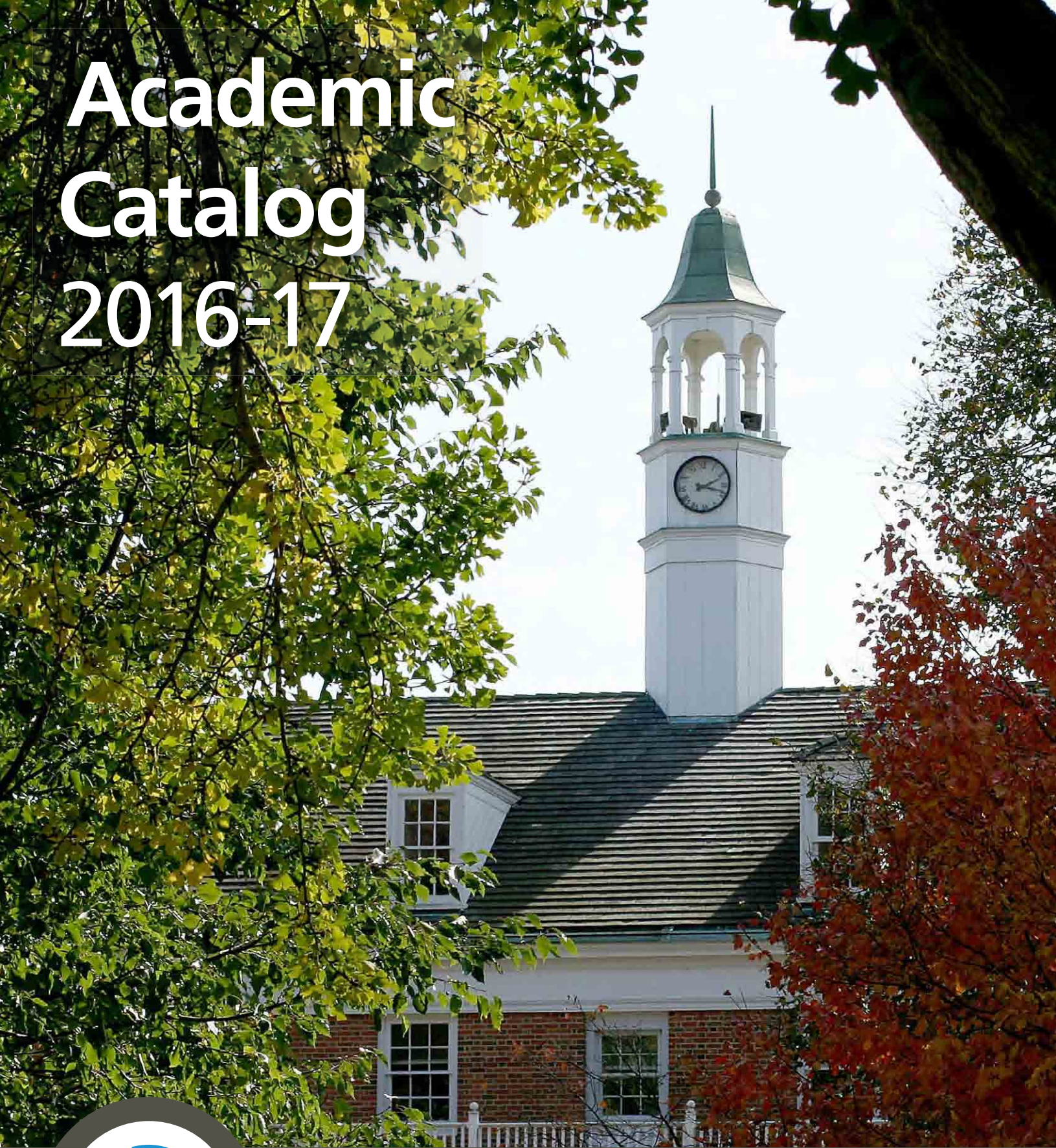


# Academic Catalog 2016-17



Methodist Theological School in Ohio

[www.mtso.edu](http://www.mtso.edu)

# MTSO

## Academic Catalog 2016-17

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# MTSO information

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## **Our Aspiration**

In response to the grace and call of God in Jesus Christ, Methodist Theological School in Ohio will prepare and invigorate transformational leaders to engage the church and the world in leadership and service.

## **Our Identity and Purpose**

Methodist Theological School in Ohio is a center for rigorous theological inquiry, spiritual formation and professional development which is rooted in the scriptures and traditions of the Christian faith. We provide a vibrant learning environment for the preparation of skilled, passionate transformational leaders for churches, religious institutions, emerging faith communities, and the wider world. Grounded in our Wesleyan tradition and influenced by our ecumenical and interfaith commitments, we attend to the theological, spiritual, and vocational formation of a diverse group of students involved in a wide range of pursuits. Expecting active participation in our community of learning, we maintain an atmosphere of mutual respect and openness, teaching how to engage in conversation with the past and with others so that new and faithful perspectives may emerge. We strive for our graduates to demonstrate a deep understanding of the heritage disciplines of religious study, to be highly competent in areas of practical theology, and to show evidence of thoughtful reflection. We are committed to individual wholeness, social justice, inclusiveness, and religious diversity. We take seriously our responsibility for stewardship of the intellectual life of the church and our commitment to a just and sustainable world.

## **Statement of Welcome**

MTSO strives to ground hospitality in God's radical welcome of us all, which Christians confess is made evident in Jesus. We commit to a diverse community and a culture of respect, recognizing our interdependence with each other and creation. We recognize that our community is a changing, growing community and work to attend to and review institutional procedures, policies, behaviors and academic programs to ensure that they continue to uphold the institutional values stated here. We commit ourselves to be leaders of social justice who foster the renewal and rebirth of creation in the following ways:

- Provide an environment for brave engagement in theological, spiritual and intellectual inquiry
- Invite and engage respectful dialogue across the theological spectrum as well as in ecumenical and interreligious relations
- Work together to identify, resist, and transform the prejudices and oppressive structures based on race, color, ethnic or national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, economic class, religion, and age
- Prepare leaders for wholeness – intellectually, spiritually, physically, and emotionally, as individuals and in community
- Advocate a vision of justice that encompasses the thriving of all creation, and fosters life-giving relationships between humankind and the natural world.

## Accreditation

Methodist Theological School in Ohio is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, and the following degree programs are approved: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Practical Theology, Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries, Master of Theological Studies, and Doctor of Ministry. The Commission contact information is:

The Commission on Accrediting  
of the Association of Theological Schools  
in the United States and Canada  
10 Summit Park Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15275  
USA  
Telephone: 412-788-6505  
Fax: 412-788-6510  
Website: [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu)

MTSO also is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools ([www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org), 800-621-7440 or 312-263-0456). Our degree programs are also authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents and approved by the University Senate of the United Methodist Church.

## Ecumenism and equal opportunity

Formally affiliated with the United Methodist Church, we are multi-denominational in relationship and ecumenical in both spirit and practice. We do not unlawfully discriminate in the administration of our employment, education or admissions policies.

## Notice of nondiscrimination

Methodist Theological School in Ohio is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic or national origin, sex, sexual orientation or expression, marital status, pregnancy or parenting status, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, military status, veteran status, or other non-merit reasons, in admissions, educational programs or activities, and employment, including employment of disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

The director of compliance at MTSO is the official with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries for the following acts:

- Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
- Clery Act
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

Inquiries concerning any of these acts should be addressed to:

Grace Welch, Director of Compliance  
Methodist Theological School in Ohio  
3081 Columbus Pike  
Delaware, Ohio 43015  
[gwelch@mtso.edu](mailto:gwelch@mtso.edu)

## Contract disclaimer

Please note that this catalog is not a contract between the school and the student. Also, particular program information and requirements that are subject to state of Ohio licensure oversight are subject to change. Students should regularly seek the most current information from the directors of such programs.

## Contact us

Methodist Theological School in Ohio  
3081 Columbus Pike  
Delaware, OH 43015  
[www.mtso.edu](http://www.mtso.edu)

### Phone:

Admissions 800-333-6876  
Switchboard 740-363-1146

### Fax:

President 740-362-3135  
Dean 740-362-3129  
Faculty 740-362-3381

### Email:

Academic Affairs [academicaffairs@mtso.edu](mailto:academicaffairs@mtso.edu)  
Admissions [admissions@mtso.edu](mailto:admissions@mtso.edu)  
Advancement [advancement@mtso.edu](mailto:advancement@mtso.edu)  
Alumni Relations [alum@mtso.edu](mailto:alum@mtso.edu)  
Financial Aid [finaid@mtso.edu](mailto:finaid@mtso.edu)  
Library [library@mtso.edu](mailto:library@mtso.edu)  
Registrar [registrar@mtso.edu](mailto:registrar@mtso.edu)



# Consider what you can gain here – and what you can offer

A message from Jay Rundell  
President

As students, as educators and as people of faith, we live in a time of bracing challenges and invigorating opportunities. The world needs what this school equips religious leaders to do. A society addicted to consumption, in which even faith can become a commodity, is now changing. A healthier, more faithful spiritual equilibrium is possible but by no means guaranteed.

The faculty and staff of Methodist Theological School in Ohio are privileged to guide the students who are preparing to take on this challenge.

MTSO is a graduate school committed to educational excellence, spiritual vitality, engagement of church and society, and a vibrant Christian faith. As a community, we embrace diversity for the wealth of perspectives it brings to a rigorous examination of Christianity's role and responsibilities. Ours is a campus where people from different backgrounds with different views thrive and contribute daily, preparing to take a broad and academically grounded perspective into the wider community.

I invite you to consider what you can offer in such an environment and what you could gain from such an experience. Together, we can respond to God's call to serve a church and a world that are waiting for inspired, insightful leadership.



# Scholarship, character and wisdom

A message from Lisa R. Withrow  
Dean and Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

Methodist Theological School in Ohio's goal is to attend to scholarship, character, spiritual formation, and wisdom. These foundational aspects for a steady and also prophetic presence in the world are essential for effective and profound leadership. Holding scholarship as our grounding for our interaction in society creates well-thought-out public theological thinking, sorely needed in a world that depends on opinion polls to make its decisions.

Students who immerse themselves in scholarship find that the character of their work and their life choices begins to shift, thereby creating a set of ethics that inform decision-making in ministry and counseling that bring people together in new ways. The immersion into scholarship, led by very capable faculty, builds the character of persons called to lead the church, counsel those in need, and address complex world social issues, with a critical eye for the betterment of all creation.

Intimately connected with scholarship and the development of a particular kind of character is growth in spiritual life. Scholarship and character do not confine leaders to tradition; they provide people with deep roots from which to foster meaningful change. Spiritual formation, deeply grounded in scholarship and character, is the practiced perseverance of moving toward the realm of God in ways that are constructive, life-giving and patient. This movement in all its diversity, cultivates wisdom, and keeps one core principle at heart: love – of God, self, neighbor and enemy. To practice wisdom meaningfully is to stand on the traditions found in scholarship and the development of strong character through the spiritual life.

Here at MTSO, we prepare and invigorate transformational leaders who take seriously the call to change the anxiety-ridden church, the lives of hurting people and the state of the complex world. The academic areas listed in this catalog (Bible, Theology, Ethics, Church History, Study of Religions and Interreligious Relations, Leadership, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Religious Education, Homiletics, Worship, and Mission and Evangelism) all contribute to the building of scholars with character and spiritual depth, as soon-to-be wise leaders in ministry and counseling. Such an endeavor is not easy, yet it is deeply worthwhile.

So, as you find your way here, you will become part of an important community that makes a difference in a hurting world. Faculty, administrators, staff, current students, alumni, trustees and friends will surround you on this path. Savor it. Theological education at MTSO will change your life – and, therefore, the lives of others.

# Admissions

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## **Admission requirements for master's degree, certificate and non-degree programs**

For admission to Methodist Theological School in Ohio, master's degree, certificate and non-degree applicants are expected to have earned, at minimum:

- a bachelor's degree from an regionally accredited college or university;
- a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.7 on a 4.0 scale.

Although there is no required undergraduate major for seminary preparation, a course of study that includes a broad representation of studies in the human experience, including social and natural sciences, language, literature, religion, history, and philosophy, is recommended.

The Admissions and Student Aid committee may request a personal interview with admissions candidates to provide additional information before an admission decision is made.

Decisions regarding admission to master's-level study will be based on consideration of an applicant's cumulative grade point average, personal references (as required), the written statement of rationale and vocational goals, a personal interview, and the applicant's graces, gifts and fitness for ministry. Other relevant factors for admission will also be considered.

### **The application process**

All materials submitted in support of admission to any program are considered the sole and confidential property of Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Admission files are not accessible to applicants.

### **Required materials: master's degrees**

A complete application file for all master's degrees will include:

- the completed and signed application form;
- a written statement of 1,000-2,000 words explaining the applicant's vocational goals and rationale for seeking graduate theological education at MTSO;
- official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate credits earned. Official transcripts must be sent directly to the MTSO admissions office from the institutions attended.
- a current resume or curriculum vita listing the applicant's work history, honors and awards, etc.;
- background check authorization;
- three reference letters on official letterhead, with form, mailed or faxed directly to the MTSO Admissions Office.

### **Letters of reference**

- An academic reference is a professor who has taught the applicant in class and can attest to the applicant's research, writing and academic abilities. An academic letter of reference must be received on the letterhead of the referee's institution.



- A clergy/personal reference is someone who can attest to the applicant's personal qualities that make the applicant an excellent candidate for the program to which he or she is applying.
- A professional reference is an academic, clergy or lay supervisor familiar with the applicants work habits and vocational responsibilities.

**Reference requirements vary by program of application and are listed below.**

- Master of Divinity: one academic, one professional and one clergy reference.
- Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries: one academic, one professional and one clergy or personal reference.
- Master of Arts in Practical Theology: one academic, one professional and one clergy or personal reference.
- Master of Theological Studies: two academic references, plus one professional, clergy or personal reference (three total).

**An academic reference is an essential component of any application file. However, if the applicant has been out of school longer than 10 years, he or she may be unable to submit an academic reference.** In these rare cases, the applicant may submit two professional references and one personal reference. The applicant also must submit an additional essay of 1,500 – 2,000 words on a topic to be assigned by the director of admissions. This is separate from the required written personal statement. To receive an essay topic, he or she should email admissions@mtso.edu with a request.

## Interviews

Applicants for the Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries program must complete an interview with the program director. Applicants for other programs and non-degree applicants may also be contacted for an interview with the director of admissions or other school officials prior to a decision regarding the applicant's admission.

When all materials have been received and reviewed, an admissions office representative will inform applicants of the Admissions Committee's decision. Once an applicant is approved for admission to a master's degree program at Methodist Theological School in Ohio, an offer of admission will be extended, contingent upon the results of a criminal background check. Once accepted, applicants will be asked to confirm their intention to enroll by submitting a \$100 tuition deposit within thirty days. This nonrefundable deposit will be applied as a credit toward the applicant's first billing statement as a new student.

## English as a second language

All applicants are required to have a degree conferred within the United States. If an applicant (US citizen, permanent resident or international student) does not have a degree conferred within the United States, they will be required to meet the TOEFL requirements set for international students. Admissions personnel and faculty will recommend work with a writing instructor as necessary. Students may be required to take ES-501, English for Theological Studies, based on their TOEFL score as determined by the admissions committee.

## Timelines for application

New students are admitted in Fall and Spring semesters. Admissions deadlines are posted on the admissions website.

- Students may apply up to one year before their first semester.
- **International students** are urged to apply at least one year prior to enrollment. Completed applications are due by April 1 for enrollment in the following Fall Semester.

## Admission requirements for Doctor of Ministry degree program

New cohorts of eight to fifteen students begin each July. The application due date for July matriculation is April 20. Courses are normally held for one week in late July or early August and one week in early January. The minimum requirements for admission include:

- A Master of Divinity degree from an ATS accredited school or its educational equivalent including at least one year of theological study. Exceptions may be granted for schools with regional accreditation. Contact the director for information about equivalency. Applicants who do not hold an M.Div. degree must submit evidence of their professional degree and/or advanced training and experience at time of application. The committee may provisionally admit a student without a M.Div. degree to the D.Min. program, providing the candidate with advice about which theological master's level courses to complete as prerequisites. These coursework prerequisites may be fulfilled concurrently with D.Min. coursework, and will need to be finished by the time the final class of the D.Min. coursework is taken.
- Three years of professional ministry experience following graduation from theological school.
- Current engagement in some form of formal ministry.
- Completion of the application form and submission of a \$50 non-refundable application fee.
- Evidence of ability to undertake advanced professional study. Evidence would include (a) official transcripts of all course work completed at the college level or higher; (b) three references; (c) an essay of 1,000 to 1,250 words tracing professional growth through continuing education since graduation from theological school, and identifying areas of professional strength and challenge in ministry; (d) a 1,000- to 1,250-word statement of the initial goals for the Doctor of Ministry study.
- The three references must consist of both the D.Min. reference form and an accompanying letter. The references must come from the following three specific sources:
  - One from a denominational judicatory official (for example, bishop, district superintendent, regional minister, executive presbyter, et al., or in the case where there is no denominational official, a supervisor within the ministry setting, such as chair of deacon board)
  - One from a person with leadership responsibility in a ministry setting who can speak to the applicant's competence and appropriateness for the program.
  - One from a professor who can attest to the applicant's ability to do D.Min. work in the area of specialization. If the applicant graduated more than 10 years ago, he or she may substitute a letter from a ministerial colleague or other professional leader who can comment on the applicant's fitness for D.Min. study.

- Cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in all graduate work. Students with less than a 3.0 cumulative GPA may apply to the program with the understanding that their application will be evaluated by the entire D.Min. committee and the dean. Additional materials may be required of applicants in this situation. MTSO will not consider D.Min. applicants whose cumulative graduate GPA is lower than 2.7. Students who took their academic work within a pass/fail system should provide letters of reference from professors testifying that they performed at a level meriting a grade of A or B.
- International students are required to complete the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). The minimum score needed for admission is 79 on the internet test or 550 on the paper-based test. Scores must be sent directly from the reporting agency to the seminary to which the student is applying: either Methodist Theological School in Ohio (Institution Code 1540) or Trinity Lutheran Seminary (Institution Code 1214). Scores need to be less than two years old.

## **Admission to degree programs**

### **Degree student**

A degree student is anyone who will follow a program leading to one of the degrees offered by Methodist Theological School in Ohio: Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Master of Arts in Practical Theology (MAPT), Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries (MACM), Master of Theological Studies (MTS) or Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.). The Master of Divinity program can be combined as a dual program with any of the other master's degrees to provide additional competency. Please read more about each degree program in the "Degree requirements" section of this catalog.

### **International students**

International students may enroll in the Fall Semester. International applicants are expected to meet all the admissions requirements listed above for degree-seeking students. Methodist Theological School in Ohio is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services have established certain health insurance coverage requirements that must also be documented.

International applicants are also required to show evidence of English language proficiency at a level that is adequate for success in graduate theological study. International applicants must be able to document official results of the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). The minimum score required will be 75% of the perfect total in all different tests (a score of 550 for the paper-based test, or a score of 79 for the Internet-based test.) International applicants may also be required to successfully complete a summer class of English as a Second Language as well as ES-501, English for Theological Studies, in their first semester. They also may be required to work with a MTSO writing instructor.

International applicants also must be able to document that they have sufficient financial resources available to support all study and living expenses throughout the chosen degree program.

### **Provisional admission**

Applicants who are granted provisional admission for master's-level study meet the regular criteria for admission except that they are in the process of completing the final requirements for their bachelor's degree, and they must provide evidence of completion prior to beginning study at Methodist Theological School in Ohio.

## **Background check**

Acceptance to a master's degree is contingent upon the successful completion of a background check. An applicant's signed permission statement is a part of the application process. This permission statement provides the appropriate agreement necessary to perform a basic background check on the following items: criminal records (national and regional); civil records; Social Security number validation/verification; educational credentials; and professional credentials (if applicable).

Further, an applicant who is evaluated and approved for admission with a negative factor or factors in his or her background check is not guaranteed placement in practicum; internship; field education; ordination; temporary or permanent employment with a counseling agency, church or hospital; helping professions; or other ministries. It is important to understand that subsequent background checks are generally required by the aforementioned agencies. Therefore, offers for practicum, internship, field education and employment are evaluated and governed by said agencies' policies and practices, and they are rendered separate and apart from the MTSO admissions and approval process.

## **Transfer admission**

Transfer students must meet the same criteria as other applicants. Methodist Theological School in Ohio may grant credit for work completed at other theological schools accredited by the Association of Theological Schools or, when relevant, other regionally accredited graduate programs. Applicants must make requests for consideration of transfer credit at the time they are admitted, and prior to enrollment. Transfer credits are evaluated on a case-by-case basis by Academic Affairs. A maximum of one-half of the required credits needed for a master's degree or certificate can be awarded from transfer credits; however, there are limiting factors that may result in a lesser amount of transfer credit awarded. According to the degree standards of the Association of Theological Schools, all course credits applied towards degree requirements must be earned within ten years of the awarding of the degree.

Doctor of Ministry students may not normally receive transfer credit for courses completed prior to matriculation.

## **Seminary Preview Program**

Under the Seminary Preview Program, junior and senior students with a GPA of 3.0 or above from participating United Methodist colleges and universities in the state of Ohio are permitted to enroll in up to six hours of courses tuition-free. More information about this program is available from the director of admissions upon request.

## **Conditional admission**

When all other criteria for admission are strong but past academic performance is weak, students may be admitted with the condition that they will be required to prove their academic ability in the completion of their first nine credit hours at MTSO. Conditional admission is also offered when unusual circumstances warrant that specific conditions be attached to admission. Conditionally admitted students are usually limited to enrollment in 11 credit hours per semester.

## Admission to non-degree programs

### Certificate programs

The admission requirements and application process for the Certificate in Basic Theological Education, Certificate in Deacon Studies and the Certificate in the Advanced Course of Study are the same as admission to master's degree programs, with the following exceptions:

- One official transcript is required. This transcript must show that you have attained, at minimum, an undergraduate degree. Either an undergraduate or graduate transcript fulfills this requirement.
- Advanced Course of Study applicants need to also provide proof of completion of the United Methodist Church's five year Course of Study program.
- The personal statement needs to be 200 to 300 words.
- No references are required.

See the section titled "MTSO certificate programs" for more information about these offerings.

### Occasional student

Admission as an occasional student is an option for those who want to enroll in classes at Methodist Theological School in Ohio for academic credit but are not presently applying for admission to one of the school's degree or certificate programs.

Those interested in taking specialized classes in the Engaging in Ministry with the Poor certification should apply for admission as an occasional student.

Admission as an occasional student requires:

- the completed and signed occasional application form;
- a written statement of 200 to 300 words explaining the applicant's vocational goals and rationale for seeking graduate theological education at MTSO;
- one official transcript showing attainment of an undergraduate degree. Official transcript must be sent directly to the MTSO admissions office from the institution attended.

Once admitted, occasional students can take up to 27 semester hours without having to declare a program. After that, occasional students must seek admission to one of our degree or certificate programs in order to continue their enrollment.

### Guest registrant

Degree students at other graduate institutions outside the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus (or another institution with whom Methodist Theological School in Ohio has a standing consortium agreement) who want to take courses at Methodist Theological School in Ohio for transfer credit to their home institution may apply to be guest registrants at MTSO. The required materials for guest applicants are the same as for other non-degree applicants, with the exception that the applicant's current academic transcript from the home institution is sufficient (rather than transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended).

In lieu of the current transcript, a statement of good academic standing from the dean of the student's home institution may be provided. Guest registrants must work with their home institutions to ensure that credit for any courses taken at MTSO will be accepted for transfer to the home institution.

## **Denial of admission or discontinuation of enrollment**

Methodist Theological School in Ohio reserves the right to deny admission to any applicant or to discontinue the enrollment of any student whose personal actions are deemed to be detrimental to its community or whose academic performance is below requirements. The school also reserves the right to determine, in its sole judgment, whether an applicant is a suitable candidate for a specific degree program or for the vocation which the program represents.

## **The Course of Study Program of the United Methodist Church**

Methodist Theological School in Ohio is home to the Course of Study School of Ohio, a program for part-time or full-time local pastors in the United Methodist Church. The Course of Study School of Ohio offers classes at Methodist Theological School in Ohio and United Theological Seminary. Those interested must apply through the Course of Study office. Applicants can contact the MTSO office by calling 740-362-3120 or sending an email to [cos@mtso.edu](mailto:cos@mtso.edu). See the section of this catalog titled "United Methodist Church educational programs offered at MTSO" or the Web site at [www.cosohio.edu](http://www.cosohio.edu) for more details.

# Financial aid

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## The financial aid process

Methodist Theological School in Ohio's admissions and financial aid representatives will work in partnership with students to support their theological education. Financial assistance may come from the seminary or outside sources in several forms: scholarships, grants, employment and loans. These resources, combined with personal resources such as savings and earnings, provide the framework for financing an education at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Most sources of assistance are based upon information about the student's financial need as documented on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application, which is available online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Special programs have been established at Methodist Theological School in Ohio through the generosity of individuals, churches, foundations and organizations to provide support for the school's grants and scholarship programs. The FAFSA form, the scholarship application and the MTSO financial aid application serve as the application for many of these programs, although separate application procedures may be required for some scholarship programs.

### Eligibility

Students can be awarded financial assistance when they:

- have been accepted into one of our master's degree programs;
- have completed the FAFSA and supporting documents;
- have demonstrated financial need;
- plan to enroll at least half-time (4.5 or more credit hours per semester).

Students admitted as non-degree students or to the Doctor of Ministry program are not eligible for financial assistance from MTSO.

Students must make satisfactory academic progress (SAP) to continue receiving financial assistance. Our SAP policy is explained below and is included in the MTSO Student Handbook, which is available online.

### Scholarships

Scholarships are financial gifts that do not have to be repaid and are awarded on a competitive basis. Prospective student applicants generally must hold a cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all postsecondary education. Some scholarships are available to returning students; application for these scholarships requires a 3.3 GPA for all MTSO coursework. In selecting recipients among similarly qualified applicants, MTSO will seek to award scholarships to students whose contributions will enhance the diversity of the school's learning community. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 800-333-6876 or [finaid@mtso.edu](mailto:finaid@mtso.edu).

### Employment

MTSO offers students employment opportunities on campus. Students are paid twice a month and work no more than 20 hours per week, which is determined by eligibility. Students must be registered at least half-time (4.5 credit hours) each semester (Fall and Spring) to be eligible to work on campus. To be selected for a job on campus, a student must fill out the required financial aid documents and an employment application. When departments have openings, they will be posted with other community announcements. Students will be directed to submit a current

resume to the Office of Financial Aid. Once hired, students must complete tax paperwork in the Office of Financial Aid prior to beginning work.

All MTSO students are encouraged to apply for job opportunities through MTSO's College Central Network (CCN) which is an online platform to build e-portfolios, create and post resumes and search for open internships that are both full and part-time. See more at [www.collegecentral.com/mtso](http://www.collegecentral.com/mtso). If you have interest in seeking a specialized ministry opportunity not listed, please stop by the Director of Field Education's office, Gault 243, or e-mail Tamara Wilden at [TWilden@mtso.edu](mailto:TWilden@mtso.edu).

## **Federal Direct Loan funds**

Students may be eligible for a Direct Federal Stafford loan to help finance their seminary education. Borrower interest rates are fixed for the life of the loan. Each year on July 1, the borrower interest rate is adjusted based on the last auction in May for the 10-year Treasury rate. That rate is in effect for all newly issued loans from July 1 through the following June 30. The interest rate for 2016-17 is 5.31% for Direct Stafford Unsubsidized loan (10-year Treasury + 3.60%) and 6.31% for a GradPLUS loan (10-year Treasury + 4.6%). The Office of Financial Aid will provide the loan request form with the student's financial aid award notification. Students must file a FAFSA each year and complete entrance and exit loan counseling session if they receive a loan award through this program. The amount cannot exceed \$20,500 or the calculated cost of education minus all other financial assistance received. The federal government does not pay the interest during the in-school, grace and deferment periods. Repayment begins six months after you drop below half-time study or graduate. However, interest is payable from the time of disbursement and, if deferred, will be capitalized to the loan proceeds after the in-school and grace period ends.

## **Federal Direct Loan refund policy**

The federal government has a mandated "Return of Title IV Funds" policy. This policy affects those students who have withdrawn from all classes and receive federal financial aid. Students who receive federal financial aid (Direct Stafford Loans) should contact the Office of Financial Aid before withdrawing from classes. Withdrawing under this policy most likely will result in unearned loan funds being returned, creating a balance being owed to Methodist Theological School in Ohio. If student loans have been borrowed while in attendance at MTSO, exit counseling would also be required.

## **Withdrawal date**

- A) A student's withdrawal date is the date the student notifies the institution in writing of his/her intent to withdraw.
- B) Unofficial withdrawals encompass all other withdrawals where official notification is not provided to the school. This includes students who have not passed at least one of their classes at the end of the semester. The withdrawal date is the midpoint of the payment period or period of enrollment, or the last date of an academically related activity that the student participated in. Please note that withdrawing from the school will also affect a student's Satisfactory Academic Progress and may impact future federal financial aid eligibility.

## **Satisfactory Academic Progress policy**

Federal financial aid funds are awarded with the understanding that students will make progress toward their chosen degree. MTSO, as directed by the U.S. Department of Education, has



established guidelines (Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress) to follow in order to meet this goal.

Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress apply for the following types of federal financial aid: Federal Work-Study, Direct Loan, Grad PLUS Loan.

## Policy standards

The Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress measures three components. Students must meet all three components to maintain their financial aid eligibility.

1. **Grade Point Average:** 2.5 cumulative GPA
2. **Maximum Timeframe:** Students are required to complete their degree within one-and-a-half times the length of their program's published hour requirement (150%)
3. **Pace of Progress:** To ensure that students earn a degree within the maximum timeframe allowed, students must show a *minimum* completion rate of 67% of classes attempted.

Notes:

- WP or WF (withdrawal), and F (failing grade) do not count toward meeting completion percentage, therefore take away from your pace. Examples: A) Register for 12 hours, drop 3 hours after add/drop deadline, completing 9 credit hours. Nine completed hours/12 attempted hours = 75% completion or pace...acceptable. B) Register for 12 hours, drop 6 hours after add/drop deadline, completing 6 credit hours. Six completed hours/12 attempted hours = 50% completion or pace...not acceptable.
- All terms of attendance are reviewed including terms no federal financial aid was received.
- All hours are counted cumulatively including when changing degrees and repeating coursework.
- All hours accepted in as transfer credit will be used to calculate timeframe and pace measures.

## Appeal procedures

At the end of spring term each year, the academic records of all students who are receiving or applying for federal financial aid will be reviewed. Those students who fail to meet the Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress will be notified that they are no longer eligible to receive financial aid funds.

Students have the following options available to restore their eligibility:

1. Make up any deficient hours by raising your overall completion rate to at least 67% and/or bring up GPA to a 2.5 *without the use of federal funds* or through grade changes.  
-or-
2. Complete a full-time equivalent term with a 2.5 GPA *without the use of federal funds*. A student may complete multiple part-time terms with a 2.5 GPA to total the full-time equivalency in credit hours.  
-or-

3. Submit a written appeal if the failure to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress was due to extenuating circumstances (including how the situation has changed to allow progress).

Written notification of completing options 1 or 2 or an appeal based on option 3 should be submitted to the Financial Aid Office at [finaid@mtso.edu](mailto:finaid@mtso.edu). Submissions should detail efforts in achieving options above, the extenuating circumstance and a specific plan to enhance future academic performance.

Questions regarding SAP should be directed to the Office of Financial Aid. Decisions regarding satisfactory academic progress appeals are reviewed by the Financial Assistance Committee on Academic Progress, which consists of the dean, financial aid officer and registrar. Appeals may be granted if there are extenuating circumstances.

If aid eligibility is reinstated, the student's record will then be reviewed each term to ensure specified requirements for retaining aid eligibility are being met or until the student has once again established eligibility in meeting all three components of the policy.

If a student fails to re-establish eligibility in an appeal, eligibility can be sought through options 1 and 2 above unless aid eligibility has been denied due to exceeding maximum timeframe for the academic program.

### **Scholarship eligibility**

Students on special scholarship from MTSO may have additional requirements in order to retain that scholarship. Refer to the specific scholarship criteria in each program as documented in the Financial Aid award letter.

# Academic and residential fees for 2016-17

## Tuition

<b>Master's Level Tuition</b>	<b>Full academic year</b>	<b>One semester</b>
Per credit hour	\$681/hr.	\$681/hr.
Full-time = 29 credit hours*	\$19,749	\$9,874.50

\* For illustration purposes.

Tuition and fees are due prior to the start of classes unless an alternative payment arrangement is approved by the MTSO Business Office.

## Doctor of Ministry Tuition and Fees

Application fee: \$50

Tuition: \$12,000

Continuation fee: \$250 per term

Project fee: \$750, assessed at the time the final project proposal is submitted

Second reader fee: \$250, assessed at the time the final project is approved

\*\$12,000 is the cost for the entire program if completed in four years. Installments of \$1,605 are due prior to each term for eight terms and include a \$105 technology fee per term. A continuation fee is charged for each term after the initial 8 terms.

## Course fees

Courses are \$681 per credit hour with the following exceptions:

ES-500 Educated Spirit \$11 Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)\*

\*This fee for the IDI is in addition to regular tuition

Supervised internship (Tracks I & II - PC-850A) \$475

Supervised internship (Track III - PC-870ABC) \$950 (\$500 Fall, \$150 J-Term, \$300 Spring)

Clinical Pastoral Education (PC-510A/B) is billed at regular tuition. (See the Academic Information section for explanation about reimbursement of site fees.)

Audit fee (regular)\* \$200

Audit fee (senior citizens 60 and older) \$75

\* Full-time students, spouses of degree-seeking students, members of Parish Partner churches, current and former employees of MTSO, and all farm workers may audit one course per term at no charge. Full-time students must be full-time during the term they wish to audit in order to audit for free.

## Other fees (non-refundable)

Enrollment deposit \$100 (refunded with first tuition invoice)

Administrative services fee\* \$175 (new degree students, one time only)

Administrative services fee\* \$50 (new non-degree students, one time only)

\*One-time fee for transcripts, background check and graduation expenses.

Technology fee \$105 per term (Spring payment covers January)

Late registration fee \$50 (degree and certificate students only)

Interest charge on 61-day overdue balance 1% per month

Cross cultural reserves (M.Div. only) \$500 per semester for six semesters

Fee used for travel and program expenses for cross cultural trip requirement Returned to student at time of trip. Please refer to the Cross-Cultural Handbook for more information.

## Institutional refund policy

This refund policy applies to all courses regardless of structure or delivery method. Weekend and intensive courses that meet on irregular schedules are also subject to refunds as indicated below. After the fifth week of the semester, or the fifth day of intensive terms, there is no refund. Each summer session is treated separately. Students who are taking intensive or weekend courses should review course materials prior to the start of the term so that a decision to drop can still be made within the 100% time frame. In some cases the courses may have not met yet, but the refund policy will still apply as indicated. (Doctor of Ministry refunds are handled by a separate process.)

Term	Time frame	Refund
Fall/Spring	Before the start of the semester or by the end of the first week of the semester	100%
Fall/Spring	By the end of the second week of the semester	75%
Fall/Spring	By the end of the third week of the semester	50%
Fall/Spring	By the end of the fifth week of the semester	25%
Fall/Spring	After the fifth week of the semester	0%

Term	Time frame	Refund
January/Summer	Before start of the term OR by end of the first weekday of the term	100%
January/Summer	By the end of the second weekday of the term	75%
January/Summer	By the end of the third weekday of the term	50%
January/Summer	By the end of the fifth weekday of the term	25%
January/Summer	After the fifth weekday of the term	0%

## Housing

Housing charges include all utilities, waste removal, local telephone service, cable TV and high speed internet connection. Laundry facilities are available to all campus housing residents at no additional cost. Dewire Residence Hall room charges do not include break weeks or meals.

