

# THE BIBLE/SACRED TEXTS FIELD

## Cross-Testament

FALL 2023

### **BX 101 – Introduction to the Bible**

4 credits

In Person

[Brigitte Kahl](#)

This course offers an introduction to the core texts, narrative trajectories, historical backgrounds and theological concerns of the Bible as the canonical book both of Christianity and Western civilization. Key questions regarding the ethics of scriptural interpretation in the context of race, gender, class, ecology and an increasingly inter/nonreligious environment are discussed.

**Note:** Required for Master of Arts in Religion students. Required for Master of Divinity students completing option B of the Bible/Sacred Texts requirement. Weekly tutorial required.

### **BX 228 – The Bible and Nature**

3 credits

Online

[Aliou C. Niang](#)

In light of current pressing concerns about global warming and its effects on the environment and alternative eco-sensitive ways humans may consider, this course focuses on selective texts such as Genesis 1-3, Leviticus 25, Deuteronomy 11:10-12, 15:1-11, Psalm 90:3-5, Mark 1:26-29, Matthew 13:24-30, Romans 8:19-23, and Revelation 21-22, and oral Diola Faith Traditions with a view to joining the conversation and rethinking alternative ways for a sustainable future.

**Note:** Fulfills eco-justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

### **BX 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **BX 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**BX 105 – Introduction to Biblical Languages**

1 credit

Online

[Amy E. Meverden](#)

The course provides a basic introduction to biblical Hebrew and Greek for the purpose of assisting future clergy, religious leaders, activists, therapists, chaplains, and budding academics, who wish to explore the biblical text in its original languages. This course seeks to familiarize students with a range of ancient language resources to aid in biblical study and interpretation of biblical texts. Students learn both Hebrew and Greek alphabets and gain experience with lexical tools including interlinear bibles, dictionaries, concordances, and computer resources.

**Note:** Pass/fail. Intended for students with no prior Greek/Hebrew instruction.

**BX 229 – The Bible Beyond Humans: Biblical Construal of Animals**

3 credits

Online

[David Carr](#)

Domestication has become the main way that humans relate to their life world, and the Bible is a major script for this, even as some of its texts provide potential resources for resistance. This course uses the Bible as a pathway to explore diverse ways that humans have built a way of life around domesticating diverse animal and plant species, and ways that the Bible has inculcated ways of humans themselves becoming faithful domesticates to the ultimate domesticator, God (and God's contemporary late capitalist equivalents).

**Prerequisite:** BX 101 or HB 101 or permission of instructor.

**BX 244 – Bible and Blackness**

3 credits

In Person

[Aliou C. Niang](#)

In light of the persistence of othering based on skin color, this course reexamines some interpretations of biblical texts often used to justify the enslavement of people of darker skin pigmentation. Students read selective Hebrew Bible (Genesis, Amos) and New Testament texts (Galatians, Mark, Philemon) in conversation with African and colonial literature on slavery and colonization, to interrogate how their renderings might have affected and still shape the relationship among New diaspora Africans, African Americans, and people of European descent. What African ontology(ies) and epistemology(ies) might emerge?

**Prerequisite:** BX 101 or HB 101 or NT 101.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students.

## HB 101 – Introduction to the Hebrew Bible

4 credits

In Person

[David Carr](#)

This course introduces students to the Hebrew Bible (or Old Testament) as a text forged amidst multiple traumas experienced by the people of Israel. Going beyond biblical logocentrism, students learn about the diversity of perspectives within the Bible itself and also explore the diversity of contemporary reading perspectives and methodological approaches used to interpret key texts. *Formerly OT 101.*

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students completing option A of the Bible/Sacred Texts requirement. Weekly tutorial required.

## HB 111 – Elementary Biblical Hebrew I

3 credits

In Person

[Jeremy F. Hultin](#)

An introduction to the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew. This language course also focuses on skills in reading and writing Hebrew. *Formerly OT 111.*

**Note:** HB 111 and HB 204 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Recommended for Master of Divinity students completing option B of the Bible/Sacred Texts requirement.

## HB 313A – Intermediate Hebrew I: Prose

1.5 credits

Online

[David Carr](#)

This two-semester intermediate-level course focuses on reading practice of prose texts (with a focus on Genesis 1-11) along with vocabulary building, reinforcement of verbal analysis and syntax, and learning to enrich interpretation with Hebrew reference tools. *Formerly OT 313A.*

**Prerequisite:** HB 111 and HB 204; or permission of instructor.

**Note:** HB 313A and HB 313B must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Temporary grade of “IP” is assigned after HB 313A; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses.

## HB 339E – The Book of Isaiah

3 credits

In Person

[David Carr](#)

A detailed exegetical exploration of the poetry, literary shape, background, and development of the book of Isaiah, including attention to the different ways Jews and Christians have used the book. *Formerly OT 339E.*

**Prerequisite:** BX 101 or HB 101 or permission of instructor.

**Note:** Enrollment limited to eighteen students.

### **HB 354 – Modes of Revelation**

3 credits

In Person

[Esther Hamori](#)

The Hebrew Bible reflects belief in a wide variety of modes of divine revelation to human beings, such as Torah, prophecy, dreams, communication through angels, use of images, and more. In this seminar, students study each mode of revelation individually and examine what attitudes and beliefs run throughout the various modes. Significant emphasis is placed on careful reading of primary texts.

**Prerequisite:** HB 101 or equivalent.

**Note:** Enrollment limited to twelve students.

### **HB 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly OT 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **HB 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly OT 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**JANUARY 2024**

### **HB 343E – Biblical Short Stories**

3 credits

Online

[Esther Hamori](#)

The Hebrew Bible and other early Jewish literature includes many short stories, including Ruth, Esther, Jonah, the Joseph novella, the tales of Daniel, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon, Tobit, and Judith. We read to appreciate these as literary works, and with attention to issues of gender, ethnicity, and religious difference. Students practice use of key exegetical methods. *Formerly OT 316E.*

**Prerequisite:** HB 101 or equivalent.

**Note:** Enrollment limited to twelve students.

**HB 204 – Elementary Biblical Hebrew II**

3 credits

In Person

[Jeremy F. Hultin](#)

A continuation of the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew. This language course focuses on the translation of selected portions of biblical texts.

**Prerequisite:** HB 111 or equivalent.

**Note:** HB 111 and HB 204 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Recommended for Master of Divinity students completing option B of the Bible requirement. *Formerly OT 204.*

**HB 210 – African American Biblical Interpretation**

3 credits

Online

[Cheryl B. Anderson](#)

An introduction to the approaches to biblical interpretation found in the work of African-descended biblical scholars. With focus on the African American experience, the course also includes Afro-Caribbean and African perspectives. Students practice critical analysis of the Bible from a specific social location and foster discussions about implications for general biblical interpretation.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills racial/ethnic justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

**HB 240 – Divination in the Bible and Beyond**

3 credits

In Person

[Esther Hamori](#)

"Divination" refers to types of actions that are, within their own cultural contexts, understood to provide access to divine knowledge. Prophecy is the best-known type of divination in the Bible and the most widely embraced, but there are many more, including astral, birth, and dream divination, necromancy, and lot-casting. In this course, students study prophecy and other types of divination as they appear in the Bible and other literature from the region. *Formerly OT 240.*

**Prerequisite:** HB 101 or equivalent.

**Note:** Enrollment limited to twelve students.

**HB 313B – Intermediate Hebrew II: Poetry**

1.5 credits

In Person

[David Carr](#)

This two-semester intermediate-level course focuses on reading practice of poetic texts (with a focus on Isaiah). Work includes issues of grammar, syntax, vocabulary, reading aloud, and use of critical tools. Class meetings are determined between faculty and students in the fall semester. *Formerly OT 313B.*

**Prerequisite:** HB 313A.

**Note:** HB 313A and HB 313B must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Temporary grade of "IP" is assigned after HB 313A; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses.

### **HB 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly OT 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **HB 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly OT 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

## ***New Testament***

**FALL 2023**

### **NT 111 – Elementary Biblical Greek I**

3 credits

In Person

[Jeremy F. Hultin](#)

An introduction to the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Greek. This language course also focuses on skills in reading and writing Greek.

**Note:** NT 111 and NT 204 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Recommended for Master of Divinity students completing option B of the Bible/Sacred Texts requirement.

### **NT 327E – The Gospel of John and the Margins**

3 credits

In Person

[Aliou C. Niang](#)

Students read the Gospel of John by examining themes such as competing truth claims, light and darkness, identity and sacred space, echoes of anti-Judaism, clash of empires and their founders, inclusion and exclusion in a Graeco-Roman context. This course explores texts and images of the divine that might have generated debates within the Johannine community, focusing on ways of reading John to inform our contemporary communication of his message and its implications for interfaith conversations.

**Prerequisite:** BX 101 or NT 101 or permission of instructor.

### **NT 351 – Galatians: Queering Gender and Other Binaries**

3 credits

Online

[Brigitte Kahl](#)

Among Christian progressives, Paul has a bad reputation as misogynist and homophobe. Students learn how to read him differently, focusing on Galatians as his most radical subversion of hierarchical binaries between male and female, free and slave, Jew and Gentile. But what does a new trans-binary community for Paul look like? What gender-specific conflicts arise if One/Self embraces the Other in the "body of Christ?"

**Note:** Fulfills gender/sexuality justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

### **NT 315A – Intermediate Greek I**

1.5 credits

In Person

[Jeremy F. Hultin](#)

Part one of a two-part language course for students who have completed at least two semesters of biblical Greek. Students review grammar as well as further their linguistic and translation skills by reading a selection of different Greek texts.

**Prerequisite:** NT 111 and NT 204; or equivalent.

**Note:** NT 315A and NT 315B must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Temporary grade of "IP" is assigned after NT 315A; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses.

### **NT 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **NT 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly OT 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**NT 101 – Introduction to the New Testament**

4 credits

In Person

[Aliou C. Niang](#)

An introduction to the complex historical, literary and theological worlds of the New Testament. Core texts of the Gospels, Acts, Paul and Revelation are examined within their Roman imperial, Hellenistic and Jewish colonial contexts – and with an eye to past and current interpretational struggles at the intersection of gender, race, class and religion. Can students learn how to read "with new eyes?"

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students completing option A of the Bible/Sacred Texts requirement. Weekly tutorial required.

**NT 204 – Elementary Biblical Greek II**

3 credits

In Person

[Jeremy F. Hultin](#)

A continuation of the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Greek. This language course focuses on the translation of selected portions of biblical texts.

**Prerequisite:** NT 111 or equivalent.

**Note:** NT 111 and NT 204 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Recommended for Master of Divinity students completing option B of the Bible/Sacred Texts requirement.

**NT 254E – Revelation: Ecology, Identity, and Power**

3 credits

Online

[Amy E. Meverden](#)

Revelation is one of the least understood books of the Bible. Given its violent warfare, natural disasters, beasts, and ominous portents, readers are perplexed by its symbolism and have difficulty understanding its contemporary relevance. This course decodes Revelation's Roman imperial context and visual imagery, reading the text closely to produce transformational contextual interpretations.

**Prerequisite:** Familiarity with biblical texts strongly encouraged.

**Note:** Fulfills eco-justice and general social justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

### **NT 312 – Genders and Sexualities of Early Christians**

3 credits

Online

[Julia Kelto Lillis](#)

Early Christian texts offer familiar and unfamiliar patterns, norms, and possibilities for the aspects of human life that people today call gender and sexuality. This course examines the pertinent categories and social and theological logic of Christians in distant cultures by exploring a variety of ancient sources, taking into account challenging issues raised by feminist and LGBTQ+ historians. Questions include: Was gender permanent or fluid? What kinds of sexual relationships did Christians consider acceptable, and why? How did the rise of clerical and ascetic roles bend boundaries and create new possibilities? What are the risks and benefits of using current categories to study premodern sources, and how might premodern sources provide fresh perspective or new inspiration for reasoning about gender and sexuality today?

**Note:** Fulfills gender/sexuality justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to HS 312.

### **NT 315B – Intermediate Greek II**

1.5 credits

In Person

[Jeremy F. Hultin](#)

Part two of a two-part language course for students who have completed at least two semesters of biblical Greek. Students review grammar as well as further their linguistic and translation skills by reading a selection of different Greek texts.

**Prerequisite:** NT 315A.

**Note:** NT 315A and NT 315B must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Temporary grade of “IP” is assigned after NT315A; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses.

### **NT 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **NT 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. See Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**NT 111 – Elementary Biblical Greek I**

3 credits

Online

[Amy E. Meverden](#)

An introduction to the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Greek. This language course focuses on skills in reading and writing Greek. NT 111 and NT 204 should be taken sequentially in one academic year.

**Note:** May be repeated, but taken only once for credit. Students are expected to bring the required textbook to the first session: *A Primer of Biblical Greek*, N. Clayton Croy, 2011.

**NT 204 – Elementary Biblical Greek II**

3 credits

Online

[Amy E. Meverden](#)

A continuation of the introduction to the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew. This language course focuses on the translation of selected portions of biblical texts. NT 111Q and NT 204Q should be taken sequentially in one academic year.

**Prerequisite:** NT 111.

**Note:** May be repeated, but taken only once for credit. Students are expected to bring the required textbook to the first session: *A Primer of Biblical Greek*, N. Clayton Croy, 2011.

