

# ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS & COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## COURSES • GENERAL STUDIES

Curriculum development at Moravian Theological Seminary is an ongoing process involving faculty and student participation. The selection and content of elective courses are reviewed annually and are open to revision.

### GENERAL STUDIES

#### SEGS 502 **Learning as Ministry**

With the assumption that the Seminary prepares persons for a “learned ministry,” and that everyone in ministry is a life-long learner, this course focuses on various learning styles and strategies, introduces basic theological and biblical terminology, and explores methods of research and writing in the various theological disciplines. It encourages appropriate professional and personal boundary development and diversity sensitivity.

This program also acquaints students with the information technology necessary for a productive Seminary experience. Beginning with a retreat experience in which participants share their life journey as a starting point of theological understanding, the course introduces students to the full-time faculty, and provides a peer support group for the beginning of Seminary studies. This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Required for all programs, 2 credits                      Fall  
Stoudt, Kraybill-Greggo, Couch

#### SEGS 601 **Learning As Ministry Assistantship**

Students who have completed Learning As Ministry (SEGS 502) may assist in the leadership of the Learning As Ministry Retreat. Meetings with the instructor and a short written critique of the experience, using literature on group theory, are required. Permission of the instructor is required before registration.

Elective, 1 credit    Summer  
Kraybill-Greggo

#### SEGS 503 **Introduction to World Religions**

Given the realities of the increasingly multifaith character of North American society, individuals and congregations find themselves interacting with people and groups of a variety of different faiths. This course will cover the content of the main

world religions, as well as articulating ways to bear “authentic” witness to Christian faith in multifaith settings. Visits to a synagogue, mosque and Hindu temple are anticipated.

Required MDiv, 2 credits    Spring  
Wagner

#### SEGS 504 **Global Perspectives on Today’s Christian Mission**

Perspectives on world and local religions which form the context for ministry and communication of the Gospel. This course will include participation in the January program at the Overseas Ministries Study Center in New Haven, Connecticut, with the remainder of the January Term being on campus.

Elective,<sup>1</sup> 3 credits    January  
Dreydoppel

#### SEGS 505 **Urban Perspectives on Today’s Christian Mission**

The purpose of this course is to present a holistic approach to urban ministry, involving the assessment of community dynamics, needs, and assets, the changing face of urban life, the challenge of presenting the Gospel in an increasingly multicultural society, the spirituality and aesthetics of urban ministry, and the formation of faith-based initiatives for ministry, advocacy, and community development. We will examine several successful ministry models that have found innovative ways to address the needs and mobilize the resources of both congregants and others in the community.

Elective,<sup>1</sup> 3 credits    January  
Simmons

<sup>1</sup> MDiv students are required to take 3 credits in either Global or Urban Ministry, SEGS 504 or SEGS 505 will satisfy this requirement.

#### SEGS 506 **Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)**

Prerequisite: SEPF 733

(Background Check, p. 50)

An off-campus experience in supervised ministry at centers accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, including general hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, churches, prisons, and other agencies. Application must be made at least six months in advance of the start of the unit of training; an opportunity to complete this process is given each fall on CPE Interview day. CPE includes

a three-fold process of self-awareness, the learning of pastoral skills, and theological reflection on human experience.

CPE is normally taken after at least one year of Seminary studies (including the prerequisite course) and should be taken prior to the final year. Any exception to this must be approved by faculty. CPE may be taken during the summer or as an extended unit taken during the academic year. An extended unit requires a reduction in seminary course work to 6-9 credit hours, depending on the number of hours required in the unit. Some full-time work in January is often required in extended units. Summer units are full-time (with weekend and overnight on-call duties) for approximately 10 weeks; other studies or work during this time are not advisable. This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Required MDiv, 3 credits All terms  
Accredited supervisors  
Staff, Advisor

**SEGS 607 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) II**

(Background Check, p. 50)

An additional term of CPE, preferably in a setting different from the first. Approval by the advisor and faculty is required. This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Elective, 3 credits All terms  
Accredited supervisors  
Staff, Advisor

**SEGR 701 Multicultural Awareness Seminar**

As our world shrinks, we find ourselves living in an increasingly, multi-cultural, multi-faith, multi-lingual, and diverse society. This seminar aims to stimulate critical thinking and raise awareness for seminary students who are preparing to be transformative leaders about the complexities of exclusiveness and inclusiveness, privilege and power, and marginality. Students will have the opportunity to examine their own core beliefs and attitudes and assess their cultural literacy in relation to the biblical commandment “to do justice.”

This seminar is a non-credit requirement for all degree candidates and programs and is designed to be interactive and reflective. Students are encouraged to think critically and to tolerate the ambiguity and viewpoints different from their own. Graded Pass/No Pass.

Required for all degree candidates and programs.

**SEGS 913 Inter-Seminary Seminar**

An ecumenical seminar conducted jointly by Moravian and St. Charles Roman Catholic, Palmer Baptist, Westminster Presbyterian, and Philadelphia Lutheran Seminaries. The purpose of the seminar is to allow the participants to examine seriously their own tradition through in-depth discussion of specific topics with persons representing a variety of different communions. Permission of the instructor is required before registration.

Elective, 3 credits Fall  
Dreydoppel

**SEGS 816 MAPC Thesis**

The thesis is a major scholarly work (40 pages) in which the student integrates psychological theory, research, and clinical practice. It should include a biblical and theological basis for theory or practice as well as the personal analysis and clinical experience of the writer. The thesis will be defended orally.

Thesis guidelines and application forms are available in the Form Center across the hall from the Dean’s Office. Students should consult with their academic advisor as a first step in developing a thesis proposal. Elective, 4 credits

**SEGS 826 MATS Thesis**

The thesis is a major scholarly work (40-60 pages) on a subject of the student’s choice (approved by the faculty) which integrates biblical, historical, and doctrinal studies. It must be defended orally. Thesis guidelines and application forms are available in the Form Center across the hall from the Dean’s Office. MATS students should consult with the Director of MATS in their first semester at MTS to plan a course of study that will contribute to their area/s of research interest.

Required MATS, 6 credits

**SEGS 846 MDiv Thesis**

The thesis is a major scholarly work (40-60 pages) on a subject of the student’s choice (approved by the faculty) which integrates biblical, historical, pastoral and doctrinal studies. It must be defended orally.

Thesis guidelines and application forms are available in the Form Center across the hall from the Dean’s Office. Students should consult with their academic advisor during their first year at MTS to plan a course of study that will contribute to their area/s of research interest.

