

## Culminating Project Instructions

### OVERVIEW

The culminating project is a requirement of the Master of Arts in Social Justice (MASJ) degree. It is completed during a student's last semester, while they are enrolled in UT 105.

The goal of the MASJ program is to help students see how a broad understanding of various fields of theological study can contribute to a more robust understanding of social issues and a deeper capacity to advance social justice causes. In UT 105-Social Justice Colloquium II, students will complete a culminating project representing an integrative, applied work. For the culminating project, students will identify one social justice issue of concern within/facing a particular community. Incorporating, integrating, and applying ideas, themes, or concepts from the MASJ coursework, students will then offer a constructive response, develop a helpful approach, or articulate an insightful framing/re-framing of the issue at hand. Although the culminating project may take various forms, it must include at least a 7-10 page written component. Students may also choose to write a longer essay (15-20 pages) for their project.

Each student will work with a faculty member who will serve as the primary supervisor of the culminating project. Students will meet with the faculty supervisor at least twice during the semester to ensure that the project planning is organized and coherent, that any necessary research is thorough and sufficient, and that adequate regular progress is being made. They will also meet with their secondary supervisor (the MASJ program director) at least once.

### DEADLINES/MILESTONES

#### Fall 2024 Projects

##### **Spring 2024**

- Begin thinking about the culminating project and which faculty member might make a good project supervisor. Approach that faculty member to discuss your culminating project idea and ask if they will be your project supervisor.
- (If ready) submit the [Project Overview Form](#)
- Register for UT 105 for the fall semester.

##### **September**

- UT 105 meets September 10<sup>th</sup>
- Complete your project proposal and circulate to your supervisors for review

##### **October 11<sup>th</sup>**

- Last date to submit the [Project Overview Form](#)

##### **December**

- Project due December 6<sup>th</sup> by 5pm
- UT 105 meets December 7<sup>th</sup> for project presentations and celebrations

## Spring 2025 Projects

### Spring 2024

- Begin thinking about the culminating project and which faculty member might make a good project supervisor. Approach that faculty member to discuss your culminating project idea and ask if they will be your project supervisor.
- (If ready) submit the [Project Overview Form](#)

### Fall 2024

- October 11<sup>th</sup> the [Project Overview Form](#) is due
- Register for UT 105 for the spring semester.

### February 2025

- UT 105 meets February 5<sup>th</sup>
- Complete your project proposal and circulate to your supervisors for review

### May

- Project due May 1<sup>st</sup> by 5pm
- UT 105 meets May 3<sup>rd</sup> for project presentations and celebrations

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

The integrative paper should be written in a standard, double-spaced, twelve-point font with one-inch margins. Footnotes should be formatted in ten-point font.

Observe the highest standard with correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, and citations. Follow consistent format and typography found in a generally recognized style manual. Footnotes and references should appear at the bottom of the appropriate pages, or at the end of each chapter, or just before the bibliography.

Whichever style/format you choose, follow it consistently. Recommended manuals include Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations and the Chicago Manual of Style.

The **title page** should contain the title of the paper, author's name, date, and degree. Example:

**Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for  
the degree of Master of Arts in Social Justice  
at Union Theological Seminary [date]**