**Sacred Texts****STX 202 – Tantra, Embodiment, and the Sacred Feminine in Vajrayana Buddhism**

3 credits

In Person

*Karla Jackson-Brewer*

Students explore the presence of the Sacred Feminine in Vajrayana Buddhism. Vajrayana Buddhism is considered a path of transformation, experiencing life through the practice of 'one taste', thereby taking all experience onto the Path of Dharma. Vajrayana is also referred to as the adamantine path, the path of Buddhism which can enable the practitioner to achieve enlightenment in one lifetime. This course offers a foundation in Tantra and Vajrayana Buddhism, highlighting the history and evolution of Buddhism in Tibet, the eight to twelfth centuries' eruption of the presence of the Feminine Principle in Vajrayana Buddhism, and teachings/practices applicable to a twenty-first century life. Students read biographies of Tibetan women practitioners to explore further the manifestation, obstacles, and support of the Feminine Principle.

**Prerequisite:** Introductory knowledge of the Buddhist tradition.

**Note:** Fulfills Bible/Sacred Texts requirement for Buddhism and Interreligious Engagement students. Identical to IE 202.

**STX 265 – The Four Sublime States**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Bhante Buddharakkhita\*](#)

Drawing from early Buddhist Pāli canon texts and contemporary Buddhist literature, along with experiential engagement of the Four Sublime States or Divine Abidings or Brahma Viharas (Loving-kindness, Compassion, Appreciative joy and Equanimity) practices and techniques, this course addresses how these practices support spiritual presence and community engagement. Students explore the relevance of the Four Sublime States practices in interreligious engagement. Also thoroughly investigated is the role of Four Sublime States practice in personal life and in a socially engaged environment.

**Note:** Fulfills Bible/Sacred Texts requirement for Buddhism and Interreligious Engagement students. Identical to IE 265.

**STX 342 – Zen Buddhist Texts**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Gregory Snyder\*](#)

This course explores the religious thought and practices of the Buddhist tradition that has come to be popularly known as Zen. Starting with its inception as Chinese Chan, students directly engage formative texts that situate Zen in its broader Mahayana context and go on to hermeneutically wrestle with the rich, unruly and at times opaque array of teachers, poems, koans and religious essays, which make up a tradition that understands itself to be “a special transmission outside the scriptures.” All readings are in English translation. Generally offered every other year.

**Prerequisite:** IE 221 or IE 234 or permission of the instructor.

**Note:** Fulfills Bible/Sacred Texts requirement for Buddhism and Interreligious Engagement students. Identical to IE 342.

# THE HISTORICAL STUDIES FIELD

## Historical Studies

FALL 2023

### HS 116 – History of Christianity to 1500

3 credits

In Person/Online

[Julia Kelto Lillis](#)

A survey of Christian life and thought from the second to fifteenth centuries, with attention to the following areas: Christian expansion and interreligious relationships on multiple continents; changing political circumstances as persecuted minority or powerful majority; major theological contributors and controversies; the interplay of Christian faith and social dynamics of slavery, gender, sexuality, and ethnicity.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students completing option A of the Historical Studies requirement. HS 116 or HS 117 required for Master of Arts in Religion and Master of Divinity students completing option B1 of the Historical Studies requirement. Primarily occurs online; students register for either an online section or, if needed, an in-person section for discussion and support.

### HS 311 – Witchcraft in the Early Modern West

3 credits

Online

[Euan Cameron](#)

This course offers an exploration of the phenomenon of witch-theory and witch-hunting in the European West, including colonial North America, from the year 1430 to the eighteenth-century.

### HS 323 – Fat: A Religious History

3 credits

In Person

[Jorge Rodríguez](#)

As a system of power, fatphobia governs bodies through laws, policies, beliefs, and ideologies that presume fat people to be diseased and immoral. This seminar explores the resistance to, and historic construction of, this system of power in the West from the sixteenth through twenty-first centuries with special attention to the intersections of religion (especially Christianity), race, gender, and (anti)colonialism.

**Prerequisite:** CH 109 or HS 109 or HS 117 or permission of instructor.

**Note:** Enrollment limited to sixteen students.

### HS 401 – Guided Reading

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CH 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

## HS 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CH 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**JANUARY 2024**

## HS 305 – Race, Racialization, and Religion in Historical Process

3 credits

Online

[Carla Roland Guzmán](#)

Processes of racialization in the United States are intricately connected to modernity. These constructions need to be recognized and decolonized through new epistemologies. Nevertheless, the long history of religion in racialization is not always discussed or understood as being integral to the historical process. Leaders in religious settings and beyond need to understand these connections to present a decolonized epistemology that avoids the perpetuation of the constructions of race and systemic consequences.

**Note:** Fulfills racial/ethnic justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to RS 305.

**SPRING 2024**

## HS 117 – History of Christianity 1500-2000

3 credits

In Person

[Jorge Rodríguez](#)

An introductory survey of Christian life and thought in Europe and the Americas between 1500 - 2000. Developments examined in the course include a changed relationship between individuals, faith communities, and the world as the European Reformation divided Catholic Christianity into competing, often conflicting traditions and personal choice in religious commitment gradually became possible; how American colonies reflected European religious diversity, how Christianity was forcibly introduced to indigenous peoples, and how communities of enslaved peoples from Africa adopted Christianity and made it their own; progressive diversifications of modern Christianity and how they were influenced by cultural, social, and political developments on both sides of the Atlantic.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students completing option A of the Historical Studies requirement. HS 116 or HS 117 required for Master of Arts in Religion and Master of Divinity students completing option B1 of the Historical Studies requirement.

### HS 258 – The Black Social Gospel, 1940-Present

3 credits

Online

[Gary Dorrien](#)

This course studies the later Black social gospel tradition that arose in the 1870s and provided the "new abolition" theology of social justice that undergirded the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. The period covered is from the civil rights movement to the present day, featuring Martin Luther King Jr, Pauli Murray, numerous leaders associated with the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating, and numerous theologians, political leaders, pastors, and organizers affiliated with Black theology, the womanist tradition, liberation theology, and postcolonial criticism. *Formerly CH 258.*

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills racial/ethnic justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to SE 258.

### HS 310 – Mary in the First Millennium

3 credits

Online

[Julia Kelto Lillis](#)

This seminar explores the significance of Mary of Nazareth, the mother of Jesus, in the first millennium of Christianity. Early Christians assigned Mary various roles and qualities that expressed their theological concepts, their hopes as believers, their social and political interests, and the challenges of living in a multi-religious world. We examine ancient, Byzantine, and medieval sources, including gospels and biographies, theological treatises, sermons, hymns, prayers, and works of art. This investigation helps students understand the changing character of Christianity in its first several centuries and how a monotheistic faith creates room for a human being to become the "Mother of God" and "Queen of Heaven." *Formerly CH 310.*

**Prerequisite:** CH 101 or CH 107 or HS 116 or permission of instructor.

**Note:** Enrollment limited to fifteen students.

### HS 312 – Genders and Sexualities of Early Christians

3 credits

Online

[Julia Kelto Lillis](#)

Early Christian texts offer familiar and unfamiliar patterns, norms, and possibilities for the aspects of human life that people today call gender and sexuality. This course examines the pertinent categories and social and theological logic of Christians in distant cultures by exploring a variety of ancient sources, taking into account challenging issues raised by feminist and LGBTQ+ historians. Questions include: Was gender permanent or fluid? What kinds of sexual relationships did Christians consider acceptable, and why? How did the rise of clerical and ascetic roles bend boundaries and create new possibilities? What are the risks and benefits of using current categories to study premodern sources, and how might premodern sources provide fresh perspective or new inspiration for reasoning about gender and sexuality today? *Formerly CH 312.*

**Note:** Fulfills gender/sexuality justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to NT 312.

### HS 401 – Guided Reading

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CH 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### HS 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CH 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

## Denominational Studies

**FALL 2023**

### CVG-DS202 – United Church of Christ History and Polity

2 credits

Online

*Jim Keat*

This on demand course examines the historical development and structural polity of the United Church of Christ (UCC). This course also spends time focusing on the emerging UCC and gives students a chance to explore social justice, world missions, ecumenism, and new and renewing congregational ministry within the UCC.

**Note:** Offered by Convergence.

### DS 203 – The Practice of Presbyterian Ministry: Polity and its Pastoral Foundations

2 credits

In Person

[Gregory Horn](#)

This course examines essential elements of Presbyterian polity in light of the constitutional foundations of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Students explore ways Presbyterian polity shapes and informs the practice of pastoral and congregational leadership in the Reformed/Presbyterian tradition. *Formerly CI 203.*

**Note:** Meets at Auburn Seminary. Designed for seminarians with some professional church experience. Generally offered every fall.

### **DTS-WESM 600 – United Methodist History and Mission**

3 credits

A study of origins, mission, organization, outreach, religious life, and key ideas, issues, events, and figures in the development of United Methodism as an international denomination. Enables students to understand and evaluate United Methodism in light of its antecedent organizations, the broader historical context of the history of Christianity, and especially its engagement in mission. Also enables students to engage in responsible and articulate participation in the life and leadership of the United Methodist Church, effectively represent the tradition, and perceptively participate in ecumenical and interreligious dialogue.

**Note:** Offered by Drew Theological School. Navigate to Complete Theological Listing to view offerings: [https://selfservice.drew.edu/prod/bwckschd.p\\_disp\\_dyn\\_sched](https://selfservice.drew.edu/prod/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched). Register with a Cross-Registration form on this webpage: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/cross-registration/>.

### **DTS-WESM 615 – Evangelism in the United Methodist Tradition**

3 credits

Focuses on an articulation of a definition of evangelism, a biblical basis for evangelism and a theology of evangelism. Provides students with a familiarity and practical tools for helping both individuals and congregations engage in evangelism. Fulfills the Division of Ordained Ministry requirement in evangelism for United Methodist students.

### **DTS-WESM 615 – Evangelism in the United Methodist Tradition**

1 credit

A detailed study of the current Book of Discipline, helping students understand its conceptual design, purpose, efficient use, and content.

**Note:** Offered by Drew Theological School. Navigate to Complete Theological Listing to view offerings: [https://selfservice.drew.edu/prod/bwckschd.p\\_disp\\_dyn\\_sched](https://selfservice.drew.edu/prod/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched). Register with a Cross-Registration form on this webpage: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/cross-registration/>.

**SPRING 2024**

### **CVG-DS202 – United Church of Christ History and Polity**

2 credits

Online

*Jim Keat*

This on demand course examines the historical development and structural polity of the United Church of Christ (UCC). This course also spends time focusing on the emerging UCC and gives students a chance to explore social justice, world missions, ecumenism, and new and renewing congregational ministry within the UCC.

**Note:** Offered by Convergence.

### **DS 213 – The Practice of Presbyterian Ministry: Worship & its Reformed Theological Foundations**

2 credits

In Person

[Gregory Horn](#)

This course engages students in the design and practice of worship in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Reformed Protestant theological tradition. Emphasis is given to the development of one's voice and vision in all aspects of leading worship in specific community, liturgical, and pastoral contexts. *Formerly CI 213.*

**Note:** Designed for students with some professional experience leading worship. Generally offered every spring.

# THE INTERRELIGIOUS ENGAGEMENT FIELD

## *Interreligious Engagement*

**FALL 2023**

### **IE 102 – Religions in the City: Introduction to Interreligious Engagement**

3 credits

In Person

[Jerusha T. Rhodes](#)

The field of interreligious engagement is introduced through readings, site visits, spiritual practices, and self-reflection. Students aim to cultivate understanding of the phenomenon of religious diversity, central questions and concerns that arise in relation to religious diversity, and prominent approaches to this field.

**Note:** Required for first-semester Master of Divinity students. Enrollment limited to fifty-five students.

### **IE 202 – Tantra, Embodiment, and the Sacred Feminine in Vajrayana Buddhism**

3 credits

In Person

*Karla Jackson-Brewer*

Students explore the presence of the Sacred Feminine in Vajrayana Buddhism. Vajrayana Buddhism is considered a path of transformation, experiencing life through the practice of 'one taste', thereby taking all experience onto the Path of Dharma. Vajrayana is also referred to as the adamant path, the path of Buddhism which can enable the practitioner to achieve enlightenment in one lifetime. This course offers a foundation in Tantra and Vajrayana Buddhism, highlighting the history and evolution of Buddhism in Tibet, the eight to twelfth centuries' eruption of the presence of the Feminine Principle in Vajrayana Buddhism, and teachings/practices applicable to a twenty-first century life. Students read biographies of Tibetan women practitioners to explore further the manifestation, obstacles, and support of the Feminine Principle.

**Prerequisite:** Introductory knowledge of the Buddhist tradition.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills concentration elective for Chaplaincy students in the Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement track. Identical to STX 202.

### **IE 221 – Introduction to Buddhist Meditation Practices**

3 credits

In Person

*Peace Twesigye*

This course supports students of any faith tradition, or none at all, in learning the fundamentals of Buddhist meditation. While students only touch each of these practices, they learn the basics of concentration, ethical, wisdom and compassion meditations. The course aims to prepare chaplains and ministers for thinking about these techniques in their own lives and in their community support roles. The intention is for students to apply this knowledge to deepen practices appropriate to their lives and circumstances.

**Note:** Concentration requirement for first-year Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Enrollment limited to twenty students. Generally offered every fall.

### **IE 224 – The Dharma of James Baldwin and Audre Lorde**

3 credits

Online

[\*Rima Vesely-Flad\*](#)

Writers James Baldwin and Audre Lorde are approached as ancestors who offer an embodied dharma of resilience, fortitude, presence, and joy in a racist, patriarchal context. Students read Baldwin's nonfiction essays and novels, and Lorde's essays and poetry, along with Buddhist discourses, to explore and understand classical Buddhist teachings in a contemporary era.