Elective, 6 credits

## COURSES • OLD TESTAMENT/HEBREW BIBLE

## BIBLICAL STUDIES

**SEGS 501 Introduction to Biblical Studies**

This course will cover basic issues relevant to biblical studies such as exegetical method, canonization, biblical study tools, and a taste of the biblical languages.

Required for most courses, 1 credit      Spring, Fall  
Appler, Luckritz Marquis

**SEGS 507 Between the Testaments: Times, Writings, Impact**

The course deals with the history, key writings and influences of the period ca. 300 BCE–50 CE. The events and literature shared among Jewish communities in Palestine and the western Roman Empire had and still have substantial influence on Judaism and Christianity. We will examine the Deutero-Canonical works considered scriptural by Roman Catholic and Orthodox Christians plus several apocalyptic writings such as IV Esdras and Enoch. References will be made to Philo of Alexandria and the Qumran community. A significant issue will be the nature of the canon and inter-religious and ecumenical relations today.

Elective, 3 credits      As requested  
Wagner

## OLD TESTAMENT/HEBREW BIBLE

The focus in studying the Old Testament is to understand it within the thinking patterns of its day and within its historical and cultural context so that it can be appropriated for ministry today. The first year courses emphasize the thinking patterns and the historical and cultural context as understood through historical-critical methods. The upper level courses utilize this information by concentrating on particular aspects of the Old Testament literature.

**SEBO 603 Old Testament: Literature, Culture and Religion**

Prerequisite: SEGS 501

The goal of this required introductory course is to provide a historical and theological foundation for

the study, preaching, and teaching of the Hebrew Bible in both parish and counseling settings. This course will follow Israel's history and relationship with God from its conception in the 12th century BCE through its birth, death, and rebirth in Judaism during the Roman period. Students will be equipped with the exegetical tools necessary for drawing historical and theological conclusions based on the Hebrew text, mindful that how we understand ancient Israel and its ancient texts impacts how we appreciate our relationships with God, one another, and ourselves.

Required for all programs, 3 credits      Fall  
Appler

**SEBO 913 Elementary Biblical Hebrew**

This course focuses primarily on the grammar and syntax of biblical Hebrew. Jewish music and liturgy will be interjected throughout the semester to achieve a better understanding of how the Hebrew texts might have functioned in ancient Israel. (Before the end of the drop/add period, students may elect to take this course Pass/Fail by notifying the instructor in writing.)

Elective, 3 credits      Spring, alternate years  
Appler

**SEBO 916 Hebrew Exegesis**

Prerequisite: SEBO 913

In this course students will be introduced to textual criticism and exegetical method while studying selected portions of the Hebrew Bible (in Hebrew). We will build on the grammar learned in SEBO 913.

Elective, 1 credit      Fall, alternate years  
Appler

**SEBO 917 Advanced Hebrew Exegesis**

Prerequisite: SEBO 916

We will study selected portions of the Hebrew Bible (in Hebrew) with special attention to textual problems and the general issues of exegesis.

Elective, 3 credits      As requested  
Appler

**SEBO 924 Prophets: Amos and Hosea**

Prerequisite: SEBO 603

What do the prophets teach us about God's justice and love? With these and other questions in mind, this course will examine two "minor



## COURSES • OLD TESTAMENT/HEBREW BIBLE

archaeology of the eastern Mediterranean region from the Neolithic period (8500 BCE) through the Roman period (100CE), with special attention to the periods generally associated with ancient Israel, early Judaism, and early Christianity. In addition, archaeological technique and history will be explored.

Elective, 3 credits      Fall, Summer, alternate years  
Appler

**SEBO 951 Gender Dynamics and the Hebrew Bible** (Also SEPF 951)

Prerequisite: SEGS 501

The Church and the field of religious studies continue to be transformed by new modes of gender discourse, discourse that has arisen out of other academic fields such as philosophy and linguistics. Issues of gender continually impact the Church and the Church's interpretation of Scripture, especially regarding discussion of God language, ordination, sexuality, and gender relations. Consequently, the goal of this course is two-fold. Initially we will explore feminist theory, men's studies, and post-modern discourse particularly as these impact our understanding/s of the cultural construction of gender, and issues of difference, essentialism, sexuality, language and power, subjectivity, and epistemology. Secondly, we will observe how biblical scholars have integrated this theory into their own work and how such integration has impacted the interpretations of biblical texts and the study of religion.

Elective, 3 credits      Spring, alternate years  
Appler

**SEBO 952 The Bible and Family Systems** (Also SEPF 916)

This course will provide a cultural and historical view of family systems as described in the Hebrew Bible and compare that information with contemporary family systems theory. Implications for pastoral ministry and pastoral counseling with families will be drawn from the Biblical theology of the family as developed in the course.

Elective, 3 credits      Spring, alternate years  
Appler

**SEBO 953 "The Real World?" Applying the Book of Judges to the Lives of Today's Youth**

The book of Judges recalls a society plagued with war, idolatry, sexual abuse, violence, and other

societal struggles. Sadly, our teens today find themselves living in a similar culture where both family and political organizations often lack structure and security. The Book of Judges opens the dialogue with youth on these very issues while simultaneously providing hope for the present and future. We will read Judges with a focus on today's youth and pastoral care.

Elective, 2 credits      As requested  
Appler

**SEBO 963 Does God Choose Sides? American Politics & the Bible**

Exit polls following the 2004 presidential election indicated that religious beliefs and issues greatly influenced its outcome. Matters such as abortion, gay marriage, the death penalty, euthanasia, and war set off conversations, often heated, about where God stands on these issues. People of faith continue to read the same Bible yet often draw opposite conclusions concerning what these sacred texts say about social and political issues. This course will provide opportunities to read, discuss, and write about how politics and religious rhetoric are interwoven in today's American society.

Elective, 3 credits      As requested  
Appler

**SEBO 966 Global Interpretations of the Hebrew Bible**

Prerequisite: SEGS 501; SEBO 603 recommended  
The Global Mainline Christian Church is comprised of roughly 75% non-North American and European members. However, biblical interpretation until recently has been dominated by a strong Western bias within the academic community. Voices from marginalized communities, particularly on the continents of Africa, South and Central America, Asia, and within the indigenous people of North America are now being heard and are transforming how we read biblical texts in powerful ways. This course will examine the works of some of these emerging interpreters and how their work is impacting the Church and the world.

Elective, 2 credits      As requested  
Appler

**SEBO 967 African Readings of the Old Testament**

Prerequisite: SEGS 501; SEBO 603 recommended  
The Global Moravian Church is blessed with a strong presence on the continent of Africa that comes with a rich history of indigenous biblical interpretation. The West is just beginning to tap into the wealth that

these materials. The focus of this class will be on the many ways scholars and lay people from Africa read the Hebrew texts and how these readings can translate into other social locations.

