

ACADEMIC CATALOG

2026-2027

7/1/2026



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 United's Student Resources page at <https://sites.google.com/unitedseminary.edu/studentresources>. 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 United's Student Resources page.

Some of the contents of this catalog may also appear on United's website or its Student Resources page. 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/

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

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

651-642-0567

Procedures for filing a complaint related to United's accreditation or United's registration with a student's state of residence 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 2026–2027

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

Fall Term

September 7	Labor Day (seminary closed)
September 12	First Day of Fall Term
September 24	Fall Convocation
October 26–30	Reading Week (no weekly classes)
November 23–27	Thanksgiving Week (no classes)
November 26–27	Thanksgiving Holiday (seminary closed)
December 20	Last Day of Fall Term
December 24–31	Christmas Holiday (seminary closed)

Spring Term

January 1	New Year's Day (seminary closed)
January 16	First Day of Spring Term
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (seminary closed)
March 1–5	Symposium Week (no weekly classes)
March 22–26	Holy Week Break (seminary closed)
April 25	Last Day of Spring Term
May 2	Commencement

Summer Term

May 15	First Day of Summer Term
May 31	Memorial Day (seminary closed)
June 18	Juneteenth observed (seminary closed)
June 28–July 2	Reading Week (no weekly classes)
July 5	Independence Day observed (seminary closed)
August 15	Last Day of Summer Term

COURSE REGISTRATION AND TUITION PAYMENT DATES 2026–2027

Dates are subject to change.

	Fall 2026	Spring 2027	Summer 2027
Course registration opens	July 1	November 1	March 1
Course registration closes; last day to register for courses in Blackbaud; last day to submit Directed Study Course Request Form	August 1	December 1	April 1
Last day to submit email requests, forms, and petitions to register for courses without being charged a late course registration fee	August 15	December 15	April 15
First day of term	September 12	January 16	May 15
Last day to add courses	September 18	January 22	May 21
Last day to drop course with full tuition charge reduction	September 25	January 29	May 28
Last day to drop course without “W” on transcript	September 25	January 29	May 28
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 2	February 5	June 4
First day of no tuition charge reduction for dropped course	October 3	February 6	June 5
Last day to drop course without grade on transcript	November 13	March 19	July 16
Last day of term	December 20	April 25	August 15
Final Grades available in Blackbaud	January 4	May 10	August 30

* 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. **Theology:** articulate their theological voice at a graduate level of sophistication and with demonstrated capacity for functioning as theological practitioners;
2. **Textual Hermeneutics:** demonstrate skills in interpreting religious texts critically and drawing upon a range of traditions and methods, while engaging those texts with contemporary issues;
3. **Ethics and Justice:** demonstrate historical knowledge, analytical sophistication, and generative imagination as ethically reflective agents; and
4. **Research and Communication:** demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, compellingly, and persuasively, utilizing skills of oral and written communication while skillfully conducting research and scholarly ideas.

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. **Theology:** articulate their theological voice at a graduate level of sophistication and with demonstrated capacity for functioning as theological practitioners;
2. **Textual Hermeneutics:** demonstrate skills in interpreting religious texts critically and drawing upon a range of traditions and methods, while engaging those texts with contemporary issues;
3. **Ethics and Justice:** demonstrate historical knowledge, analytical sophistication, and generative imagination as ethically reflective agents;
4. **Formation:** demonstrate growth and maturity as psycho-social, intellectual, moral, and religious people;

5. **World Religions:** articulate their own and others' religious heritage, learn and grow from the spiritual teachings of various religions, and draw from the wisdom traditions of the world in engaging contemporary issues;
6. **Religion, Culture, and the Arts:** articulate a critical understanding of culture and the arts in historical and contemporary contexts, demonstrate skill in artistic and creative practices, and function as arts practitioners in their faith communities and vocational contexts;
7. **Social Transformation:** articulate a moral praxis of social transformation, demonstrate cultural competency and skills necessary for justice work, and utilize tools and methods for critical analysis of sociopolitical issues, based on historical knowledge and understanding of change agency;
8. **Religious Leadership and Practice:** articulate self-awareness as emerging spiritual and religious leaders, develop and refine skills in leadership, and demonstrate ongoing and future-directed practices of education and relationship-building; and
9. **Research and Communication:** demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, compellingly, and persuasively, utilizing skills of oral and written communication while skillfully conducting research and scholarly ideas.

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. **Theology:** articulate their theological voice at a graduate level of sophistication and with demonstrated capacity for functioning as theological practitioners;
2. **Textual Hermeneutics:** demonstrate skills in interpreting religious texts critically and drawing upon a range of traditions and methods, while engaging those texts with contemporary issues;
3. **Ethics and Justice:** demonstrate historical knowledge, analytical sophistication, and generative imagination as ethically reflective agents;
4. **Formation:** demonstrate growth and maturity as psycho-social, intellectual, moral, and religious people; and
5. **Research and Communication:** demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, compellingly, and persuasively, utilizing skills of oral and written communication while skillfully conducting research and scholarly ideas.

