teachers in a private school or church, or as “public theologians” whose primary audience is society or the wider culture. In combination with an MDiv or other ministry degree, graduates of this program can also become leaders of interreligious-oriented ministries and organizations that involve interreligious studies and thought leadership on interreligious issues.

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

1. interpret a selected passage from the Hebrew Bible, New Testament, Qur'an, and/or Buddhist scriptures from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected Christian, pagan, Islamic, or Jewish theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges; and
3. 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 OR articulate their own theology of religions and personal approach to interreligious engagement that are faithful to their religious tradition and responsive to a religiously plural context.

## **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. interpret a selected biblical passage from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
3. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected 1st–17th Century Christian theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
4. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
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. demonstrate competence in Systematic Theology and Christian Ministry Praxis (see Luther Seminary).

## **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. interpret a selected biblical passage from multiple historical and contemporary perspectives and using one or more critical methods, demonstrating understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation;
2. conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
3. critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected 1st–17th Century Christian theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
4. articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
5. 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. creatively and effectively construct liturgy and lead worship in one’s religious and denominational context;
7. analyze, construct, and lead the basic elements of Christian worship according to their denominational traditions and theological commitments;
8. craft and deliver a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
9. apply basic knowledge of biblical Hebrew to the exegesis of a given biblical text.;

10. apply knowledge of the meaning in the original language of selected New Testament texts to the critical interpretation of, analysis of, and reflection on those texts;
11. articulate their vocation as a presbyterian minister;
12. effectively use the Directory of Worship and the Book of Common Worship in the development of Reformed worship services;
13. incorporate each of the four parts of the Book of Order into the practice of Presbyterian ministry;
14. effectively moderate a meeting;
15. successfully complete the standard ordination exams in Church Polity and in Worship and Sacraments;
16. explain the historical development of the Reformed tradition, including the central theological ideas of John Calvin;
17. reflect theologically on what it means to be Reformed in the contemporary world;
18. explain the basic theological foci of the creeds and confessions found in the Book of Confessions; and
19. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination.

## **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. MA: critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected 1st–17th Century Christian OR 18th–20th Century theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
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. MDiv: conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
5. MDiv: critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected Christian theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
6. 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;
7. MDiv: craft and deliver a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
8. MDiv: achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path OR demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons.

## **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***

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 constructive theological proposal that is conversant with core theological categories and addresses a social or political issue that relates to students' vocational context;
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. demonstrate transformational leadership through the intentional, real world application of hermeneutical and strategic frameworks for faithful public witness and action in the world;

7. provide documentation, reflection, and evaluate a social transformation project which offers a contribution to the field;
8. MAL: articulate a personal statement of values and ethics as a leader and develop an appropriate mission, vision, strategy, staffing, finances, fundraising, and marketing plan for a congregation OR develop a social enterprise project that utilizes a theory of change model, business concept generation, and a proposal to test the model;
9. MDiv: develop a social enterprise project that utilizes a theory of change model, business concept generation, and a proposal to test the model; and
10. 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. 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)**

The purpose of United's Spiritual Direction program is to prepare students with knowledge and skills required to effectively support others in their personal spiritual development in both one-on-one and group settings. The programs are offered for both the MAL and MDiv degrees, depending upon the student's planned ministerial path. The MAL program prepares students for spiritual direction in non-ordained settings and offers core theological and leadership training, while the MDiv program prepares students for spiritual direction in an ordained congregational leadership position and offers generalized training for congregational pastoral care.

Required Spiritual Direction courses completed through St. Catherine University's discontinued Spiritual Direction Certificate program continue to be accepted towards completion of United's MAL and MDiv in Spiritual Direction programs.

#### ***Learning Outcomes***

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

1. articulate the role of discernment in spiritual direction/companionship;
2. apply deep listening, their way of knowing, and their spiritual life to the use of discernment models used to guide others to go deeper into personal and communal wholeness and healing;
3. articulate the historical, theological, and spiritual foundations of spiritual direction/companionship;
4. apply deep listening, evocative questions, presence, silence, compassion, and empathy to the soul care and spiritual guidance of others;
5. articulate the historical, theological, spiritual, and ethical foundations of spiritual direction/companionship;
6. effectively participate in a one-to-one spiritual direction/companionship session;
7. effectively lead a group spiritual direction/companionship session;
8. effectively teach a contemplative spiritual practice;
9. MDiv: articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
10. MDiv: incorporate an informed understanding of trauma into describing its impact on the spiritual well-being of individuals, families, and communities;
11. MDiv: articulate their own theology/spirituality of trauma informed pastoral care, particularly as it relates to their ministerial/vocational path; and
12. MDiv: identify appropriate specific strategies for trauma healing that they can incorporate into their practice as a spiritual/pastoral care provider.

## **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 programs will be able to:

1. articulate an informed understanding of the historical use of the arts as a means of theological or religious expression and reflection;
2. articulate an informed understanding of the complex relationships among art, culture and religion;
3. analyze a contemporary artistic or cultural work for the ways it expresses spiritual and religious ideas;
4. express a studied theological or religious concept, question, or issue via an art form;
5. articulate the relationship between theology and the arts—both verbally and through their artwork;
6. MDiv: critically interpret, analyze and reflect on a selected Christian theological text or perspective in its historical context as well as through the lens of modern questions and challenges;
7. MDiv: craft and deliver a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context; and
8. MDiv: achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path OR demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons.

## **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. conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
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. creatively and effectively construct liturgy and lead worship in one's religious and denominational context;
5. craft and deliver a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
6. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination or other vocational path;
7. engage critically and constructively with the history, polity and ecclesiology of the United Church of Christ and its varied ministry settings by reflecting on the central tenet of covenantal polity as practiced in the church;
8. see their own role as a leader and teacher in the mission and ministry of the UCC through engaging in a Position Paper that connects our history, theology and polity to a current issue/movement faced in a ministry setting;
9. prepare themselves for ordination or transfer of standing in the United Church of Christ; and
10. achieve their self-defined practice of ministry goals that are appropriately based on the requirements of their denomination.

## **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.

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. conduct a personal theological interpretation of a selected biblical text that demonstrates understanding of the influence of their own situatedness on that interpretation and that engages the situatedness of contemporary readers from a context different from their own;
2. demonstrate skills for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
3. craft and deliver a sermon or public address that demonstrates effective speaking form/style and content based on a selected context;
4. prepare a holistic, multisensory, inclusive worship or ritual for life passage that integrates theological theory and practice and demonstrates awareness of multicultural and multigenerational approaches to worship;
5. construct and deliver a faith formation curriculum that effectively applies theories of teaching and learning, engages appropriately with diverse spiritual traditions and communities, and demonstrates understanding of multi-religious knowledge and practices;
6. 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; and
7. effectively apply their knowledge of UU history, UUA polity structures, and the opportunities and challenges of Unitarian Universalism to the practice of UU ministry.