Elective, 3 credits Spring, as requested  
Appler

**SEBO 993 Directed Study in Old Testament**

Prerequisite: SEGS 501

Designed to explore particular areas of importance and interest and open to students who have achieved a 3.0 average or above. Directed studies must be approved by the faculty and are not to be used as a substitute for a regularly offered course. Limited to a total of 9 credit hours per student.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Staff

**NEW TESTAMENT**

**SEBN 633 New Testament: Literature, Culture, and Faith**

Prerequisite: SEGS 501

This course examines the place of the New Testament within the cultural, literary, and religious contexts of the first century and explores the ways that these scriptures speak to individuals and communities of faith today. We will critically examine different approaches to interpretation; address issues related to gender, race, ethnicity, and social location; and engage overarching theological issues such as Christology, eschatology, wealth and possessions, and the authority of scripture.

Required for all programs, 3 credits Spring  
Luckritz Marquis

**SEBN 634 The Gospels and Acts in a Global Context**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

An exploration of the four Gospels and Acts, both in terms of their inter-relationships and in terms of each gospel's own particular depiction of the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The Gospels will be considered in light of their relation to the first century world and in relation to the various trajectories of tradition, theology, and practice that developed within the emerging Christian church and that play

vital roles in communities of faith, both locally and within a global context.

Required MDiv, 3 credits Fall  
Luckritz Marquis

**SEBN 733 Paul in a Global Context**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

The Pauline letters — both the undisputed letters and those with disputed authorship — reveal the intense dynamics of congregational life in the early church. As Paul wrote his communities, he addressed a wide array of issues, including the nature of God, the nature of Christ, the gifts of the Spirit, resurrection, the place of Gentiles and Torah in the church, salvation, faith, works, grace, righteousness, gender, and sexuality. We will explore these and other issues in light of the social world in which Paul and his churches lived and in light of what these letters offer us today as guidelines for discernment for individuals and communities of faith, both locally and within a global context.

Required MDiv, 3 credits Spring  
Luckritz Marquis

**SEBN 913 Introduction to New Testament Greek**

A foundation will be laid for working with the New Testament in its original language. Emphasis lies on the mastering of grammatical forms, fundamental syntax, and basic vocabulary, aiming toward deeper understanding of these writings. (Before the end of the drop/add period, students may elect to take this course Pass/Fail by notifying the instructor in writing.)

Elective, 3 credits Fall, alternate years  
Luckritz Marquis

**SEBN 915 Advanced Greek Readings and Exegesis**

Prerequisite: SEBN 914 or equivalent

An opportunity to explore and develop an in-depth exegetical method that applies to the Greek New Testament. A significant amount of reading of the Greek New Testament (especially selected Pauline and Johannine literature) is taken up in the course.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Luckritz Marquis

**SEBN 917 New Testament Greek Reading and Interpretation**

Prerequisite: SEBN 913 or equivalent

Reading a cross section of New Testament texts, beginning with simpler Greek — such as the

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Johannine epistles — and moving through a “graded” series of selected texts from the gospels, Paul, and other New Testament books. Texts are chosen for their value in learning the nuances of Greek, particularly for the sake of deeper insight into the theological riches that emerge from study of the original language.

Elective, 1 credit Summer, alternate years  
Luckritz Marquis

### SEBN 921 **The Johannine Literature**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

The Johannine Literature emerged out of a community’s rich experience of God, of Christ, of the Spirit, and the promises and perils facing people of faith. This course will explore the Mediterranean world of the first century which framed the historical context of the Johannine literature. This literature will be explored both for its theological expressions and for the insight and guidance it offers present-day people of faith seeking to translate these texts into doctrines and practices amidst the complex dynamics of community life.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Luckritz Marquis

### SEBN 922 **Itinerancy, Mission, and Cross-Cultural Witness in Earliest Christianity**

Prerequisite: SEGS 501

The first preachers of the Gospel traveled not only to bring their message to new communities but to express and perform facets of the message itself. This class will explore the role of itinerancy as a central element of the Gospel and its connection to issues of economics, gender, sexuality, household structure, ethnicity, and politics in the early Church. Our investigations will serve as an impetus for reflection upon the role of both word and deed in the context of theology, ministry, and identity.

Elective, 3 credits Fall  
Luckritz Marquis

### SEBN 923 **Study of a Selected New Testament Book**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

A discussion of recent trends in biblical scholarship and their influence on interpretations of a selected New Testament Book (one of the Gospels or a Pauline Letter). As we explore the relationship between the selected biblical text and the Roman Empire, we will add new perspectives to those already considered by traditional scholarship. By recognizing the impact of context upon our chosen text, this course will examine

the inter-contextual relationship between the New Testament writings and their readers (contemporary as well as 1st century.)

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Luckritz Marquis

### SEBN 933 **The Rest of the New Testament**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

Other courses cover the Synoptic Gospels, John, Acts, and Paul; this course covers the rest of the New Testament — Hebrews, James, I and II Peter, Jude, and Revelation. Study of these writings allows us to see the full diversity of witnesses in the New Testament and presents an opportunity for reflection on the processes involved in the formation of the canon. The course includes a more in-depth examination of the first century world — particularly the interplay between early Christian communities, Judaism, and the variety of religions in the Greco-Roman world.

Elective, 3 credits Spring, alternate years  
Luckritz Marquis

### SEBN 943 **Discovering the Historical Jesus**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

An exploration of the history of and issues in the research for the historical Jesus, the methods for the study of the gospels, and the hermeneutical issues involved. The relationship between historical Jesus research and various Christological and theological understandings will also be explored.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Luckritz Marquis

### SEBN 953 **Theology and Film**

The course centers on issues and themes found in films as they relate to, support, or differ from perspectives expressed in the New Testament. The focus lies both on what a film says and how the film says it, studying the connections between thematic emphases and the technical/artistic elements that underscore them. One portion of the course deals with Jesus films. Other films are viewed through the different lenses of theological, mythological, and ideological criticism.

Elective, 3 hours Spring  
Crouch

### SEBN 962 **New Testament Seminar**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

The subject of the seminar will be determined by the interests of the students. Some possibilities might be:

advanced study of a New Testament book (in Greek or English), investigation of an area of biblical theology, an aspect of recent New Testament research, or an interdisciplinary approach relating New Testament study to issues in another field.

Elective, 2 credits Fall, as requested  
Luckritz Marquis

**SEBN 993 Directed Study in New Testament**

Prerequisite: SEBN 633

Designed to explore particular areas of importance and interest and open to students who have achieved a 3.0 average or above. Directed studies must be approved by the faculty and are not to be used as a substitute for a regularly offered course. Limited to a total of 9 credit hours per student.

