

Masters Course Descriptions

Courses are listed with both a letter prefix and a number. The prefix denotes the area of study and the number identifies the level of instruction. For example, according to the following chart, CH 301 is an introductory level course in Church History; NT 411 is an intermediate course in New Testament. Interdisciplinary courses carry the IN prefix. Online courses are listed on the course schedule with (OL) after the course number. Course offerings are published annually and updated quarterly.

Areas of Study

BL	Biblical Languages
CC	Church and Community
CH	Church History
CL	Congregational Life
E	Evangelism
ED	Christian Education
H	Homiletics
IN	Integrative/Interdisciplinary
M	Missions
ME	Missions and Evangelism
MN	Pastoral/Parish Ministry
NT	New Testament
OT	Old Testament
PC	Pastoral Care
SM	Supervised Ministry
S	Spirituality
TE	Ethics
TH	Theological Studies
UR	Urban Ministry
WO	Worship
YM	Youth Ministry

Levels of Courses

300-399	Introductory
400-499	Intermediate
500-599	Advanced

All courses are 3 quarter hours credit unless otherwise noted.

BL 301 Biblical Hebrew I

A basic introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of the Hebrew Old Testament. After completing this course, the student will be able to utilize the tools for Biblical study such as Hebrew lexicons and concordances and commentaries, recognizing Hebrew script and transliteration.

Curricular area: OT

BL 302 Biblical Hebrew II

This course is a continuation of a basic introduction to the Hebrew grammar, vocabulary and syntax. This course will prepare the student to be able to read and translate the Hebrew Bible expressively.

Curricular area: OT; *Prerequisite:* BL 301

BL 303 Hebrew Syntax/Exegesis

This course will prepare students to gain knowledge of Hebrew syntax through reading and translating texts. It will also equip students to be able to write an academic exegesis paper.

Curricular area: OT; *Prerequisite:* BL 301 and BL 302

BL 349 Greek for Leaders

Students will not learn Greek but to understand the basic capabilities and ambiguities of the Greek language and the technical terms used by commentators to discuss Greek words and sentence structures.

Curricular area: NT; Heritage Elective

BL 350 New Testament Greek I

A basic introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of the Greek New Testament. On completion of this course, the student will be able to read parts of the Greek New Testament without constant reference to a lexicon. The student will also understand the purposes and limits of exegesis.

Curricular area: NT

BL 351 New Testament Greek II

A continuation of BL 350. The student will be able to read much of the Greek New Testament without constant reference to a lexicon, and understand the purposes and limits of exegesis.

Curricular area: NT; *Prerequisite:* BL 350

BL 352 Greek Syntax/Exegesis

An intermediate study of Greek syntax and exegesis, based on a particular New Testament text.

Curricular area: NT; *Prerequisite:* BL 350 and BL 351

CH 301 Early and Medieval Christianity

This course is a basic introduction to the history of Christianity from its beginning to the end of the Middle Ages and the dawn of the Reformation. It covers the development of the institutional church, explores Christianity as a lived religion, traces the progress of doctrine, and introduces some of the men and women whose thoughts and lives influenced the course of Christian history.

Curricular area: CH; Required

CH 302 Reformation and Modern Christianity

An examination of major developments in Christianity from the time of the Reformation to the

present. The class explores how and why the church evolved as it did with a focus on personalities whose ideas and actions molded Christian piety and belief. *Curricular area:* CH; Required

CH 304 Protestant Reformers

The course examines the lives of leading 16th century Protestant Reformers in the Luther, Reformed (Calvinist), Anglican and Anabaptist traditions with special attention to their contributions to issues facing Christians today in the areas of spirituality, theology and the intersection of church and society. *Curricular area:* CH

CH 407 History of American Religion

This course introduces the panorama of people, movements, issues, groups, events and institutional developments which have characterized religious experience in the United States from the colonial period to the present. *Curricular area:* CH; Required for MDiv

CH 409 Classics of Christian Devotion

This course will explore a representative sample of Christian devotional literature from the early church to the present in order to ascertain the depth and variety of Christian spirituality in the church's history. *Curricular area:* CH

CT 303 Building Multicultural Communities

The pluralistic cultural context of religious institutions mandates the understanding of and appreciation for cultural diversity. This course will promote cultural sensitivity through exposure to a variety of cultural traditions and stories. Story-telling and story-listening will be emphasized. A reflection-action approach will be taken to examine theological and philosophical presuppositions, as well as social science principles and theories that inform heterogeneous community development. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

CT 305 Christian Community Development

Christian Community Development is a biblically based philosophy of ministry among the poor and hurting people. It is based on eight key components that come along side of people and empower them to help themselves. The roots, philosophy and principles of Christian Community Development will be explored. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

CT 306 Black Church as Agent of Social Change

This course will lead students through an historical analysis of the American Black Church, rising out of slavery to become justice advocates and agents of social change. Six modules of history will cover from 1750 to the present, with an emphasis on Dr. Martin King's pivotal prophetic ministry in context. From that reflection students will examine several contemporary models of Christian activism through the prism of theological tensions of the call to be evangelical and the call to be prophetic in response to the impact of human's institutions on the human condition. *Curricular area:* CC or CH; Ministry Elective

CT 307 A Biblical Theology of Ministry to the Poor

This class will study poverty and its effect on our world. A study of both Old Testament and New Testament passages will show God's heart for the hurting and poor. This biblical theology of poverty gives us a mandate as Christians to live life in community in the church and help and care

for the poor. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

CT 311 Our Call to Ministry: Principles for Longevity

This course will explore the means and methodologies to stay the course in ministry for a lifetime. We will study some of the key issues that arouse, discourage and detour people from staying and working in ministry. The purpose is to create patterns and habits that will carry the minister through the ups and downs of a lifetime in ministry and avoid burnout. *Curricular area:* CC or UR

CT 315 Ministry in Rural and Small Communities

This intensely practical course will introduce students to the basic pastoral skills needed to effectively serve churches in small and rural communities. Students will be exposed to issues affecting ministry such as low populations, large geographic areas, powerful subcultures and traditions, as well as rural poverty and ignorance. Students will interact with actual case studies and be given a notebook with specific tools and resources.