**Prerequisite:** Familiarity with tenets of Buddhism is strongly recommended.

**Note:** Recommended for Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills interreligious engagement justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills requirement of religious tradition or comparison of traditions course for Advanced Certificate-Interreligious Engagement students. Enrollment limited to twenty-four students.

### **IE 245 – Community Engaged Buddhism: Organizing for an Alternate Housing Future**

3 credits

In Person

*Rebecca O. Johnson*

This seminar introduces students to the concept and practices of community engaged Buddhism with New York City housing as a lens for practice, analysis and reflection. Using participatory methodologies related to the work of Paulo Freire, emerging Buddhist social analysis and ethics, traditional scriptures from across the Buddhist spiritual landscape and the frame of the Community Land Trust model, students engage such questions as: What meaning do the precepts have in Buddhism(s) social justice/community engagement thinking and theorizing? Does Buddhism have inherent communal/societal responsibilities? As practitioners with aspiration to serve in ministry, how do social/economic/cultural conditions inform personal, communal and societal spiritual practices? How might one interpret early/original sources within contemporary social and political conditions?

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills concentration elective for Chaplaincy students in the Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement track. Total enrollment limited to fifteen students. Identical to PT 245.

### **IE 263 – Indigenous Voices with Ecology, Colonization, and Spirituality**

3 credits

Online

*Karena Gore*

*Tiokasin Ghosthorse*

*Betty Lyons*

This course explores indigenous perspectives within the intersections of ecology, colonization and spirituality. Students study the work and words of Indigenous scholars, authors, elders, philosophers and activists on topics including: cultural worldviews and ways of knowing; indigenous ecological perspectives and principles; traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous science; European colonization, land theft and extractivism; Christian imperialism and the Doctrine of Discovery; religious and spiritual persecution and the struggle for religious freedom; and indigenous-led sovereignty, environmental and climate justice work.

**Note:** Fulfills eco-justice and interreligious engagement justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills requirement of religious tradition or comparison of traditions course for Advanced Certificate-Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

### **IE 316 – Women, Islam, and Interpretation**

3 credits

In Person

[Jerusha T. Rhodes](#)

This course focuses on the complexity and diversity of Muslim women's attempts to assert agency and authority within Muslim communities. Great emphasis is placed on hermeneutical strategies, competing discourses, and identity and power negotiations. This course is relevant to students interested in Islam, in sex and gender, and/or in developing transformative interpretative strategies.

**Note:** Concentration requirement for Master of Divinity students in the Islam & Interreligious Engagement track. Enrollment limited to eighteen students.

### **IE 324 – Contextual Perspectives on Culture, Race, Gender, and Religion**

3 credits

Online

[Samuel Cruz](#)

This course introduces a range of diverse populations by race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and physical differences. Additionally, students examine the role, function, and effects of oppression in society as it relates to social and economic justice. Assumptions underlying theory and research methodologies from which basic constructs of human behavior are drawn are examined to understand how power and other dynamics manage and sustain oppression at the individual and institutional levels. How oppression affects ecclesiastical, local parish, mosque, temple and faith based organizations at micro and macro levels, particularly policies and strategic planning which drive the shape of places of worship, is also addressed.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills gender/sexuality justice and racial/ethnic justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Identical to RS 324.

### **IE 327 – Double Belonging**

3 credits

Online

[John Thatamanil](#)

Increasingly, persons are taking up practices from more than one religious tradition. Some go so far as to claim “double belonging”. This course explores multiple religious’ participation/double belonging and its implications for theology. After exploring a wide range of such phenomena, we ask the following questions: Can one belong to two (or more) different religious traditions and practices at the same time? Is religious “double-dipping” possible? Is it worthwhile? Is it necessary?

**Note:** Fulfills interreligious engagement justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills requirement of religious tradition or comparison of traditions course for Advanced Certificate-Interreligious Engagement students. Identical to TS 327.

### **IE 335 – African Religions in the Americas**

3 credits

In person

[Samuel Cruz](#)

A critical analysis of the socio-historical settings of the development of each of the most widely practiced African based spiritual traditions/movements in the Americas. Students engage the African-based practices of Haitian Vodou, Santeria/Palo Monte, Rastafarianism, Espiritismo, Obeah, Candomble, Umbanda, as well as African religious influences in Protestant Christianity. We explore the ways in which these religious movements have been impacted by North and South American cultural and political conditions, and how they have impacted the cultural and political realities in turn. The transformations made by these religious practices in the diasporic communities in the United States are an underlying focus of this course.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Identical to RS 335.

### **IE 352 – Spiritual Journeys: Implications for the Formation and Education of Adults**

3 credits

Online

[Mary C. Boys](#)

A seminar for those with a deep interest in, and passionate concern for, how to form and educate adults for a religiously pluralistic world. Students engage in a close reading of memoirs in four religious traditions; Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. This course explores faith journeys through the lens of religious biography and autobiography in order to deepen the formation of religious leaders and to enrich the religious education of adults.

**Note:** Fulfills interreligious engagement justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills requirement of religious tradition or comparison of traditions course for Advanced Certificate-Interreligious Engagement students. Identical to RE 352.

### **IE 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **IE 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**IE 265 – The Four Sublime States**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Bhante Buddharakkhita\*](#)

Drawing from early Buddhist Pāli canon texts and contemporary Buddhist literature, along with experiential engagement of the Four Sublime States or Divine Abidings or Brahma Viharas (Loving-kindness, Compassion, Appreciative joy and Equanimity) practices and techniques, this course addresses how these practices support spiritual presence and community engagement. Students explore the relevance of the Four Sublime States practices in interreligious engagement. Also thoroughly investigated is the role of Four Sublime States practice in personal life and in a socially engaged environment.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills concentration elective for Chaplaincy students in the Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement track. Identical to STX 265.

**IE 273 – Performance of Humor and Laughter Across Religious Traditions**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Cláudio Carvalhaes\*](#)

To be able to listen and laugh, be humorous and silly are tremendous ways to resist, show love/compassion, and affirm life at a time when depression, anger, sadness, climate catastrophes and disasters of all kinds exist. This course focuses on: Russian Christian tradition of the Holy Fools, Indigenous traditions of Coyote and the Clown of the Hotxué people, Afrodiasporic oralities present in sacred Itan of Ifá, and multiple presences of Exu and recognition of the coexistence of positive and negative forces. A theoretical-practical introduction to sensitivity, humor, laughter, deceit, foolishness and listening through performance, musical improvisation, sonic sculpture, dance and play, the course concludes with a play called *When Wajcha Meets Pachamama*'.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Guest instructors include performers and religious people with foundations crossed by religious traditions of Christianity and Ifá. Identical to CW 273.

**IE 216 – Abolition, Transformative Justice, and Buddhist Social Ethics**

3 credits

Online

[Rima Vesely-Flad](#)

This course examines the historical antecedent of the present-day prison system and the multiple dimensions in which criminal justice policies impact particular communities in the contemporary period. The first part focuses on philosophies of punishment, theologies of race, and nineteenth-century economies of plantations, jails, and prisons. Over the second unit, students examine present-day patterns of punishment, specifically addressing moral discourses in contemporary politics, the school-to-prison pipeline, and successful activist challenges to the pervasiveness of exploiting criminalized persons. The third unit proposes a constructive Buddhist social ethics on the topics of mass incarceration, abolition, and transformative justice. Two approaches are taken: 1) employing Buddhist doctrines such as *pratītyasamutpāda* (dependent origination) and *anicca* (impermanence) in the contemporary United States context, and, 2) examining the implications of the anti-caste movement in India, led by the Buddhist legal scholar B.R. Ambedkar, for addressing systemic racism in United States social and political institutions.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills concentration elective for Chaplaincy students in the Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement track. Fulfills interreligious engagement justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills requirement of religious tradition or comparison of traditions course for Advanced Certificate-Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Total enrollment limited to twenty-four students. Identical to SE 216.

**IE 217 – Islamic Ethics**

3 credits

In Person

[Jerusha T. Rhodes](#)

This course introduces central concerns, sources, and debates in Islamic ethics, and surveys a variety of subfields, including Qur'anic, prophetic, sexual, environmental, and medical ethics. Emphasis is placed on understanding the methods of Islamic ethics; connections between conceptions of the Divine, human person, and society; and how diversity, identity, and context shape ethical perspectives.

**Note:** Total enrollment limited to eighteen students. Identical to SE 217.

**IE 231 – The Practice of Self-Inquiry**

3 credits

In Person

[Gregory Snyder](#)

Exploring a shared intention to clarify and expand personal capacities and methodologies for self-inquiry, this course engages religious traditions as well as non-religious phenomenological, ethical, and critical thinkers. Toward this end, students unpack assumptions around subjective experience, reliable knowledge, mind and world, and theories of body and perception. Some course material is densely philosophical.

**Note:** Concentration requirement for Chaplaincy students in the Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement and Ministerial Leadership tracks. Required for Chaplaincy students in the Islam & Interreligious Engagement track. Recommended for Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Total enrollment limited to thirty students. Generally offered every other spring, odd years. Identical to PT 231.

### **IE 232 – Hindu Religious Thought and Practice**

3 credits

In Person

[John Thatamanil](#)

This course provides a historical and thematic survey of Hindu thought and practice. Attention is paid to the development of Hindu traditions beginning with the Indus Valley Civilization and concluding with contemporary questions about political Hinduism. Students are introduced to key texts (Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, bhakti poetry, etc.) as well as modes of ritual practice and temple worship. Close reading of primary sources as well as careful reading of selected secondary sources particularly on matters of history and identity is essential to the course. Students are expected to engage the much contested question of whether there is such a thing as "Hinduism" and whether Hinduism might be called a religion.

### **IE 243 – Literature of the Islamic World: From Qur'anic Verses to Palestinian Short Stories**

3 credits

In Person

[Mona Siddiqui](#)

The course explores a wide variety of literature from the Islamic world from both the classical and modern periods. Students study primary sources from a selection of texts in English translation, covering several literary genres- scriptural, biographical, mystical, belle-lettres, prose and the modern short story. Each text has been selected to give students an insight into the rich variety of literature which emerged from the Muslim world and resonates today in different cultural norms in the east and west. The interdisciplinary nature of the course appeals to anyone with interest in theology, religious studies, English and comparative literature.

### **IE 262 – Methods in the Study of Urban Life and Religion**

3 credits

In Person

[Samuel Cruz](#)

Urban religious life and the theory and practice of field research is the focus of this course. The course covers research methods such as oral history, participant observation, and key methodological issues, such as fieldwork ethics and the politics of representation.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Identical to RS 262.

### **IE 342 – Zen Buddhist Texts**

3 credits

In Person

[Gregory Snyder](#)

This course explores the religious thought and practices of the Buddhist tradition that has come to be popularly known as Zen. Starting with its inception as Chinese Chan, students directly engage formative texts that situate Zen in its broader Mahayana context and go on to hermeneutically wrestle with the rich, unruly and at times opaque array of teachers, poems, koans and religious essays, which make up a tradition that understands itself to be "a special transmission outside the scriptures." All readings are in English translation. Generally offered every other year.

**Prerequisite:** IE 221 or IE 234 or permission of the instructor.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement students. Fulfills concentration elective for Chaplaincy students in the Buddhism & Interreligious Engagement track. Identical to STX 342.

### **IE 344 – Jewish-Christian Relations: From Confrontation to Engagement**

3 credits

In Person

[Mary C. Boys](#)

This seminar, designed for both Jewish and Christian students, offers an experience in interreligious learning. Students study the origins and development of Christianity in Second Temple Judaism, survey key historical encounters, address significant questions in the relationship of the two traditions, and examine implications for the education and formation of Jews and Christians in our time. The course serves as a case study in interreligious conflict and reconciliation.

**Note:** Identical to RE 344.

### **IE 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **IE 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**SUMMER 2024**

### **IE 220 – Introduction to Judaism**

3 credits

Online

[Benjamin Kamine](#)

This graduate-level introduction to Judaism begins with a survey of the key moments in Jewish history, the essential elements of Jewish belief and practice, and the principal artifacts of Jewish culture. For the remainder of the course, we focus on modern varieties of Judaism, especially as practiced by the diverse Jewish communities in New York City. Throughout the course, students explore the complex problem of Jewish identity, including issues of nationality and ethnicity, denominational division, and interfaith relations.

**Note:** Fulfills interreligious engagement justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills requirement of religious tradition or comparison of traditions course for Advanced Certificate-Interreligious Engagement students.

# THE PRACTICAL THEOLOGY FIELD

## Communication Arts

**SPRING 2024**

### CA 102 – Communication Arts: Effective Live Communication in Varied Settings and Formats

3 credits

In Person

[Ann L. Colley](#)

Our ability to impact communities is wholly dependent on our facility as live communicators. Students gain appreciation for how live communication helps communities grow and thrive. Students practice in varied contexts, receive feedback, and gain awareness as live communicators. Upon completion, students are better able to engage with others consciously, meaningfully, and deliberately—regardless of circumstances or setting.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students completing option B of the Practical Theology requirement. Enrollment limited to eighteen students.