Elective, 2 credits As requested  
Luckritz Marquis

**DOCTRINAL THEOLOGY**

Doctrinal theology examines a wide spectrum of pertinent questions for Christian living, such as who God is and what is the role of the church today. The introductory course examines the major doctrinal areas which inform our understanding of the Christian faith. The upper level courses concentrate in depth on a particular doctrine/s from a historical or contemporary theological perspective. MDiv students are required to take two of the following five required elective theology courses: Contemporary Thought about God, Christology, Gender and Theology, Theology from the Underside, Reformation Theology to the Present. Credo will be a capstone course taken in the final year which integrates biblical, pastoral, historical, and theological studies together.

**SEDO 613 Introduction to Christian Theology**

The discipline of Christian theology is approached topically and historically. Attention is given to: faith and theological study; the triune reality of God; understanding of the person and work of Jesus; the mission of the Holy Spirit; the identity and purpose of the church; and the vitality of Christian hope.

Required for all programs, 3 credits Fall  
G. Kim

**SEDO 833 Credo**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613 plus 6 credit hours of Electives in Doctrinal Theology (see p. 12)

As a course, Credo is designed to enable participants to draw together, in a written statement, an integrated understanding which encompasses biblical, historical, theological, and pastoral studies and experiences. The result of the process is a description of the student's formation in faith and for the responsibilities and tasks of ministry after having taken the basic courses in the disciplines of theological study.

The aim of the course is to bring together concepts, understandings, and experiences into a living theology that can witness with clarity to the Gospel and the work of God in the world today. This is to be incorporated in an extended paper within the boundaries of 25-30 pages.

In conjunction with the student's program, the paper will provide a basis or instrument by which the faculty will appraise intellectual proficiency in the theological disciplines, a theological understanding of pastoral and professional skills, and sensitivity in Christian experience. The outcome of the course will serve as an indicator of the student's present development, and uncover areas, issues, and relationships that demonstrate a need for further study and investigation.

Required MDiv, 3 credits Fall  
G. Kim

**SEDO 843 Christian Ethics**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613

A critical study of the interaction of faith with ethical decision-making and human conduct will be examined in this course. Christian ethics is examined according to the biblical, theological, and philosophical bases of this discipline. The relevance of ethical understandings to contemporary issues and situations form an important part of the course.

Required MDiv and MATS, 3 credits Spring  
G. Kim

**SEDO 901 Christology**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613

"Who is Christ for us today?" This important question needs to be answered by every generation as Christ comes to us in many different ways. Throughout Church history, there are many developments in the study of the person and the work of Christ. These developments were

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formulated and articulated due to numerous heresies and controversies which influenced the church's doctrine of Christ. It is important to examine the historical development of Christology and what its implications are for Christians today. This course will cover the major Christological developments beginning from the Early Church to the modern period so that students may answer for themselves the crucial question that Jesus posed, "Who do you say that I am?" The course will be a seminar format with class discussions, lectures and presentations. Required Elective MDiv, 3 credits Spring  
G. Kim

**SEDO 904 Contemporary Thought about God**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613

An investigation is made of the problem of thinking and speaking about the nature and qualities of God through a study of significant historical and contemporary theological writings. Sources of the knowledge of God will receive attention, together with consideration of the relation of God to the world (including the contexts of other religious faiths) and the reality of God as triune. Required Elective MDiv, 3 credits Summer  
G. Kim

**SEDO 914 Theological Understanding of Humanity**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613

The aims of this course are: to introduce students to classical Christian doctrines concerning creation, sin, grace, redemption, and human fulfillment; to compare and contrast Christian views (both Eastern and Western) of human nature with other religious and secular perspectives; to consider the topic of theological anthropology with respect to possible "posthuman" futures foreshadowed by current developments in neurobiology and genetic and cybernetic technologies, and to encourage students to formulate their own working definition of human nature as it relates to their practice of ministry. Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Simmons

**SEDO 923 Theology of Hope and Liberation**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613

This course will explore classic Christian views of eschatology, the study of last things, and consider how their meaning continues to unfold in light of

current thinking about such "ultimate" topics as end-of-life issues, cosmology and the ultimate fate of the universe, and political action and liberative praxis in service of the kingdom of God in social and economic life.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Simmons

**SEDO 924 Theology from the Underside**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613

This course examines theology from the side of the less privileged. It will explore how people in the margins/underside experience and understand creation, God, Christ, Scripture, Salvation, Church/Community, Suffering/Han, Eschatology/Hope, etc. Such people from the margins contribute, critique, and give insight to the dominant North American theology.

Required Elective MDiv, 3 credits Fall  
G. Kim

**SEDO 981 Doctrine of the United Methodist Church**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613

A survey of the development of basic Methodist beliefs with their historical foundations and relevance in the life of the Church. The class will make a comprehensive and critical study of Methodist doctrine in the light of Scriptural Christianity, the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, and the historically accepted guidelines and doctrinal standards.

Required for United Methodist candidates, elective for others, 3 credits Fall, as requested  
Lawfer

**SEDO 993 Directed Study in Doctrinal Theology**

Prerequisite: SEDO 613 and one required elective in Theology

Designed to explore particular areas of importance and interest and open to students who have achieved a 3.0 average or above. Directed studies must be approved by the faculty and are not to be used as a substitute for a regularly offered course. Limited to a total of 9 credit hours per student.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
G. Kim

## CHURCH HISTORY

Historical studies in the seminary curriculum are intended to define the historical, social, and cultural context in which contemporary Christian life is lived, ministry is done, and counseling is practiced. They begin with survey courses in the whole history of Christianity and of religion in North America. Upper level courses include histories of the various denominations and traditions, usually taught by scholars from the churches themselves; focused studies of church history in the early church, the Reformation, and the modern period; and seminars on such specific topics as inter-religious dialogue, orthodoxy and heresy, Christian worship and hymnology, and missions and cross-cultural ministries. In each course the question is addressed: How will historical understanding help me to teach, preach, and practice?

### SEHS 613 **The Christian Story**

This course will teach the philosophy and methods for the study of church history, as well as introduce the student to the key issues, movements, and people which have influenced Christian history and to some of the classic documents of the Christian tradition. Required for all programs<sup>2</sup>, 3 credits Fall Dreydoppel

### SEHS 713 **The North American Religious Experience**

Religious belief and practice in North America is increasingly complex. This course will help the student understand the historical and cultural context in which contemporary North American Christian life is lived, ministry is done, and pastoral counseling is practiced. Required for all programs<sup>2</sup>, 3 credits Fall Dreydoppel

<sup>2</sup> MDiv students are required to take both SEHS 613 and SEHS 713. MAPC and MATS students are required to take either SEHS 613 or SEHS 713 and may elect to take both courses.

### SEHS 903 **Questing for Jesus: Views and Interpretations of Jesus after the Gospels**

The course surveys post-apostolic understandings of Jesus, examines the key interpretations in the

18th and 19th centuries, and focuses on recent attempts to understand Jesus. Class members will be encouraged to develop their own responses to the quests undertaken by others and today's society. Opportunities will be offered to consider Jesus in art, music, and motion pictures.

Elective, 3 credits

As requested

Wagner

### SEHS 905 **Heresies and Orthodoxies: From the First to the Twenty-first Century**

What is heresy? Is Christian orthodoxy one or many? What are the core limits of doctrinal freedom and the freedom of expression within Christianity? Who has the authority and power to decide what is and is not "Christian"? What role does the Bible have? How does ecumenism relate to orthodoxy and heresy? The course will consider key persons and movements, ideas, and developments in Christian history from the New Testament to the present.

Elective, 3 credits

As requested

Wagner

### SEHS 911 **Reformations and Reformers of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century**

A study of key persons, movements, and events associated with the 16<sup>th</sup> Century reformation. Beginning with Jan Hus and the Council of Constance, we will consider Luther, Zwingli, and Calvin particularly; movements such as Anabaptism and the Bohemian Brethren; Catholic respondents such as Erasmus, Theresa of Avila, and Ignatius of Loyola; and conclude with the Council of Trent. References will be made to Reformation influences and prospects in the present.

Elective, 3 credits

Fall

Wagner

### SEHS 952 **Opening the Qur'an: An Introduction to Islam's Holy Book**

Over a billion people believe the Qur'an is God's fullest and final revelation to humanity. This course opens students to the Book's origins, texts, and uses, together with comparisons to the Bible. We will use the Yusuf Ali translation. The course will include a visit to a nearby mosque.

Elective, 3 credits

As requested

Wagner

## COURSES • CHURCH HISTORY

**SEHS 953 Christianity and Islam: Confrontation and Dialogue**

Christianity and Islam share beliefs in one God, Jesus as Messiah, and a sense of moral responsibility. They also share a history of holy wars against each other. Muslims and Christians are challenged to develop new understandings and relationships while respecting each other's faith commitments. The course will explore basic beliefs, scriptures, history, practices, political issues, and future prospects.

Elective, 3 credits

As requested

Wagner

**History of the Moravian Church**

(SEHS 962 and SEHS 960) This two-term course will examine the historical development of the Moravian Church according to the following arrangement of topics.

**SEHS 962 The Ancient Unity**

Attention will be focused upon the life and theology of Hus, the Hussite reformation and revolution, and the origins of the Unity of the Brethren.

The flourishing of the Unity and its theological contributions, particularly those of Comenius, will also be discussed.

Required for Moravian Church candidates,

Elective for others, 2 credits

Spring

Dreydoppel

**SEHS 960 Renewed and Worldwide Moravian Church**

Topics to be covered in this course include Zinzendorf and Spangenberg and their leadership of the Renewed Moravian Church, the influences of the Pietist movement upon the Moravians, and the rise of missions. Particular emphasis will be given to the development of the Moravian Church in America and the evolution of the international Moravian Unity.

Required for Moravian Church candidates,

Elective for others, 3 credits

Fall

Dreydoppel

**SEHS 965 Moravian Theology and Worship**

This course is designed to form students as pastoral theologians and worship leaders for the Moravian Church. It begins with a brief survey of the history of Moravian theology and liturgy, focuses on texts such as the Ground of the Unity, the Moravian Covenant for

Christian Living, and the *Moravian Book of Worship*, and concludes with a consideration of such practical issues as the application of Moravian theology in preaching and counseling, the celebration of rites and sacraments in the Moravian tradition, and the proper use of Moravian customs and practices.

Required for Moravian Church candidates,

Elective for others, 2 credits

Spring

Dreydoppel

**SEHS 970 End Times**

A study of Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and distinctively American views of why, how, and when the world will end, what will replace it, and what happens to humans. The scriptures, traditions, and histories of End Time thinking plus art and popular literature will be considered. The role of such thinking in shaping past and present political, social, and religious movements and institutions will be featured. Students will formulate and share their own scenarios for the End and its aftermath.

Elective, 3 credits

As requested

Wagner

**SEHS 971 Christian Spirituality: Guides from the 1st–7th Centuries**

Beginning with Psalms, Paul and the Fourth Gospel, the course centers on selected Eastern and Western Christian spiritual masters and pastors throughout the mid-7th century. Other figures anticipated to be considered are Clement of Alexandria, Origen, Athanasius, Cyril of Jerusalem, Gregory of Nyssa, Gregory of Nazianzus, Augustine, John Cassian, Pseudo-Dionysius, Gregory the Great, and Maximus the Confessor. Opportunities are provided for participants to reflect on their own responses, growth and ministry.

Elective, 3 credits

As requested

Wagner

**SEHS 981 History of the United Methodist Church**

This course will examine the heritage of the United Methodist Church and its antecedent organizations. It focuses on the individuals and events which mark the high points of Methodist history and identifies several important continuing trends, exploring how the Methodist past has shaped the Methodist present. Required for United Methodist Church candidates, elective for others, 3 credits

Fall, as requested

Lawfer

**SEHS 983 History, Theology, and Polity of the United Church of Christ**

This course is designed to introduce United Church of Christ students to the history, theology, and polity of the United Church of Christ and its predecessor denominations, and to enable them to become familiar with the polity and practice of ministry, as well as the resources of the UCC.

Required for UCC candidates,  
elective for others, 3 credits                      As requested  
DeRemer

**SEHS 984 History and Polity of the Unitarian Universalist Church**

The course will look at Unitarian European roots in the radical wing of the Protestant Reformation, especially the work of the Socinian movement in Italy, the Minor church in Poland, and the English Unitarians. We will study American Unitarian and Universalist development as response to the Standing Order (Congregational) churches in New England, and trace these separate movements through to the final merger in 1961. Institutional structures, such as AUA, UCA, UUA, and General Assembly, as well as the professional and fellowshiping entities to which ministers are accountable, will be examined. Attention will also be given to various rites of passage as observed in Unitarian Universalist congregations. Required for Unitarian Universalist candidates, Elective for others, 3 credits                      As requested  
Staff

**SEHS 993 Directed Study in Historical Theology**

Designed to explore particular areas of importance and interest and open to students who have achieved a 3.0 average or above. Directed studies must be approved by the faculty and are not to be used as a substitute for a regularly offered course. Limited to a total of 9 credit hours per student. Elective, 3 credits                      As requested  
Staff

**PASTORAL THEOLOGY**

Courses in Pastoral Theology have three primary objectives: 1) Self-awareness, especially regarding the integration of person and professional; 2) Skill-building in the practice of the ministry to which one is called; 3) Construction of a theological and spiritual understanding that informs the practice of ministry, based on the action-reflection-action method of real experience with “living human documents.” While one of these objectives might be stressed more in some courses than in others, it is intended that all three objectives will be achieved simultaneously in the process of study.