## **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 the MDiv in 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 starting on the following page.

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One of two biblical RT courses:<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament   |
| Theological Tradition         | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies   |
| Ethics/Justice                | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>  |
| Academic Contextualization    | 5         | Second of two biblical RT courses:<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis<br>Choose one:<br>RT2400 Biblical Hebrew<br>RT2401 New Testament Greek<br>One additional RT course<br>One elective course* |
| Academic Skills               | 1         | MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*  |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>36 Credits</b>  |

\* 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition         | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies                |
| Ethics/Justice                | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| Academic Contextualization    | 5         | Five elective courses (as approved by advisor)*   |
| Academic Skills               | 1         | MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>36 Credits</b>   |

\* 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition         | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation |
| Ethics/Justice                | 2         | Choose One:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies                               |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| Academic Contextualization    | 5         | TR2009 Eco-Theologies and Eco-Spiritualities<br>EJ2002 Eco-Justice and Ethics<br>EJ2003 Applied Issues in Eco-Justice<br>Two elective courses*  |
| Academic Skills               | 1         | MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>36 Credits</b>   |

\* 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition         | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies                |
| Ethics/Justice                | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| Academic Contextualization    | 5         | Two additional EJ courses<br>Three elective courses (as approved by advisor)*   |
| Academic Skills               | 1         | MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>36 Credits</b>   |

\* 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 Interreligious 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition         | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies  |
| Ethics/Justice                | 2         | EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| Academic Contextualization    | 5         | CC1002 World Religions<br>Choose two:∗<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament<br>RT2300 Buddhist Scriptures<br>RT2301 Introduction to the Qur'an<br>Choose one:<br>TR2010 What is Religion?<br>TR2011 Theologies of Religions and Interreligious Dialogue<br>Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>TR4001 Contemporary Paganism<br>TR4003 Islam: History and Theology<br>TR4004 Modern Jewish Theology |
| Academic Skills               | 1         | MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits†   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>36 Credits</b>   |

\* In addition to the required core 2000-level Religious Texts course

† 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition         | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies                |
| Ethics/Justice                | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| Academic Contextualization    | 5         | TR2010 What is Religion?<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology<br>Three elective courses (as approved by advisor)*  |
| Academic Skills               | 1         | MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>36 Credits</b>   |

\* 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.

| <b>Learning Outcome</b>       | <b># Courses</b> | <b>Courses</b>  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Religious Texts               | 2                | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition         | 2                | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies                |
| Ethics/Justice                | 2                | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>6</b>         | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| Academic Contextualization    | 5                | AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture<br>AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar<br>Two elective courses (as approved by advisor)*     |
| Academic Skills               | 1                | MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>6</b>         | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b>        | <b>36 Credits</b>   |

\* 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies   |
| Formation                             | 1         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions   |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture  |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>10</b> | <b>30 Credits</b>   |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 6         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2001 Faith Formation<br>Two additional PM courses<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship OR<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>MS3200 MAL Final Project |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>   |

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>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:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture  |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>10</b> | <b>30 Credits</b>   |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 6         | AH1001 Humanist Worldviews: Then and Now*<br>AH2001 Humanist Philosophy: A Journey Through All the Big Questions*<br>AH2002 Humanist Aesthetics and Practices*<br>AH2003 Humanist Leadership: How to Run Organizations*<br>One United elective course<br>MS3200 MAL Final Project |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>   |

\* 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course   |
| Theological Tradition                 | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies   |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation                             | 1         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>10</b> | <b>30 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 6         | ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation<br>ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise<br>One elective course<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship OR<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>ST3001 Social Transformation Capstone |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course   |
| Theological Tradition                 | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies   |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation                             | 1         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>10</b> | <b>30 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 6         | Two PM courses<br>Two elective courses (as approved by advisor)<br>Choose one:<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*<br>MS3200 MAL Final Project |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |

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

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course   |
| Theological Tradition                 | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies   |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation                             | 1         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>10</b> | <b>30 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 6         | SD1001 The Art of Discernment*<br>SD1002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1*<br>SD2001 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2*<br>One elective course<br>FE3041 & FE3042 Spiritual Direction Practicum*†<br>MS3200 MAL Final Project |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>6</b>  | <b>18 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |

\* Spiritual Direction courses completed through St. Catherine University's discontinued Spiritual Direction program continue to be accepted towards completion of United's MAL in Spiritual Direction program.

† Although the Spiritual Direction Practicum course is a two-term sequence, the practicum experience itself will likely require a third term to fulfill the hours requirement.

## Master of Arts in Ministry (MAM)

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

| Learning Outcome              | # Courses | Courses  |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Religious Texts               | 3         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament  |
| Theological Tradition         | 2         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>One additional TR course |
| Ethics/Justice                | 1         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics          |
| Formation                     | 1         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation                                       |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>7</b>  | <b>15 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Skills             | 5         | Four PM courses<br>MS3300 MA in Ministry Capstone                                      |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>15 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>36 Credits</b>  |

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM2001 Faith Formation<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>Choose one:<br>RT2400 Biblical Hebrew<br>RT2401 New Testament Greek<br>Two additional RT courses<br>Two elective courses*<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship OR<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive† |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

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

† CPE Internship may be substituted upon advisor approval. Although not required for degree completion, Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care must be completed to be eligible for CPE Internship registration.

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2101 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2201 New Testament<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:*\br/>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>Three additional PM courses*<br>Two elective courses*<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship OR<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive* |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

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

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>Two 2000-level RT courses<br>Choose one:<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis<br>One additional 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>Three additional PM courses<br>Three elective courses<br>Choose one:<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship* |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

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

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>Two 2000-level RT courses<br>One additional RT course   |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>Choose one:<br>ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation<br>TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies<br>One additional TR course  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies   |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>AH2003 Humanist Leadership: How to Run Organizations*  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture  |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>   |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>AH1001 Humanist Worldviews: Then and Now*<br>AH2001 Humanist Philosophy: A Journey Through All the Big Questions*<br>AH2002 Humanist Aesthetics and Practices*<br>Two United elective courses<br>Choose one:<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>   |

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



## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>Two 2000-level RT courses<br>Choose one:<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis<br>One additional 2000-level RT course   |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>Choose one:<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology*<br>One additional TR course   |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies   |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture  |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>   |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy<br>IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy<br>IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care<br>Two elective courses†<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>   |

\* Students seeking UUA ordination may petition the Registrar to replace Constructive Theology with TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies.

† For students seeking ordination, the appropriate denominational polity course is recommended as one elective.

