

REQUIRED FOR DEGREE: M.DIV. ▲, MA-MCL ■, MA-PCC ● / ELECTIVES +

COURSE #	TITLE & DESCRIPTION
BH512 +	<p><b>“FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS”: PATRIARCHY, MISOGYNY AND THE CHURCH</b> (<i>Seminar, upper-level</i>)</p> <p><b>Prerequisites:</b> OT510 and NT510</p> <p>How can the Church confront patriarchy and misogyny in the world, especially violence against women throughout the world--physical, psychological, and economical? What resources do the Scriptures give us in our work on behalf of gender justice? And, in what ways do readings of the Christian Scriptures <i>contribute</i> to the violence? In this course, we read the Scriptures “without a veil” over our eyes. We look at the presumed “sheroes” of Scripture (Eve, Sarah, Esther, the woman of Proverbs 31, as well as women in the NT), challenging ourselves to question the portrait of womanhood assumed by those ancient audiences. We encounter the honor-shame culture of the ancient Mediterranean and probe whether it still influences our readings of Scripture, of ourselves. What glimmers of alternate understandings of power and agency might we discover, in Scripture and beyond, for dismantling the Patriarchy and, thus, all systems of supremacy. This is an upper-level seminar.</p>
BS520 ▲	<p><b>BIBLICAL RESEARCH &amp; WRITING</b></p> <p><b>Prerequisite(s):</b> OT510 and NT510; can be taken concurrently with required Bible course (previously as BS311/BS411)</p> <p>This course will provide hands-on skills for the intensive study of a biblical text at a graduate level. The course will be taught using all of the resources in the library with a focus on how to find and evaluate resources. The course will also focus on developing a thesis statement and presenting a coherent and comprehensive argument in a paper.</p>
CE510 ▲	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PRACTICE</b></p> <p>An introduction to the teaching ministry of the church, examining Christians as an aspect of the ministry to the whole congregation. Studies of the theories in which biblical, theological and social-scientific insights, especially faith development theory, are integrated to guide educational judgments.</p>
CH511 ▲	<p><b>HISTORY OF GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY II</b> Prerequisite CH00510</p> <p>Continuation of History of Global Christianity I. A survey of church history from the Reformation until the present, with attention to the theological and social aspects of the Reformation and major post-Reformation movements.</p>
DS508 +	<p><b>RCA HISTORY AND MISSION (Part 3)/WORSHIP (Part 4)</b></p> <p><b>Prerequisites:</b> CH511 History of Global Christianity II</p> <p>The History and Mission of the Reformed Church in America (Part 3). The worship of the Reformed Church in America (Part 4).</p>
ET520 ▲▲	<p><b>CHRISTIAN ETHICS &amp; SOCIAL JUSTICE - Prerequisite: CH302/CH511</b></p> <p>This course examines methods for doing Christian Ethics and seeking social justice in changing communal and global contexts. It explores the ways that Christian ethical ideals, character, and moral decisions are shaped and formulated in response to normative sources and the changing environments of church and society. Topics include: placing Christian ethics in historical context; developing goals, laws and virtues; ethics and the use of scripture; liberation ethics; feminist ethics; communitarian ethics; economic inequity and globalization; bio-medical and sexual ethics; just war and peacemaking; ecological justice; mass incarceration and criminal justice reform; post-civil rights racism and non-violent resistance. The goals of the course include equipping students with a range of methods for doing Christian ethics and seeking justice, allowing students to practice applying methods of doing Christian ethics to issues that are relevant to the practice of ministry, and to enable students to clarify the core elements and methodology of their own Christian ethic.</p>
FE510 ▲	<p><b>FIELD ED</b></p> <p>This course will guide the student in the practice of ministerial reflection by examining his/her field education experience. Time will be spent discussing issues of boundaries and personal spiritual formation. Additionally, the course will focus on developing a model for healthy disciplines/habits for ministry.</p>
IN511 ▲▲	<p><b>RACE, CLASS, &amp; GENDER</b></p> <p><b>Prerequisite IN331: Undoing Racism Workshop</b></p> <p>In an effort to promote understanding and confront some of the subtle and overt forms of racism, the Seminary took a bold step and challenge to produce a 20-year plan for NBTS to move the institution towards a more just and inclusive society, and to confront the issue of racism through a process of training and sharing. With this course, we desire to accomplish some of this goal. This course will challenge our assumptions of race, privilege and racism as well as the connected social constructs of class and gender. We will challenge students to critically analyze cultural differences and systems of inequality. This course will promote: cultural self-awareness, inform how culture is influenced by history, politics, power and privilege, communication styles, economics, institutionalized discrimination and inequality, and cultural values, beliefs and practices; promote curiosity on the part of students to ask complex questions about other cultures and classes, and to seek out answers that reflect multiple culturally perspectives, or encourage students to initiate and develop interactions with culturally different others.</p>
IN520 ▲	<p><b>CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND WITNESS</b></p> <p>This course, as one of the interdisciplinary courses required for the M.Div. degree at NBTS, asks students to consider a fundamental aspect or dimension of Christian life and ministry that does not belong uniquely to any of the fields of study into which the M.Div. curriculum is divided (“theological studies,” “biblical studies”, and “ministry studies”) but upon which they all have bearing. In case, that aspect or dimension of Christian life and ministry is “the Christian witness”—that is, the expression that Christians give to their faith so as to communicate it to the world around them. This is our fulfillment, as Christians, of the Lord’s declaration to his disciples that “you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)</p>

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IN521 ▲	<p><b>CONTEXTUALIZED MINISTRY &amp; PUBLIC FAITH</b> <i>Prerequisite(s): Church History I and II; TH00401, Theology I and II; Introduction to Christian Ethics; Introduction to the Old Testament; Introduction to the New Testament, Introduction to Pastoral Care. Senior Level Standing Only.</i></p> <p>This is a senior level course designed to view Christian ministry as faith and witness in multi-dimensional context. Christian spirituality and ministry today must engage in living dialogue with multiple publics, secular disciplines and pluralistic religious and cultural traditions in search of the common good and beloved community. Through this prophetic dialogue and witness Christian individuals and communities can come to a deeper understanding of Christ's gospel and God's kairos for our historical period.</p>
IN331 ▲▲	<p><b>UNDOING RACISM WORKSHOP</b> <i>Companion workshop to IN511 Race Class &amp; Gender; 2 ½ day workshop that utilizes a systemic approach that emphasizes learning from history, developing leadership, maintaining accountability to communities, creating networks, undoing internalized racial oppression and understanding the role of organizational gate keeping as a mechanism for perpetuating racism.</i></p>
IN531 ▲	<p><b>OUR CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS IN CONTEXT</b> <i>Prerequisite CH302/511, TH402/TH521</i> This course will guide the student in a statement of faith that expresses the student's understanding of the Christian faith responsive to the theology of his/her tradition and is appropriate to the context in which she/he ministers. It is recommended that students register for this course in the final term prior to completion of the program.</p>
MA006	<p><b>MASTER'S LEVEL CONTINUATION COURSE</b> Maintaining Matriculation</p>
ML567 +	<p><b>SAMUEL PROCTOR CONFERENCE TRAVEL SEMINAR</b> <i>This course serves as an elective for the MA-MCL and M.Div.</i> (limited to 15 students. Permission of the instructor is required.) Dr. Janice McLean-Farrell: jmclean-farrell@nbts.edu</p> <p>Class meetings on NBTS main campus</p> <p>This immersion travel seminar will help students explore and analyze the critical needs of human and social justice within local, national, and global communities. The background informing our interrogation will be the continued denigration and disenfranchisement of black and brown and poor people by the material and psychosocial dimensions of exploitation and oppression. Therefore, this course will not only focus on the material inequalities generated by structural injustice but also ascertain under what conditions healing is possible for marginalized communities.</p> <p>Note: Students are responsible for conference registration fee; hotel, travel expenses and course tuition. Note: Students attending the conference must notify all professors of their other spring courses of any classes they will miss at the beginning of the spring semester. Students are responsible for obtaining class syllabi in advance and making arrangements with professors to make up any work that is due during the week of the conference.</p>