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 designed to prepare students for ordained and lay leadership 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. **Theology:** articulate their theological voice at a graduate level of sophistication and with demonstrated capacity for functioning as theological practitioners;
2. **Textual Hermeneutics:** demonstrate skills in interpreting religious texts critically and drawing upon a range of traditions and methods, while engaging those texts with contemporary issues;
3. **Ethics and Justice:** demonstrate historical knowledge, analytical sophistication, and generative imagination as ethically reflective agents;
4. **Formation:** demonstrate growth and maturity as psycho-social, intellectual, moral, and religious people;
5. **World Religions:** articulate their own and others' religious heritage, learn and grow from the spiritual teachings of various religions, and draw from the wisdom traditions of the world in engaging contemporary issues;
6. **Religion, Culture, and the Arts:** articulate a critical understanding of culture and the arts in historical and contemporary contexts, demonstrate skill in artistic and creative practices, and function as arts practitioners in their faith communities and vocational contexts;
7. **Social Transformation:** articulate a moral praxis of social transformation, demonstrate cultural competency and skills necessary for justice work, and utilize tools and methods for critical analysis of sociopolitical issues, based on historical knowledge and understanding of change agency;
8. **Religious Leadership and Practice:** articulate self-awareness as emerging spiritual and religious leaders, develop and refine skills in leadership, and demonstrate ongoing and future-directed practices of education and relationship-building; and
9. **Research and Communication:** demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, compellingly, and persuasively, utilizing skills of oral and written communication while skillfully conducting research and scholarly ideas.

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.

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. Depending on the vocational setting, employment as a chaplain may require completion of additional CPE units beyond United's degree requirements as well as 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.

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.

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. achieve one's self-defined goals in developing one's spiritual direction practice;
10. recognize the difference between supervision and consultation and appropriately participate in each;
11. demonstrate competency in identifying, presenting and working with supervision issues from spiritual direction sessions and apply learning to future sessions;
12. MDiv: articulate strategies for effective, professional, ethical, and compassionate pastoral and spiritual care to a diversity of persons;
13. MDiv: incorporate an informed understanding of trauma into describing its impact on the spiritual well-being of individuals, families, and communities;
14. MDiv: articulate their own theology/spirituality of trauma informed pastoral care, particularly as it relates to their ministerial/vocational path; and
15. 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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts First of two biblical RT courses: RT2100 Hebrew Bible RT2200 New Testament
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Concentration	5	Second of two biblical RT courses: RT2100 Hebrew Bible RT2200 New Testament RT3001 Biblical Exegesis Choose one: RT2400 Biblical Hebrew RT2401 New Testament Greek One additional RT course One elective course*
Research and Communication	1	MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*
<i>Degree Total</i>	12	36 Credits

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

MA Directed Study

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Concentration	5	Five elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Research and Communication	1	MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*
<i>Degree Total</i>	12	36 Credits

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

MA in Ethics and Justice

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Concentration	5	Two additional EJ courses Three elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Research and Communication	1	MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*
<i>Degree Total</i>	12	36 Credits

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

MA in Interreligious Studies

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Concentration	5	CC1002 World Religions Choose two:* RT2100 Hebrew Bible RT2200 New Testament RT2300 Buddhist Scriptures RT2301 Introduction to the Qur'an RT4002 Understanding Ritual Experience Choose one: TR2010 What is Religion? TR2011 Theologies of Religions and Interreligious Dialogue Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity TR4002 Pagan Theology TR4003 Islam: History and Theology TR4004 Modern Jewish Theology
Research and Communication	1	MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits†
Degree Total	12	36 Credits

* In addition to the required core 2000-level RT 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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Concentration	5	TR2010 What is Religion? TR2100 Constructive Theology Three elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Research and Communication	1	MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*
<i>Degree Total</i>	12	36 Credits

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

MA in Theology and the Arts

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Concentration	5	AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar Two elective courses (as approved by advisor)*
Research and Communication	1	MS3103 MA Thesis—3 Credits*
<i>Degree Total</i>	12	36 Credits

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

MAL in Faith Formation

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* OR FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive*
Concentration	4	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2001 Faith Formation Two additional PM courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	16	48 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

MAL in Humanist Studies

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One additional RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	AH2003 Humanist Leadership*
Concentration	4	AH1001 Humanist Worldviews* AH2001 Humanist Philosophies and Understandings* AH2002 Humanist Aesthetics and Practices* One United elective course
Research and Communication	1	MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar
<i>Degree Total</i>	16	48 Credits

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

MAL in Social Transformation

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* OR FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive*
Concentration	4	ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation ST2004 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise One elective course
Research and Communication	1	MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	16	48 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

MAL in Specialized Ministry

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	Choose one: FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive* FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*†
Concentration	4	Two PM courses Two elective courses (as approved by advisor)‡
Research and Communication	1	MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	16	48 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

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

‡ EJ4003 Contemporary Approaches to Black Theology is a required elective course for Sims Scholars.