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>One 2000-level RT course<br>TISA-601 Advanced Qur’anic Studies*<br>TISA-602 Advanced Hadith Sciences and Hadith Commentary*  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TISA-615 Advanced Sirah*<br>TISA-620 Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh*<br>TISA-631 Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality*<br>TISA-642 Islam in America*  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation   |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | CC1002 World Religions   |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy<br>IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy<br>IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care<br>Two elective courses<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship (Islamic focus) |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

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

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis   |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>HT0801 Lutheran Confessional Writings*<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies   |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions   |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture  |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>   |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>WO0515 Public Worship*<br>Congregational Internship* (6 Credits)<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship<br>Two Luther Seminary elective courses* |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>   |

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

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis   |
| Theological Tradition                  | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR2008 Classics of Protestant Reformed Theology<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology   |
| Ethics/Justice                         | 2         | EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies   |
| Formation and Leadership               | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration   |
| Cultural Contextualization             | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions   |
| Arts and Theology                      | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture  |
| Social Transformation                  | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  |
| Integration                            | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                   | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>   |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills* | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>PM2001 Faith Formation<br>PM2002 Worship of the Church<br>RT2400 Biblical Hebrew<br>RT2401 New Testament Greek<br>TR2006 Presbyterian History, Worship and Polity<br>Choose one:<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>          | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                    | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>   |

\* PC(USA) additionally recommends 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>Two 2000-level RT courses<br>Choose one:<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis<br>One additional 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>PM2001 Faith Formation<br>TR2010 What is Religion?<br>Two additional TR courses<br>Two elective courses<br>Choose one:<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship* |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

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

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>Two 2000-level RT courses<br>Choose one:<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis<br>One additional 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition                    | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation   |
| Ethics/Justice                           | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership                 | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration  |
| Cultural Contextualization               | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                        | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                    | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                              | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                     | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational<br>Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise<br>Three elective courses<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship OR<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>ST3001 Social Transformation Capstone |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>            | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                      | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>Two 2000-level RT courses<br>Choose one:<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis<br>One additional 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>SD1001 The Art of Discernment*<br>SD1002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1*<br>SD2001 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2*<br>IC2003 Trauma, Suffering, and Care<br>Two elective courses<br>FE3041 & FE3042 Spiritual Direction Practicum* |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

\* Spiritual Direction courses completed through St. Catherine University's discontinued Spiritual Direction program continue to be accepted towards completion of United's MDiv in Spiritual Direction program.

† Although the Spiritual Direction Practicum course is a two-term sequence, the practicum experience itself will likely require a third term to fulfill the hours requirement.

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>Two 2000-level RT courses<br>Choose one:<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis<br>One additional 2000-level RT course  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | Choose one:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>Choose one:<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>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   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>One additional PM course<br>Three elective courses<br>Choose one:<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship* |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

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



## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible<br>RT2200 New Testament<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2100 Constructive Theology  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | Choose one:<br>CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity<br>CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>PM2002 Worship of the Church<br>PM2001 Faith Formation<br>TR2005 UCC History, Theology and Polity<br>One elective course<br>FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship OR<br>FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible*<br>RT2200 New Testament*<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis†   |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies  |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies  |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration  |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | CC1002 World Religions   |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture   |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change   |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>  |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 8         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>PM2010 Contextual UU Faith Formation<br>PM2006 Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual: UU Theories & Praxis<br>TR2001 UU History and Polity<br>One additional RT or TR course<br>One elective course<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship (2 terms) |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>8</b>  | <b>24 Credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>24</b> | <b>72 Credits</b>  |

\* Students may petition the Registrar to replace one biblical RT course with another 2000-level RT course.

† Students may petition the Registrar to replace Biblical Exegesis with an additional 2000-level RT course.

## 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         | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible*<br>RT2200 New Testament*<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis†  |
| Theological Tradition                 | 4         | TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty<br>TR1002 History of Christian Theologies<br>TR1003 History of Modern Theologies<br>TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies   |
| Ethics/Justice                        | 2         | EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>Choose one:<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies   |
| Formation and Leadership              | 2         | FL1001 Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation<br>FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration   |
| Cultural Contextualization            | 1         | CC1002 World Religions  |
| Arts and Theology                     | 1         | Choose one:<br>AT1001 History of Arts and Theology<br>AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture  |
| Social Transformation                 | 1         | ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  |
| Integration                           | 1         | MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar  |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                  | <b>16</b> | <b>48 Credits</b>   |
| Vocational Contextualization & Skills | 9         | PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care<br>PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice<br>PM2010 Contextual UU Faith Formation<br>PM2006 Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual: UU Theories & Praxis<br>TR2001 UU History and Polity<br>ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation<br>ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement<br>FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship—Social Justice Focus (2 terms)<br>ST3001 Social Transformation Capstone |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>         | <b>9</b>  | <b>27 Credits</b>   |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                   | <b>25</b> | <b>75 Credits</b>   |

\* Students may petition the Registrar to replace one biblical RT course with another 2000-level RT course.

† Students may petition the Registrar to replace Biblical Exegesis with an additional RT course.

## Religious Texts Core Course Substitution Options for Continuing Students

As of the 2023–2024 academic year, the following core degree RT courses are no longer offered: RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1, RT1201 New Testament 1, RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2, and RT2201 New Testament 2. These courses have been replaced by a new set of core degree RT courses: RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts, RT2100 Hebrew Bible, RT2200 New Testament, RT3001 Biblical Exegesis. Students who are following degree course requirements from prior to 2023–2024 may substitute the new RT courses listed below for the discontinued courses in order to fulfill those course requirements.

Two unique core RT courses—either discontinued or new—must be completed to fulfill the MA or MAL degree Religious Texts course requirement. Four unique core RT courses—either discontinued or new—must be completed to fulfill the MDiv degree Religious Texts course requirement.

Students enrolled in the following MDiv concentration programs must complete at least one discontinued or new core Hebrew Bible course and one discontinued or new core New Testament course to fulfill the course requirements for that concentration: Biblical Studies, Church Leadership, Lutheran Studies, Presbyterian Studies, UCC Studies, UU Studies, UU Studies and Social Transformation.

For students first enrolled in a program prior to Fall 2023, a maximum of one biblical language course—Biblical Hebrew or New Testament Greek—may be completed in place of one new core RT course towards fulfillment of their program’s Religious Texts course requirement. MDiv students seeking ministry or ordination are urged to consult with their denomination to determine the eligibility of the language course in meeting the denomination’s biblical coursework requirement. This allowance does not supersede the MDiv concentration requirement described in the previous paragraph.

| Discontinued Core RT Courses                           | New Core RT Course Substitution Options  |
|--|--|
| RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation                     | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2100 Hebrew Bible*                               |
| RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2200 New Testament*<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis† |
| RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation   | RT2100 Hebrew Bible*<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis†  |
| RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels                   | RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts<br>RT2200 New Testament*<br>RT3001 Biblical Exegesis† |

\* Either the completion of RT1001, RT1101, RT1201 or RT2201 or the concurrent enrollment in RT1001 is required to enroll in RT2100 or RT2200.