Curricular area: CC; Ministry Elective

CT 330 Ministry in a Multicultural Context

What does it mean for the church of Jesus Christ to exist and make its witness in a multi-cultural context? What does racial, cultural diversity mean in the postmodern world? What are some theological, missiological, social implications of the multi-ethnic/multi-cultural church? In response to these questions, this course is to explore the church in a multi-cultural perspective.

Curricular area: CC; Ministry Elective

CT 400 Church Based Community Development

This course will move beyond the philosophy and principles of Christian Community Development and will look at ways church can love their neighborhood while playing a major role in the development of the community. It will provide a theological foundation for engagement in wholistic community development. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

ED 302 The Teaching Ministry of the Church

The purpose of this course is to enrich the students' knowledge and skills in nurturing the spiritual life of personal in all age groups through the educational ministry of the church. Contemporary approaches to the teaching of all age groups will be explored. Both theory and practice will be part of the experience in this course. *Curricular area:* ED; Ministry Elective

ED 303 Principles and Methods of Teaching and Learning

An examination of the teaching-learning process, including theories, strategies and methods which shape quality teaching in the local church. Students will apply principles of teaching and learning to the design, implementation, and evaluation of teaching approaches. *Curricular area:* ED; Ministry Elective

ED 404 Educational Ministry with Adults

An exploration of the characteristics and development issues of young, middle, and older adults; theories and principles of adult religious education and resources for adult ministries in the local church. *Curricular area:* ED; Ministry Elective

ED 420 Developing Churches and Religious Organizations

Utilizing a scholar-practitioner model this course will survey and analyze contemporary issues in developing healthy churches and Christian organizations. The focus will engage critical thinking and theological reflection on the role and potential contribution of the field of Organization Development (OD) in leadership of organizations. The field of OD includes such subjects as diagnosing and facilitating healthy organizational change, team building, collaborative leadership, leadership development and succession strategies, and the development of vision, mission and values using large group intervention strategies. *Curricular area:* ED or CL; Ministry Elective

ED 423 Developing Emergent Leaders

Educational ministry in the church seeks to develop mature Christian people who wholeheartedly worship and serve God. An essential part of equipping the body for service is developing the future leaders of the church. Knowing how to intentionally develop emerging Christian leaders is a steep challenge; especially given the generational and cultural differences that currently exist in our world today. Utilizing a scholar-practitioner model this course will survey and analyze contemporary issues in developing emerging leaders. *Curricular area:* ED or CL; Ministry Elective

IN 300 Seminary Success

This course is designed to help students succeed in seminary. It will focus on time management, reading skills, study skills, preparation for exams, and the proper use of the library. It will introduce students to the processes and tasks associated with academic research and scholarship, researching and writing term papers, the use of Turabian, and how to use a computer in the preparation of footnotes and endnotes. *Curricular area:* General Elective

IN 301 Exploring the Bible

This course will introduce students to both the Old Testament and the New Testament. Focus will be on the literary and theological themes of the Bible as well as provide students with guidelines for the study of biblical material in its literary, historical, cultural and social contexts. *Curricular area:* Required

IN 302 Baptist Polity and History

This course is an introduction to the history, practices and principles of Baptist congregational life and mission. While students will be expected to acquaint themselves with a general understanding of Baptist history, the specific focus of the course will be found in the history, practices and polity of the American Baptist Churches in the USA. *Curricular area:* CL; Ministry Elective

MA 501 Thesis

Students in the research option of the MA program should sign up for this course the quarter before they plan to take the oral exam and finish their program. During this quarter, the student should be finishing their thesis under faculty supervision. *Curricular area:* Required for MA

MA 502 Oral Exam

Students in the research option of the MA program should sign up for this course the quarter following the completion of MA 501. The 90 minute oral exam will consist of the student's "defense" of the thesis. *Curricular area:* Required for MA Prerequisite: MA 501

MA 503 Comprehensive/Oral Exam

Students in the generalist or specialist option of the MA program will take a 4-hour written test followed by an oral exam to complete their program. *Curricular area:* Required for MA

ME 301 Theology and Practice of Evangelism

The purpose of this course is to develop critical awareness to ensure relevant communication of the Gospel in postmodern contexts. This course will identify and challenge assumptions about traditional methods of evangelism and explore alternative ways of thinking and action in ministry. This course will equip church leaders as evangelists with the ability to incarnate the Gospel through friendship evangelism and to reconcile seekers to God. *Curricular area:* E; Ministry Elective

ME 302 Issues in Cross-Cultural Evangelism

This course will focus on the relationship of evangelism and poverty. The poor are with us always. How do we minister to the poor among us? The Great Commission mandates that we make disciples of all people regardless of social class. The church must get involved and not assume that the poor must be rugged individuals and pull themselves up by the bootstraps. This course will explore how to do evangelistic ministry in the context of poverty.