Dunn Dining Hall is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for lunch and dinner, with a la carte pricing. The dining hall is not open during break weeks.

### Fall and Spring semesters

<u>Dewire Residence Hall</u>	<u>Semester*</u>	
Four nights	\$1,568	
Three nights	\$1,176	
Two nights	\$784	
One night	\$392	
<u>Helen Werner Apartment Building</u>	<u>Semester*</u>	<u>Month**</u>
Efficiency	\$1,960	\$490
One-bedroom	\$2,280	\$570

<u>Kleist Manor Apartments</u>	<u>Semester*</u>	<u>Month**</u>
One-bedroom	\$2,740	\$685
Two-bedroom	\$3,180	\$795

**January, summer, weekend and nightly rates in Dewire Residence Hall**

January and summer terms, fall and spring weekends \$28 per night

*“Weekend” is considered Friday through Sunday nights. Maximum 4 nights at the \$28 rate; 5<sup>th</sup> night and consecutive nights are \$50 with the exception of intensive terms.*

**Guest rooms for non-students**

Dewire Residence Hall	\$50 per night
Dewire Residence Hall - alumni rate	\$28 per night
Helen Werner Apartment	\$70 per night
Kleist Manor Apartment	\$90 per night

**Deposits**

Key deposit - all residents	\$25 per set
Damage deposit - Helen Werner Apartments	\$175 per unit
Damage deposit - Kleist Manor Apartments	\$200 per unit
Pet deposit	\$500 per dog or cat

\* Semester rates charged for Fall Semester (Aug. 26, 2016, through Dec. 16, 2016) and Spring Semester (Jan. 27, 2017, through May 19, 2017). Dewire Residence Hall room charges do not include break weeks.

\*\* Monthly rates charged for January, June, July and August.

Approved by the Board of Trustees March 11, 2016. Effective July 1, 2016.

# Institutional policies and information

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The following items of information represent an overview of some important policies that will be of interest to new members of the MTSO Community. The Student Handbook is the governing document of institutional policies. Each student has access to the Student Handbook upon matriculation and can find more details there on these and other policies.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act**

MTSO supports students in their efforts to reach their potential by encouraging self-advocacy and facilitating student accommodations; empowering students to help themselves; and providing the safe environment in which to do so. We commit to an inclusive learning environment and will make every effort to support reasonable, documented requests for accommodations and learning adaptations. More information is available by contacting the director of student services.

## **Campus safety and security**

MTSO is proud of its safe campus environment. Both the natural setting and the community of people here invite feelings of wellbeing. The director of buildings and grounds acts as the chief security officer, and regularly patrols campus grounds for safety issues and is accessible by cellular phone. The Delaware Police Department (740-203-1111) holds the law enforcement authority for the campus. The campus is also under the jurisdiction of the Delaware County Sheriff's Office (740-833-2810). A full report of campus crime statistics and our security policy is available at [www.mtso.edu/resources](http://www.mtso.edu/resources).

## **Communications**

Email is the most commonly used medium for official communications from the school. Every enrolled student is assigned an MTSO email address. Students are required to check their MTSO email account frequently, as notifications of deadlines, class cancellations etc. might be posted.

Students may have MTSO emails automatically forwarded to a non-MTSO account, but the student is responsible for the creation and maintenance of this link, as well as the maintenance of the original MTSO account.

Campus residents receive free local and extended-calling-area (to Columbus) telephone service, and can make long-distance calls from their rooms with credit or calling cards. For security reasons, campus residents are asked to ensure that the landline phone in their premises is connected and in working order at all times.

Each enrolled student is assigned a campus mailbox. Mailboxes are located on the lower level of Werner Hall. Mail is processed on campus every weekday except holidays. Students also can use campus mail to send items to faculty, staff and fellow students.

All members of the MTSO community are encouraged to register for the MTSO Alert system at [www.mtso.edu/alert](http://www.mtso.edu/alert). This is an emergency notification system that can send registered users information about unplanned school closings or other urgent campus-related news. Subscribers have the option of receiving MTSO alerts via text message, email, voice mail, or all three ways.

## **Drug-free, smoke-free and weapon-free**

MTSO prohibits the unlawful use, possession or distribution of illegal drugs while on the MTSO premises. All inside areas on the campus – including personal residences – are designated as non-smoking areas. Some designated outdoor smoking areas are provided. Smoking is prohibited within 30 feet of all doors and windows on campus.

No person shall store or possess dangerous weapons, have under the person's control, convey, or attempt to convey devices or substances including, but not limited to, firearms or ammunition on the property of MTSO or off campus at an MTSO-related activity, unless permitted on the basis of the person's position as a recognized safety official or appointed peace officer, even if otherwise permitted by law. A valid license does not authorize the licensee to carry a weapon onto the school premises. Use or misuse of weapons, devices or substances in a manner that causes or threatens serious harm to the safety or security of others is expressly prohibited. Violations of this policy by students will result in a recommendation for expulsion upon the first offense. Violations of this policy by employees will result in a recommendation for immediate expulsion upon the first offense. All violators of this policy, whether affiliated with MTSO or not, will be subject to prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

## **Health insurance**

Effective Aug. 14, 2015, MTSO students are responsible for procuring their own health insurance coverage. In response to this development, MTSO's insurer, EIIA, has developed **My Benefit Basket** to provide access to individual insurance policies for students who do not qualify for group plans or have no other coverage on their own. My Benefit Basket is an on-line health benefits platform that provides access to a broad choice of insurance plans. It is powered by an award-winning interactive decision support tool that analyzes health care preferences, financial position, risk tolerance, and insurance coverage to recommend a personalized benefits solution. My Benefit Basket also helps to quickly determine any individual's qualification for federal or state insurance subsidies. Students may go to My Benefit Basket on the Seminary Student Insurance website, [www.eiiasip.org](http://www.eiiasip.org).

# School services

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## Dickhaut Library

The primary mission of the library of the Methodist Theological School in Ohio is to support the information needs of the school's students, faculty and staff. Other individuals, who are also alumni, local clergy, or students/researchers at other theological institutions, may apply to the library director or one of his representatives for limited borrowing privileges.

At the Methodist Theological School in Ohio the central role of the library is quite evident. The library staff is always ready to assist with your research and to do all they can to facilitate the teaching and learning process for faculty and students.

The John W. Dickhaut Library contains over 130,000 volumes and subscribes to nearly 150 periodicals. The Library also offers access to approximately 18,000 unique periodicals in electronic format from databases, including the ATLA Religion Database, JSTOR, and the OhioLINK Electronic Journal Center; and the Works of John Wesley. Wireless internet access is available throughout the building.

## Alumni relations

Methodist Theological School in Ohio alumni are enriching lives in a variety of ministries. Pastors, educators, chaplains, counselors, missionaries, authors – these former students are the leaders in today's church and society. The school assists alumni in their ministries and continued studies in several ways. Many graduates are in frequent contact with faculty members, informally drawing on their scholarship and wisdom. More formal assistance, including continuing education events, also is available.

Specially designed seminars, lecture series, workshops, courses through affiliated programs and through the general curriculum, and the annual Schooler Institute on Preaching combine to offer a rich and diverse program for increasing understanding and enhancing ministry skills after graduation. All MTSO alumni are welcome to make use of the resources available from the MTSO library.

Graduates also assist MTSO by recommending prospective students and by contributing to the school's financial programs.

## Vocational discernment

MTSO's Office of Vocational Discernment and Community Engagement serves students and alumni in vocational journeys, challenging growth and thriving. Services the office provides include individual consultations, professional development training and classroom lectures. Visit the office for: a conversation partner in your discernment process; a wide variety of resources to help you live into and embrace your vocation; consultations on tools along the way, such as resume, CV and cover letter building, interview assistance, professional development suggestions, and building an e-portfolio; connection to the wider community network; and self-assessments to help identify and reaffirm your gifts and strengths. Engaging with the community through office-sponsored partnerships, programs and events allows students and alumni additional opportunities to discern and explore their callings.



Each student and alumnus is entitled to an account through MTSO's presence within the College Central Network , [www.collegecentral.com/mtso](http://www.collegecentral.com/mtso), which provides online access to a variety of resources related to your discernment. Once enrolled, users will: search for open positions (internships, full-time, part-time, volunteer, field education, CPE and more) and receive customized emails related to individual opportunities; build an e-portfolio of relevant academic coursework or customized experience; create and post a resume; access documents from the career library, and connect with others in MTSO's Alumni Mentoring Network. For more information, see [www.mtso.edu/resources/vocational-discernment](http://www.mtso.edu/resources/vocational-discernment).

## **Church or organizational placement**

All MTSO students are encouraged to apply for job opportunities through MTSO's College Central Network (CCN) which is an online platform to build e-portfolios, create and post resumes and search for open internships that are both full and part-time. See more at [www.collegecentral.com/mtso](http://www.collegecentral.com/mtso). If you have interest in seeking a specialized ministry opportunity not listed, please stop by the Director of Field Education's office, Gault 243, or e-mail Tamara Wilden at [TWilden@mtso.edu](mailto:TWilden@mtso.edu).

## **Food services**

Dunn Dining Hall serves farm-to-table lunch and dinner on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during the academic year when school is in session. Meals served in the dining hall feature fresh fruits and vegetables grown on MTSO's Seminary Hill Farm, located just steps from the kitchen. Menus and dining hall hours are posted in the Daily Announcements. Members of the dining hall staff will do their best to accommodate special dietary and scheduling needs. Contact Tadd Petersen at [tpetersen@mtso.edu](mailto:tpetersen@mtso.edu).

# **Community life**

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Academic coursework and community life together constitute the MTSO educational experience. The rich network of resources and opportunities for relationships, service and spiritual growth makes participation in community life an important part of seminary education.

## **Student organizations**

There is a lively structure of student organization on campus. Students have representation on most of the standing committees of the school and on the Board of Trustees. Representation on these bodies is taken seriously, and students have an impact on the decisions these bodies make. There is a strong network of formal student groups and informal student support structures that undergird campus life. The Student Leadership Council represents the student body and responds to student initiatives.

## **Health and fitness**

The school offers opportunities for outdoor exercise on campus. Children enjoy the Diane Holloway Memorial Playground, located behind Kleist Manor Apartments. Students also use the mile-long MTSO Walking Trail. Indoor fitness training is available in the campus exercise room.

## Worship and spiritual opportunities

The opportunity to worship together is one of the most important aspects of community life. Joshua Brodbeck directs the chapel schedule and provides resources for regularly scheduled services of preaching, prayer and communion. Students are encouraged to participate whenever they are on campus. Faculty, students and community groups are involved in planning and leading services, providing the opportunity to experience a variety of worship styles.

In addition to these scheduled times for community worship, there are many opportunities for individual meditation and spiritual growth through prayer groups and Bible studies formed at student initiative. MTSO has two meditation chapels – the Frazer Meditation Room in Gault Hall and a room located on the first floor of the Dewire Residence Hall – as private places for personal prayer. The class of 2007 created a Sabbath Space in the lower level of Werner Hall for students to rest and reflect between classes.

The campus provides several outdoor locations for spiritual reflection. The Dee Ann Chiles Memorial Garden commemorates the spirit of a long-time administrator who led the business office for many years. A labyrinth, near the pond, was created for the community by the classes of 2001 and 2004. The Gene Vest Memorial Outdoor Chapel, a gift of the class of 2000, honors a long-time superintendent of buildings and grounds and is used for formal and informal services as well as individual meditation. The class of 2012 renovated the Outdoor Chapel and added energy-efficient lighting for evening meditation and worship.

## Seminary Hill Farm

A daily expression of MTSO's commitment to a just and sustainable world, Seminary Hill Farm covers more than 6 acres of the MTSO campus. Seminary Hill is a USDA-certified organic farm, producing a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, which are served in Dunn Dining Hall and offered to the wider community in numerous ways. The farm is valuable as a teaching and learning tool, augmenting conversation in a number of classes that focus on eco-theology. It also models best practices for MTSO students, who might have an opportunity to make better use of the land in places they serve throughout their vocational lives.

# Special lectures and other events

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## Theological Commons

The Theological Commons at MTSO works to bridge areas of academic inquiry with the wider community. Through campus events, ongoing resources and programming, the Commons sets out to follow this mission and vision:

*As a theological school, we believe we are called to share our intellectual resources with the church and the world in numerous ways, through the education of our students and in dialogue with our broader community. We do this in part through the Theological Commons, a learning network built on partnerships of scholarship, inquiry and practice. By offering events, learning resources and continuing conversation, the Theological Commons promotes the sharing of knowledge and experience between students, faculty, clergy and the public for the benefit of all participants and those they serve.*

To follow the work and events of the commons, see [www.mtso.edu/theologicalcommons](http://www.mtso.edu/theologicalcommons).

## **Lecture on World Religions and Interreligious Dialogue**

The Lecture on World Religions and Interreligious Dialogue, begun in 2005, is sponsored by the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus, a collaborative effort of Bexley Hall Seabury Western Theological Seminary Federation, MTSO, Pontifical College Josephinum and Trinity Lutheran Seminary. Hosted by one of the consortium schools each year, the lecture presents representatives of and experts on a variety of religious traditions.

Past lecturers include Paul Numrich, R. Scott Appleby, Ishmael Noko, Hermen Shastri, Dennis D. McManus, Yahya Hendi, David Fox Sandmel, Venerable Yifa, Sister Judith Sutera, Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, Azam Nizamuddin, Gunda Werner-Burggraf, John L. Allen Jr., Vasudha Narayanan and Titus Presler.

## **Schooler Institute on Preaching**

Annually, the campus is filled with pastors and others who come to enrich their understanding and enhance their preaching skills at the Schooler Institute on Preaching. The institute was established in 1989 by a generous grant from the Schooler Family Foundation, in recognition of the importance of effective preaching in the life of the church. The institute brings renowned speakers to campus to share their expertise and insights with a wide audience that includes clergy and seminary students alike. In addition to lectures, the institute features concurrent workshops around the institute theme, dialogue with speakers and workshop leaders, and a worship service which features a sermon delivered by the keynote speaker. Over the years, the Schooler Institute has featured the following speakers: Fred Craddock, James Forbes, Edwina Hunter, Leontine Kelly, Donald English, Walter Brueggemann, Peter Gomes, William Sloane Coffin, Peter Storey, Joseph Roberts, Ruth Duck, Philip Wogaman, Zan Holmes, Cecil Williams, William Willimon, Marjorie Suchocki, Thomas Troeger, John Kinney, Sharon Ringe, Dale Andrews, Tex Sample, Gregory Palmer, Mark Kelly Tyler, Valerie Bridgeman, Jorge Lockward and Mike Graves.

## **Williams Institute**

The Williams Institute is a time-honored tradition at MTSO. This lecture series began in 1981 as a way to honor the late Dr. Ronald L. Williams, professor of theology from 1971 until his death in 1981. It brings to campus speakers from many backgrounds, including theologians, ethicists, poets, biblical scholars, historians, pastoral psychologists and Christian educators. The event includes two lectures as well as opportunities for extensive dialogue and community discussion. Past lecturers have included Fernando Segovia, Robert Wuthnow, Jacquelyn Grant, Rabbi Michael Cook, Bishop C. Joseph Sprague, Rebecca Chopp, James Cone, John Cobb, Virgilio Elozondo, Mary E. Hunt, Charles Kammer III, Mercy Amba Oduyoye, Thomas Ogletree, Gene Outka, Philip Wogaman, Maria Asai-Diaz, James Evans, Jr., Beverly Harrison, Kathryn Tanner, Maria Harris, Martin Marty, Schubert Ogden, Richard Rohrbaugh, Katherine Doob Sakenfield, Christine M. Smith, Samuel Terrien, Barbara Wheeler, Justo Gonzalez, Mark Trotter, David Lowes Watson, Gardner Taylor, John Collins, Lee Johnson, Edward Wimberly, Luis Pedraja, Monica A. Coleman, Albert Hernandez, Daniel Boyarin, Melanie Harris and Stacey Floyd-Thomas.

## **Faculty lectures**

Faculty members are invited to present special lectures on areas of interest within their disciplines. The dean schedules such lectures annually.

# Academic information and services

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This catalog is not a contract between the school and the student. Program information and requirements are subject to change. Students should regularly seek the most current information from the directors of each program. The governing document on academic policies for students is the Student Handbook, which contains more details on many of the policies listed below. There are also handbooks for the Doctor of Ministry program, and the cross-cultural program.

## Enrollment requirements, registration and matriculation

The enrollment procedure at MTSO involves two steps: registration and matriculation.

New students register for courses via Academic Affairs and confirm their registration at New Student Orientation. Returning students register during the designated times listed on the Academic Calendar. All returning students are required to meet with their academic advisors before registering. Priority in enrollment for each course is based on seniority. Failure to observe registration deadlines may result in assessment of a late fee, as well as forfeiture of the enrollment priority associated with seniority.

For a student to be officially enrolled in each term, that student must be enrolled in courses for credit with registration documented in Academic Affairs. **Auditing participants are not considered to be enrolled students.**

Matriculation occurs when a student is properly registered for classes, cleared by the business office and begins to attend classes. Clearance from the Business Office comes when financial obligations have been paid or satisfactory arrangements for payment have been made. Students are expected to pay their bills before the beginning of classes each term or as soon thereafter as they receive their bills. If a student is blocked by the business office because of failure to meet financial obligations at the beginning of a term, their registration is cancelled. If students wait until after the first week of the term to apply for financial aid for the purpose of removing this block, they will not be permitted to register for the term.

## Enrollment limits and status

Master's degree or certificate students can enroll in a maximum of 14 credit hours in any Fall or Spring semester and a maximum of 3 credit hours in January Term. In the summer, students may complete 9 credit hours but are limited to enrollment in 3 credit hours in each of the two summer terms. The remaining 3 credit hours would normally consist of coursework from cross-registration, CPE or cross-cultural trips. Fifteen hours is permitted in Fall or Spring semester when the student is enrolled in CC-601, Cross Cultural Pre-Immersion. Any exceptions to these enrollment limits must have the approval of the student's academic advisor and the dean.

Enrollment in January Term is combined with enrollment in Spring Semester in determining a student's enrollment status for all matters related to Title IV federal financial aid. Students enrolled in 9 or more credit hours in the Fall and the combined January/Spring terms are considered full-time students in those semesters. Half-time students are those enrolled in at least 4.5 credit hours but less than 9 credit hours in a semester. Enrollment in fewer than 4.5 credit hours in a semester is considered less-than-half-time. During the summer session, 6 credit hours is considered full-time and at least 3 credit hours is considered half-time.

Doctor of Ministry students are considered to be enrolled half-time during the coursework phase of their program.

**Note for recipients of Veteran's Benefits:** the Veterans Administration requires us to report each term separately, so for purposes of "full-time" status, your January courses are separated from your Spring courses and your summer courses are reported individually. Please check with the registrar regarding how this affects your VA benefits.

## **Program length and individual course load**

All degrees and certificates must be completed within 10 years. According to the Association of Theological Schools, all course credits applied towards degree requirements should be earned within 10 years of the awarding of the degree.

Full-time study at MTSO involves full-time commitment. For each one credit hour there will be three hours of out-of-class homework time per week. Students who are working full-time and/or have significant church and family commitments may want to consider starting with 11 hours instead of 14. The remaining three credits would need to be planned for and scheduled into the summer or the second year.

If a maximal course load is pursued in both semesters and one intensive term each year, students can earn the Master of Divinity degree in three years of full-time study, or the Master of Arts in Practical Theology, Master of Arts in Theological Studies, or Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries (Track I) in two years of full-time study. Track II (Addiction Counseling) requires slightly more than two years of full-time study. Track III (Pastoral and Professional Counseling) requires three years of full-time study. The maximum amount of credit allowed for Fall and Spring semesters is 14 credit hours. Individual circumstances with respect to the demands of coursework, field education setting, church or secular employment, and family responsibilities may result in the decision to extend the length of time for completion. The Connections pathway in the M.Div. may help students plan their three year journey (see below).

The Doctor of Ministry program is a cohort program that requires at least four calendar years for completion of all requirements. Students attend intensive courses which are offered in January and Summer terms.

Certificate programs vary widely in the number of required credit hours and can be completed within one to two years if desired.

Students are responsible for ensuring that their graduation requirements are met. Academic Affairs maintains current records on all students and provides annual degree audits. MTSO is not responsible for calling attention to deficiencies in a student's program unless those deficiencies are the basis for disciplinary action.

## **The Connections pathway to the M.Div.**

In 2013, MTSO implemented the Connections path to the Master of Divinity degree. Connections is not a separate degree program but a scheduling plan that allows students to complete the degree in three years while benefiting from both on-campus and online learning.

Connections students primarily spend one full day each week on campus, during which they'll get to know their professors and fellow students, stay up-to-date with assignments, and participate in chapel and other community activities. On-campus time is augmented by hybrid online learning, through which students may engage at times that fit best with their individual schedules.

More information about Connections, including sample schedules, is available at [www.mtso.edu/connections](http://www.mtso.edu/connections).

## Class levels

Master's degree students are designated as first, second or third-year based on their program of study and the number of credit hours earned.

First year = 0-27 credit hours

Second year = 28-54 credit hours

Third year = 55 or more credit hours

## Class attendance

Regular attendance is expected in all classes. During unavoidable absences, students are responsible for missed work. An excessive number of absences may result in grade reduction or course failure, despite successful completion of all assigned work. In most cases, a student will fail a course if he or she is absent for 25% of the class sessions.

As it relates to blended courses, students may fail the course if they are absent for 25% of class meetings, including online meetings. Use of Skype or similar technology is not a substitute for attendance.

Course credits	1	1.5	2	3
25%	3 hours	4.4 hours	5.8 hours	8.8 hours

## Program changes

Those admitted to MTSO are admitted to a specific degree or certificate program. Adding, dropping or changing programs completely involves a process of careful consideration and dialogue with academic advisors, church officials, program directors and the dean. The application to make a program change can be obtained from Academic Affairs. Additional materials and a review of credentials may be necessary, since different degree programs have somewhat different admissions requirements.

Master's degree students who wish to transfer into a certificate program must formally withdraw from their master's degree. They may only transfer into the Certificate in Deacon Studies and the Advanced Course of Student certificate programs.

Specializations and concentrations in the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Practical Theology, and Master of Theological Studies degree programs must be declared in Academic Affairs. Students who wish to drop a specialization must submit that request in writing. Prior to graduation, students in specializations must submit verification from specialization advisors that the specialization requirements have been met.

## Changes in registration

Changes in registration after the registration period and before the end of the fifth week of the term require the student to obtain the approval of the advisor and make the change online in the Populi system.

## Adding a course

Students may add a course within the first week of the semester, if there are open seats in the course, and if their advisor approves. The student is responsible for completing any missed assignments. Summer and January-term courses cannot be added after the first day of class.

## Dropping a course

Students may drop a Fall or Spring course with their advisor's approval within the first five weeks of the semester. January and Summer terms have different deadlines. There is a graduated refund policy. Please refer to the "Institutional Refund Policy" in the "Academic and Residential Fees for 2016-17" section of the catalog and the Student Handbook for details on refunds.

## Withdrawal from a course

To withdraw from a course after the five-week drop period, students must submit a "Petition to Withdraw from Course(s)" form to the dean. This form is available in Academic Affairs or online. If approved, the course will be listed on the student's permanent transcript with a grade of "WP" (withdrawn passing) or "WF" (withdrawn failing). Grades of "WP" and "WF" will not affect the student's cumulative grade point average. The deadline for withdrawing from a course is on the last day the class meets.

**Students who receive Federal Stafford Loans should contact the Office of Financial Aid before withdrawal. Under current federal policies, dropping or withdrawing most likely will result in a student account balance owed to MTSO for which the student is responsible.**

## Leave of absence or withdrawal from school

Students who do not plan to enroll for courses during any Fall or Spring term are required to complete an Application for Leave of Absence. In addition, if the student is withdrawing during a term and after the drop period, she or he must formally withdraw from all courses in which he or she is enrolled by completing a Petition for Withdrawal in Courses form.

Those who intend to withdraw indefinitely must complete a Withdrawal from School form from Academic Affairs or the MTSO website. The student should also schedule an exit interview with the Office of Student Life. The withdrawal form requires approval signatures from the student's advisor, the dean, business office and other officials of the school. These procedures ensure the school that those who might be helpful in the student's planning for the future have been consulted. They also permit MTSO representatives to write subsequent letters of recommendation recording the fact of withdrawal in good standing or to permit the student's return at a later time without reapplication. Only when this form has been properly filed will the individual be considered to have withdrawn in good standing. The student will be contacted for a financial aid exit interview and may also be contacted by the dean or the director of student services for an exit interview.

Master's degree students who wish to withdraw and transfer into a certificate program may only transfer into the Certificate in Deacon Studies and the Advanced Course of Studies certificate programs.

Students who fail to complete either the leave of absence form or the withdrawal form and do not return will be administratively withdrawn which is not a good standing. Students who do not return after a one-year leave of absence and do not properly withdraw will also be administratively withdrawn.

Students who receive Federal Stafford Loans should contact the Office of Financial Aid before withdrawal. Under current federal policies, dropping or withdrawing most likely will result in a student account balance owed to MTSO for which the student is responsible.

## Reinstatement policy

A student, who has withdrawn in good standing and has been gone less than three years, may apply for reinstatement through Academic Affairs. The “Application for Reinstatement” requires the signed approval of various school offices to ensure that there are no outstanding obligations to MTSO.

If a student withdraws and then wants to return and transfer to a different program, they must be reinstated in the program previously enrolled in prior to any consideration of change of program or they must apply for readmission.

Former students who want to re-enroll after more than three years since their last date of attendance must contact the Admissions Office and reapply for admission. Those who separate from the school without following the regular procedure for leave of absence or withdrawal may be required to reapply for admission through the admissions office, even if the absence is less than three years.

Upon re-admission, any changes in requirements or academic policies since the time of initial application will apply to the student’s program.

# Grading and evaluation processes

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## Confidentiality

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal law that protects a student’s educational record. Only designated school officials (academic advisors, staff who need access to information to perform their job duties, etc.) are given access to student records, within the limitations of their need to know. A list of those items that constitute “directory information” at MTSO (those items that it can publish or publicly release) is printed in the Student Handbook along with the complete policy for all student records. Only that information designated “directory information” will be published or publicly released. The seminary has chosen to keep all other student information confidential. Students have the right, under FERPA, to request that no information concerning their educational records is published or publicly released except with their written permission. To keep all information confidential, a student must present a written request to withhold information within the first two weeks of the semester. A request to withhold will stay on file until the student removes it.

## Academic advising

Each student enrolled in a certificate or degree program is assigned an academic advisor who is a full-time member of the teaching faculty or the dean’s office. The relationship between student and advisor is considered central to the educational experience at MTSO. Academic advisors assist students with planning their programs, identifying resources for further consultation and formally approving course selections. While students are required to meet their advisors on only a few occasions each year, faculty members are always willing to schedule additional appointments with students.



## **Mid-program review process**

Each enrolled degree student is required to complete a process of academic and professional reflection midway through their degree program. This process involves reviewing evaluations, grades, degree requirements and professional goals. The student is required to write an evaluative reflection and meet with their academic advisor. The academic advisor then submits a brief report to the dean for review. If concerns are raised by the academic advisor, the student may be asked to meet with the dean for a follow-up discussion. The mid-program review must be completed in the term in which it is assigned in order for the student to continue into the next term.

## **Definition and procedures for conditional admission, academic probation and expulsion**

Students conditionally admitted to MTSO, or who exhibit weak academic performance, are placed on academic probation. The academic probation status places certain restrictions on enrollment. Returning students will be placed on academic probation when their cumulative grade point average falls below 2.50.

Conditionally admitted students or returning students on academic probation are limited to enrollment based on conditions in their admission letter, or if no conditions are specified, in 9 credit hours per semester (or 11 credit hours if two of the credit hours are ES-500, Educated Spirit). These conditions will be lifted upon the successful completion of at least 9 credit hours in the curriculum of MTSO with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50. In some cases, conditionally admitted students are asked to take specific courses in addition to meeting the required GPA.

Students admitted conditionally who achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher after earning six or more credit hours at MTSO may petition the dean for early removal from conditional status. Once the criteria have been satisfied for removal of conditional admission or from academic probation, the registrar will notify the student in writing and make the appropriate status change.

Students who receive or wish to receive financial assistance and who are admitted conditionally or placed on academic probation should discuss their academic status with the Office of Financial Aid because eligibility for assistance may be affected.

Students who are placed on academic probation twice during enrolled semesters and students remaining on conditional admission after 9 credit hours are earned or two consecutive semesters (whichever time period is longer), will have their records reviewed by the dean. The dean may make recommendations including (but not limited to) a required leave of absence or expulsion. A recommendation for a required leave of absence or expulsion is voted upon by the faculty members of the Academic Affairs Committee. Students may appeal the committee's decision to the Executive Faculty by submitting a request in writing to the dean's office.

In the Doctor of Ministry program, the minimum passing grade for a course is B-minus. D.Min. students are placed on academic probation when they fail to earn a B-minus or above in a course. Students are removed from academic probation by earning a B-minus or above in the next class they take. B- is the lowest passing grade permitted for a course. Earning less than a B-minus in two consecutive classes is grounds for expulsion. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for graduation from the D.Min. program.

## **Probation, suspension and expulsion**

In addition to academic probation and expulsion because of grades, students may be placed on probation, suspended or expelled for violating school policies. Probation means a student may still attend classes, but has conditions that must be met within a certain timeframe. Suspension means that a student must leave campus for a defined amount of time before being allowed to return. Expulsion means that a student will not be allowed to return to campus. The policies that carry sanctions are further explained in the Student Handbook and include academic dishonesty, Title IX, substance abuse, whistleblower, campus safety, and student worker policies.

## **Academic dishonesty**

### **General statement of expectations**

The opportunity for free inquiry and free expression essential to the educational process exists effectively only within a system of order which supports it. Accordingly, academic misconduct in any form will not be tolerated and may result in failure of course work or other sanctions up to and including expulsion from the School.

### **Expectations for documenting written work at MTSO**

The faculty has adopted the policy that all papers submitted for courses at MTSO must conform to a standard format for “footnotes” (which is taken to mean footnotes, endnotes, or in-line notes) and bibliography. The intent of a standardized format is that the readers have full and immediate information concerning works cited and consulted by the writer of the paper. In most instances, students may choose either one of two standard formats, which are here identified as 1) the Turabian format (sometimes called Chicago style), or 2) the Author-Date system (sometimes called the social science, or APA, format). Students may choose either format for any paper, but that format must be followed consistently throughout the paper. Mixing the two styles in the same paper is not permitted. Instructors may also designate one of the two formats as mandatory for assignments in a course. Papers not conforming to a proper and consistent style may be returned to the writer ungraded, for a re-write, or with a grade that reflects failure to follow the required format. If you have questions, please consult with the school’s Writing Instructor, the Academic Dean, or a faculty member.

### **Academic misconduct: examples and definitions**

The faculty has identified the following as specific, but not all-inclusive, examples of academic misconduct:

- Cheating on examinations of any kind by whatever means, including preparation for an examination by means of obtaining copies of examination, past or present, and copying from other students.
- Utilization of the oral and/or written private research of a paid or voluntary person and representing this work as one’s own, whether within the classroom or in any context of the seminary’s academic program.
- Borrowing without attribution (plagiarism or misuse of sources) from published and unpublished works, including writings and media in any format taken from websites, apps, and other online sources. Plagiarism is defined for these purposes in a broad rather than a narrow sense and therefore is not limited to definitions found in Civil Law which apply to Copyright Laws, the commercial reproduction of books, articles, images, and audio and video recordings.

Please see the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL) website for a helpful discussion of how to avoid plagiarism: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/>

This policy applies not only to the production of written assignments, but also to oral, electronic, and digital work presented in any format. Students are always expected to attribute clearly and explicitly work that is, properly speaking the intellectual and creative property of others.

## **Sanctions**

When academic misconduct has been established to a faculty member's satisfaction, the faculty member may assign the student a failing grade on the assignment or in the course, and/or may recommend stronger sanctions to the Academic Dean.

Faculty members are required to report all incidences of plagiarism to the Academic Dean by way of a confidential written communication among the instructor, the Dean, and the student. The instructor must submit a copy of the plagiarized assignment with corresponding proof of plagiarism.

The Academic Dean will meet with the student to discuss the matter. If after review it is determined that a violation of the policy on academic honesty has been committed, the Dean has the option of imposing additional sanctions such as required meetings with the writing instructor, reprimand, probation, suspension or expulsion. Following this meeting, the Dean will summarize these findings and outline any sanctions. This information will then be communicated by the Dean to the student and to the student's Academic Advisor in written form. Copies of all communications and documentation will be kept on file in the Dean's office, for the duration of the student's enrollment in the school.

If a student is found to have violated the policy on academic honesty a second time, the Dean may impose the sanctions of suspension or expulsion. If the Academic Dean initiates this sanction, the Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Review Process will take effect. Please see the Student Handbook for information on this review process.

## **Policy on the use of electronic devices**

MTSO, as an institution dedicated to the advancement of learning, is firmly committed to a philosophy of mutual respect. To that end we have established a policy regarding the use of cell phones, pagers, laptop computers, tablets, and other electronic devices. Instructors have the right to impose appropriate grading penalties for excessive classroom disruptions due to these devices.

Turn cell phones and/or pagers to silent or "vibrate only" during class. Unless there is an emergency requiring immediate attention, phone calls should be returned during classroom breaks in an area of the building that is not disruptive to other classes. The noise created by playing audio equipment so that others can hear it, or by using cell phones or pagers in areas of the library where others are attempting to study or to do research is disruptive. Cell phones are to be used in the lobby/gallery of the building. If the Centrum is in use, cell phones should be used outside the building.

Laptop computers have become commonplace in the classroom and a resource for students who prefer this method of data storage. However, the use of the laptop should be restricted to course related purposes only. General browsing of the Internet or engaging in email or social network conversations during class time is inappropriate.

## Grade scale and deadlines

MTSO uses two grading options: letter grades (A, B, C, D and F, with pluses and minuses as appropriate) and a pass/fail grading option. Letter grades are the default option. Within certain limits, students have the option of taking some courses on a pass/fail basis, with the approval of their academic advisor. Grades of P (pass) earn credit but are not calculated in a student's cumulative GPA. To earn a grade of P, performance in a course must be at a level that would have earned a grade of C-minus or higher in the letter grading system. Students may complete up to 9 semester credit hours on a pass/fail basis. However, there are certain core courses excluded from this option. Students who are seeking ordination are encouraged to check with annual conferences before exercising the pass/fail option in any courses, as conferences may have unique limitations on their own acceptance of pass/fail courses.

The following list describes the grades used at MTSO, and their meaning:

### Outstanding work

A-plus	4.0
A	4.0
A-minus	3.7

### Good work

B-plus	3.3
B	3.0
*B-minus	2.7

*\*B-minus is the lowest passing grade for D.Min. students*

### Work meets minimum standards

C-plus	2.3
C	2.0
C-minus	1.7

### Substandard but passing work

D-plus	1.3
D	1.0
(D-minus is not used)	

### Failing work

F	0.0
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### Other grades

AU	Audit
CR/NC	Credit /No Credit
I	Incomplete
IP	In Progress
P	Pass (grade would have been C-minus or higher)
WP	Withdrawn Passing
WF	Withdrawn Failing

Grades are available online at the end of each academic term. Academic Affairs will not disclose grades by phone or email, but official copies of grade reports are available upon request. Course instructors are responsible for submitting grades to Academic Affairs within one week following the last day of Fall or Spring semester. Grade submission deadlines for intensive terms are usually three weeks after the end of the term. Doctor of Ministry grades are due two months from the end of the course. Grades for graduating seniors are due one week early in the Spring Semester.