† Completion of two courses among RT1101, RT1201 or RT2201 or one course among RT2100, RT2101 or RT2200 is required to enroll in RT3001.

## 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 Biblical Studies**

Second of two biblical RT courses:\*

RT2100 Hebrew Bible OR

RT2200 New Testament

RT3001 Biblical Exegesis\*

RT3101 Biblical Hebrew OR

RT3201 New Testament Greek

MS3103 MA Thesis

#### **MA Directed Study†**

Three electives as approved by advisor

MS3103 Master's Thesis

#### **MA Directed Study—Interreligious Chaplaincy**

PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral/Spiritual Care\*

IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy

One additional IC course as approved by advisor

MS3103 MA Thesis

#### **MA in Eco-Justice**

TR2009 Eco-Theologies and Eco-Spiritualities

EJ2002 Eco-Justice and Ethics

EJ2003 Applied Issues in Eco-Justice

MS3103 MA Thesis

#### **MA in Ethics and Justice**

Two additional EJ courses

One elective as approved by advisor

MS3103 MA Thesis

#### **MA in Interreligious Studies**

Choose one:

RT2300 Buddhist Scriptures

RT2301 Introduction to the Qur'an

Choose one:

TR2010 What is Religion?\*

TR2011 Theologies of Religions and Interreligious Dialogue

Choose one:

CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity

TR4001 Contemporary Paganism

TR4003 Islam: History and Theology

TR4004 Modern Jewish Theology

MS3103 MA Thesis

#### **MA in Religion and Theology**

TR2010 What is Religion?

Two electives as approved by advisor

MS3103 MA Thesis

#### **MA in Theology and the Arts**

AT1001 History of Arts and Theology\*

AT1002 Art, Religion, & Contemporary Culture\*

AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar

MS3103 MA Thesis

**MAL in Faith Formation**

PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral & Spiritual Care\*  
 PM2001 Faith Formation\*  
 Two additional PM courses  
 FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education\*  
 MS3200 MAL Final Project

**MAL in Social Transformation**

ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change\*  
 ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation\*  
 ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement  
 ST2003 Social Enterprise  
 FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education  
 ST3001 Social Transformation Capstone

**MAL Specialized Ministry†**

Two additional PM courses  
 Two additional electives (as approved by advisor)  
 Choose one:  
 FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education  
 FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship  
 MS3200 MAL Final Project

**MAL in Spiritual Direction**

SD1001 The Art of Discernment  
 SD1002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1  
 SD2001 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2  
 One elective course  
 FE3041 & FE3042 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\*

**MDiv in Social Transformation**

PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice\*  
 ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement  
 ST2003 Social Enterprise  
 Three elective courses  
 FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education  
 ST3001 Social Transformation Capstone

\* 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.

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

### *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; and

### *Dissertation*

complete a research investigation or work of art that makes a significant contribution to the effective application of their area of concentration to the practice of ministry, chaplaincy, or other vocational leadership.

## Degree Requirements

- 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.

### Required Courses

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



## 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   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>          | <b>2</b>  | <b>8 credits</b>   |
| Leadership Capacity           | 5         | IC5001 Advanced Topics in Interreligious Practice<br>IC5002 Chaplains at Work: Exploring Systems, Values, and Ethics<br>IC5003 Advanced Topics in Intercultural Practice<br>One DMin level course or independent study (as approved by advisor)<br>DM5300 DMin Practicum |
| Integration                   | 2         | DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal<br>DM5400 DMin Dissertation   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>28 credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>           | <b>9</b>  | <b>36 credits</b>  |

## 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. integrate the insights of liberation theologies into their vocational leadership practice in a way that demonstrates constructive engagement with key thinkers, ideas, and sociopolitical and historical contexts out of which liberation theologies emerge; and
2. 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.

### Required Courses

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

## 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. articulate an understanding of the religious and historical context of social change, particularly in the United States in the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries, and the student's relationship to that context;
2. construct a working theory of change and a 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 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; and
6. integrate the insights of liberation theologies into their vocational leadership practice in a way that demonstrates constructive engagement with key thinkers, ideas, and sociopolitical and historical contexts out of which liberation theologies emerge.

### Required Courses

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

## DMin in Spiritual Direction

The purpose of this program is to provide working pastors and other vocational ministers who have already attained the MDiv (or equivalent) knowledge and skills required for effectively practicing spiritual direction in both one-on-one and group settings along with core formational and leadership training. Students also craft their own research project (dissertation) in the area of spiritual direction using their spiritual direction practicum work as a base for that work.

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

1. articulate the role of discernment in spiritual direction/companionship;
2. apply deep listening, their way of knowing, and their spiritual life to the use of discernment models used to guide others to go deeper into personal and communal wholeness and healing;
3. articulate the historical, theological, and spiritual foundations of spiritual direction/companionship;
4. apply deep listening, evocative questions, presence, silence, compassion, and empathy to the soul care and spiritual guidance of others;
5. articulate the historical, theological, spiritual, and ethical foundations of spiritual direction/companionship;
6. effectively participate in a one-to-one spiritual direction/companionship session;
7. effectively lead a group spiritual direction/companionship session;
8. effectively teach a contemplative spiritual practice; and
9. complete a research investigation that makes a significant contribution to the effective application of spiritual direction 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   |
| <b>Core Subtotal</b>                       | <b>2</b>  | <b>8 credits</b>   |
| Leadership Capacity                        | 5         | SD5001 DMin The Art of Discernment<br>SD5002 DMin Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1<br>SD5201 DMin Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2<br>FE5341 & DM5342 DMin Spiritual Direction Practicum (2 terms)*<br>One DMin level course or independent study (as approved by advisor) |
| Integration:<br>Interdisciplinary Research | 2         | DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal<br>DM5400 DMin Dissertation   |
| <b>Concentration Subtotal</b>              | <b>7</b>  | <b>28 credits</b>  |
| <b>Degree Total</b>                        | <b>9</b>  | <b>36 credits</b>  |

\* Although the Spiritual Direction Practicum course is a two-term sequence, the practicum experience itself will likely require a third term to fulfill the hours requirement.

## 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:

1. integrate personal and professional artistic practices into the creation of a new model for leadership in a congregational, chaplaincy, or other setting; and
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.

### Required Courses

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

# CERTIFICATE IN SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

This program is designed to prepare students with the knowledge and skills for effectively practicing spiritual direction in both one-on-one and group settings that meet the increasing demands for credentials and competency in the field. The program can be completed part-time in one to two years.

Graduates of this program can pursue a career as a spiritual director within or outside of the congregational context, in retreat center settings, in public settings such as wellness centers, and independently in the home or office. Graduates also find that the contemplative skills and theological knowledge gained through participation in the program are transferable to a wide variety of other helping professions.

## Required Courses

| Course  | Credits   |
|---|-----------|
| SD1001 The Art of Discernment   | 3         |
| SD1002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1                              | 3         |
| SD2001 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2                              | 3         |
| FE3041/FE3042 Spiritual Direction Practicum<br>(2 terms)                | 3         |
| One elective course (as approved by Director of<br>Spiritual Direction) | 3         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>15</b> |

# CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

The Certificate in Theological Studies program provides a non-degree option for students to gain graduate level training in core theological subjects. The certificate is designed for people who do not necessarily want or need a seminary degree, but who would like graduate level training in core theological subjects. Candidates for this program include lay leaders in churches, bi-vocational pastors who do not need a degree to continue their vocation in ministry, and non-profit leaders of organizations with religious or spiritual concerns.

The program requires five courses—with some flexible options—from United’s core curriculum. The credits earned in this certificate can be transferred to any accredited seminary degree program including United’s MA, MAL, MAM and MDiv degrees.

Students who have completed the required coursework for the Certificate in Theological Studies while enrolled in a United degree program will not be eligible for the certificate unless they withdraw from the degree program in good standing without earning a degree.

## Required Courses

| Course   | Credits   |
|--|-----------|
| TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty | 3         |
| Choose One:  | 3         |
| TR1002 History of Christian Theologies                     |           |
| TR1003 History of Modern Theologies                        |           |
| RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts                     | 3         |
| Choose one:  | 3         |
| RT2100 Hebrew Bible  |           |
| RT2200 New Testament                                       |           |
| One 2000-level RT course                                   | 3         |
| Choose one:  |           |
| EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics                        |           |
| EJ1001 Christian Ethics                                    |           |
| CC1002 World Religions                                     |           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>15</b> |

# CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED ETHICS AND JUSTICE

The Certificate in Applied Ethics and Justice provides a non-degree option for students to gain practical graduate level training in ethical thought and justice issues. The Certificate is designed for people who do not necessarily want or need a seminary degree, but who would like graduate level training in social change agency, leadership, and social justice organizing. Candidates for this program include lay leaders in churches, bi-vocational pastors who do not need a degree to continue their vocation in ministry or non-profit organizational leadership with religious or spiritual concerns.

The program requires five courses—with several flexible options—from United’s Ethics and Justice and Social Transformation curricula. The credits earned in this certificate can be transferred to any accredited seminary degree program including United’s MA, MAL, MAM and MDiv degrees.

Students who have completed the required coursework for the Certificate in Applied Ethics and Justice while enrolled in a United degree program will not be eligible for the certificate unless they withdraw from the degree program in good standing without earning a degree.

## Required Courses

| Course   | Credits   |
|--|-----------|
| Choose two:<br>EJ1001 Christian Ethics<br>EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics<br>ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change  | 6         |
| Choose three (Consult catalog course descriptions for pre- or corequisite course requirements):<br>EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies<br>EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies<br>EJ2002 Eco-Justice and Ethics<br>EJ2003 Applied Issues in Eco-Justice<br>Any other EJ2000-level course or above<br>ST2002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement<br>ST2003 Social Enterprise | 9         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>15</b> |



# 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/capstone courses
- 4000 Elective and special studies courses
- 5000 DMin core courses
- 6000 Continuation courses

Please see the course schedules located on the [Student Resources page](#) in Canvas for details on the days, times, professors, and syllabi of the courses offered each term.

## 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 frequency of 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 for this course: AH1001*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: AH1001*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: AH1001*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of 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 frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001; AT1001 or AT1002.*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of 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 frequency of 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.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

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 frequency of 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; AT1001 or AT1002*

*Planned frequency of 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 and Intra-religious Diversity**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

This course explores the varied, adapting, and complex elements of Christianity as a global religion and social phenomenon. The intra-religious distinctions across geographical expressions of Christian religious practice and theology are as diverse and varied as the diversities among all religions. With that in view, the course introduces students to the dynamics of religion among emerging Christian communities, diasporas that construct faith communities on a spectrum of engagement with culture and other religious expressions. Students will gain a sophisticated and critical understanding of Christianity and its theological constructions in global settings, which underscore the diversity, complexity, and flexible nature of religion (including settings in which Christianity melds with indigenous traditions).

### **CC1002 World Religions**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of 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 frequency of offerings: annually in fall*

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.*

*Prerequisites for this course: see the DMin Practicum section of the Student Handbook.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal; DM5300 Practicum; includes non-course prerequisites prior to registration—see the DMin Dissertation section of the Student Handbook.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: 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 frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001 except for Interreligious Chaplaincy (Islamic Studies) concentration.*

*Planned frequency of 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 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 for this course: EJ1001 or EJ1002.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001; EJ1001 or EJ1002.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: EJ1001 or EJ1002.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: EJ1001 or EJ1002*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: EJ1001 or EJ1002.*

*Planned frequency of 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.*

*Prerequisites EJ1001 or EJ1002*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **EJ4003 Contemporary Approaches to Black Theology: Comedy, Culture, and Conjure**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

This course explores African cosmological and afro-futurist themes throughout the development of Black Theology by engaging and integrating alternative (non-Western) sources that occasion the kinds of cultural analysis and pragmatic innovation necessary to envision Black flourishing beyond survival as a primary locus of attention. It begins with critical analysis of culture and extends into a constructive exploration of Black theoretical frameworks that creatively engage comedy, technology, and African cosmology to envision and construct new theological concepts that move outside the shadow of Western thought toward new norms of flourishing and new methods of making it so. Students in this course can expect two primary forms of engagement throughout this class: 1) Critical, with the purpose of analyzing cultural realities that prevent flourishing and 2) Constructive, with the purpose of reimagining existing theological frameworks and proposing new ideas through assignments that feature a blend of writing, speaking, and curating in relation to their vocational contexts and our communal learning space.

## **Field Experience (FE)**

### **FE2001 Contextual Education 1**

### **FE2002 Contextual Education 2**

### **FE2003 Contextual Education Intensive**

*Previous Course Titles: FE3001/FE3010/FE3100 Congregational Internship, FE3003/FE3030/FE3300 Ministry Practicum, and FE3004/FE3005/FE3006 Social Transformation Practicum*  
*FE2001 and FE2002 1.5 Credits each; FE 2003 3 Credits.*

*Prerequisites: Approval of faculty advisor; FE2001 is a prerequisite for FE2002.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: every term.*

The contextual education internship/practicum consists of a 10–12 hour per week supervised ministry experience in a congregational, faith-based, or secular setting over the course of at least two academic terms (at least 400 hours). Students enter the internship with a completed Learning Agreement, allowing them to achieve the spiritual, personal and vocational goals needed to move into the next phase of professional ministry or other leadership role. Students meet regularly with an action-learning team with other students in class to engage in group learning about the experience on their respective sites. Evaluation assignments are included during and at the end of the experience in relationship with the student's supervisor. Arrangements for placements and selection of a supervisor are made in conjunction with the Director of Contextual Education. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.



## **FE3002/FE3020 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Internship (2 terms)**

*FE3002 3 Credits; FE3020 0 Credits.*

*Prerequisites for this course: PM1001, FL1001, TR1001; FE3002 is a prerequisite for FE3020; includes non-course prerequisites prior to registration—see the Contextual Studies section of the Student Handbook.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: every term*

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. CPE Internship is not a classroom course.

## **FE3041/FE3042 Spiritual Direction Practicum (2 terms)**

*1.5 Credits each.*

*Prerequisites for this course: SD2001; FE3041 is a prerequisite for FE3042; includes non-course prerequisites prior to registration—see the Contextual Studies section of the Student Handbook.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

The Spiritual Direction Practicum is a required contextual education experience for all Spiritual Direction programs—certificate only, MAL, MDiv, and DMin—to supplement academic study and provide the student with the opportunity to put theory into practice and practice into theory. Internships in spiritual direction or pastoral ministry are among the possible practicum options. The practicum is completed over two or three academic terms.

## **FE4001/FE4002 Contextual Education 3/4**

### **FE4003 Contextual Education Intensive 2**

*FE4001, FE4002, FE4004 and FE4005 1.5 Credits each; FE4003 and FE4006 3 Credits each.*

*Prerequisites: FE2001/FE2002 or FE2003*

These advanced contextual education experiences are designed for students who have completed the initial 3-credit contextual education internship/practicum and are seeking additional ministry or other leadership experiences in a new setting. Each additional course requires a deeper learning experience and expected outcome. These courses may be completed more than once to address additional contextual education experiences.

## **FE5341/FE3042 Spiritual Direction Practicum (DMin; 2 terms)**

*2 Credits each.*

*Prerequisites for this course: SD5201, approval by the Spiritual Direction Program Director; FE5341 is a prerequisite for FE5342; includes non-course prerequisites prior to registration—see the Contextual Studies section of the Student Handbook.*

See the course description for FE3041/FE3042 for a description of this course. DMin students will additionally apply their learning from their practicum experience to their leadership practice and/or dissertation research.

## **FE6000 CPE Internship Continuation**

*0 Credits.*

*Prerequisite for this course: FE2020*

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. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

## **FE6043 Spiritual Direction Practicum Continuation**

## **FE6343 Spiritual Direction Practicum Continuation (DMin)**

*0 Credits.*

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

## **Formation and Leadership (FL)**

### **FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: semiannually (twice per year)*

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 Organizational Leadership and Administration**

*Previous Course Title: Organizational Leadership and Administration*

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisite for this course: FL1001*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of 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 frequency of 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 for this course: PM1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: PM1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: PM1001.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)*

This introductory course examines the role that spiritual caregivers, faith communities, and faith-based organizations can play in the aftermath of traumatic experiences. The course explores contemporary theories and theologies for understanding the spiritual, somatic, psychological and emotional impact of various kinds of trauma (including individual, interpersonal, communal, complex, historical, cultural, intergenerational, and war trauma); strategies for trauma mitigation and healing; the theory and practice of trauma-informed pastoral care and counseling; vicarious traumatization; self-care; and trauma response and healing models from an interdisciplinary perspective.

## **IC4001 Womanist Spiritual Care Practices**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **IC5001 Advanced Topics in Interreligious Practice (DMin)**

*Previous Course Title: Interreligious Spiritual Care*

*4 Credits.*

*Prerequisites for master’s students: IC2002.*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of 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: IC2001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001 and FL1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: see the MA Thesis section of the Student Handbook.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: each term*

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 for this course: see the MAL Final Project section of the Student Handbook.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: each term*

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.

## **MS3300 MA in Ministry Capstone Seminar**

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisites for this course: TR1001, FL1001.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

This seminar, to be taken in the student's final year, challenges students to develop a persuasive diagnosis of and a practical theological response to a concrete problem in their ministerial field. Issues around spiritual formation in various contexts of ministry will also be addressed.

## **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.*

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.*

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 frequency of offerings: semiannually (twice per year)*

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 frequency of 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 frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001, RT1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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.

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

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of 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 was the church (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 frequency of 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 frequency of 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 frequency of 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.

## **PM4004 Children, Youth and Family Ministry**

*Previous Course Number and Title: PM2005 Children and Family Ministry*

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of 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)**

### **RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: semiannually (twice per year)*

This course examines the use of religious texts within various religious and spiritual contexts. The purpose of this course is to orient the student towards the tools and methodologies, as well as philosophical underpinnings, of how texts are used and interpreted within religious and spiritual contexts. Besides broad methodological approaches the students will also be challenged to examine their own human situatedness and its impact on the interpretation of texts. Texts from many different religious traditions will be used in this course. Due to the integrative and multi-religious nature of this course, previous biblical hermeneutic courses can not be used to substitute for this course.

### **RT2100 Hebrew Bible**

*3 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: RT1001 OR pre-2023–2024 RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1, RT1201 New Testament 1, RT2201 New Testament 2, or TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

This course will introduce students to the contemporary scholarly study of the Hebrew Bible. Its focus will be on the historical context of the various books of the Hebrew Bible and their content both historical and theological. Various interpretive methodologies will be used to understand the books with a major emphasis being placed on genre identification and interpretation within the book's historical context. A scholarly approach to the books will primarily be used, but an acknowledgement of each person's human situatedness as it impacts interpretation will also be discussed.

## **RT2200 New Testament**

*3 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: RT1001 OR pre-2023–2024 RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1, RT1201 New Testament 1, RT2201 New Testament 2, or TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation*

This course will introduce students to the contemporary scholarly study of the New Testament. Its focus will be on the historical context of the various books of the New Testament and their content both historical and theological. Various interpretive methodologies will be used to understand the books with a major emphasis being placed on genre identification and interpretation within the book's historical context. A scholarly approach to the books will primarily be used, but an acknowledgement of each person's human situatedness as it impacts interpretation will also be discussed.

## **RT2300 Buddhist Scriptures**

*Previous Course Number: RT4001*

*3 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: RT1001 OR pre-2023–2024 RT1101 Hebrew Bible 1, RT1201 New Testament 1, RT2201 New Testament 2, or TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation*

*Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)*

This course is an introduction to foundational Buddhist texts through the study of numerous scriptural texts of Buddhist canons. It covers sutras and other texts, as well as traditional commentaries, of various Buddhist traditions. Students in this course gain skills in interpreting Buddhist texts from the perspectives of voices from within the traditions to which they belong, as well as gain an understanding of the presence of these texts in Buddhist life. The course also functions as an introduction to Buddhism, through a textual vantage point specifically.

## **RT2301 Introduction to the Qur'an**

*Previous Course Number: RT4002*

*3 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: RT1001 OR pre-2023–2024 TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **RT2400 Biblical Hebrew**

*Previous Course Number: RT3101*

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisites for this course: TR1001 and RT2100.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001 and RT2200.*

*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.

