

CHICAGO
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY

Course Listing

**** The Course Catalog is subject to change. Please remember to check for updates each term. ****

For up-to-date course information contact the Registrar (registrar@ctschicgao.edu)

Key and Important Notices…… p. 3

Accreditation……... p. 4

Course Descriptions…… p. 5

Core Faculty…… p. 30

Key and Important Notices

Levels of Courses:

300 - 399 Introductory
400 - 499 Intermediate
500 - 599 Advanced
600 - 699 Doctoral

* Doctoral Students: In consultation with course instructors and the Registrar, you may request that regularly-scheduled masters-level courses be modified for doctoral instruction. If approved, doctoral-level course numbers and syllabi will be provided.*

Term Abbreviations

F = Fall J = January Sp = Spring M = May Su = Summer

Registration in the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS):

Students of any of the ACTS schools may take courses from any of the other member schools with no added charge. Registration for all courses, no matter which school, takes place in the school where the student is enrolled. Students may register by completing a cross-registration form. Each school in ACTS reserves the right to limit enrollment in certain courses for pedagogical reasons and to set its own policies for the admission of students from other schools to such courses. A student who cross-registers is subject to the policy for incompletes at the school into which she/he cross-registers. The ACTS catalog can be found at http://actschicago.org/ and the registration form can be found on MyCTS under Registrar.

Accreditation

Accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, and the following degree programs are approved:

MDiv, MA (Religious Studies), STM, DMin, PhD

Approved for a Comprehensive Distance Education Program.

Approved for a fully online MDiv, MA (Religious Studies), STM, DMin

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

Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, and the following degree programs are approved:

MDiv, MA in Religious Leadership, MA (Religious Studies), DMin, STM, PhD

Approved for a fully online MDiv, MA (Religious Studies), STM

The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 4000
Chicago, IL 60602-2504

MDiv and Certificate Concentrations in Islamic Chaplaincy as well as the MA in Islamic Studies are offered via an articulation agreement based on a MOU with Bayan.

Course Descriptions

RH – Religious Heritage

RH 301
Interpreting the Hebrew Bible
Ken Stone
An introduction for beginning students to the problems of the historical and theological interpretation of the Hebrew Scriptures. Special attention given to Pentateuch and narrative history (Joshua-2 Kings).

RH 302
Interpreting the Hebrew Bible II
Rachel Mikva
An exploration of historical, literary and theological interpretations of the prophetic, short story, and wisdom texts of the Hebrew Bible—with a taste of Apocrypha. We will utilize a range of classical and contemporary Very Different Visionslenses, from rabbinic midrash to liberation theology and queer theory. Assignments emphasize interpretation and practical application.

RH 321
Interpreting the Gospels
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder or Affiliates (Teresa Hornsby, Monya Stubbs)
This course serves as a graduate level introduction to the contemporary interpretation of the Gospels in the New Testament and related documents. It will address the Greco-Roman and Jewish milieu of the Gospels, the methodological development of the Gospel scholarship, and the distinctiveness of each Gospel with regard to literary style, Christology, discipleship, and community concerns. It will also highlight the importance of ethical interpretation of the Gospels that will promote justice and mercy in today's world.

RH 325
Interpreting the Epistles
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder or Affiliates (Teresa Hornsby, Monya Stubbs)
Offers an introduction to both the Pauline and non-Pauline corpus. In addition to reading selected letters in light of ancient epistolography and rhetorical practices, we will also pay attention to the historical situations of these letters.

RH 344

History of Christian Thought
José Morales or Bo Myung Seo
This course will survey the significant theologians and movements from the early Christian Church through the Reformation, focusing primarily on the Western Church.

RH 367
UCC History and Polity
Lillian Daniel
An introduction for beginning students to the problems of the historical and theological interpretation of the Hebrew Scriptures. Special attention given to Pentateuch and narrative history.

RH 402
Jewish Thought: Traditionally Rooted, Radically Engaged
Rachel Mikva
An overview of Jewish thought and practice utilizing works of Jewish literature from the rabbinic period to modernity. Texts include Talmud, Midrash, medieval philosophy, commentary, codes, kabbalah, Heschel, Buber. We explore the ideas as they illuminate the worlds of Judaism and beyond, in their historical context and our own day.

RH 405/605
Human: America's Culture Wars and Religious Perspectives on Human Nature
Rachel Mikva
Religious convictions about the fundamental nature of human beings, including conceptions of body and soul as well as our capacity for goodness, significantly influence public policy—in ways both obvious and unseen. They are frequently invoked in America's contemporary "culture wars." Examining issues of abortion, criminal justice, liberal democracy and gender, the course explores the profound impact of conservative Christianity in shaping public discourse and policy. It reveals the problematic establishment of religion by unpacking a broad variety of teachings about human nature within Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

RH 409/609
Study Tour in Israel and Palestine
Rachel Mikva
History pours out of every rock, and hopes for the future radiate from every face. This 2-week journey explores the biblical heritage, the vitality of the modern State of Israel, and the tremendous challenges in pursuing justice and peace for Palestinians and Israelis. We meet partners in the Jewish and Palestinian communities working on coexistence, sustainability, interreligious engagement, gender and sexuality. Substantial subsidies for CTS students are available. Requires preparatory work in the preceding semester.

RH 413
Buddhist Studies
JoAnne Terrell
Utilizing the lens of thoughtful inquiry, the course will examine the life of Gautama Buddha, the historical emergence and spread of Buddhism, and the components of his Eight-Fold Path.

RH 416
Dangerous Religious Ideas
Rachel Mikva
Like any power, the power of religious ideas can be wielded for good and ill—including your own! The course investigates "dangerous" religious ideas in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—along with historical and contemporary tools for self-critical faith. Given that religious ideas exercise power in the public square, we also hone our skills in public theology.