## Grade changes and appeals

Students who believe that they have not been graded fairly should first speak to the instructor who gave the grade. If, after this conversation, the student still believes that the grade is unfair, the student may file a written appeal with the dean, within 30 days of having received the grade, and set forth the reasons for the appeal. The dean will consult with both the student and the instructor. If the dean finds grounds to support the student's claim that the grade is unfair, the dean may modify the grade. The dean will render the decision regarding the appeal in writing.

Faculty members may change grades within 30 days after the final grade deadline for the term in which the course was taken. After the 30-day period, no grades will be changed unless there is a petition because of extenuating circumstances.

## Faculty comments on student performance

In addition to giving a letter grade, students also receive an End of Course Student Evaluation for each course in which they are enrolled. This is an assessment of the student skills and abilities which MTSO considers important for students to acquire in our degree programs. MTSO recognizes that the full scope of professional development for ministry cannot be adequately captured in the final grade for the class, so this evaluation rubric is an attempt to reflect on that broader range of skills and abilities expected of persons educated at a graduate level. These comments will be kept on file, and each student will receive a copy of his or her evaluation. They will also be shared with the student's advisor and will be used for educational guidance.

A student who believes that all or part of an evaluation is inappropriate should speak first with the faculty member who wrote the evaluation. If there is still a problem after this consultation, the student may submit a written statement to the dean, to be included in the student's file.

The dean and a faculty or staff member acting under the dean's direction may review these comments. The comments may be reviewed by the Student Review Committee and by School committees charged with granting honors scholarships or awards. Members of the faculty who receive requests to write a letter of recommendation for a student also have access to the comments in the student's file.

## Pass/fail grading option

Within certain limits, a student may complete up to nine credit hours at MTSO on a pass/fail basis, rather than for a letter grade (A, B, C, D or F). Dual degree students may take three additional hours pass/fail. All students seeking ordination are encouraged to check with their annual conferences (or appropriate judicatory) before exercising the pass/fail option in any courses, since they may have limitations on pass/fail courses that are different from those prescribed by MTSO.

1. The following courses may **not** be taken on a pass/fail basis:

CE-501	ES-501	ME-670
CH-501	FE-850	ME-680
CT-549	HB-510	NT-510
DS-660	HM-600	PC-500
DS-665	ME-570	PT-500
DS-670	ME-580	WO-500
ES-500	ME-590	

2. The decision to exercise this option must be made before the end of the second week of the course, by completing the "Application for Pass/Fail Credit" and returning it to Academic Affairs. Emails with advisor approvals are also accepted. The deadline for pass/fail applications in weekend courses is prior to the second weekend; for intensive courses, the deadline is by the end of the second day of class. The application is available from Academic Affairs or on the MTSO Web site. Requests to change to pass/fail grading in a course received after the deadline for these requests will not be accepted.
3. When exercising the pass/fail option, to receive a grade of "pass" the student must do at least the equivalent of C-minus work in the course. (E.g. if the student opts for pass/fail grading and his or her performance in the course would have earned a D-plus grade – and would have earned the student credit for the course within the letter grade system – the student will fail the course and will not receive credit.)

4. Courses that are designated in the MTSO Academic Catalog description as “offered on a pass/fail basis” do not reduce the number of pass/fail hours or options available to a student.
5. A grade of “pass” will earn credit for a student, but does not affect the student’s cumulative grade point average. A grade of “fail” in a pass/fail class is calculated as an F in calculating the cumulative grade point average.

## **Incomplete**

The grade of “I” (incomplete) may be used under special circumstances on a temporary basis when a student needs additional time on course assignments. To receive a course grade of Incomplete, students must petition the professor, their advisor and the dean. Students must complete the petition and obtain the appropriate signatures unless they are physically unable.

In Fall and Spring semesters, the signed petition is to be delivered to Academic Affairs before the last day of regularly scheduled classes, before finals week, as listed on the MTSO Academic Calendar.

In intensive terms, the signed petition is to be delivered to Academic Affairs at such time as to ensure approval by the dean by the deadline for the submission of grades (three weeks following the end of the intensive term for Master’s level courses; two months following the end of the intensive term for Doctor of Ministry courses). (Note: It is strongly recommended that students deliver the petition to Academic Affairs for review at least one week prior to this deadline. Lack of sufficient lead time may result in the denial of the petition).

The dean may ask to confer directly with the student, advisor, and/or instructor before making a decision.

Any petition submitted without a “date by which all course work will be completed” will be denied. For Master’s level courses in Fall and Spring semesters, the “date by which all course work will be completed” will not be later than four weeks after the last day of the term as listed on the Academic Calendar. For January and Summer Term Courses (Master’s or D.Min.), the “date by which all course work will be completed” will be not later than four weeks following the deadline for the submission of grades in the course.

For any incomplete course in which a new letter grade had not been submitted after one week has passed from the “date by which all course work will be completed,” the registrar will record the grade of F.

## **Repeated courses**

Students are permitted to repeat courses in which they have received a C or lower. Grades for both the original course and the repeated course are retained on the transcript and included in the calculation of the GPA.

Students may repeat courses in which they received previous credit with these conditions:

1. No additional credit will be counted toward the degree but credit will be recorded on the transcript.
2. Both course grades will be recorded independently on the transcript.
3. Both grades will be calculated into the GPA.
4. Students are eligible to receive financial aid for one repetition of a course for which they have already received credit (e.g., completed and received a grade of D or higher).

## **Conferral of degrees and participation in commencement**

The Board of Trustees, upon recommendation by the faculty, confers academic degrees upon candidates during any regularly scheduled board meeting during the year. Generally, the board meets in November, February or March, and May of each year. Only those candidates who have completed all requirements, have met all financial obligations, have completed exit loan counseling if they borrowed a Federal Stafford loan during their attendance, returned all overdue items to the library and paid all library fines will be recommended to the Board for degrees, will be permitted to participate in commencement, and be listed as graduates. An exception is made for MACM students who have completed all of their coursework and two-thirds of their required internship hours. Those students will be permitted to walk through commencement and receive their diplomas at the end of the second summer session when all of the internship hours have been met.

The required cumulative GPA for graduation for all master's degrees and certificates is 2.5. D.Min. students must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA for graduation.

Graduating students must notify Academic Affairs of their intent to graduate by completing a graduation application by the stated deadlines on the application form.

The community looks forward to seeing all graduates participate in annual commencement exercises each May. Notification of intent to graduate does not guarantee participation in commencement.

Students earning the Certificate in Deacon Studies or the Advanced Course of Study Certificate are invited to process in black robes with the degree students but will not wear master's degree hoods. Students earning the Certificate in Basic Theological Education will be recognized as part of the ceremony, but will not process.

Any student who is unable to attend commencement exercises must notify Academic Affairs, requesting permission to graduate in absentia.

## **Transcripts**

Those who wish to order an official transcript must submit a written request with a legal signature or may submit an electronic request via our transcript partner, Scrip-Safe. Advance notice of at least one week will enable MTSO to fulfill such requests in a timely manner. Students who have outstanding balances on their student account will not be permitted to have an official transcript without approval from the business office. Current students may request an unofficial transcript of MTSO coursework from Academic Affairs. Transcripts from other institutions contained in student files are the property of MTSO and as such are under the control of Academic Affairs. While federal law allows that students may review the contents of their academic files, transcripts from other institutions submitted to MTSO for admission or transfer credit evaluation will not be photocopied or forwarded elsewhere.

## **Recommendation letters**

### **Permission to Write a Letter of Recommendation form**

Students requesting a recommendation letter from a faculty member at MTSO must obtain the form "Permission to Write a Letter of Recommendation" from the Academic Affairs office if they want the faculty member to have access to the student's academic information for the purpose of writing the letter. This form gives the writer permission to include information in the letter about the student's grades, GPA, or other personally identifiable information as appropriate, and also gives permission to the Office of the Registrar to provide this information to the writer. This

request form will remain on file in the Office of the Registrar for one year. A separate request form must be filed for each instance in which a recommendation letter is requested.

If a person writing a recommendation letter makes reference only to personal observations and knowledge about the student, rather than relying on personally identifiable information from a student's education record, then a written permission form from the student is not necessary.

### **Recommendations for professional status (e.g. judicatories)**

Students requesting a recommendation for professional status (e.g. probationary membership in an annual conference or licensure from an accrediting agency) should bring the request with any necessary forms to Academic Affairs. **Requests must be submitted to the Academic Affairs office at least one month before the deadline listed by the conference or requesting agency.** Formal recommendations for professional status are written by the Student Review Committee, which consists of four faculty members. The administrative assistant to the dean will refer the student's request to the chair of the Student Review Committee. The committee will review the student's records, including transcript, field education reports and faculty comments on the student's performance in courses. Evidence of financial irresponsibility in relation to the school may also be considered. On the basis of this review, a statement of evaluation will be written and sent to the officials indicated by the student. If necessary, the committee may consult other members of the faculty, including the dean.



# Additional program information

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## Credit hours and contact hours

MTSO is on a semester system. Courses are taught in several different formats. The weekly schedule normally runs Monday night through Thursday night. Many courses will be taught once a week, in a three-hour time block. Biblical language courses meet in 75-minute blocks twice a week. Each Fall and Spring semester, some courses are scheduled in a Friday-Saturday format. The January Term is a three-week session during which courses are offered in an intensive format. In the summer there are two separate three-week intensive sessions.

MTSO also offers several courses in a blended format. Blended courses use a combination of online and face-to-face contact time, which will vary per course and instructor. These courses are designated in the course schedule with an “H” in the section column. Blended courses in the *Connections* pathway for the M.Div. degree meet for 90 minutes once a week, with 60 minutes of online work plus additional preparation time.

There are 35 contact hours for each three semester hour course. MTSO schedules each course at 170 minutes per week during the Fall and Spring semesters. This includes 150 minutes of class meeting time and 20 minutes of break. Contact hours are adjusted for courses that are less than three semester hours and courses taught during weekends or intensive sessions are scheduled accordingly. Students transferring credit from a quarter-hour school should be aware that for the transfer purposes, one quarter-hour is equivalent to 0.67 semester hours.

## Advanced standing and course exemption

Upon satisfactory completion of evaluative consultation and/or examination, students may be granted advanced standing and substitute a higher level for a required course in the same department. The examination/consultation will be administered by faculty members from the appropriate division of the school in consultation with the dean. Advanced standing will not be given for undergraduate work. Advanced standing will be noted on the transcript. This procedure does not entitle the student to academic credit, and no fees are charged.

## Degree completion, coursework and time limits

All degrees and certificates must be completed within 10 years. According to the Association of Theological Schools, all course credits applied towards degree requirements should be earned within 10 years of the awarding of the degree.

## Cross-cultural immersion requirement for Master of Divinity students

All students in the Master of Divinity program are required to complete CC-602, an immersion experience, in an approved cross-cultural setting. Completion requires participation in CC-601 and CC-603, both before and after the experience itself.

CC-601: Cross-Cultural Experience: Pre-Immersion Session (1 credit hour)

CC-602: Cross-Cultural Immersion Experience (2 credit hours)

CC-603: Cross-Cultural Experience: Post-Immersion Session (0 credit hours)

MTSO will coordinate at least two approved trips each year, usually in January or summer. Travel, lodging and additional expenses will apply, but can be offset via disbursement from a

student's individual cross-cultural account. Consult the MTSO Business Office for more information on accessing these funds. There is also a separate handbook, the Cross-Cultural Immersion Course Student Handbook, which details specific policies related to the completion of the cross-cultural requirement. The handbook is updated regularly and the current version is available from Academic Affairs.

## **Cross-registration and commitment to ecumenism**

MTSO has a long-standing commitment to positive ecumenical relationships that provide opportunities for greater mutual understanding, collaboration and growth. Living this commitment is pursued through participation in the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus (TCGC), special events addressing ecumenism, and cross-registration opportunities with other schools in the region. The TCGC is composed of MTSO, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Bexley Hall Seabury Western Theological Seminary Federation, and the Pontifical College Josephinum. *MTSO students are strongly encouraged to cross-register for at least one course at a TCGC school.*

Cross-registration opportunities also exist with three Ohio seminaries based in the Methodist tradition, United Theological Seminary (UTS) in Dayton, and Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, as well as through the Interprofessional Commission of Ohio (via The Ohio State University, Columbus). Please note: UTS excludes online coursework from the cross-registration arrangement with MTSO. Tuition for cross-registered courses is paid to MTSO.

International exchange for one semester can be arranged with Methodist Theological University in Seoul, Korea. See Academic Affairs for details.

The faculty has placed certain requirements and limitations on cross-registration:

1. MTSO students may cross-register for no more than 18 semester hours of academic credit. If a student wishes to exceed these limitations, he/she must show cause in a petition presented to the dean.
2. No more than 6 semester hours may be taken in each of the following areas of the MTSO curriculum: Biblical studies; Historical Studies, Theological Studies (including Christian Ethics/Theology); and Practical Theology Studies. This limit does not include Biblical languages. Students should consult with their advisors to determine whether or not proposed courses intended for cross-registration are appropriate and/or fulfill degree requirements. If a student wishes to exceed these limitations, he/she must show cause in a petition presented to the dean.
3. Following matriculation at MTSO, students are required to take foundational courses (i.e. required and normally introductory-level courses) in all divisions at MTSO. Foundational courses include the following: CE-501, CH-501, CT-549, HB-510, HM-600, NT-510, PC-500, PC-555, PT-500, WO-500, and any 600-level HB or NT course.
4. Within the 18 hour cross registration limit, there is no limit to the number of courses a student may complete under the auspices of the Interprofessional Commission of Ohio at The Ohio State University. However, the Commission has established enrollment limits, by profession, for all the participant professional schools and the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus. Therefore, there are limitations to registration by course.

## **Clinical Pastoral Education**

MTSO students may elect to complete a basic unit (400 clock hours) of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) for academic credit at a facility accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE). A directory of facilities accredited by ACPE is available on the ACPE Web

site, [www.acpe.edu](http://www.acpe.edu). More than 200 centers in North America are accredited by ACPE and available for CPE training. Several centers in the immediate area provide a rich variety of contexts and supervisory styles.

The 400-hour unit is completed through work as chaplains in hospitals, clinics, parishes or other institutions, under the close supervision of a trained chaplain/supervisor, with constant accountability to peers and other professionals in the institution. Past participants have found the CPE experience to be an intensive, sometimes emotionally challenging and frequently exhilarating occasion for learning. Here are only some of the powerful outcomes from CPE: honest feedback from fellow students and the chaplain or supervisor; increasing ability for self-disclosure; growing awareness of one's strengths as a person/pastor; and growing clarity about how one's faith as a pastor and as a person in crisis affects healing.

The clinical training movement has clearly proven itself to be in the mainstream of professional education for ministry. Independent of but in growing cooperation with seminaries, CPE is required of students by some denominations, judicatories and seminaries. CPE is not a requirement of MTSO for all programs but has strong faculty support as a vehicle through which many students may learn much about giving pastoral care. This support is evidenced by the school's policy of granting an amount of credit between 3 and 6 credit hours for the completion of a 400-hour unit of CPE with another 3 credit hours possible for an additional unit. This policy reflects respect for the academic and professional validity of CPE.

1. Students pursuing this opportunity must contact the facility directly and follow their procedures for application and admission. Once accepted, a copy of the acceptance letter must be provided to both the Office of the Registrar and the Business Office at MTSO.
2. Students register at MTSO for PC-510, Clinical Pastoral Education and pay tuition to MTSO. MTSO pays the fees charged by the facility, as long as they do not exceed the tuition charged by MTSO. The site's fees are paid upon receipt of an invoice in the MTSO Business Office. Students may apply for financial aid, following stated procedures and deadlines established by the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid.
3. MTSO will award between three and six credit hours for one basic unit of CPE. Credit is awarded once a copy of the final CPE evaluations are received in the Academic Affairs. Students must request both the supervisor's and their own final signed evaluations from their clinical site. Once credit has been awarded for CPE, a student cannot receive additional CPE credit for the same unit in a subsequent term. CPE is normally graded on a pass/fail basis, but in special circumstances it may be possible to receive a letter grade after making prior arrangements with the CPE supervisor.
4. Students who use a unit of CPE for their field education requirement may not also receive separate credit for the CPE unit. They should only register for field education.

## **Field education**

Field education is a two-semester course (FE-850 A and B), beginning in the fall of each year designed to prepare effective leaders for ministry through the integration of academic learning with contextual ministry. Students serve in churches and organizations to practice the skills of ministry, discern God's call on their life and reflect theologically with an experienced supervisor.

Students planning to enroll in field education are encouraged to contact the Field Education Office for assistance in finding an approved field education position when they have completed one-third of their degree credit hours. Visit [www.mtso.edu/academics/field-education](http://www.mtso.edu/academics/field-education) for more information about field education. Students can activate an account through MTSO's presence

within the College Central Network , [www.collegecentral.com/mtso](http://www.collegecentral.com/mtso), which provides online access to available field education internships.

## Individual study

Students in their final year may petition the dean to register for an individual study. Students requesting permission for an individual study must have at least a 3.0 GPA, both overall and in courses from the division in which the individual study is proposed. Other students seeking permission for an individual study must have at least a 3.3 GPA, both overall and in courses from the division in which the individual study is proposed. First year students are not normally eligible to request permission for individual studies. Students are limited to only one individual study per term. Petitions for individual study are not usually permitted during the January or Summer terms, nor when they duplicate courses listed in the current catalog.

A student may register for an individual study course with a credit value between one and three credit hours, to be supervised by an MTSO faculty member under the following conditions:

The petition form for an individual study may be obtained in the Office of the Registrar or from [www.mtso.edu](http://www.mtso.edu). The student must plan the individual study with the faculty member who agrees to supervise the study. (Faculty members are not required to supervise individual studies and are not permitted to supervise more than two per term.) The student must complete the petition, and the supervising faculty member and the student's academic advisor must sign it. The petition must be accompanied by a timeline for work on the project. It must include a proposed schedule of meetings with the faculty supervisor, and a rationale for the number of credit hours requested (normally, one credit hour requires 45 hours of work). The petition must be presented to the dean for approval no later than one week following the registration period in the term preceding the proposed term of study, except for Fall Semester when petitions must be submitted by the Wednesday prior to the beginning of Fall term.

## Master's thesis proposals

Students in the Master of Theological Studies or Master of Divinity degree program with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.3 may elect to complete a thesis. MTS students are required to choose between writing a thesis or taking a comprehensive exam. The thesis course (TH-800) is three or six semester hours and may count as three hours in the MTS area of concentration. Students must complete the "Proposal for Master's Thesis Project" in conjunction with their advisor. Students may not register for thesis until it has been approved by the dean.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the thesis project is to provide an opportunity for the student to engage in serious research in a focused area: to develop, in consultation with a faculty advisor, a research strategy, to demonstrate a mastery of some of the major sources and of significant issues in that area of study, and to articulate a coherent summary of that work with reasoned conclusions drawn from the study. It assumes previous concentrated study in the area of specialization. The student will work with a primary faculty supervisor in the course of the study. In addition, the completed thesis will be reviewed by a second reader. The thesis is graded pass/fail. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.3 is required for participation in this program.

**Proposal:** The general topic for the thesis should normally be identified in the second semester (MTS) or early in the second year (M.Div.) thereby allowing the student to structure future classes around that topic (whenever possible). In any case, the topic must be identified early in the semester prior to enrolling for the thesis course. The form for the thesis proposal can be obtained from the Office of the Registrar. Proposals are normally 600-900 words in length. A significant part of the proposal is the proposed bibliography (not included in the word count). A thesis proposal must be approved by the faculty thesis supervisor, the student's faculty advisor,

and the dean, and submitted to the registrar one week before the beginning of the term during which the student is enrolled for the thesis. At the time of approval the dean will assign a secondary reader, list that person on the form, and notify the student and the thesis supervisor of the selection. Copies of the approved proposal will be sent to the student, the supervisor and the secondary reader.

**Length and format:** A three credit hour thesis will normally be 12,000 to 15,000 words in length (double-spaced), including citations and bibliography. If the thesis is being done for six credit hours, the word count will be 24,000 to 30,000. The thesis is to be presented in Arial or Times New Roman font, 12 point, with the left margin 1.5 inches and all other margins 1 inch. Page numbers should be placed top right. Footnotes are to be used (not endnotes or in-text notes). The formatting of footnotes and bibliography should conform to the latest *Chicago Manual of Style*. The thesis should include a title page, an approval page for the signatures of the primary and secondary readers and the dean, table of contents, at least section headings, and full bibliography of works cited. A signature page template is available from the registrar.

**Timeline and consultation with the thesis supervisor:** The thesis supervisor will provide the student with a timeline to follow. If the thesis work is confined to one semester, the process of defining the topic and developing the proposal usually occurs in the fall, with actual thesis registration in the following spring semester. If the thesis work is designated for 6 credit hours (normally 2 semesters), registration should occur in the spring for the following fall. Normally the student will consult with the supervisor at least four times in the process of research and writing. Additional meetings may be scheduled, as well as conversations with the secondary reader or other faculty--as faculty are able and willing.

**Thesis colloquium:** Approximately two weeks after submitting a finished draft of the thesis the student will schedule a colloquium with the two readers. (Others may be invited by the students, at his/her choice.) This is not to be understood as a "defense" of the thesis, since the assumption is not that original work will have been produced. It is intended to provide an opportunity for the student to discuss the work of the term and the thesis itself with faculty (and others), as a way to provide a fitting closure to the process.

**Completion dates:** A penultimate draft (i.e., a finished project, though still open to minor additions and/or changes) must be in the hands of the readers no later than three weeks before the end of the term in which the student anticipates graduation. The thesis colloquium will be scheduled by the student with the two readers normally during the last week of the term.

Following approval by the primary and secondary readers and the dean, the student will present an unbound and signed copy of the thesis to the director of the MTSO Library, along with payment for binding services.

## **Transfer of credit and residency requirement**

To obtain a degree from MTSO, no less than 50% of the required hours for the degree must be completed at MTSO. This 50% should only include courses taken at MTSO, and not courses taken via cross-registration.

Course credit earned at other seminaries accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and other graduate work from regionally accredited institutions can be transferred (with some limitations) if it is appropriate to the student's program at MTSO. An exception to this policy is that Doctor of Ministry students may not normally receive transfer credit for courses completed prior to matriculation at MTSO. The student must have earned a grade of B- or higher in order for a course to be transferred. Courses graded pass/fail may be transferred upon documentation that the passing grade is equivalent to C or higher.

The amount of credit transferred will not exceed 50% of the number of credit hours required for completion of the student's academic program at MTSO. Students who enter a master's degree program at MTSO with an earned master's degree from an accredited theological school or approved graduate school (MTSO or elsewhere) may transfer a maximum of 28 credit hours of appropriate credit from the earned degree to the MTSO program. Similarly, students enrolled in a dual degree program at MTSO can overlap a maximum of 28 credit hours between two programs. Triple degrees are not permitted.

MTS students who have previously attended a non-theological graduate school may transfer up to 6 credit hours for courses which clearly and rationally relate to their declared area of concentration.

Students who have completed a MTSO certificate program in Basic Theological Education, Deacon Studies, or Advanced Course of Study, may apply all of the credits from the certificate to their master's degree program at MTSO. Students may not be enrolled in a certificate and a degree program at the same time.

Credits transferred to MTSO will be listed on the student's transcripts as earned credit, with no letter grade assigned, and do not affect the grade point average at MTSO. A grade of "TR" will indicate transfer credit for each course.

According to the degree standards of the Association of Theological Schools, all course credits applied towards degree requirements should be earned within ten years of the awarding of the degree. MTSO coursework of former MTSO students who return will also be subject to this ten year timeline. Please note that if graduation is delayed beyond the normal full-time completion rate, aging transfer work may have to be retracted. Exceptions to normal transfer rules can be made by appealing to the dean.

<b>Degree entering</b>	<b>Normal full-time completion</b>	<b>Oldest transfer work considered</b>
M.Div.	3 years	7 years prior to matriculation at MTSO
MACM - Track III	3 years	7 years prior to matriculation at MTSO
MACM - Tracks I & II; MTS; MAPT	2 years	8 years prior to matriculation at MTSO

Transfer credit should be requested from the Office of the Registrar prior to matriculation at MTSO. While scheduling classes, students should use the registrar's transfer credit evaluation in tandem with the guidance of the academic advisor. Once a student matriculates at MTSO, the following introductory courses must be completed at MTSO: CE-501, CH-501, CT-549, ES-500, HB-510, HM-600, NT-510, PC-500, PC-555, PT-500, WO-500, and a 600-level HB or NT course.

As stated above, Doctor of Ministry students cannot normally receive transfer credit for courses completed prior to matriculation at MTSO. However, after a D.Min. student matriculates, a maximum of 6 credit hours of doctoral level course work from other accredited institutions may be considered by the D.Min. committee. Students must present a petition describing how the alternative courses will clearly and rationally substitute for MTSO's prescribed requirements and/or supplement an area of interest within the D.Min. specialization area that no course at MTSO will address. More information on D.Min. transfer policies is available in the Doctor of Ministry Handbook.

## **Credit from United Methodist Course of Study School or Advanced Course of Study**

MTSO will award a maximum of 12 elective credit hours as a combined total for courses completed as part of the United Methodist Course of Study School or Advanced Course of Study. All other applicable standards for transfer of credit to MTSO remain in effect; including the 10 year limitation (see transfer policy). Courses from the Course of Study School receive 0.75 credit hours in transfer for each course in which a grade B+ or higher was earned. Official COS and/or ACOS transcripts from Nashville must be provided to verify information. Courses from COS can only be used to fulfill electives in the student's academic program, and cannot replace required courses. ACOS courses that are recorded on a transcript by an accredited seminary can be considered separately under the normal standards for acceptance of transfer credit.

### **Auditing courses**

Pastors and others are invited to audit master's level courses at a reduced cost from regular tuition. Full-time students, spouses of degree-seeking students, members of Parish Partner churches, all farm workers, current and retired employees of MTSO may audit one course per term at no charge. Full-time students must be enrolled full-time during the term in which they wish to audit. Senior citizens may audit at a discounted rate.

Auditors must fulfill the requirements for auditors as stated by the instructor of any course audited. These requirements may include readings, class attendance and other appropriate forms of participation. Auditors are neither required nor permitted to submit written work for evaluation, or to take examinations. If any assessment or evaluation is required, auditors must register, pay for full credit and be admitted by the school. Auditors cannot request at a later date to receive academic credit for courses audited. Credit is awarded once a copy of the final CPE evaluations are received in the Academic Affairs. Students must request both the supervisor's and their own final signed evaluations from their clinical site. Availability to audit individual courses is subject to change based on the enrollment of credit-seeking students. Course instructors reserve the right to limit or prohibit auditor participation in their courses. In accordance with the standards of accrediting organizations, the school places limits (no more than 20% of the total class enrollment) in each course on the number of auditors whose educational background would not qualify them for regular admission to graduate study.

For information about auditing courses, please contact the Office of the Registrar. Currently enrolled students will follow normal registration procedures for auditing courses; others will be asked to complete a brief application. See the "Academic and residential fees for 2016-17" section of this catalog for the current auditing fees.

# Academic calendars

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## 2016-17 academic year calendar

### Fall Semester

August 26-27	Fall Semester Begins - New Student Orientation/ES-500
September 2	Last Day to Add a Class
September 5	Labor Day (No Classes)
September 9	Last Day to Declare Pass/Fail Status
September 26-30	Last Week to Drop a Class and receive a refund
October 18-21	Mid-Term Recess (Monday classes meet)
October 31 – November 11	Registration for January Term and Spring Semester
November 21-25	Thanksgiving Break
December 9	Last Day of Regularly Scheduled Classes
December 12-16	Final Exam Week
December 16	Last Day of Fall Semester
December 23	Fall Grades Due to Registrar by noon
December 19 – January 1	Christmas Recess (No Classes)

### January Term

January 2	January Term Begins
January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No Classes)
January 21	Last Day of January Term
January 23-27	Recess between Terms
February 10	January Term Grades Due to Registrar by noon

### Spring Semester

January 27-28	Spring Semester Begins – New Student Orientation/ES-500
February 3	Last Day to Add Classes
February 10	Last Day to Declare Pass/Fail Status
February 26 – March 3	Last Week to Drop a Class and receive a refund
March 6-10	Mid-Term Recess (No Classes)
March 27 – April 7	Registration for Summer and Fall
April 10-14	Holy Week Break (No Classes)
April 16	Easter
May 12	Last Day of Regularly Scheduled Classes
May 15-19	Final Exam Week
May 19	Last Day of Spring Semester
May 19	Senior Grades Due to Registrar by noon
May 20	Commencement
May 26	Spring Grades Due to Registrar by noon

### Summer Term

June 12	Summer Term Begins
July 4	No Classes
August 17	Last Day of Summer Term

Notes: Summer has four sub-terms and contains courses that vary in dates. Grades are due three weeks after the last class meets. D.Min. dates vary each January Term, and those grades are due two months after the last class meets. For precise dates of classes in intensive terms, please consult the course schedules.



## 2017-18 academic year calendar

### Fall Semester

August 25-26	Fall Semester Begins - New Student Orientation/ES-500
September 1	Last Day to Add a Class
September 4	Labor Day (No Classes)
September 8	Last Day to Declare Pass/Fail Status
September 25-29	Last Week to Drop a Class and receive a refund
October 17-20	Mid-Term Recess (Monday classes meet)
October 30 – November 10	Registration for January Term and Spring Semester
November 20-24	Thanksgiving Break
December 8	Last Day of Regularly Scheduled Classes
December 11-15	Final Exam Week
December 15	Last Day of Fall Semester
December 22	Fall Grades Due to Registrar by noon
December 18 – January 5	Christmas Recess (No Classes)

### January Term

January 8	January Term Begins
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No Classes)
January 26	Last Day of January Term
January 29 – February 1	Recess between Terms
February 16	January Term Grades Due to Registrar by noon

### Spring Semester

February 2-3	Spring Semester Begins – New Student Orientation/ES-500
February 9	Last Day to Add Classes
February 16	Last Day to Declare Pass/Fail Status
March 5-9	Last Week to Drop a Class and receive a refund
March 26 – April 6	Mid-Term Recess & Holy Week Break (No Classes)
April 1	Easter
April 9-20	Registration for Summer and Fall
May 18	Last Day of Regularly Scheduled Classes
May 21-25	Final Exam Week
May 25	Last Day of Spring Semester
May 25	Senior Grades Due to Registrar by noon
May 26	Commencement
June 1	Spring Grades Due to Registrar by noon

### Summer Term

June 11	Summer Term Begins
July 4	No Classes
August 16	Last Day of Summer Term

Notes: Summer has four sub-terms and contains courses that vary in dates. Grades are due three weeks after the last class meets. D.Min. dates vary each January Term, and those grades are due two months after the last class meets. For precise dates of classes in intensive terms, please consult the course schedules.

# Degree requirements

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## Master of Divinity

### Mission and goals

We live in a rapidly changing and complex world in need of the reconciling love of God and the liberating message of the gospel. The Master of Divinity program prepares persons who will seek, embody and proclaim God's good news that liberates individuals and communities from personal or systemic brokenness. The program prepares students to practice and lead theological reflection with others in ways that promote ministries of personal wholeness, faithful and hospitable community, and justice.

1. Graduates will be able to understand, appreciate and respectfully interpret our Christian heritage so it becomes a compelling and transformative vision for the present.
2. Graduates will provide theological leadership to critically engage the contemporary world through practices of theological reflection, worship, prophetic witness and ministerial empowerment.
3. Graduates will grow in God's grace personally and spiritually so as to be of prophetic service to church, faith-based organizations and world.

### Degree requirements

Master of Divinity students must successfully complete 86 credit hours for graduation with a 2.50 cumulative grade point average.

Students should follow one of the six advising sheets when choosing the electives for their M.Div. program. Depending on vocational goals for ordination or community service, different electives may be recommended. The following advising sheets are available from the registrar's office and can be found on the MTSO website.

- Ordination in the United Methodist Church
- Ordination in the United Methodist Church with focus in Biblical Languages
- Ordination in the United Church of Christ
- Ordination in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Ordination (for most other denominations)
- Community Ministry and Non-Profit Organizations

United Methodist students preparing for ordination are encouraged to take courses that meet denominational requirements. Students should check with their annual conference regarding commissioning requirements and eligibility. **In many cases it may be required that two-thirds or all three of the denominational courses must be completed prior to the interview.** These courses are listed in the free electives section below.

Students from denominations other than United Methodist may be able to complete courses in the polity, history and/or doctrine of their denominations at MTSO. Students are encouraged to consult the dean regarding special course work for denominational requirements.

All students should seek counsel regarding these requirements in relation to their own study.

## Division and course requirements

### Integrative Courses (8 credit hours)

1. ES-500, Educated Spirit (2 credit hours). **Note: This course is expected to be completed in the first semester. Failure to complete this course may limit registration options until it is completed.**
2. CC-601, CC-602 and CC-603, Cross-Cultural Immersion Experience (3 credit hours total). This will be an immersion experience for academic credit of approximately 14 days in an approved cross-cultural setting, with several pre-immersion and post-immersion sessions.
3. FE-850A and B, Field Education I (1.5 hours per semester, 3 credit hours total).

### Classical Studies (36 credit hours)

1. CE-501, Introduction to Christian Ethics (3 credit hours)
2. CH-501, Survey Global Christian History (3 credit hours)
3. CT-549, Introduction to Theology (3 credit hours)
4. HB-510, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (3 credit hours)
5. NT-510, Introduction to the New Testament (3 credit hours)
6. SR-5XX, any 500-level Study of Religion course (3 credit hours)
7. Classical division electives, half of which must be taken at the 600 level and half of which must be taken at the 700 level or above, to be chosen based on denominational or professional recommendations in consultation with a student's academic advisor. (18 hours)

### Practical Theology Studies (18 credit hours)

1. HM-600, Introduction to Homiletics (3 credit hours)
2. PC-500, Introduction to Pastoral Care (3 credit hours)
3. PT-500, Leadership, Learning, and Community Formation (3 credit hours)
4. Spirituality – choose one course (3 credit hours) from:
  - ME-530, Spirituality for Ministry
  - PT-550, Spirituality
  - PT-610, Spiritual Formation and Social Change
  - PT-615, Prophetic Hope and Creative Practice
5. WO-500, Introduction to Worship (3 credit hours)
6. Practical Theology division elective, to be chosen based on denominational or professional recommendations in consultation with a student's academic advisor (3 credit hours)

### Free Electives (24 credit hours)

Students should consult the advising sheet most appropriate to their denominational or professional goals for recommendations on electives. For example, students in some denominations may be required to take courses in Leadership Studies, Clinical Pastoral Education, or Biblical Languages.

Courses required for ordination in the United Methodist Church that do not meet degree requirements as listed above will serve as free electives in a student's Master of Divinity program. Thus, a United Methodist student may choose to take the following courses as free electives:

1. DS-660, United Methodist History (2 credit hours)
2. DS-665, United Methodist Doctrine (2 credit hours)
3. DS-670, United Methodist Polity (2 credit hours)

4. ME-570, Mission of the Church in the Contemporary World, or ME-580, Mission of the Church in a Multicultural Society, or ME-590, Mission of the Church in Global Context (3 credit hours each)
5. ME-670, The Ministry of Evangelism: Theology and Practice, or ME-680, Biblical Paradigms for the Practice of Evangelism (3 credit hours each)

### **Thesis option**

With approval of the academic advisor and the dean, students with a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher may contract with a faculty member to supervise the writing of a thesis to comprise 3 or 6 credit hours. Following the approval of a proposal for a thesis, students may enroll in TH-800, Thesis, for 3 or 6 credit hours. The thesis or exam will be graded on a pass/fail basis. More information about the thesis option is available in this catalog under “academic information and services.”