## Integrative and Field-Based Education

**FALL 2023**

### FE 103 – Field Education Seminar I: Part-Time Concurrent Internship

3 credits

In Person

[Su Yun Pak](#)

Two contexts of learning are integrated: supervised work in field site and facilitated work in weekly integrative peer-group seminar. Through intentional, sustained practices such as theological reflection, professional and spiritual formation, and weekly supervision, students engage in action-reflection-action model for learning. The first half of a two-semester course, students are concurrently in supervised field placements for a total of 360 hours for the academic year. This course includes asynchronous work online and synchronous in-person work.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to Master of Divinity students. Permission of the Office of Integrative and Field-Based Education.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students. FE 103 and FE 104 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Enrollment limited to fifteen students in section one and twenty students in section two. Students register for waitlist pending approval to enroll. Apply to hybrid FE-CPE program here:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/field-ed/hybrid-field-education-opportunities/>; if accepted, students must register for section two.

### FE 203 – Advanced Field Education Seminar I: Part-Time Concurrent Internship

3 credits

Online

[Charlene Sinclair](#)

The first half of a two-semester independent study with a supervised field placement. Students meet monthly to deepen theological reflection, leadership and professional skills, and discern their vocation. Through selected readings, online discussions, and synchronous peer group seminars, students cultivate professional and spiritual care skills to support their growth in ministry. Proposals must be submitted to the Office of Integrative and Field-Based Education prior to course registration.

**Prerequisite:** FE 103 and FE 104 and permission of instructor. Restricted to Master of Divinity students. Permission of the Office of Integrative and Field-Based Education.

**Note:** FE 203 and FE 204 must be taken sequentially in one academic year.

### **FE 303 – Full-Time Internship I**

3 credits

*Janine Myrick*

The first half of a two-semester independent study with a minimum of eight consecutive months of full-time supervised field experience in an out-of-seminary setting. Regular meetings with instructor required. Proposals must be submitted for approval to the Office of Integrative and Field-Based Education by March 1 prior to enrollment.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to Master of Divinity students. Permission of the Office of Integrative and Field-Based Education.

**Note:** FE 303 and FE 304 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Enrollment in other courses is normally precluded. Students without comparable coverage are required to subscribe to medical insurance.

### **FE 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

**SPRING 2024**

### **FE 104 – Field Education Seminar II: Part-Time Concurrent Internship**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Su Yon Pak\*](#)

Two contexts of learning are integrated: supervised work in field site and facilitated work in weekly integrative peer-group seminar. Through intentional, sustained practices such as theological reflection, professional and spiritual formation, and weekly supervision, students engage in action-reflection-action model for learning. The second half of a two-semester course, students are concurrently in supervised field placements for a total of 360 hours for the academic year. This course includes asynchronous work online and synchronous in-person work.

**Prerequisite:** FE 103. Restricted to Master of Divinity students. Permission of the Office of Integrative and Field-Based Education.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students. FE 103 and FE 104 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Enrollment limited to fifteen students in section one and twenty students in section two. Students accepted to hybrid program must register for section two.

### **FE 204 – Advanced Field Education Seminar II: Part-Time Concurrent Internship**

3 credits

Online

*Charlene Sinclair*

The second half of a two-semester independent study with a supervised field placement. Students meet monthly to deepen theological reflection, leadership and professional skills, and discern their vocation. Through selected readings, online discussions, and synchronous remote peer group seminars, students cultivate professional and spiritual care skills to support their growth in ministry.

**Prerequisite:** FE 203 and permission of instructor. Restricted to Master of Divinity students. Permission of the Office of Integrative and Field-Based Education.

**Note:** FE 203 and FE 204 must be taken sequentially in one academic year.

### **FE 304 – Full-Time Internship II**

3 credits

*Janine Myrick*

The second half of a two-semester independent study with a minimum of eight consecutive months of full-time supervised field experience in an out-of-seminary setting. Regular meetings with instructor required.

**Prerequisite:** FE 303. Restricted to Master of Divinity students. Permission of the Office of Integrative and Field-Based education.

**Note:** FE 303 and FE 304 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Enrollment in other courses is normally precluded. Students without comparable coverage are required to subscribe to medical insurance.

### **FE 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

**SUMMER 2024**

### **FE 206 – Field Education Internship**

2 credits

*Janine Myrick*

Independent study in connection with a supervised field placement of at least eight weeks in length.

**Prerequisite:** FE 103 and FE 104 and permission of instructor.

**Note:** Required meetings with field education staff are arranged. Proposals must be submitted to Dean of Integrative and Field-Based Education prior to course registration.

**AS 201 – Anglican Liturgy (Historical)**

3 credits

In Person

[R. William Franklin](#)

This course surveys the history of the development of Anglican liturgies from the Reformation to the present, with specific attention to the influence of theological and social movements on Christian worship. The central theme of the course is the formation and revisions of The Book of Common Prayer in response to social, political, and theological debates, and the link between worship and movements for social justice and evangelism. The focus is on Anglicanism in Great Britain and the United States, but parallel developments of distinct, not just colonial, African, Asian, Oceanic, and Latino expressions of Anglican liturgy are addressed throughout in lectures and in reading assignments.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students with a concentration in Anglican Studies. Generally offered every other fall, odd years.

**AS 212 – Discernment of Call**

3 credits

In Person

[Susan Hill](#)

What does it mean to be called? What is the difference between a ministerial call and other vocational calls? How does one discern one's call? This seminar explores the theological and spiritual meanings and practical implications of ministerial calls. Special attention is given to understanding the significance of a "call" within the Anglican Communion. Critical engagement with call narratives, a development of a vocational statement, and engagement with practitioners in diverse ministerial vocations provide the foundation for appreciating the complex dynamics of a call. *Formerly PT 202.*

**Note:** Elective requirement for Master of Divinity students with a concentration in Anglican Studies. Generally offered every fall.

**AS 202 – Anglican Missions and Social Justice**

3 credits

Online

[Anderson Jeremiah](#)

Justice lies at the heart of Church's mission. How have Anglican missions responded to injustices in their mission fields? Was seeking and doing justice part of their work? Were the missionaries interested in bringing justice to the oppressed? When we speak of missions and justice, we also need to acknowledge the close relationship between the Anglican Church and their mission bodies and the British empire. How did they reconcile this fundamental moral and ethical contradiction? This course pays particular attention to the role and responses of the 'colonized Anglicans.' Within the context of colonialism, how did the native, indentured, and enslaved Anglicans, and the Anglican missionaries who were willing to learn from them, seek to redeem the face of the Anglican church and missions? How does this wisdom of/from the subjugated influence the understanding of mission and justice today for the Anglican communion worldwide? The course addresses these questions by listening to voices on/of mission in the global Anglican church that foreground social justice and liberation of the oppressed.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students with a concentration in Anglican Studies. Generally offered every other spring, even years.

### **AS 203 – Anglican Liturgy (Practical)**

3 credits

In Person

Jeffrey D. Lee

This course offers students further preparation in leading worship within the Anglican/Episcopal Church, and is comprised of both opportunities for on-site practical instruction and independent reading. Topics include developing liturgies according to context, knowing the rubrics and flexibility within the Book of Common Prayer, and exploring models for worship in alternative worship texts such as *Enriching Our Worship*. In keeping with Union's legacy of social justice, readings engage social disparities such as gender, race, class and sexuality with analytical rigor, historical consciousness, sensitivity to tradition, and compassion.

**Note:** Fulfills upper-level Practical Theology requirement for Anglican Studies students. Generally offered every other spring, even years.

### **AS 210 - Queer Anglicanism**

3 credits

Online

[\*Patrick S. Cheng\*](#)

This course studies the history of same-sex-attracted and gender-variant individuals and movements within the Church of England, The Episcopal Church, and the Anglican Communion from the sixteenth-century to today. Topics include looking at scripture, tradition, reason, and experience from the perspective of LGBTIQ+ Episcopal and Anglican theologians and their allies, as well as through the lenses of queer theology, queer of color theory, and postcolonial thought.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration elective for Anglican Studies students. Generally offered every other spring, even years.

### **AS 302 – Anglican Studies Capstone Seminar: From Seminary to Ministerial Leadership**

3 credits

In Person

[\*R. William Franklin\*](#)

This culminating experience provides students an opportunity to reflect on and integrate prior learning and ministerial experiences. Emphasis is placed on understanding ministerial challenges, surveying various ministerial leadership frameworks, and developing one's own ministerial leadership model. The course provides students with a variety of opportunities to engage in readings and discussion with an emphasis on making the transition from seminary into ministry with a focus on the tools and skills needed for effective leadership. In addition to leadership, other topics such as continued discernment of ministerial gifts and call are covered.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to third-year Master of Divinity students with a concentration in Anglican Studies.

**Note:** Required for Master of Divinity students with a concentration in Anglican Studies. Generally offered every spring.

**PT 204 – RISE Together Mentorship for Women of Color**

1 credit

Online

[Lisa Rhodes](#)

Students learn and practice leadership skills through discussion, facilitation and directed practicum work in small groups. Through community and peer learning, this course centers and affirms the collective wisdom, lived experiences and intercultural voices of women of color. Students engage in a thriving ministry journey focusing on the reality of ministry, ecclesial structures, multidimensional oppression, impact on pastoral/personal identities and leadership. Through the lens of race, gender, age and culture and a researched informed curriculum, a safe and sacred community learning space is created for theological and ethical reflection.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to first- or second-year students. Permission of instructor. Acceptance into RISE Together Mentorship program.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Spans across three consecutive semesters for a total of three credits. May be repeated with different topics.

**PT 245 – Community Engaged Buddhism: Organizing for an Alternate Housing Future**

3 credits

In Person

*Rebecca O. Johnson*

This seminar introduces students to the concept and practices of community engaged Buddhism with New York City housing as a lens for practice, analysis and reflection. Using participatory methodologies related to the work of Paulo Freire, emerging Buddhist social analysis and ethics, traditional scriptures from across the Buddhist spiritual landscape and the frame of the Community Land Trust model, students engage such questions as: What meaning do the precepts have in Buddhism(s) social justice/community engagement thinking and theorizing? Does Buddhism have inherent communal/societal responsibilities? As practitioners with aspiration to serve in ministry, how do social/economic/cultural conditions inform personal, communal and societal spiritual practices? How might one interpret early/original sources within contemporary social and political conditions?

**Note:** Total enrollment limited to fifteen students. Identical to IE 245.

**PT 253 – Professional Ethics for Chaplaincy and Ministry**

3 credits

In Person

[Linda S. Golding](#)

What does it mean to be a spiritual caregiver? As such a caregiver, what is our ethical imperative to care, and where/how do we each set our boundaries? What does it mean to care for ourselves and to care for others? Topics of concern, learning and reflection include the ethics involved with: power dynamics in spiritual care and ministry; racial, gender-related, and cultural trauma; othering and being othered; care for and by Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) practitioners; and identity. This interactive course uses values to consider the ethics of care of others and self and includes lecture, small group work, case studies and courage.

**Note:** Concentration requirement for Chaplaincy students.

### **PT 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **PT 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**JANUARY 2024**

### **PT 261 – Living Practices of Gender and Sexuality Justice: Embodying Queer Theology**

3 credits

Online

[\*Kathleen T. Talvacchia\*](#)

This course considers several theological and spiritual practices that can contribute to advocacy for greater justice for LGBTQI+ communities. Students examine significant themes in the practices of embodiment, hospitality, testimony, discernment, and stewardship of creation to create new theological interpretations and expressions of these practices for greater inclusivity and justice.

**Note:** Fulfills gender/sexuality justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

**SPRING 2024**

### **PT 204 – RISE Together Mentorship for Women of Color**

1 credit

Online

[\*Lisa Rhodes\*](#)

Students learn and practice leadership skills through discussion, facilitation and directed practicum work in small groups. Through community and peer learning, this course centers and affirms the collective wisdom, lived experiences and intercultural voices of women of color. Students engage in a thriving ministry journey focusing on the reality of ministry, ecclesial structures, multidimensional oppression, impact on pastoral/personal identities and leadership. Through the lens of race, gender, age and culture and a researched informed curriculum, a safe and sacred community learning space is created for theological and ethical reflection.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to first- or second-year students. Permission of instructor. Acceptance into RISE Together Mentorship program.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Spans across three consecutive semesters for a total of three credits. May be repeated with different topics.

### **PT 215 – Moral Leadership in Times of Crisis: Theory and Practice for Organizing a Moral Movement**

3 credits

Online

*Liz Theoharis*

*Jessica C. Williams*

The ongoing crises of poverty, systemic racism, the war economy and militarism, ecological devastation, and the distorted theology of white Christian nationalism demand moral leadership to organize a movement from the bottom up. Through praxis and critical reflection, students examine the theory and practice of the biblical, theological, spiritual, and moral framework of the movement to end poverty led by the poor. Students engage in actions and activities of this movement while applying principles of the poor organizing the poor, and the battle for the Bible to their own congregations, organizations, communities, or contexts, equipping faith and moral leaders for ongoing engagement in ministries of social justice.

**Note:** Fulfills general social justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

### **PT 231 – The Practice of Self-Inquiry**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Gregory Snyder\*](#)

Exploring a shared intention to clarify and expand personal capacities and methodologies for self-inquiry, this course engages religious traditions as well as non-religious phenomenological, ethical, and critical thinkers. Toward this end, students unpack assumptions around subjective experience, reliable knowledge, mind and world, and theories of body and perception. Some course material is densely philosophical.

**Note:** Total enrollment limited to thirty students. Generally offered every other spring, odd years. Identical to IE 231.

### **PT 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **PT 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**PT 233 – Engaging the Powers: A Theo-Ethical Framework for Racial Justice and Black Liberation**

3 credits

Online

*Charlene Sinclair*

In the United States, blackness has historically functioned as a structuring mechanism for the dis-humanization, commodification control of bodies. Using James Cone's framework of Black theology, which takes seriously the anti-imperial and anti-capitalist underpinnings of the Black Power movement, students discuss strategies for moral, ethical, and political responses.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills racial/ethnic justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to SE 233.