Curricular area: E or M; Ministry Elective

ME 388 Missiology in Church and Culture

This course applies an understanding of culture gained from the findings of cultural anthropology to the study of the global mission of the church, and examines how culture influences the perception of reality, spirituality, theology and forms of ministry. It explores the dynamic relationship between context, culture, Bible, theology and the church's life and mission. The challenge of becoming a community of the "New Creation" in Christ will be pursued as this vision becomes a reality in each situation. *Curricular area:* M; Ministry Elective

ME 401 Contemporary Issues in Missions

This course will focus on trends, problems and opportunities facing the worldwide mission of Jesus Christ in the third millennium of the church's existence. Students will be encouraged to struggle with one or more of the following issues: urbanization, unreached peoples, justice, the internationalization of mission and partnership. *Curricular area:* M; Ministry Elective

ME 406 Global Mission Today

This course approaches the subject of global mission from three angles: Biblical foundations, current information and current issues in the theory and practice of mission. *Curricular area:* M

ME 407 Islam and the Christian Mission

An introductory course which will expose students to the history and worldview of Islam in its various global expressions, analyze its central claims in light of the gospel, and explore effective means of Christian witness among Muslims as well as of training American Christian congregations in greater Muslim awareness and missions support. *Curricular area:* M; Ministry Elective

ME 409 Discipling and Mentoring

The purpose of this course is to equip students for the roles of discipling and mentoring in the local church. The development of ministry skills is punctuated by the continued spiritual formation as

leaders and thinkers in the discipling and mentoring functions of church ministry. *Curricular area:* E

MN 335 Church Administration

Administration is the bringing together of people, programs, and procedures in such a way as to produce effective working relationships that lead to the realization of organizational goals. This course will analyze and evaluate several aspects of the administrative process while encouraging each student to utilize the best principles and procedures in their role as pastor. *Curricular area:* CL; Ministry Elective

MN 339 Radical Discipleship Making and Leadership Development

Jesus is calling for true disciples that will deny themselves and follow Him even while the present culture esteems personal peace and prosperity. This course will equip students in raising up radical disciples with a servant attitude that will practice revolutionary incarnational and justice ministry. *Curricular area:* CL; Ministry Elective

MN 343 Three Funerals and a Wedding

This course introduces students to a variety of pastoral care opportunities that arise, on days other than Sunday, in the life of the resident pastor. Attention will be given to the broad subjects of pastoral visitation and spiritual direction as well as the critical issues of identity, role, and responsibilities of the pastor. The class will address practical areas such as creating and sustaining boundaries and work schedules, dress code, telephone/email protocol, maintaining accurate records etc. *Curricular area:* CL; Ministry Elective

MN 382 Principles of Preaching

This introductory course aims to help students engage with the main principles involved in preaching by collaborating on set texts and preaching. Based on Michael Quicke's text, *360 Degrees of Preaching: Hearing, Seeing and Living in the Word*, the course introduces students to aspects of culture change and communication shift in our post modern context. Within this context, students will apply a preaching model called the "preaching swim," working through key stages of exegesis (understanding Scripture), interpretation (understanding its message for listeners), homiletics (sermon design), delivery and evaluating the outcomes. *Curricular area:* H; Ministry Elective

MN 383 Practice of Preaching

This course provides a supervised "lab" experience in both the practice and evaluation of preaching. It builds on the "Practice of Preaching" course (MN 382), but places more emphasis on biblical interpretation and delivery of the sermon. *Curricular area:* H; Ministry Elective; *Prerequisite:* Introductory course in preaching

MN 426 Spiritual Creativity

This course will cause participants to reflect on the creative composition of one's own personal journey to this point in life; to ponder the revealed nature of creativity within the Trinity and the implications for being little "m" makers in the image of the Maker; to explore the nature of spiritual creativity within the framework of everyday life and ministry; and to broaden one's appreciation of the power of the fruit of creativity in goodness, truth and beauty.

Curricular areas: Spirituality, Worship, Ministry or General Elective

MN 433 Church in Postmodern Context

This course will examine the theological and practical issues that confront the pastor/church planter in the postmodern - post Christian culture. Postmodern understandings are crucial to the future ministry of the church in North America. This course will define ways of thought and living called postmodern and will develop a postmodern ecclesiology that engages scripture, practical concerns as well as the challenges posed by postmodernity and post Christian culture.

Curricular area: CL, M, E; Ministry Elective

MN 440 Equipping God's People For Ministry

This course will use a practical interactive approach to implement the biblical and theological principles for equipping God's people to discover and deploy their spiritual gifts through the ministries of local churches. *Curricular area:* CC

MN 441 Leadership for Congregational Transformation

This course focuses on the role of leaders in the dynamic process of intentional congregational change. Special attention is given to biblical models of leadership, understanding the process of change in volunteer organizations, conflict management, tools for analysis and evaluation of congregations, contemporary models of congregational life and ministry, and the integration of spiritual, theological and organizational dynamics in congregational transformation.

