



## ***Master of Divinity COURSE DESCRIPTIONS***

The Master of Divinity courses are listed below based on area of study – Biblical Studies (BS), Christian Ministry (CM), Historical Studies (HS), and Theology, Religion, and Ethics (TRE).

Prerequisites - Some courses require a certain degree of prior knowledge or competence called a prerequisite. In some cases, prerequisite courses are necessary to enter the second or third course of a sequence.

An Independent Study is a course already in the curriculum which a professor agrees to teach to one or two students. This applies to all disciplines.

### **Area I: Biblical Studies**

(TBD, Chair)

#### *BS 401 Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures*

3 Credits. Required.

This course introduces students to the history, religion, and literature of ancient Israel as found in the Hebrew Bible. It draws attention to the diverse political, social, and economic situations out of which they arose, and to which they were addressed, within the context of Ancient Near Eastern culture and history. Attention is given to the critical perspectives needed to understand Israel's history and Old Testament literature. Exegetical methods are introduced.

#### *BS 403 Introduction to the New Testament*

3 Credits. Required.

This course is an introduction to the New Testament set within the context of the early church. It aims to provide students with basic knowledge about the New Testament, and the essential tools and techniques of exegesis and interpretation.

#### *BS 450 A,B Elementary Hebrew*

2 Credits per section.

An early exposure to the reading of biblical texts is coupled with a systematic study of the grammar of classical Hebrew.

*BS 460 A,B Elementary Greek*

3 Credits per section.

An early exposure to the reading of biblical texts is coupled with a systematic study of the grammar of Koine Greek.

*BS 520 Johannine Literature*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 403

A study of the Fourth Gospel and the First Letter of John. The purpose of the course is to lift key themes in Johannine literature, and with the help of traditional historical critical and other new methods, engage the history and development of the Johannine community, as well as Johannine portrait of Jesus as the divine wisdom/word made flesh. The goal is to help students understand the Johannine Jesus and community, and their implications for addressing the experiences and needs of their own communities.

*BS 530 The Eighth Century Prophets*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 401

This course begins with early manifestations of prophecy in Israel as found primarily in the Deuteronomistic History (Samuel-Kings). It then focuses on the literature attributed to the eighth century prophets, Amos, Hosea, Micah, and First Isaiah. These writings are examined in their social context, and analyzed for their potential relevance for the Church and the modern world.

*BS 570 Cultural Hermeneutics*

3 Credits. Required. Prerequisites: BS 401 and BS 403.

This course explores the cultural backgrounds and perspectives of interpreters and their conclusions regarding New Testament materials. The ideology of traditional "Eurocentric" New Testament interpretations are considered alongside that of Latin American, African American, African, Asian, Feminist and Womanist interpreters. The goal of this study is to help students to develop their own interpretive and theological voices.

*BS 610 Luke-Acts*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 403

This course surveys the history of Lukan interpretation, and focuses on reading Luke-Acts as a narrative whole. Particular attention is paid to Luke's presentations of Jesus' ministry, its theological and sociological implications, and how Acts functions as Luke's expansion of the Gospel tradition into the life of the early church.

*BS 620 The Gospel of Matthew*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 403

This course examines the variety of modern methods of biblical study that have been employed in the evaluation of the meaning and significance of this gospel. Particular attention is paid to methods of social history. Exegesis of selected texts is required.

*BS 621 Reading the Gospel of Mark*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 403

An exegetical analysis of Mark's gospel. Specific attention is given to the interpretation of miracle stories. Particular emphasis is placed upon the various contemporary methods of reading the Gospel in the church.

*BS 624 The Book of Job*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 401

An exegetical study of the Book of Job in its cultural, historical and literary setting, with attention to critical and hermeneutical problems. The course explores some of the book's main ideas (e.g., human suffering, recovery, the mystery of divine justice) as they relate to today's world. The course also develops a critical evaluation of the religious and moral lessons from the book of Job.

*BS 628 Wisdom Literature and the Psalms*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 401

This course focuses on selected texts from each book of the wisdom literature in its historical context, the conditions that produced the book and shaped its thinking. The course also attempts to discern theological themes within the wisdom literature: Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Songs. The course will also explore selected texts from Psalms and their contexts, showing Israel at prayer and worship, and their application in the Church today

*BS 655 The Corinthian Correspondence*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 403

This course reviews a variety of exegetical approaches and apply them, as appropriate, to the study of Corinthians. The student gains knowledge in the exegesis of New Testament epistolary literature and its implication for addressing the issues of the church today.

*BS 660 The Book of Revelation*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: BS 403

This course intends to provide a close, exegetical reading of the Book of Revelation—its general framework within the social, literary, historical, political and theological contexts. To make sense of this type of literature, we need to employ a critical analysis of the various historical, political, literary, religious or theological and sociological contexts in which first century Christians were subjected. This course also equips students with a theoretical and methodological framework for the relevant symbolic field of Apocalypticism, which is the religious belief in modes of eschatological happenings.

*BS 699 Special Topics in Biblical Studies*

1-3 Credits.

**Area II: Christian Ministry**

(Dr. Betty Holley, Chair)

*CM 090 Introduction to Blended Theological Education Orientation*

No credit. Required prior to start of matriculation with Payne Theological Seminary

*CM 400 A Introduction to Theological Research and Writing*

3 Credits. Required.

This course offers a detailed, hands-on overview of the academic writing process, focused on effective methods for locating authoritative sources on selected topics; summarizing, paraphrasing, and quoting material from sources into student papers while avoiding plagiarism; appropriately acknowledge authorship of material from other sources; review of grammar to include the mechanics involved in academic writing; and in general, conforming to prevailing standards of acceptability for written work submitted for publication, presentation at academic meetings or fulfillment of course credit and graduation requirements.

*CM 400 B Introduction to Theological Research and Writing*

3 Credits. Required for Special Students.

This course offers a detailed, hands-on overview of the academic writing process, focused on effective methods for locating authoritative sources on selected topics; summarizing, paraphrasing, and quoting material from sources into student papers while avoiding plagiarism; appropriately acknowledge authorship of material from other sources; review of grammar to include the mechanics involved in academic writing; and in general, conforming to prevailing standards of acceptability for written work submitted for publication, presentation at academic meetings or fulfillment of course

credit and graduation requirements.

*CM 401 A Supervised Ministry*

2 Credits. Required.

This experience is based on an action - reflection model. Students are placed in the ministry context to perform a ministry. A supervisory conversation occurs between the student and the supervisor in the ministry context on a regular basis. Students are required to bring critical incidents from their ministry experience for reflection. Discussion of other topics related to practical ministry also occurs.

*CM 401 B Supervised Ministry*

2 Credits. Required.

This experience is based on an action - reflection model. Students are placed in the ministry context to perform a ministry. A supervisory conversation occurs between the student and the supervisor in the ministry context on a regular basis. Students are required to bring critical incidents from their ministry experience for reflection. Discussion of other topics related to practical ministry also occurs.

*CM 402 Pulpit Communication I*

3 Credits. Required. Prerequisite: BS 401 or 403.

Study of fundamental principles of sermon construction and delivery, involving practical demonstrations of these principles by each student.

*CM 404 Methods and Strategies for Community and Economic Development*

3 Credits.

The course will present a church and ministry community and economic development models that highlight the "call" of the church to serve as a sacred space in which broken persons risk personal transformation and healing. The course will acknowledge church and ministry leaders who live out the role of the Gospel as a "developer" of diverse persons, not just those who attend church, but those who stand outside of the church. Participants will explore a five-point criteria that addresses the ethical, ecumenical, ecological, economical, and evangelical facets that should undergird transformational community and economic development models with a vision for individual and corporate empowerment.

*CM 440 Social Justice Leadership*

3 Credits.

In this course, students will understand the pluralistic nature of institutions, society, and culture in the United States and across the world to become educated, productive, and

principled citizens/leaders. The course is focused on all aspects of social identity, including but not limited to race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, socioeconomic status, and national origin. Exploration of topics of identity, social justice, and diversity through these various lenses will be discussed along with the impact these identities have on understanding the world.

*CM 450 Spiritual Formation*

3 Credits.

This course is designed to engage participants in an exploration and expansion of their inner spiritual life utilizing the spiritual disciplines. Personal transformation is an internal process that occurs as the individual allows God access to the whole of one's being and life. The course combines: 1) Personal encounter with God; 2) Keeping a spiritual journal as a record of the activity of God in one's life; 3) Corporate sharing of one's experience with God; 4) Select a book from the bibliography that is relevant to one's spiritual development and formation. 5) Write a 5-page paper on the book and one's interaction with it. Biblical and theological reflection on key issues that arise in the life of one who seriously engages in the spiritual disciplines.