**FORMATIVE SPIRITUALITY**

**SEPF 723 Spiritual Formation**

Spiritual Formation is a three credit Formative Spirituality course which examines the various issues of the spiritual life, such as the nature and experience of God or evil and suffering, and their impact on spiritual and psychological development; emphasizes the history of spirituality, including a reading of some of the classics of Christian devotion; studies the personal and pastoral use of the various resources of the Christian life, such as prayer, spiritual reading, spiritual autobiography, journaling, meditation, and contemplation; highlights perspectives on the meaning of significant events in spiritual life, such as mystical experiences, the demonic, conversion, revelation, and religious ritual; and develops skills in faith sharing with others. Required for all programs, 3 credits                      Fall  
Required Certificate/Concentration  
in Formative Spirituality  
Staff

**SEPF 724 Group Spiritual Direction I**

Group Spiritual Direction I is a two credit Formative Spirituality course in which students learn the process of group spiritual direction. Students experience receiving group spiritual direction from the instructor and peers, as they further cultivate sensitivities both in offering their journey for the consideration of others and in convening group spiritual direction with peers. Required Certificate/Concentration                      Spring  
in Formative Spirituality, 2 credits  
Kraybill-Greggo



each component weaves together into a holistic approach honoring God's image within.

Required Certificate Jan/Summer  
in Formative Spirituality, 2 credits  
Kraybill-Greggo, Martell

**SEPF 744 Contemplative Communication and Relationship**

Contemplative Communication and Relationship is a two credit Formative Spirituality course which draws from Scripture, Psychology and Christian Mysticism to develop the understanding and skills of loving communication and relationship necessary to transform individuals and social systems into the radical witnesses of Christian love that God calls them to be.

Required Certificate Fall  
in Formative Spirituality, 2 credits  
Martell, Kraybill-Greggo

**SEPF 745 Spirituality within Diversity**

Prerequisite: SEPF 723 or SEPF 727 or SEPF 724 or their equivalent  
(Background Check, p. 50)

Spirituality within Diversity is a two credit Formative Spirituality course that is experiential in nature and set up as a three week intensive. The first week is an intensive planning and preparation phase focused on deepening spiritual sensitivity within diverse settings, social justice education, cultural competence, and group development. The second week is an immersion experience in either of two settings: 1) On the Navajo Nation or 2) Locally within a service setting. The third week is re-entry/ integration group meetings for deeper reflection/ contemplation of diverse spiritualities, ongoing group spiritual direction, and analysis of social issues and advocacy.

Required Certificate Jan/Summer  
in Formative Spirituality, 2 credits  
Kraybill-Greggo, Martell

**SEPF 746 Spiritual Classics for the Contemplative in Action**

This two credit Formative Spirituality course is designed to engage the student's dialogue with the larger faith community of contemplatives in order

to deepen the student's personal experience of God and to begin moving them out into the world with the personal spirituality which flows out of that experience and dialogue. Through a study of a selection of the spiritual classics students will explore the stories of these masters including their experiences of God, conversion, and prayer as well as the spirituality with which they moved out into action in the world.

Required Certificate Spring  
in Formative Spirituality, 2 credits  
Martell, Kraybill-Greggo

**PASTORAL CARE and COUNSELING**

**SEPF 733 Pastoral Care and Counseling**

(Background Check, p. 50)

After the biblical and theological foundations for pastoral care and counseling are examined, this course will consider basic listening skills, pastoral visitation, and the pastoral response to the developmental and situational crises of life. Ministry in times of illness and grief as well as premarital counseling, marriage and family counseling, and referral will also be considered. Field placement is required for this course (for MDiv students, Supervised Ministry or approved alternative), preferably in a parish setting or agency where one can assume a pastoral identity. This course is prerequisite for Clinical Pastoral Education (SEGS 506) and Individual Psychotherapy and Methodology (SEPF 773).

Required MDiv and MAPC, 3 credits Spring  
Staff

**SEPF 763 Peer Group and Group Dynamics I**

Prerequisite: SEPF 767

(Background Check, p. 50)

This course is a weekly interpersonal group in which MAPC students involved in a clinical internship receive support and feedback from peers in order to enhance self-awareness and sharpen communication skills. Reading and discussion of group dynamics is also part of the experience. This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Required MAPC, 3 credits Fall  
Kraybill-Greggo

## COURSES • PASTORAL CARE &amp; COUNSELING

**SEPF 764 Peer Group and Group Dynamics II**

Prerequisite: SEPF 763

(Background Check, p. 50)

A continuation of Peer Group and Group Dynamics I.

This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Required MAPC, 3 credits

Spring

Kraybill-Greggo

**SEPF 765 Counseling Supervision I**

Prerequisite: SEPF 767

(Background Check, p. 50)

An intensive weekly experience of case supervision in which clinical issues and treatment activities are presented and discussed with a qualified supervisor for the purpose of helping students conduct responsible pastoral counseling. Limited to MAPC students involved in a clinical internship who are also enrolled in Peer Group. This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Required MAPC, 2 credits

Fall

Staff

**SEPF 766 Counseling Supervision II**

Prerequisite: SEPF 765

(Background Check, p. 50)

A continuation of Counseling Supervision I. This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Required MAPC, 2 credits

Spring

Staff

**SEPF 767 Peer Group and Supervision**

Prerequisites: SEPF 772, SEPF 773, SEPF 976

(Background Check, p. 50)

A weekly course with both an interpersonal group component and a clinical supervision component, in which MAPC students beginning their 600-hour clinical internship receive support and feedback from peers while giving case presentations and internship updates. The peer group aspect is designed to enhance self-awareness and sharpen communication skills. Reading, clinical discussion and experiential learning are key elements of this course. This course is graded Pass/No Pass.

Required MAPC, 3 credits

Summer

Kraybill-Greggo, Staff

**SEPF 771 Integration of Psychology and Spirituality**

(Background Check, p. 50)

The purpose of this course is to explore the relationship between spiritual and psychological dimensions of human growth and change, with the goal of helping the student develop a sense of professional identity as a pastoral counselor. Students give a case presentation

from the context of their clinical internship or supervised ministry placement and also present a project illustrating a holistic integration of spirituality and psychology in the context of pastoral counseling.

Required MAPC, 3 credits

Fall

Staff

**SEPF 772 Clinical Assessment and Treatment Planning**

This course focuses on the tools needed for clinical assessment, differential diagnosis and treatment planning. Students will learn the basics of these three as necessary resources for professional pastoral counseling. The course will involve an intake interview paper, viewing video interviews portraying a variety of diagnoses in the DSM-IV-TR, and a focus on personality disorders. Class time will also included an ongoing discussion and review of treatment modalities and options.

Required MAPC, 3 credits

Fall

Lewis

**SEPF 773 Individual Psychotherapy and Methodology**

Prerequisite: SEPF 733, SEPF 772

(Background Check, p. 50)

This course offers an opportunity to explore individual psychotherapy as a treatment modality with the goal of assisting students in the development of individual psychotherapy skills, including an exploration of the interpersonal relationship between counselor and counselee. Various counseling methodologies are also considered. A clinical placement is needed for this course.

Required MAPC, 3 credits

Spring

Lewis

**SEPF 774 Systems Theory and Marital Therapy**

(Background Check, p. 50)

This seminar explores systems theory as a perspective for understanding human development and change. The family as a system will be investigated including both functional and structural aspects of family organization and development. These theories will guide the development of skills in assessing and responding to family and marital difficulties. A clinical placement is recommended for this course.

Required MAPC, 3 credits

Spring

Johanson

**SEPF 909 Research Design and Methodology**

This course is an overview of fundamental research designs and basic analytical methods used in the behavioral sciences. Students learn how to select appropriate research designs and employ valid procedures in collecting data through a study of research methodology. The major goals of the course are to understand basic concepts and methods of analysis that will aid students' readings of the research literature, provide for their own future research projects, and help them write a research proposal. Research ethics and applications to religious research are considered. This course fulfills a program requirement for licensure in Pennsylvania as a Professional Counselor.

Required MAPC, 3 credits Spring  
Wesner

**SEPF 913 Psychological Perspectives of Biblical Stories**

This course is designed as a pastoral counseling elective, focusing on the interests of students in the MAPC program, but it is also open to others with some background in psychology and an interest in exploring the psychological models in Biblical stories. The course will focus on the stories found in Genesis and the New Testament, especially the Gospel of Matthew. We will examine the psychoanalytic model, especially the work of Carl Jung. The class will focus on stories, parables, myths, dreams, spiritual formation and development, healing and wholeness, and the shadow. Models will be discussed from both a theological perspective and a psychological perspective, using clinical cases and Biblical stories as the bridge.

Elective, 2 credits Spring, as requested  
Lewis

**SEPF 916 The Bible and Family Systems**  
(Also SEBO 952)

This course will provide a cultural and historical view of family systems as described in the Hebrew Bible and compare that information with contemporary family systems theory. Implications for pastoral ministry and pastoral counseling with families will be drawn from the Biblical theology of the family as developed in the course.

Elective, 2 credits Spring, as requested  
Appler

**SEPF 937 Human Sexuality**

This course will explore biological, social, psychological, and spiritual aspects of human sexuality, including sexual development, assessment of sexual dysfunction, and treatment. The process of learning will include active participation, dynamic discussion, professional videos, and lectures. As a result of this course the pastoral counselor will better understand and be prepared to begin the treatment of sexual dysfunction. Spouses are welcome to audit. Elective, 2 credits Fall, as requested  
Johanson

**SEPF 938 Psycho-Sexual and Object Relations Development**

This course will intensely explore levels of human development through the theories and insights of many of the masters i.e., Sigmund Freud, W.R. D. Fairbairn, Heinz Kohut, Otto Kernberg, Melanie Klein, Margaret Mahler and D.W. Winnicott. These masters focus on the many stages of human development. Through their theories, the student will gain understanding of healthy development and the origins of psychopathology. This will equip students to recognize the developmental stage of their clients'. The course is open to those who have a deep interest in early human development. Elective, 2 credits January as requested  
Johanson

**SEPF 951 Gender Dynamics and the Hebrew Bible** (Also SEBO 951)

[Prerequisite: No Bible background necessary but this is an upper level seminar.]  
The Church and the field of religious studies continue to be transformed by new modes of gender discourse, discourse that has arisen out of other academic fields such as philosophy and linguistics. Issues of gender continually impact the Church and its interpretation of Scripture, especially regarding discussion of God language, ordination, sexuality, and gender relations. Consequently, the goal of this course is two-fold. Initially we will explore feminist theory, men's studies, and post-modern discourse particularly as these impact our understanding/s of the cultural construction of gender, and issues of difference, essentialism, sexuality, language and power, subjectivity, and epistemology. Secondly, we will observe how biblical scholars have integrated this

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theory into their own work and how such integration has impacted the interpretations of biblical texts and the study of religion.

Elective, 2 credits Spring, as requested  
Appler

### SEPF 959 **Ericksonian Communications and Counseling**

This course is a clinical course focusing on the specific work and methodologies of Dr. Milton Erickson. It assumes that those taking the course are involved in a pastoral counseling clinical practice and/or an internship where they are seeing clients on a regular basis. The student is expected to learn the basic concepts of Ericksonian methodologies for change. The course will focus on reframing, hypnotherapy, story and metaphor, verbal and non-verbal interventions, and the language of change. Case material will be shared and reflected upon.

Elective, 2 credits As requested  
Lewis

### SEPF 963 **Addictions and Pastoral Ministry**

An exploration of the pervasiveness of addictions in society and how this phenomenon affects all of our lives, with attention to the addictions of members of congregations and communities and of the religious professionals who serve them. The dynamics of both individual and systemic patterns of addictions are considered.

Elective, 2 credits Spring  
Krausz

### SEPF 972 **Career Assessment and Vocational Counseling**

This course will examine and reflect academically, personally, and clinically on the theory and practice of adult career assessment and vocational counseling from a pastoral counseling perspective. The course will include adult career counseling theory, developmental theory, multi-cultural, gender, and dual career issues. This course fulfills a program requirement for licensure in Pennsylvania as a Professional Counselor.

Required MAPC, 3 credits Spring  
Lewis

### SEPF 976 **Professional Ethics and Counseling Practice**

This course focuses on the importance of legal, ethical, and professional issues that form the basis for

a code of ethics that protects the welfare of their clients. This code is not only the Code of Ethics of a professional association or Licensure Act, but a code by which professionals practice and hold themselves out to the public. Professional roles and responsibilities will be discussed. Students will be required to discuss legal, ethical, and professional issues with practicing therapists and counselors, and to discuss local and state laws regarding the practice of therapy and counseling.