MAL in Spiritual Direction

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	2	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	FE3041 & FE3042 Spiritual Direction Practicum*†
Concentration	4	SD1001 The Art of Discernment* SD1002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1* SD2001 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2* One elective course
Research and Communication	1	MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar
<i>Degree Total</i>	16	48 Credits

* 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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	2	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty One additional TR course
Textual Hermeneutics	3	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2100 Hebrew Bible RT2200 New Testament
Ethics and Justice	1	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
Concentration	4	Four PM courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3300 MA in Ministry Capstone
<i>Degree Total</i>	12	36 Credits

MDiv in Biblical Studies

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2100 Hebrew Bible RT2200 New Testament RT3001 Biblical Exegesis
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* OR FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive*
Concentration	7	PM2001 Faith Formation PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice Choose one: RT2400 Biblical Hebrew RT2401 New Testament Greek Two additional RT courses Two elective courses†
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information. 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.

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

MDiv in Church Leadership

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Choose one: RT3001 Biblical Exegesis One 2000-level RT course Two additional 2000-level RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one:.* FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship† OR FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive†
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice Three additional PM courses* Two elective courses*
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

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

† Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

MDiv in General Studies

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Choose one: RT3001 Biblical Exegesis One 2000-level RT course Two additional 2000-level RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise Choose one: FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive* FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*†
Concentration	7	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice Three additional PM courses Three elective courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

† 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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies Choose one: ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation TR2100 Constructive Theology TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies TR4002 Pagan Theology One additional TR course
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Three additional RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	AH2003 Humanist Leadership* Choose one: FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship† FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive† FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship†
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice AH1001 Humanist Worldviews* AH2001 Humanist Philosophies and Understandings* AH2002 Humanist Aesthetics and Practices* Two United elective courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

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

† Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Choose one: TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology* One additional TR course
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Choose one: RT3001 Biblical Exegesis One 2000-level RT course Two additional RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship†
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care Two elective courses‡
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

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

† Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

‡ 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.**

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TISA-615 Advanced Sirah* TISA-620 Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh* TISA-631 Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality* TISA-642 Islam in America*
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts One 2000-level RT course TISA-601 Advanced Qur’anic Studies* TISA-602 Advanced Hadith Sciences and Hadith Commentary*
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship—Islamic focus†
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice IC2001 Intercultural Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2002 Interreligious Approaches to Chaplaincy IC2003 Trauma, Suffering and Care Two elective courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Courses offered online through The Islamic Seminary of America (TISA)

† Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

MDiv in Presbyterian Studies

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2008 Classics of Protestant Reformed Theology TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2100 Hebrew Bible RT2200 New Testament RT3001 Biblical Exegesis
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1001 Christian Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice*	2	FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration Choose one: FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship† FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive†
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2001 Faith Formation PM2002 Worship of the Church RT2400 Biblical Hebrew RT2401 New Testament Greek TR2006 Presbyterian History, Worship and Polity
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* PC(USA) additionally recommends CPE Internship. Some presbyteries may require CPE for ordination.

† Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

MDiv in Religion and Theology

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Choose one: RT3001 Biblical Exegesis One 2000-level RT course Two additional 2000-level RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise Choose one: FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive* FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*†
Concentration	7	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2001 Faith Formation TR2010 What is Religion? Two additional TR courses Two elective courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

† 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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Choose one: RT3001 Biblical Exegesis One 2000-level RT course Two additional 2000-level RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration Choose one: FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive*
Concentration	7	PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice ST2004 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change ST2003 Social Enterprise Four elective courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

MDiv in Spiritual Direction

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

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Choose one: RT3001 Biblical Exegesis One 2000-level RT course Two additional 2000-level RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise FE3041 & FE3042 Spiritual Direction Practicum*†
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care SD1001 The Art of Discernment* SD1002 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1* SD2001 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2* IC2003 Trauma, Suffering, and Care Two elective courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* 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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts Choose one: RT3001 Biblical Exegesis One 2000-level RT course Two additional 2000-level RT courses
Ethics and Justice	2	Choose one: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	Choose one: FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration ST2003 Social Enterprise Choose one: FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive* FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*†
Concentration	7	AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT3001 Arts Praxis Seminar PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice One additional PM course Three elective courses
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

† 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.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2100 Constructive Theology
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2100 Hebrew Bible RT2200 New Testament RT3001 Biblical Exegesis
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1001 Christian Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	Choose one: CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious Diversity CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	3	FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education Internship* OR FE2003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive* FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship*
Concentration	6	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2002 Worship of the Church PM2001 Faith Formation TR2005 UCC History, Theology and Polity One elective course
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

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).

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2100 Hebrew Bible* RT2200 New Testament* RT3001 Biblical Exegesis†
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship‡
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2010 Contextual UU Faith Formation PM2006 UU Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual TR2001 UU History and Polity One additional RT or TR course One elective course§
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students may petition the Registrar to replace one biblical RT course with another RT course.

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

‡ Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

§ Students may take FE2001/FE2002 or FE2003 Contextual Education Internship as an elective 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).

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Theology	4	TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty TR2002 Unitarian and Universalist Theologies TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies
Textual Hermeneutics	4	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2100 Hebrew Bible* RT2200 New Testament* RT3001 Biblical Exegesis†
Ethics and Justice	2	EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics Choose one: EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies
Formation	1	FL1001 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation
World Religions	1	CC1002 World Religions
Religion, Culture, and the Arts	1	Choose one: AT1001 History of Arts and Theology AT1002 Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture
Social Transformation	1	ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement
Religious Leadership and Practice	2	FL2001 Organizational Leadership and Administration FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship—social justice focus‡
Concentration	7	PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice PM2010 Contextual UU Faith Formation PM2006 UU Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual TR2001 UU History and Polity ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation ST2004 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
Research and Communication	1	MS3000 MDiv Capstone Seminar
Degree Total	24	72 Credits

* Students may petition the Registrar to replace one biblical RT course with another RT course.

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

‡ Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

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, 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 RT2100 Hebrew Bible*
RT1201 New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2200 New Testament* RT3001 Biblical Exegesis†
RT2101 Hebrew Bible 2: Contextualized Interpretation	RT2100 Hebrew Bible* RT3001 Biblical Exegesis†
RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels	RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts RT2200 New Testament* 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 (Presbyterian, UCC, UU, 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 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

RT4002 Understanding Ritual Experience

Choose one:

TR2010 What is Religion?*

TR2011 Theologies of Religions and
Interreligious Dialogue

Choose one:

CC1001 Global Christianities & Intra-religious
Diversity

TR4002 Pagan Theology

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*‡
MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar

MAL in Social Transformation

ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement*
ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation*
ST2004 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
ST2003 Social Enterprise
FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education‡
MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar

MAL Specialized Ministry†

Two additional PM courses
Two additional electives (as approved by advisor)
Choose one:
FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education‡
FE3002 & FE3020 CPE Internship‡
MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar

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
MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar

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*
ST2004 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change
ST2003 Social Enterprise
Four elective courses
FE2001 & FE2002 Contextual Education‡

* 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.

‡ Students must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration. See the *Student Handbook* for more information.

Chinmaya International Foundation (CIF) Courses Eligible for Advanced Standing Credit

CIF students who are admitted to a United degree program will be awarded the advanced standing credit described below for completion of the following CIF courses. United students are not eligible to enroll in CIF courses for United credit.

- *Bhagavad Gita: From Conflict to Vision* can substitute for one 2000-level or above RT course
- *Introduction to Spiritual Care* can substitute for PM1001 Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care
- *Rites, Rituals, and Vedanta* can substitute for PM2003 Preaching and Your Public Voice or one other PM course
- *Foundation Vedanta and Hinduism* can substitute for one TR elective course
- *Indian Psychology* can substitute for one United master's elective course

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:

1. **Formation:** demonstrate growth and maturity as psycho-social, intellectual, moral, and religious people;
2. **World Religions:** articulate their own and others' religious heritage, learn and grow from the spiritual teachings of various religions, and draw from the wisdom traditions of the world in engaging contemporary issues;
3. **Religious Leadership and Practice:** articulate self-awareness as emerging spiritual and religious leaders, develop and refine skills in leadership, and demonstrate ongoing and future-directed practices of education and relationship-building; and
4. **Research and Communication:** demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly, compellingly, and persuasively, utilizing skills of oral and written communication while skillfully conducting research and scholarly ideas.