*CM 480: Ministry Formation: Marketplace Ministry in the African American Context*

3 Credits.

This course is designed to help students explore the various ways in which pastors and church leaders can access multiple sources of capital to fuel church growth and community revitalization. Students will examine biblical and other paradigms, strategies and practical applications to address the many issues facing local congregations primarily from an African-American perspective.

*CM 502 Pulpit Communication II*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: CM 402.

The enhancement of preaching skills in a structured learning situation is the purpose of this course. The student will be aided in the development of a mature pulpit presence and style.

*CM 510 Introduction to Christian Education*

3 Credits.

This course is designed to introduce the student to the Christian educational task of the Church. It includes an examination of the biblical, theological, and social foundations pertinent to the ministry of Christian Education. Discussions of topics such as the basic components of the Christian education program, methodologies and techniques for implementation, curriculum selection and development, as well as program evaluation,

characterize the class sessions.

*CM 515 Music and Worship*

3 Credits.

A study of the elements, history and development of music in the Church with emphasis on the Black Church. The course will examine traditional and contemporary worship styles and prepare ministers and music directors to lead diverse worship services. This course will also examine the process for hiring church musicians and purchasing instruments for the church. We will also discuss and explore common problems in the administration of a church music ministry.

*CM 520 AME Polity and Practice*

3 Credits. Required for AME only.

This study of the polity and practice of the African Methodist Episcopal Church prepares the student for informed and effective leadership at the local and connectional level.

*CM 530 Ministry Formation II*

This course will equip students to bridge the gap between spiritual formation and community transformation in their ministry context by identifying alternative sources of capital for ministry (FISH) and studying strategies and best practices for Christian Community Development. Prerequisite – Ministry Formation I or Constructive Christian Ethics.

*CM 533 Worship and Liturgy*

3 Credits.

Worship is the signal activity of corporate meaningful activity in the church. The corporate gathering of the cultus-praise and worship of God-both directs the congregation's attention toward the Person with Whom we have to do and the persons we are called to be. In addition, worship provides a theological lens through which the world is interpreted by the people of God. Essential to ministerial performance, leadership in worship requires serious reflection and study concerning the true meaning of worship, theological underpinnings of liturgical expression, appropriate knowledge of liturgical traditions and the person and work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the worship leader. This course seeks to provide an introduction to each of these dimensions of liturgical leadership. Specific attention is given to understanding the role of music in corporate worship, and developing a critique of postmodern influences in contemporary Christian music.

*CM 540 Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling*

3 Credits. Required.

This is an introductory course to Pastoral Counseling. The student becomes familiar with the broad scope of pastoral counseling: what it is, how the pastoral/ ministerial identity affects its practice, how it is practiced and the pastoral counselor's responsibilities. The course acquaints the student with the skills necessary for the 20th century parishioner seeking counseling. It explores several areas in which ministers/pastors are most frequently involved and assists students to develop their own particular style of counseling.

*CM 544 Health Care: What Effective Clergy Must Know*

3 Credits. Required.

This course provides a foundation to understand and effectively address health care issues in the African American community. They come away with a deeper understanding of the depth of issues and the call to action now.

*CM 550 Eco-Justice and the Christian Faith*

3 Credits.

This course explores contemporary work in eco- justice theology, eco-feminism, Native American and third world scholarship, and the sustainability movement. Questions concerning the place and role of human beings within creation, understandings of God and Christ, economic globalization, conflicting uses of public lands, environmental racism, classism and sexism, and the struggle for nurturing sustainable and just communities are considered. The emphasis is upon constructive theological and ethical reflection upon the global problematic of environmental degradation and injustice.

*CM 560 Introduction to Sociology of Religion*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: CM 400A.

This course introduces the student to some of the critical thinkers, both classical and contemporary, in the field of Sociology of Religion. We come to a working definition of Sociology of Religion and look at its relation to theology. The student is introduced to methods of research in the field and is required to do a research project.

*CM 565 Christianity and Racism*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: CM 401 A&B, CM 400 A.