Required MAPC, 3 credits Fall  
Johanson

### SEPF 993 **Directed Study in Pastoral Care and Counseling**

Designed to explore particular areas of importance and interest and open to students who have achieved a 3.0 average or above. Directed studies must be approved by the faculty and are not to be used as a substitute for a regularly offered course. Limited to a total of 9 credit hours per student.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Staff

## PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

### SEPM 100 **Supervised Ministry Orientation**

Supervised Ministry (field education) is required for all MDiv candidates and is coordinated with specific courses offered by instructors in pastoral theology. Students will complete this required (non-credit) orientation course prior to engaging in a Supervised Ministry placement. The course introduces MDiv students to the expectations of Supervised Ministry and meets 6 times throughout the semester in preparation for students to begin their first placement.

Required MDiv, non-credit Fall  
Stoudt

### SEPM 602 **Rhythms of the Church Year**

The course seeks to describe professional responsibility and cultivate pastoral identity by exploring the rhythms of church life throughout the program year (September to August). It will focus on seasonal concerns of church ministries

including worship, education, stewardship, evangelism, discipleship, and summer programming, plus personal concerns of the pastor including self care and professional development. In this course the student begins the journey of understanding and appreciating paid/accountable leadership in congregational ministry.

Required MDiv, 2 credits Fall  
 Stoudt and Staff

**SEPM 611 Speech Practicum**

The practicum develops the tools of verbal interpretation and applies them to the spoken parts of worship. Kinesthetics, use of objects, and extemporaneous speaking are also discussed and practiced. A Supervised Ministry placement or approved alternative is required.

Required MDiv, 1 credit Spring  
 DeRemer

**SEPM 612 Christian Worship**

Prerequisite: (Background Check, p. 50)

The course provides instruction in the theory and practice of corporate worship, including the history of worship, church music, the Christian liturgical year, the order of worship, corporate prayer, liturgical space and symbolism, the actions of the sacraments, and the language of weddings and funerals. It will give students the opportunity to begin developing a theology of worship consistent with their own denominational heritage and practice. Students will learn the building blocks related to the construction and presentation of Christian worship. A Supervised Ministry placement or approved alternative is required.

Required MDiv, 2 credits Spring  
 Stoudt and Staff

**SEPM 653 The Teaching Ministry**

Prerequisite: (Background Check, p. 50)

This interactive course will address the theoretical, theological, and practical concerns of Christian Education in the local congregation. Learners will become acquainted with the formative figures that have shaped religious education and current trends in the field. There will be opportunities to acquire and practice skills in teaching, adult discussion groups, creative Bible study, evaluation of curriculum and planning comprehensive programs

for persons from the cradle to the grave. Learners will experience “teaching from the heart,” a method which acknowledges God as the great teacher who guides and empowers Christian Education. A Supervised Ministry placement or approved alternative is required.

Required MDiv, 3 credits Fall  
 Beckwith

**SEPM 654 Preparing Laity for Discipleship**

The course explores congregational programs dedicated to developing mature, involved, effective members in the local church. It will take a detailed look at how congregations encourage lay-people to grow throughout their Christian journeys, from preparing them for active membership in the church (including baptismal instruction, catechism for confirmation, adult membership classes) to ongoing nurturing programs in discipleship, stewardship, and spiritual formation, and finally to missional programs of evangelism/social justice/ethics. A Supervised Ministry placement or approved alternative is required.

Elective, 2 credits Spring  
 Stoudt

**SEPM 655 Exploring Ministry in the Smaller Congregation**

The course will examine the theological, sociological, behavioral, and programmatic characteristics of smaller congregations. The pathways and challenges of being healthy pastors and healthy congregations will be examined. The course will utilize a field survey of a smaller congregation to analyze the way it demonstrates and/or challenges the insights from the materials studied.

Elective, 1 credit Fall  
 DeRemer

**SEPM 741 Homiletics**

Prerequisite: (Background Check, p. 50)

The course examines the historical, theoretical, and theological foundations in the discipline of preaching [homiletics]. It will encourage students to begin formulating their own personal theology of preaching that is God-centered, Bible-based, and life-focused. In every class students will also view videotapes of contemporary preaching masters, and learn the skills of critiquing sermons for self



congregations. Students will consider learning styles, faith development, curricular language, and teaching of the faith in the church and in the home. Students will compare curriculum that is grade/age-based with ones that use an intergenerational approach. Students will have the opportunity to create their own intergenerational resource for use in the church, the home or the community. This experience will include opportunities for theological reflection and practice.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Staff

**SEPM 954 Youth Ministry in the Local Congregation**

This course will challenge students to examine the theology from which they approach youth ministry and help them to place this ministry within the congregation's life. Students will study the culture of today's youth and ways to meet their needs through Sunday School, youth groups, confirmation classes, choirs, and other activities. The course will also provide a wide variety of practical information including meeting formats and administrative procedures.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Giesler

**SEPM 980 Moravian Polity and Practice**

The course focuses on the nature and responsibilities of ordained ministry in the Moravian Church; exploring the Ground of the Unity, Moravian Covenant for Christian Living, Book of Order, and other resources in light of their significance for the worldwide Unity, congregational life, an understanding of "call," and a life of ministry.

Required for Moravian Church candidates,  
Elective for others, 2 credits Fall  
Crouch

**SEPM 982 United Methodist Polity**

This course helps students to: (1) understand the historic foundation and formation of polity and church government of the United Methodist Church, and (2) explore the nature and scope of the ministry and its relation to the General Rules, the Doctrinal Standards, the Social Principles, and the

total process of Methodist polity.

Elective, 3 credits Spring, as requested  
Required for UMC MDiv candidates  
Lawfer

**SEPM 983 Presbyterian Polity**

Designed to prepare Presbyterian MDiv students to take the Standard Ordination Examination in Church Polity, this course will focus on the Form of Government, the Directory for Worship, and the Rules of Discipline of the Book of Order.

Through lectures, discussions, and case studies, students will acquire a working knowledge of the Presbyterian system as both a practical set of tools and an expression of Christian faith in the Reformed tradition.

Elective, 3 credits Spring, as requested  
Required for Presbyterian MDiv candidates  
S. Simmons

**SEPM 993 Directed Study in Pastoral Ministry**

Designed to explore particular areas of importance and interest and open to students who have achieved a 3.0 average or above. Directed studies must be approved by the faculty and are not to be used as a substitute for a regularly offered course. Limited to a total of 9 credit hours per student.

Elective, 3 credits As requested  
Staff