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 five 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

See the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Degree section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
World Religions	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	DM5300 DMin Practicum
Concentration	4	Three DMin level courses (as approved by advisor) One DMin level independent study (as approved by advisor)
Research and Communication	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
<i>Degree Total</i>	9	36 credits

DMin in Interreligious Chaplaincy

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

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

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

Required Courses

See the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Degree section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
World Religions	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	DM5300 DMin Practicum
Concentration	4	IC5001 Advanced Topics in Interreligious Practice IC5002 Chaplains at Work: Exploring Systems, Values, and Ethics IC5003 Advanced Topics in Intercultural Practice One DMin level course or independent study (as approved by advisor)
Research and Communication	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Degree Total	9	36 credits

DMin in Public Theology

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

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

1. 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

See the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Degree section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
World Religions	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	DM5300 DMin Practicum
Concentration	4	TR5001 Public Theology TR5002 Theologies of Liberation Two DMin level courses or independent studies (as approved by advisor)
Research and Communication	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Degree Total	9	36 credits

DMin in Social Transformation

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

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

1. 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

See the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Degree section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
World Religions	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	DM5300 DMin Practicum
Concentration	4	ST5001 The Leader as Change Agent TR5002 Theologies of Liberation Two DMin level courses or independent studies (as approved by advisor)
Research and Communication	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Degree Total	9	36 credits

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.

Certificate Track

This track is for students who have not completed a 15-credit-hour certificate in spiritual direction from United or another nationally or regionally accredited institution. It includes twelve credit hours of foundational spiritual direction coursework and practicum experiences.

In addition to achieving the core Doctor of Ministry degree learning outcomes, a graduate of the DMin in Spiritual Direction (Certificate Track) 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

See the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Degree section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
World Religions	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	FE5341 & DM5342 DMin Spiritual Direction Practicum (2 terms)*
Concentration	4	SD5001 DMin The Art of Discernment SD5002 DMin Spiritual Direction/Companionship 1 SD5201 DMin Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2 One DMin level course or independent study (as approved by advisor)
Research and Communication	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Degree Total	9	36 credits

* 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.

Post-Certificate Track

This track is for students who have completed a 15-credit-hour certificate in spiritual direction from United or another nationally or regionally accredited institution.

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

1. articulate in depth at least three key topics in the practice of spiritual direction at an advanced graduate level;
2. apply an understanding of spiritual direction/companionship practices to specific intercultural contexts by articulating how those practices can positively impact directees in those contexts;
3. apply an understanding of spiritual direction/companionship practices to specific interreligious contexts by articulating how those practices can positively impact directees in those contexts;
4. effectively lead a group spiritual direction/companionship session;
5. understand how to effectively supervise spiritual direction students in a supervision setting and practice supervision of spiritual direction students
6. effectively teach a contemplative spiritual practice; and
7. 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

See the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Degree section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
World Religions	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	SD5xxx DMin Spiritual Direction Supervisory Education
Concentration	4	Three DMin Spiritual Direction electives (as approved by advisor) One DMin level course or independent study (as approved by advisor)
Research and Communication	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Degree Total	9	36 credits

DMin in Theology and the Arts

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

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

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

See the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Degree section of the Academic Catalog for the list of all degree requirements.

Primary Outcome	# Courses	Courses
Formation	1	FL5001 The Formed and Transformed Leader
World Religions	1	CC5001 Engaging a Multifaith World
Religious Leadership and Practice	1	DM5300 DMin Practicum
Concentration	4	AT5001 The Arts for Leadership AT5002 Images and Ideologies Two DMin level courses or independent studies (as approved by advisor)
Research and Communication	2	DM5201 Research Tools and Proposal DM5400 DMin Dissertation
Degree Total	9	36 credits

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 (2 terms)	3
One elective course (as approved by Director of Spiritual Direction)	3
Total	15

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
RT1001 Introduction to Religious Texts	3
TR1001 Invitation to Theology: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty	3
Choose One:	3
TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies	
TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies	
Choose one:	3
RT2100 Hebrew Bible	
RT2200 New Testament	
One 2000-level RT course	
Choose one:	3
EJ1001 Christian Ethics	
EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics	
CC1002 World Religions	
Total	15

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: EJ1001 Christian Ethics EJ1002 Comparative Religious Ethics ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement	6
Choose three (Consult catalog course descriptions for pre- or corequisite course requirements): EJ2005 Queer and Trans Theologies EJ2006 Black and Womanist Theologies EJ2002 Eco-Justice and Ethics EJ2003 Applied Issues in Eco-Justice Any other EJ 2000-level course or above ST2004 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change ST2003 Social Enterprise	9
Total	15

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 courses
- 6000 Continuation courses

Please see the course schedules located on the [Student Resources page](#) in Canvas for details on the days, times, instructors, 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

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 Philosophies and Understandings

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

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

From the earliest days of humankind, people have been creating art deeply imbued with spiritual meanings. This survey course will trace the global history of sacred art from prehistoric to contemporary times across multiple religious traditions, including Christianity. The class will explore how art has been used to inspire, heal, and challenge humanity and influence supernatural forces in ritual, communal, and contemplative practices. We will consider how art emerges over periods of time and in various cultural locations, and how these multiple strands come together in today's interconnected world as sources of meaning-making and spiritual expression. The objective of the course is to familiarize students with the art historical continuity of the world's religions, but even more so to equip students to see theologically.