Curricular area: CL; Ministry Elective

MN 442 Tools for Transformational Leadership

Course participants will gain a deeper appreciation of their leadership strengths and opportunities, a greater understanding of contemporary leadership models, experience with tools for assessing the ministry context in which they find themselves, an understanding of processes of transformational change, growth in conflict management skills, and a practical, actionable plan for dealing with a specific leadership challenge in their ministry setting. *Curricular area:* CL; Ministry Elective

MN 492 Models of Effective Preaching

The student will be introduced to a variety of models of preaching that have proved to be effective. These will include: biblical storytelling, first person expository narrative, genre sensitive, African American, pastoral and mission models. *Curricular area:* H; Ministry Elective; *Prerequisites:* MN 382 and MN 383

MN 540 Practice of Pastoral Ministry

This course will focus on the call, nature, and primary components of pastoral ministry. Through lectures, readings and discussion students will examine habits, skills, and responsibilities associated with effective pastoral leadership. *Curricular area:* CL; Ministry Elective

NT 301 Matthew, Mark, Luke

This course provides a basic introduction to Matthew, Mark and Luke (the "Synoptic Gospel") and acquaints students with an overview of the teaching and mission of Jesus in these gospels.

Curricular area: NT; Required

NT 302 Paul and His Letters

This course aims to acquaint students with the mission, letters and theology of Paul. The focus is on

exegesis and theology in the service of building up one's own biblical-theological basis for preaching, teaching and other practices of ministry. *Curricular area:* NT; Required

NT 336 The Revelation of John

This course is a study of the Revelation of John in terms of its dramatic features and its socio-historical context as well as its fascinating structure, genre and theology. Attention will be given to the nature of apocalyptic literature and the relevance of Revelation for today. *Curricular area:* NT Elective

NT 404 The Gospel of John

This course will explore John's presentation of the life and teaching of Jesus in light of its historical and theological background and practical implications for the church today. *Curricular area:* NT Elective; *Prerequisite:* NT 301

NT 407 I Corinthians

This course focuses on the text in its original socio-historical context. Attention will be given to the specific moral, spiritual and theological questions that Paul takes up in the letter, treated from the standpoint of the ancient Mediterranean world as the cultural context of Paul and the Corinthian churches. It will also include exposure to the ways in which the ancient post-Pauline Christian communities interpreted the letter and the significance of I Corinthians for the practice of the Christian faith today. Knowledge of Greek is not required. *Curricular area:* NT Elective

NT 409 Galatians

The primary purpose of this course is to read this challenging work carefully and discerningly. In the process we will seek to sharpen exegetical skills and deepen understanding. Some of the pertinent scholarly literature will be surveyed. We will reflect on matters of theological concern that arise from our discussion of the text, including such issues as the righteousness of God, the fate of Israel, the significance of Christ's death and the community's participation in its effects, the role of the Mosaic Law, apocalyptic eschatology, the Spirit-led Christian life, the implications of Paul's reasoning for women and ecumenical discussion. *Curricular area:* NT Elective

NT 410 The Gospel of Luke

This is an exegetical study of the Gospel of Luke. The course examines Luke in its original socio-historical context with special attention to comparisons between ancient Mediterranean worldviews and modern/postmodern worldviews. *Curricular area:* NT Elective; *Prerequisite:* NT 301

NT 411 Romans

This study of Romans focuses on the text in its original socio-historical context. Attention is given to the specific moral, spiritual and theological questions Paul takes up in the letter, treated from the standpoint of the ancient Mediterranean world as the cultural context of Paul and the Roman congregation(s). The significance of Romans for the practice of Christian faith today will be part of the class discussions. *Curricular area:* NT Elective; *Prerequisite:* NT 302

NT 419 Acts

This class will introduce the student to the Hellenistic world of the early church, the context of the early Jerusalem church, the various settings encountered by Paul, the unique organizing principles

evident in the Book of Acts, and the theological issues which are dealt with in each section of the book. *Curricular area:* NT Elective

NT 450 New Testament Theology

This course will introduce the student to the concepts, history, methods, challenge and joy of New Testament theology. This will be accomplished by exploring the origins, history and nature of NT theology as a distinct field of study; analyzing and articulating the theological framework and emphases of NT authors; describing and accounting for the unity and diversity of theological ideas present in the NT canon; and facilitating a process by which each student begins to develop her/his own approach to doing NT theology. *Curricular area:* NT; Required

NT 456 Parables of Jesus

An intensive study of the parables, their original settings, their use in the early church, the history of their interpretation and their modern application. *Curricular area:* NT Elective

MN 499 Sermon on the Mount

This course is an in-depth exegetical study of the Sermon on the Mount in English in light of its background, purpose and modern application to foster a wholehearted discipleship in a shallow world. *Curricular area:* NT Elective

OT 301 The Pentateuch

An introduction to the Old Testament, to the methods, work and results of biblical archaeology and to the discipline of biblical criticism. Students will be introduced to the content of the Pentateuch and to the many historical, political, religious and social events that shaped the history of the patriarchs and that molded later Israelite society. *Curricular area:* OT; Required

OT 302 The Former Prophets

This course introduces the methods and results of biblical criticism and how they affect biblical studies. It will also survey the history of Israel from the time of the nation's entrance into Canaan until the restoration of the nation after the Babylonian exile. Focus will be on the historical, political, religious and social events that shaped Israelite society and provided the impetus for the preaching of the prophets. *Curricular area:* OT; Required

OT 303 Wisdom Literature

This course will examine Israelite Wisdom literature setting it in its ancient Near Eastern context of Egypt and Mesopotamia. Students will read the books of Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom of Solomon and Ben Sira and analyze the way in which each writing defines Wisdom in its particular social setting. *Curricular area:* OT Elective

OT 304 The Major Prophets

An introduction to the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel, and Daniel. It will emphasize the historical, political, social and religious situations that are an integral part of the message of the Major Prophets. *Curricular area:* OT Elective

OT 305 The Minor Prophets

An introduction to the books of the twelve Minor Prophets. The course will focus on the historical,

political, religious and social events that shaped the ministry of the Minor Prophet and provided the impetus for their preaching. *Curricular area:* OT Elective

OT 417 The Book of Daniel

An introduction to the theological background of the Book of Daniel. Special attention will be given to the apocalyptic movement and to the political, social and religious background that gave rise to the apocalyptic literature in Israel. *Curricular area:* OT Elective

OT 418 Old Testament Ethics

This course will introduce students to the theological, social, economic, and moral framework of the Old Testament ethics. Contemporary issues will be explored in relation to Old Testament teachings in order to help understand the relevance of the OT to today's ethical concerns.

Curricular area: OT, TE; *Prerequisite:* Any OT 300 level course

OT 419 Psalms

The focus of the course will be on the interpretation of the book of Psalms and its theology.

Students will analyze the genres, the historical and social backgrounds of the Psalms, and how these Psalms functioned in the ancient Israelite religion and its liturgical settings.

Curricular area: OT Elective; *Prerequisite:* OT 301 or OT 302

OT 423 Isaiah

To understand the book of Isaiah as a whole, students will learn the basics of canonical and redaction criticism as well as gain knowledge of contemporary scholarship which deals with the hypothetical reconstruction of the original text. Emphasis on themes running throughout the book and research into how these themes develop over the course of the book in its present form will enable the student to preach and teach Isaiah with confidence. *Curricular area:* OT Elective

OT 424 Jeremiah

An introduction to the Book of Jeremiah. This course will emphasize the historical, political, social and religious issues that are an integral part of the message of Jeremiah, and will provide guidelines that will help students to teach and preach from the Book of Jeremiah.

Curricular area: OT Elective; *Prerequisite:* Any OT 300 level course.

OT 428 Hosea

This course will: 1) help students gain an understanding of the content and message of the Book of Hosea; 2) provide students with guidelines for the interpretation of the biblical material in its literary, historical, and theological contexts; 3) help students preach and teach from the book of Hosea to meet the needs of today's society. *Curricular area:* OT Elective

OT 450 Women in the Old Testament

This course will help students to discover the important contribution of biblical women to the life, culture, religion and history of Israel. This course also will provide students with guidelines for the interpretation of the biblical material in its theological, cultural, social, and historical context, and will help students develop an appreciation for the Old Testament as an integral part of the Christian Scripture. *Curricular area:* OT Elective; *Prerequisite:* OT 301 or OT 302.

OT 451 Faith in Israel

This course will introduce students to the faith of ancient Israel and to the discovery of what the Biblical text has to say about God and the word, Israel and the nations, and about the human predicament. *Curricular area:* OT Elective; *Prerequisite:* OT 301 or OT 302

OT 453 Studies in the Book of Micah

An introduction to the historical and theological introduction to the Book of Micah. Special attention will be given to the prophetic movement in Israel, as well as the social and religious situation in Judah in the eighth century B.C. *Curricular area:* OT Elective

OT 458 Old Testament Theology

A study of the ideas of various sections of the Old Testament as expressions of Israelite religion. Major trends in Old Testament studies are consulted and weighed. *Curricular area:* OT, Required; *Prerequisite:* OT 301 or OT 302.

PC 301 Introduction to Pastoral Care

This introductory course is intended to help the student think theologically about the meaning and practice of pastoral care, develop her or his own understanding of the meaning and place of pastoral care in her or his ministry, develop an understanding of personal and interpersonal issues calling for pastoral care, and develop skills in the practice of pastoral care. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective

PC 302 Introduction to Pastoral Counseling

This introductory course is intended to help the student think theologically about the meaning and practice of pastoral counseling, develop her or his own understanding of the meaning and place of pastoral counseling in her or his ministry, develop an understanding of salient and typical issues in pastoral counseling, and develop skills in the practice of pastoral counseling. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective

PC 311 Conflict Mediation

This course is designed to equip participants with conflict mediation skills, which when used, will help them effectively work with congregations in various conflicted situations. It will give participants a theoretical framework and practical skills and experiences to support them in skillfully managing a mediation process. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective

PC 404 Pastoral Care of Women

A theologically based, practice-centered introduction to issues involved in pastoral care of women. This course is designed to help women and men deal with those factors that will impede effective pastoral care of women. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective

PC 418 Pastoral Care During Life Transitions

In ministry we guide and walk with people through many life transitions – aging, divorce, the birth of a child, relocation, to name only a few. We also lead congregations as they go through times of change, whether imposed or by choice. This course addresses the dynamics of shepherding people through times of transition and leading people into transitions. The course focuses on skills needed in caring for persons in transition. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective

PC 419 Pastoral Care in Times of Crises

People within the church and those outside of the church turn to pastors for help in facing crises. This course will explore the range of crises ministers face, will enable the identification of theological resources for supporting ministry in times of crisis and will develop skills in responding to crisis. Crises considered will include church crises and community crises as well as individual crises. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective

PC 430 Premarital and Marital Counseling

This course emphasizes skill training in the assessment and treatment of couples. Issues considered are: use of tools to assess differences in couples personality, communication skills, identifying and treating abusive behavior, dealing with betrayal, resolving conflict, and the use of pornography and its effect on the marriage relationship. This will be accomplished through class lectures, readings, and training in the use of the Taylor Johnson Temperament Test. The books and tapes required for this course will be the tools, needed in your own ministry to do premarital and marital counseling. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective

PC 432 Issues in Pastoral Counseling

This course is designed to equip pastors to support, nurture and encourage persons who are going through experiences related to grief and dying and will provide practical experience in preparing and conducting funeral or memorial services. *Curricular area:* PC; Ministry Elective *Prerequisite:* PC 301 or PC 302.