## **RT3001 Biblical Exegesis**

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisite for this course: RT2100 or RT2200*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

This course will introduce the student to the scholarly work of biblical exegesis. Advanced historical critical methodologies and methods as well as other interpretive methodologies will be examined. Emphasis will be placed on developing the tools necessary to interpret a text within its historical context. Some preliminary work on moving from historical interpretation to application for ecclesial contexts will also be done. While knowledge of biblical languages is not necessary for this course, preliminary work with those languages using basic language tools will be discussed. This course will require at least two moderately significant exegetical projects one from the Hebrew Bible and one from the New Testament.

## **RT4101 Food, Culture and Justice in the Biblical Tradition**

*3 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: RT1001 OR pre-2023–2024 TR1001 Religious and Theological Interpretation*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **Spiritual Direction (SD)**

### **SD1001 The Art of Discernment**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

Discernment emphasizes self-awareness from the relational triage of God-Self-Others and/or a sense of connection to something bigger than oneself and/or a sense of meaning or purpose in one's life. This inclusive approach embraces our shared human inner values. The course will emphasize the holistic process of identifying one's preferred way of knowing and process of discernment, reflecting on the shared values of our common humanity and interdependence needed for communal discernment, the role of discernment in spiritual direction/companionship and comparing classic and contemporary models of discernment including those used in justice practices. Students will identify distinctions among qualities such as sorting, distinguishing, prioritizing, deciding, and waiting through the assigned readings, written reflections, small and large group engagements, and contemplative practices. DMin students will additionally apply their learning on discernment to their leadership practice and/or dissertation research.

### **SD1002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1: Foundations**

*3 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: Student is required to be seeing a spiritual director/companion by the end of the course*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

In this introductory course, the art and discipline of spiritual direction/companionship is explored through

the framework of its Christian history, as well as the current impact of Eastern spirituality, humanism, the arts, somatic and trauma informed practices and contemplative practices. The focus of the course is reviewing what spiritual direction/companionship is and is not. The course explores spiritual formation as deep listening and presence, awareness of personal strengths and growth areas, asking and answering evocative questions, compassion, empathy and hospitality, personal mind, body and spirit care and the contemplative practices of stillness and silence. Students are introduced to the ethical guidelines and supervision process, as well as the similarities and differences of spiritual direction/companionship and other helping professions. Small and large group engagement will integrate the educational aspect of learning through readings, written reflections, videos and sharing personal sacred stories. DMin students will additionally apply their learning on the foundations of spiritual direction/companionship to their leadership practice and/or dissertation research.

## **SD2001 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2: Practices**

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisites for this course: SD1001, SD1002*

*Corequisite: Student is required to be seeing a spiritual director during their participation in the course*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

This course focuses on further self-awareness and skill development and practice through deep listening, evocative questions, contemplative practices, inner wisdom, mystery, compassion and empathy, creativity, hospitality, exploring the psycho-social dynamic of various helping professions and one's commitment to the ethical guidelines for spiritual direction/companionship and one's personal, holistic healing. Students will explore various models and ways to practice spiritual direction/companionship as they prepare for the supervision practicum process. DMin students will additionally apply their learning on the practice of spiritual direction/companionship to their leadership practice and/or dissertation research.

## **SD5001 The Art of Discernment (DMin)**

*4 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

See the course description for SD1001 for a description of this course. DMin students will additionally apply their learning on discernment to their leadership practice and/or dissertation research.

## **SD5002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1: Foundations (DMin)**

*4 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: Student is required to be seeing a spiritual director/companion by the end of the course*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

See the course description for SD1002 for a description of this course. DMin students will additionally apply their learning on the foundations of spiritual direction/companionship to their leadership practice and/or dissertation research.

## **SD5201 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2: Practices (DMin)**

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisites for this course: SD5001, SD5002*

*Corequisite: Student is required to be seeing a spiritual director during their participation in the course*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

See the course description for SD2001 for a description of this course. DMin students will additionally apply their learning on the practice of spiritual direction/companionship to their leadership practice and/or dissertation research.

## **Social Transformation (ST)**

### **ST1001 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001 and ST1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: ST1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: ST1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **ST3001 Social Transformation Capstone**

*Previous Course Numbers and Titles: FE3005 Social Transformation Project/Capstone, FE3006 Social Transformation Capstone*

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisites for this course: Advisor approval prior to registration.*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **ST4001 Sports Activism**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

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 frequency of 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.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBA*

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 Sciences and Hadith Commentary**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBA*

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.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBA*

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.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBA*

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.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBA*

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.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBA*

This course will be an in-depth exploration of the Muslim experience in America with the express purpose 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 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: annually*

This course introduces students to United's distinctive approach to theological inquiry and orients their ensuing theological studies at this seminary. It construes theology as an exploration of reality, conceived in its depths, vastness, and complexity. This means students will engage problems and issues confronting contemporary human life. To illuminate these elements, we will pose ancient and perennially human questions about truth (metaphysics and cosmology), goodness (moral agency and social justice), and beauty (artistic production and aesthetic experience). Students will understand and articulate the nature and stakes of theological inquiry and will develop essential skills for graduate academic theological writing and research.

### **TR1002 History of Christian Theologies**

*3 Credits.*

*Corequisite for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)*

Students engage in an intensive study of various Unitarian and Universalist theologies and the liberal theological tradition in which they are rooted, developing familiarity with the historical, ethical, philosophical, and theological resources needed to do theology as religious leaders. Students read works from representative classical and contemporary Unitarian and Universalist theologians as well as from the streams of theological and philosophical thought that flow into and out of Unitarian Universalism. Students use their responses to these works to inform the development of their own theological positions and to interpret the theological context of their call to Unitarian Universalist ministry.

## **TR2005 UCC History, Theology, and Polity**

*Previous Course Number: TR2003*

3 Credits.

*Prerequisite for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **TR2008 Classics of Protestant Reformed Theology**

*Previous Course Number: TR2009*

3 Credits.

*Prerequisite for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)*

This course will serve as an introduction to the Reformed tradition of Protestant theology with a particular emphasis on the work of John Calvin (1509-1564). Students will be taught to systematically understand Calvin's theology in its historical context through a close reading of Calvin's masterpiece – the final edition of the Institutes of the Christian Religion (1559). We will then explore how Calvin's theology was received and developed by subsequent generations of Reformed theologians, first through the 16th and 17th Century confessions of faith, and then by theologians in modernity. In doing so, students will gain a deeper understanding of the legacy of Reformed theology and its relevance for contemporary theological reflection.

## **TR2009 Eco-Theologies and Eco-Spiritualities**

3 Credits.

*Corequisite for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **TR2011 Theologies of Religions and Interreligious Dialogue**

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisite for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)*

Theologies of religions brings to the students’ attention the ever more pressing reality that we live in a religiously diverse world—a world whose very survival demands that communities of faith learn to live with each other—and invites them to take a critical account of some of the prevailing attitudes toward other religions. Students will explore various theologies of religions (Christian and non-Christian) as well as evaluate their respective denominations’ or religions’ position(s) on the issue. This is done with the hope that they may be able to articulate a theology of religions and a notion of mission and ministry that is both faithful to their religious traditions and responsive to our religiously pluralistic context.