The emergence of racism as a modern phenomenon is explored. A Christian understanding of humankind is contrasted with a racist viewpoint. A survey of the cultures of various ethnic groups in the United States is used to promote an appreciation of racial diversity in this country.

*CM 575 Church Administration*

3 Credits.

This course will help prepare future pastors and other church leaders for the ministry of church administration, particularly in the African American Church utilizing the governing framework of the local African Methodist Episcopal Church. Students from other faith communities will be assisted and encouraged to identify and relate management and administrative principles to their particular context.

*CM 580 Rural and Small Church Ministry*

3 Credits.

This course will explore the small churches which are prevalent and persistent in American religion. Over one-half of all Protestant congregations worship with fewer than 75 people on a Sunday, and about two-thirds worship with fewer than 100. Programmatic and bureaucratic norms are often in conflict with local folkways in small churches, putting assigned leaders in difficult situations. Church leaders called and sent to particular communities have the challenge of learning the stories of those places, dealing with changes, and finding ways to tell the story of the gospel in, with and under the stories of people and place.

*CM 601 A Senior Seminar*

3 Credits. Required. Prerequisite: CM 400A and Senior status (60 cumulative credit hours earned)

This class has a two-fold purpose: 1) to aid in the completion of the requirements for the M.Div. program and preparation for writing the Senior Thesis in particular; and 2) to deal with vocational goals and concerns that require additional support after graduating from the M.Div. program.

*CM 601 B Senior Seminar*

3 Credits. Required. Prerequisite: CM 400A and CM 601A

This class has a two-fold purpose: 1) to aid in the completion of the requirements for the M.Div. program and preparation for writing the Senior Thesis in particular; and 2) to deal with vocational goals and concerns that require additional support after graduating from the M.Div. program.

*CM 603 Ministerial Sexual Ethics: Healthy Boundaries*

3 Credits. Required.

This course addresses the matter of clergy misconduct. Sexual abuse in the ministerial relationship can become a serious dilemma within the congregation. Persons studying

for entry into various ministries are challenged to examine the issues pertaining to clergy sexual misconduct, to examine their own values and to begin to develop their own policies for use with a potential congregation.

*CM 699 Special Topics: Practical Ministry*

1-3 Credits.

### **Area III: Historical Studies**

(Dr. Roger Evans, Chair)

*HS 410 Christian History in Context I*

3 Credits. Required.

This course examines the doctrines, belief systems, and people who continually reshaped the Christian message, which was passed from one generation to the next. The focus of this class is from the age of the Apostolic Fathers to the Middle Ages.

*HS 420 Christian History in Context II*

3 Credits. Required.

This course continues to examine the doctrines, belief systems, and people who continually reshaped the Christian message, which was passed from one generation to the next. The focus of the class is from the late Middle Ages to the African-American experience of the 20th century.

*HS 521 A.M.E. Church History*

3 Credits. Prerequisites: HS 420. Required for AME students.

This course is designed to introduce students to the historical development of the A.M.E. Church and the thought of its leadership. This is done in the context of an evaluation of its role in African American history.

*HS 530 Different Expressions of American Christianity*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: HS 420

An introduction to the major persons and ideas that have helped shape the content and direction of various denominations and religious groups in America. Attention is given to the ways in which various theological notions interfaced with and often helped shape the social, political, economic, and racial views and values of the nation from the Colonial period to the present.

*HS 540 Gender and Sex: Issues in the Ancient Church*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: HS 410

This course examines early Christian attitudes toward gender and sexuality from the first to the fifth century, particularly through the lens of Christian virginity. It examines the Hebrew Scriptures (Tanakh), New Testament, and the Church Fathers. Consideration is given to the writings of modern scholarship. The attempt is made to discover if and how writings from the early church shaped modern Christian understandings of gender and sexuality.

*HS 550 Early North African Christianity*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: HS 410

This course examines early North African Christian theology from its beginnings through the time of Augustine. The different theological climates that existed in Egypt, Ethiopia, and Northwestern Africa are studied. Focus on the special place that the Alexandrian school of interpretation played in the formation of early exegetical studies is considered. What influenced North African Christian theology and the influences it had on its world and later theological developments are scrutinized.