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

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.

AT5001 The Arts for Leadership (DMin)

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for master's students: TR1001; AT1001 or AT1002; instructor approval

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 Imaging the Holy (DMin)

Previous course title: Images and Ideologies

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for master's students: TR1001; AT1001 or AT1002; instructor approval

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.

Prerequisite: TR1001

Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)

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.

Prerequisite: TR1001

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; instructor approval

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 and submit an Independent Study Course Request form approved by the supervising instructor 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 and submit a Directed Study Course Request form approved by faculty 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. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

DM5300 DMin Practicum

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for this course: DM5201; see the DMin Practicum section of the Student Handbook.

Planned frequency of offerings: annually in spring

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: DM5300; 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. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

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

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.

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

3 Credits.

Prerequisite for this course: EJ2006.

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.

EJ4004 The Aperture of the Soul: Psychological, Ethical, and Theological Perspectives on Attention

3 Credits.

Planned frequency of offerings: TBD

Attention is an utterly basic human phenomenon. Before we think, make choices, or act in the world, we first attend to that world, allowing some aspects of reality to appear while relegating others to the periphery. This selectivity raises profound ethical, existential and theological questions that become especially urgent considering how our screen-saturated, algorithmically mediated, and media-siloed environment fragments our attentional capacity. In response to these contemporary problems, this class explores the nature and function of attention with an eye to its ethical and religious dimensions. In addition to readings from various monastic, mystical, and contemplative traditions, students will also experiment with embodied practices of attention.

Field Experience (FE)

FE2001 Contextual Education Internship 1

FE2002 Contextual Education Internship 2

FE2003 Contextual Education Internship 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; FE2003 3 Credits.*

Prerequisites: Student must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration; FE2001 is a prerequisite for FE2002; see the Contextual Education section of the Student Handbook for all internship prerequisites.

Planned frequency of offerings: every term.

These courses consist of a 400-hour supervised internship experience in a congregational, faith-based, or secular setting, averaging approximately 10–12 hours per week, completed in one or two academic terms. Social Transformation students are expected to spend 400 hours in one or more organization/community context(s) related to their Social Transformation Project. Students also meet together several times throughout the term to engage in group learning about their experience at their respective sites. Social Transformation students focus on leadership development and reflection on the contextual learning experience, moving toward the successful completion of their Social Transformation Project. Evaluation assignments are included during and at the end of the experience in relationship with the student's supervisor. The intensive course includes some additional internship hours and assignments. These courses may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

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

FE3003/FE3030 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Internship (2 terms)

FE3002 3 Credits, FE3020 0 Credits; FE3003 1.5 Credits, FE3030 1.5 Credits.

Prerequisites for this course: PM1001, FL1001, TR1001; student must secure internship site placement and supervisor prior to course registration; FE3002 is a prerequisite for FE3020; FE3003 is a prerequisite for FE3030; see the Contextual Education section of the Student Handbook for all internship prerequisites.

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

FE4001/FE4002 Contextual Education Internship 3/4

FE4003 Contextual Education Internship Intensive 2

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

Prerequisites: FE2001/FE2002 or FE2003

These advanced internship experiences are designed for students who have completed the initial 3-credit contextual education internship and are seeking additional ministry or other leadership experiences in a new setting. Students continue to meet with all other students completing their internships, but are expected to engage in a deeper learning experience and meet higher level learning outcomes than their initial internship. These courses may be completed more than once to address additional contextual education experiences. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

FE5001/FE5002 DMin Contextual Education 1/2

FE5003 DMin Contextual Education Intensive

FE5001 and FE5002 2 Credits Each; FE5003 4 Credits.

Planned frequency of offerings: as needed upon approval of Academic Dean

This course consists of a 400-hour supervised contextual education experience in a congregational, faith-based, or secular setting, averaging approximately 10–12 hours per week, completed in one or two academic terms. Students also meet together several times during the term to engage in group learning based on their experience at their respective sites. Students complete a reflection paper on personal, professional, interpersonal, and ethical boundaries based on their experience and an assessment of the evaluation process as a meta-analysis of their time in contextual education. Evaluation assignments are included during and at the end of the experience in relationship with the student's supervisor. The intensive course includes some additional practicum hours and assignments. These courses may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

FE5341/FE5342 DMin Spiritual Direction Practicum (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. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

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

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

Formation and Leadership (FL)

FL0001 Theological Writing as a Spiritual Practice

0 Credits.

Planned frequency of offerings: annually

The intention of this course is to strengthen students' grammatical, syntactical, organizational, technical, and citational proficiencies, not merely for their own sake, but rather for the purpose of developing a confident and unique theological voice reflected in written work throughout their seminary journey. The word "practice" in the course title suggests the need to pay close and serious attention to the craft of writing, not merely for the sake of receiving a good grade on a paper, but for the purpose of shaping theological arguments and ideas, across a range of theological genres, that are clear, coherent, accessible, and even a source of joy for readers. The spiritual practice of writing well facilitates engaging texts more deeply and with greater sensitivity, connecting more effectively with instructors and with other students toward creating a shared world, and even shaping and enlarging our souls as writing becomes a truly spirit-sustaining practice. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

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, instructor approval

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

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: annually

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.

IC5001 Advanced Topics in Interreligious Practice (DMin)

Previous Course Title: Interreligious Spiritual Care

4 Credits.

Prerequisites for master's students: IC2002, instructor approval

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, instructor approval

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, instructor approval

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: FL1001, TR1001.

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

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

MS3001 MAL Capstone Seminar

3 Credits.

Prerequisites for this course: FL1001, TR1001

Planned frequency of offerings: each term

The purpose of this capstone seminar, to be taken in the MAL student's final year, is to assist the student in integrating course work, formational activities and contextual experiences into the outline of a project which could set the stage for its potential implementation sometime following the student's graduation. In addition, each student will develop a case study that presents issues around their understanding of ministry and/or social justice work, which will be peer reviewed and explored. Issues in the practices of ministry and/or social transformation will also be addressed. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

MS3300 MA in Ministry Capstone Seminar

3 Credits.

Prerequisites for this course: FL1001, TR1001.

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

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 and submit a Directed Study Course Request form approved by faculty 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 and submit an Independent Study Course Request form approved by the supervising instructor 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. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

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

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: RT1001, TR1001.

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 UU Worship, Liturgy, and Ritual

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.

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.

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 several religious traditions will be used in this course. Due to the integrative and multi-religious nature of this course, previous biblical hermeneutic courses cannot 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.

Prerequisites 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.

RT4001 The Bible and Palestine-Israel: Land, Promise, and Conquest

3 Credits

Prerequisite for this course: RT2100 or RT2200; basic knowledge of the Hebrew Bible strongly recommended

May be completed in place of RT3001 as a required core degree course

Planned frequency of offerings: TBD

This course will introduce students to prominent methods of biblical interpretation on topics related to land, promise, and conquest in the Hebrew Bible, and their potential implications in contemporary Palestine-Israel. It will examine a diverse array of hermeneutic approaches to these biblical themes, with special emphasis on the notion of Promised Land derived from Hebrew scriptures. Students will engage and construct exegetical analyses of these texts in the Hebrew Bible, as well as the material-political texts in contemporary Palestine-Israel that are shaped by particular interpretations of these biblical themes and stories. Major additional themes covered in the course will include biblical archaeology, Zionism, contemporary history, settler colonialism, religious tourism, and interfaith peacebuilding.

RT4002 Understanding Ritual Experience

3 Credits.

Planned frequency of offerings: TBD

This course invites participants to approach ritual by asking questions: how does a particular ritual function; what is the potential for finding meaning in a given ritual; what is the story that a ritual embodies; how does a ritual shape us; how does a ritual allow us to express ourselves; what are the devotional, initiatory and magical possibilities for a ritual; how do poetry and voice embody the magic of a ritual; what are the linear realities and non-linear possibilities of a given ritual? Engaging ritual through these and other questions deepens self-understanding and develops skills for religious leadership.

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

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

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

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

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

SD5201 Spiritual Direction/Companionship 2: Practices (DMin)

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

SD5401 Living Practices of Gender and Sexuality Justice

4 Credits.

Planned frequency of offerings: TBD

This course considers several theological and spiritual practices that can contribute to advocacy for greater justice for LGBTIQ+ communities. Students examine significant themes in the practices of embodiment, hospitality, testimony, discernment, and stewardship of creation from interreligious LGBTQ+ perspectives; interrogate the ways in which these practices have contributed to exclusion and injustice in the experiences of the LGBTQ+ community; and develop new theological interpretations and expressions of these practices that create greater inclusivity and justice for LGBTQ+ persons. This course may only be taken for a pass/fail grade.

Social Transformation (ST)

ST1002 Social Analysis and Community Engagement

Previous Course Numbers: ST1003, ST2002

3 Credits.

Planned frequency of offerings: annually

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.

ST2001 Theology for Social Transformation

Previous Course Number: ST1002

3 Credits.

Corequisites: TR1001 and ST1002.

Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)

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.

ST2003 Social Enterprise

Previous Course Number: ST1004

3 Credits.

Corequisite for this course: ST1002.

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.

ST2004 Leadership and Strategies for Social Change

Previous Course Number: ST1001

3 Credits.

Corequisite for this course: ST1002.

Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)

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.

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.

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.

TR2003 History of Early Christian Theologies

Previous Course Number and Title: 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.

TR2004 History of Modern Christian Theologies

Previous Course Number and Title: 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.

TR2005 UCC History, Theology, and Polity

Previous Course Number: TR2003

3 Credits.

Prerequisite for this course: TR1001.

Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)

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: biennially (every other year)

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.

TR2100 Constructive Theology

Previous Course Number: TR3010

3 Credits.

Prerequisites for this course: RT1001, TR2003 or TR2004.

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 Pagan Theology

3 Credits.

Prerequisites for this course: EJ1001 or EJ1002.

Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)

Theology—the study of the Divine and of Meaning—calls us to make connections between reason and experience, history and contemporary life, and between our own traditions and practices and those of others. It is a practice by which we grow in deeper understanding of our relationships with the divine and with others, which then informs how we live. This class explores and develops students' personal theologies through encounters with voices in modern Paganism, Western theological ideas, and earth-centered and feminist Christianity/post-Christianity, as well as develops their expertise with theological terminology. By developing their own theological frameworks, students develop skills to engage in informed and intelligent theological discussions with those from other religious traditions.

TR4003 Islam: History and Theology

Previous Course Number: TR2013

3 Credits.

Prerequisite for this course: TR1001.

Planned frequency of offerings: biennially (every other year)

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?

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.

TR4008 Intersectional Feminist Theology: Theory and Praxis

3 Credits.

May be completed in place of EJ2005 or EJ2006 as a required core degree course.

Prerequisite for this course: TR1001

Planned frequency of offerings: TBD

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, instructor approval

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, instructor approval

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 2026–2027

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

Description	Amount	Explanation
Degree course tuition	\$810	Per academic term credit hour.
Certificate course tuition	\$600	Per academic term credit hour. Applies only to courses taken towards meeting the course requirements for a non-degree certificate program by a student enrolled in the certificate program.
Course audit fee	\$300	Per course. See the Auditing Courses section of the <i>Student Handbook</i> for exceptions.
Background check fee	\$50	Charged when a student is admitted to a degree program, as well as prior to any contextual education placement. The one fee payment covers both background checks.
Late registration fee	\$50	Charged once for the term if a student submits at least one course registration request on or after August 15 for fall term, December 15 for spring term, or April 15 for summer term.
Payment plan fee	\$50	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.
Late payment fee	\$50	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.
Non-sufficient funds fee	\$50	Payable each time a check is returned.
CPE internship site fee	varies	For students enrolled in the CPE Internship course, United pays the internship site up to \$1,000 of the total site fee. The student pays the site any amount of the site fee above \$1,000.
Spiritual Direction Practicum lab fee	\$500	May be paid once at the beginning of the first Spiritual Direction Practicum course or in two installments of \$250 paid at the beginning of each of the first two practicum courses.
Spiritual Direction Practicum Continuation individual supervision	\$300–450	Students enrolled in the Spiritual Direction Practicum Continuation course pay the practicum supervisor \$150 per supervision session until their practicum hours are completed. Most continuations are completed with 2–3 sessions.
Continuation course fee: MA Thesis, DMin Dissertation, MAL Final Project	\$300	Charged each academic term after registration for the initial thesis, dissertation, or final project course
Master's graduation fee	\$175	One-time fee paid with the petition to graduate.
DMin graduation fee	\$225	One-time fee paid with the petition to graduate.

FACULTY

Core Faculty

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

Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and Social Transformation

Jennifer Maidrand, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Bible, Culture, and Interpretation

Ginger Morgan, Ph.D.

Associate Professor for Pastoral and Spiritual Care

Munjed M. Murad, Th.D.

Assistant Professor of World Religions and Intercultural Studies

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

Assistant Professor of Theological Ethics and Formation, Supported by the McVay Endowment

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

Schilling Professor of Public Theology and Church and Economic Life

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

Wilson Yates Associate Professor of Theology and the Arts

Demian Wheeler, Ph.D.

Sophia Chair Associate Professor of Religious and Theological Studies

Adjunct Faculty

Nathan Albert, D.Min.

Ebony Aya, Ph.D.

Patricia Browne, MARS

Sarah Cledwyn, MAT

Christian Collins Winn, Ph.D.

Terri Daniel, D.Min.

DeWayne Davis, D.Min.

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

Alisha Dennis-Brinson, D.Min.

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

Beth Donaldson, D.Min.

Amy Eilberg, D.Min.

Victor Ezigbo, Ph.D.

Lisa Friedman, M.Div.

Kate (DeConinck) Gibeault, Th.D.

Susannah Griffith, Ph.D.

Ryan Higgins, Ph.D.

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

David Hottinger, M.Div.

Cindi Beth Johnson, D.Min.

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