## **TR2012 Medieval Women Mystics**

*3 Credits.*

*May be completed in place of TR1002 as a required core degree course.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

What does it mean to “see” God? Beginning with biblical and early Christian precedents, this course will survey the accounts of medieval women mystics (including Hildegard of Bingen and Catherine of Siena), drawing primarily on texts and images from the 11th-15th centuries to understand the significance of these women’s experiences in their respective contexts. In the process, issues of gender, embodiment, authorship, material culture, and visuality will be considered.

## **TR2100 Constructive Theology**

*Previous Course Number: TR3010*

3 Credits.

*Prerequisites for this course: RT1001, TR1001, and TR1002 or TR1003.*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of offerings: TBD*

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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

This course involves both theoretical knowledge and practical experience of most of the World's 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 for this course: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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.

## **TR4008 Intersectional Feminist Theology: Theory and Praxis**

*3 Credits.*

*Prerequisite: TR1001*

This course is rooted in the perspectives of those who identify as women across lived experiences of race, dis/ability, gender expression, orientation, nationality, and religious beliefs. The course will trace the lineage of feminist and intersectional feminist theological discourses of the past century, as well as explore the current voices in movement work and ecclesiastical settings that embody intersectional feminist theological thought. Embodied praxis will run parallel to this exploration of theory as we seek to understand how one might live the theory, and co-create the theory with our lives.

## **TR4009 God, Suffering, and the Problem of Evil**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

This course confronts one of religion's most vexing problems: the reality of evil and suffering. What is evil and how do we cope with it? Why is there so much suffering in the world? Where is God in the midst of trauma, injustice, tragedy, and death? How do our experiences of evil and suffering affect our conceptions of divinity? What are our responsibilities—ethical, political, spiritual—in the face of evil and suffering? Students study and critically assess a variety of theological, philosophical, and religious perspectives on these daunting questions and develop their own constructive response to the problem of evil and suffering.

### **TR4010 Religions and Trees**

*3 Credits.*

*Planned frequency of offerings: TBD*

This course explores the presence of trees in a number of religious traditions from around the world. Themes include the symbolism, ritual uses, and scriptural mentions of trees. This course aims to develop our understanding of trees in the illuminative light of religions and to develop our understanding of religions themselves through the largely understudied theme of trees.

### **TR5001 Public Theology (DMin)**

*4 Credits.*

*Prerequisite for master's students: TR1001.*

*Planned frequency of 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 frequency of 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.

## TUITION AND FEES 2024–2025

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

| Description   | Amount    | Explanation  |
|---|-----------|--|
| Tuition   | \$755.00  | Per academic term credit hour.   |
| Certificate course tuition  | \$550.00  | Per academic term credit hour. Applies only to Spiritual Direction courses taken by students enrolled in the non-degree Spiritual Direction Certificate program.   |
| Course audit fee  | \$300.00  | 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.   |
| Spiritual direction sessions  | \$300–400 | Students enrolled in the Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2 course are responsible for the cost of sessions with a spiritual director as part of the course requirements.   |
| MA Thesis / DMin Dissertation / MAL Final Project continuation course fee | \$300.00  | Charged per academic term after registration for initial thesis, dissertation, or final project course   |
| Master's graduation fee   | \$150.00  | 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*

**Jennifer Maidrand, Ph.D.**

*Visiting Assistant Professor of Bible, Culture, and Interpretation, supported by the Louisville Institute*

**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.**

*Assistant Professor of Theological Ethics and Formation*

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

*Schilling Professor of Public Theology and Church and Economic Life*

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

*Associate Professor of Social Transformation and Leadership Supported by the McVay Endowment*

**Demian Wheeler, Ph.D.**

*Sophia Chair Associate Professor of Religious and Theological Studies*

## Adjunct Faculty

**Nathan Albert, D.Min.**

**Patricia Browne, MARS**

**Sarah Cledwyn, MAT**

**Christian Collins Winn, Ph.D.**

**DeWayne Davis, D.Min.**

**Kate DeConinck, Th.D.**

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

**Curtiss DeYoung, M.Div., Ed.D.**

**Victor Ezigbo, Ph.D.**

**Lisa Friedman, M.Div.**

**Tamara Gray, Ed.D.**

**Ryan Higgins, Ph.D.**

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

**David Hottinger, M.Div.**

**Sandhya Jha, M.Div.**

**Cindi Beth Johnson, D.Min.**

**Janet Johnson, M.Div., Ed.D.**

**Rachael Keefe, D.Min.**

**J. Howard Kucher, DPA**

**Hee Jin Lee, M.Div., Th.D.**

**Laurie Lyter Bright, M.Div., Ph.D.**

**Ruth MacKenzie, M.Div.**

**Anna Marsh, Ph.D.**

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

**Anna Mercedes, STM, Ph.D.**

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

**Travis Norvell, M.Div.**

**Pamela Prouty, M.Div.**

**T. Michael Rock, M.Div.**

*Adjunct Professor for Spiritual Formation and Contextual Education*

**Tandi Rogers, MAPS, M.Ed.**

**Tanya Sadagopan, D.Min.**

**Nicholas Schaser, Ph.D.**

**Melissa Harl Sellew, M.Div., Th.D.**

**Noam Sienna, Ph.D.**

**Ry Siggelkow, Ph.D.**

**Crystal Silva-McCormick, Th.M.**

**Jeffrey Speaks, M.A., ABD**

**Moses Taiwo, Ph.D., D.M.**

**Kathleen Talvacchia, Ed.D.**

*Affiliated Scholar*

**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

### **Mason Mennenga**

*Admissions Counselor*  
mmennenga@unitedseminary.edu  
651.255.6118

### **Mallory Nelson**

*Admissions Counselor*  
mnelson@unitedseminary.edu  
651.255.6114

## 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*  
jawesfreeman@unitedseminary.edu  
651.255.6140

### **Jessica Chapman Lape**

*Program Director for Interreligious Chaplaincy*  
jchapmanlape@unitedseminary.edu  
651.255.6129

### **Gary F. Green II**

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

### **Munjed Murad**

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

### **T. Michael Rock**

*Director of Contextual Education and Spiritual Direction*  
tmichael@unitedseminary.edu  
612.275.0387

### **Justin Sabia-Tanis**

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

### **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

## **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  
and Strategic Advisor to the President*  
vpearson@unitedseminary.edu  
651.255.6115

### **Adam Pfuhl**

*Director of Information Services*  
apfuhl@unitedseminary.edu  
651.260.7438

### **Tami Glasbrenner**

*Accountant*  
tglasbrenner@unitedseminary.edu  
651.255.6164

## **Marketing and Communications**

### **Nathanial Green**

*Director of Marketing and Communications*  
ngreen@unitedseminary.edu  
651.255.6138

### **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](http://theministrylab.org)