SM 301 Formation for Christian Ministry

This course is a small group experience under faculty leadership with designated readings, prayer, guided discussion, peer reflection and support. In addition, students participate in a vocational and ministerial professional assessment process. The primary agenda of the course is to assist students as they seek to understand themselves as followers of Jesus Christ, in pursuit of seminary training in order to serve Christ's church in ministry. *Curricular area:* SM; Required

SM 401/402 Internship

In the second year of study, students complete a two-quarter Internship (SM 401 and SM 402) in a local church or other ministry context. Internship provides opportunities for students to develop/enhance ministry skills under the supervision of an experienced pastor or ministry mentor. In class, students present case studies which are used to facilitate theological reflection and peer reflection designed to foster growth and a better understanding of one's ministerial identity, gifts and challenges. *Curricular area:* SM; Required

SM 501 Integrative Seminar

In this class students demonstrate their ability to integrate their knowledge of the theological disciplines with their practice and skill in ministry. This small group experience enables students to write a statement of faith (required by many denominations for ordination) and correlate that statement with a ministry application paper in which students apply their "stated" theology to a ministry issue. Recommended during last year of study. *Curricular area:* SM; Required

SM 502 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) (6 hrs. credit)

A supervised pastoral experience in a clinical setting accredited by the Association for Clinical

Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPE), utilizes a concentrated experiential method of theological education which examines pastoral care practice in acute ministerial contexts with attention to the religious issues of illness and death, medical ethics, the formation of pastoral identity and development of interpersonal competence in ministry. In order to enroll in CPE at a site accredited by ACPE, students must complete an application (available online at www.acpe.edu) and interview with the hospital's CPE supervisor approximately six months in advance of the quarter they intend to complete CPE. A full-time basic unit requires an intensive experience of at least 10 weeks of involvement (40 hrs./wk). *Curricular area:* SM; Required or Ministry Elective; *Prerequisite:* PC 301 or PC 302 and completion of at least 30 hours of seminary coursework.

SM 503 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) - Extended Unit, Part 1 (3 hrs. credit)

See course description for SM 502 above. In an Extended CPE Program the student is able to complete the CPE requirement on a part time basis during two terms of study. Students register for SM 503 for Fall quarter. *Curricular area:* SM; Required or Ministry Elective; *Prerequisite:* PC 301 or PC 302 and completion of at least 30 hours of seminary coursework.

SM 504 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) - Extended Unit, Part 2 (3 hrs. credit)

See course descriptions for SM 502 and SM 503 above. This is the second part of SM 503. Students register for SM 504 for Winter quarter. *Curricular area:* SM; Required or Ministry Elective; *Prerequisite:* SM 503

SM 505 Second Full Unit of CPE (6 hrs. credit)

See course description for SM 502 above.

Curricular area: SM *Prerequisite:* SM 502

SM 506 CPE Half Unit, Non-extended (3 hrs. credit)

See course description for SM 502 above. *Curricular area:* SM; Required or Ministry Elective; *Prerequisite:* PC 301 or PC 302 and completion of at least 30 hours of seminary coursework.

SM 514 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Equivalency (3 hrs. credit)

CPE Equivalency requires a clinical experience at DuPage County Convalescent Center or a site approved through consultation with the Associate Director of Supervised Ministry. Students must complete 160 hours of ministry—or approximately 16 hours per week for ten weeks—unless the student negotiates an alternative schedule with the site supervisor. An application form for CPE Equivalency and biographical statement (available on the Supervised Ministry Web page) must be submitted to the Director of Supervised Ministry for approval by the registration deadline for the quarter in which the student intends to enroll. Only students who are working full-time may enroll. This course is not accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education. Students intending on serving in professional chaplaincy positions upon graduation from seminary should enroll in SM 502 or SM 503 and SM 504. Students seeking ordination should contact their denomination to ascertain whether or not the CPE Equivalency will fulfill ordination requirements. *Curricular area:* SM; Required or Ministry Elective; *Prerequisite:* Completed application given to Supervised Ministry Office; PC 301 or PC 302 and completion of at least 30 hours of seminary coursework.

TE 301 Introduction to Christian Ethics

This course introduces students to Christian ethics as a practical discipline. The focus is on the

sources and process of moral decision. *Curricular area:* TE

TE 415 Pastoral Ethics: Ministering with Integrity in the Contemporary Context

This course will focus special attention on the moral dilemmas the pastor will face in ministry. In addition, special attention will be devoted to working out the “kind of person” each pastor must become in order to walk the life of ministry in the 21st century. Spiritual disciplines will be explored as the means to develop a pattern for ministerial life. *Curricular area:* TE

TE 417 Sexual Ethics and the Family

This course covers the fundamental moral issues concerning the Christian ordering of human sexuality in marriage and the family. Sexuality raises questions about our theological understandings of intimacy, love, God and creation. It also raises practical questions about the nature of moral discernment, personal character and “how do we marry?” Finally, it raises questions about brokenness, sin, grace, reconciliation and the church as redeeming community. This course will provide a foundation for addressing these issues in the Christian life. Through this course the student will critically interact with multiple theological points of view from a standpoint that attempts to be faithful to Evangelical commitments and the historical orthodoxy of the church. *Curricular area:* TE