**Psychology and Religion****PS 101 – Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care**

3 credits

Online

*Eileen Campbell-Reed*

Students receive practical and theoretical grounding in the fundamentals of responding to common pastoral situations (such as illness, grief, couples and families, crisis, addictions and violence, and self-care), with attention to the impact of social context (race, gender, class). Students develop a theological framework for conceptualizing health and wholeness with reference to their own theological and cultural traditions, and a method of pastoral theological/spiritual reflection.

**PS 110 – Pastoral Listening Practicum**

1 credit

In Person

*Myron Krys Florence*

Students learn and practice pastoral listening skills through directed practicum work in small groups. Emphasis is on nondirective listening, and includes spiritual companioning and crisis intervention and suicide prevention.

**Note:** Required for first-semester Master of Divinity students. Enrollment limited to twenty-five students. Cannot be taken as audit. Prerequisite for FE/PS 363, FE/PS 364, FE/PS 366.

**PS 225 – Psychology and Theology of Religious Fundamentalism**

3 credits

In Person

*Myron Krys Florence*

Religious fundamentalism is growing exponentially locally and globally. This course provides a deep understanding of religious fundamentalism from both a psychological and theological lens. Focusing on four major religions (Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, and Christianity), students explore what religious fundamentalism is and how it converges and diverges in these four religions. Throughout the course, we discuss the following overarching questions: 1) What is religious fundamentalism? 2) What is its aim? 3) What draws people to religious fundamentalism? 4) What are historical and contemporary examples?

### **PS 237 – Power, Gender, and Sexuality**

3 credits

Online

[\*Edgard Francisco Danielsen\*](#)

This course focuses on gender and sexuality as two of the many threads woven into the tapestry of the human subjective experience and its relational dimensions. Students explore the complexities of gender and sexuality, and their evolving conceptions, through various lenses: 1) psychoanalysis, from the classical position to the elaborations and revisions of feminist, relational, and queer practitioners, 2) contemporary discourses in the areas of gender, sexuality, and cross-cultural studies, and 3) queer theology as a locus on which we may inscribe human desire for one self and for others. In addition, the course addresses how power is implicated in the theorizing about gender and sexuality, and their actualization.

**Prerequisite:** PS 101 or PS 110 recommended.

**Note:** Fulfills gender/sexuality justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

### **PS 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **PS 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**SPRING 2024**

### **PS 110 – Pastoral Listening Practicum**

1 credit

In Person

*Myron Kryz Florence*

Students learn and practice pastoral listening skills through directed practicum work in small groups. Emphasis is on nondirective listening, and includes spiritual companioning and crisis intervention and suicide prevention.

**Note:** Required for first-semester Master of Divinity students. Enrollment limited to twenty-five students.

Cannot be taken as audit. Prerequisite for FE/PS 363, FE/PS 364, FE/PS 366.

### **PS 250 – Death, Dying, and Bereavement**

3 credits

Online

[\*Eileen Campbell-Reed\*](#)

This course explores the literature of embodied and psychological trauma as well as best practices for providing pastoral and spiritual care for people who have experienced trauma. We use cultural narratives (novels, movies, television, and other dramas) that explore the lived experience of trauma, recovery and processes of healing. Students consider the psychological, spiritual and theological dimensions of trauma as well as questions raised by the experiences of personal, social and trans-generational trauma. Students also lay groundwork for the sake of building skills to give appropriate pastoral and spiritual care, including intentional rituals, deep listening, and accompanying survivors of trauma who are working toward healing and wholeness.

**Prerequisite:** PS 101 and PS 110.

**Note:** Concentration requirement for Chaplaincy students. Enrollment limited to twenty-five students.

### **PS 268 – Introduction to Chaplaincy**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Joel Berning\*](#)

Chaplaincy is an expanding field. By asking several critical questions about chaplaincy, and exploring certain historical, sociological, psychological, legal, communication and clinical-research resources, this course equips students who are discerning or have discerned a vocation in chaplaincy to become more incisive chaplain leaders.

**Prerequisite:** PS 101 and PS 110.

**Note:** Concentration requirement for Chaplaincy students. Generally offered every spring.

### **PS 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **PS 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**PS 280 – Contemplative Writing through Challenging Times**

1 credit

Online

[Melina Rudman](#)

The times we live in cannot help but teach and form us as human beings and as ministers and providers of spiritual care. Our particular times; times of pandemic, isolation, racial and social injustice, and climate crisis might become truly and positively formative if we engage these issues with courage and intention. Through readings, group spiritual direction and contemplative journaling, students explore their personal and professional reactions and responses to some of the challenges of our times with an eye towards developing increased self-awareness and compassion as ministers and spiritual care givers.

**Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)****PS 363 – Clinical Pastoral Education I**

3 credits

[Su Yon Pak](#)

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is an experiential learning program that provides chaplaincy education and spiritual care training for ministry, normally in a clinical setting. Students learn the art and skills of spiritual care and reflect on their experiences with a certified CPE educator and a small group of peers. See [acpe.edu](http://acpe.edu) for a list of accredited CPE centers. Students may request academic credit for up to one unit of CPE.

**Prerequisite:** PS 110 and permission of instructor. PS 101 recommended.

**Note:** Pass/fail. PS 363 and PS 364, or PS 366, are concentration requirements for Chaplaincy and Psychology & Religion students. PS 363 and PS 364 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Identical to FE 363.

**PS 364 – Clinical Pastoral Education II**

3 credits

[Su Yon Pak](#)

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is an experiential learning program that provides chaplaincy education and spiritual care training for ministry, normally in a clinical setting. Students learn the art and skills of spiritual care and reflect on their experiences with a certified CPE educator and a small group of peers. See [acpe.edu](http://acpe.edu) for a list of accredited CPE centers. Students may request academic credit for up to one unit of CPE.

**Prerequisite:** PS 110 and permission of instructor. PS 101 recommended.

**Note:** Pass/fail. FE 363 and FE 364 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. FE 363 and FE 364, or FE 366, are concentration requirements for Chaplaincy and Psychology & Religion students. Identical to FE 363.

**PS 366 – Clinical Pastoral Education**

6 credits

[Su Yon Pak](#)

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is an experiential learning program that provides chaplaincy education and spiritual care training for ministry, normally in a clinical setting. Students learn the art and skills of spiritual care and reflect on their experiences with a certified CPE educator and a small group of peers. See [acpe.edu](http://acpe.edu) for a list of accredited CPE centers. Students may request academic credit for up to one unit of CPE.

**Prerequisite:** PS 110 and permission of instructor. PS 101 recommended.

**Note:** Pass/fail. PS 366, or PS 363 and PS 364, required for Chaplaincy and Psychology & Religion students. Identical to FE 366.

**Religion and Education****RE 230 – Strategic Pedagogies for Teaching Controversial Issues**

3 credits

In Person

[Mary C. Boys](#)

Skillful, creative, and caring pedagogical approaches are requisite for teaching persons about justice issues; understanding and conviction alone do not suffice. Students develop strategies through analysis of relevant literature, collaborative projects, and also design a course on a specific justice issue in which resistance and opposition are likely.

**RE 352 – Spiritual Journeys: Implications for the Formation and Education of Adults**

3 credits

Online

[Mary C. Boys](#)

A seminar for those with a deep interest in, and passionate concern for, how to form and educate adults for a religiously pluralistic world. Students engage in a close reading of memoirs in four religious traditions; Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. This course explores faith journeys through the lens of religious biography and autobiography in order to deepen the formation of religious leaders and to enrich the religious education of adults.

**Note:** Identical to IE 352.

**RE 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

## RE 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**SPRING 2024**

## RE 344 – Jewish-Christian Relations: From Confrontation to Engagement

3 credits

In Person

[\*Mary C. Boys\*](#)

This seminar, designed for both Jewish and Christian students, offers an experience in interreligious learning. Students study the origins and development of Christianity in Second Temple Judaism, survey key historical encounters, address significant questions in the relationship of the two traditions, and examine implications for the education and formation of Jews and Christians in our time. The course serves as a case study in interreligious conflict and reconciliation.

**Note:** Identical to IE 344.

## RE 401 – Guided Reading

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

## RE 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**RS 324 – Contextual Perspectives on Culture, Race, Gender, and Religion**

3 credits

Online

[Samuel Cruz](#)

This course introduces a range of diverse populations by race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and physical differences. Additionally, students examine the role, function, and effects of oppression in society as it relates to social and economic justice. Assumptions underlying theory and research methodologies from which basic constructs of human behavior are drawn are examined to understand how power and other dynamics manage and sustain oppression at the individual and institutional levels. How oppression affects ecclesiastical, local parish, mosque, temple and faith based organizations at micro and macro levels, particularly policies and strategic planning which drive the shape of places of worship, is also addressed. *Formerly RS 321 (CS 321).*

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Identical to IE 324.

**RS 335 – African Religions in the Americas**

3 credits

In Person

[Samuel Cruz](#)

A critical analysis of the socio-historical settings of development of the most widely practiced African based spiritual traditions/movements in the Americas. Students engage with African-based practices of Haitian Vodou, Santeria/Palo Monte, Rastafarianism, Espiritismo, Obeah, Candomble, Umbanda, as well as African religious influences in Protestant Christianity. The ways these religious movements have been impacted by North and South American cultural and political conditions, and how they impact cultural and political realities, are explored. The transformations made by these religious practices in diasporic communities in the United States are an underlying focus of this course. *Formerly CS 335.*

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Identical to IE 335.

**RS 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CS 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

**RS 440 – Marxism, Critical Theories, New Materialism**

3 credits

Online

[Jan Rehmann](#)

This course provides a solid background in Marxism, critical theories, and "New Materialism". Students become acquainted with Marx' critique of alienation and exploitation, we compare the "Frankfurt School" with Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony, and major theories of ideology and habitus. We explore approaches of "New Materialism" that challenge the dichotomy of "man" and "nature".

**Note:** Fulfills general social justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Identical to PR 440.

## RS 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CS 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**JANUARY 2024**

## RS 305 – Race, Racialization, and Religion in Historical Process

3 credits

Online

[Carla Roland Guzmán](#)

Processes of racialization in the United States are intricately connected to modernity. These constructions need to be recognized and decolonized through new epistemologies. Nevertheless, the long history of religion in racialization is not always discussed or understood as being integral to the historical process. Leaders in religious settings and beyond need to understand these connections to present a decolonized epistemology that avoids the perpetuation of the constructions of race and systemic consequences.

**Note:** Fulfills racial/ethnic justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Identical to HS 305.

**SPRING 2024**

## RS 262 – Methods in the Study of Urban Life and Religion

3 credits

In Person

[Samuel Cruz](#)

Urban religious life and the theory and practice of field research is the focus of this course. The course covers research methods such as oral history, participant observation, and key methodological issues, such as fieldwork ethics and the politics of representation. *Formerly CS 262.*

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Identical to IE 262.

## RS 325 – Liberation Theologies and Pentecostalism

3 credits

In Person

[Samuel Cruz](#)

Theologies of liberation-be they Latin American, Feminist, Black, Latina or Asian-and the Pentecostalization of Christian denominations and independent churches have influenced the Christian religious landscape in the United States. Liberation theologies are often described as having lost ground and faded away. Pentecostal and Neo-Pentecostal churches seem to be the fastest growing religious movements across the globe. Students examine the perception that Pentecostalism is an alternative to liberation theologies and/or its diametrical opposite. Students explore how liberation theologies and Pentecostalism have been transformed, mutated, and revitalized by conservative and progressive churches. Commonalities, differences, conflicts, and potentialities for social and political action found in liberation theologies and Pentecostalism are discovered. *Formerly CS 325.*

### **RS 331 – Concurrent Master of Divinity/Social Work Integrative Seminar**

3 credits

In Person

*Sarah McCaslin*

An interactive seminar designed to aid students in the dual-degree Master of Divinity/Social Work program in synthesizing field experience and academic study, with an eye toward vocational possibility. The course reviews ethics, principles and various systems of meaning-making (oftentimes, but not exclusively, religious in nature) as they overlap, intersect and collide in the 'lived reality' of communities. The course includes a balance of deep reflection with the real-world puzzle of finding meaningful employment. *Formerly CS 331.*

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to dual-degree Master of Divinity /Social Work students with either Columbia University School of Social Work or Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College.

**Note:** Required for third- or fourth-year Master of Divinity /Social Work students.

### **RS 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CS 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **RS 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CS 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

## ***Worship, Preaching and Arts***

**FALL 2023**

### **CW 103 – Introduction to Worship**

3 credits

In Person

[\*Cláudio Carvalhaes\*](#)

How do we imagine public, collective worship and ritual practices in the face of urgent climate disasters? This course offers an introduction to ways of thinking, worship, and rituals from the perspective of our relation to the earth. Students explore their relation to the earth through earth patterns, other species, liturgical and theological themes, music, sacraments, community formations, rites of passage, etc.

**Note:** CW 103 or CW 104 required for Master of Divinity students completing option A of the Practical Theology requirement.

### **CW 212 – Dance and Movement in/as Practice: Exploration**

2 credits

In Person

[Jane Alexandre](#)

What is the place for dance and movement in/as practice, worship and/or ministry? How can we create, enrich, develop communities and faith through movement practice? How can we develop and foster deep investigation/interchange with oneself, with others, with communities and societies, and with understanding of the Spirit? Incorporating and building on established practices of dance in worship, but also on contemporary movement forms that challenge, instigate, and commentate, students explore ways to live and work in a spirit of readiness through dance and movement. Scholars who think in dance and through movement at the intersection of faith, scholarship, social justice and the arts are consulted and invoked.