RH 419
Creation Themes in the Hebrew Bible
Ken Stone
This course will investigate creation themes as they appear across a wide selection of texts in the Hebrew Bible, in the ancient Near East, and in contemporary biblical scholarship. It also asks about the potential relevance of those themes for contemporary theology, ethics, ministry, and cultural criticism.

RH 420
Suffering, Lament & Human Existence in the Hebrew Bible
Ken Stone
This course takes a *dialogical, theological*, and *pastoral* approach to selected texts from the Hebrew Bible, which articulate, respond to, and/or interpret experiences of suffering, pain, and grief, and perceived challenges to the orderliness of human existence. Texts we address include selected Psalms and the books of Lamentations, Job, and Qohelet (Ecclesiastes). Reflection on implications for ministry will play a significant role in the course, particularly in dialogue with several secondary texts on the biblical Lament tradition and grief.

RH 421
Living, Breathing Judaisms
Rachel Mikva
What we need to know about Jews and Judaism, and what we learn about ourselves in the process. The course explores ethics, Sabbath and festival observance, life cycles, family, prayer, community, conflict and change in diverse Jewish contexts.

RH 465
Womanist Biblical Interpretation
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder
This course examines the trajectory of U.S.-black women's biblical interpretation from the nineteenth century to the present, by both non-specialists and specialists. Learners will discuss major issues, themes, continuities and discontinuities in black women's hermeneutical approaches. They will also examine the interstructured oppressions of gender, class, race and sexuality that inform black feminist and womanist scholars' analytical approach to reading biblical texts.

RH 468/668
Topics in Latin American/Caribbean Church History
José Morales
More than a survey of Latin American and Caribbean Christianity, this course delves into regional and local histories within the wider Christian story in the Americas, bringing to light recurring themes that demonstrate the richness, complexities, perils, and promise of a *fé cristã*/*la fe cristiana*/*la foi chrétienne*/*het christelijk geloof* the Christian faith that has taken root in the Americas and the Caribbean Islands.

RH 470
Parables in the Gospel of Luke
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder
This intermediate level course will introduce students to the socio-historical, cultural, and political setting of the Gospel of Luke. By engaging selected parables, this study seeks to assist participants in discovering how these stories reflect the first century context. Students will be challenged to discern possible theological meaning(s) emanating from the text. This examination will be used to explore current-day relevance and points of personal praxis.

RH 485
Religion in North America
JoAnne Terrell or Scott Haldeman or José Morales
This course will trace the history and development of religion in the United States from the 17th to 21st centuries and explore the many ways that it responded to as well as influenced North American culture and identity. Rather than depart from the more traditional meta-narrative of the Anglo-Saxon Protestant majority, it will use the lenses of different religious traditions to view the diversity of our religious landscape while also critically assessing the common heritage that is shared.

RH 524
African American Biblical Interpretation
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder

This This masters level course will survey the ways in which African and African-American thought have shaped paths to biblical meaning. By examining speeches of thought leaders and various volumes on said interpretative methodologies, the course will engage in historical analysis and application inquiry from the past three centuries. A doctoral-level boost will be available.

RH 530
Survival in the Hebrew Bible
Kamilah Hall Sharp
This course is an interdisciplinary course that explores the themes of resilience, endurance, and survival as portrayed in the Hebrew Bible. The course delves into the narratives and characters in the biblical text who are in perilous situations, emphasizing the experiences of girls and women. Students will engage in trauma theory, womanist interpretation, and other disciplines, along with the biblical text.

RH 601
Contemporary Hermeneutical Strategies
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder
Advanced seminar exploring a range of emerging hermeneutical strategies (literary, social-scientific, liberationist, feminist, Afro-centrist, womanist, deconstructive, psychoanalytic) with attention to impact of global and post-Holocaust consciousness.

RH 644
Sacred Texts and the Public Square: The Bible, Qur'an, Thurman, Lorde, and Baldwin
Kamilah Hall Sharp
This course explores the multifaceted role of sacred texts in contemporary public life. In an increasingly diverse and interconnected world, sacred texts hold significant cultural, moral, and ethical importance for many individuals and communities. Students will examine what are sacred texts and how they impact and influence public discourse and public ministry.

RHB 456
Intermediate Arabic 2A
Mahbuba Hammad
Students further develop their reading, speaking, listening, and writing skills, while expanding their vocabulary. They will master more complex grammar and syntax involving words derived from Arabic root patterns, using them to produce extended sentences and passages. They also master conjunctions and additional verb tenses. Performance-based formative assessments will help students achieve the equivalent of the second year of university-level Arabic.

RHB 468
Islam, Anti-Imperialism and African History
Bilal Ware
Malcolm X argued that of all the disciplines, history bears the most promise for our liberation. In the Qur'an, the bulk of the text is devoted to historical narrative, relating the stories of previous Prophets. In this course, we will bring together a critical reading of the Qur'an and Seerah with the histories of African and African-descended peoples to better understand the historical relationship between Islam and anti-Imperialism. Topics include the Qur'an & Seerah as anti-imperialist history, the rise of Arab Imperialism and African responses, the Slave Trade, empires of white supremacy and African resistance into the 19th century, and Malcolm X to the Palestinian freedom struggle.

TEC – Theology, Ethics, and Culture

TEC 307
Systematic Theology
JoAnne Terrell or José Morales
The course examines the history of Christian theological thinking, the nature of doctrine, and the development of Christian movements and their relationship to the social, political, spiritual contexts in which they emerged, as well as in reaction to scientific innovations of the times.

TEC 321
Christian Ethics
Christophe Ringer or Melanie Jones
Course examines moral codes, divine commandments and legal proscriptions that influence the development of Christianity, and how the historical expressions of these systems in various communions have led to competing moral theories in Christian thought.