TE 426 Medical Ethics and the Pastor

This course will cover the fundamental moral issues facing every Christian as he or she encounters modern medicine and many of the issues the pastor must face as he/she leads her congregation amidst the new worlds of modern medicine. *Curricular area:* TE

TH 301 Christian Theology I

This course is the first in a two-course sequence in basic theology which includes an introduction to the major loci in theological construction. The historical and traditional engagements with theological issues will be correlated with the student’s confession of faith and the biblical foundations of theology, the sociocultural contexts of faith and practice, and the life and mission of the Christian community. *Curricular area:* TH; Required

TH 302 Christian Theology II

An introduction to theological construction, engagement with the historical and traditional sources of theology and the practice of ministry. *Curricular area:* TH; Required Prerequisite: TH 301

TH 303 Theology of Church and Culture

The church’s relation to culture is important to one’s pastoral vocation since all Christians must choose how to live and make moral decisions within a culture. If the church can neither welcome all of culture nor reject it entirely, on what basis are Christians to navigate being a people of God amidst culture? The class will study theological principles for guiding such engagement between church and surrounding culture. It will guide the student through forming his/her own position on the church/culture relationship which should provide the basis for how each pastor will lead his/her congregation, shape the local congregation as a discerning people amidst the social and moral issues of our times, and provide strategies for witness, ministry and justice in the world.

Curricular area: TH, CC; Required for MDiv

TH 406 Christianity and Pluralism

An examination of the theological problem of modern pluralism as confronted by the Church in American culture. The course will attempt to address both the doctrinal and practical theological questions that pluralism presents to a pastor and her/his church. *Curricular area:* TH, CC, M, E; Ministry Elective

TH 409 Reconciliation and Racism: The Way of Faith

This course examines the origins and development of race and racism in our contemporary situation, analyzing both the objective and subjective dimensions of a context in which race matters and racism constitutes a worldview. In addition, the course examines and engages the resources of Christian faith and the biblical teaching in reconciliation in order to lead more intentionally in the struggle to overcome racism in church and society. *Curricular area:* TH or CC

TH 410 Contemporary Theology

A study of some leading Christian thinkers who have shaped the modern theological scene, beginning in the nineteenth century. The contribution of evangelical theology also will be addressed. The development and devolution of traditional theological loci are considered in relation to modern critical influences, the socio-cultural shifts brought by World and Cold Wars, the increasingly common distinctions known as ‘modern’ and ‘postmodern.’ Attention will be given to the interaction of scripture, hermeneutics, theological method, and the influences of gender, race and cultures. *Curricular area:* T

TH 423 Missional Theology

A missional theology is a belief (and a corresponding practice to that belief) that shapes a people for the social incarnational presence/ministry of the gospel in the world. Bringing to bear the fields of political theory and political theology, we will develop a method to explore this connection of belief to life, the shaping of a community into the mission of God. We will specifically explore the ways we talk about and practice scripture, the church and salvation, and how each doctrinal expression shapes the very character of a community for mission. *Curricular area:* TH or M

TH 431 Discerning the Triune God

In this course we will look into the historic roots, trunk and branches of the doctrine of the Trinity. By investigating the biblical bases that disclose the discernment and experience of God, attending to the diversity of opinion among leaders of the ancient church, and inquiring into the pastoral and discipleship implications, we will assess contemporary views of the trinity and contribute to the ongoing recovery of Trinitarian theology. *Curricular area:* TH

TH 445 Theological Identity in Baptist Life

This course will examine the historical and theological roots of Baptist identity. Students will be introduced to many of the streams of diversity which contribute to Baptist identity and thought; will be able to articulate an understanding of some of the broad spectrum of faith and practices that define the Baptist church; and will be equipped to articulate a personal understanding of what it means to proclaim oneself a Baptist. *Curricular area:* TH

TH 471 Jesus in History and Faith

This course examines the meaning, significance and theological understanding of Jesus as he is

portrayed in the scriptures, as he is interpreted in different contemporary contexts, and as he is handed on to us in the Great Tradition. *Curricular area:* TH

UR 301 Urban Ministry of the Church

This course will explore complex systems of urbanization and dynamics of holistic ministry in urban contexts with a special emphasis on justice to the oppressed. The class will visit urban ministries in the Chicago area to observe and interview practitioners in action. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

UR 302 Urban Field Experience: Chicago

This course is designed to acquaint participants with the socio-cultural dynamics that affect the quality of life, inform theology, and challenge the manner in which ministry is conducted in our urban world. The course helps the student explore contemporary models of urban mission in the extraordinarily diverse context of Chicago. Much of the city is the course lab including visits, observations and interviews throughout the greater Chicago area. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

UR 303 Urban Ministry: Creative Preaching

This course introduces the skill set and techniques of creative preaching in urban settings that encourages positive interaction between pastor and parishioners. Participants will gain practical as well as theological knowledge of creative preaching. *Curricular area:* CC, H; Ministry Elective

UR 305 Urban Ministry: Chicago II

See course description for UR 302 above. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

UR 405 Toward a Theology of Urban Ministry

This course will read and analyze recent efforts to articulate theology for urban ministry and confront basic theological issues raised by the urban context. Focus will be on the changing dynamics of the urban context and culture as it relates to building faith communities and the local church. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

WS 301 Theology of Worship and Spirituality

This course explores the biblical, historical and doctrinal foundations of the kind of weekly gathering that results in healthy, spiritual formation. *Curricular area:* W, S; Ministry Elective

WS 302 History of Worship and Spirituality

This course focuses on the movements of worship and spirituality and the various paradigms--the ancient, medieval, Reformation and modern. Special attention is given to the cultural context of each paradigm and the impact of culture on the worship and spirituality of the period.