**Corequisite:** SU 112.

### **CW 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **CW 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**JANUARY 2024**

### **CW 273 – Performance of Humor and Laughter Across Religious Traditions**

3 credits

In Person

[Cláudio Carvalhaes](#)

To be able to listen and laugh, be humorous and silly are tremendous ways to resist, show love/compassion, and affirm life at a time when depression, anger, sadness, climate catastrophes and disasters of all kinds exist. This course focuses on: Russian Christian tradition of the Holy Fools, Indigenous traditions of Coyote and the Clown of the Hotxué people, Afrodiasporic oralities present in sacred Itan of Ifá, and multiple presences of Exu and recognition of the coexistence of positive and negative forces. A theoretical-practical introduction to sensitivity, humor, laughter, deceit, foolishness and listening through performance, musical improvisation, sonic sculpture, dance and play, the course concludes with a play called When Wajcha Meets Pachamama’.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Guest instructors include performers and religious people with foundations crossed by religious traditions of Christianity and Ifá. Identical to IE 273.

**CW 104 – Fundamentals of Preaching**

3 credits

In Person

[Timothy Adkins-Jones](#)

This course provides a basic introduction to the theology, ethics, and practice of Christian preaching. Students explore the nature and purpose of preaching in relation to the interpretation of texts, culture, and community contexts. The course offers opportunities for students to hone the skills involved in effective sermon design and delivery.

**Prerequisite:** BX 101; or HB 101 and NT 101. Introductory exegesis (“E”) course may be taken concurrently.

**Note:** CW 103 or CW 104 required for Master of Divinity students completing option A of the Practical Theology requirement.

**CW 303 – Preaching and Protest**

3 credits

Online

[Timothy Adkins-Jones](#)

This course examines ways that preaching helps galvanize and sustain social movements, shape the public discourse of pressing social issues, and serve as a practice of protest. The history of the relationship between preaching and protest and the theologies undergirding its practice in various sociocultural contexts is explored. Consideration is also given to the praxis of preaching during protests and rhetorical analysis of the speeches that emerge in protest moments. Students craft sermons and analyze them using tools developed in the course.

**Prerequisite:** CW 103 or CW 104 recommended.

**Note:** Fulfills general social justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

**CW 350 – Learning From the Earth: Interdisciplinary Resources for Eco-Rituals and Earth Liturgies**

3 credits

Online

[Cláudio Carvalhaes](#)

If Christian worship entails definitions of what it is to be human, this course asks the question: what is to be (the) earth? In this interdisciplinary course, we read important works from philosophical, anthropological, political, and indigenous perspectives on the earth, the environment and the anthropocene. From these expansive forms of knowledge and understanding, students engage with: learning and dialoguing; recognizing challenges; correcting and expanding Christian notions of liturgical theologies; worship, rituals, and liturgies, in order to respond to the current climate catastrophe.

**Note:** Fulfills eco-justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

**CW 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

**CW 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**SUMMER 2024**

**CW 247 – Liturgies From Below: Prayers In Defiance Of Empire**

3 credits

Online

[\*Cláudio Carvalhaes\*](#)

Prayer is said to be the grammar of faith and this course delves into the heart of liturgy: prayer. Students visit safe places near their homes to pray. By visiting such places, we learn how to pray from where we are. Attending to the various layers of presences at each place: human, animal, vegetal and mineral, students learn a new grammar of faith for theologies and spiritualities. With this new vocabulary, a narrative/action and word/performance can be created to help define the structures of Empire.

**Note:** Fulfills eco-justice and general social justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students.

# THE THEOLOGY AND ETHICS FIELD

## *Philosophy of Religion*

**FALL 2023**

### **PR 318 – Process Theology**

3 credits

In Person

[John Thatamanil](#)

This course provides an introduction to process philosophy and theology. The primary goal is to enable students to critically consider the ongoing significance of process thought for contemporary constructive theology.

**Note:** Total enrollment limited to twenty students. Identical to TS 318.

### **PR 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **PR 440 – Marxism, Critical Theories, New Materialism**

3 credits

Online

[Jan Rehmman](#)

This course provides a solid background in Marxism, critical theories, and "New Materialism". Students become acquainted with Marx' critique of alienation and exploitation, we compare the "Frankfurt School" with Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony, and major theories of ideology and habitus. We explore approaches of "New Materialism" that challenge the dichotomy of "man" and "nature".

**Note:** Fulfills general social justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to RS 440.

### **PR 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**PR 377 – Womanist Theology and the Arts**

3 credits

Online

[Andrea White](#)

This course considers black women's artistic expression as theological utterance and explores the aesthetic imaginary in black thought. Through the intersection of womanist theology and theological aesthetics, course material engages creative works of black women as both counter movement to antiblackness and black death and as sites for wonder and grace. Exceeding practices of resistance and struggle, black art is an occasion for worldmaking.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills gender/sexuality justice, and racial/ethnic justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to TS 377.

**PR 226 – Kant, Hegel, and Modern Theology**

3 credits

In Person

[Gary Dorrien](#)

This course studies the thought of Immanuel Kant and G.W.F. Hegel within their social and historical contexts and the influence of Kantian and Hegelian idealism in modern theology. Focus is on the epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and philosophy of religion of Kant and Hegel and the impact of their thought on Schleiermacher, Schelling, Kierkegaard, Troeltsch, Whitehead, Barth and Tillich. *Formerly ST 226.*

**Note:** Identical to SE 226 and TS 226.

**PR 302 – Theology and the Natural World: Enchantment and Ecotheology**

3 credits

Online

[John Thatamanil](#)

This course explores cutting edge work on how nature itself is being reimagined across a range of fields: science studies, philosophy, ecology, literature and theology. How can and must we reimagine "nature" in the anthropocene? Central to this course is the work of reimagining nature as living, animated, and enchanted. What are the implications of this reimagination for how we study theology?

**Note:** Fulfills eco-justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Part of the five-year Insight Project covering various topics/themes. May be repeated with different topics. Identical to TS 302.

**PR 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

## PR 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

## Social Ethics

**FALL 2023**

### SE 208 – Moral Traditions and Social Ethics

3 credits

Online

[Isaac B. Sharp](#)

This course introduces students to the field of ethics, particularly Christian social ethics, through a range of classic and contemporary texts. Students learn methods of ethical analysis (virtue, teleological, deontological, and liberative) and investigate contemporary social issues, including sexuality, racism and poverty. The course aims to build our capacities to analyze social conditions and identify constructive and creative moral actions that may lead to more justice.

**Note:** Fulfills Theology and Ethics requirement for Chaplaincy students. Fulfills general social justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students.

### SE 223 – Queering Ethics

3 credits

In Person

[Sarah Azaransky](#)

The course examines how North American and European Christian ethicists have initiated and responded to questions of heterosexism, traces the history of queer and LGBTQI studies, and considers how Christianity has contributed to the construction of categories of sex, gender, and sexuality and whether the tradition constrains and/or encourages sexual freedom and equality. *Formerly CE 223.*

**Note:** Enrollment limited to twenty students.

### SE 401 – Guided Reading

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CE 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

## SE 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CE 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**SUMMER 2024**

## SE 233 – Engaging the Powers: A Theo-Ethical Framework for Racial Justice and Black Liberation

3 credits

Online

*Charlene Sinclair*

In the United States, blackness has historically functioned as a structuring mechanism for the dis-humanization, commodification control of bodies. Using James Cone's framework of Black theology, which takes seriously the anti-imperial and anti-capitalist underpinnings of the Black Power movement, students discuss strategies for moral, ethical, and political responses.

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills racial/ethnic justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Identical to PT 233.

**SPRING 2024**

## SE 216 – Abolition, Transformative Justice, and Buddhist Social Ethics

3 credits

Online

[\*Rima Vesely-Flad\*](#)

This course examines the historical antecedent of the present-day prison system and the multiple dimensions in which criminal justice policies impact particular communities in the contemporary period. The first part focuses on philosophies of punishment, theologies of race, and nineteenth-century economies of plantations, jails, and prisons. Over the second unit, students examine present-day patterns of punishment, specifically addressing moral discourses in contemporary politics, the school-to-prison pipeline, and successful activist challenges to the pervasiveness of exploiting criminalized persons. The third unit proposes a constructive Buddhist social ethics on the topics of mass incarceration, abolition, and transformative justice. Two approaches are taken: 1) employing Buddhist doctrines such as *pratītyasamutpāda* (dependent origination) and *anicca* (impermanence) in the contemporary United States context, and, 2) examining the implications of the anti-caste movement in India, led by the Buddhist legal scholar B.R. Ambedkar, for addressing systemic racism in United States social and political institutions.

**Note:** Fulfills Theology and Ethics requirement for Chaplaincy students. Total enrollment limited to twenty-four students. Identical to IE 216.

### SE 217 – Islamic Ethics

3 credits

In Person

[Jerusha T. Rhodes](#)

This course introduces central concerns, sources, and debates in Islamic ethics, and surveys a variety of subfields, including Qur'anic, prophetic, sexual, environmental, and medical ethics. Emphasis is placed on understanding the methods of Islamic ethics; connections between conceptions of the Divine, human person, and society; and how diversity, identity, and context shape ethical perspectives.

**Note:** Fulfills Theology and Ethics requirement for Chaplaincy students. Fulfills Theology and Ethics requirement for Master of Arts in Religion students with a concentration in Islam & Interreligious Engagement. Total enrollment limited to eighteen students. Identical to IE 217.

### SE 226 – Kant, Hegel, and Modern Theology

3 credits

In Person

[Gary Dorrien](#)

This course studies the thought of Immanuel Kant and G.W.F. Hegel within their social and historical contexts and the influence of Kantian and Hegelian idealism in modern theology. Focus is on the epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and philosophy of religion of Kant and Hegel and the impact of their thought on Schleiermacher, Schelling, Kierkegaard, Troeltsch, Whitehead, Barth and Tillich. *Formerly CE 226.*

**Note:** Identical to PR 226 and TS 226.

### SE 258 – The Black Social Gospel, 1940-Present

3 credits

Online

[Gary Dorrien](#)

This course studies the later Black social gospel tradition that arose in the 1870s and provided the "new abolition" theology of social justice that undergirded the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. The period covered is from the civil rights movement to the present day, featuring Martin Luther King Jr, Pauli Murray, numerous leaders associated with the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating, and numerous theologians, political leaders, pastors, and organizers affiliated with Black theology, the womanist tradition, liberation theology, and postcolonial criticism. *Formerly CE 258.*

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills racial/ethnic justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Identical to HS 258.

### SE 401 – Guided Reading

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CE 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

## SE 502 – Guided Research

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly CE 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

## Theological Studies

**FALL 2023**

### TS 104 – Introduction to Systematic Theology

3 credits

In Person

[Andrea White](#)

An introduction to systematic theology, students study Christian theologies of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries including black, feminist, liberation, queer, and womanist theologies. Course readings address contemporary debates on theological problems such as the authority of revelation and scripture, radical divine transcendence, care of creation, the person and work of Jesus Christ, violence of the cross, what it means to be human, hope in the face of evil and suffering, to name a few. *Formerly ST 104.*

**Note:** TS 101 or TS 103 or TS 104 required for Master of Arts in Religion and Master of Divinity students.

### TS 318 – Process Theology

3 credits

In Person

[John Thatamanil](#)

This course provides an introduction to process philosophy and theology. The primary goal is to enable students to critically consider the ongoing significance of process thought for contemporary constructive theology. *Formerly ST 318.*

**Note:** Total enrollment limited to twenty students. Identical to TS 318.

### TS 327 – Double Belonging

3 credits

Online

[John Thatamanil](#)

Increasingly, persons are taking up practices from more than one religious tradition. Some go so far as to claim “double belonging”. This course explores multiple religious’ participation/double belonging and its implications for theology. After exploring a wide range of such phenomena, we ask the following questions: Can one belong to two (or more) different religious traditions and practices at the same time? Is religious “double-dipping” possible? Is it worthwhile? Is it necessary?

**Note:** Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to IE 327.

### **TS 345 – Theology, Ethics, and Spirituality**

3 credits

In Person

[Roger Haight](#)

This course explores the connections between theology, ethical theory, and moral practice in Christian spirituality in the broad sense of being in relationship with God. The course includes classic texts of Aquinas, Eckhart, à Kempis, Luther, Calvin, Ignatius of Loyola, and Kant; contemporary authors such as Rauschenbusch, Bonhoeffer, Rahner, Segundo, Johnson, Metz, Soelle, Gutiérrez, Sobrino, Cone and Copeland. Students also study classic themes such as: sin and grace, faith and love, imitation of Christ, love of God and love of neighbor, prayer, contemplation in action, option for the poor, and vocation.

### **TS 374 – Womanist Theology and Black Theology**

3 credits

In Person

[Andrea White](#)

This course provides an introduction to womanist and black theologies through a study of five decades of scholarship. Womanist theologians and scholars of black theology are presented as interlocutors on four major topics: 1) biblical revelation and biblical hermeneutics; 2) the cross and redemption (Christology, soteriology, evil, sin and suffering); 3) genealogies of race and the co-constitutive relation between race and theology; 4) theologies of embodiment, theological anthropology and gender violence. In honor of their legacies, the course features readings of James H. Cone and Delores Williams and concludes with interpretations of their work by preeminent scholars now leading the field. *Formerly ST 374.*

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students.