TEC 355
Living into our Commitments
Rachel Mikva
Using the CTS "Statement of Commitments" as the basis for study, we critically examine the ways in which intersections of injustice diminish our world, and explore strategies for personal and social transformation. The CTS community is also a living laboratory, enabling us to discuss what it means to try to live into these commitments together, how to make space for different visions of justice, and what to do when we fall short. Participation in the face-to-face components, which can substitute for online work, is strongly encouraged.

TEC 363/663
Introduction to LGBTQIA+ Religious Studies
Scott Haldeman
Participants explore historical trajectories of studies by and about queer adherents to various religious traditions, while focusing on questions of method—past, present and future.

TEC 390
Introduction to the Study of Black Faith and Life
Christophe Ringer
This course will explore the critical themes, disciplines and thinkers important to the study of Black faith and Black life. The discussion will be afrocentric in focus, interreligious and socially comprehensive in scope.

TEC 395O
Interreligious Engagement
Rachel Mikva
What does it mean to be a religious leader in a multifaith society? This course provides essential tools and perspectives including theological and philosophical foundations for pluralism, conflict transformation, and leadership strategies for interreligious engagement. We analyze the various ways we meet across religious difference, planned and unplanned, and explore their impact on our world.

TEC 400
Constructive Theology
Christophe Ringer
This course is designed to facilitate the comprehensive construction and communication of each student's own positions on key Christian doctrinal loci. The course will focus on the following themes: theological method, God, Jesus, sin and evil, ministry and church.

TEC 402
Christology
Bo Myung Seo
This course will examine how Christ has been understood theologically and doctrinally over the centuries. The course will try to provide a comprehensive review of the history of Christology as well as providing contemporary theological options in thinking about Christology.

TEC 403/603
Theologies of the Cross
JoAnne Terrell

This course will conduct a general survey of Theologies of the Cross as conveyed centuries of Christian discourse about the significance of Jesus's life and death, ultimately to devolve to Christians as the "doctrine" of the Atonement. We will examine the ways by which the doctrine is transmitted, through hymnody, sermons, and public performance to achieve near-universal understanding about what constitutes doctrinal precision.

TEC 411
Howard Thurman and the Search for Common Ground
Christophe Ringer
Howard Thurman is known as a mystic, poet, prophet, preacher, pastor, philosopher, and theologian. This course will critically examine Howard Thurman's account of religious experience and its ethical significance for transformation of persons and society. In particular, close attention will be paid to Thurman's interpretation of Jim Crow segregation, the religion of Jesus, spiritual disciplines, and the nature of the self. Special attention will be paid to Thurman's relationship with the Black Church, inter-religious engagement, philosophical traditions and the role of religion in American public life.

TEC 412/612
Latinx Studies and Religion: Questions, Methods, and Issues
José Morales
In *¿Existe una filosofía de nuestra América?*, Peruvian philosopher Augusto Salazar Bondy asks what defines Latin American philosophy. His answer is a thematic one: Latin American philosophy is haunted by the unanswered question of identity. What do we mean by "Latin" American," "Caribbean," "Hispanic", "Latinx"? This perennial questioning and negotiating of identity (or identities) serves as the starting point to explore theological/ jurisprudential/religious themes phenomena, and expressions in nuestra América.

TEC 413
Theologies of the Body
JoAnne Terrell
How has Christianity come to be associated with the denigration of the body? What are resources in tradition for a theological re-appropriation and celebration of the body?

TEC 414
Theology of Art
Bo Myung Seo
This course examines the ideas of the aesthetic and art in the history of Christian thought. After a historical survey, some contemporary reflections on art will also be examined.

TEC 416/616

Latin American Liberation Theologies
José Morales
This course in intellectual history and constructive theology looks back to engage the philosophical and theological wisdom that initially sourced Latin American liberation theology ["LALT"], tapping into its prophetically incisive and intellectually rigorous roots. And the course looks ahead to evaluate LALT's contemporary relevance and to assess valid criticisms posed to LALT: feminism criticizing machismo; ecology expanding anthropocentric soteriologies; Afro-Latinx theology denouncing Latinx anti-blackness; and narrative theology's existential sense as a counter to "disembodied" structural analyses.

TEC 417
Theology and Photography
Bo Myung Seo
This course examines ideas of theology and art. After a brief historical survey of how theology related itself to art and aesthetics, the course will examine photography in terms of its history and theory and how it can contribute to theological reflection and practice of faith.

TEC 4199
Study Tour to Thomasville Buddhist Center
JoAnne Terrell
During this seminar, students, staff, and faculty will travel to Thomasville, North Carolina for an immersion in contemplative practices and Introduction to Buddhism at the Thomasville Retreat Center with Repa (Dharma Teacher) Bushi Yamato Damashii. The theme of this study trip is "Mindfulness," one key component of the eight-fold path that Gautama Buddha taught (563-483 BCE or 483-400 BCE). This means that the lens we will bring to the immersion experience is one of thoughtful inquiry and sincere appreciation.

TEC 424
Theological Method
Bo Myung Seo
This course will examine various schools of thought in theology in terms of their distinct approaches to how theology is to be done. While the course will begin with a historical examination of methods in theology, more of its time will be spent examining modern and contemporary options in theological method.

TEC 427/627
Comparative Theology: Questions, Methods, and Issues
José Morales

Comparative theology is a newer subfield within the broader field of theology. Thus, its aims and agenda as a subfield often are misunderstood. As John Thatamanil (Circling the Elephant) explicates, comparative theology is not one tradition thinking about (or worst yet, against) the other's tradition. Rather, this subfield calls the theologian, rooted in their particular tradition, to think with another tradition, allowing one's faith to be read and transformed by the faith of the other. This course explores some of the questions, methods, and issues in comparative theology.

TEC 428/628
Philosophies of Race and Theology
José Morales
Philosophies of race/ethnicity and theological anthropology consider similar questions (albeit with different assumptions and aims), namely, human identity, human constitution, and human experiencing in our blessed yet battered world. Yet, these distinct modes of inquiry rarely intersect. This course brings together, in a mutually critical way, theological constructions on humanity and philosophical discourses on race and ethnicity.

TEC 439
In Jesus' Name: Psychology of Christian Hegemony & Religious Oppression in the US
Kameelah Mu'Min Oseguera
In what ways do Christian hegemony, normativity, and privilege impact the psychospiritual well-being and identity formation of religiously minoritized people? How does notions of religious superiority and the invisibility of whiteness effect the growth and development of dominant group members? This course will cover the historical and present-day impact of Christian hegemony and white supremacy as intertwined systems of domination and oppression; the effect of these systems on the psyches of both white Christian people and racial & religious minorities (internalized Islamophobia for example), and recommendations for identifying and unlearning these beliefs as well as improving inter/intrafaith, inter/intraracial dialogue, solidarity, well-being and advocacy.

TEC 519
Study Tríp to Mu Ryang Sa Buddhist Temple, Honolulu, Hawaii
JoAnne Terrell
During this Study Trip, students, staff, and faculty will explore facets of Buddhism in the American context by exploring the Korean Buddhist community Buddhist in Honolulu, Hawaii. We will study the history of Korean (Mahayana) Buddhism, the path of migration from Korea to other regions in the Pacific, as well as the distinctively Korean aspects of the practice of the faith tradition. The theme of this trip is "Adaptability." This means that the lens we will bring to the Mu Ryang Sa Buddhist community is not one of mission and benevolence, but of inquiry, appreciation, and transformation.

TEC 444/644
Queer Eco-Spiritualities
Ken Stone
This experimental course explores possibilities for contemporary queer eco-spiritualities by examining and integrating insights from queer theologies, queer ecological theories emerging beyond religious or theological contexts, queer, intersectional, and interreligious eco-theologies, and various approaches to spirituality and to ecological ministry and activism.

TEC 449/649
The Trinity: A Historical and Theological Survey
José Morales
This course is a systematic study of the Christian doctrine of the Trinity arranged by the history of its development and ongoing deliberation, from the early church to the present. It examines the critical theological nuances at play (e.g. the divinity and humanity of Christ; the oneness and threeness of the triune God), various philosophical concepts employed in trinitarian dogmatics, the soteriological import underlying the centuries-long debates, new questions raised by contemporary theology, and the significance of this uniquely Christian belief in our globalizing, pluralistic context.

TEC 456/656
The Ethics of Social Vulnerability
Christophe Ringer
The course examines the multiple ways vulnerability and precarity are created by social injustice. Attention will be given to how social, cultural and bodily vulnerability to social forces are experienced and represented in society. The course will also examine the ways vulnerability mobilizes moral and political emotions to foster empathy and solidarity in the interest of social change. The course be attentive to the legacies and contemporary possibilities of religion in creating and addressing social vulnerability.

TEC 457/657
Mindfulness, Embodiment and Ministry
Christophe Ringer
The course examines the contemporary rise of the practice of mindfulness meditation and its relevance for ministry. Attention will be given to history of the practice, engagement with science, its cultural reception and transformation American culture. The course will engage contemporary critiques of mindfulness, its potential for personal and social change, embodiment and the practice of ministry.

TEC 464
Justice at the Intersections: A Study Tour Exploring Race, Gender, and Religion in the South

Rachel Mikva/Christophe Ringer
This study tour examines the resurgence of white nationalism and Christian supremacy in American public life through the lens of intersectionality. State-sanctioned racialized violence is intimately woven into recent attacks on immigrants and religious minorities, as well as police violence and the legislative assault on reproductive rights. We examine these issues by engaging the role of religion within historical and contemporary struggles for social justice in the South--even as the lessons are instructive for the whole of the nation. From the removal of native populations, to the painful history of lynching and other practices of terror, we journey to exceptional sites and speak with transformative leaders working to fashion a more just, humane future.

TEC 465
Trauma and Theology
Zachary Moon
This course will explore multiple conceptual frameworks of trauma with an emphasis on theological reflection and constructing contextual theologies. This course is designed as a seminar in which students will be active readers and contributors to the learning community. Students will theologically engage and integrate learning from cognate clinical fields of trauma theory, therapeutic practice, and literature.

TEC 466/666
Confronting Planetary Problems
Christophe Ringer
The current acceleration of human power has created global problems. This course examines the resources that religion may offer to moral challenges facing the human species. Attention will be given to the role of religion in the cultivation of global civil society and the common good. The course will examine global challenges such as poverty, climate change, migration, racial and gender inequality food and water insecurity.

TEC 467/667
Christianity and Colonialism
Bo Myung Seo
The course will examine the relationship between Christianity and colonialism both historically and theologically. Colonialism was an essential part of the modern West and as such has had significant religious implications. After examining that history, the course will investigate how the discourse of modern theology was influenced by the ideas of colonialism and how it continued to shape the theological perception of the non-Western world.

TEC 470/670
Readings in Public Theology
José Morales

This seminar course engages and examines with seminal and recent texts in public and political theology, and explores ways that these might inform spiritual formation, religious leadership, and the wider struggle toward justice and the common good.

TEC 504
Augustine, Niebuhr, & Malcolm X
JoAnne Terrell
We will review the ideas of these three highly influential thinkers about the nature of sin in human existence and those qualities of human beings requiring redemption, giving special attention to the theme of sin as pride and sensuality.

TEC 509
Proto-Womanist Thought
JoAnne Terrell
The course will focus on the lives, thought, and spiritual practices of proto-womanists Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Jarena Lee, and trace the intellectual and spiritual paths of some of their spiritual descendants in contemporary womanist circles.

TEC 522
Black Feminism and Womanism in the Public Square
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder
This doctoral level course will examine the role of Black women as activists, interlocutors, and change agents in society. Through an historical framing from the 19th century to the present the course will highlight the public voice of black women as feminist and as womanist in religious, academic, and political contexts.

TEC 523/623
Theological Aesthetics
Bo Myung Seo
This course will explore the aesthetic tradition in Christian theology along with its philosophical backgrounds. It will begin with a consideration of the earlier theological history, but priority will be given to the 20th century development in aesthetic ideas in theology. Readings will include those of Hans Urs Von Balthasar, Jean-Luc Marion, Paul Tillich.

TEC 527
African American Political Theology
Christophe Ringer
This is an advanced course that examines the religious and theological dimensions of American political life from the experiences of African Americans. Political theology has re-emerged as an interdisciplinary field that investigates the powerful religious, historical and cultural forces shaping the ultimate meanings found in political communities. This

course will investigate the religious and theological aspects shaping American democracy through African American religious, cultural, and philosophical sources.

TEC 543
Advanced Readings in Queer Studies and Religion
Ken Stone
This advanced course will examine a number of recent publications in LGBT/Queer studies and consider their implications for religion, theology, and public ministry. Students who enroll in the course should be prepared to read and discuss a significant amount of material in queer theory and write a final research paper related to a topic in LGBT/Queer studies.

TEC 595
MA/STM Thesis Seminar
Bo Myung Seo/Munir Shaikh or Staff
This full-year 3-credit course assists MA and STM students in a) writing an academically superior and critically informed Masters-level thesis on a topic that contributes to the study of theology and religion and, when appropriate, the interface with contemporary culture and other disciplines and b) successfully defending the thesis in an oral exam.

TEC 604
Engaged Pedagogy & Course Design
Zachary Moon
This course will examine critical pedagogy, educational theories and classroom practices. Students will articulate their teaching philosophy, learn practical skills for course development, implementation, and assessment, and apply their expertise to engaging learning communities in various contexts including multiple higher education settings, online courses, and religious communities.

TEC 605
God and Philosophy
Bo Myung Seo
This course will introduce the ways in which the question of God was dealt with in the 20th century Western philosophy. In doing so, the course will also examine the relationship between philosophy and theology during that period.

TEC 607
DM: Leadership in the Public Square
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder

TEC 632
Interpretation in the Public Square

Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder
This doctoral level course seeks to examine the role of meaning presentation in the public square. By initially expounding on concepts and paths to interpretation, this study will explore what such ideas look like in society. On the converse, this exploration will discern how public spaces influence and dictate interpretive models.

TEC 650
Imposter Syndrome and Public Theology
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder
This doctoral level course seeks to survey the role of imposter syndrome/imposter phenomenon as manifested through socio-location cues as race, class, religion, and gender. After establishing this theoretical grounding the study then explores how such second-guessing appears in the public square and the role of theology in said presentations.

TEC 655
Applied Research Methods
Kamilah Hall Sharp
This course provides an advanced introduction to research methods (ethnography, structured interviews, case studies, etc.) that may be useful in the analysis of specific contexts for ministry, including religious communities. Attention is given to the ethical implications of particular research practices.

TEC 699
PhD Professional Development Seminar
Emily Vogt
Non-credit series of professional development workshops for Ph.D. students, meeting twelve times over the academic year. Required Ph.D. course.

TEB 321
Islamic Ethics
Ozgur Koca
This course surveys the literature in Islamic ethical thought, identifying key themes and topics for Muslims committed to living Islam as a way of life. Students explore how diverse Muslims have chosen to navigate the challenges of global modernity. They also examine how Islamic principles can help Muslims live with integrity in contemporary American society.

TEB 405
Contemporary Islamic Thought
Hamid Mavani
Over the last two centuries, Muslim scholars and intellectuals have sought to engage with and respond to the specific challenges of "modernity, "secularization," "Western

hegemony," and other extrinsic factors." We will examine a range of influential thinkers and texts that have shaped the discourse on "reform," "revival," and "reconstruction of Islam." The thinkers' key ideas and themes will be studied in the context of their own particular time and circumstances.

TEB 444
Islamic Systematic Theology and the Philosophy of Religion
Jihad Brown
This course explores a number of standard themes in the field of contemporary ecumenical philosophy of religion [POR]. We first survey "big questions" as they are framed by current practitioners. Themes include "The Problem of Divine Hiddenness", "Challenges to the Concept of 'Divine Action'", and "Theodicy." Philosophy of religion—unlike theology—is interested in particular philosophical issues that arise from the study of religion. We will follow along with a treatment of these thematic questions through the lens of Islamic theology, grounded in an Islamic worldview while adhering to both rules of coherence and consistency. While a systematic theology will no doubt treat matters of confession [e.g., understood only via revelation], it is customary in philosophy of religion to select broad themes that would be common to a variety of faith traditions as well as aiming toward arguments potentially compelling for fellow scholars not subscribing to any particular faith at all. It may be found that classical (and neo-classical) Sunnī Muslim scholarship carries the promise of such requirements by means of the rational approaches pursued by its formal systematic schools of theology.

TEB 452
Homo Islamicus: Explaining Human History from an Islamic Perspective
David Coolidge
In this course, we will discuss scientific descriptions of the Earth and Biological life, and the compatibility and/or incompatibility of these descriptions with an Islamic worldview. The focus of the course will be on the emergence of the human species with all of its cultural diversity, and how an Islamic worldview might compete with the intellectual trends that dominate secular educational institutions. Attention will be paid to each student's subjective understanding of reality, and their own attempts to make sense of it all. As such, discussion of each student's worldview and what informs it will be central.