Curricular area: W,S; Ministry Elective

WS 303 Current Practices of Worship and Spirituality

This course seeks to explore the intrinsic, yet often hidden, connections between the actions of our worship and the depth of our spiritual lives in Christ. Students will be invited to explore the vital connections of Christian spirituality to baptism and communion, keeping the Sabbath and observing the church year and their relationship to everyday life. *Curricular area:* W, S; Ministry Elective

WS 304 Life in the Spirit

This course will explore the spiritual implications of a relational spirituality rooted in the ongoing life of the Trinity and lived out in community with others. *Curricular area:* S; Ministry Elective

WS 405 Leading and Designing Worship

This course prepares students to design and lead worship services in a variety of contexts. Building on a foundation of establishing a philosophical framework in which to design and implement worship, specific elements and design forms or structures will be presented, experienced, analyzed and evaluated against the philosophical framework. *Curricular area:* W; Ministry Elective

WS 415 Multicultural Worship

This course introduces students to the issues of cross-cultural encounter in worship. Our focus will be to discover how culture informs our modes of worship. Topics will include: cultural identity, prayer, preaching, music, language, and non-verbal communication with special emphasis on the possibility of racial reconciliation through worship. We will examine barriers that separate various groups from each other within the family of God. *Curricular area:* W; Ministry Elective

WS 433 Worship in Baptist Traditions

This course will introduce students to the breadth of Baptist worship traditions through the study of the early to contemporary Baptist church. *Curricular area:* W; Ministry Elective

WS 450 Worship Spirituality

This course seeks to explore the intrinsic, yet often hidden, connections between the actions of our worship and the depth of our spiritual lives in Christ. Students will be invited to explore the vital connections of Christian spirituality to baptism and communion, keeping the Sabbath and observing the church year. *Curricular area:* W, S; Ministry Elective

WS 454 Sin and Salvation in Narnia

This course will explore the sins of the heart—pride, greed, envy, and the like—and their underlying contribution to the brokenness of life in Christian community. These core sins will be explored as an invitation for the formation of Christian character offered the believer, even, and perhaps, especially in the midst of difficult church situations. *Curricular area:* S; Ministry Elective

WS 458 Prayer in Life and Ministry

The purpose of this course is to expand and deepen the student's life of prayer, both personally and in the context of ministry. The emphasis in this course will be given to the nature of prayer as it is grounded in fervent evangelical Protestant faith. Class lectures and discussion will be Biblically based and practically focused, with the dual intent of inviting the student to enter more deeply into his/her own prayer life and enabling the student to assist others in their encounters with God.

Curricular area: W, S; Ministry Elective

WS 488 Spiritual Disciplines

This course will examine biblically and historically the spiritual disciplines such as prayer, meditation, contemplation, the ascetic disciplines (fasting, poverty and celibacy), love etc. Participants will also become acquainted with devotional literature upon which they will reflect in group discussions.

Curricular area: S; Ministry Elective

YM 301 Theology/Philosophy of Youth Ministry

This course will explore the theological foundations and philosophical principles of ministry to adolescents with assessment of personal gifts and personality in light of these foundations and principles. The course will include both a historical component and the development of an integrated philosophy leading to effective practice in authentic youth ministry settings.

Curricular area: CL; Ministry Elective

YM 302 Adolescent Development

This course is designed to take a critical and practical look at the research and theory on the development of adolescents. As such, this course attempts to accomplish the following goals: to provide an overview of development during adolescence, and to apply the information on adolescent development to the practice of youth ministry. *Curricular area:* CL; Ministry Elective

YM 303 Adolescent Culture

This course will focus on the spiritual, psychological, and social problems confronting American youth from historical, current and future cultural contexts and the behavioral, emotional and relational issues faced by millennial adolescents. *Curricular area:* CC; Ministry Elective

YM 410 Teaching Strategies in Youth Ministry

This course will discuss the mental and emotional development of adolescents and the principles and skills needed in order to effectively teach them. Students will outline a teaching strategy and will prepare several lesson plans that they can use in youth ministry. *Curricular area:* CL, ED; Ministry Elective

YM 411 Counseling Adolescents

This course will introduce students to the basic philosophy and practice of counseling adolescents from biblical perspectives. It will approach the subject in a “first response” manner which will be particularly helpful to pastors, ministers with youth, and leaders of para-church organizations. Students will be exposed to issues which grow out of the developmental process; disorders which begin with or are unique to adolescence, and prevention, intervention and referral strategies.

Curricular area: PC

YM 414 The Spiritual Formation of Youth

This course will help students understand postmodern adolescents and explore various ways that these adolescents develop spiritually. Students enrolled in this course will wrestle with today’s youth culture and develop a plan to help them grow in their relationship with God.

Curricular area: CL; Ministry Elective

YM 418 Sub-Culture Youth Ministry

This course will provide students with a personal experience of Christian youth subcultures in order to understand subculture origins, history, focus, audience, and theological underpinnings, with the intent to acquire skills for the local church to develop authentic relationships and ministry to subculture youth. *Curricular area:* CC, M, Ministry Elective