



# NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## 2019 Fall Course Descriptions

**REQUIRED COURSES: M.DIV. ▲, MA-MTS ■, MA-PCC •**

COURSE # & TITLE	DESCRIPTION
CH510 HISTORY OF GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY I ▲ ■	A survey of church history from the close of the age of the apostles until the eve of the Reformation, with attention to continuity and change in Christian life and doctrine and in the relationship between church and society.
FE510 FIELD EDUCATION: (Req. M.Div.) ▲	<p>In conjunction with an approved field education placement, this course is designed to guide students in the practice of ministerial reflection by examining his/her field education experience. Each student is required to attend class for theological reflection, peer group support and discussion on boundaries and best self-care practices. Time will be spent discussing personal spiritual formation. Additionally, the course will focus on developing a model for healthy disciplines/habits for ministry.</p> <p>Student placements are made, in consultation with the Director of Field Education, based on the educational and experiential needs of the student. Placements are in communities of faith both inside and outside of a student's own tradition in denominationally, ethnically and culturally diverse settings. Field Education sites may also include non-parish ministry setting such as parachurch organizations. A Field Education Learning/Serving Covenant must be approved for each placement. Written evaluations by the student and the supervisor must be submitted in order for credit to be granted for each completed unit of Field Education.</p>

<p>IN520 THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE &amp; WITNESS ▲</p>	<p>The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the Christian education function in the local church. The emphasis of this course is to give pastors, ministers of education and other Christian educators a general background of the history, philosophy, scope, and need for quality Christian education in the local churches of today. This is an introductory course to be taken by students in their first year of classes.</p>
<p>IN521 CONTEXTUALIZED MINISTRY &amp; PUBLIC FAITH ▲  <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.</i>  <i>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>
<p>OT510 INTRODUCTION TO OLD TESTAMENT ▲●■</p>	<p>This course will provide the historical and theological foundations for the study, teaching, and preaching of the Old Testament. The course is designed to introduce the student to the many ways of studying the Old Testament and appropriating that study for the church.</p>
<p>PC510 INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE &amp; COUNSELING ▲●</p>	<p>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>
<p>PC531 CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION I ●  (Elective for Min. Div students)</p>	<p>Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) programs, usually located in hospital or prison settings, provide the opportunity for extensive work in pastoral care, along with group and individual reflection on the ministry experience. CPE programs may be taken as summer intensives or extended over nine months.</p>

<p>TH520 FOUNDATIONS AND GLOBAL THEOLOGY I ▲ ■  Prerequisite Introduction to Old Testament CH510 (301)  and Introduction to New Testament CH511 (302)</p>	<p>An introduction to Systematic Theology which examines theological methodology, vocabulary, and the formation of doctrine, with special attention given to the development of theological understanding in relationship to the church and its mission in the world.</p>
<p>WP511 INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP ▲ (Formally MS565)</p>	<p>This course is designed to enable students to analyze, plan, and lead Christian worship with pastoral and theological integrity, and to understand denominational and local church traditions in larger ecumenical and historical contexts. Through this course, students will gain hands-on experience leading Christian rituals, designing traditional, ecumenical and interfaith worship, and critically reflecting on the practice of worship.</p>
<p><b>ELECTIVES</b></p>	
<p>CH519 BLACK CHRISTIANITY IN NORTH AMERICA</p>	
<p>DS507 RCA CHURCH STUDIES I &amp; II</p>	<p>STANDARDS (PART I)  The purpose of this course is to assist the student to obtain an understanding of the history, content and use of the Standards of Unity of the Reformed Church in America. The student will learn the historical contexts of their origins, the meaning of the standards within the framework of the history of theology and situate the standards within the life and ministry of the contemporary church.</p> <p>POLITY (PART II)  This course is designed to introduce candidates to the office of minister of Word and Sacrament in the Reformed Church in America to the government of the Reformed Church in America. Students will learn the theology and polity that is expressed in the Book of Church Order and will learn how the polity works in the life and witness of the church.</p>