TEB 454
Islamic Rational Theology: Ilm al-Kalam I
Fouad Elgohari
This course provides an introduction to the most important topics, figures, and methods of formative and classical Islamic theology (kalām), (8th-12th CE). In the 9th/3rd (CE/AH), 'ilm al-kalām emerged as a systematic rational program used to affirm Islamic creedal doctrine, and to develop analytical modes of examination and dialectal argumentation. This programme—deployed primarily as a means of theological

education and debate—would endure as the de rigeur method of Sunni theology until the turn of the 20th century. During this course students will explore the early historical developments of the field, identify the primary objectives and priorities of kalām theology, and engage with the various frameworks and tools of that emerge within kalam relative to the Islamic intellectual tradition.

TEB 455
Universal Maxims in Islamic Law and Beyond
Jihad Brown
The Maxims of Jurisprudence (al-qawāʿid al-fiqhiyyah) constitute a field in Islamic Law that enable a more supple approach to legal reasoning than "rote" or fixed methods. By means of these guiding "universals," a nimble jurist is better empowered to join novel and emerging cases with judgments more in keeping with the ethical aims of sacred law. These universal maxims to provide an inherently Islamic style of reasoning that informs solutions and "ways forward" in socio-cultural situations—well beyond the field of jurisprudence—amid ordinary life decisions. This course will utilize case studies of contemporary issues that can be approached from the perspective of the maxims, accounting for the North American/Western contexts of Muslim life.

LM – Leadership and Ministry

LM 301
Introduction to Preaching
Reginald Williams
This course is designed to give the learner framework and foundation for the study and practice of homiletics. This course gives attention to sermon preparation, crafting, structure, substance, and delivery. Learners will engage sermon crafting and construction from an authentic center.

LM 332
Introduction to Pastoral Theology
Rochelle Johnson
This course will introduce the field of pastoral theology. Students will develop skills for practicing pastoral theological reflection, encountering circumstances of crisis and human suffering, and envisioning care and counseling practices that are theologically coherent and contextually responsible.

LM 365
Global Sensitivity in Ministry
José Morales

This course will engage the global contexts of theology and ministry today. It will examine the history of colonialism, economic globalization, religious dialogue, and their contemporary implications. Various theological movements of the non-Western world will be introduced. Students will dissect and examine the inescapable, global dynamics of vocational formation and ministry today. Today's context of ministry emerges from a history of colonialism, racism, and economic exploitation, and is marked currently by economic and cultural globalization, transnational migrations, and bellicose exceptionalism. The course proposes three simple yet critical postures for doing theology and ministry in the world today: deep listening, patient discernment, and resilient practice. These three postures of theological leadership structure the course: narratives (listening); critical and imaginative wisdom (discerning); and lament and activism (practicing).

LM 395
Introduction to Chaplaincy Studies
Zachary Moon
This course introduces the field of chaplaincy studies. Chaplains are rooted and accountable to their religious tradition, but they serve people and communities who may have different religious backgrounds or have no religious affiliation. How does one develop a ministry resilient in the face of pluralistic religious demands, complex human suffering, and institutional cultures that may conflict with human flourishing? This course will engage five contexts of chaplaincy ministry including hospital, military, prison, campus, and hospice.

LM 400
Leadership and Ministry in Context
Rachel Payden
Course assists the student in experiencing and initiating a style of pastoral and theological reflection and provides perspective on the nature, history, and practice of religious leadership in congregational, faith-based community non-profit, and chaplaincy settings. This year-long three credit hour course is designed to be taken concurrently with a field education placement.

LM 411
Futurist Theologies of Care: Constructing Spiritual Care at the End(s) of the Earth
Cody Sanders
The course looks at lived human and more-than-human experience in the Anthropocene and the collapse of the climate, wars and rumors of wars, surveillance capitalism, and the erosion of structures of civilization and democracy. Care in a speculative futurist mode with an apocalyptic inflection assumes that we will not return from our eschatological edge(s) to a mythic "normal" in which we can comfortably take refuge. Those who practice care in community must address the fault lines exposed by the present to furnish

our future with possibilities for life and flourishing amid shock, violence, and even chaos, so that love, justice, and peace have the potential to grow.

LM 412
Introduction to Christian Worship
Scott Haldeman
This course explores the history, theology, and practice of Christian worship with special focus on the skills and values required of those who lead. In other words, we engage in debates about what worship is, what it means, and how it should be done. But we also try the role on—planning and performing various worship elements along the way. In the final paper, students articulate their own theology of worship and what it means for how they will preside in the future.

LM 415/615
Ritual Studies
Scott Haldeman
Human beings use ritual to construct themselves as individuals and as social groups. In this course, we will discuss, and experiment with, the work of theorists of ritual to help us understand how this happens. We will learn and practice methods of ritual criticism, which help us to interpret with more clarity and depth the ritual traditions in which we participate. We will explore how rituals change and how rituals are created to meet newly articulated human needs.

LM 417
Worship in world religions: an experiential comparative immersion
Scott Haldeman
In this course, we explore the landscape of American religious pluralism through ritual practices. We seek to understand what those who follow paths different from us "do" and "what it may mean"—for them, but also for us. We will read and talk about Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, the Bahá'í faith, and Islam. But even more we will go to representative communities of these traditions to join them in worship—to experience the where, when, why and how of their practices—to not only increase our knowledge of other faiths but also to better understand our own practices and how they must be changed to lead us from what all too often resembles triumphalism, disdain, and violent conflict, and towards mutual respect, honor, and peaceful relations.

LM 420/620
Analyzing Oppression, Strategizing Action
José Morales
This course brings together analytic philosophy and the practice of advocacy for the sake of mobilizing religious communities to work toward justice. Students first deploy philosophical methods to frame, define, and analyze the institutional, economic, and

psychological forces of oppression. Then they will consider and develop strategies for advocacy, faith-based political action, and community transformation, while concurrently constructing a politically-astute, community-driven theology of social justice.

LM 426
Preaching the Headlines
Reggie Williams
This course studies local, national, and global news events to stimulate the process, design, and practice of dynamic preaching. Through lectures, discussions, and an in-class lab, students will become more effective communicators behind and beyond church pulpits!

LM 428
Liturgies in Chaplaincy Contexts
Zachary Moon
The contexts of chaplaincy ministries are distinct in many ways from the ministries in congregations; however, there are a number situations in chaplaincy ministries that necessitate liturgical expertise including facilitating spiritual including the pluralistic character of ministries in those contexts, and equip students with liturgical competencies for faithful and effective service.

LM 437
Moral Injury and Recovery
Zachary Moon
This course investigates the field of moral injury. Moral injury occurs when intense levels of moral emotions including guilt, shame, disgust, and/or contempt, overwhelm normal human functioning and generate the same symptoms as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Moral injury has been linked to military service and combat traumas and may occur in many other contexts. This course will analyze the theoretical work concerning moral injury and the practical application of providing support for recovery.

LM 445
Faith Moves
Kamilah Hall Sharp
This course provides an advanced introduction to research methods (ethnography, structured interviews, case studies, etc.) that may be useful in the analysis of specific contexts for ministry, including religious communities. Attention is given to the ethical implications of particular research practices.

LM 454
Trauma and Healing: Caring for Self, Family & Community
Rochelle Johnson

This course aims to offer a comprehensive understanding of trauma at the individual, familial, and societal levels, including its impact on physical, spiritual, and psychological well-being. Students will study various forms of trauma from an intercultural perspective and explore how systematic oppression affects symptoms and recovery. The course will also help students identify their strengths and areas for growth to foster healthier relationships with themselves and others.

LM 455
Self-Development and Self-Care
Kameelah Mu'Min Oseguera or Bayan Staff
This course will examine the theory, practice, and importance of self-care and self-development while being a spiritual leader, which may be one of the most neglected parts of the profession or service. This course cultivates practices for self-assessment, self-renewal and development, and self-care. Deepening of self-awareness is a critical component for effective work as clergy/chaplains/religious leaders. It will also explore the ways in which leaders must engage in a process of critical and radical self-reflection in order to recognize one's strengths and limitations when it comes to community engagement and healing. Participants will engage with tools to look at their lives with a stronger sense of inner peace, confidence, and positivity. Students will learn how to survive and heal from traumatic events, train themselves to keep the multiple circles of wellness fulfilled, have better control of their emotions and facilitate better interpersonal relationships with friends, families, and those that they lead. Additionally, this course will teach students how to overcome their fears and lead their communities through an authentic lens.

LM 474
Feminist, Womanist, and Queer Ritualizing
Scott Haldeman
This course involves review of the central principles of feminist, womanist, and queer theologies and ritual theories, in turn. At each turning, students both in small groups and individually create rites, in an experimental manner, to embody these values and enact these hopes. A final paper (or, project) provides opportunity for students to explore one or more of these movements in-depth, imagining and creating liberative ritual spaces.

LM 490
Spiritual Abuse and Boundary Violations in Ministry/Chaplaincy
Kameelah Mu'Min Oseguera
Over the last few years #MeToo and #Churchhurt are hashtags which have increased attention and conversation about sexual assault and abuse in many contexts. According to The Institute for Social Policy and Understanding's 2019 American Muslim Poll, "...data show that roughly 10% of all faith groups say they personally know someone who experienced unwanted sexual advancement from a faith leader in their community... all faith groups surveyed were equally likely to say the person who experienced unwanted

sexual advances from a faith leader in their community reported it to another community or faith leader. However, in every group except Muslims, victims are more likely to have reported the incident internally to their faith leadership than to law enforcement." These findings have major implications for religious leaders and spiritual caregivers.
Spiritual abuse refers to a form of emotional and psychological abuse that occurs within a religious or spiritual context. It involves the misuse of power and authority by individuals or religious institutions, resulting in harm to individuals' spiritual well-being and overall mental health. Boundary violations, on the other hand, are actions or behaviors that cross or disregard personal boundaries. In the context of spiritual abuse, boundary violations can occur when individuals in positions of power or authority exploit their influence to manipulate, control, or harm others spiritually. It's important to note that spiritual abuse and boundary violations can occur in various religious or spiritual settings and can involve both congregants and religious leaders. The effects of these abuses can be long-lasting and damaging to individuals' faith, self-esteem, and overall well-being.
This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of spiritual abuse, boundary violations and their impact, as well as strategies for healing and prevention. Through a combination of theoretical exploration, case studies, and interactive discussions, students will gain insights into the dynamics of spiritual abuse and develop practical tools to address this issue within ministry and religious contexts.

LM 500
Anti-Racism as Interreligious Spiritual Practice
Kameelah Mu'Min Oseguera
"In a racist society it is not enough to be non-racist, we must be anti-racist." – Angela Davis According to NAC International Perspectives: Women and Global Solidarity, anti-racism is defined as the active process of identifying and eliminating racism by changing systems, organizational structures, policies and practices and attitudes, so that power is redistributed and shared equitably. This course argues that for this active process to be meaningful and substantive – it must be rooted in a practice of critical self-reflection, spirituality and an unwavering ethic towards justice and dignity. Anti-racism as a spiritual practice thus acknowledges that our faith traditions offer rich and invaluable guidance towards how we achieve or strive towards "changing systems, organizational structures, polices and practices and attitudes". This course is inspired by CTS' ASPIRE and Walk the Talk Projects addressing the historical and present-day impact of White (Christian) Supremacy, systemic oppression and anti-black racism in American society. This course will also center the role of critical self-reflection and consciousness in deepening our individual and collective commitment to moving from awareness to action.

LM 512
Preaching and Partnering with Womanists
Kamilah Hall Sharp

This course delves into the rich theological and cultural dimensions of womanist thought and praxis, offering a critical examination of its impact on preaching. Through this course, students will engage with womanist theological concepts, historical developments, contemporary expressions relating to preaching, and collaborative efforts in diverse communities to inform the development of practical applications in their context.

LM 624
Public Ministry: Orientations
Kamilah Hall Sharp
This course provides an advanced introduction to theories, practical skills, cultural competencies, and professional characteristics necessary for leadership in the work of public ministry.

LMB 334
Care and Counseling for Bereavement
Najah Bazzy or Bayan Staff
This course involves study of the dynamics of grief and mourning and of appropriate spiritual care and counseling with the bereaved in the context of religious communities, chaplaincy, and spiritually integrative counseling. The course references Islamic theological and spiritual paradigms for dealing with loss and suffering, and welcomes perspectives reflecting other faith traditions. Much of the course focuses on reflecting on one's core strengths, personal traits, and communication styles, which pertain to cultivating leadership skills and effective chaplaincy/care practices. The course will feature discussions, role play, and review of case studies.

LMB 411
Curriculum Design, Development and Integration
Karima Alavi
In this course, educators develop ideas, lessons and projects that offer interdisciplinary learning opportunities for their students. Appropriate opportunities for involving religious teachings and outlooks within a critical academic approach are also explored.

LMB 443
Islam, Antiracism Pedagogy, and Multicultural Education
Jihad Saafir
This course helps students to cultivate an anti-racist pedagogical practice that draws from Islamic principles and involves commitment to ongoing critical self-reflection, lifetime learning, and improvement. The course addresses debates in US mainstream society and educational contexts regarding multiculturalism, critical race theory, ethnic studies, and related topics. Conscientious and inclusive teaching practices that account for biases, social

location, and structural racism can advance healing, decolonization, and justice-oriented work within communities.

LMB 444
Positive Youth Development
Ivana Zajkovska
Positive Youth Development theory provides a focus shift away from a deficit/risk approach toward a strength-based approach that unleashes young people's potential and strengthens their sense of identity, belief in the future, self-regulation, and self-efficacy. This course provides an introduction and overview of adolescent identity development through the lens of Positive Youth Development. The course will explore the interrelationships of multiple systems and community sectors (family, school, religious and youth organizations) and their effects on youth outcomes to provide a holistic understanding and increasing youth voice, choice and engagement.

LMB 475
Sunni-Shia Relations and Intra-faith Issues
Faiyaz Jaffer
This course addresses the emergence of sectarian divisions amongst Muslims in the classical period, and the subsequent development of doctrinal and legal materials sustaining these identities. Historical examples of coexistence and conflict will be analyzed, and more recent efforts to promote intra-faith respect and cooperation will be evaluated.

LMB 476
Paradigms of Islamic Spirituality
Walead Mosaad
This course provides an overview of models of religious leadership in the Muslim context, from both an historical perspective as well as a contemporary one. Students will study texts that describe the ideal components of Islamic leadership and spirituality and will build essential skills needed to operate as a leader in present-day Muslim settings with a focus on youth, education, finances, board relations, gender issues, counseling, issuing of religious edicts (fatawa), communication with the community, janaza services, conversion, and interfaith.

LMB 478
Fundraising Strategies for Faith-based Organizations
Tayyab Yunus
Religious organizations, often operating as non-profits, must find ways to raise funds for programs and operations. However, leaders in such organizations may not possess the requisite understanding of the strategies and tools available to effectively engage and secure support from various philanthropic sources. It is important for leaders to gain

awareness of the current giving landscape, and of new approaches to fundraising involving digital platforms, social media, and marketing. This course equips learners with a sense of philanthropic trends, new fundraising approaches, and provides an opportunity to develop grant proposals, budgets, and fundraising action plans.

LMB 481
Marriage Rites and Wrongs
Scott Haldeman
Whether or not "marriage" is under threat is open to question; that this social institution and the practices that surround it are not terribly healthy seems quite clear, however. In this course, we will consider together what this thing called marriage is—and evaluate critically the specific set of rites known as "the wedding."

Field Education

FE 470/470A
Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)
All approved CPE Centers
One basic unit of CPE is required of all MDiv students. FE 470 carries no academic credit. FE 470A carries 3 hours elective credit, the equivalent of one course.

FE 471A
Field Placement
Staff/Advisors
Field Placement course, to satisfy the second MDiv clinical component requirement. FE 471A each carry 1.5 hours credit.

FE 472
Summer Field Placement Internship
Staff/Advisors
May be used to satisfy the second MDiv clinical component requirement. Carries 3 hours elective credit, the equivalent of one course. Permission of Director of Field Education required.

Chicago Theological Seminary Core Faculty

Brad Braxton
President and Professor of Public Theology

Emily Vogt
Academic Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder
Professor of New Testament and Culture

W. Scott Haldeman
Associate Professor of Worship

Kamilah Hall-Sharp
Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible and Public Ministry

Rachel S. Mikva
Rabbi Herman E. Schaalman Professor of Jewish Studies and
Senior Faculty Fellow of the InterReligious Institute

José Francisco Morales Torres
Assistant Professor of Latinx Studies and Religion | Profesor Asistente de Religión y Estudios Latinos

Kameelah Mu'Min Oseguera
Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology & Muslim Studies

Christophe Ringer
Associate Professor of Theological Ethics & Society

Bo Myung Seo
Professor of Theology & Cultural Criticism

Ken Stone
Professor of Bible, Culture & Hermeneutics