MS001 ▲▲▲	<p><b>CLERGY ETHICS TRAINING</b> All MA degree program students are required to complete the Ministry Sexual Ethics Training Workshop before graduating.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>If you are a potential 2019 graduate and have not attended a workshop – your attendance is required to meet graduation requirements.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Students must attend the entire workshop to receive credit. (Partial attendance will not be accepted.)</p> <p>The workshop is designed to create awareness of what constitutes misconduct and how issues of misconduct typically arise; the relational dynamics, internal motivations, and vulnerabilities that can lead to misconduct; and the positive steps that can be taken to prevent misconduct and even the appearance of misconduct. The goal is to help participants develop a strong and reliable "internal compass" that will help them to steer a safe course even in confusing or difficult situations.</p>
MS514 +	<p><b>EVANGELISM</b> This course will explore the history and practice of mission, especially in the modern period. It will also include an exploration of the theology and practice of evangelism, and its relationship to revivalism, the social gospel, liberation theology and Asian and Black theology. Evangelistic methods will be critically reviewed.</p>
NT510 ▲▲▲	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT</b> This introductory course focuses on contextual interpretation of the documents of the New Testament. The nature of interpretation, of both texts and contexts, receives primary focus in the course. The course attends to ancient and contemporary contextual analysis (literary, sociological, and historical) and the intellectual skills required to engage in such analysis. The integrity of the interpreter is key to all responsible interpretation and thus will be a persistent theme throughout the course. No prerequisites.</p>
NT512 +	<p><b>GREEK EXEGESIS (Greek II)</b> <i>Prerequisite Greek I NT511</i> Completion of elementary grammar and developing skills in exegesis of the Greek New Testament.</p>
NT514 +	<p><b>THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT</b> <i>Prerequisite: NT510 Introduction to the New Testament</i> The Sermon on the Mount is justly famous as a collection of some of Jesus' most lasting teachings. These chapters, however, have also engendered much scholarly discussions, especially about ethics and "how are we to live?" In this course we will work through the text of Matthew 5-7 with great care. We will also read and discuss various theories about Jesus' ethic in the Sermon on the Mount. The focus of this course, however, will be on the text itself.</p>
NT530 +	<p><b>BRINGING LIGHT INTO DARKNESS: THE GOSPEL OF JOHN</b> The course aims to orient students toward a critical reading of the Gospel of John and the socio-historical, religio-spiritual and cultural setting out of which the text issues. Themes including healing and salvation, the relationship between the human and the Divine, and the relationship between the masculine and the feminine elements will receive attention. The significance of the text for contemporary life and faith will also be examined. <i>Prerequisite: NT510 Introduction to the New Testament.</i></p>

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OT512 <sup>+</sup>	<p><b>HEBREW EXEGESIS (HEBREW II) Prerequisite Hebrew I OT511</b> This course is a continuation of OT511 and will focus on the reading and translating of biblical texts from the original Hebrew as well as a focus on issues of translation and theological meanings.</p>
PC510 <sup>▲■</sup>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING</b> Theories of pastoral care and counseling are explored in lectures. Pastoral care verbatim reports are presented by students and discussed in small groups. Attention is given to dealing with some basic problems in pastoral care and counseling.</p>
PC523 <sup>+</sup>	<p><b>PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TO VETERANS &amp; THEIR FAMILIES</b> The community of faith response to the rising evidence of wounds to the soul among military veterans is to promote awareness while strengthening pastoral care skills and abilities. The increased rate of incident in suicide, homicide, and domestic violence all indicate that the rising tide demands a spiritual component of addressing healing. This course is designed as an introductory course to expose seminarians to the challenges of providing pastoral care to military families and to foster an environment of learning to build better community networks that assumes a leading role in the care, rehabilitation, and support of veterans seeking care to enable them to blend back into the fabric of society.</p>
PC528 <sup>+</sup>	<p><b>PASTORAL CARE TO WOMEN</b> An introduction to the unique nature of the ministry of pastoral care and counseling with women. Emphasis will be placed on the role that the image of God and the socio-cultural and psychological particularities of women play in the development of relevant and effective approaches for this ministry. Psychotherapeutic and theological issues will also be addressed.</p>
PC532 <sup>+</sup>	<p><b>PASTORAL CARE IN THREE WORLDS</b> Ethnic Christian faith communities seek to provide care for their own members in a variety of ways taking into account the particular needs of their members. This course will explore how three distinctly different cultural groups - African American, Asian American, and Hispanic American - within a majority American context engage in the ministry of the practice of care. It will discuss their similarities as well as their differences and consider what each might have to offer the broader pastoral care Christian community. Guest pastors from each respective community will be invited.</p>
PR516 <sup>+</sup>	<p><b>THE BIBLE IN ONE HAND AND POPCORN IN THE OTHER: PREACHING, MOVIES, AND TELEVISION SHOWS</b> <b>Prerequisite: PR510 Sermon Preparation and Delivery</b> Course description: Karl Barth is attributed with saying that Christians should preach with “the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other,” and this course suggests that Christian preaching  This course helps students deeply engage their social and ecclesial contexts with the Good News through critical engagement with movies and television shows. Students will develop a critical framework for distilling socially relevant themes and speaking to common social anxieties as they appear in film, and students will be led to consider how film might impact homiletical style and delivery. The theater will be our classroom. Students will view and critically engage varied genres including apocalyptic, science fiction, superhero, drama, comedy, and suspense films and television series.</p>
TH521 <sup>▲</sup>	<p><b>FOUNDATIONS &amp; GLOBAL THEOLOGY II Prerequisite: CH302/CH511, TH520</b> A continuation of Foundation of Theology I.</p>
TH567 <sup>■■</sup>	<p><b>THEOLOGY IN CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS (REQUIRED: MA-MCL, MA-PCC)</b> <b>Formerly: Theology: Texts, Traditions, and Contexts</b> This course will help students develop both a familiarity with and facility for understanding the theological discourse represented by postmodern and contemporary theologies. It will also include a brief introduction of biblical and classical views in various theological themes. Special attention will be given to the complexities of theological themes and categories, (1) focusing on subject matters such as the Doctrine of God and the Trinity, Christology, Ecclesiology, and Christian Anthropology both from African-American and Reformed perspectives, and (2) extending them to diverse contemporary theological categories such as Evangelicalism, Liberalism, Post-liberalism, Radical Orthodoxy, Theology, Theology as Drama, Narrative, and Action, Hermeneutical Theology, Ecological Theology, Liberation Theology, Feminist/Womanist Theology, Liturgical Theology, and Ecumenical Theology. Thus, the structure of each session is a combination of the two, for example, Creation and Ecological Theology, Christology and Liberation Theology, and Ecclesiology and Liturgical Theology. Examining how theological themes, classically inherited, have been developed in contemporary contexts, students will have an opportunity to both clarify their own personal theological stance and come to better understand perspectives radically different from their own.</p>
UM510 <sup>+</sup>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO METRO-URBAN MINISTRY</b> Urban Ministry finds its fullest meaning within the context of Metropolitan Ministry: a vision and practice that considers and engages a myriad of systems that impact life in an ever-changing urban world. Today’s urban contexts – local, national and global- are diverse, complex, pluralistic, entrepreneurial, innovative, trendsetting and growing. Ministries within urban contexts need to know the cultures and environments around them, interrogate their interactions and relationships with the communities they serve and affirm the multi-religious and multicultural dynamics that shape these communities. How do urban congregations relate to each other (traditional, immigrant, new church plants), other belief systems, as well as suburban and exurban congregations, agencies, and systems? What does it mean to practice ministry with faithfulness and integrity in the Northeast Corridor and beyond? What tools help course participants develop a vision and daily practice that are contextually relevant, historically grounded, culturally competent, pastoral in nature, and prophetic in witness? This course, a hybrid of on campus, online, and field research, will address these questions and will explore the resources and skills course participants will require to effectively lead congregations and social agencies in urban arenas.</p>