*HS 560 Judaism and Christianity: From Conflict to Conversation*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: HS 410

This course examines anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism in the Christian community from the first century through the fifth century. It explores how this was manifested in literature, i.e., theology, laws, art, and drama. It looks at primary documents as well as later historiography. The course raises issues of racial and theological bigotry.

*HS 680 African American Christianity*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: HS 420

This course is designed to explore the people and events which shaped the African American religious experience and how the African American church helped shape the political, economic and cultural America. We will examine the African American church's response to issues such as slavery, the anti-slavery movement, the civil war, the reconstruction era, the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, liberation theology, and the current ecumenical movement. We will look at both primary sources and the writings of African American scholars and historians who have written about the involvement of the Black church in these areas.

*HS 690 Religious and Social Ferment in the 16th Century*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: HS 420

This course focuses on current issues facing Reformation historians and theologians.

Intellectual, economic, political and religious aspects of the age are examined. By incorporating "secular" issues into the study, an understanding of the forces at work that brought about an important age in the history of Europe is greatly improved.

*HS 699 Special Topics in Historical Studies*

1-3 Credit.

#### **Area IV: Theology, Religion, and Ethics**

(Dr. Charles Brown, Chair)

*TRE 400 Introduction to Systematic Theology*

3 Credits. Required.

In order to achieve a basic understanding of the discipline of systematic theology, this course surveys the Western philosophical foundations of Christian theology from the Pre-Socratics of early Greece through Immanuel Kant and the European Enlightenment. By examining the relationship between philosophical ideas and theological reflection, students develop the fundamental skills necessary for the analytical interpretation of theological texts and the constructive task of formulating a personal theological statement.

*TRE 405 Introduction to Liberation Theologies*

3 Credits. Required.

An examination of Christian theology as it finds contemporary expression in the liberation theologies of North America, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The birth of liberation theological movements in the latter part of the 20th century is viewed against the background of the Enlightenment and the emergence of orthodox, liberal and neo-orthodox theologies. Students have the opportunity to clarify their own theological stance by engaging theological perspectives that are radically different from their own.

*TRE 480 The Ethos and Practices of Traditional African Religions*

3 Credits.

Students will be exposed to religious traditions that are native to the African continent so that they might develop critical appreciation for what appropriately grounds an Africentric ethos and enabled to fashion tools and criteria for interpreting and applying values associated with this ethos.

*TRE 500 Beyond Mono-Culturalism: Interreligious Insights*

3 Credits.

Description: In this course, students will explore crucial elements of the thought and

practices/cultural expressions that are associated with major religious traditions that, with the Judeo-Christian tradition, influence most of the world's peoples. In the process, students will be nurtured in their capacity to think globally, to be self-critical, to pursue respectful understanding of those who are different and to be ecological in orientation.

*TRE 501 Introduction to Christian Ethics*

3 Credits. Required. Prerequisites: BS 401 or 403 and TRE 400 or 405.

An exploration of theory and method in Christian ethics emphasizing experience and reflection as elements of moral life.

*TRE 507 The Ethics of "Informed Consent"*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: TRE 501

A study of bio-medical ethics utilizing the account of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks as a case study illuminating the significance of "informed consent as a normative principle in public policy."

*TRE 510 African American Religious Experience*

3 Credits. Required. Prerequisite: TRE 400 or 405.

This course focuses upon the development of the African American religious experience in the United States. Attention is given to the African heritage. The African American experience in Christianity, Islam and Judaism is explored. In each instance, concern is given to the efficacy of the experience for the adherents.

*TRE 515 The Religious and Moral Meanings of Black Protest*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: TRE 400 or 405.

This course will explore theological, ethical and strategic aspects of the thought of selected African American theologians and protest leaders, with consideration of implications for contemporary issues facing African Americans.

*TRE 520 Ecclesiology: The Black Church in the North American Context.*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: TRE 400 or 405.

This course is a study of the social, cultural, and historical forces that have shaped the theological understanding of "The Black Church" in the context of North America. Case studies of local congregations from within African American ecclesial traditions, along with evangelical and liberal Protestant traditions, is used to critically examine the theological role of church in society. The freedom and justice tradition of the African American church frame the dialogue with a variety of North American church traditions that view the church as an empowering agent of social resistance, cultural critique, and transformation. Attention is also given to developing ecclesiologies that are emerging

from increasingly diverse church communities throughout North America.