## **Master of Divinity with a specialization**

Students who wish to pursue a specialization within the Master of Divinity degree must have a conference with the faculty member primarily responsible for that specialization before registering for the third course required in the specialization. Specializations must be officially declared with Academic Affairs.

Declaring a specialization with the Master of Divinity degree means committing 12 credit hours to study in one of the six specialization areas listed below. Some overlap between specialization courses and division electives is permitted, but students may not use the same course for both a named division requirement and for the specialization. For all specializations, an integrative project or paper is also required. This project or paper is normally completed in conjunction with the final course for the specialization. Some specializations also require that the student’s Field Education placement takes place in an approved setting appropriate to the specialization area.

### **Specialization in Biblical Languages and Texts**

This specialization serves a variety of purposes: 1) to fill the need for pastors who have developed advanced exegetical skills through biblical language acquisition and additional 700-level biblical coursework; 2) to enhance the abilities of students to encounter the cross-cultural dimensions of biblical studies; and 3) to begin the process of preparation for those who hope to pursue advanced study in biblical studies.

To fulfill the requirements of this specialization, students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours from biblical studies as indicated below. The specialization may follow one of two tracks: Track 1 (Dual Language) or Track 2 (Single Language – Three Semester Study). There is no integrative project requirement.

Track 1 (Dual Language):

- HB-520, Elementary Biblical Hebrew
- HB-620, Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
- NT-520, Elementary Biblical Greek I
- NT-620, Elementary Biblical Greek II

Track 2 (Single Language – Three Semester Study):

- HB-520, Elementary Biblical Hebrew
- HB-620, Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
- HB-720, Exegesis of the Hebrew Bible
- One additional 700-level Hebrew Bible course

OR

- NT-520, Elementary Biblical Greek I
- NT-620, Elementary Biblical Greek II
- NT-720, Exegesis of the Greek New Testament
- Plus one additional 700-level New Testament course

## Specialization in Black Church and African Diaspora Studies

This specialization will do two things. First, it will prepare students to lead within black church traditions. Students will study how to integrate classical and practical theological disciplines from the vantage point of black church traditions. Second, it will equip students with a greater understanding of the diverse experiences and heritages of peoples of African descent. Students will increase their appreciation of the work of justice and understanding across differences, and the contributions of heritages stemming from Africa to the church.

**Choose 12 hours from the following list of courses:**

- CE-645, Feminist and Womanist Ethics
- CE-710A, Great Ethicists: Martin Luther King Jr.
- CH-634, African-American Religious History
- CH-636, American Christianity in Black and White
- CH-644 Race, Religion and Nation: From Black Power to Black Lives Matter
- ED-525, Christian Education in the Urban Church
- HB/NT/HM-735, The Bible and Preaching in African-American Traditions
- HB-780, Race, Gender, and Power in the Hebrew Bible
- LS/CE-735, Women and the Ethics of Leadership
- PC-660, African-American Pastoral Care
- PT-540, Doing Our Own Work
- PT/CH-755, Howard Thurman
- SR-652, Christian-Muslim Relations
- WO-575, African-American Christian Worship

## Specialization in Ecology and Justice

Out of love and respect for future generations, religious leaders need to provide those they serve with a theological framework for resisting greed, gluttony and the destruction of resources. This specialization equips students to lead others in developing economic, political, social, and technological lifestyles for a more ecologically equitable and sustainable world leading to a higher quality of life for all of God's creation.

**Choose 12 hours from the following list of courses:**

- CE-620, Resisting Biocide: Environmental Ethics for Discipleship
- CE-661, Christian Social Ethics
- CH-642, Christianity and Social Issues in the U.S.A.
- CH-736, Julian of Norwich

- CH-750, Wesley and Society
- CH-767, The Social Gospel Movement
- CT-750, Ecological Theology: God and Creation in Travail
- ED-640, Ecological Religious Education
- HB-715, Genesis
- HM-730, Community Organizing and Preaching
- LS-675, Leading Transformational Change
- PT-540, Doing Our Own Work
- PT-600, Food, Land and Faith Formation
- PT-605, Practical Theology and Ecology
- PT-610, Spiritual Formation and Social Change
- PT-615, Prophetic Hope and Creative Practice
- PT/WO-620, Worship, Ecology and Social Justice
- PT/SR-635, Celtic Spirituality
- PT-640, Knowing Where We Dwell
- PT-700, Dialogues in Faith and Science

### Specialization in Feminist and Womanist Studies

The specialization provides the theological and ethical frameworks for social change from women's socioeconomic locations and perspectives. Studies will put emphasis on particularity and diversity. To meet the requirement for this specialization, students will complete four courses from the list below, through which they will study women's roles, social locations and voices.

**Choose 12 hours from the following list of courses:**

- CE-640, Ethics of Sex
- CE-645, Feminist and Womanist Ethics
- CE-720C, Contemporary Moral Issues: Human Trafficking
- CH-642, Christianity and Social Issues in the U.S.A.
- CH-736, Julian of Norwich
- CT-659, Gender, Sin and Addiction
- CT-731, Gender and Theology
- HB-650, Women in the Biblical World
- HB-726, Interpreting Ruth and Esther
- HB-745, Women in Judges
- HB-780, Race, Gender and Power in the Hebrew Bible
- LS/CE-735, Women and the Ethics of Leadership
- NT/SR-630, Gender in Ancient Religion
- NT-650, Reading in Early Christian Fiction
- PC-721, Gender, Culture and Pastoral Counseling
- WO-710, Worship and Gender

### Specialization in Interreligious Contexts

We live in an increasingly multi-religious country. Our diversity requires leaders who will promote positive religious interaction while maintaining the integrity of their own faith traditions. This specialization will equip students to provide leadership in congregational and community settings, with a particular focus on interaction with the broader religious population.

**Field Education:** The student's Field Education experience should include some aspect of leadership work in an interreligious setting.

**Cross Cultural Requirement:** When completing the cross cultural requirement, student shall give special attention to exposure to another religious context. Assignments submitted shall also give evidence of engagement with multi-religious issues.

**Choose 12 hours from the following list of courses:**

If a 500 level SR course is chosen, it cannot also be used to meet the M.Div. foundational requirement in the study of religions.

- CE/SR-680, Religion and Society
- CH/SR-740, Holocaust Roots, Realities, and Ramifications
- CH-750, Wesley and Society
- CT/SR-733, The Nones: Spirituality and Belief Beyond Religion
- ED-675, Educating for Peace and Justice
- HB/NT-641, Dead Sea Scrolls
- HB/NT/SR-645, Introduction to Rabbinic Literature
- ME-580, The Mission of Church in a Multicultural Society
- NT/SR-630, Gender in Ancient Religion
- NT/SR-736, Paul, Jews and Gentiles
- PC-711, Multicultural Perspectives and Issues in Pastoral Counseling
- PT/SR-635, Celtic Spirituality
- SR-511, Interreligious Relations
- SR-550, Introduction to World Religions
- SR-553, Multi Religious America
- SR-652, Christian- Muslim Relations
- SR/CE-654, Comparative Study of Religious Ethics
- SR-655, Abrahamic Faiths
- SR-657, Perspectives on Buddhism
- SR-658, Perspectives on Islam

## Specialization in Spirituality

This specialization will prepare students to provide more informed spiritual leadership and a more nuanced approach to the care of souls in their place of ministry. They will examine in depth the lived experience of belief, with specific attention to the exploration of spiritual teachings and devotional practices as they are understood and practiced in diverse cultural communities and historical contexts. Students may not use ME-530, PT-550, PT-610 or PT-615 for both the M.Div. spirituality requirement and a specialization.

**Choose 12 hours from the following list of courses:**

- CH-629, History of Christian Spirituality (required)
- One of the following courses:
  - CH/WO-612, History of Christian Worship
  - CH-645, Spiritual Autobiography in the Wesleyan Tradition
  - CH-736, Julian of Norwich
  - CT/SR-733, The Nones: Spirituality and Belief Beyond Religion
  - HB-760, Psalms
- One of the following courses:
  - ED-615, Ministry with Young Adults: Intimacy, Vocation and Community
  - HM-765, Auto/biographies for Preaching
  - PC-613, Theories of the Development of the Self and the Life-Cycle
  - PT-610, Spiritual Formation and Social Change
  - PT-615, Prophetic Hope and Creative Practice

- PT/SR-635, Celtic Spirituality
- PT/CH-755, Howard Thurman
- WO-575, African-American Christian Worship
- One of the following courses (or combination of courses):
  - HM-725, Spirituality as a Foundation for Preaching
  - ME-530, Spirituality for Ministry
  - PC-756, Spiritual Dimensions of Illness and Recovery PLUS PC-772, Integrating Spirituality and Pastoral Care
  - PT-550, Spirituality
  - WO-600, Liturgical Prayer PLUS WO-525, Congregational Song
  - WO-625, Sacraments and Ordinances of Initiation and Eucharist

## Specialization in Youth and Young Adult Ministry

The specialization equips students to understand the religious, spiritual, cultural, economic and developmental contexts for youth and young adults. Pastors, youth ministers and community youth workers will learn to construct spaces for adolescent and young adult faith joining with them in establishing practices for lifelong faith.

### Choose 12 hours from the following list of courses:

- Two of the following courses:
  - ED-505, Ministry with/for/by Youth
  - ED-510, Adolescent World
  - ED-615, Ministry with Young Adults: Intimacy, Vocation and Community
  - ED-630, Intergenerational and Children's Ministry
  - ED-680, Creating Learning Environments
- One of the following courses or combination of courses:
  - ME-580, Mission of the Church in a Multicultural Society
  - PC-613, Theories of the Development of the Self and of the Life Cycle
  - PC-771, Grief Care and Counseling (1.5 credit hours) PLUS PC-785, Counseling Interventions with Troubled Youth (1.5 credit hours)
  - PT-540, Doing Our Own Work
  - PT-610, Spiritual Formation and Social Change
  - WO-625, Sacraments and Ordinances of Initiation and Eucharist
- One of the following courses:
  - CE-640, Ethics of Sex
  - CE-720c, Contemporary Moral Issues: Human Trafficking
  - CH-642, Christianity and Social Issues in the USA
  - CH-767, The Social Gospel Movement
  - CT/SR-733, The Nones: Spirituality and Belief Beyond Religion
  - HB-780, Race, Gender and Power in the Hebrew Bible
  - NT/SR-630, Gender in Ancient Religion

## Master of Arts in Practical Theology

### Mission and goals

Faith communities are in need of ethical religious educators who honor the past, are curious about the present and envision creative, sustainable futures. By nurturing personal and public liberating faith, the MAPT program seeks to equip persons to provide leadership for the formation and transformation of individuals and communities. The MAPT program offers formation for the next generation of practical, public theologians by cultivating abilities for negotiating the dynamic interplay in these areas: Christian heritage, congregational culture and



contemporary society; theological, educational and social-science disciplines; and the diversities of human and creaturely existence.

1. Graduates will be prepared for leading communities of faithful change.
2. Graduates will be able to negotiate human differences in the formative ecologies of faith communities in ways that foster liberating personal and corporate Christian faith.
3. Graduates will embrace a lifelong commitment to processes that lead to authentic self-understanding and honest theological reflection for themselves and their communities.

## Degree requirements

The MAPT degree requires completion of 59 credit hours and a cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

### Course requirements

#### **Educated Spirit (2 credit hours)**

1. ES-500, Educated Spirit. **Note: This course is expected to be completed in the first semester. Failure to complete this course may limit registration options until it is completed.**

#### **Classical Division Core (18 credit hours)**

1. CE-501, Introduction to Christian Ethics (3 credit hours)
2. CH-501, Survey Global Christian History (3 credit hours)
3. CT-549, Introduction to Theology (3 credit hours)
4. CT-6XX, any 600-level Christian Theology course (3 credit hours)
5. HB-510, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (3 credit hours)
6. NT-510, Introduction to the New Testament (3 credit hours)

#### **Practical Theology Core (9 credit hours)**

1. PT-500, Leadership, Learning and Community Formation (3 credit hours)
2. PT-505, Theology and Practices of Ministry (3 credit hours)
3. Choose one from the following list:
  - CC-601, CC-602, CC-603, Cross Cultural Immersion (3 credit hours total)
  - ME-590, Mission of the Church in Global Context (3 credit hours)
  - PT-525, Being with the Poor, (3 credit hours)

#### **Specializations (12 credit hours)**

Choose one specialization and choose 12 credit hours from the list of courses applicable to that specialization. Specializations must be declared through the registrar's office.

#### **Electives (12 credit hours)**

MAPT students may choose an additional 12 credit hours of electives from any division. Denominational requirements, such as United Methodist requirements for ordination as a Deacon, may fit in this area. Students should check with their annual conference regarding commissioning requirements and eligibility. **In many cases it may be required that two-thirds or all three of the denominational courses must be completed prior to the interview.**

United Methodist students may choose to take the following courses as electives:

1. DS-660, United Methodist History (2 credit hours)
2. DS-665, United Methodist Doctrine (2 credit hours)
3. DS-670, United Methodist Polity (2 credit hours)

4. ME-570, Mission of the Church in the Contemporary World, or ME-580, Mission of the Church in a Multicultural Society, or ME-590, Mission of the Church in Global Context (3 credit hours each) (Note: ME-590 may be counted in the Practical Theology Core.)
5. ME-670, The Ministry of Evangelism: Theology and Practice, or ME-680, Biblical Paradigms for the Practice of Evangelism (3 credit hours each)

**FE-850A and FE-850B, Field Education (3 credit hours total)**

**PT-825, Integrative Public Project Seminar (3 credit hours)**

Recommended to be taken in the final semester of enrollment, but only after the accumulation of at least 36 semester hours.

## **Master of Arts in Practical Theology specializations**

### **Specialization in Ecology and Justice**

The Ecology and Justice specialization constructs a foundation in practical theology for engaging systems that support thriving of life for future generations. Students will be equipped to seek ways for answering a call to be in gracious and wise relationships with fellow creatures in shared contexts in the natural world. Choose 12 credit hours from the following list of courses.

**Choose 12 hours from the following list of courses:**

- CE-620, Resisting Biocide: Environmental Ethics for Discipleship
- CE-661, Christian Social Ethics
- CH-642, Christianity and Social Issues in the U.S.A.
- CH-736, Julian of Norwich
- CH-750, Wesley and Society
- CH-767, The Social Gospel Movement
- CT-750, Ecological Theology: God and Creation in Travail
- ED-640, Ecological Religious Education
- HB-715, Genesis
- HM-730, Community Organizing and Preaching
- LS-675, Leading Transformational Change
- PT-540, Doing Our Own Work
- PT-600, Food, Land and Faith Formation
- PT-605, Practical Theology and Ecology
- PT-610, Spiritual Formation and Social Change
- PT-615, Prophetic Hope and Creative Practice
- PT/WO-620, Worship, Ecology and Social Justice
- PT/SR-635, Celtic Spirituality
- PT-640, Knowing Where We Dwell
- PT-700, Dialogues in Faith and Science

### **Specialization in Parish and Community Ministry**

Significant challenges arising from human desire and differences exist in parish and community ministries. Students in this specialization will learn educational and leadership practices enabling them to serve communities of faithful change. Graduates are prepared for a lifelong commitment to authentic self-understanding and honest theological reflection that will ground their teaching and leadership in their contexts of service. Choose 12 credit hours from the following list of courses. (ME-590 or PT-525 may not be used if it is also use in the MAPT core requirements.)

- CE-730 Queer Theological Ethics
- CH-767, The Social Gospel Movement
- CT-658, Doctrine of the Church
- ED-525, Christian Education in the Urban Church
- ED-680, Creating Learning Environments
- HB-780, Race, Gender and Power in the Hebrew Bible
- LS-525, Faith, Money, and Stewardship
- LS-625, Church Growth with Integrity
- LS-650, Conflict Management
- ME-570, Mission of the Church in the Contemporary World
- ME-580, Mission of the Church in a Multicultural Society
- ME-590, Mission of the Church in Global Context
- NT/SR-630, Gender in Ancient Religion
- NT-727, The Corinthian Correspondence
- PC-500, Introduction to Pastoral Care
- PT-525, Being with the Poor
- PT-530, Congregations and Communities as Partners in Ministry with the Poor
- PT-540, Doing Our Own Work
- PT-610, Spiritual Formation and Social Change
- PT-640, Knowing Where We Dwell
- SR-553, Multi-Religious America

### **Specialization in Spiritual Formation and Small Group Ministry**

Spiritual teachings and devotional practices are central to the life of faith. The focus of this specialization is to prepare students provide informed spiritual leadership and a nuanced approach to the care of souls. Graduates are equipped to offer guidance for the spiritual formation of individuals and diverse communities in ways that honor those who have throughout history sought the creative activity of God’s Holy Spirit. Choose 12 credit hours from the following list of courses.

- CE-730 Queer Theological Ethics
- CH-629, History of Christian Spirituality
- ME-530, Spirituality for Ministry
- NT/SR-630, Gender in Ancient Religion
- PC-613, Theories of the Development of the Self and the Life-Cycle
- PC-665, Pastoral & Psychological Facilitation of Forgiveness
- PC-756, Spiritual Dimensions of Illness and Recovery PLUS PC-772, Integrating Spirituality and Pastoral Care (3 credit hours total)
- PT-540, Doing Our Own Work
- PT-550, Spirituality
- PT-610, Spiritual Formation and Social Change
- PT-615, Prophetic Hope and Creative Practice
- PT/SR-635, Celtic Spirituality
- PT/CH-755, Howard Thurman
- WO-600, Liturgical Prayer PLUS WO-525, Congregational Song (3 credit hours total)
- WO-625, Sacraments and Ordinances of Initiation and Eucharist

## Specialization in Youth and Young Adult Ministry

The specialization equips students to understand the religious, spiritual, cultural, economic and developmental contexts of youth and young adults. Students will learn to construct spaces for adolescents and young adults to continue on a journey of lifelong faith. Graduates will form ministries that invite young people into companionship with the generations who have gone before and as pilgrims leading generations to follow. Choose 12 credit hours from the following list of courses.

- CE-730 Queer Theological Ethics
- CT/SR-733, The Nones: Spirituality and Belief Beyond Religion
- CT-740, Theology and Film
- ED-505, Ministry with/for/by Youth
- ED-510, Adolescent World
- ED-615, Ministry with Young Adults: Intimacy, Vocation and Community
- ED-630, Intergenerational and Children's Ministry
- ED-680, Creating Learning Environments
- PC-613, Theories of the Development of the Self and of the Life Cycle
- PC-785, Counseling Interventions with Troubled Youth PLUS PC-772, Integrating Spirituality and Pastoral Care (3 credit hours total)

## Master of Theological Studies

### Mission and goals

The MTS provides a broad foundation in the basic theological disciplines: Bible, Church History, Ethics, Study of Religion and Interreligious Relations, and Theology. Beyond the introductory levels of these disciplines, MTS students are required to concentrate in one field, achieving sufficient depth to read its literature with understanding, to discuss intelligently the major topics of that discipline, and to conduct relevant research, writing and nonprofessional teaching at a competent level.

1. Graduates will understand basic issues of biblical authority, hermeneutics and exegetical method, and acquire knowledge of particular biblical content.
2. Graduates will have developed a functional and effective appreciation for the evolution of the Christian tradition in its councils, creeds, institutions, formative figures and insights of faith.
3. Graduates will understand the distinctive character of theological study, its methods, its traditions and some current proposals for reinterpretation.
4. Graduates will be able to reflect upon the principles of Christian character and conduct as they have evolved in dialogue with other approaches to ethics and as they apply to contemporary problems.

MTS students who have previously attended a non-theological graduate school may transfer up to 6 credit hours for courses which clearly and rationally relate to their declared area of concentration.

### Degree requirements

MTS students must complete 56 credit hours with a cumulative grade point average of 2.50. Within the required 56 credit hours, a concentration of 12 credit hours is required.

## Division and course requirements

### Educated Spirit (2 credit hours)

1. ES-500, Educated Spirit. **Note: This course is expected to be completed in the first semester. Failure to complete this course may limit registration options until it is completed.**

### Biblical Studies (12 credit hours)

1. HB-510, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (3 credit hours)
2. NT-510, Introduction to the New Testament (3 credit hours)
3. Any HB or NT 600-level course (3 credit hours)
4. One additional course in Biblical Studies (3 credit hours)

### Historical Studies (6 credit hours)

1. CH-501, Survey Global Christian History (3 credit hours)
2. One additional course in Historical Studies (3 credit hours)

### Theological Studies (12 credit hours)

1. CT-549, Introduction to Theology (3 credit hours)
2. Any 600-level course in Christian Theology (3 credit hours)
3. CE-501, Introduction to Christian Ethics (3 credit hours)
4. Any 600 or 700-level course in Christian Ethics (3 credit hours)

### Study of Religion and Interreligious Relations (3 credit hours)

1. One course from this division (3 credit hours)

### Concentration (12 credit hours)

The MTS concentration requires 12 additional credit hours, comprised of courses numbered at the 600 level or higher, in one of the following five areas.

1. Bible – any combination of HB or NT including cross-listed courses
2. Ethics – CE courses and CE cross-listed courses
3. History – CH courses and CH cross-listed courses
4. Interreligious Contexts – SR courses and SR cross-listed courses
5. Theology – CT courses and CT cross-listed courses

MTS students must declare an area of concentration after completing 18 credit hours in the program. Students may change the area of concentration at any time but cannot graduate until all requirements of the degree have been completed.

MTS students who want to concentrate in Bible may count Biblical language courses in the concentration or as electives.

### Required Concentration Examination or Thesis

MTS students must choose between taking an examination in the area of their concentration or writing a thesis.

**Concentration Examination:** No later than two weeks before the last day of regularly scheduled classes in the final semester of the MTS degree, the student must pass a written examination with the faculty in the area of the student's concentration. The exam will measure the student's competency in the area of concentration along with the ability to think creatively and synthetically. The topics for the examination will be produced by the faculty members in

consultation with the student. The exam will be graded on a pass/fail basis. In the case of failure of the examination, the student may retake the concentration examination up to two times.

In preparation for this exam, the student may register in the final semester for 3 hours' credit in a directed reading course. This course may not be counted toward the MTS concentration and will be graded separately from the examination.

**Thesis:** With approval of the academic advisor and the dean, students with a 3.3 cumulative GPA or higher may contract with a faculty member to supervise the writing of a thesis to comprise 3 or 6 credit hours as a substitution for the exam. Following the approval of a proposal for a thesis, students may enroll in TH-800, Thesis, for 3 or 6 credit hours. The thesis will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Only three hours of the thesis may count in the MTS concentration. More information about the thesis option is available in this catalog under "academic information and services."

In cases of exceptional opportunities, some students may petition to use another form of summative evaluation, worked out with the student's advisor and the MTS director.

#### **Electives (9 credit hours)**

Six of these credit hours may be taken within the Practical Theology Division. The remaining three credit hours must be chosen from courses in the Classical Division.

## **Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries**

### **Mission and goals**

Life is sacred. Human problems are complex. Transformation requires wisdom, love and hope. The MACM program is dedicated to training highly competent pastoral and professional counselors who are equipped with counseling knowledge and skills, broad theological foundations, psychological and behavioral sciences, all focused to help individuals, families, and communities find meaning, healing, transformation, and growth.

1. Graduates will have knowledge of major theories of counseling and psychotherapy, and psychosocial and life-cycle-development concepts.
2. Graduates will have the ability to integrate psychological and behavioral sciences with the wisdom from religion/spirituality in the therapeutic process.
3. Graduates will have the ability to utilize the DSM 5 and developmental theory to diagnostically relate to and therapeutically respond to a variety of clients.
4. Graduates will have awareness and sensitivity to multicultural dynamics and issues of difference (race, gender, age, economics etc.).

### **Degree requirements**

The degree requires the completion of 59 credit hours for Track I, 60.5 credit hours for Track II, and 83 credit hours for Track III. All tracks also require a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 and seven courses (20 credit hours) that constitute a theological core. *Please take note that the State of Ohio requires grades of B- or better in all PC courses for licensure.*

1. ES-500, Educated Spirit (2 credit hours)  
**Note: This course is expected to be completed in the first semester. Failure to complete this course may limit registration options until it is completed.**
2. HB-510, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (3 credit hours)

3. NT-510, Introduction to the New Testament (3 credit hours)
4. CH-501, Survey Global Christian History (3 credit hours)
5. CE-501, Introduction to Christian Ethics (3 credit hours)
6. CT-549, Introduction to Theology (3 credit hours)
7. One integrative theological studies course from these options (3 hours)
  - CH 736: Julian of Norwich
  - CH/SR 740: Holocaust
  - CT 651: Doctrine of God
  - CT-659, Gender, Sin and Addiction
  - CT/SR 733: The Nones
  - HB/PC-720, Bible, Pastoral Care and Counseling
  - HB 771: Job
  - HB 780: Gender, Race, and Power in the Bible
  - HM/HB 745: Preaching and Interpreting Wisdom Traditions
  - PC 665: Psychological Facilitation of Forgiveness
  - PT 505: Theology and Practices of Ministry
  - PT 550: Spirituality
  - PT 610: Spirituality and Social Change
  - SR 550: Introduction to World Religions
  - SR 553: Multi-Religious America
  - WO 625: Sacraments and Ordinances of Initiation and Eucharist

Students in Tracks II or III may substitute, with their advisor's permission, Study of Religion and Interreligious Relations courses SR-511, SR-550 or SR-553 for HB-510, CH-501, or CE-501. Only one substitution of this kind is permitted, and this substitution is not allowed in the dual M.Div./MACM degrees.

### **Track I – Pastoral Care and Counseling (59 credit hours)**

The Pastoral Care and Counseling track provides grounding in the theory and practice of pastoral care and counseling and also allows students to choose special areas of study through the judicious use of electives. In addition to the 20 hours of theological foundation, the 39 credit hours of the professional core are distributed as follows:

1. PC-500, Introduction to Pastoral Care (3 credit hours)
2. PC-510, Clinical Pastoral Education (1 CPE unit -6 credit hours)
3. PC-631, Assessment and Appraisal of Individuals in Counseling (3 credit hours)
4. PC-640, Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy I (3 credit hours)
5. PC-680, Psychopathology for Counselors or PC-784, Evaluation of Mental and Emotional Disorders (3 credit hours)
6. PC-850A, Supervised Internship (Tracks I & II) (3 credit hours)  
(If PC850A cannot be completed in time, the student must register for PC850B which is a no-credit continuation course.)
7. Free elective – any course from any department (3 credit hours)
8. Limited electives from courses in the Pastoral Care department, numbered at the 600 level or higher (15 credit hours)

With the approval of the MACM program director, counseling courses at Trinity Lutheran Seminary or Pontifical College Josephinum may be included in the 15 credit hours of limited electives.

## Track II – Addiction Counseling (60.5 credit hours)

The MACM Addiction Counseling track fulfills the 270 clock hours of chemical dependency-specific education, which is part of the Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor requirements set by the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board. Post-graduation eligibility for licensure requirements include: related work experience (a master's degree in a behavioral science may be substituted for 2,000 hours of work experience); and successful completion of the AODA written examination and the case presentation (CPM) examination. For this track the following courses are required in addition to the 20 hour theological core (40.5 credit hours):

1. PC-555, Introduction to Chemical Dependency Ministries (3 credit hours)
2. PC-613, Theories of the Development of Self and the Life Cycle (3 credit hours)
3. PC-621, Family Systems Therapy (3 credit hours)
4. PC-630, Research Methods for Counselors (3 credit hours)
5. PC-631, Assessment and Appraisal of Individuals in Counseling (3 credit hours)
6. PC-640, Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy I (3 credit hours)
7. PC-655, Alcoholism and Other Addiction Counseling (3 credit hours)
8. PC-657, Group Therapy (3 credit hours)
9. PC-680, Psychopathology for Counselors (3 credit hours)
10. PC-711, Multicultural Perspectives and Issues in Pastoral Counseling (3 credit hours)
11. PC-731, Life Planning Assessment and Career Development (3 credit hours)
12. PC-740, Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy II (3 credit hours)
13. PC-756, Spiritual Dimensions of Illness and Recovery (1.5 credit hours)
14. PC-850A, Supervised Internship (Tracks I & II) (3 credit hours)  
(If PC850A cannot be completed in time, the student must register for PC850B which is a no-credit continuation course.)

## Track III – Pastoral and Professional Counseling (83 credit hours)

Track III totals 83 credit hours and is intended for those who wish to pursue careers as professional counselors. Track III leads to eligibility to apply to the Professional Counselor Licensing Board for permission to take the Ohio licensing examination. Out of state students can consult with the MACM Director for guidance regarding licensure in their home state. For this track the following courses are required in addition to the 20 hour theological core (63 credit hours):

1. PC-500, Introduction to Pastoral Care (3 credit hours)
2. PC-555, Introduction to Chemical Dependency Ministries (3 credit hours)
3. PC-613, Theories of the Development of Self and the Life Cycle (3 credit hours)
4. PC-621, Family Systems Therapy (3 credit hours)
5. PC-630, Research Methods for Counselors (3 credit hours)
6. PC-631, Assessment and Appraisal of Individuals in Counseling (3 credit hours)
7. PC-640, Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy I (3 credit hours)
8. PC-655, Alcoholism and Other Addiction Counseling (3 credit hours)
9. PC-657, Group Therapy (3 credit hours)
10. PC-680, Psychopathology for Counselors (3 credit hours)
11. PC-711, Multicultural Perspectives and Issues in Pastoral Counseling (3 credit hours)
12. PC-731, Life Planning Assessment and Career Development (3 credit hours)
13. PC-740, Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy II (3 credit hours)
14. Three hours from one of the following choices:
  - a. PC-771, Grief Care and Counseling (3 credit hours)
  - b. PC-672, Trauma and Narrative Counseling (3 credit hours)
  - c. PC-771, Grief Care and Counseling (1.5 credit hours) PLUS PC-772, Integrating Spirituality and Pastoral Care (1.5 credit hours)



- d. PC-771, Grief Care and Counseling (1.5 credit hours) PLUS PC-785, Counseling Interventions with Troubled Youth (1.5 credit hours)
15. PC-780, Professional Counselor Practices (3 credit hours)
16. PC-782, Diagnosis of Mental and Emotional Disorders (3 credit hours)
17. PC-783, Treatment of Mental and Emotional Disorders (3 credit hours)
18. PC-784, Evaluation of Mental and Emotional Disorders (3 credit hours)
19. PC-860, Supervised Practicum (3 credit hours)
20. PC-870, Supervised Clinical Internship (Track III) (6 credit hours total). This is a 600-clock-hour internship that starts in Fall term (PC-870A), continues in January term (PC-870B), and must be completed by the end of Spring term (PC-870C). If graduating MACM students enrolled in PC-870C have less than 200 outstanding clinical hours at the time of commencement, but all other academic work is completed, they may walk in the commencement ceremony without receiving their diploma. They would register for PC-870D (0 credit hours) while they are completing their clinical hours. A minimum of 400 hours must be completed. The date of graduation will be changed to the graduation date for the term in which the work is completed. Internship supervisors must submit a report of satisfactory progress to the MACM Director prior to the faculty vote on degree candidates.

## Dual-degree programs

Students may combine any of the four master's degrees to form a dual degree. Dual degrees are normally completed together and students who complete two degrees will receive two diplomas. Generally there is an overlap of approximately 28 semester hours of shared courses between the two degrees. There are some instances where overlap will not be permitted depending upon course choices in specializations and concentrations. For specifics on degree requirements for any of the dual degree combinations, please contact the registrar's office.

## Doctor of Ministry

Methodist Theological School in Ohio and Trinity Lutheran Seminary offer a joint Doctor of Ministry program. MTSO students earn their D.Min. from MTSO but have the benefit of studying with both schools' faculties. This partnership widens the scope of the degree ecumenically in terms of teaching and learning opportunities. The D.Min. mission, goals and requirements are the same for all participants.

In an era of cultural and ecclesial change, the Doctor of Ministry degree at MTSO and Trinity Lutheran Seminary seeks to provide the church with transformative leaders equipped with advanced skills for critically and theologically engaging issues and their contexts in ways that contribute to vital faith communities and institutions.

1. Graduates will be able to theologically reflect on contemporary issues in ministry praxis and how those issues are affected by evolving cultural and ecclesial contexts.
2. Graduates will achieve sufficient expertise in a specialized area of ministry such as transformative leadership, ecology and justice, or preaching.
3. Graduates will have an ethical and collaborative approach to change.
4. Graduates will demonstrate expertise in discerning critical ministry issues in a local setting and devising appropriate means for intervention and change.

## Degree requirements

The degree requires 31 credit hours and a cumulative grade point average of 3.00. The lowest passing grade for each course is B- (minus). The specific courses which constitute the various phases of the D.Min. program are listed below and descriptions are in the back of the catalog.

## Course requirements

### Core courses

Core courses provide opportunities to update degree candidates on developments in various fields of study, further develop theological reflection, and provide a shared theological context and vocabulary for each matriculating class. Each course addresses a significant tension/ dialectic facing both academic disciplines and ministry contexts. D.Min. students must complete three core courses (9 credit hours):

1. DM-901, Continuity and Change (3 credit hours)
2. DM-902, Particularity and Diversity (3 credit hours)
3. DM-903, Communities and Society (3 credit hours)

### Research methods

D.Min. students must complete three research methods courses throughout the program (3 credit hours total):

1. DM-981, Research Methods I (1 credit hour)
2. DM-982, Research Methods II (1 credit hour)
3. DM-983, Research Methods III (1 credit hour)

These learning communities are designed to provide focused attention to overall learning objectives, issues of praxis and integration, and spiritual maturity. In addition, support and critique of the project phase will occur here. Normally, the peer group will form at the beginning of the program and remain together throughout. Peer group sessions will involve two classroom contact hours, with an additional ten hours of virtual group contact per unit of credit. The instructor will be the director of the D.Min. Program. D.Min. students must complete three peer group courses (3 credit hours total):

1. DM-905, Peer Group (1 credit hour – graded credit/no credit)
2. DM-906, Peer Group (1 credit hour – graded credit/no credit)
3. DM-907, Peer Group (1 credit hour – graded credit/no credit)

### Specialization courses

A specialization consists of four specifically designated courses of three credit hours each. Each specialization requires the approval of the faculty prior to implementation. There are three specializations:

- A. Leadership for Transformational Change (12 credit hours):
  - DM-914, Spirituality and Change (3 credit hours)
  - DM-915, Transforming Mission (3 credit hours)
  - DM-916, Individual and Systems Change: Trends, Tasks, Tensions (3 credit hours)
  - DM-917, Preaching for Change (3 credit hours)
- B. The Mission and Practice of Preaching (12 credit hours)
  - DM-930, Theology and Mission of Preaching (3 credit hours)
  - DM-931, Hermeneutics for Preaching (3 credit hours)
  - DM-932, The Created Word (3 credit hours)
  - DM-933, Preachers as Reflective Practitioners (3 credit hours)

- C. Ecology and Justice Ministry (12 credit hours)
- DM-940, Creation and New Creation in Christian Tradition (3 credit hours)
  - DM-941, Environmental Theology and Ethics (3 credit hours)
  - DM-942, Justice and the Practices of Ministry (3 credit hours)
  - DM-943, Ecology, Place, and Justice (3 credit hours)

## Portfolio review

At the conclusion of course work and prior to the Project Proposal, students submit a portfolio that is representative of their work throughout the program thus far. Components include an identified assignment from core, research, and specialization courses with the instructor's evaluative comments. The portfolio includes a summary statement written by the student that integrates what has been learned from the program, describes personal growth, assesses achievement of learning goals and assesses strengths and weaknesses in anticipation of the Project phase. The portfolio is reviewed by the student's newly assigned advisor and two members of the D.Min. Committee. A discussion of the portfolio and faculty response is to be scheduled between the student and the advisor within 30 days of submission.