### **TS 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly ST 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **TS 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly ST 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

**TS 377 – Womanist Theology and the Arts**

3 credits

Online

[Andrea White](#)

This course considers black women's artistic expression as theological utterance and explores the aesthetic imaginary in black thought. Through the intersection of womanist theology and theological aesthetics, course material engages creative works of black women as both counter movement to antiblackness and black death and as sites for wonder and grace. Exceeding practices of resistance and struggle, black art is an occasion for worldmaking. *Formerly ST 377.*

**Note:** Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. Fulfills gender/sexuality justice, and racial/ethnic justice requirements for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Identical to PR 377.

**TS 101 – Foundations in Christian Theology**

3 credits

In Person

[Roger Haight](#)

This course explores the groundwork of Christian theology for those who have no background in the discipline. It builds on the conception of religious experience and characterizes Christian theology in dialogue with other religious traditions and ways of understanding reality. *Formerly ST 101.*

**Note:** TS 101 or TS 103 or TS 104 required for Master of Arts in Religion and Master of Divinity students.

**TS 226 – Kant, Hegel, and Modern Theology**

3 credits

In Person

[Gary Dorrien](#)

This course studies the thought of Immanuel Kant and G.W.F. Hegel within their social and historical contexts and the influence of Kantian and Hegelian idealism in modern theology. Focus is on the epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and philosophy of religion of Kant and Hegel and the impact of their thought on Schleiermacher, Schelling, Kierkegaard, Troeltsch, Whitehead, Barth and Tillich. *Formerly ST 226.*

**Note:** Identical to PR 226 and SE 226.

**TS 302 – Theology and the Natural World: Enchantment and Ecotheology**

3 credits

Online

[John Thatamanil](#)

This course explores cutting edge work on how nature itself is being reimagined across a range of fields: science studies, philosophy, ecology, literature and theology. How can and must we reimagine "nature" in the anthropocene? Central to this course is the work of reimagining nature as living, animated, and enchanted. What are the implications of this reimagination for how we study theology? *Formerly ST 302.*

**Note:** Fulfills eco-justice requirement for Master of Arts in Social Justice students. Fulfills distributional elective requirement for Advanced Certificate-Social Justice students. Part of the five-year Insight Project covering various topics/themes. May be repeated with different topics. Identical to PR 302.

### **TS 319 – Science Fiction and Theology**

3 credits

Online

[Serene Jones](#)

This course explores contemporary science fiction novels and films that highlight central political and social issues of the present. With each work, students explore theological, religious, and spiritual issues of these works including the questions they ask, and the challenges they raise for our collective reflection. We discuss themes and questions such as the nature of apocalyptic genres; notions of “the end” and “the future”; time and space reimagined; practices of hope and despair; rethinking community and humanity in alternate realities; the relation of the imagined to the real; the character of love, justice, anarchy, and law; the nature of joy; the role of beauty; understandings of transcendent reality; and the challenge of mass trauma and its legacies. Authors and material covered ranges from Octavia Butler’s magnificent works to Robinson’s recent, “The Ministry for the Future”. Students are expected to share their own favored sci-fi and cli-fi materials, particularly materials with deep questions about human and planetary existence in a compelling and serious fashion.

### **TS 401 – Guided Reading**

1-3 credits

Independent study for master-level students under the guidance of a member of the faculty. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly ST 401.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Reading form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-reading-401-approval/>.

### **TS 502 – Guided Research**

1-6 credits

Independent study for doctoral candidates under the guidance of faculty with whom they are doing their major work. A topic/title is established in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty. *Formerly ST 502.*

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Cannot be taken for reading credit. View and submit Guided Research form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/guided-research-phd-students/>.

# GENERAL COURSES

**FALL 2023**

## **CX 801 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination I**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

## **CX 802 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination II**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

## **CX 803 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination III**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

## **CX 804 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination IV**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

## **UT 101 – Introduction to Theological Studies**

2 credits

Online

[Serene Jones](#)

[Su Yon Pak](#)

This course is primarily designed for entering students as an introduction to the major themes, concepts, and controversies within the fields of theological study, including Christian theology, social ethics, biblical studies and the study of sacred texts, historical studies, practical theology (including worship, preaching, & arts, religion & education, religion & society, and spiritual care), and interreligious engagement (including Buddhism and Islam studies). Students engage in lively dialogue with Union faculty from a variety of disciplines through video and live interviews, and discussion forums.

**Note:** Required for incoming first-year Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Religion students.

## **UT 103 – Social Justice Introductory Colloquium**

1 credit

Online

[Isaac B. Sharp](#)

Part one of a two-part course for students in the Master of Arts in Social Justice program to learn foundational approaches to social justice from major fields of theological study. Students explore and discuss their ideas of the meaning of social justice while developing their goals and program of study.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to Master of Arts in Social Justice students.

**Note:** Required for incoming first-semester Master of Arts in Social Justice students. May be repeated, but taken only once for credit.

### **UT 150 – Thesis Seminar I**

1 credit

Online

[Amy E. Meverden](#)

Part one of a two-semester course intended to improve the quality of theses, and to strengthen the research and writing skills of students. The specific objectives for this half of the course include: 1) helping students formulate manageable research questions and 2) identifying resources for addressing those questions. Students craft a satisfactory thesis proposal and a working resource list. Assignments for the course align with established theses deadlines and are based on milestones in the process of completing a master's thesis.

**Corequisite:** UT 422.

**Note:** Pass/fail. UT 150 and UT 151 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Strongly recommended for second-year Master of Arts in Religion students writing a thesis, exempt only with advisor permission.

### **UT 400 – Extended Residence**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy degree candidates who have completed their residency or tuition-unit requirements, without having completed the academic requirements, must register for this course each semester immediately following the term in which the residency or tuition-unit obligation is satisfied.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of PhD coursework.

### **UT 421 – Final Project I**

3 credits

In the final year, Master of Divinity students select one of the following options (a) six credits for a senior project, or (b) six credits from elective courses. The senior project is completed in their field of study normally as a fall-spring sequence over one academic year.

**Note:** Temporary grade of "IP" is assigned after the first semester; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses. Consult the academic calendar regarding due dates for submissions. View and submit Project Overview form: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-catalog-academic-policies/m-div-project-approval-form/>.

### **UT 422 – Master's Thesis I (with Seminar)**

2 credits

A thesis is required for Master of Arts in Religion candidates usually in the final year of the program. A total of six credits in their field of study completed normally as a fall-spring sequence over one academic year.

**Corequisite:** UT 150.

**Note:** Required for Master of Arts in Religion students. Temporary grade of "IP" is assigned after the first semester; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses. Consult the academic calendar regarding due dates for submissions. View and submit Thesis Overview form: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-catalog-academic-policies/m-a-thesis-approval-form/>.

### **UT 423 – Master’s Thesis I**

3 credits

A thesis is required for Master of Arts in Religion candidates usually in the final year of the program. A total of six credits in their field of study completed normally as a fall-spring sequence over one academic year.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of the advisor for UT 150 exemption.

**Note:** Required for Master of Arts in Religion students. Temporary grade of “IP” is assigned after the first semester; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses. Consult the academic calendar regarding due dates for submissions. View and submit Thesis Overview form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-catalog-academic-policies/m-a-thesis-approval-form/>.

### **UT 433 – Extended Paper**

0 credits

The Master of Sacred Theology extended paper (thirty-forty pages) is completed as an extended or enlarged adaptation of requirements of a seminar or advanced-level course. The topic of the extended paper is established in collaboration with instructor. Students must also register for the course in which the paper is completed.

**Note:** Required for STM students. View and submit Extended Paper Overview form:

<https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-catalog-academic-policies/s-t-m-extended-paper-application/>

### **UT 550 – Doctoral Seminar I**

1 credit

In Person

[\*Jan Rehmman\*](#)

This seminar enhances the interdisciplinary nature of the Doctor of Philosophy program by inviting faculty (and other scholars) from different fields to attend to the ongoing dialogue among the different disciplines.

**Note:** Pass/fail. Required for first- and second-year PhD students. Open to all PhD students.

### **UT 560 – Modern Language Examination in German**

0 credits

Given two times each semester - fall and spring. See dates listed in the academic calendar. View and submit Language Exam Registration form: [https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language\\_exam/](https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language_exam/).

**Note:** Passing of one modern language exam required for STM students. Passing of two modern language exams required for PhD students.

### **UT 570 – Modern Language Examination in French**

0 credits

Given two times each semester - fall and spring. See dates listed in the academic calendar. View and submit Language Exam Registration form: [https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language\\_exam/](https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language_exam/).

**Note:** Passing of one modern language exam required for STM students. Passing of two modern language exams required for PhD students.

**UT 580 – Modern Language Examination in Spanish**

0 credits

Given two times each semester - fall and spring. See dates listed in the academic calendar. View and submit Language Exam Registration form: [https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language\\_exam/](https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language_exam/).

**Note:** Passing of one modern language exam required for STM students. Passing of two modern language exams required for PhD students.

**UT 600 – Doctoral Dissertation Proposal**

0 credits

Following completion of the Master of Philosophy requirements, students are eligible for the Doctor of Philosophy degree and prepare a dissertation proposal that must be approved by the faculty, normally submitted six months to one year following completion of the comprehensive examinations. When the principal advisers believe the student's proposal is ready for formal review, a hearing is set up with the student and at least three faculty members of the dissertation committee.

**Prerequisites:** CX 801, CX 802, CX 803, CX 804.

**UT 700 – Doctoral Dissertation Defense**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy candidates register for this course in the semester when the dissertation is to be defended.

**Prerequisite:** UT 600.

**UT 900 – Doctoral Dissertation Deposit**

0 credits

This course is reflected on student transcripts following deposit of the Doctor of Philosophy dissertation.

**Prerequisite:** UT 700.

**SPRING 2024**

**CX 801 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination I**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

**CX 802 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination II**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

**CX 803 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination III**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

**CX 804 – Doctoral Comprehensive Examination IV**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass four comprehensive exams as part of degree requirements.

### **UT 103 – Social Justice Introductory Colloquium**

1 credit

Online

[Isaac B. Sharp](#)

Part one of a two-part course for students in the Master of Arts in Social Justice program to learn foundational approaches to social justice from major fields of theological study. Students explore and discuss their ideas of the meaning of social justice while developing their goals and program of study.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to Master of Arts in Social Justice students.

**Note:** Required for incoming first-semester Master of Arts in Social Justice students. May be repeated, but taken only once for credit.

### **UT 105 – Social Justice Final Colloquium**

2 credits

Online

[Isaac B. Sharp](#)

Part two of a two-part course for students in the Master of Arts in Social Justice program to deeply engage with foundational approaches to social justice from major fields of theological study. Students complete a culminating project to integrate their coursework, including ideas and insights taken from both colloquia, that represents an integrative, applied work.

**Prerequisite:** UT 103. Restricted to Master of Arts in Social Justice students who have completed at least twenty-seven credits.

### **UT 151 – Thesis Seminar II**

1 credit

Online

[Amy E. Meverden](#)

Part two of a two-semester course intended to improve the quality of theses, and to strengthen the research and writing skills of students. The specific objectives for this half of the course include: 1) writing a thesis and 2) participating in larger scholarly discussions about the work. Students craft an outline, first draft and final draft. Assignments for the course align with the established deadlines for Union theses and are based on milestones in the process of completing a master's thesis.

**Prerequisite:** UT 150.

**Corequisite:** UT 425.

**Note:** Pass/fail. UT 150 and UT 151 must be taken sequentially in one academic year. Strongly recommended for second-year Master of Arts in Religion students writing a thesis, exempt only with advisor permission.

### **UT 400 – Extended Residence**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy degree candidates who have completed their residency or tuition-unit requirements, without having completed the academic requirements, must register for this course each semester immediately following the term in which the residency or tuition-unit obligation is satisfied.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of PhD coursework.

**UT 424 – Final Project II**

3 credits

In the final year, Master of Divinity students select one of the following options (a) six credits for a senior project, or (b) six credits from elective courses. The senior project is completed in their field of study normally as a fall-spring sequence over one academic year.

**Prerequisite:** UT 421.

**Note:** Temporary grade of “IP” is assigned after the first semester; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses. Consult the academic calendar regarding due dates for submissions. View and submit Project Overview form: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-catalog-academic-policies/m-div-project-approval-form/>.

**UT 425 – Master’s Thesis II (with Seminar)**

2 credits

A thesis is required for Master of Arts in Religion candidates usually in the final year of the program. A total of six credits in their field of study normally completed as a fall-spring sequence over one academic year.

**Prerequisite:** UT 422.

**Corequisite:** UT 151.

**Note:** Required for Master of Arts in Religion students. Temporary grade of “IP” is assigned after the first semester; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses. Consult the academic calendar regarding due dates for submissions.

**UT 426 – Master’s Thesis II**

3 credits

A thesis is required for Master of Arts in Religion candidates usually in the final year of the program. A total of six credits in their field of study completed as a fall-spring sequence over one academic year.

**Prerequisite:** UT 423.

**Note:** Required for Master of Arts in Religion students. Temporary grade of “IP” is assigned after the first semester; credit is awarded after successful completion of both courses. Consult the academic calendar regarding due dates for submissions.

**UT 433 – STM Extended Paper**

0 credits

The Master of Sacred Theology extended paper (thirty-forty pages) is completed as an extended or enlarged adaptation of requirements of a seminar or advanced-level course. The topic of the extended paper is established in collaboration with instructor. Students must also register for the course in which the paper is completed.

**Note:** Required for STM students. Does not carry curricular points of credit apart from the points assigned to the course in which it is written. View and submit Extended Paper Overview form: <https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-catalog-academic-policies/s-t-m-extended-paper-application/>.