*TRE 522 The Ethics of Religious Freedom and Racial Equality in the U.S.*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: TRE 501.

This course is a study of the First Amendment right to religious liberty and the history of its interpretation in decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court. Particular attention will be paid to implications for current issues in critiques of "separation of church and state" as the prevailing legal interpretation.

*TRE 535 Islam in the African American Religious Experience.*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: TRE 400 or 405.

This course looks at Islam as one of the major monotheistic religions of the world, and African American adaptations in the United States. We do a brief survey of the founding and establishment of Islam as a major world religion. We do a survey of the various expressions of Islam among African Americans in the United States. We consider the Nation of Islam both as a religious movement and as an expression of Black nationalism.

*TRE 540 Theological Method*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: TRE 400 or 405.

A critical study of the meaning and future of classical and contemporary theological method. The contribution, critique, and challenge of Liberation, Womanist, and Feminist theologies to each other and to Western theological methodology are examined. This approach to the study of theological method debates the assertion: "No one puts new wine into old wineskins." Specific attention is given to how the recovery and use of non-traditional sources of God-talk (prayers, songs, story, etc.) are creating new theological paradigms. How traditional sources of theology (scripture, tradition, experience, and reason) are interpreted, through the lens of different cultures and contexts of oppression, is also explored. Students have the opportunity to advance constructive statements about new ways of doing theology in their context.

*TRE 560 Ecological Theology*

3 Credits. Required.

Can the Christian tradition provide a rationale that will persuade human beings from destroying other species, their habitats and the greater biosphere of our planet? Widespread ecological degradation has prompted biblical scholars, systematic theologians and ethicists to explore ways of thinking about and acting more compatibly within the community of diverse beings that constitute Earth. This course has been designed to bring students into this ongoing dialogue by examining systematically some notions in Christian texts and discerning the extent to which they provide

promising foundations for ecological theology.

*TRE 570 Climate Change: Why Should We Care?*

3 Credits.

Climate change has far-reaching implications for our efforts to relieve poverty, to establish and maintain peace, and for the economy. The threat of climate change to our children and grandchildren is immense and its long term consequences are unprecedented in human history. The issue of climate change is vast and complex and its ethical implications are profound. This course seeks to cover spiritual and ethical principles that are directly applicable to the climate crisis. It will also cover teachings and wisdom of several world religions and their perspectives on climate change. This intensive course does not claim to be comprehensive. The issue of climate change is vast and complex and its ethical implications are profound. The major purpose will be to lay a foundation upon which you will be able to build your own knowledge, and to help make your actions a service to humankind and a contribution to saving the foundation for life on planet, Earth.

*TRE 620 The Theology and Ethics of Martin Luther King, Jr.*

3 Credits. Prerequisite: TRE 400.

This course considers both the life and thought of Martin Luther King, Jr. Specific attention is given to understanding his sociopolitical context and his contribution as a theologian and ethicist. An examination is made of his writings and important interpretations of this thought.

*TRE 642 Introduction to Womanist and Feminist Theology*

3 Credits. Prerequisites: TRE 400 or 405.

This course explores the origins, development, and major themes of Black and Womanist theologies as contemporary theological movements that emerged in the United States in the late 20th century. The major focus of the course is a critical examination of the mutual critique and dialogue between Black and Womanist theologies. Specific attention is given to how the issues of gender, race, and class inform the tensions between and the construction of each theological perspective. Tensions within Black and Womanist theologies are also addressed along with the way they have engaged, challenged, and been challenged by various theological perspectives in the United States, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Students confront the question: What do both of these theologies have to say to each other about Christianity, culture, politics and social reality in today's world?

*TRE 650 Transformational Theological Leadership*

3 Credits.

This course is designed to uniquely challenge students' thinking about leadership and administration in the church. Students are afforded the opportunity to hear and interact with scholars whose work has contributed greatly to elements of church life. The course provides students opportunities to examine various aspects of literature pertaining to leadership and students engage in discussions to clarify their own positions pertaining to the concepts that undergird leadership and administration in the 21st century church.

*TRE 680 Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference*

3 Credits. No prerequisite.

Course will be centered around the annual theme of the Conference.

*TRE 699 Special Topics in Theological Studies*

1-3 Credits.