## Formulation of project and thesis proposal

The D.Min. project proposal must be prepared after completion of coursework and the portfolio review. The D.Min. project proposal includes specified, measurable objectives that can and will be evaluated in the thesis at the completion of the project and submitted for approval to the D.Min. committee. The project/thesis advisor guides the student in the preparation of the proposal, with the D.Min. director helping administratively as needed. Evaluation of the thesis is made by the second reader and one other faculty member assigned by the director, as well as the director.

## Project

Students who plan to graduate at the same time form a project group, providing a learning community during project research and writing. Students share and critique drafts of proposals/chapters via the Internet.

The D.Min. project and its analysis in the thesis should demonstrate integration of insights and resources from classical and practical disciplines. It should grow out of and be related to a particular issue or concern identified in the current place of professional ministerial practice.

The project should utilize qualitative and/or quantitative methodologies to investigate the concern/issue; involve theological reflection; determine creative and appropriate approaches to dealing with the concern/issue; and demonstrate how the approach was undertaken, completed, and evaluated. When research methodology involving human subjects is involved, the project proposal must be approved by the Human Subjects Research Review Committee of the seminary in which the student matriculated. The thesis is written at the completion of the project.

D.Min. students in the project phase of the program are required to enroll in two project courses (4 credit hours):

1. DM-908, Project Group (1 credit hour – graded credit/no credit)
2. DM-909, Project (3 credit hours – graded pass/fail)

**See the Course Description section of this catalog for a complete description of all courses listed here.**

# Academic enrichment opportunities

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## The Interprofessional Commission of Ohio

MTSO is a founding member of this unique education program, located at The Ohio State University. Founded in 1973, the commission conducts research, develops and implements graduate curricula and continuing education events, and educates the public about the issues and concerns of an interprofessional approach to human need.

A professional staff, which includes graduates and faculty of MTSO, directs the work of the commission from offices on the OSU campus. An independent board of trustees and advisory council, which includes representatives from the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus, oversee the commission. Other members of the commission include the OSU colleges of Education, Law, Medicine, Nursing and Social Work; the OSU School of Allied Medical Professions; their corresponding state professional associations; and the Ohio Council of Churches.

In meeting its goal to improve services provided by the human-service professions, the commission has five objectives:

1. to address problems which require delivery of interprofessional services;
2. to respond to changing social problems that challenge the professions;
3. to bring a number of perspectives to bear on complex ethical issues that affect professionals;
4. to explore emerging public-policy issues;
5. to disseminate information about interprofessional collaboration.

Faculty members from each of these schools participate in teaching Interprofessional Course offerings. Member schools may enroll an equal number of students in courses to achieve a balanced representation among the professions. Seminary students register as part of the regular registration procedure. Course descriptions are available in this catalog.

The Commission offers technical assistance throughout the country to communities, agencies and institutions developing collaborative programs. It convenes statewide interprofessional public policy panels on emerging issues and facilitates interprofessional continuing education among its many constituencies. The Commission coordinates the development and dissemination of new information about collaborative professional practice through its research and publications.

The late Van Bogard Dunn, the first dean of MTSO, conceived the commission, and its program director for many years was the late Robert L. Browning, professor emeritus of Christian Education at MTSO.

## Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus

Since 1973, MTSO, the Pontifical College Josephinum and Trinity Lutheran Seminary, with Bexley Hall Seabury Western Theological Seminary Federation have had a collaborative educational venture: the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus (TCGC). The proximity of the schools has facilitated ecumenical and interprofessional involvements, enabling and encouraging all to participate in the richness and diversity of various confessional traditions. The

variety of courses made available, the worship and musical events arranged, the lecture series shared, and the friendships formed provide unusual opportunities for meaningful ecumenical dialogue.

Since 1994, the three seminary presidents have managed the legal entity of the consortium. There are three areas of activities within the consortium:

### **Joint online catalog**

Since 2007, the three libraries of the consortium have been members of two wider consortia: Ohio Private Academic Libraries and OhioLINK. The TCGC libraries' holdings are included in online union catalogs for each of these consortia, representing in total nearly 90 academic libraries statewide. This arrangement provides access for faculty and students to the holdings of all of these libraries and to a number of databases that would not otherwise be available.

### **Cross-registration**

All enrolled students at MTSO have the opportunity to enroll in courses without additional cost at either of the other schools in the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus. Cross-registration is arranged with Academic Affairs. See the Academic Information and Services section for more details on cross-registration.

### **Prayer and dialogue**

The deans manage the joint academic programming of the consortium. They sponsor the annual Consortium Day event, designed to facilitate dialogue among the faculties and students of the three member schools.

## **Other affiliated programs**

Below is a listing of programs and institutions with which MTSO maintains an affiliation. For more information about any program, or to suggest a new affiliated program for MTSO, please contact Academic Affairs.

- National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
- Hispanic Summer Program
- The National Capital Semester for Seminarians
- United Church of Christ Learning Network
- Unitarian Universalist House of Studies

## **MTSO certificate programs**

### **Certificate in Basic Theological Education (Lay Certificate Program)**

This certificate program is intended for those who are interested in enhancing a basic understanding of their faith. Students may not be enrolled in a certificate and a degree program at the same time. To earn this certificate, which is bestowed during our annual commencement ceremonies, students must successfully complete four courses (12 credit hours) with a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 as follows:

1. Three of the following introductory courses (9 credit hours)
  - HB-510, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (3 credit hours)
  - NT-510, Introduction to the New Testament (3 credit hours)
  - CH-501, Survey Global Christian History (3 credit hours)
  - CT-549, Introduction to Theology (3 credit hours)
  - CE-501, Introduction to Christian Ethics (3 credit hours)
2. One Practical Theology Division course at the introductory level (3 credit hours)

Please see the course listings in this catalog for a complete description of each of these courses. These courses carry graduate-level credit and will be recorded on an official transcript. They are offered on a rotating basis so that some courses are available at least once in the evening and once during the day during each academic year. Most students take one course each semester, achieving a certificate in two years, but there is no prescribed pace or time limit for the program.

### Certificate in Deacon Studies

Those who have already completed a master's degree in their anticipated area of service to the church may complete 27 credit hours of Basic Graduate Theological Studies as outlined in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* in order to meet theological education requirements for ordination as a deacon. The Certificate in Deacon Studies is designed to provide additional theological education. Spiritual formation for ministry is also an important part of the experience for students fulfilling these educational requirements at MTSO. Students may not be enrolled in a certificate and a degree program at the same time.

1. HB-510, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (3 credit hours)
2. NT-510, Introduction to the New Testament (3 credit hours)
3. CH-501, Survey Global Christian History (3 credit hours)
4. CT-549, Introduction to Theology (3 credit hours)
5. One from ME-570, Mission of the Church in the Contemporary World, or ME-580, Mission of the Church in a Multicultural Society, or ME-590, Mission of the Church in Global Context (3 credit hours)
6. One from ME-670, The Ministry of Evangelism: Theology and Practice, or ME-680, Biblical Paradigms for the Practice of Evangelism (3 credit hours)
7. WO-500, Introduction to Worship (3 credit hours)
8. DS-660, United Methodist History (2 credit hours)
9. DS-665, United Methodist Doctrine (2 credit hours)
10. DS-670, United Methodist Polity (2 credit hours)

Upon successful completion of these courses with a cumulative grade point average of 2.50, the Certificate in Deacon Studies will be awarded at our annual commencement ceremonies.

Although each seminary has the responsibility to designate which basic courses meet the core requirements and advise students of these courses, the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry has the final authority to approve academic studies as they apply to ordination in the United Methodist Church. Students are advised to refer to the Section of Deacons and Diaconal Ministries if there are questions about one or more courses. Students should check with their annual conference regarding commissioning requirements and eligibility. **In many cases it may be required that two-thirds or all three of the denominational courses must be completed prior to the interview.**

## Certificate in the Advanced Course of Study

Those who have completed the five-year Course of Study may continue by taking seminary courses at MTSO in the Certificate in the Advanced Course of Study (ACOS) program. Unlike the five-year Course of Study program, students are admitted to the ACOS certificate program at MTSO through regular admission procedures and take graduate-level courses that are recorded on an official transcript. Students may not be enrolled in a certificate and a degree program at the same time.

Students must complete 32 credit hours with a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 for the Certificate in the Advanced Course of Study. Of these, 27 credit hours will consist of Basic Graduate Theological Studies as outlined in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* and described below. The remaining 5 credit hours will be electives.

1. HB-510, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (3 credit hours)
2. NT-510, Introduction to the New Testament (3 credit hours)
3. CH-501, Survey Global Christian History (3 credit hours)
4. CT-549, Introduction to Theology (3 credit hours)
5. One from ME-570, Mission of the Church in the Contemporary World, or ME-580, Mission of the Church in a Multicultural Society, or ME-590, Mission of the Church in Global Context (3 credit hours)
6. One from ME-670, The Ministry of Evangelism: Theology and Practice, or ME-680, Biblical Paradigms for the Practice of Evangelism (3 credit hours)
7. WO-500, Introduction to Worship (3 credit hours)
8. DS-660, United Methodist History (2 credit hours)
9. DS-665, United Methodist Doctrine (2 credit hours)
10. DS-670, United Methodist Polity (2 credit hours)
11. Electives (5 credit hours)

## United Methodist Church educational programs offered at MTSO

The following programs are sponsored by the United Methodist Church. MTSO hosts and teaches courses that can lead to completion of these programs, but the formal recognition of completion comes from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

### Course of Study School of Ohio

The Course of Study School of Ohio (COSSO) is a program of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) of the United Methodist Church, administered by MTSO in partnership with United Theological Seminary and surrounding annual conferences. The Course of Study School provides education for those pursuing ministry as licensed local pastors rather than as ordained clergy. To begin the Course of Study School, local pastors must be certified and licensed by their annual conference. A spiritual formation program augments all COSSO courses.

As prescribed by The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, each part-time local pastor must complete two courses in an annual conference year; full-time local pastors must complete four. COSSO offers the opportunity to take four courses each year, in sessions of two weekends (Friday-Saturday) and during a two-week session in the summer where students can take two courses on the MTSO campus, or as part of hybrid online/residential courses on the United Theological Seminary campus in Dayton, OH. Both the West Virginia extension (for part-time local pastors) and the Native American Course of Study (for Native American students) offer two sessions each year.

For further information, see the Web site at [www.cosohio.edu](http://www.cosohio.edu).

## **Certification Programs - General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church**

The United Methodist Church offers Certification in Specialized Ministries through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM). This certification is available to all persons, lay and ordained, who meet the standards set by GBHEM. Each graduate professional certification requires five courses that have been designated by GBHEM for each of the areas. The board approves the courses identified by the seminaries as meeting these requirements.

MTSO currently has approval for courses in three of these areas of certification: Christian Education, Youth Ministry, and Engaging in Ministry with the Poor.

Certification in Engaging in Ministry with the Poor is one of the newest certification programs approved by GBHEM and is currently only available through MTSO in partnership with Community Development for All People in Columbus, Ohio. Certification requires a minimum of five courses. Two of those courses are taught on location at Community Development for All People by staff approved as MTSO adjunct faculty:

- PT-525, Being with the Poor
- PT-530, Congregations and Communities as Partners in Ministry with the Poor

In addition, students take three courses on the MTSO campus:

- PT-505, Theology and Practices of Ministry
- PT-510, Engaging the Bible in Congregation and Community
- United Methodist Studies: One of three United Methodist studies courses: DS-660, United Methodist History; DS-665, United Methodist Doctrine; or DS-670, United Methodist Polity.

MTSO also offers courses that meet certification requirements in other areas. Those who are interested in certification programs should contact the faculty member designated as the coordinator for that certification program. The coordinator can identify the particular courses in the curriculum which meet those requirements as outlined by GBHEM. The coordinators also can provide students with information on the "Steps into Certification."

These graduate professional certifications are granted by the GBHEM, to which application must be made. The board has final authority in granting of the certification. For graduate-level certification, however, coursework must be completed at United Methodist seminaries.

## **Awards and recognition**

### **Graduation Weekend**

The events surrounding Graduation Weekend are the high point of each academic year. Baccalaureate is held on Friday evening in the MTSO Centrum, and commencement is held Saturday morning in the Dickinson Courtyard. Each class presents a gift that becomes part of its legacy.

### **Recognition of friends**

MTSO may choose to honor an outstanding friend of the school with the presentation of the Presidential Award. The recipient of this award is nominated by the MTSO president and approved by the board of trustees. The honoree must have presented a generosity of time and financial and/or physical resources that have tangibly contributed to the existence and growth of the school. In addition, the honoree must demonstrate through accomplishments, deed or



example a commitment to the core values central to the mission of Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Past recipients of this award include the Bishop Hazen G. and Mrs. Helen E. Werner family; the Thomas H. Taylor family; the Leon A. Beeghley family; John Alford; Paul Donald; Flo and Stan Gault; Peter D. and Eleanore A. Kleist; Beryl Arlene LeSuer; John T. Mount; and Seward Schooler.

## **Recognition of students**

MTSO is also proud to honor outstanding students each year with special awards. Awards are made on the basis of faculty recommendations and are presented as part of the annual closing convocation.

### **Bishop Judith Craig Prize in Christian Education**

The Christian Education faculty recommends this prize recipient. It recognizes an outstanding student graduating with the MAPT degree, either alone or in a dual degree program. The student must show academic excellence, a solid record of service in the local church in a field placement, positive contribution to campus life, and promise or potential for significance in professional ministry. This prize was established by Bill and Judy McCartney to honor Bishop Judith Craig, who began her professional ministry in Christian education and now teaches at MTSO.

### **Charles A. Dice Fellowship**

The purpose of this award is to encourage and assist exceptional graduates in continuing their theological education at another institution of recognized excellence. Except in unusual circumstances, only Master of Divinity graduates are eligible for the fellowship. Awards recommended by the faculty will be in one of two categories: (1) to assist a graduate who is preparing for full-time ministry as the pastor of a church in at least one year of additional study at another school that will enhance his or her ministry; and (2) to assist a graduate who is planning to teach religion or theology in an institution of higher education. Academic excellence, personal character, professional competence and promise of usefulness in the Christian ministry or in the teaching profession will be the chief criteria in making the selection. The value of any annual award is based on the performance of a fund established by Charles A. Dice. If two or more awards are made in a single year, the income is divided equally between the successful applicants.

### **Fellowship Seminarian Award**

This award, sponsored by the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts, is given annually to a graduating seminary student who displays outstanding leadership in music and/or worship arts, including but not limited to dance, drama, fabric art and liturgical writing.

### **Gindlesperger Bible Award**

This award is presented to one or two graduating seniors on the basis of their academic record with recommendation by the Bible Division. It was established by Dora and Joseph Gindlesperger, Michigan laypersons, who requested that the award be given to students who are humble, diligent and excited about learning and growing in grace all their days.

### **Hoyt Hickman Award**

This award is conferred through the Order of Saint Luke to a graduating student who has given evidence of a high quality of scholarship in the study of liturgy and is an effective leader of Christian worship.

### **Matey Janata Freedwomen Award**

Established and initially funded entirely by the Freedwomen, a former campus group, this award is now offered to honor the memory of MTSO graduate Matey Janata. The award is presented to a graduating student for outstanding work in women's studies. All graduating students at MTSO are invited to submit a paper dealing with women's studies written for any course during their

seminary career. A committee established by the faculty each year may recommend a person to receive the award based on its assessment of the individual and paper submitted.

#### **Nystrand Award**

The Rev. Dr. Philip O. Nystrand Award in Homiletics was established in 2005 by MTSO graduate the Rev. Dr. Kathy Dwyer and other members of the Nystrand family. The award honors Rev. Nystrand and also encourages excellent preaching among today's seminarians. The Nystrand Award is given to a rising senior in the M.Div. degree program who demonstrates promise in homiletics.

#### **The Pastoral Counseling Service and Achievement Award**

The Pastoral Counseling Service and Achievement Award is presented yearly to the Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries graduating senior who embodies the quest for excellence in professional counseling development. The nominee should also demonstrate significant involvement in community service, while maintaining high standards of academic achievement.

#### **The Servant Leader Award**

The Servant Leader Award recognizes a graduating senior who has given exceptional and sacrificial services to MTSO, and has inspired others to do the same.

#### **C. Everett and Mary Milburn Tilson Social Justice Grant**

The C. Everett and Mary Milburn Tilson Social Justice Grant was founded in 2007 by 43 individual donors to honor the lives and legacies of C. Everett and Mary Milburn Tilson. This award honors the Tilsons' lifelong devotion to social justice, most notably in the civil rights movement. The Tilson Grant will be awarded to a graduating senior who has demonstrated, both in practice and profession, a commitment to a prophetic vocation of compassionate justice.

#### **Rev. Dr. David Wilcox Leadership Award**

This award honors the service and leadership of Rev. Dr. David Wilcox within the United Methodist Church and as a trustee of MTSO. The award recognizes a graduating student preparing for ministry in the context of the local church. The recipient must reflect characteristics of servant-leadership within the MTSO community and in church ministry, and show promise to become a leader in judicatory connections.

#### **Ronald L. Williams Prize in Theology and Ethics**

Named in honor of a former MTSO theology professor, this prize recognizes the graduating senior who is recommended by the Division of Theology and Ethics to hold the highest potential for theological and ethical reflection. This prize was established by a gift from MTSO graduates Doug Sweet and the late Jan Sweet.

#### **The following awards are made by the president upon recommendation of the Faculty Scholarship Selection Committee:**

##### **John W. and Mary Alford Family Awards**

Given through the generosity of the late John W. and Mary Alford and their family, these awards are made to returning students on the basis of ability and promise as demonstrated through their work at the school. The criteria for the awards include a good academic record, promise for pastoral ministry, excellent communication skills, ability to articulate the Christian faith, potential for preaching, and appropriate relational skills and concern for persons necessary for pastoral ministry. John W. Alford was a founding trustee of MTSO.

##### **Werner Merit Scholarships**

This program was established to recognize and reward high achievement in academic work completed at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. The competition for merit scholarships is open to full-time students of any denomination in any degree program who have completed at

least 9 semester credit hours of work at MTSO, have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, and are not recipients of a renewable premier scholarship.

### **Zook Family Awards for Competence in Parish Ministry**

Established in 1998 through the generosity of Roy Zook and his family, the Zook Family Awards are made to students who, on the basis of promise and ability demonstrated through their work at MTSO, exhibit evidence of the leadership skills, gifts and graces necessary for strong Christian ministry. The successful award winners must be preparing for pastoral ministry as ordained elders in the United Methodist Church, demonstrate high academic competency and commitment to theological studies, as well as excellent communication skills and an ability to articulate the Christian faith. Zook Family Award winners are named on a commemorative plaque and also receive a financial award.

## **Denominational formation**

While MTSO is officially a seminary of the United Methodist Church, the student body, faculty, administration and staff members are denominationally diverse. The school intentionally seeks to provide formation and guidance for students from various denominations. Courses in denominational history, doctrine and polity are offered regularly for United Methodist students as well as for denominations with significant enrollment. Courses for denominations with smaller student populations may be offered on request, if possible. (See the course listing under Denominational Studies.)

If a course for a student's denomination is not listed in the Course Descriptions section, the student should speak with the dean about arranging for such study.

MTSO seeks to invite leaders of various denominations to lead chapel, speak at special programs, and lecture in classes. Students also may discuss denominational formation with faculty advisors.

The school offers special programs and resources for students who are affiliated with the following denominations:

### **United Church of Christ**

The UCC Learning Network at MTSO is a house of studies **and more**, serving students, clergy, and lay leaders who are members of the United Church of Christ. The UCC Learning Network supports MTSO's UCC students throughout their theological education and helps them become familiar with the denomination's ordination processes. It also provides UCC clergy and lay leaders with opportunities for lifelong education through MTSO's Theological Commons.

The UCC Learning Network augments MTSO's academic offerings in UCC history and polity by creating inquiry groups of UCC students. They meet together under the guidance of UCC Central Southeast Ohio Association Minister Janine Wilson and MTSO Professor of Worship and Music Robin Knowles Wallace, an authorized UCC minister, along with other UCC clergy and denominational leaders.

MTSO offers a 3-credit-hour course in United Church of Christ History and Polity, a seminar designed to familiarize students with the history and practices of the UCC and offered to assist students in meeting requirements of Association Committees on Church and Ministry for ordination in the denomination.

For more information, email UCC Learning Network Coordinator Robin Knowles Wallace at [rwallace@mtso.edu](mailto:rwallace@mtso.edu).

## **Unitarian Universalist Association**

MTSO is pleased to offer a Unitarian Universalist House of Studies, serving individuals pursuing ministry within the Unitarian Universalist Association. Two courses are being offered each year in **Unitarian Universalist History** (3 credit hours) and **Unitarian Universalist Polity** (1.5 credit hours).

Both courses fulfill requirements of the UU ministerial fellowshiping process, and credits may be transferred to other institutions. They are being taught by MTSO's UU House of Studies director, Susan Ritchie, who serves as minister of the North Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Lewis Center and a trustee on the national board of the Unitarian Universalist Association. She holds a doctorate in cultural studies from Ohio State University and a Master of Divinity degree from MTSO.

Additionally, a course in Unitarian Universalist Special Topics will be offered. This course will focus on special topics in Unitarian Universalist identity, as well as areas of Unitarian Universalist expertise that are of interest to a wider ecumenical population. The course will address such issues as religious humanism, poststructuralist and post-Christian theologies, animal liberation theologies, and faith formation and religious education in multireligious contexts. Course focus and number of credit hours will vary by term. The course may be repeated as topics change.

For more information, email Unitarian Universalist House of Studies Director Susan Ritchie at [sritchie@mtso.edu](mailto:sritchie@mtso.edu).

## **Presbyterian Church (USA)**

At this time, three members of the MTSO faculty (Jeff Jaynes, Paul Kim and Linda Mercadante) are ordained ministers in the Presbyterian Church (USA). They are available to meet with Presbyterian students on issues of denominational formation and vocational guidance. They also seek to bring Presbyterian students together for conversation with representatives of the PC(USA) on campus. Through these faculty members, the school has established relationships with several regional presbyteries. In addition, our Presbyterian faculty members are working with Committees on Preparation for Ministry to assist MTSO students with the ordination process. MTSO seeks to regularly offer courses in Reformed Theology and Presbyterian Polity.

## **The United Methodist Church**

MTSO has committed to programs to address the formation of United Methodist students.

The United Methodist faculty members give oversight to a program designed to offer guidance and support to persons seeking ordination as elders and deacons in the United Methodist Church. Our on-site United Methodist Candidacy Liaison, Rev. Mark Reed, consults with students seeking ordination in the United Methodist Church.

## **Ordination in the United Methodist Church**

### **Relationship to a seminary education**

Ordination within the United Methodist Church is an independent, often parallel, process to seminary education. Those called to ordained ministry can begin the ordination process before or during studies at MTSO. Ordination is governed by *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, which is revised every four years by the General Conference. Annual conferences and boards of ordained ministry may have additional requirements for ordination, including requirements for specific degrees and/or courses completed within degree programs. Those interested in being ordained as United Methodist deacons or elders are encouraged to consult

with the appropriate staff persons in the annual conference in which they will seek ordination, and to begin discussion with Rev. Mark Reed, MTSO's United Methodist Candidacy Liaison.

## **Ordination as deacon in the United Methodist Church**

Deacons are described in paragraph 329 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2012* as follows: "Deacons are persons called by God, authorized by the church, and ordained by a bishop to a lifetime of ministry of Word and Service to both the community and the congregation in a ministry that connects the two. Deacons exemplify Christian discipleship and create opportunities for others to enter into discipleship. In the world, the deacon seeks to express a ministry of compassion and justice, assisting lay persons as they claim their own ministry. In the congregation, the ministry of the deacon is to teach and to form disciples, and to lead worship together with other ordained and lay persons."

The basic educational requirement for ordination as a deacon in The UMC is one of the following: (1) a Master of Divinity degree from a school approved by the University Senate, or (2) a master's degree from an approved graduate theological school, or (3) a master's degree in the area of specialized ministry, plus the completion of 27 credit hours of Basic Graduate Theological Education.

There is an alternate route for deacon ordination for those who are at least 35 years old. The requirements are: (a) a bachelor's degree, (b) professional certification or license in an area of specialized ministry, and (c) a minimum of 9 semester credit hours of graduate study in the area of specialization and 27 semester credit hours of Basic Graduate Theological Education (based on *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2012*, para. 324.4 and 324.5).

MTSO offers several opportunities for individuals to satisfy these educational requirements.

1. The Master of Divinity degree. Specializations are available to provide additional emphasis for particular areas of ministry.
2. Other master's degree programs, such as the Master of Arts in Practical Theology.
3. The Certificate in Deacon Studies. This third option is open for an individual who has already completed a master's degree in his or her anticipated area of service. In addition to this master's degree, the student must complete the 27 credit hours of Basic Graduate Theological Studies with a cumulative grade point average of 2.50. The Certificate in Deacon Studies is designed to provide that additional theological education. Spiritual formation for ministry is also an important part of the experience for students fulfilling these educational requirements at MTSO.

## **Ordination as elder in the United Methodist Church**

Elders are described in paragraph 332 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2012* as follows: "Elders are ordained ministers who, by God's grace, have completed their formal preparation and have been commissioned and served as a probationary member, have been found by the Church to be of sound learning, of Christian character, possessing the necessary gifts and evidence of God's grace, and whose call by God to ordination has been confirmed by the Church. Elders are ordained to a lifetime of ministry of Service, Word, Sacrament, and Order. By the authority given in their ordination, they are authorized to preach and teach the Word of God, to provide pastoral care and counsel, to administer the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion, and to order the life of the Church for mission and ministry."

The essential educational requirements of an ordained elder are:

- Graduation with a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from a college or university listed by the University Senate, or demonstrated competency equivalence through a process designed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (para. 324.3).
- Courses as listed in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2012* (para. 324.4a) including evangelism, mission and other courses as noted.
- Graduation with a Master of Divinity degree from a school of theology listed by the University Senate; or completion of the educational requirements for local pastors, which include the five-year Course of Study and an Advanced Course of Study of 32 credit hours of graduate theological study in a setting that meets the requirements of the University Senate (para. 324.4b and 324.6).

MTSO offers two primary opportunities for students to satisfy this educational requirement. More information on these opportunities may be found in the section of this catalog titled “United Methodist Church Educational Programs at MTSO.”

1. The Master of Divinity degree. Those seeking ordination in the United Methodist Church will choose courses in evangelism, mission of the church in the contemporary world, and United Methodist History, Doctrine, and Polity as electives in the M.Div. program. Students should check with their annual conference regarding commissioning requirements and eligibility. **In many cases it may be required that two-thirds or all three of the denominational courses must be completed prior to the interview.**
2. The Certificate in the Advanced Course of Study. Those who have completed the five-year Course of Study program for local pastors and meet other requirements as described may pursue the educational requirements described above in this 32 credit-hour certificate program, which includes required course work in evangelism, mission of the church in the contemporary world, and United Methodist History, Doctrine, and Polity.

## **Ordination in other denominations**

Applicants or a current MTSO student who are members of other denominations should contact officials within their denomination to learn about the procedures required for ordination, licensing etc. There may be distinct educational expectations for ordination or certification within each denomination.

# Course descriptions

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## Faculty

- Dr. Valerie Bridgeman, Associate Professor of Homiletics and Hebrew Bible  
Bishop in Residence Judith Craig, Visiting Professor of Church Leadership
- Dr. Jeffrey P. Jaynes, Professor of Church History in the Warner Chair of Church History
- Dr. John Kampen, Professor in the Dunn Chair in Biblical Interpretation
- Dr. Paul Kim, Professor of Hebrew Bible in the Williams Chair of Biblical Studies
- Dr. Sarah Heaner Lancaster, Professor in the Bishop Hazen G. Werner Chair of Theology
- Dr. Denise Lewis, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling
- Dr. Randy G. Litchfield, Professor of Christian Education in the Browning Chair of Christian Education
- Dr. Diane L. Lobody, Professor of Church History in the Nippert Endowed Chair of Church History/Wesleyan Studies; Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program
- Dr. Linda A. Mercadante, Professor of Theology in the Straker Chair of Historical Theology
- Dr. Elaine Nogueira-Godsey, Assistant Professor of Theology, Ecology and Race
- Dr. Paul D. Numrich, Professor in the Snowden Chair for the Study of Religion and Interreligious Relations
- Dr. Francesca Nuzzolese, Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling
- Dr. M. Fulgence Nyengele, Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling in the Chryst Chair in Pastoral Theology, Director of the Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries Program
- Dr. Joon-Sik Park, Professor in the E. Stanley Jones Chair of World Evangelism; Director of the Course of Study School of Ohio
- Dr. Ryan Schellenberg, Assistant Professor of New Testament
- Dr. Timothy L. Van Meter, Associate Professor of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
- Dr. Robin Knowles Wallace, Professor in the Taylor Endowed Chair of Worship and Music
- Dr. Lisa Withrow, Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Professor in the Dewire Chair of Christian Leadership
- Dr. Yvonne C. Zimmerman, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics

## Course numbers

Courses are numbered according to the following pattern:

- 500-599 Introductory courses with no prerequisite
- 600-699 Primarily intermediate courses with at least one prerequisite
- 700-799 Primarily advanced courses with at least one prerequisite
- 800-899 Contextual education, individual studies, advanced seminars, theses
- 900-999 Doctor of Ministry courses

## Course prefixes

References to Classical Division and Practical Division are made in some degree requirements. Departments that fall under each division are listed below.

Departments or subject matters are identified by two character prefixes. Course descriptions are provided in alphabetical order based on these prefixes.

### CLASSICAL

CE	Christian Ethics
CH	Church History
CT	Christian Theology
HB	Hebrew Bible (Old Testament)
NT	New Testament
SR	Study of Religion & Interreligious Relations

### PRACTICAL

ED	Christian Education
FE	Field Education
HM	Homiletics
LS	Leadership Studies
ME	Mission & Evangelism
PC	Pastoral Care & Counseling
PT	Practical Theology
WO	Worship

**Courses with these designations are not classified by division:**

CC	Cross-Cultural
DM	Doctor of Ministry
DS	Denominational Studies
ES	Educated Spirit
IC	Interprofessional Commission of Ohio
TH	Thesis

**Individual studies can be listed in any department as follows, with "XX" being the department prefix:**

- XX-891, Individual Study (1 hour)
- XX-892, Individual Study (2 hours)
- XX-893, Individual Study (3 hours)



## Cross-Cultural Immersion

### **CC-601 Cross-Cultural Experience: Pre-Immersion Sessions**

Pre-immersion sessions will focus on intercultural communication and cross-cultural observation, understanding the U.S. and local church experience within a global context, theological reflection on cultural differences, and orientation for the specific trip. This course, in conjunction with CC-602 and CC-603, satisfies the cross-cultural requirement for Master of Divinity students. Pre-immersion meets for approximately four sessions in the semester prior to an immersion experience. Students register for the appropriate section based on the immersion experience they are planning. There is no additional cost for these sessions, and no credit is assigned; however, participation is considered in the facilitator's evaluation of the student's experience. Prerequisite: Students normally will have completed one-third of a degree program before pursuing a cross-cultural immersion experience. Graded pass/fail. 1 credit hour.

### **CC-602 Cross-Cultural Immersion Experience**

Immersion in an approved cross-cultural setting, to last approximately two weeks. A reflection paper of 10-12 pages will be due within one week of the student's return from the trip. Each approved experience in any term carries its own section number, and students register for the appropriate section based on the trip they are planning. This course, in conjunction with CC-601 and CC-603, satisfies the cross-cultural requirement for Master of Divinity students. See the Cross-Cultural Handbook for more details. Prerequisite: CC-601. Graded pass/fail. 2 credit hours.

### **CC-603 Cross-Cultural Experience: Post-Immersion Sessions**

Post-immersion sessions focus on processing the experience, further theological reflection, and translating acquired learning into current and future ministry contexts. This course, in conjunction with CC-601 and CC-602, satisfies the cross-cultural requirement for Master of Divinity students. Post-immersion meets for a few sessions (no more than five hours total) immediately following an immersion experience. Students register for the appropriate section based on the immersion experience they have completed. There is no additional cost for these sessions, and no credit is assigned; however, participation is considered in the facilitator's evaluation of the student's experience. Prerequisites: CC-601 and CC-602. 0 credit hours.

### **CC-850 International Exchange Program**

Students who participate in a mutually established international exchange program may register through MTSO for credit. Once the courses are completed, they will be listed on the transcript individually. Prerequisite: CC-603. Credit hours vary.

## Christian Ethics

### **CE-501 Introduction to Christian Ethics**

A study of the theological bases for Christian ethical thought and action, including consideration of both historical and contemporary varieties of interpretation. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **CE-620 Resisting Biocide: Environmental Ethics for Discipleship**

The environmental crises facing human communities worldwide present a host of difficult moral questions for the Christian life. The overlapping problems of ecological degradation, resource depletion, climate disruption, and more – especially in relation to those already victimized by poverty and other forms of oppression – require critical, systemic reflection as well as transformative changes within each sphere of our personal, economic, ecclesial, and public lives today. This course will survey key thinkers and themes within the field of environmental ethics, examine proposals for faithful Christian action, and challenge students to articulate a hopeful vision for discipleship today that accounts not only for the breadth of sin and evil but also the depth of God's love for the world. Prerequisite: CE-501. 3 credit hours.

**CE-640 Ethics of Sex**

This course examines sexual ethics within the broader social construction of sexuality. Students will gain a more nuanced understanding of 'sexuality' as well as the aim, intent, and effects of Christian sexual ethics on diverse constituencies both within and outside of Christian churches. Prerequisite: CE-501. 3 credit hours.

**CE-645 Feminist and Womanist Ethics**

This course explores the diverse array of methods and perspectives that feminist and Womanist ethicists working out of Christian traditions have brought to bear on contemporary moral issues. Prerequisite: CE-501. 3 credit hours.

**SR/CE-654 Comparative Study of Religious Ethics**

An introduction to the ethical systems of selected world religions (including Christianity), with comparative analysis of one practical ethical issue. Prerequisite: CE-501 and any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**CE-661 Christian Social Ethics**

A study of the application of the ethical ideals of Christianity to contemporary social problems; an introduction to Protestant social theory; and a consideration of some general problems for social ethics. Prerequisite: CE-501. 3 credit hours.

**CE/SR-680 Religion and Society**

The theoretical assumption of most Christian ethics since the turn of the 19th century has been that modernity poses a mortal threat to religion. Although religion hasn't become obsolete, classical understandings of the relationship between religion and society remain influential nevertheless. This course explores classical secularization theories, the more recent attempts to theorize the unexpected resurgence and vitality of religion in the postmodernity known as "the new paradigm," and the implications of secularization theory's decline for doing Christian ethics. Prerequisite: CE-501 and a 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**CE-710A Great Ethicists: Martin Luther King Jr.**

An in-depth examination of the ethical thought of Martin Luther King Jr., recognized as a major contributor to the discipline of Christian ethics. Prerequisite: CE-501. 3 credit hours.