### **UT 551 – Doctoral Seminar II**

1 credit

Online

[Jan Rehmman](#)

This seminar enhances the interdisciplinary nature of the Doctor of Philosophy program by inviting faculty (and other scholars) from different fields to attend to the ongoing dialogue among the different disciplines.

**Prerequisite:** UT 550.

**Note:** Pass/fail. Required for first- and second-year PhD students. Open to all PhD students.

### **UT 560 – Modern Language Examination in German**

0 credits

Given two times each semester - fall and spring. See dates listed in the academic calendar. View and submit Language Exam Registration form: [https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language\\_exam/](https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language_exam/).

**Note:** Passing of one modern language exam required for STM students. Passing of two modern language exams required for PhD students.

### **UT 570 – Modern Language Examination in French**

0 credits

Given two times each semester - fall and spring. See dates listed in the academic calendar. View and submit Language Exam Registration form: [https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language\\_exam/](https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language_exam/).

**Note:** Passing of one modern language exam required for STM students. Passing of two modern language exams required for PhD students.

### **UT 580 – Modern Language Examination in Spanish**

0 credits

Given two times each semester - fall and spring. See dates listed in the academic calendar. View and submit Language Exam Registration form: [https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language\\_exam/](https://utsnyc.edu/academics/registrar/course-registration-grades/language_exam/).

**Note:** Passing of one modern language exam required for STM students. Passing of two modern language exams required for PhD students.

### **UT 600 – Doctoral Dissertation Proposal**

0 credits

Following completion of the Master of Philosophy requirements, students are eligible for the Doctor of Philosophy degree and prepare a dissertation proposal that must be approved by the faculty, normally submitted six months to one year following completion of the comprehensive examinations. When the principal advisers believe the student's proposal is ready for formal review, a hearing is set up with the student and at least three faculty members of the dissertation committee.

**Prerequisites:** CX 801, CX 802, CX 803, CX 804.

**UT 700 – Doctoral Dissertation Defense**

0 credits

Doctor of Philosophy candidates register for this course in the semester when the dissertation is to be defended.

**Prerequisite:** UT 600.

**UT 900 – Doctoral Dissertation Deposit**

0 credits

This course is reflected on student transcripts following deposit of the Doctor of Philosophy dissertation.

**Prerequisite:** UT 700.

## SUPPLEMENTAL CO-CURRICULAR COURSES

Only three credits count towards MAR/MASJ/MDiv degrees;  
not permitted toward program requirements for STM/PhD/DMin/AC students.

**FALL 2023**

### **SU 101 – Graduate Writing Seminar**

1 credit

Online

[\*Amy E. Meverden\*](#)

This course addresses the breadth and variety of writing styles encountered by graduate students in seminary courses. By working on actual writing assignments in current courses, this course seeks to illuminate the writing process in ways immediately applicable to students.

**Note:** Pass/fail. May be repeated, but taken only once for credit.

### **SU 102 – Seminary Choir**

1 credit

In Person

[\*Malcolm Merriweather\*](#)

Singing diverse works from across the sacred choral spectrum, with participation in periodic chapel services.

**Note:** Pass/fail. May be repeated as audit, but taken only once for credit.

### **SU 112 – Dance and Movement in/as Practice: Practicum**

1 credit

In Person

[\*Jane Alexandre\*](#)

A contemporary dance and movement course designed to help students develop tools and techniques for bringing movement arts to all forms of practice. Through warm up exercises, strength and technique development, and movement exploration, students begin to discover possibilities for fully embodied practice.

**Note:** Pass/fail. May be repeated as audit, but taken only once for credit. Open to all levels of experience.

### **SU 150 – Global Anglicanism: Struggle for Communion**

1 credit

Online

[\*Anderson Jeremiah\*](#)

The Anglican Communion is a gathering of independent and self-governing churches spread across forty-two geographical provinces across one hundred and eighty countries. The key instrument of communion is the Archbishop of Canterbury. However, the communion has come under significant strain over the last decade. Issues ranging from colonialism, racism and ordination of women has exasperated the goodwill among the churches despite its shared history. More recently the debate around human sexuality and the decision by some provinces has almost signaled the end of the third largest communion of churches in the world in its current state. In such a context, this course carefully examines the mission history, theology, and ecclesiology of Anglican communion through the critical lenses of post-colonialism and justice perspective, especially issues around racism, misogyny and homophobia. Through diverse voices from the global communion, students explore what it means to be an Anglican today.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

**SU 161 – Theological German: From Beginning to Taking the Exam**

0 credits

In Person

[Jan Rehmman](#)

Designed to prepare students for the German language exam, starting with basic elements of grammar and vocabulary, the course requires no prior knowledge of German, but requires intensive commitment. Students are introduced to main problems of reading German. Corresponding to exam requirements, focus is on understanding and translation of scholarly theological texts; i.e. exegesis, church history, Christian ethics and philosophy.

**SU 171 – Theological French: From Beginning to Taking the Exam**

0 credits

In Person

[Jan Rehmman](#)

Designed to prepare students for the French language exam, starting with basic elements of grammar and vocabulary, the course requires no prior knowledge of French, but requires intensive commitment. Students are introduced to main problems of reading French. Corresponding to exam requirements, focus is on understanding and translation of scholarly theological texts; i.e. exegesis, church history, Christian ethics and philosophy.

**SU 183 – Theological Spanish: From Beginning to Taking the Exam**

0 credits

In person

[Carla Roland Guzman](#)

This course is designed for students who are preparing for the language exam in Spanish. Prior knowledge of Spanish is not required, and students are introduced to the study of the basic grammatical forms and functions of the language. The course includes translation practice corresponding to the requirements of the exam. The training focuses on the understanding and translation of scholarly, especially theological texts; i.e., exegesis, church history, Christian ethics and philosophy.

**SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: Black and Spanish Harlem: Music, Religion, Politics, and Culture**

1 credit

In person

[Samuel Cruz](#)

This course consists of a historical walking tour of Black and Spanish Harlem, both integral neighborhoods of New York City. Since the turn of the twentieth-century, a fascinating coalition of art, culture, politics and religion has emerged out of these neighborhoods, leaving an enduring vibrant and influential legacy. This intensive course also explores the ways in which African Americans have greatly influenced the formation of the Puerto Rican Pentecostal movement, as well as social justice and resistance movements. Students explore the fertile artistic, cultural, musical, religious and political contributions made by African American and Puerto Rican communities to the United States and the world.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

**SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: Bible and Body: Exploring the Food Conflict in Romans 14-15**

1 credit

In person

[\*Brigitte Kahl\*](#)

This course offers an experimental body-centered approach to Romans 14-15 that employs Biblical storytelling and Bibliodrama to gain a deeper understanding of a food-based community crisis among Christ-followers in first-century Rome. Using the body as a tool of exegesis, students enter more fully into the world of the text and its flesh- and- blood actors. As we reactivate traditional Bible study, new dimensions of Paul's conflict resolution strategy at Rome and its relevance for today emerge.

**Note:** Enrollment limited to twelve students. Pass/fail.

**SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: The Journey from Diatribe to Dialogue in Christian Muslim Relations**

1 credit

In person

*Mona Siddiqui*

The rich theological history of Christians and Muslims has been one of both polemics and pluralism. This course focuses on the variety of theological themes and approaches which occupied Christians who wrote about Islam and Muslims and Christianity. We study the earliest views of Eastern Christians who saw Islam mainly as a Christian heresy to medieval polemics in Latin Christianity as well as Muslim writings refuting Christian claims and creeds, namely the divinity of Jesus. The postcolonial encounters between the two faiths saw the emergence of different approaches which resulted in a gradual shift towards more eirenic dialogue. Since 9/11, there has been a new impetus for mutual engagement and understanding in lay and scholarly settings. While fundamentalisms and evangelical ideologies on both sides still create political and social tensions, students gain a far more nuanced appreciation of why this particular history of the world's two largest faiths still matters.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

**SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: Icons Workshop**

1 credit

In person

*Manny Vega*

This course is offered in workshop format for students to design and create their own personal icons as spiritual expression and devotion. Students create their own icons over the two-day workshop, with design and construction materials available. The artist/instructor provides guidance throughout the creative process. Final results provide insight, planning, craftsmanship, and a completed work, that reflects the student's spirituality.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

**SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: The Union of Ati Yoga and Chaplaincy**

1 credit

In person

*Justin von Bujdoss*

This course introduces students to the importance of development of a ministry rooted in open non-judgemental presence as well as a distilled practical introduction to Ati Yoga meditation practice as a supportive technique for chaplains, spiritual caregivers, or anyone interested in releasing themselves from the hardness of our biases, assumptions and projections. The Vajrayana Buddhist practice of Ati Yoga or Dzogchen offers simple, direct instructions for resting into a 'pure being' state that allows for the natural and authentic way of simply letting everything we experience, arise as it does, without the need to judge, ascertain or react.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

**SU 101 – Graduate Writing Seminar**

1 credit

Online

[Amy E. Meverden](#)

This course addresses the breadth and variety of writing styles encountered by graduate students in seminary courses. Working on actual writing assignments in current courses, this course seeks to illuminate the writing process in ways immediately applicable to students.

**Note:** Pass/fail. May be repeated, but taken only once for credit.

**SU 102 – Seminary Choir**

1 credit

In Person

[Malcolm Merriweather](#)

Singing diverse works from across the sacred choral spectrum, with participation in periodic chapel services.

**Note:** Pass/fail. May be repeated as audit, but taken only once for credit.

**SU 120 – Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference**

2 credits

In Person

[Timothy Adkins-Jones](#)

The Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference (SDPC) represents a cross section of progressive African American faith leaders and their congregations in the United States. The SDPC was created to continue the rich legacy of the faith community's engagement in issues of social justice. The annual conference is an opportunity for students to focus on education, advocacy and activism. Students gain practical skills on how to promote justice by resourcing and organizing partner churches, clergy and lay leaders to address the diverse concerns of communities. Requirements include a three-page reflection paper as well as planning and participating in a Union chapel service.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor.

**Note:** Pass/fail. Fulfills concentration requirement for Religion and the Black Experience students. May be repeated as audit, but taken only once for credit. Enrollment limited to fifteen students. Union covers the conference registration fee only; students are responsible for hotel and travel expenses. Students are required to obtain class syllabi in advance, and make their own arrangements regarding missed course assignments.

**SU 150 – Community Engagement: Ecological Restoration and Environmental Justice**

1 credit

Online

[Karena Gore](#)

Communities around the world work on ecological restoration projects to restore health and balance to damaged ecosystems. With physical and biological aspects, ecological restoration is also spiritual and cultural work, addressing the wounds inflicted on people as well as land. This course explores intertwined physical, cultural, ethical, and spiritual dimensions of ecological restoration. Students learn from restoration projects that rely on complex "ways of knowing," where ceremony, prayer, community, and longstanding and attentive relationships with the natural world are fundamental. Topics explored are: approaches and examples of restoration work around the world; restoration work to build community and relationship with place; ceremony and ritual; commodification and monetization of nature; and ethical questions and dilemmas in restoration.

**Note:** Pass/fail. Offered in conjunction with the Center for Earth Ethics: <https://centerforearthethics.org/>.

### **SU 150 – Community Engagement: Repairing Worlds: Theological Responses to Climate Crisis**

1 credit

Online

*Willis Jenkins*

As the climate crisis intensifies injustices, it stresses commitments to justice, love, and solidarity. As it diminishes biocultural relations and exposes people to unforeseen vulnerabilities, it fosters anxieties and new kinds of spiritual needs. This course examines responses to climate change from multiple theological worlds, especially how pathways of repair are envisioned. How are communities attempting to turn inherited damage and injustice toward healing and hope? In addition to readings, lectures, and discussions, the course includes exercises for critical reflection and contemplative practice.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

### **SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: Mass Incarceration and Reimagining Public Safety**

1 credit

In person

*Judy Clark*

This course examines advocacy efforts in the New York state prison system that warehouses thirty-thousand people in which a person dies every three days. These advocacy efforts include bail, parole and sentencing reform, the fight to close Rikers Island, and the call for treatment over jails and efforts to prioritize stabilizing families. Students analyze how the opposition to these reform efforts draws on the public fear of rising crime rates, and also examine alternative approaches to public safety.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

### **SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: The Trans Sounds of Black Freedom**

1 credit

In person

*Michael Roberson*

This course explores the history of the House | Ballroom community as a Black Trans-Womanist theological discourse, a freedom movement, and its spiritual formation responses to race, class, sexuality, and gender oppression. Students further examine the community's ability to use the art of performance as a hermeneutics of the body and situate its history in mobilizing as a resistance to these oppressions and place it in conversation with other historical struggles.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

### **SU 190 – Topics in Ministry: Sadhana of Araminta Ross: Harriet Tubman Freedom Practice**

1 credit

In person

*Shanté Paradigm Smalls*

This course offers how we might manifest the qualities of healer, liberator, companion, and visionary for ourselves, others, and the planet? Students discuss Harriet Tubman's legacy, the efficacy of using Western bodhisattvas (awakened beings). There are typically three main practice components of a Sadhana: 1) Mudras (sacred gestures); 2) Mantra (sacred speech); 3) visualization. Each session begins with shamatha meditation (peaceful abiding) and ends with simply resting in space (Dzogrim). Students practice the Sadhana practice and read short excerpts from Spring Washam's "The Spririt of Harriet Tubman". The course also includes small discussion groups, writing exercises including directed writing, and walks.

**Note:** Pass/fail.