DS524 BAPTIST STUDIES: HISTORY & THEOLOGY	The purpose of this course is to gain and deepen your knowledge of Baptist principles, history, mission and Polity. It is also to help you understand the Autonomy and Interdependence of Baptist life in past and present. You will become familiar with some of the historical Baptist leaders, men and women. You will also become aware of the various theological traditions among Baptist and reflect on the development of Baptist Polity as it shapes Church practices today. You will gain a clearer preparation for ministry among and for Baptist of various backgrounds.
ET514 MEDICAL ETHICS & COMMUNAL HEALTH <i>JOHN SUYDAM KULTHAL</i>	An in-depth study of theological and ethical problems arising in the practice of medicine due to the advance of science and technology. Issues include abortion, prenatal screening, genetic manipulation, euthanasia, medical experimentation, living wills, disabilities, addiction, ethics of food, community wellness, environmental and social justice in health care policy. The course will include case studies distinctively related to clergy, congregations and health care systems in the increasingly global field of bioethics.
IN510 TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP	In our constant and rapidly changing world, learning to lead communities of faith in ways that help them to creatively experience growth and sustainability while positively contributing to lives of those they serve is critical to our ability to exact transformative impact on society. In this course students will explore the subject of transformational leadership and the implications of such for the individual leader, the communities s/he serves, and the larger society. Combining intellectual rigor with personal challenge, and collaboration with creative expression, students will engage in exercises to integrate the readings about leadership development with experiential learning, and acquire instantly applicable practices for becoming more effective and dynamic leaders and engaged members of faith communities. Transformational leaders understand, implement,

	<p>and evaluate strategic equitable leadership practices based on various theories, models and approaches for achieving organizational transformation. Specifically, topics of discussion in this course will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transformation and Change</li> <li>• Theories, Models and Approaches to Leadership</li> <li>• Levels of Leadership Development</li> <li>• Practices for Transformational Leadership for Church and Society</li> <li>• Introspection and Visioning</li> <li>• Discerning Organizational Culture, Development and Change</li> <li>• Understanding Power and Privilege</li> <li>• Fostering Agile Communities</li> </ul>
MS006	Matriculation Continuation
MS551 DEVOTIONAL FAITH IN DIASPORA AND TODAY	<p>This course is a vivid exploration of the evolution of Jewish faith, customs, rituals, and classic texts from antiquity, through the Diaspora, to the present. No prior knowledge of Jews or Judaism is required. There are no pre-requisites. Students will engage in devotional study of Jewish religious practice. Special attention will be given to liturgy, prayer, ritual and domestic piety that graduates may expect to use when ministering in multi-faith contexts. Ceremonies, festivals and institutions of Judaism in America and Israel, will all be explored.</p>
NT504 POWER OF THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS	<p><i>This course aims</i> toward a critical reading of the Epistle to the Ephesians, with focus on issues of social justice within and resulting from cultural and religious power structures and hierarchies. Particular themes include human suffering, alienation and identity, reconciliation, spiritual wisdom, and transformation on both personal and collective levels. These themes will receive</p>

	specific attention in light of today's faith and society. Secondary source readings include writings by D. Bonhoeffer, J. Cone, and R. Gross.
NT520 WRESTLING WITH PAUL <i>Prerequisite(s): New Testament (NT511/301)</i>	Focusing on Paul's New Testament letters, this course will study Paul's thought as it developed in the context of his relationship with Judaism, the early churches, and the Greco-Roman world. The course will engage social, psychological, and intellectual issues in our present world from the perspective of Pauline theology.
NT531 THE PARABLES OF JESUS	<i>This course aims</i> to orient students toward a critical reading of the parables of Jesus. The socio-historical and spiritual circumstances and needs of early Christian communities will be considered, as will specific themes including notions of the Kingdom of God, reversal, repentance, and rebirth. Consideration of the liberating significance of Jesus' parables as deepening, transformative experience within today's church and world, as well as one's own faith will receive attention.
NT550 THE GOSPEL OF LUKE	This course aims to orient students toward a critical reading of the Gospel of Luke, with particular focus on the life of Jesus from conception to resurrection. Specific attention will be given to various religio-spiritual movements within the story narrative including journey motif, miracles, repentance, and revelation. The contemporary significance of the reading of the Gospel of Luke for today's faith and world will also be explored.
OT511 HEBREW I	This course is designed to introduce the student to biblical Hebrew, beginning with a study of essential grammar and vocabulary, as well as discussion on the theological importance of studying the texts in the original language.
PC525 ADVANCED PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING	Our goal is to study how to be effective pastoral caregivers and counselors. We will learn the theories and techniques used in offering effective pastoral care and counseling in the congregation and community. You will be asked to focus on one area of interest:

	<p>Intimate Partner Violence; Addictions; Teenagers; Child Welfare; HIV/ AIDS; Race; Gender; Identity; Sexual Orientation; Couples; Families; or Community Health. You will explore how the reading, lectures and class discussions impact your area of interest.</p> <p>We will examine the dynamics that help clergy and congregations to become places of healing and transformation. Online learning presentations and Process Consultation are highly esteemed values and constant goals throughout the course. The professor and students agree to partner to create a safe learning and sharing environment. Self-care will be emphasized!</p>
<p>PC539 PASTORAL CARE: MENTAL HEALTH AND THE SPIRITUALITY OF CARING</p>	<p>More than three out of four Americans identify with a religious faith, according to a 2014 survey by the Pew Research Center. Faith and spirituality can be part of a person’s identity and can be a source of both comfort and turmoil for some individuals. Spirituality can be an effective part of treatment and coping with mental illness in a variety of ways, such as mindfulness therapies, meditation, 12-step programs, bereavement and grief counseling. Students will learn about common mental disorders, including symptoms, risk factors and treatment options and possible options in finding solace through faith and spirituality practices.</p>
<p>PC567 SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES FOR SELF-CARE</p>	<p>Let’s spend one semester together working unapologetically to be healthier, happier and holier. May we hold each other accountable to be the best you possible. Be open to new possibilities and opportunities to improve your quality of life. We examine the theories and techniques which make for healthy clergy, holy congregations, and holistic communities. Students discover the impact on their ministry of toxic people and unhealthy practices. We analyze a few groundbreaking studies on clergy health and wellness. Caregivers, professionals and experts are committed to</p>



	<p>chat with our class for robust forum discussions. Online quizzes, forum participation and meeting self-care goals you set at the start of the semester are the basis for the final grade.</p>
<p>UM519 WOMANIST PRACTICAL THEOLOGY IN URBAN CONTEXT</p>	<p>Being informed by the theologies, lived experiences and religious questions posed by those on the margins is critical for fostering inclusive, relevant and responsive 21st century communities of faith, especially for those that exist in urbanized spaces. This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to engage and put into practice central aspects of Womanist theological thought, theory and praxis in the 20th and 21st centuries as one of the multiple streams of gender and race-cognizant theological articulation, scholarship, and praxis. We will use an interdisciplinary approach to examine the central concerns of womanist theologians, ethicists and theorists, including the “intersectionality” of race, gender, sexuality, and class; and the historicity and cultural specificity of the subordination Black women face. Attention will also be given to how this interrogation then informs how Black women engage the church, family, community and the wider society, and in particular the complexity of dynamics that mark the realities Black women encounter in urbanized spaces. We will also examine what is the place of for “other” Black women (immigrants, millennial, LGBTQIA, etc.) within womanist theology and how does this inform praxis in urban spaces. These concerns will be addressed by a critical reading of a wide range of texts and employ postmodern womanist reimagining as a tool for fostering female lives, families, and worshipping communities grounded in love, healing, liberation and just living.</p>
<p><b>PROJECTS &amp; THESIS</b>  <i>*SEE ADVISOR BEFORE REGISTERING</i></p>	

MA591 HONORS THESIS	An M.Div. student who has maintained a GPA of 3.0 or better through his or her first 64 credits of academic work may petition the Faculty through the Academic Affairs Committee to be allowed to write an Honors Thesis under the supervision of a member of the Faculty. Six (6) credit hours will be granted the student who successfully completes this research and writing project.
MT591 THESIS: MASTERS THEOLOGICAL STUDIES	In the final year of study, the student shall elect either to complete a thesis (MT591) for which six (6) academic credits will be awarded or to enroll in a project (MT592) three (3) credit independent study course with a faculty member in the field, which will culminate in a research project.
MT592 PROJECT: MASTERS THEOLOGICAL STUDIES	
PC591 THESIS: PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING	In the final year of study, the student shall elect either to complete a thesis (PC591) for which six (6) academic credits will be awarded or to enroll in a project (PC592) three (3) credit independent study course with a faculty member in the field, which will culminate in a research project in which the student studies some aspect of pastoral care, develops a project for providing pastoral care that grows out of the student's study and research, and then provides critical reflection on the outcome of the project.
PC592 PROJECT: PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING	