

# NEW YORK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

...continuing The Biblical Seminary in New York

## Proposed NYTS Course List: Spring 2021

As of 12112021

**MONDAY COURSES:** Jan. 25 – May 10 (6 pm – 9:30 pm) unless otherwise noted:

**MMW2184: The Preacher as Theologian ; 4 Cr. (Preaching Elective)**

Prof. Michael Walrond [registrar@nyts.edu](mailto:registrar@nyts.edu) - Virtual

Course Description: Preaching is a theological endeavor. The preacher's theological framework and presuppositions empower, authorize and sustain the proclamation. In other words, preaching is informed by the preacher's own theology. The theological claims made in the preaching moment have the capacity to impact how hearers live and show up in community, society and the world at large. This course will examine the role of the preacher as theologian by examining the function of theologies and major theological claims that make preaching possible.

**BBH3154 The Song of Songs (4 credits)**

Prof. Jin Han [jhan@nyts.edu](mailto:jhan@nyts.edu) - Virtual

Rabbi Aqiba famously said, “The whole world is not worth the day on which the Song of Songs was given to Israel, for all the Scriptures are holy, but the Song of Songs is the Holy of Holies.” In this course, we will explore the multifarious ways in which the book has been interpreted through the centuries as a discourse not only on human love but also on spiritual communion with God. The course will also include research on how the images of love in the Song are reflected in art, music, and literature. *There is no prerequisite for this course.*

**MPC2644 Trauma and Resilience; 4 Cr.**

Prof. Insook Lee [islee@nyts.edu](mailto:islee@nyts.edu) - Virtual

This course introduces students to the psychological aspects of trauma and trauma-related stress. Recent research shows that trauma is related to many other psychological disorders such as depression, anxiety, somatic disorders, and dissociative disorders. The course explores the effects of stress and trauma on mental and physical health and includes interventions designed to decrease the negative effects of stress and trauma. More specifically, students will learn the history, etiology, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of trauma-related dysfunction and common comorbid conditions. Major treatment approaches to be covered include sensorimotor

psychotherapy, neuroscience, internal family system, and some other modalities that treat dissociative aspects of trauma.

**MRE2504: History & Philosophy of Religious Education; 4 Cr.** (Required for MARE; otherwise an elective)

Prof. Kathleen Turner [ktturner@nyts.edu](mailto:ktturner@nyts.edu) - Virtual

This course utilizes a critical pedagogical approach to explore the historical origins and evolution of the field of religious education, including the principal movements and individuals from biblical and apostolic periods to the present that have shaped approaches to Christian education. In addition, contemporary philosophies of religious education and their import for the teaching ministries of congregations are explored.

**CPE1002: Foundations of Chaplaincy Ministry; 4 Cr.** (Yr. A, Required)

Prof. Nancy Fields [nfields@nyts.edu](mailto:nfields@nyts.edu) - Virtual

Our foundational course will consist of planned didactics, readings, sharing and devotionals that focus on theory, spiritual integration, and expanded models of pastoral care enabling you to gain exceptional insight into future possibilities for the field. This course will challenge you, inspire you and encourage you to evaluate your basic understandings about the field of pastoral care. If you enter the process with an open heart and an open mind you will make connections with each other, the conference, the discussions and the real world of human services.

**TUESDAY COURSES:** Jan. 26 – May 11 (6pm– 9:30pm unless otherwise noted)

**HTU2024: Modern Church History 2; 4 Cr.** (Yr. B, Required)

Prof. Jermaine Marshall - Virtual

This course introduces students to the history of Christianity in its global context from the dawn of the modern era in the 15th century through what many believe to be the end of the modern era in the 20th century. Attention is paid to the various social, political and cultural contexts in which churches have lived, as well as to the developments of theological ideas in diverse situations across the last five centuries. A significant amount of time in the course is devoted to the life and ministry of churches in North America in diverse cultural contexts. While successful completion of the required Introduction to Church History course is not a prerequisite for this course, it is advised.

**MMU1004: Foundations of Ministry; 4 Cr.** (Yr. A, Required)

Prof. Nancy Fields [nfields@nyts.edu](mailto:nfields@nyts.edu) - Virtual

Our Foundations of Ministry class is designed to introduce students to the NYTS curriculum and faculty as they deepen and expand their understanding of the nature and challenge of

ministry and the mission of the church in an increasingly urban and global world. Attention will be given to develop analytical skills in relationship to the nature of ministry, basic tasks of ministry, and the nature and function of prophetic ministry. Focus will be on “imagining” a new vision of church and ministry for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**MRL2254: Transformational Urban Leadership in the Context of Millennials and the Emerging Church (Spring 2021, 4 Credits, Elective)**

Prof. Humberto Alfaro [halfaro@nyts.edu](mailto:halfaro@nyts.edu) - Virtual

In making church relevant to millennials, window dressing will not help. What is required is a thoroughgoing re-imagining of how leadership is experienced and communicated in fluidity and conceptualized in a hyper-pluralized synergistic world. While Millennials dislike being condensed to a list, there are some important questions that we will explore in this course: Why modern Christianity and ecclesiastical leadership does not speak to Millennials, who are concurrently functional atheists and potential spiritual mystics? Why are Millennials explorers and not dwellers? How can Millennials express doubts, real ones, to a church that pretends to have no doubts? Why do Millennials want to nurture community instead of the corporatization of religion? Why Millennials prioritize relationships instead of institutional contracts? Why do Millennials insist on authenticity? Why are Millennials mesmerized by beauty and idealism? What is the future of religion and leadership in America and what role will Millennials play in that? This course will promote love and respect for creator and creation and will provide resources, tools and strategies for transformational urban leadership, preparing students to engage in relevant, restorative, and revolutionary ministries in the context of millennials and the Emerging Church.

**MPC2834: Human Development; 4 Cr. (MAPCC Core Course)**

Prof. Ronald Baard - [Virtual](#)

This course will introduce the emerging fields of human development and developmental psychology and their usefulness for pastoral care and counseling. Major theories of child, adolescent, adult, and older adult development will be studied in conversation with the arts of care and counseling. The case study method will be included to help students deepen the integration of newfound knowledge with their pastoral practice and enrich their capacity for theological reflection.

**WEDNESDAY COURSES:** Jan. 27 – May 12 (6 pm – 9:30 pm) unless otherwise noted

**SSU1004: Church & Community Analysis; 4 Cr. (Yr. B, Required)**

Prof. Moses Biney [mbiney@nyts.edu](mailto:mbiney@nyts.edu) - Virtual

The central purpose of this course is the study of congregations in their contexts. It will explore the ways congregations interact with social/urban structures. Specifically, the course will examine the challenges and creativity of New York City congregations amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Through lectures, discussions, and ethnographic and media research, we will examine (a) some of the specific disruptions encountered by these congregations and their

impact on mission and ministry (b) some of the creative ways through which congregations dealt with/managed the challenges associated these disruptions and (c) important lessons the pandemic provides for ministry in times of disaster. At another level, we will also study “how to study” congregations through their digital footprints and general online activities. Additionally, we will examine how social dynamics shape/inform/impact congregations.

**MYM2024: Pastoral Care and Counseling with Adolescents; 4 Cr.** (Elective required for MAYM students )

Prof. Roger Ball - Virtual

This course is designed to assist urban youth pastors and other youth ministry practitioners design a strategy and develop skills for effective pastoral care and counseling of urban youth within and beyond the church. Specific attention will be paid to the development of a culturally relevant praxis that responds sensitively to the range of psychological, social and spiritual difficulties experienced by urban youth populations.

**ILE4074: Going Home: Civil Rights and Southern Religion Virtual Online Journey**

Prof. Wanda Lundy [wlundy@nyts.edu](mailto:wlundy@nyts.edu) - Virtual

Come and join us on a **virtual online** journey into the Deep South, where we walk the freedom trails together and listen to the wisdom of the land and our ancestors. When Martin Luther King, Jr. graduated from Boston University he had opportunities all over the country, but he decided to return home to the South because of the "remarkable thing that was about to happen", namely the Civil Rights movement. Through identifying the tragic violence and oppression of racism, while also tapping into the sources of redemption, reconciliation, and empowerment, the Civil Rights movement demonstrates the deep problems and promise of Southern religion. This class is a journey into the paradoxes of Southern religion, from the racist violence of the K.K.K. to the prophetic action of African American women like Rosa Parks and Fannie Lou Hamer. It will include a week-long field trip to the Deep South, including visits to Atlanta, GA; Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma, Alabama; Tougaloo, Jackson, and Glendora, Mississippi; and Memphis, Tennessee. The question we will continuously wrestle with is, “What lessons can we learn from yesterday that will inform the work we must do together today that will lead to a better tomorrow?”

**THURSDAY COURSES:** Jan. 21 – May 13 (6 pm – 9:30 pm) unless otherwise noted

**BBN1004: Bible 3: Second Testament Introduction; 4 Cr.** (Yr. A, Required) Prerequisite: BBH101: Exegesis Practicum

Prof. Efrain Agosto [eagosto@nyts.edu](mailto:eagosto@nyts.edu) - Virtual

This course is an introduction to the canonical writings of the Second Testament (New Testament) with particular attention to narrative and epistolary genres. Each document of the New Testament will be surveyed for its historical background, basic structure, and overall message. Some attention will be given to reading strategies for the various genres of the New Testament. Expected prerequisites: First Testament Introduction and Exegesis Practicum, unless special permission is granted.

**EEU1004: Intro to Christian Ethics; 4 Cr.** (Yr. B, Required)

Prof. TBD - Virtual

This course is an overview of the field of Christian social ethics with some special attention paid to biomedical issues. This survey necessitates a brief examination of Christian doctrine, western religious and social thought. Our task is to discover how people, past and present, engage (d) in ethical reflection, moral reasoning, social critical analysis, and ethical action for the just resolution of social conflict. Of particular interest is an examination of the West's historic understandings of morality, ethical actions, institutions, culture, society, the "poor," the state, and how these other institutions affect modern life. Certain issues of personal morality will not be intentionally addressed in this course, such as the psychodynamic dimensions of "personal" decisionism, individualistic understandings of salvation, sanctification, truth telling, or loyalty to personal codes of morality; these equally important issues are presumed to be covered elsewhere in the curriculum. The readings are designed to challenge participants to rethink their understanding of moral community life, and to rethink the places and ways in which religious teachings, practices, and beliefs affect that life. Participants are encouraged to personally and actively engage in the painful business of ethical reflection and to commit themselves to an active life of moral struggle. In short, this course requires a bit of courage.

**TTU2454 Religious Pluralism, Truth and the Pluralist Imagination; 4 Cr. Elective**

Prof. Rafael Reyes [rreyes@nyts.edu](mailto:rreyes@nyts.edu) - Virtual

Religious Diversity is an actual fact and can also be a problem. It is an actual fact because of what we experience in the complex reality of our world; it is a problem because of the interaction between religions, but more importantly, because of the interactions, and thus implications within religions. The discussion of the manyness of religions lead to questions of the validity of religious truth: is it inclusive or exclusive? Who holds the ultimate truth? But a more important question is involved: is religious diversity welcomed? If so, is it to be accepted as an aspect of reality, or as an ideal that we move towards?

This class will investigate diverse ways of describing and discussing the plurality and unity of religions by viewing it through the Pluralist Imagination, which maintains the position of relativity and plurality of truths. We will also look at the paths of salvation/liberation, how the unity of religions can be conceptualized through a world theology.

**MRL2264: Leadership and the Use of Institutions for Relevant, Restorative, Faith-Based Change**

Prof. Gilbert R. Rendle - Virtual

The institution (the congregation, hospital, prison, not-for-profit, etc.) is the primary tool used by leaders to effect the change they are called to address. Institutions are essential to the way we order our lives as individuals and to the way that we contribute to the common good. But, over time, established institutions also constrain their leaders and function more closely in line with institutional preferences rather than institutional purpose.

The wise and relevant leader is clear about purpose, outcomes and translating faith-based aspirations into real-time local change. This course will explore the functional relationship between the leader and the institution. Organizational theory and constructs will be brought together with the theology and teachings of the church with the goal of empowering leadership to engage real change.

**NO FRIDAY COURSES**

**SUPERVISED MINISTRY:**

**Supervised Ministry Dates:** 2/13, 3/13, 4/17 and 5/8; (9:30am – 1:00 pm)

Prof. Nancy Fields [nfields@nyts.edu](mailto:nfields@nyts.edu) - Virtual

Moodle Course Activation Key (all sections): **smnall**

**SMN1002: Supervised Ministry 1; 2 Cr. (Yr. C, Required)**

**SMN2002: Supervised Ministry 2; 2 Cr. (Yr. C, Required)**

**SMN3002: Supervised Ministry 3; 2 Cr. (Yr. D, Required)**

**SMN4002: Supervised Ministry 4; 2 Cr. (Yr. D, Required)**

Supervised Ministry offers students the opportunity to work alongside field professionals in a structured ministry setting and/or a virtual platform. It is designed to help students integrate theory and practice of ministry during this critical time in our history of pandemic while the didactic, offered in the fall and spring semesters, is led by a group of professional leaders with years of experience in the parish and community settings.

**Samuel Dewitt Proctor Course (3 credits)**  
**Holy Rage Holy Hope Virtual Conference**  
**Professor on Record: Prof. Wanda Landy**

**Conference Dates: February 22 – 25, 2020**

In addition to attendance to at conference sessions, this course also requires attendance at two class sessions prior to the conference and attendance at one class following the conference as well as completion of required readings and assignments.

**BBH2512**

**Course Description:** In light of the onslaught of anti-blackness in church, academy, and the public square, this course considers the potential of Black rage as a theological virtue and as a requisite moral standpoint for the tasks of justice-making. Students will engage classic and contemporary texts in black theology and black feminist theory to critically examine sublime fury as a “holy” and viable response to the moral problem of whiteness and its concomitant black suffering and death. Consideration of the praxis and insurgent aesthetics of black protest in the movement for Black lives will lend itself to the theoretical task of determining the nuances of eschatological hope as it emerges from the sacred interstices of secular black social witness.

**TUTORIAL COURSES:**

**MPC3012: MAPCC Capstone Project; 2 Cr.** (Required for MAPCC; Prerequisite: MPC300)  
Prof. Insook Lee [islee@nyts.edu](mailto:islee@nyts.edu)

**Dates: 2/1, 2/22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM)**

This course is continued from the fall semester: Integrated conceptual and practical assignment that represents the student’s theoretical and conceptual knowledge in the field of Pastoral Care and Counseling.

**MRE3012: MARE Capstone Project; 2 Cr.** (Required for MARE; Prerequisite: MRE300)  
Prof. Tamara Henry [thenry@nyts.edu](mailto:thenry@nyts.edu)

**Dates: 2/1, 22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9: AM to 5:00 PM) Virtual**

This course is continued from the fall semester: Integrated conceptual and practical assignment that represents the student’s theoretical and conceptual knowledge in the field of Religious Education.

**MRL3012: MARLA Capstone Project; 2 Cr.** (Required for MARLA; Prerequisite MRL300)  
Prof. Alfred Johnson [ajohnson@nyts.edu](mailto:ajohnson@nyts.edu)

**Dates: 2/1, 22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM) Virtual**

This course is continued from the fall semester: Integrated conceptual and practical assignment that represents the student's theoretical and conceptual knowledge in the field of Leadership and Administration.

**MYM3012: MAYM: Capstone Project; 2 Cr.** (Required for MAYM; Prerequisite: MYM300)  
Prof. Tamara Henry [thentry@nyts.edu](mailto:thentry@nyts.edu)

**Dates: 2/1, 22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM) Virtual**

This course is continued from the fall semester: Integrated conceptual and practical assignment that represents the student's theoretical and conceptual knowledge in the field of Youth Ministry.

**TMU5012: CREDO; 2 Cr.** (Yr. D, Required for M.Div.; Graduating Seniors only; On-Line Tutorial) Prerequisite: TMU500: Practice of Prophetic Ministry  
Students must submit a Credo Reader form to the PPM professor in the fall

**Credo Submission Deadline: April 1.**

Profs. Rafael Reyes & Keith Russell [rreyes@nyts.edu](mailto:rreyes@nyts.edu); [krussell@nyts.edu](mailto:krussell@nyts.edu)

The student will prepare a systematic presentation of his/her own beliefs developed out of work done in the Practice of Prophetic Ministry. The student will seek to analyze, integrate, and evaluate his/her experience of theological education as it relates to the contemporary practice of Christian ministry. The work culminates in a major paper of 40 to 50 pages, which systematically discusses the student's own belief and practice.