**CE-716 Ethical Issues in the Practice of Ministry**

An examination of ethical issues and principles arising in such ministerial practices as use of authority, accountability, truth telling, confidentiality, preaching on controversial social issues, cross-gender relations and spiritual development. Prerequisite: CE-501. 3 credit hours.

**CE-720C Contemporary Moral Issues: Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is one of the most urgent human rights issues in the world; at the same time, this set of issues is often misunderstood and misconstrued. This course is an in-depth examination of human trafficking with special attention paid both to the role religion plays in constituting the problem, as well as the possibilities in religion for resisting these types of human rights abuses. Prerequisite: CE-501. 3 credit hours.

**CE-730 Queer Theological Ethics**

This course will explore the intersections of queer theory with Christian theology and Christian ethics. General questions include: What is queer theory? What is queer theology? What does queer theology do to us? Who queers ethics? What can we do with queer ethics? Attention will be given to deconstructive, constructive and speculative modes of theological and moral analysis. Prerequisites: CE-501 and CT-549. 3 credit hours.

### **LS/CE-735: Women and the Ethics of Leadership**

This course will focus on women's leadership from womanist, mujerista and feminist perspectives, incorporating ethical issues women face in arenas of work and ministry. The goal is to create alternative practices for women to develop as effective leaders. Critiques of current understandings of power and leadership ethics, narratives and research by women will be focal resources for students. Prerequisites: PT-500, CT-549 and CE-501.

### **CE-805 Readings in Christian Ethics**

This course is an upper-level seminar that provides the opportunity for advanced study of foundational and new texts in Christian ethics. Authors and works that have been sampled in other ethics courses across the ethics curriculum will read in their entirety. The first two-thirds of the course focuses on primary texts in the field, while the last third features new texts.

Prerequisite: CE-501 and one additional CE-600-level course. 3 credit hours.

### **CE-883 Directed Reading for MTS Concentration**

In the final year of the MTS program, a student may enroll in a directed reading and work with the faculty in the area of concentration to develop a reading list and prepare for the concentration examination. This course cannot be counted toward the MTS concentration. Graded pass/fail. 3 credit hours.

## **Church History**

### **CH-501 Survey of Global Christian History**

This course will introduce students to important themes, issues and individuals in the 2000 year history of Christianity. Attention will focus on the global dimensions of Christian experience with an emphasis on distinctive traditions and practices. Students will also engage in understanding the various contexts for critical theological themes in the history of Christianity. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **CH/WO-612 History of Christian Worship**

This course will present a survey of the history of the practice of Christian worship from the early church into the 21st century. The practice of Christian worship will be studied through texts, buildings, organizational structures and social aspects that affect the corporate worship of Christian people throughout the world. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

### **CH-629 History of Christian Spirituality**

An invitation to encounter classic Christian spiritual disciplines through the study of the writings and historical contexts of selected teachers and mentors in the church's history. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

### **CH-634 African-American Religious History**

An introduction to the development of religious movements and institutions within African-American communities, including moral traditions and spiritual dynamics. Attention will be paid to current problems and issues in the writing and interpretation of this history. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

### **CH-636 American Christianity in Black and White**

The course examines the complex role that race has played in the Christian community in America from the nation's founding to the present. Paying special attention to the complex relationship of race and racism, students will examine such themes as: slave religion and colonial society; the evangelical awakening of the 18th century; blacks and whites within the Baptist, Methodist, Holiness, and Catholic traditions; the Ecumenical movement; the Civil Rights movement; and, the relationship of black and white Christians in the current spectrum of American Christianity. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH-642 Christianity and Social Issues in the U.S.A.**

An historical exploration of the often challenging, sometimes enthusiastic and occasionally reluctant responses of U.S. churches to such social issues as slavery, racism, poverty, women's rights, war and alcohol use. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH-644 Race, Religion and Nation: From Black Power to Black Lives Matter**

This course examines theoretical approaches to the categories of race, religion, and nation, and considers how scholars have demonstrated that they are not fixed, but contingent upon multiple contexts, and therefore, constantly shifting. Further, this course analyzes the relationship between these categories through a historical exploration of the #BlackLivesMatter movement with attention to critical antecedents including: Black Power activism, hip hop music(s) and culture, and the presidency of Barack Obama. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: CH-501.

**CH-645 Spiritual Autobiography in the Wesleyan Tradition**

The discipline of telling the story of one's life and religious experience is a distinguishing feature in the historical practices of Wesleyan spirituality. Class and band meetings required that believers give account of their experiences of sin and grace; conferences and camp meetings were structured on the exchange of public testimonies; journal-keeping was recommended as essential to spiritual formation; autobiographies were published to assist in the work of mission and evangelism. Students will explore and analyze personal narratives produced by Methodists from the 18th through the 20th centuries and will examine the uses and value of spiritual autobiography in contemporary ministry. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH-736 Julian of Norwich**

An immersion in the context and writings of a 14th-century Englishwoman who was a significant theologian, mystic and pastoral counselor, and who serves as a timely and transforming conversation partner for persons seeking to deepen their spiritual lives and engage pertinent theological questions. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH/SR-740 The Holocaust: Roots, Realities and Ramifications**

This class will probe one of the most disturbing and influential episodes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In particular, it will discuss the theological and religious issues involved in this state-supported action of genocide, drawing especially on conflicts between Christians and Jews, and exploring lingering theological problems. The mid-20<sup>th</sup> century Jewish Holocaust will be compared with other experiences of genocide. Prerequisite: CH-501 and any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**CH-742 Culture, Conflict and Christian Mission in the New World and the Old World**

This course will survey three critical eras of Western Christian expansion – the Crusades of the 12th century; Colonialism in the 16th century; and European imperialism in the 19th century – and will analyze the positive and negative legacy of the Christian presence established during these periods. Contemporary churches in the Middle East, Latin America, Asia and Africa continue to live in the shadow of this missionary enterprise. We will have opportunity to gain greater sensitivity to the historic problems these Christians encounter and to consider creative avenues for present and future dialogue in the church worldwide. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH-743 Christianity and War**

This course offers students the opportunity to research, analyze and evaluate varied responses of Christian individuals, communities and institutions to war. We will do that through an intensive examination of one specific war, which will serve as a semester-long case study. We will explore such topics as the causes of war; the use of Christian teachings, Scripture and sacred symbols to initiate, rationalize, support or oppose war; theological and ethical debates about war (including arguments for pacifism and the application of just-war theory); experiences and effects of war in the lives of Christian participants; and the impact of war on subsequent development of churches and societies. Prerequisites: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH-750 Wesley and Society**

This course explores the writings of John Wesley in relation to selected social problems in eighteenth-century England. The questions addressed by Wesley continue to challenge Christians today. Students will examine Wesley's teachings about such persistent issues as the economy, education, the environment, family, gender, healthcare, political conflict, race, religious differences, science, slavery, and war. Prerequisite: CH-501.

**PT/CH-755 Howard Thurman**

This course will survey the life and ministry of Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman. It will critically inspect his theological foundations, his theological formation, his particular theology, the practice of that theology, the pivotal points of his ministry, and his positive contributions to race relations, religious studies, ecumenism, and interfaith dialogue. Also, this course will investigate the historical significance of Rev. Thurman's ministry. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH-767 The Social Gospel Movement**

This course focuses on the Social Gospel movement as it arose in the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Through examination of selected figures and forms of institutional ministry, students will consider the strengths and the limitations of the Social Gospel as a theological system, as an approach to mission and ministry, and as a strategy for social transformation. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**CH-883 Directed Reading for MTS Concentration**

In the final year of the MTS program, a student may enroll in a directed reading and work with the faculty in the area of concentration to develop a reading list and prepare for the concentration examination. This course cannot be counted toward the MTS concentration. Graded pass/fail. 3 credit hours.

## Christian Theology

**CT-549 Introduction to Theology**

An examination of the nature, opportunities and limitations of theology. Historic approaches and current challenges will be considered in a critical examination of such problems as religious knowledge, authority, the development of doctrine, historical-cultural relativity, and the nature of theological truth. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**CT-649 Christology**

Who is Jesus Christ? How does Jesus Christ save? This course examines the way Christians have historically answered these questions. It also explores options for answering these questions in new contexts. Prerequisite: CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**CT-651 The Doctrine of God**

Nothing is more essential to theology than an understanding of God, and yet God is one of the most puzzling theological topics of all. This course examines how Christians have thought about God, and how major questions in the history of reflection on God have been addressed.

**Prerequisite:** CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**CT-654 Trinity**

The Christian understanding of God as Tri-Unity has a rich historical lineage as well as liberating and crucial contemporary potential. Yet few Christians truly understand this radical doctrine or why it has been neglected for so long. The course will explore this history, this potential, and creatively construct liturgical expressions. Prerequisite: CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**CT-658 Ecclesiology**

Christians have historically defined the church in a variety of ways – e.g., as body of Christ, separated community, people of God, etc. But how should the church be defined today in a rapidly changing world? This course will explore various contemporary models of church, as well as its enduring theological principles. Prerequisite: CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**CT-659 Gender, Sin and Addiction**

An exploration of sin and grace in light of the addiction/recovery model. This will include attention to the history of this movement as well as contemporary gender and racial issues. While attention will be paid to the distinctions of the addiction/recovery model, a core aim of the course is to examine its relationship to Christian theology. Prerequisite: CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**CT-665 Systematic Theology**

An examination of the doctrines of the Christian church, with an emphasis on seeing their relations to each other. The purpose of the course will be to learn to reflect critically on these doctrines in order to appropriate them understandably in our contemporary situation. Students will be asked to articulate their understanding of the Christian faith in a comprehensive statement at the end of the term. Prerequisite: CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**WO/CT-700 Liturgical Theology**

The objective of this course is to gain an understanding of the relationship between theology and liturgy, including the ability to identify theological themes in the liturgy and to articulate a liturgical theology. Readings in contemporary liturgical theology will be drawn from a variety of liturgical traditions. Focus will be on developing skills in creative and critical reason and developing sensitivity to the dimensions of evangelical commitment and prophetic involvement which are inherent in the liturgy. Prerequisite: WO-500 and CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**CT-703 Victims and Sinners**

Christianity makes it very clear that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." But how does one recognize and address those who have been sinned against? Students will explore relevant aspects of Christian teaching on human dysfunction to find out how it speaks to sinners and victims. Both theory and real-life situations will be considered because, ultimately, theology is practical. It is faith seeking understanding. Prerequisite: a 600-level CT course. 3 credit hours.

**CT-722 19th and 20th Century Theology**

This course will consist of an exploration of the thought and impact of major 19th and 20th century theologians in historical context. Lines of continuity and influence among theologians will be emphasized, along with key points of divergence. Care will be taken to consider the extent to which the presuppositions and contentions of earlier theologians bear upon our contemporary theological context. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course or permission. 3 credit hours.

**CT-731 Gender and Theology**

The use of gender as an interpretive category in theology both affects and reflects the ways we think of, and relate to, God and ourselves. The course examines this premise through both historical and contemporary examples. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course. 3 credit hours.

**CT/SR-733 The Nones: Spirituality and Belief Beyond Religion**

The dramatic increase in persons choosing to remain unaffiliated from organized religion, the "nones," is a very significant development in contemporary America. It equals, in importance, the societal retreat from Protestant hegemony and the increase in religious diversity. This course will focus on the beliefs and behaviors of these "nones," especially those who self-identify as "spiritual but not religious." Why we will examine why they remain unaffiliated and how they practice their faith, special attention will be given to how they justify and construct their "belief without borders." In the process, we will consider what this means for the church, for society, for the "common good," and for American religion in general. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course and any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

### **CT-735 The Authority of Scripture**

For Christians to call the Bible “scripture” is to acknowledge that it is a sacred, authoritative text for the community. But what kind of authority does it have? The course will examine several factors that must be considered in answering this question, such as the concept of authority itself; the Protestant doctrine of scripture as it was formulated after the Reformation; various challenges to the authority of scripture; and various attempts to affirm the authority of scripture in the faces of these challenges. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course. 3 credit hours.

### **CT-736 Theology in the Wesleyan Tradition**

A study of the distinctively Wesleyan order of salvation and its influence on modern theologians. The initial focus will be on the theology in John Wesley’s sermons, but attention will then be given to how theologians in the Wesleyan tradition appropriate Wesley’s ideas in light of contemporary concerns, such as liberation theology, pluralism and process philosophy.

Prerequisite: 600-level CT course. 3 credit hours.

### **CT-740 Theology and Film**

Our culture continues to wrestle with theological shadows unaware. Echoes of theological themes can often be found in contemporary film. We will learn how to discern key themes in film, become aware of how influenced we are by this medium and become able to critically engage it. Students will be encouraged to take this skill into church settings as an accessible way to guide others in thinking theologically. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course. 3 credit hours.

### **CT-745 The Problem of Evil**

One of the most difficult theological problems is how to affirm God’s goodness and power in light of the existence of evil in the world. This course will examine various historical and contemporary theological responses to that problem. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course. 3 credit hours.

### **CT-750 Ecological Theology: God and Creation in Travail**

This course is a survey of major figures in the field of ecological theology over the past half century. Students will examine the development of contemporary theological reflection on the promises, dynamics, and sufferings of God and the creation by reading primary texts from a diversity of perspectives, including from Lutheran/Reformed, Trinitarian, Feminist, Catholic, Liberation, Evangelical, Womanist, and Process theologies. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course. 3 credit hours.

### **CT-883 Directed Reading for MTS Concentration**

In the final year of the MTS program, a student may enroll in a directed reading and work with the faculty in the area of concentration to develop a reading list and prepare for the concentration examination. This course cannot be counted toward the MTS concentration. Graded pass/fail. 3 credit hours.

## **Doctor of Ministry**

### **DM-900 Doctor of Ministry Program in Progress**

Students who are between intensive sessions (i.e., fall and spring semesters) will be enrolled in this course to indicate continuing enrollment in the Doctor of Ministry program. Graded CR/NC. 0 credit hours.

### **DM-901 Continuity and Change**

This course examines the constructive tension between the church’s desire to maintain authentic traditions and the need to adapt and respond to current socio-cultural forces. Issues studied with particular attention to biblical, historical and theological matters. 3 credit hours.

**DM-902 Particularity and Diversity**

Particularity in ministry challenges us to understand that sharp-edged relevance which locates people in a specific time and space. On the other hand, diversity summons us to the broad living space that human communities find essential for life. This course focuses on the dynamics of race, ethnicity, gender, class, physical/mental challenges and the impact they have on the practice of ministry. 3 credit hours.

**DM-903 Communities and Society**

Communities, including Christian congregations, nurture and establish human identity. Societies represent larger forces (e.g., economic, political, patriarchal) which can threaten communities. This course will consider lessons of church history, insights of religious sociology and demography, and the witness of scripture as leaders wrestle with responsible and responsive ecclesiology. The church can then see itself in a position to embrace society with an incarnational focus. 3 credit hours.

**DM-905, 906, 907 Peer Groups**

These learning communities are designed to provide focused attention to overall learning objectives, issues of praxis and integration, and spiritual maturity. In addition, support and critique of the project phase will occur here. Normally, the peer group will form at the beginning of the program and remain together throughout. Peer group sessions will involve 10 classroom contact credit hours with an additional 5 credit hours of virtual group contact per unit of credit. The instructor will be the director of the D.Min. program. Graded CR/NC. 1 credit hour each.

**DM-908 Project Group**

Members of the peer group who plan to complete the degree at the same time are enrolled in this course. The D.Min. director convenes and coordinates these groups. The course provides a learning community during the project. Students share and critique drafts of proposals and chapters via electronic means. Graded CR/NC. 1 credit hour.

**DM-909 Project**

Upon approval of the project proposal, the D.Min. project will be undertaken. The D.Min. project must result in practical strategies for change in the student's local ministry setting. These strategies must be grounded in biblical models and sound theological reasoning. They must also reflect careful analysis of the specific ministry context. Intervention in a ministry setting involves changes in some of the most profound aspects of the lives of Christian people; the seriousness of such an undertaking must not be forgotten. Sound theoretical underpinnings and careful supervision are therefore vital. The word "project" is used to refer to the whole undertaking within the ministry setting, while the word "paper" refers to the paper that is submitted for D.Min credit. Graded pass/fail. 3 credit hours.

**DM-914 Spirituality and Change**

Any leader who undertakes ministry must have a spiritual focus that incorporates not only ministry, but personal relationship-building, self-discipline and an inward/outward journey of the spirit. This course will focus on how leadership stays spiritually centered in the midst of encountering change, including changing local, regional and global contexts that inform organizational evolution. 3 credit hours.

**DM-915 Transforming Mission**

Christian mission concerns transforming the world as well as itself being continually transformed. Hospitality is integral to the Gospel, and thus to be a primary context for transforming mission that reflects and follows God's hospitality, welcoming of all, in Christ. Examining the understanding and practice of biblical hospitality, this course will study missional ecclesiology, multiculturalism, and urban ministry. 3 credit hours.



**DM-916 Individual and Systems Change**

This class explores the topic of leadership from several perspectives, including personal, empirical, organizational, sociological, and theological. Students will learn to name some of the key dynamic tasks and discover where they are naturally gifted to lead and where they must involve others. Students will be able to work with assessment tools addressing their own contexts and placing that context in broader cultural and congregational movements. 3 credit hours.

**DM-917 Preaching for Change**

Effective preaching is a means of transformation and change in a community. This course will explore how, through its interpretation of God's Word into the human condition, preaching effects change in the minds and hearts of individuals. Further, students will consider how preaching, as a rhetorical act for the community, has the capacity to shape a community's story; clarify contexts and issues; provide language and imagery for community self-expression; and reframe the future for mission and ministry. 3 credit hours.

**DM-930 Theology and Mission of Preaching**

A robust theology of preaching and mission helps preachers to think critically about their own preaching in context. Students will survey historical and contemporary literature on the theology and mission of preaching. Students will be able to articulate and critique their own theology in relation to their denominational heritage and their ministry context. 3 credit hours.

**DM-931 Hermeneutics for Preaching**

Preaching always takes place in relationship to texts that must be read and applied to the sermon (bible, theology and living context). Students will survey historical and contemporary literature in hermeneutics. This will help students become aware of a range of options, become critically attentive to their own hermeneutical lenses, and develop new options or enrich their existing hermeneutical models. 3 credit hours.

**DM-932 The Created Word**

The energy of the church is impacted by the creativity of preaching and attention to canons of rhetoric. This course investigates how language, form, style, delivery and event impact the meaning and goals of preaching. Readings in rhetoric and performance studies and analysis of students' preaching will help them examine their own methods and understandings of composing and delivering sermons. 3 credit hours.

**DM-933 Preachers as Reflective Practitioners**

Students will broaden understanding and appreciation of how the practice of preaching fits into the life, ministry and mission of congregations by becoming critical and reflective practitioners as they learn how the preacher, the sermon, and the context combine to form good preaching. The focus of this class is analysis of student preaching and preaching of others in their contexts. 3 credit hours.

**DM-940: Creation and New Creation in Christian Tradition**

Drawing on biblical and historical study, this course examines justice and the creative action of God in the world. Students will explore connections between Christian traditions and systemic problems facing Church and world. Specific topics may include ecological responsibility, globalization, racial injustice, and the limits of capitalism. 3 credit hours.

**DM-941: Environmental Theology and Ethics**

This course explores contemporary theological and ethical thought in relation to climate change, food security, and our ecological reality. Students may delve into the interplay of science and theology, eschatology, theodicy, ethical critiques of economic theories, and the suffering of God through a variety of perspectives and social locations. 3 credit hours.

**DM-942: Justice and the Practices of Ministry**

Contemporary ecological challenges require faith communities to develop creative responses through religious education, leadership development, spiritual formation, liturgy and ritual. Students will discover, critique, and create practical resources for forming just congregations and local communities. 3 credit hours.

**DM-943: Ecology, Place, and Justice**

Students will identify and engage with local community-based organizations and movements that seek to respond to contemporary ecological challenges. Through on-site research, students will explore the mission, resources, contexts, and structures that allow these groups to thrive. 3 credit hours.

**DM-981: Research Methods I**

This course provides an orientation to the discipline of research methods. A significant portion of this course is devoted the cultivation of online research skills, an introduction to databases that are essential to theological research, and an examination of additional digital tools and online collections that are of particular use in D. Min. studies. The course is offered in July of the student's first year of study, and includes a required online component to be completed after the face-to-face session. 1 credit hour.

**DM-982: Research Methods II**

This course addresses both the quantitative and qualitative methodologies for research. The course addresses the interface of theological and social science disciplines. Quantitative content of the class includes Basics of Sampling, Question Construction, Answer Scales, Rudimentary Statistical Analysis, Analyzing Data, Participant/Observer Methods and Ethical Issues. Qualitative content will include observation/conversation reporting. The course is offered in January of the student's first year of study, and includes a required online component to be completed as a supplement to the face-to-face session. 1 credit hour .

**DM-983: Research Methods III**

In this course, students continue to develop their capabilities in research methods. In addition, students begin to formulate topics for their proposed projects and theses, and to identify appropriate methodologies appropriate. The course is offered in July of the student's second year of study, and includes a required online component to be completed as a supplement to the face-to-face session. 1 credit hour.

**DM-993: Individual Study**

Individual studies are only available in extenuating circumstances. 3 credit hours.

**Denominational Studies**

Required courses in denominations other than those listed here may be arranged as needed.

**DS-500 General Conference**

This course explores the issues surrounding the General Conference of the United Methodist Church. In addition to some sessions at MTSO, each person will attend the entire General Conference, which is held every four years. Students will select and monitor an issue, a legislative committee and a caucus. Additional cost for transportation, room and board. 3 credit hours.

**DS-660 United Methodist History**

An immersion into the history of the United Methodist Church, beginning with the Wesleys and the early Methodist movement. The course will then explore the development of the Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren traditions in the United States, and will examine the distinctive forms of Wesleyan and Methodist spirituality, ministry and practice. This course, along with DS-665 and DS-670, fulfills some of the United Methodist denominational requirements for commissioning and ordination as deacon or elder. Offered annually. Prerequisites: CH-501. 2 credit hours.

**DS-665 United Methodist Doctrine**

This course will cover the essential elements of Wesley's theology as found in select sermons and the doctrinal standards as they are identified in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*. Attention will be given to the development of doctrine in the United Methodist Church and to central theological questions that arise about the use of doctrinal standards. This course, along with DS-660 and DS-670, fulfills some of the United Methodist denominational requirements for commissioning and ordination as deacon or elder. 2 credit hours. Offered annually. Prerequisite: CT-549.

**DS-670 United Methodist Polity**

The course will combine the assumptions of UM polity and the principles of connectionalism and itinerancy as to the nature of the church, membership, congregational life, ministry, chain of conferences, agencies, property, judicial administration and ecumenism as reflected in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* and *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church*. The desired outcome is that these two books will become working handbooks for mission and ministry of UM students. This course, along with DS-660 and DS-665, fulfills some of the United Methodist denominational requirements for commissioning and ordination as deacon or elder. 2 credit hours. Offered annually. No prerequisite.

**DS-680 Unitarian Universalist History**

This course traces the theological and institutional emergence of Unitarianism out of the Radical Reformation. It will also focus on the universalism of 18th century England, and the state of Unitarianism in Europe and North America through its development through the late 19th and 20th centuries. Prerequisite: CH501. 3 credit hours.

**DS-681 Unitarian Universalist Polity**

Students will explore how changing cultures and theologies of leadership, authority and church shape our governance; how polity helps or hinders commitment to social justice; what historical roots exist for institutional behaviors; and how insights are taken to congregations and communities. When timing and geography allows, the course will include immersion in the UUA General Assembly. No prerequisite. 1.5 credit hours.

**DS-682 Unitarian Universalist Special Topics**

This course will focus on special topics in Unitarian Universalist identity, as well as areas of Unitarian Universalist expertise that are of interest to a wider ecumenical population. The course will address such issues as religious humanism, poststructuralist and post-Christian theologies, animal liberation theologies, and faith formation and religious education in multireligious contexts. Course focus and number of credit hours will vary by term. The course may be repeated as topics change. 1-3 credit hours.

**DS-682A Unitarian Universalist Special Topics: Post-Christian & Poststructuralist Theologies**

Poststructuralism, the distinctive philosophy of postmodernism, is often construed as an enemy of faith, a sign of the increasingly secular, post-Christian times that must be resisted for religion to survive. For this reason, much of our thinking about ministry, worship, culture, prophetic power, and revelation remains firmly rooted in poorly aged modern assumptions, even as hardly anyone denies that we are living in radically new historical conditions. What if this new historical moment represents an opening of vistas for that otherness, that way of knowing most persistently pathologized by modernity: theology? In this course, we will explore together how understanding poststructural currents might liberate stale practices and theologies, and lend vibrant new agency to our ministries and missions. We will explore the postmodern theologians (and the thinkers that inspired them) who see possibilities – for theology, for personal faith, and for social justice--in the depletion of the modern insistences on quasi-scientific certitude, difference obscuring metanarratives, and other outmoded-thinking. Prerequisite: CE501 or CT549. 3 credit hours.

**DS-690 United Church of Christ History and Polity**

A seminar designed to familiarize students with the history and practices of the United Church of Christ (UCC), and offered to assist students in meeting requirements of Association Committees on Church and Ministry for ordination in the denomination. This course will introduce students to the broad range of resources produced by agencies of the UCC. Students will gain familiarity with the priorities and programs of the UCC and its agencies. Offered upon request. Prerequisites: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**DS-691 Disciples of Christ History and Polity**

A brief history of the Christian Church and the personalities involved. This will include a study of the polity of the Disciples of Christ. The seminar will also deal with the structure of the regions of the general church and practical matters within the church. Offered upon request. Prerequisites: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**DS-692 Baptist History and Polity**

This seminar provides a survey of Baptist history, doctrine and polity. It will also introduce students to the resources available within the denomination. Offered upon request. Prerequisites: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**DS-694 Presbyterian History and Doctrine**

An examination of the key issues and individuals involved in the history of the Presbyterian Church. Special attention will be given to Calvin and his important theological treatises, to the development of the Reformed tradition in Scotland and the Netherlands, and to the formation of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Current issues confronting the Presbyterian Church (USA) will also be discussed in light of the historical context. Students will be especially encouraged to develop historical and theological understandings in preparation for PC(USA) ordination exams. Offered upon request. Prerequisites: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**DS-695 Presbyterian Polity and Administration**

In this experiential approach, students learn to think theologically and systemically as they apply the constitution of the church to specific issues at the congregational, presbytery, synod and general assembly levels. Attention will also be given to church administration in the Presbyterian tradition based on the theology of the church in the *Book of Order*. Prerequisite: none. 2 credit hours.

## **Christian Education**

### **ED-505 Ministry with/for/by Youth**

This course begins the exploration into ministry with, for and by youth in the American context. The course assumes a congregational-based youth ministry but will examine some para-denominational and non-denominational youth ministries. This course is required for Youth Ministry Certification. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **ED-510 Adolescent World**

This course will examine various aspects in the world of adolescents, including historical, sociological and developmental issues. Different contexts for ministry, such as the school and church, will be explored. Specialized issues such as differing ethnic perspectives and worship will also be examined. This course is required for Youth Ministry Certification. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **ED-525 Christian Education in the Urban Church**

This course explores the church's educational ministry in city parishes with special emphasis on the African-American context. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **ED-615 Ministry with Young Adults: Intimacy, Vocation and Community**

Howard Thurman's questions - "What am I to do in this world?" and "Who will go with me?" - offer starting points for exploring possible models of ministry with young adults. The course will build from these initial questions to engage multiple contexts shaping young adulthood. Some familiarity with developmental theory and social construction of adolescence is required. Prerequisite: one 500-level PT or PC course. 3 semester hours.

### **ED-630 Intergenerational and Children's Ministry**

This course addresses congregations and households as intergenerational contexts in which age level ministries are couched. Such contexts will be approached in terms of integration of age-level ministries, dynamics of intergenerational learning, family dynamics, and faith development. Particular attention will be given to ministry with children including parenting, worship, teaching/learning, and programming. Prerequisite: PT500. 3 credit hours.

### **ED-640 Ecological Religious Education**

A course exploring harmonies and dissonance between models of religious and ecological education. It is designed for individuals who are seeking ways to integrate ecological issues as an aspect of the educational life of a vibrant community. Prerequisite: PT-500 or equivalent. 3 credit hours.

### **ED-675 Educating for Peace and Justice**

A course designed to help persons involved in parish ministry who are concerned with the issues of peace and justice examine ways of integrating those concerns into the educational and spiritual life of both congregations and individuals. Prerequisite: PT-500. 3 credit hours.

### **ED-680 Creating Learning Environments**

This class explores ways that individuals and communities learn and ways diverse methods can be used to create effective learning environments in educational, pastoral, age-level, justice, or community ministries. Attention will be given to the influence of human development on learning and to the design of both single learning events and study series. Prerequisite: PT-500. 3 credit hours.

### **ED-850 Christian Education Praxis**

An opportunity for students to engage in some aspect of the teaching ministry in depth and to reflect upon the understandings and skills involved, with supervision approved by the departmental staff. See the Christian Education faculty. Prerequisite: any two ED courses. 1-3 credit hours.

## **Educated Spirit**

### **ES-500 The Educated Spirit**

This course provides an introduction to contextual and integrative aspects of theological education. Through plenary sessions and small group work, students will develop an understanding of seminary as a place to cultivate both the spirit and the intellect. Emphasis will be placed on roles of discernment and spiritual formation; critical thinking and research in a theological setting; the unique communal environment with attendance sensitivity to diverse and disparate viewpoints; and the specialized languages and methods of the various theological disciplines. Letter grade required. No prerequisite. 2 credit hours. This course is expected to be completed in the first semester. Failure to complete this course may limit registration options until it is completed.

### **ES-501 English for Theological Studies**

This course will provide targeted language support for students whose first language is not English. Students will work with the school's writing instructor and a peer conversation tutor (as needed) as they prepare class assignments and develop greater facility in written and conversational English. The course will be completed in conjunction with ES 500. No prerequisites. 1 credit hour.

## **Field Education**

### **FE-850 Field Education I**

This required course involves the student in peer reflection on ministry events. The class meets both Fall and Spring semesters. Prerequisites: The completion of one-third of the course requirements in the student's degree program, including one course in Theology and one course in Bible. The student must also be serving in a qualifying Field Education ministry setting. Students who use a CPE unit for their field education experience may not receive separate credit for the same CPE experience. This year-long course begins in fall (FE850A) and must be completed the following spring (FE850B). Scheduled as 1.5 credit hours each semester for a total of 3 credit hours. Graded at the end of spring.

### **FE-875 Field Education Internships**

Available after consultation with the Field Education staff. Prerequisite: FE-850. 3 credit hours.

## **Hebrew Bible (Old Testament)**

### **HB-510 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible**

This course introduces students to the diversity of literary and theological traditions in the Hebrew Bible. Attention is given to the formation and function of these traditions in their social contexts within ancient Israel, to the development and reinterpretations of those traditions within the biblical literature, and to the role and interpretations of those texts in the history of synagogue and church within diverse contemporary contexts. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours. Fall and Spring semesters.

### **HB-520 Elementary Biblical Hebrew**

An introduction to Hebrew, with exploration of how understanding of the Hebrew alphabet and basic grammar can aid interpretation. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours. Fall Semester, alternate years.

### **HB-620 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew**

A continuation of the introduction to language begun in HB-520 in order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of its grammatical structures and to advance basic fluency in reading the variety of literary styles found in the Hebrew Bible. Prerequisite: HB-520. 3 credit hours.

**HB/NT-641 The Dead Sea Scrolls, Jewish History and Christian Origins**

In the study of this unique Jewish literature, we will discuss the nature of the genres encompassed within the fragments from this find, their literary characteristics, their major ideas and their origins, and attempt to define the character of the group(s) that produced them and assess their impact directly and indirectly on Judaism in the Greco-Roman period and early Christianity. Prerequisite: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**HB/NT/SR-645 Introduction to Rabbinic Literature**

This course will concentrate on the literature composed and compiled prior to 500 C.E.: an initial encounter with selected rabbinic texts; a prologue to some of the major ideas at the center of these texts; and an introduction to the critical historical and literary issues attendant their study. A survey of the relationship between these texts and Jewish history will conclude the course. Prerequisites: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**HB-650 Women in the Biblical World**

This course is a survey of the role and presence of women in the biblical texts (both Old and New). It focuses on roles, theological concerns, and interpretive ways of engaging gender in biblical texts. Prerequisites: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**HB-715 Genesis**

This course involves intensive practice in listening to the specific messages of texts from Genesis and interweaving them with the students' and their communities' lives. There is a special focus on literary analysis of narrative and discernment of the complex process of formation which produced these texts. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-716 Basic Texts in the Moses Tradition**

Participants will engage in a careful reading of the narrative in Exodus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, featuring Moses' birth and call, the plagues and deliverance from Egypt, the theophany at Sinai, and the wilderness wanderings. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB/PC-720 Bible, Pastoral Care and Counseling**

This course will explore selected biblical themes, images, and figures and their relevance for pastoral care and counseling. The course will examine how the biblical narratives may be used to help reconstruct human narratives of suffering, despair, and brokenness for purposes of healing and transformation. A major concern is to engage the Bible through various exegetical approaches and issues in an interdisciplinary dialogue with pastoral care and counseling, with the goals of allowing insights from pastoral and counseling to enrich biblical interpretation and for biblical insights to inform pastoral care and counseling. Prerequisites: PC-500 or PC-640 and both HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**HB-720 Exegesis of the Hebrew Bible**

In this course students practice reading elementary Hebrew texts and draw on their knowledge of Hebrew to enrich their interpretation of those passages. Prerequisite: HB-620 (or permission of the instructor). Fall Semester, alternate years. 3 credit hours.

**HB-726 Interpreting Ruth and Esther**

This course focuses on close readings of the books of Ruth and Esther in which students learn interpretative strategies that include ideological criticisms and rhetorical criticisms. Some attention will be given to historical-critical methodologies. Students will engage the text in several media to include character sketches, short exegetical papers, and engaging ancient Afro-Asiatic comparative literature. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-730 Isaiah**

This course involves intensive practice in listening to the specific messages of texts from the Isaiah tradition, and interweaving them with the students' and their communities' lives. There is a special focus on literary analysis of poetry and discernment of the dynamic process of formation which produced the Book of Isaiah in its present form. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-731 Jeremiah**

This course involves intensive practice in listening to the specific messages of texts from Jeremiah and interweaving them with the students' and their communities' lives. There is a special focus on literary analysis of poetry, intertextuality, and theological assessment of the life and legacy of Jeremiah as a prophet and Israel as an exilic community. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-733 Samuel, Kings & Chronicles**

This course both examines the stories of the peoples and the history of early prophecy during the monarchical Israel in Samuel/Kings and compares with the records of the rise and fall of the monarchy in Chronicles of the postexilic era. To study the various dimensions of human dramas, including cultural, sociopolitical and religious realms, both literary and theological approaches will be incorporated, such as a close reading of plot, character, intertextuality, contending social groups, as well as the divine-human relationships within the narrative. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB/NT/HM-735 The Bible and Preaching in African-American Traditions**

The goal of this course is to enable a more effective cross-cultural approach to ministry. The course has a twofold purpose: examination of the hermeneutic that has evolved as a result of the methodological utilization of scripture in preaching in African-American religious traditions and cultural environment, and examination of the preaching traditions and forms that have developed. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HB-739 Daniel and Other Jewish Apocalyptic Literature**

The book of Daniel grows out of the Jewish experience with empire and persecution. This literary and socio-historical study of the book of Daniel will place the work within the context of related Jewish literature of the Graeco-Roman era, concentrating on Enoch and the Dead Sea Scrolls. The development and definition of apocalyptic literature will receive attention. A comprehensive and mature understanding of this body of literature and of the related development of various Jewish social movements and communities within the context of a global Hellenistic empire provides a basis for Christians around the world who wish to develop faithful responses to the various imperial demands of life in the world. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HM/HB-745 Preaching and Interpreting Wisdom Traditions**

This course focuses on wisdom literature, with selected portions from Ecclesiastes, Job, Proverbs, Song of Songs, and Wisdom psalms. Non-preaching students will do alternate public address of a publishable exegetical or hermeneutical essay with ample aid from the professor. Students will be exposed to liberationist forms of preaching, especially Womanist preaching strategies. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: HM-600.

**HB-745 Women in Judges**

The book of Judges is an intriguing and complex narrative, both in terms of the book as a whole and the distinct, smaller narrative units. Exploring a wide range of methodological approaches such as narrative criticism, feminist criticism, postcolonial criticism, this course will examine various depictions of women with regard to the issues of war, idolatry, and faith amid Israel's socially and theologically turbulent years, which have pertinent implications toward today's church and world. Prereq: a 600 level HB or NT course. 3 credit hours.



**HB-750 Minor Prophets**

Study of the 12 minor prophets (Hosea-Malachi) in light of historical, canonical and theological perspectives. Primary attention will be given to the interpretation of selected texts with regard to their socio-historical environments and intertextual correlation with the canon and to the theological implications for the life of the church and for contemporary issues in a global context. Selection of the specific prophetic books and texts (most of which will be derived from the lectionaries) may vary from year to year. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-760 Psalms**

A careful encounter with Israel's ancient collection of complaints and praise songs as found in Psalms and Lamentations. Special attention is paid to representative forms and formulae and to the ongoing psalm tradition in church and synagogue. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-771 Job**

An exploration of the different parts of Job, particularly as they dialogue with each other and with other parts of the biblical tradition about issues such as justice and suffering. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-780 Race, Gender, and Power in the Hebrew Bible**

This course will involve analysis of diverse biblical interpretive works presented by scholars concerning the issues related to gender, ethnicity, economy, sociopolitical power, etc. It will also engage in exegetical tasks of related biblical texts and apply those insights toward theological and hermeneutical implications for today's church and world. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB-799 Advanced Hebrew Readings**

This course provides the student the opportunity to do directed readings of the Hebrew text at an advanced level. In most cases, this credit will be offered in conjunction with an HB course (English text) in which the student is enrolled concurrently. Prerequisites HB-720 and permission of the instructor. 1 credit hour. This course is repeatable with different topics.

**HB-883 Directed Reading for MTS Concentration**

In the final year of the MTS program, a student may enroll in a directed reading and work with the faculty in the area of concentration to develop a reading list and prepare for the concentration examination. This course cannot be counted toward the MTS concentration. Graded pass/fail. 3 credit hours.

**Homiletics****HM-600 Introduction to Homiletics**

An exploration of the why, what, how and to whom of preaching in light of its history and tradition, content and context. Attention will be paid not only to the preparation and delivery of sermons, but also to the development of the capacity to evaluate one's own preaching as well as that of others. Prerequisites: CT-549, HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**HM-700 Homiletical Resources**

The course will survey the various devices preachers utilize in the preaching moment: voice, literature, culture, music, video, PowerPoint, internet, drama, imagination, and much more. Additionally, this class will guide students how to employ these tools responsibly. The itinerary will be designed to give students ample opportunities to practice preaching with different homiletical resources. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM-705 Preaching Dialectically**

Further development of preaching skills, with a focus on the dialectic as a homiletical tool in sermon development. Examines various approaches to sermon development and Gospel proclamation with special attention to the work of Gardner C. Taylor. Prerequisite: HM-600. 2 credit hours.

**NT/HM-710 New Testament Rhetoric and Preaching**

The goal of this course is to explore various literary and rhetorical forms found in Christian scriptures, such as parables and controversy/pronouncement stories, as well as paraenetic portions of Paul's epistles, to discern how these forms function. In the context of such study, class members will develop sermons that performatively function in the same way with contemporary hearers. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM-715 Preaching the Specialized Sermon**

This course will offer an examination of the issues involved and areas to be considered in the design and development of specialized and occasional sermons, including funeral sermons, topical sermons and social sermons. Students will have opportunity to enhance their preaching skills as they develop sermons to be presented in class. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM-725 Spirituality as a Foundation for Preaching**

The aim of this course is to inspire the student toward an enhanced spirituality as a foundation for sermon preparation. The course will require practice in preaching and include a survey of the rich traditions of spiritual exercises, including prayer, Bible study and meditation. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM-730 Community Organizing and Preaching: Power, Action, and Justice**

This course combines preaching with community organizing concepts. The purpose of the course is for students to learn the principles of community organizing, understand how the concepts can be used in a variety of ministerial settings, and combine those principles in their preaching. Students will learn how community organizing principles can be used in a variety of venues and organizations to achieve justice and change, effectively. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HB/NT/HM-735 The Bible and Preaching in African-American Traditions**

The goal of this course is to enable a more effective cross-cultural approach to ministry. The course has a twofold purpose: examination of the hermeneutic that has evolved as a result of the methodological utilization of scripture in preaching in the African-American religious tradition and cultural environment, and examination of the preaching traditions and forms that have developed. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM-740 Narrative, Faith Development, and Prophetic Preaching**

This course will explore the theory and practice of narrative as a vehicle for promoting both personal faith development and social justice. We will explore the foundations of narrative in theology and communication theory that explain the effectiveness of narrative and practice skills for thinking and preaching more effectively through narrative. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM/HB-745 Preaching and Interpreting Wisdom Traditions**

This course focuses on wisdom literature, with selected portions from Ecclesiastes, Job, Proverbs, Song of Songs, and Wisdom psalms. Non-preaching students will do alternate public address of a publishable exegetical or hermeneutical essay with ample aid from the professor. Students will be exposed to liberationist forms of preaching, especially Womanist preaching strategies. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: HM-600.

**HM/WO-760 Preaching Through the Christian Year**

This course will explore the historical and theological foundations of the seasons and flow of the Christian year and relate them to preaching. Students will prepare and present sermons for the various liturgical seasons and holy days. Prerequisites: HM-600 and WO-500. 3 credit hours.

**HM-765 Auto/biographies for Preaching**

This course seeks to introduce students to reading biographies/autobiographies by or about preachers in order to help them reflect on their formation as a preacher; and to help them learn best practices for using story and personal story in preaching. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM-770 Storytelling Techniques**

This course will explore the joyful process of crafting narrative sermons. Students will learn how to capture and keep listeners' attention, how to generate suspense through structure, and how to increase impact with vivid language. Students will prepare two sermons for peer review. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**HM-799 Special Topics in Preaching**

This course will focus on special topics in preaching and sermon preparation, including but not limited to preaching for funerals, weddings, and other special occasions. Prerequisite: HM-600 or permission. 1 credit hour. May be repeated for credit if topics are different.

**The Interprofessional Commission of Ohio****IC-810 Seminar on Ethical Issues Common to the Helping Professions**

This seminar is an interprofessional study of ethical problems arising out of advanced technology and encountered increasingly by professionals in allied health, education, counseling, law, medicine, nursing, social work and theology. Typical of the problems to be explored are those that cannot be solved by one profession alone – death and dying, genetic manipulation, professional accountability, privacy and confidentiality, and professional boundaries. Based upon case studies, the seminar will enhance both professional competence and interprofessional insights into ethical issues of broad and social consequence. Limit: Four students from each school in the Theological Consortium may enroll. Meets near the Ohio State University campus and runs on OSU calendar. Fall Semester. Prerequisite: CE-501. 2 credit hours.

**IC-830 Seminar on Interprofessional Care**

Engaging students from nine professions – allied health, education, counseling, law, medicine, nursing, social work, substance abuse and theology – treatment plans are designed for clients presented in cases. Students collaborate to understand complex problems of clients; to research multi-professional issues; to foster interprofessional student and faculty dialogue; and to develop a holistic approach to case presentation. Course meets on the OSU campus and follows the Ohio State University calendar. Limit: four students from each theological school and an additional eight MACM students. Prerequisites: one course in Theology or Bible, plus one course in the Practical Division (for MACM Addiction Track students, this must be PC-555). 2 credit hours.

**IC-850 Collaboration in Urban Communities**

Develop and practice skills necessary for inter-professional collaboration in solving complex human problems. Students, faculty, community residents and professionals offer research-based solutions to community identified challenges. Focus on community asset mapping, best professional and inter-professional practices, and teamwork. Case based and community involvement. Limit: Four students from each school in the Theological Consortium may enroll. Meets near the Ohio State University campus and runs on OSU calendar. Prerequisite: none. 3 credit hours.

## Leadership Studies

### **LS-525 Faith, Money, and Stewardship**

Students will learn both practical and theological significance of money for faith by developing a stewardship model based on generosity. Faith-based fundraising perspectives and skills will shape a theology of money and a plan for nurturing generous givers throughout ministry. The outcome of the course will be student ability to shape the nature of stewardship to create generous organizations/congregations. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **LS-625 Church Growth with Integrity**

This class will critique methodologically and theologically the popular church growth models. A theology of church growth will be developed throughout the term, based on church visitation and qualitative and quantitative research, followed by group interpretation and synthesis of information. The course will culminate in a class project that designs a church growth process that is theologically and spiritually based. Integration of reading and experience will be required. Prerequisite: PT-500. 3 credit hours.

### **LS-650 Conflict Management**

Conflict management theories will be introduced in this course in depth. Leadership skills will be promoted with specific attention to managing – or solving, when possible – conflict. Case study and skill-development work will be included in this course. Prerequisite: PT-500 or permission of the instructor. 3 credit hours.

### **LS-675 Leading Transformational Change**

Change is inevitable in the life of leadership; transformational change affects not only the individual but whole communities. This course will look at biblical, historical and theological perspectives of transformational change as a means to discovering the impact of transformational change for church and community. Meaningful change that makes an impact on the community requires particular work for leadership. Integration of resources and group process will inform a final project in this course. Prerequisite: PT-500. 3 credit hours.

### **LS/CE-735: Women and the Ethics of Leadership**

This course will focus on women's leadership from womanist, mujerista and feminist perspectives, incorporating ethical issues women face in arenas of work and ministry. The goal is to create alternative practices for women to develop as effective leaders. Critiques of current understandings of power and leadership ethics, narratives and research by women will be focal resources for students. Prerequisites: PT-500, CT-549 and CE-501.

## Mission and Evangelism

### **ME-530 Spirituality for Ministry**

This course will explore seven themes that are foundational for the spirituality of Christian ministry: conversion; call and commitment; prayer; Word; community; simplicity; and journey inward, journey outward. Students will be introduced to the major theological and practical dimensions of spirituality and will be encouraged to apply them to their own spiritual journeys and ministry. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **ME-570 Mission of the Church in the Contemporary World**

This course will explore the nature and mission of the church in the contemporary world. Attention will be given to theological and ethical understandings of the relationship between the church and culture. The mission of the church will be looked at through the four different roles of the church in relation to society: "Prophet," "Community," "Servant" and "Witness." Students will be encouraged to construct their own understanding of the nature and mission of the church, which could be translated into a missional ecclesiology appropriate to their own ministry contexts. This course will combine lectures, class discussion and a site visit. No prerequisite, but completion of CT-549 or CE-501 is strongly recommended. 3 credit hours.

### **ME-580 Mission of the Church in a Multicultural Society**

This course intends to help students understand the mission of the church, as well as gain competence in ministering, in a multicultural context. Attention will be given to biblical and theological views of multiculturalism in relation to congregational mission and life. The mission of the church will also be explored through the themes of “reconciliation,” “marginality,” and “hospitality.” No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **ME-590 Mission of the Church in Global Context**

This course will explore Christian mission in global context with an eye for its paradigm shifts. It will carefully examine the historical development of the missionary movement as well as the current issues and challenges facing mission today. Special attention will be given to the cross-cultural process in the transmission of the Christian faith and to the future of the missionary movement in light of the demographic shift of the center of gravity of Christianity toward the Southern Hemisphere continents. Furthermore, mission theories of some major thinkers in missiology – in particular, David Bosch and Andrew F. Walls – will be studied. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **ME-670 The Ministry of Evangelism: Theology and Practice**

This course will help students construct their own theology of evangelism on biblical and theological foundations and will assist them in developing a program of evangelism appropriate to their ministry contexts. Attention will be given to the place of evangelism within the whole mission of the church and to its relationship to social justice. Contemporary models and strategies of evangelism will be introduced and theologically critiqued. Students will be encouraged to develop a style of faith-sharing that reflects their theology and their uniqueness, and to have some practical experience in witnessing. This course fulfills one of the requirements for ordination as deacon or elder in the United Methodist Church. Prerequisite: ME-570, ME-580, or ME-590, or permission. 3 credit hours.

### **ME-680 Biblical Paradigms for the Practice of Evangelism**

This course intends to explore the evangelistic praxis of Jesus and of the Church in the New Testament in search for integral paradigms for the contemporary practice of evangelism. Students will be encouraged to develop a model of evangelism that is grounded in the *missio Dei* and a faithful understanding of the gospel as well as culturally and contextually relevant. Prerequisite: ME-570, ME-580, or ME-590, or permission. 3 credit hours.

## **New Testament**

### **NT-510 Introduction to the New Testament**

A survey of the writings of the New Testament, giving attention to its distinct voices as witnesses to the formative years of Christianity, as sources for theological reflection and as resources for Christian ministry. Goals for the course are to provide (1) basic knowledge of the content of the New Testament; (2) an introduction to the perennial critical questions concerning these texts; and (3) beginning practice in creative, ethical and intellectually responsible interpretation. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours. Fall and Spring semesters.

### **NT-520 Elementary Biblical Greek I**

A study of the elements of New Testament Greek in order to prepare the student for reading and interpretation of the Greek New Testament. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours. Fall Semester, alternate years.

### **NT-620 Elementary Biblical Greek II**

A continuation of NT-520. Students will begin to look at selected passages in the Greek New Testament. Prerequisite: NT-520 (or equivalent). 3 credit hours. Spring Semester, alternate years.

**NT/SR-630 Gender in Ancient Religion**

This course will examine Jewish, Christian, Greek, and Roman primary evidence in dialogue with current theory in gender, cultural, and feminist studies to understand the cultural and social dynamics of gender in myth, public and domestic religious practice, magic, healing, and sacred space. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: a 500-level SR course and either HB-510 or NT-510.

**HB/NT-641 The Dead Sea Scrolls, Jewish History and Christian Origins**

In the study of this unique Jewish literature, we will discuss the nature of the genres encompassed within the fragments from this find, their literary characteristics, their major ideas and their origins, and attempt to define the character of the group(s) that produced them and assess their impact directly and indirectly on Judaism in the Greco-Roman period and early Christianity. Prerequisite: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**HB/NT/SR-645 Introduction to Rabbinic Literature**

This course will concentrate on the literature composed and compiled prior to 500 C.E.: an initial encounter with selected rabbinic texts; a prologue to some of the major ideas at the center of these texts; and an introduction to the critical historical and literary issues attendant their study. A survey of the relationship between these texts and Jewish history will conclude the course. Prerequisites: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**NT-650 Reading Early Christian Fiction**

A study of the Apocryphal Acts against the backdrop of Jewish and Greek novelistic literature. Particular attention is given to the interplay of narrative strategies and social dynamics, especially conceptions of gender/sexuality and ethnic/religious identity. Prerequisites: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**NT-660 Expressions of Identity in Second Temple Judaism**

This course will investigate the complex and diverse process of identity formation and expression of Jews living in the multi-cultural world of the Ancient Mediterranean during the Second Temple period. We will examine leading theories of ethnic identity and examine primary texts from Jewish, Roman and Greek sources to understand (1) what might distinguish a Jew from other groups in the ancient world; (2) what might distinguish groups of Jews from each other; and (3) how group dynamics, geographical setting and social location might affect identity formation and expression among Jews. Prerequisite: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**NT/HM-710 New Testament Rhetoric and Preaching**

The goal of this course is to explore various literary and rhetorical forms found in Christian scriptures, such as parables and controversy/pronouncement stories, as well as paraenetic portions of Paul's epistles, to discern how these forms function. In the context of such study, class members will develop sermons that performatively function in the same way with contemporary hearers. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**NT-720 Exegesis of the Greek New Testament**

The study of Greek is put to use in the interpretation of a New Testament writing. Improved knowledge of Greek, skill in exegetical method and theological understandings of the writing's message are important goals in this course. Prerequisite: NT-620 or a knowledge of Koine Greek. 3 credit hours.

**NT-727 The Corinthian Correspondence**

This course is a study of the issues of the Corinthian congregation, of Paul's fluid position of authority in the congregation, and the sequence of events that are marked by Paul's letter to the community. Requirements include participation in weekly discussions based upon assigned readings, an oral presentation on assigned topics peculiar to the Corinthian letters, and a final exegetical paper on selected Corinthian passages. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**HB/NT/HM-735 The Bible and Preaching in African-American Traditions**

The goal of this course is to enable a more effective cross-cultural approach to ministry. The course has a twofold purpose: examination of the hermeneutic that has evolved as a result of the methodological utilization of scripture in preaching in the African-American religious tradition and cultural environment, and examination of the preaching traditions and forms that have developed. Prerequisite: HM-600. 3 credit hours.

**NT/SR-736 Paul, Jews and Gentiles**

Focusing primarily upon Paul's letters to the Galatians and the Romans, this course examines Paul's view of the law and Jewish beliefs of the time to develop a better understanding of his arguments about Christ and the Gentiles. Attention will be given to the manner in which these questions are intertwined with the issue of anti-Judaism in their treatment by Pauline scholars. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**NT-750 The Sayings of Jesus**

A study of primitive sources for Jesus sayings: Synoptic Sayings Source (Q), Gospel of Thomas, Sermon on the Mount, and several papyrus gospels, such as Egerton 2, Oxyrhynchus 840. Attention is devoted to questions of genre and composition, and the process of transmission. Insight is sought into the communities which produced these documents and into the historical Jesus' message. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**NT-751 Matthew**

This course examines the Gospel of Matthew within the perspective of the developments within Second Temple Judaism. It also encompasses the variety of modern methods of biblical study which have been employed in the evaluation of the meaning and significance of this Gospel. Major commentaries on the first Gospel are examined and evaluated. Particular attention is paid to the methods of sociological analysis and social history. An exegesis of selected texts is required. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**NT-752 Mark**

In this seminar we will discuss the Second Gospel in detail in its literary, social and cultural contexts, using the exegetical techniques and hermeneutical theory that have been discussed in the 100- and 600-level classes. We will also explore the many unique dimensions of the Gospel in order to determine Mark's understanding of Jesus, God, the disciples, and Jesus' life, death and resurrection. An important emphasis of this class will be honing the ability of the participants to articulate a sustained interpretation of this Gospel in both oral and written forms. Prerequisite: HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**NT-753 Luke**

Study of the Gospel of Luke as a unified narrative in order to understand how alert readers might responsibly interact with this work. Students will contribute to the exegesis of passages through discussion and papers. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**NT-754 John**

In this seminar we will discuss the Fourth Gospel in detail in its literary, social and cultural contexts, using the exegetical techniques and hermeneutical theory that have been discussed in the 100- and 600-level classes. We will also explore the many unique dimensions of the Gospel in order to determine John's understanding of Jesus, God, the disciples, and Jesus' life, death and resurrection. An important emphasis of this class will be honing the ability of the participants to articulate a sustained interpretation of this Gospel in both oral and written forms. Prerequisite: HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

**NT-761 Romans**

Exegetical study of Romans. In light of the divisive effect of religion today, special attention will be given to Paul's proclamation of a gospel that transcends religious divisions and unites the world's peoples. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

### **NT-770 Hebrews**

This course will examine the Letter to the Hebrews in its literary and cultural context. By combining a sustained reading of the text using the methods developed in the three prerequisite Bible courses (literary, historical and social/cultural analysis), we will examine the main themes of the letter, the structure of its argumentation, and its mingling of Greek, Roman and Jewish cultural categories to explore its meaning. We will also consider the implications of this letter for 21st century Jewish-Christian relations. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

### **NT-799 Advanced Greek Readings**

This course provides the student the opportunity to do directed readings of the Greek text at an advanced level. In most cases, this credit will be offered in conjunction with an NT course (English text) in which the student is enrolled concurrently. Prerequisite: NT-720 and permission of the instructor. 1 credit hour. This course is repeatable with different topics.

### **NT-820 Advanced New Testament Greek Exegesis**

This course will move beyond the basics of learning Greek language skills and basic exegesis of isolated passages. The focus will be upon one (or two short) NT books, in which exegesis will arise from the students' own translation from the Greek. The students will acquire a more nuanced understanding of Greek grammar and syntax than is possible in the introductory language courses. In addition, the students will practice the art of exegesis with critical methods appropriate to the selected NT text(s). Because of the limited focus of the primary text(s), the students will engage significant works within the secondary literature. This course may be taken more than once if the subject matter is different. Prerequisite: NT-520, 620 and 720. 3 credit hours.

### **NT-883 Directed Reading for MTS Concentration**

In the final year of the MTS program, a student may enroll in a directed reading and work with the faculty in the area of concentration to develop a reading list and prepare for the concentration examination. This course cannot be counted toward the MTS concentration. Graded pass/fail. 3 credit hours.

## **Pastoral Care and Counseling**

### **PC-500 Introduction to Pastoral Care**

This introductory course in pastoral care is designed to acquaint the student with the biblical, theological and psychological bases for contemporary pastoral care. In addition to exploring models of the minister as coordinator, giver and recipient of care, the course will address personal, congregational and social issues commonly encountered in the practice of ministry. The course will include exercises for the development of self-awareness and professional skills necessary for pastoral care, and will explore the relationship between pastoral care and interpersonal and social justice. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **PC-510 Clinical Pastoral Education**

A supervised intensive engagement/reflection approach to pastoral care in training centers certified by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education or approved by the faculty. A "basic unit" of CPE is 400-plus hours; these are often offered full-time in the summer (10 weeks at 40 hours per week) or in "extended units" (part-time) during the academic year (fewer hours per week for more weeks; the pattern varies). A student may earn between three and six semester credit hours by taking a "basic unit" of CPE. Students may register for an additional three credit hours if a second unit of CPE is taken. Contact Dr. Nyengele. Credit is awarded once a copy of the final CPE evaluations are received in the Academic Affairs. Students must request both the supervisor's and their own final signed evaluations from their clinical site. Prerequisite: PC-500 is strongly recommended. 3 or 6 credit hours.



**PC-555 Introduction to Chemical Dependency Ministries**

This course will focus on alcohol and other drug dependency (AODD) as a framework for understanding other addictive behaviors. As an orientation to the field of AODD, this course will introduce participants to a variety of prototypical ministries which focus on addiction prevention, intervention and treatment. Small learning groups will provide opportunities for students to articulate and integrate personal life experience, faith journey, and theological assumptions in light of critical reflection from course theory and practice. Basic identification and detection skills will be outlined. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PC-613 Theories of the Development of the Self and the Life Cycle**

Exploration of selected theories of human development and the life cycle, with a focus on the development of a sense of self. Attention will also be given to relational, social, cultural and spiritual/religious factors in the development of self. Course participants will read theorists from selected schools such as object relations theory, self/ego psychology, self-in-relation theory, faith development theory and others, to examine, clarify and reflect on the various phases of human development and their relevance in pastoral care and counseling. Prerequisite: PC-500, 510 or 555. 3 credit hours.

**PC-621 Family Systems Therapy**

Students will have the opportunity to learn various aspects of family systems theory. Course objectives will be for students to define and investigate the dynamics of family systems by studying a number of family systems theories; to become aware of the varied problems and strengths of family systems; to include chemically dependent/co-dependent families and recovering families; to learn assessment skills and skills for making practical therapeutic interventions; to learn about their own family of origin dynamics and to use this learning as a tool for self-growth. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555 or permission of the instructor. 3 credit hours.

**PC-630 Research Methods for Counselors**

This course provides an introduction to major principles, strategies and instruments in social science research, including descriptive statistical foundations. The purpose of the course is to (a) familiarize students with basic strategies used to conduct research in the helping professions; (b) familiarize students with the basic methodology for collecting and interpreting data typically reported in the helping professions; (c) familiarize students with the basic conventions for published reporting in their fields of interest; and (d) provide students with knowledge and skills to become critical consumers of social science research as applied to their fields of study. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555. 3 credit hours.

**PC-631 Assessment and Appraisal of Individuals in Counseling**

This course will provide diverse opportunities for students to gain theoretical and functional knowledge of evaluation and assessment procedures, which are utilized in educational and psychological contexts. Students will also learn about selective testing models, basic competencies, assessment procedures, alternative appraisal techniques, testing special populations and communicating testing results. Critical ethnic and cultural issues in assessment, intake interviewing, and treatment planning will also be reviewed. Prerequisites: PC-500 or PC-555. 3 credit hours.

**PC-640 Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy I**

This course will provide a survey of the major approaches to counseling and psychotherapy, including psychodynamic, depth existential, cognitive-behavioral, group and family systems. The unity and diversity among these counseling and psycho-therapeutic orientations will be explored with a focus on their implications for counseling practice. Participants will be encouraged to develop an integrative approach to assessing and treating a variety of issues. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555. 3 credit hours.

**PC-655 Alcoholism and Other Addiction Counseling**

Counseling theory and techniques for assessment, intervention and treatment in chemical dependency. The course is organized to cover the core functions in professional practice and the minimal counseling competencies, including a case demonstration. Students will learn diagnostic and treatment planning skills, various counseling techniques, and documentation procedures. Prerequisite: PC-555. 3 credit hours.

**PC-657 Group Therapy**

This course offers a theoretical and experiential perspective in group therapy for professional counselors and other helping professionals. The class will provide instruction in group therapy theory and practice, stages in the development of a therapy group, and techniques relevant to broad issues and problems in counseling and psychotherapy. This course will address specialty groups and persons in specific demographic categories. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555. 3 credit hours.

**PC-660 African-American Pastoral Care**

This course will explore the nature and form of African-American caring patterns. Different in perspective, historically and developmentally, from American pastoral care in general, pastoral care has emerged from the following five structures for empathic caring: the symbolic world view, the role of the black preacher, the family, the extended family and the church as a support system. Students will examine contemporary black American pastoral theorists and practitioners as they define the traditional functions of pastoral care – reconciling, healing, sustaining and guiding – from the perspective of human wholeness in light of the black religious experience. Prerequisite: PC-500 or permission of the instructor. 3 credit hours.

**PC-665 Pastoral and Psychological Facilitation of Forgiveness**

In a Christian frame of reference, forgiveness is often seen as the very center of faith and life. In psychotherapeutic circles, the capacity to forgive has been acknowledged as a “hallmark of successful psychotherapy.” It bridges and heals alienation, isolation and conflicts in human relationships. In this course, we will study theological and pastoral psychological perspectives on specific injuries or insults to the self. Issues such as aggression, violence, rage, anger, abuse and assertiveness will be considered in relation to forgiveness. Particular attention will be given to methodological concerns, dangers, and possibilities for mediating healing and facilitating forgiveness in interpersonal, congregational and social contexts. Prerequisite: PC-500. 3 credit hours.

**PC-672 Trauma and Narrative Pastoral Counseling**

A study of the phenomenon of trauma in its various forms-including domestic violence, war trauma, natural disasters, cultural trauma, and postcolonial trauma. Attention will be given to developmental, psychological, clinical, cultural, and theological perspectives, with a special focus on how narrative pastoral counseling facilitates recovery and transformation, by means of the process of authoring and re-authoring lives through stories. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555 or permission of the instructor.

**PC-680 Psychopathology for Counselors**

This course acquaints students with the varieties of mental, emotional and behavioral disorders that counselors are likely to encounter. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555. 3 credit hours.

**PC-711 Multicultural Perspectives and Issues in Pastoral Counseling**

This course will examine multicultural perspectives and special issues that emerge in the practice of counseling with persons from diverse cultural backgrounds. Throughout the course we will study the impact of the issues of cultural particularity and diversity on the theory and practice of pastoral counseling, including the learning of perspectives and skills which will enable students to offer culturally sensitive pastoral counseling within, between and across cultures. The course will also explore the nature and function of culture from theological and psychosocial perspectives in order to identify specific theoretical and practical issues related to cross-cultural and spiritual dimensions of counseling. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555. 3 credit hours.

**HB/PC-720 Bible, Pastoral Care and Counseling**

This course will explore selected biblical themes, images, and figures and their relevance for pastoral care and counseling. Focus will also be placed on identifying some biblical practices and approaches, and how these may inform the pastoral process in pastoral caregiving. In addition, the course will also consider how the biblical narrative may be used to help reconstruct human narratives of suffering, despair, and brokenness for purposes of healing and transformation of persons. A major concern is to ground pastoral care and counseling in the biblical tradition, as well as to allow insights from pastoral care to inform biblical interpretation for teaching and preaching and, thus, encourage an integrative practice of ministry. Prerequisites: PC-500 or PC-640 and both HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.

**PC-721 Gender, Culture and Pastoral Counseling**

Gender studies have uncovered a variety of socially constructed differences that organize human relationships and the culture of dominance and subordination. They provide a broad analysis of social order and how human behavior is influenced by gender socialization. The purpose of this course is to examine women's and men's problems related to conceptions of gender in interpersonal relationships. The course will explore the cultural biases and distortions at the root of women's struggles and men's struggles with changing gender expectations (and the need of support in dealing with these changes). Special emphasis will be placed on exploring gender-sensitive approaches to care and counseling of women and men vis-à-vis gender issues. Cross-cultural perspectives on gender issues will also be considered. Prerequisite: PC-500, PC-640, PC-655 or PC-680. 3 credit hours.

**PC-731 Life Planning Assessment and Career Development**

This course will provide students with a foundational understanding of career development principles and concepts. By exploring and analyzing current developments in the theory and practice of career development and services, students will gain a working knowledge of practical counseling objectives, programs and strategies. Special topics will include models of career guidance, special populations, schools, higher education, disabilities and multicultural issues. Research projects will involve field investigations in career counseling contexts or systems. Prerequisite: Any 600-level PC-course. 3 credit hours.

**PC-740 Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy II**

This course will intensively examine nine contemporary theories of counseling. In the application of theory, students will be challenged to develop a deeper understanding of the counseling process and the complex dynamics (personal and professional) involved in the counseling relationship. Students will bring together various approaches to develop their own therapeutic style, as well as integrate a pastoral counseling-oriented strategy into mainstream approaches to professional counseling and psychotherapy. Prerequisite: PC-613 or PC-640. 3 credit hours.

**PC-756 Spiritual Dimensions of Illness and Recovery**

This course will focus on the spiritual factors affecting and influencing the processes of illness and wellness. The course will use addiction and physically challenging conditions to consider how health, disease, recovery and wellness are currently conceptualized. The class will address the assessment and treatment of the spiritual dimension of the human will to live as well.

Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555. 1.5 credit hours.

**PC-771 Grief Care and Counseling**

Grief is a painful, complex and universal experience occasioned by loss and/or separation from a loved person or object. This course will explore the multiple dimensions of grief by familiarizing students with bereavement, normal and atypical/pathological grief. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the dynamics and process of grief and loss, developing counseling skills necessary for facilitating healing, as well as on theories of recovery, including the role of spirituality (i.e., faith) and insights from the social sciences. Fictionalized accounts of bereavement and grief will provide the case material for study and analysis. Ethnic variations in grieving will also be considered. Prerequisite: PC-500, PC-640, PC-655 or PC-680. 3 credit hours. (Students may take a modified version of this course for 1.5 credit hours if desired.)

**PC-772 Integrating Spirituality and Pastoral Care**

During the 21st century, spiritual issues and spiritual values have gained increasing recognition as valid dimensions in holistic treatment. The vast field of behavioral sciences has come to acknowledge the importance of spirituality in mental, emotional and physical healing. This course will address models and themes that examine the creative interface between spiritual disciplines/arts and clinical dynamics/processes. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the unique contributions of pastoral counseling as a healing art and clinical science. 1.5 credit hours. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555.

**PC-780 Professional Counselor Practices**

This course includes a discussion of professional issues in the counseling profession. The course addresses counselor needs and values; professional behavior and ethics; the art of ethical decision-making; the legal implications of counseling; licensure requirements; the implications of diagnosis; and the purpose of professional organizations. Prerequisite: PC-631 or PC-640. 3 credit hours.

**PC-782 Diagnosis of Mental and Emotional Disorders**

This course will focus on the appropriate use of the current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders* and an understanding of the International Classification of Diseases. Focus on conducting mental and status examinations, and on the development and recognition of a framework for identifying symptomology, etiology and psychodynamics of mental and emotional disorders. Prerequisite: PC-640, PC-655 or PC-680. 3 credit hours.

**PC-783 Treatment of Mental and Emotional Disorders**

This course will focus on developing and implementing a treatment plan, reporting and assessing progress of treatment, appropriate referral procedures, formulation of timelines for treatment, and knowing the effect on client behavior of psychotropic medications and mood-altering chemicals in the treatment of mental and emotional disorders. Prerequisite: PC-640, PC-655 or PC-680. 3 credit hours.

**PC-784 Evaluation of Mental and Emotional Disorders**

This course will focus on diagnosis and treatment planning. The primary emphasis will be on administering individual and group standardized tests of mental ability and personality measurement. Prerequisite: PC-640, PC-655 or PC-680. 3 credit hours.

### **PC-785 Counseling Interventions with Troubled Youth**

This course will focus on the employment of clinical intervention strategies and techniques for troubled youth. The primary emphasis will be critical insights and advanced skills for generating and guiding optimum collaboration, balance and growth within the individual, the family and the social system. Prerequisite: PC-500 or PC-555. (1.5 credit hours)

### **PC-850A Supervised Internship (400 or 480 hours) for Tracks I and II**

This field experience allows students to practically apply the core functions and competencies required of professional counselors. The student will provide “hands-on” services under the administrative and teaching supervision of qualified on-site staff. Students will reflect on their work, receive feedback from supervisor and peers, and monitor their professional and personal development as service providers. 400 or 480 hours of field experience. Prerequisites for Addiction Counseling: PC-640, PC-655 and PC-657. Prerequisites for Pastoral Care and Counseling: PC-631, PC-640 and PC-680 or PC-784. Open to M.Div. students by special permission. 3 credit hours. Graded CR/NC.

### **PC-850B Supervised Internship Continuation**

Continuation of PC850A. No credit.

### **PC-860 Supervised Practicum (100 hours, 40 hours direct) for Track III**

This counseling laboratory will afford students the opportunity to identify, organize and expand basic counseling competencies and skills while under supervision. A key objective is for students to use current skills more effectively and efficiently. Students will gain new skills that focus on interviewing, problem solving, and professional intervention strategies in the full range of counseling options. Counseling sessions will be tape recorded and reviewed weekly. Offered summers only. Prerequisites: PC-640 and 740. 3 credit hours.

### **PC-870ABCD Supervised Internship (600 hours, 300 direct) for Track III**

This experiential course is designed as an integrative field placement. Students are expected to engage in an on-site counseling program where at least half of the internship hours will include diagnosis and treatment and allow the application of Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries Track III curriculum content under the direction of an approved site supervisor who holds a LPCC license with a supervising designation and MTSO faculty. Students will also fully attend and actively participate in the required clinical didactic component associated with the clinical internship. If graduating MACM students enrolled in PC-870 have less than 200 outstanding clinical hours at the time of commencement, but all other academic work is completed, they may walk in the commencement ceremony without receiving their diploma. A minimum of 400 hours must be completed. The date of graduation will be changed to the graduation date for the term in which the work is completed. Internship supervisors must submit a report of satisfactory progress to the MACM Director prior to the faculty vote on degree candidates. Prerequisites: PC-640, PC-740, and PC-860. This internship must be completed over the course of the Fall, January and Spring terms. 6 credit hours. PC-870A (3 credit hours) is in the Fall term. PC-870B (1 credit hour) is in January term. PC-870C (2 credit hours) is in Spring term. PC-870D (0 credit hours) is used when students are continuing to complete their hours into a new term. Graded CR/NC.

## **Practical Theology**

### **PT-500 Leadership, Learning and Community Formation**

The purpose is to explore teaching and learning in faith community contexts in a post-Christendom, globalizing era. Students will develop a clear theology and philosophy of transformative education and leadership, a good understanding of personal leadership and teaching styles, and a personal understanding of vocation as educator and leader. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PT-505 Theology and Practices of Ministry**

This course will survey major Christian doctrines and ways of doing and teaching theology through various practices of ministry, especially in Christian education, youth ministry and evangelism. The discipline of practical theology will be used to bring together doctrine and contextual ministry. Students will draw upon methods of congregational study, practical theology and education for developing practices of ministry that equip persons for Christian vocation. As a result of this course, learners should be able to: (a) engage issues of doctrine, (b) understand approaches to practical theology, (c) understand basic categories for studying parish cultures, (d) reflect theologically on issues impacting parish life, (e) use methods of congregational study to develop a working theology of a parish and (f) develop strategies for working with educational ecologies in particular parish settings. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PT-510 Engaging the Bible in Congregation and Community**

An exploration of the nature of the Bible and its role in congregations and communities. Particular themes will be explored in their various biblical contexts and in relation to the contemporary world. Particular attention will be given to approaches to engaging the Bible as the church's book of faith and life. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PT-525 Being with the Poor**

This class will provide students experiential opportunities to identify and enhance their affinity for engaging in ministry with the poor. Students will study differences between middle and low income persons. Students will be encouraged to develop personal and programmatic approaches to bridge these differences and create positive connections with persons who are poor. Emphasis will be placed on accompaniment and empowerment as persons in poverty identify their own aspirations for transformation. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PT-530 Congregations and Communities as Partners in Ministry with the Poor**

Effective ministry with the poor is asset based and the most valuable asset is the people themselves. This class will examine best practices used by congregations and community groups for launching and growing ministries with the poor that are asset based and sustainable. Attention will be given to effective congregationally based worship, disciple making, direct services, and community development initiatives. The study of community partnerships will explore strategies for identifying community based assets (including anchor institutions), developing healthy partnerships, and principles of social entrepreneurship. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PT-540 Doing Our Own Work: An Anti-Racism Intensive for White People**

Students will explore how white people can and must move through denial, guilt, shame, and fear so they can take action with greater anti-racist awareness and courage, humility, and compassion to participate in movements led by people of color. Utilizing theological and biblical resources, students will learn to help build "beloved communities" and sustain this anti-racist journey. 3 credit hours. No prerequisite.

**PT-550 Spirituality**

This course explores the nature of spirituality and ways to nurture spirituality. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PT-600 Food, Land, and Faith Formation**

Through urban gardening, community supported agriculture, farmer's markets or intentional agrarian communities, young people are constructing new relationships with food, land, and community. In doing so, they are exploring understandings of faith and spirituality through ideas and metaphors reflecting their commitments to community and agrarian values. This course explores this ecology of these relationships. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: PT-500 or permission.

**PT-605 Practical Theology and Ecology**

The changing climate and multiple vectors of ecological stress are coming together to create the great crisis of our time. Contemporary ethics, spirituality, biblical scholarship, and theology are exploring this crisis and offering avenues for hope. This course seeks the best thought in multiple disciplines for our thinking and synthesis. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: PT-500 or permission.

**PT-610 Spiritual Formation and Social Change**

Many 20th century social activists have responded to the world's need as a response growing out of their faith and spiritual practice. This course explores connections between a life of faith grounded in spiritual practice and a hunger for justice. In this exploration, we begin with the assumption that spiritual formation is not an individual task, but rather the practice of formation in community. This course looks at personal and corporate practices of spiritual formation as catalyst and support for social change. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

**PT-615 Prophetic Hope and Creative Practice**

Contemporary human cultures rely on systems that exploit our earth and diminish its capacity to sustain life. Many people find it increasingly difficult to articulate hope or sustain a vision for a future in which all creatures can thrive on our abundant earth. This course engages the creative work of poets, artists, musicians, and filmmakers as spiritual practices supporting communities in the midst of ecological, economic, political, and cultural challenges. Students will explore theology and the arts as sources for articulating hope, constructing resilient communities, and renewing heart and spirit. Prerequisite: PT-500. 3 credit hours.

**PT/WO-620 Worship, Ecology, and Social Change**

This course will study worship resources and approaches to worship and pastoral rites (weddings, funerals, times of healing, and public rituals), from the lens of ecology and social change. Prerequisites: PT-500 and WO-500. 3 credit hours.

**PT/SR-635 Celtic Spirituality**

The course will explore the history and theology of the people called Celts and will discuss the impact of a particularly Celtic focus on spiritual life for today's Christian. Prerequisites: CH-501, any 500-level SR course, and one from ME-530, PT-550, PT-610 or PT-615. 3 credit hours.

**PT-640 Knowing Where We Dwell**

This course fosters knowing the places in which we dwell through critical methods of interpretation, theological reflection, and discernment. Knowing where we dwell requires attention to land, physical spaces, and our web of social settings. Students will engage place through photography, mapping, ethnography, and social research. Knowing "place" facilitates discerning God's activity in the world and in turn vocation. Prerequisite: PT-500. 3 credit hours.

**PT-700 Dialogues in Faith and Science**

The purpose of this course is to engage in meaningful discourse between science and theology for the purpose of developing a thoughtful, relevant faith conversant with scientific discovery and progress. Contemporary discoveries in neuroscience, cosmology, anthropology, evolutionary theory, genetics, ecological sciences all offer opportunities for engaging understanding of faith. Two or three scientific areas will be chosen for dialogue with the Christian faith traditions. Prerequisites: PT-500 and a 600-level CT course, plus ED-675 or PT-600. 3 credit hours.

**PT/CH-755 Howard Thurman**

This course will survey the life and ministry of Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman. It will critically inspect his theological foundations, his theological formation, his particular theology, the practice of that theology, the pivotal points of his ministry, and his positive contributions to race relations, religious studies, ecumenism, and interfaith dialogue. Also, this course will investigate the historical significance of Rev. Thurman's ministry. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

### **PT-825 Integrative Public Project Seminar**

As a culminating seminar for the MAPT degree, this course will reinforce the interdisciplinary, contextual research methodologies that are a foundational part of the program through student final projects. These projects will demonstrate integration of learning across the program and publicly contribute knowledge, practices, or resources to the larger community. Prerequisite: Recommended to be taken in the final semester of enrollment, but only after the accumulation of at least 36 semester hours. 3 credit hours.

### **PT881abc Ecology and Justice Practicum (Multiple Seasons)**

This course provides students with experiential learning in ecology and justice informed by academic readings and theological reflection. The student must be serving a minimum of 10 hours per week per semester in an approved supervised placement setting--see the Coordinator of the MDiv and MAPT Ecology and Justice Specializations. Class sessions will integrate contextual learning with theological frameworks fostering skills to lead ecology and justice ministries. Prerequisites: The completion of one-third of the course requirements for the MDiv degree or one-half of course requirements for an MA degree, including one course in Theology and one course in Bible. One credit per semester, repeatable over three consecutive semesters.

## **Study of Religion and Interreligious Relations**

### **SR-511 Interreligious Relations**

An overview of various kinds of relations among religious individuals and groups (such as cooperative efforts, dialogue, marriage and family dynamics, proselytization and conversion, and violence and reconciliation) and religion's potential for social good or ill. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **SR-550 Introduction to World Religions**

An overview of selected non-Christian religions, drawing upon academic disciplines and primary sources from within the religions. The course also considers various Christian perspectives on world religions. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **SR-553 Multi-Religious America**

This course examines the social, civic, and theological implications of America's "lively experiment" with religious diversity, paying special attention to developments since the 1960s, including immigration trends and new religious movements. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **NT/SR-630 Gender in Ancient Religion**

This course will examine Jewish, Christian, Greek, and Roman primary evidence in dialogue with current theory in gender, cultural, and feminist studies to understand the cultural and social dynamics of gender in myth, public and domestic religious practice, magic, healing, and sacred space. Prerequisite: a 500-level SR course and either HB-510 or NT-510. 3 credit hours.

### **PT/SR-635 Celtic Spirituality**

The course will explore the history and theology of the people called Celts and will discuss the impact of a particularly Celtic focus on spiritual life for today's Christian. Prerequisites: CH-501, any 500-level SR course, and one from ME-530, PT-550, PT-610 or PT-615. 3 credit hours.

### **HB/NT/SR-645 Introduction to Rabbinic Literature**

This course will concentrate on the literature composed and compiled prior to 500 C.E.: an initial encounter with selected rabbinic texts; a prologue to some of the major ideas at the center of these texts; and an introduction to the critical historical and literary issues attendant their study. A survey of the relationship between these texts and Jewish history will conclude the course. Prerequisites: HB-510 and NT-510. 3 credit hours.



**SR-652 Christian-Muslim Relations**

This course examines various ways that Christianity and Islam – and Christians and Muslims – have interrelated historically and currently such as missionary efforts, global political and cultural interactions, local relationships, and interfaith initiatives. Prerequisite: any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**SR/CE-654 Comparative Study of Religious Ethics**

An introduction to the ethical systems of selected world religions (including Christianity), with comparative analysis of one practical ethical issue. Prerequisite: CE-501 and any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**SR-655 Abrahamic Faiths**

A broad examination of the commonalities, differences, and complex interrelationships of the three major world religions-Judaism, Christianity, and Islam-that trace their lineages in significant ways back to Abraham. Historical, doctrinal, scriptural, institutional, socio-political, and other issues will be discussed in global and American contexts. Prerequisite: any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**SR-657 Perspectives on Buddhism**

An overview of Buddhist history, traditions, rituals, experiences, narratives, doctrines, ethics, institutions, and material expressions from a variety of academic, Buddhist, and Christian perspectives. Prerequisite: any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**SR-658 Perspectives on Islam**

An overview of Islamic history, texts, beliefs and practices from a variety of academic, Islamic, and Christian perspectives. Prerequisite: any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**CE/SR-680 Religion and Society**

The theoretical assumption of most Christian ethics since the turn of the 19th century has been that modernity poses a mortal threat to religion. Although religion hasn't become obsolete, classical understandings of the relationship between religion and society remain influential nevertheless. This course explores classical secularization theories, the more recent attempts to theorize the unexpected resurgence and vitality of religion in the postmodernity known as "the new paradigm," and the implications of secularization theory's decline for doing Christian ethics. Prerequisite: CE-501 and a 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**CT/SR-733 The Nones: Spirituality and Belief Beyond Religion**

The dramatic increase in persons choosing to remain unaffiliated from organized religion, the "nones," is a very significant development in contemporary America. It equals, in importance, the societal retreat from Protestant hegemony and the increase in religious diversity. This course will focus on the beliefs and behaviors of these "nones," especially those who self-identify as "spiritual but not religious." Why we will examine why they remain unaffiliated and how they practice their faith, special attention will be given to how they justify and construct their "belief without borders." In the process, we will consider what this means for the church, for society, for the "common good," and for American religion in general. Prerequisite: 600-level CT course and any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

**NT/SR-736 Paul, Jews and Gentiles**

Focusing primarily upon Paul's letters to the Galatians and the Romans, this course examines Paul's view of the law and Jewish beliefs of the time to develop a better understanding of his arguments about Christ and the Gentiles. Attention will be given to the manner in which these questions are intertwined with the issue of anti-Judaism in their treatment by Pauline scholars. Prerequisite: Any HB or NT 600-level course. 3 credit hours.

### **CH/SR-740 The Holocaust: Roots, Realities and Ramifications**

This class will probe one of the most disturbing and influential episodes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In particular, it will discuss the theological and religious issues involved in this state-supported action of genocide, drawing especially on conflicts between Christians and Jews, and exploring lingering theological problems. The mid-20<sup>th</sup> century Jewish Holocaust will be compared with other experiences of genocide. Prerequisite: CH-501 and any 500-level SR course. 3 credit hours.

### **SR-883 Directed Reading for MTS Concentration**

In the final year of the MTS program, a student may enroll in a directed reading and work with the faculty in the area of concentration to develop a reading list and prepare for the concentration examination. This course cannot be counted toward the MTS concentration. Graded pass/fail. 3 credit hours.

## **Thesis (M.Div. and MTS students)**

### **TH-800 Thesis**

With approval of the academic advisor and the dean, students with a 3.3 cumulative GPA or higher may contract with a faculty member to supervise the writing of a thesis to comprise 3 or 6 credit hours. Following the approval of a proposal for a thesis, students may enroll in TH-800, Thesis. More information about the thesis option is available in this catalog under “academic information and services.” Graded pass/fail. 3 or 6 credit hours.

## **Worship**

### **WO-500 Introduction to Worship**

A theological and practical study of worship in the church. Students will practice leading a variety of worship experiences in class. No prerequisite. 3 credit hours.

### **WO-525 Congregational Song**

Study, practice and leading of the texts and tunes of various types of congregational song. Attention will be given to their use in Christian life and liturgy, both past and present. No prerequisite. Focus of course changes each time, indicated by course number suffix; see below. 1 credit hour.

- WO-525a Hymn Singing in the Wesleyan Tradition
- WO-525b Music of Taizé
- WO-525c Music from Around the World
- WO-525d Singing in the UCC Tradition
- WO-525e Singing in the Presbyterian Tradition
- WO-525f Praise and Worship
- WO-525g Singing in the African-American Tradition
- WO-525h Singing in the Shaped-Note Tradition
- WO-525i Women and Hymns
- WO-525j Psalms

### **WO-575 African-American Christian Worship**

This course will survey the history, theologies, ethics, and practices of African American Christian worship. The itinerary will be designed to expose students to the nature of African American Christian worship and to give them opportunities to practice various rituals which are a part of that experience. Prerequisite: WO-500 or permission of instructor. 3 semester hours. *This course may substitute for WO-500 with petition to the professor and approval of the dean.*

**WO-600 Liturgical Prayer**

A consideration of the nature and use of prayer. Prayer will be studied as theology, as a tradition in liturgy and spirituality, and as a form of corporate worship. Prerequisite: One course in Biblical Studies or Theological Studies. 2 credit hours.

**CH/WO-612 History of Christian Worship**

This course will present a survey of the history of the practice of Christian worship from the early church into the 21st century. The practice of Christian worship will be studied through texts, buildings, organizational structures and social aspects that affect the corporate worship of Christian people throughout the world. Prerequisite: CH-501. 3 credit hours.

**PT/WO-620 Worship, Ecology, and Social Change**

This course will study worship resources and approaches to worship and pastoral rites (weddings, funerals, times of healing, and public rituals), from the lens of ecology and social change. Prerequisites: PT-500 and WO-500. 3 credit hours.

**WO-625 Sacraments and Ordinances of Initiation and Eucharist**

This course will consider baptism, confirmation and communion, which were a unitive ritual in the early church. Biblical, historical and theological understandings will be studied as the foundation for practice of these ordinances and sacraments in the church today. Prerequisites: one Bible and one Theology course; recommended: WO-500. 3 credit hours.

**WO/CT-700 Liturgical Theology**

The objective of this course is to gain an understanding of the relationship between theology and liturgy, including the ability to identify theological themes in the liturgy and to articulate a liturgical theology. Readings in contemporary liturgical theology will be drawn from a variety of liturgical traditions. Focus will be on developing skills in creative and critical reason and developing sensitivity to the dimensions of evangelical commitment and prophetic involvement which are inherent in the liturgy. Prerequisite: WO-500 and CT-549. 3 credit hours.

**WO-710 Worship and Gender**

A historical and practical study of worship through the lens of gender and liberationist theologies. Students will practice leading a variety of worship experiences in class. Prerequisite: WO 500 or permission. 3 credit hours.

**HM/WO-760 Preaching Through the Christian Year**

This course will explore the historical and theological foundations of the seasons and the flow of the Christian year and relate them to preaching. Students will prepare and present sermons for the various liturgical seasons and holy days. Prerequisites: HM-600 and WO-500. 3 credit hours.

# Faculty

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**Jay Rundell**, President; B.A., Augustana College, 1984; M.Div., Iliff School of Theology, 1988.

*"Theological education is a critical resource for those who will lead in the church and for all who seek to understand and encounter the breadth and depth of Christian faith. For those preparing for pulpit ministry, the study of homiletics explores the role of the preacher in the interpretation and articulation of our scriptures, our religious traditions and our experience of faith. My goal is for students of preaching to learn to learn to draw upon the fullness of their theological education, with integrity and creativity, as they strive to identify and illuminate the relevance of the Gospel for the 21st century."*

**Lisa Withrow**, Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Professor in the Dewire Chair of Christian Leadership; B.A., Bucknell University, 1985; M.Div., Duke University Divinity School, 1988; Ph.D., University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, 1993.

*"The faithful leader is called to integrate theology and practice in a variety of ministry settings. To do so, she or he must develop practices of ministry that reflect disciplined spiritual and theological work while remaining a flexible, agile leader. Transformative leadership manages conflict, engages theology publicly, and provides hope for the future. Whatever the ministry focus, a leader will need to understand his or her context, social location, theological foundations, and practice sustainable spiritual formation, all for the sake of creating movements for a better world."*

**Valerie Bridgeman**, Associate Professor of Homiletics and Hebrew Bible; B.A., Trinity University, 1986; M.Div., Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 1990; Ph.D., Baylor University, 2002.

*"As an interdisciplinary scholar/educator and activist, I see my role as living as "out loud" my commitments in my public theologian's life, my teaching life, and my preaching life so that*

*students see possibilities of a fuller expression of call. My womanist commitments make me passionate about "aha" moments in which students discover something about interpreting the bible in a liberating way for our current world, something about proclaiming a word of hope-bearing freedom for everyone, and something about being the vicar of Christ, God's representative in the world. I relish in shared discovery as I excavate an idea or concept alongside and with students, a discovery that is transformative. Like bell hooks and Paulo Freire, and others in the tradition of liberation pedagogy, I am always teaching for radical transformation. In so doing, I expect that such learning leads people to be disciples of the most radical person I know, Jesus Christ. I live in hope that changed, students will change the church and the world."*

**Judith Craig**, Visiting Professor of Church Leadership and Bishop in Residence; B.A., William Jewell College, 1959; M.R.E., Eden Theological Seminary, 1961; M.Div., Union Theological Seminary, 1968; post-graduate work in Religious Education of Adults, Teachers College, Union and Columbia University, 1968-70; Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Baldwin-Wallace College, 1980, Adrian College, 1985, Otterbein College, 1993, and Lebanon Valley College, 1995.

*"As a retired United Methodist bishop, I am delighted and energized by this community forming transformational leaders for the church and the world."*

**Jeffrey P. Jaynes**, Professor of Church History in the Warner Chair of Church History; B.A., California State University, Fresno, 1976; M.Div., Fuller Theological Seminary, 1980; Ph.D., The Ohio State University, 1993.

*"An awareness of church history is truly one of the great resources for ministry in and beyond the parish. Currently, I am completing a project that has investigated the global dimensions of Christianity by exploring the development of*

*medieval and early modern world maps. Connecting with our Christian past can provide one of the best strategies for addressing issues that confront the church and the world in our time."*

**John Kampen**, Professor in the Dunn Chair in Biblical Interpretation; Coordinator of Cross-Cultural Program; B.A., University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, 1968; M.Div., Mennonite Biblical Seminary, 1975; Ph.D., Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, 1985.

*"I love the academic life and strongly believe in its contribution to the welfare of our faith and our world. I believe that church leaders who have learned the discipline of study and developed the creativity that can be nurtured as well as experienced in the academic quest are more adequately prepared to lead us into an uncertain future."*

**Paul Kim**, Professor of Hebrew Bible in the Williams Chair of Biblical Studies; B.A., Biola University, 1988; M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary, 1991; Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary, 1992; Ph.D., Claremont Graduate University, 1998.

*"As a theological educator, I see teaching as a form of ministry, in which people experience mutual learning, respect and challenge. Biblical texts can provide a wonderful basis for such an environment as they model the interrelationships of different people of diverse traditions, living in various settings and interpreting in many ways the meaning of life and relationship with God. Hence, as I study biblical texts, I am especially interested in exploring that rich heritage of conceptual diversity, and in asking what it means for us to inherit, interpret and struggle with these theologies in our ministry within the church and in our service to all humanity."*

**Sarah Heaner Lancaster**, Professor in the Werner Chair of Theology; B.A, Rice University, 1978; M.Div., Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, 1990; Ph.D., Southern Methodist University, 1996.

*"Systematic theology takes the most basic questions about human existence and reflects on*

*them in light of all the resources available to us in our faith traditions. It is exciting work, because it attempts to bring together the insights of the various theological disciplines in order to display the implications that each has for Christian faith."*

**Denise Y. Lewis**, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling. B.A., Ohio Dominican College, 2000; MACM, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, 2005; Ph.D., Ohio University, 2009.

*"Carter G. Woodson said, 'The mere imparting of information is not education. Above all things, the effort must result in making a man think and do for himself.' It is important for me to encourage my students to think critically when they are reading any material they are given. By encouraging reflective thinking, and some self-reflection of their own theoretical and spiritual orientation, the students should be encouraged to adapt new solutions and insights to difficult problems. As a licensed practicing counselor, these principles are very important as they will enable me to encourage my students and my clients to establish positive relationships, develop healthy outcomes, and enjoy life."*

**Randy Litchfield**, Professor of Christian Education in the Browning Chair of Christian Education; B.S., General Motors Institute, 1981; Master of Religious Education, Anderson University School of Theology, 1987; Ph.D., School of Theology at Claremont, 1991.

*"I am passionate about the vital role Christian Education plays in the lives of individuals, congregations and the public. I enjoy teaching that involves ethnographic methods for understanding congregational culture and education leadership. The academic and interdenominational context of Methodist Theological School in Ohio enables me to contribute to the ministries of students and the church."*

**Diane L. Lobody**, Professor of Church History in the Nippert Endowed Chair of Church History/Wesleyan Studies and Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program; B.A., Syracuse University, 1972; Th.M., Boston University School of Theology, 1975;

M.Phil., Drew University, 1982; Ph.D., Drew University, 1990.

*"In my teaching, I delight in accompanying students as we encounter our mothers and fathers in the faith and listen to the stories of Christians who have lived in other times and places. We may be inspired, informed, challenged or horrified by their witness and example, but no matter what we find in the past, we receive a collective wisdom that helps us to make better sense of our own lives and to transform the church and the world."*

**Linda A. Mercadante**, Professor of Theology in the Straker Chair of Historical Theology; B.A., American University, 1968; M.C.S., Regent College, 1978; doctoral studies, Graduate Theological Union, 1979-80; Ph.D., Princeton Theological Seminary, 1986.

*"I am serious when I contend, 'Bad theology kills.' Yet because a healthy theology contributes so greatly to an abundant spiritual life, I help direct students towards a theology that opens up to God's grace. Much of my work takes place at the intersection of theology and culture, particularly working with film, conversion narratives, gender, addiction and ethnicity issues. Most recently, I have been conducting research on the 'spiritual but not religious' movement and its impact on church and culture. All this work is undergirded by the conviction that, as an ordained Presbyterian, my ministry is to bring church and culture into dialogue."*

**Elaine Nogueira-Godsey**, Assistant Professor of Theology, Ecology and Race; B.A., Faculdade Teologica D'Oeste do Brasil, 1997; M.A., University of Capetown, 2007; Ph.D., University of Capetown, 2014.

*"Racial and ecological perspectives in theology require us to revisit the very nature and purpose of the theological task today. For me, the teaching of theology must be grounded in a liberating spiritual praxis. To this point, Ivone Gebara has said that the effectiveness of any liberationist movement lies with its ability to prompt the practical aspect of awareness. Though critically deconstructing normalized religious forms of ecological, gender and racial injustice, the ecotheological task must go beyond ethical and political responsibilities and guide the tripartite relationship of humanity, divinity and the earth."*

*Therefore, I bring the experiences of the marginalized to the fore of my classrooms to challenge those normalized religious forms of injustice, and encourage my students to develop critical skills whilst becoming attuned to the realities of everyday life for those whom these norms disproportionately affect."*

**Paul D. Numrich**, Professor in the Snowden Chair for the Study of Religion and Interreligious Relations; B.A., Aurora College, 1979; M.Div., Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1984; Ph.D., Northwestern University, Department of Religion, 1992.

*"'Religious conviction motivates and inspires human behavior like few other forces.' This truism, taken from the Annual Report of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, may be more evident today than at any time in history. Religion plays an unprecedented role in contemporary global affairs, sometimes for good, sometimes for ill, but always significantly. MTSO has expanded its curriculum in order to prepare seminarians for informed and committed leadership in a complex and rapidly changing world. My courses cover a variety of topics, including contemporary religions and interreligious relations, comparative religious studies, American religious history, and theological perspectives on other religions."*

**Francesca D. Nuzzolese**, Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling; B.Div., Ruschlikon Theological Seminary, 1994; Th.M., Melbourne College of Divinity, 1997; Th.D., Columbia Theological Seminary, 2005.

*"Teaching pastoral care and counseling grants me the opportunity to engage in a journey of formation and transformation, which involves not only my students and myself but the communities to which we belong. As we work together to understand human nature and to accompany people towards psycho-spiritual growth, we become a community of fellow seekers, enriched and transformed by the journey we undertake with each other and the new things we learn about God. I love the challenge and the opportunity!"*

**M. Fulgence Nyengele**, Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling in the Chryst Chair in Pastoral Theology; B.S., Institut Supérieur Pedagogique de Kamina, Democratic Republic of Congo, 1989; M.Div., Claremont School of Theology, 1994; M.A., Claremont School of Theology, 1999; Ph.D., Claremont School of Theology, 2002. *“My principal teaching and research interests are grounded in pastoral counseling and psychotherapy and pastoral theology. The focus on grief, forgiveness, gender relations, multicultural issues, and postcolonial trauma is undergirded by a concern for human flourishing as an overarching theme that shapes much of my research and teaching. I am currently researching theories of human flourishing as expressed in the African tradition of Ubuntu and the relatively new positive psychology movement. I also have a long time interest in the use of psychoanalytic object relations theory and family systems theory in clinical practice. Beyond these specializations, I have a comprehensive interest in the interplay of counseling psychology, culture, and theology, and their implications for clinical practice and ministry. I bring my clinical pastoral counseling and parish ministry experience to the classroom.”*

**Joon-Sik Park**, Professor in the E. Stanley Jones Chair of World Evangelism and Director of the Course of Study School of Ohio; B.A., Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul, Korea, 1980; M.Div., Asbury Theological Seminary, 1993; Ph.D., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1991.

*“My personal vision of teaching is based around the values and practices that I consider essential to students’ learning experience in the field of mission and evangelism: constructing a missional ecclesiology that is theologically grounded and contextually relevant; understanding and practicing evangelism as integral to the identity and calling of Christians and the community of faith; practicing hospitality that welcomes all across boundaries; and forming a spirituality that nurtures and sustains one’s ministry.”*

**Ryan Schellenberg**, Assistant Professor of New Testament; B.A., Canadian Mennonite University, 2003; M.A., Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, 2005; Ph.D., University of

St. Michael's College (University of Toronto), 2012.

*“I approach the New Testament with a historian's curiosity, but also with a keen interest in how this ancient text can sponsor creative engagement with our own world. This requires, I think, recognition of our cultural and historical distance from these texts, and real effort to understand the humans that populate them as people different from ourselves. But it likewise demands that we enter imaginatively into their stories – which is, after all, just what we do (at least if we are hospitable) when we meet other strangers.”*

**Timothy L. Van Meter**, Associate Professor in the Alford Chair of Christian Education and Youth Ministry; B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 1985; M.Div., Emory University, Candler School of Theology, 1996; Ph.D., Emory University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Division of Religion, 2003.

*“Young people aren’t looking for a faith that seeks to fix, attract or entertain them, but for communities of faith that will take them seriously and walk with them in shared questions and commitments. Young people offer an invitation for churches to discern how they live out their call as communities of faithful change, writing the stories of possible futures with sacred texts, rituals, traditions and narratives that ground our life together as church across generations throughout history.”*

**Robin Knowles Wallace**, Professor in the Taylor Endowed Chair of Worship and Music; B.A., University of Cincinnati, 1974; M.A., Scarritt College, 1978; M.T.S., Emory University, Candler School of Theology, 1982; Ph.D., Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and Northwestern University, 1996.

*“This is an exciting time to be involved in the life of worship and music in the church. Varieties of music and diversity of worship forms urge us to look again at our roots even as we look for new ways of encountering God together. In-depth study of sacraments, congregational song, and other worship courses here at MTSO add richness to our understanding and practice.”*

**Yvonne C. Zimmerman**, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics; B.A., Goshen College, 1998; MTS, Emory University, Candler School of Theology, 2001; Ph.D., University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology, 2008.

*"I understand 'ethics' as the disciplines and practices of creating, maintaining and sustaining just relationships. My pedagogy aims at academic fluency in the discipline of ethics as well as critical, engaged activism for just social change on a wide variety of social, political and ecclesial issues. My goals are for students to become life-long learners who constantly hone the skills to learn in diverse contexts and from a broad range of conversation partners and, in this process, to see themselves as emerging experts who are competent in their roles as scholars, religious leaders, or activists to meet the challenges of working with others to make our shared world more just and humane."*

## Fully affiliated faculty

**Bradford H. Price**, Pastoral Care; Copley Counseling Centre, Poland, Ohio; Oriana House, Inc., Summit County Jail Program, Akron, Ohio. B.A., Youngstown State University, 1973; M.Div., Methodist Theological School in Ohio, 1976; M.A., Claremont Graduate School, 1980; MAADAM, 1986 (converted to MACM, 1999), Methodist Theological School in Ohio; Ph.D., Kent State University, 1998. Post Graduate Diplomas from Gestalt Institute of Cleveland in *Gestalt Couples and Family Therapy* (1999) and *Advanced Couple, Family and Small Systems Practice* (2001), Gestalt Institute of Cleveland.

**Mark Tyler**, Homiletics and African-American Studies; B.A., Clark Atlanta University, 1991; M.Div., Payne Theological Seminary, 1994; Ph.D., University of Dayton School of Education and Allied Professions, 2006.

**Jeff Woods**, Congregational Studies; B.S., Purdue University, 1980; M.Div., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1984; Ph.D., Indiana University, 1987.

## Professionals in residence

**Judith Craig**, Bishop in Residence (see faculty listing).

## Library

**Paul Burnam**, Director of the Library; B.A., Kalamazoo College, 1972; MLS, Kent State University, 1973; M.A., The Ohio State University, 1979.

*"I believe my role as a librarian is to do all I am able to assist students, faculty, staff and local clergy in their pursuit of knowledge. Despite the current easy access to massive quantities of information in electronic format, the essence of library research is fulfilled in personal interaction. It remains vital to remember that knowledge still can be gained in print resources as well as electronic. I look forward to one-to-one interviews with students, faculty and staff to identify the information they seek. I am eager to become involved in planned classroom sessions with the purpose of enhancing research skills. I am open and engaged in identifying and adding those materials that will strengthen the research quality of the library's collections."*

## Adjunct faculty and field education instructors

**David T. Ball**, B.A., Ohio Wesleyan University, 1982; M.Div., Boston University School of Theology, 1986; J.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1991; Ph.D., Graduate Theological Union, 1998.

**Martha Baumer**, B.A., Lakeland College, 1960; M.A., University of Wyoming, 1963; M.Div., United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, 1973; D.Min., Eden Theological Seminary, 1990.

**Tejai Beulah**, B.A., Xavier University, 2005; M.A., The Ohio State University, 2007; M.T.S., Methodist Theological School in Ohio, 2011; Ph.D. Candidate, Drew University.

**Susan Blain**, B.A., Trinity University; M.Div., Union Theological Seminary, 1986.



**Matt Charlton**, B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 1995; M.Div., Vanderbilt University, 2002; M.A. Religion, Vanderbilt University, 2008; Ph.D., Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 2011.

**V. Yvonne Conner**, B.S., Western Michigan University, 1985; MA, Nazareth College, 1992; Ed.D., Western Michigan University, 2000; M.Div., MTSO, 2007.

**Angela R. Cowser**, B.A., Brown University, 1982; M.A. University of Chicago, 1988; M.Div., Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 2006; Ph.D., Vanderbilt University, 2012.

**Robin Dillon**, B.S., East Stroudsburg University, 1993; M.Div., MTSO, 2010.

**Timothy Reinhold Eberhart**, B.A., St. Olaf College, 1995; M.Div., Vanderbilt Divinity School; Ph.D., Vanderbilt University, 2012.

**John Edgar**, B.A., Miami University, 1975; M.Div., Harvard Divinity School, 1978.

**Mark Fowler**, B.A., DePauw University, 1979; M.Div., Boston University School of Theology, 1982; D.Min., Andover-Newton Theological School, 1995.

**Allan T. Georgia**, B.A., Taylor University, 2005; M.Div. and M.T.S., Methodist Theological School in Ohio; M.A., Fordham University, 2012; Ph.D. Candidate, Fordham University.

**Jeff Gill**, B.A., Purdue University, 1984; M.Div., Christian Theological Seminary, 1989.

**Luke Gorton**, B.A., Lee University, 2007; M.A., University of Georgia, 2009; Ph.D. candidate, The Ohio State University.

**Katelin Hansen**, B.S., University of Richmond, 2009; B.A., University of Richmond, 2009; Ph.D., The Ohio State University, 2015.

**Jeannie Harsh**, B.S., The Ohio State University, 1968; M.A.C.E., MTSO, 1986; D.Ed.Min., Columbia Theological Seminary, 2010.

**Tyron Inbody**, B.A., University of Indianapolis, 1962; M.Div., United Theological Seminary, 1965; M.A., University of Chicago, 1967; Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1973.

**WillaMarie Jackson**, B.A., Presbyterian College, 2004; M.A., Muskingum University, 2006; M.Ed., Ohio University, 2013.

**Kara Jones**, B.A., Ohio Northern University, 2000; M.Div., MTSO, 2003; M.A.C.M., MTSO, 2015.

**Margaret Knerr**, M.Div., Methodist Theological School in Ohio, 2008; M.S., University of Rhode Island, 2003; B.S., James Madison University, 1984.

**Hank Langknecht**, Associate Professor of Homiletics and Christian Communication, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2008-present; B.Mus., Stetson University, 1979; M.Div., Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 1986; Th.D., Victoria University in the University of Toronto, 2008.

**Richard Lowery**, B.A., University of Tennessee, 1979; M.Div., Yale Divinity School, 1982; M.A., Yale University, 1983; M.Phil., Yale University, 1986; Ph.D., Yale University, 1989.

**Michael Lyons**, B.A., Cedarville University, 2005; M.Div., Southern Theological Seminary, 2010; Ph.D., Hebrew Union College, ABD.

**Thomas McGloshen**, B.A., Centre College, 1960; M.Div., McCormick Theological Seminary, 1963; M.A., Western Kentucky University, 1974; Ph.D., The Ohio State University, 1985.

**Melanie Morrison**, BA, Beloit College, 1971; M.Div., Yale Divinity School, 1978; Ph.D., University of Groningen, 1998.

**Hanci Newberry**, B.A., The College of William and Mary, 1978; M.Div., Harvard Divinity School, 1981.

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