

Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
January Term, 2014

See J-term Grid for Dates and Times

2.310 Theology of Martin Luther King, Jr. (3 credits)

A Study of the systematic implications of the thought of Martin Luther King, Jr. as expressed in his writings and public leadership within the Civil Rights Movement from 1955 to 1968. *Fulfills either Multicultural requirement or Other Tradition requirement.*

Charles S. Brown, Payne Theological Seminary

3.700 Introduction to Preaching (1.5 credits)

This course introduces students to homiletical theory and practice. Through readings, sermon analysis, discussion and in-class preaching exercises, students study major theories and preaching practices in historical and contemporary homiletics. *This course or an equivalent is a prerequisite for all other preaching electives in the curriculum.*

Steve Loy

3.722 Preaching and Pastoral Care: Weddings, Funerals, and Baptisms (3 credits)

This course considers the vital role of preaching at times of significant life transitions and pastoral rites. Students will explore the relationship of preaching and worship and pastoral care, and the place of preaching and worship in a larger ministry of pastoral care. Prerequisite: 3.700. *Fulfills Preaching Elective.*

Bishop Craig Satterlee

4.204 Diaconal Ministry Formation Event (3 credits)

Every candidate for consecration as a diaconal minister in the ELCA must take part in a Formation Event, which provides a diaconal perspective for shaping a course of study and field experience. Participants will study the Biblical and historical roots and contemporary expressions of diaconal ministry, examine current models for ministry, and develop spiritual insights and disciplines for active ministry through worship, prayer, and group processes. *Participation in the DMFE requires a positive entrance decision and a participation fee in addition to tuition.*

Mark Oldenburg

4.314 Middle East Trip (1.5 credits)

There are few experiences more enriching to an understanding of the Bible and more formative for spiritual insight than visiting the lands where so much of biblical history occurred. The Bible speaks of the extent of the land from Dan to Beer-sheba. We will be visiting these sites and others connected with Abraham and Sarah, David and Solomon, prophets and priests, Jesus and the disciples, and forward through the Byzantine and Islamic periods to the present. While

focusing on biblical highlights of the land, the trip also engages with the cultural and religious aspects of the complicated modern situation today. The 2-week trip can be characterized more as rigorous than relaxing, but it definitely is rewarding.

Mark Vitalis Hoffman, Richard Carlson

4.400 MAR Keynote (3 credits)

This course serves as both an orientation to the MAR degree concentration in Religion and Media, and also as an orientation to the MAR program in general. It introduces the landscapes of media culture with an emphasis on active engagement in creation within those landscapes, and it also engages important theological issues raised by and in those landscapes. It examines how spiritual formation and theological reflection occur within media cultures, and raises questions around the promotion of faith in public life through media. Required for MAR students, preferably at entry into seminary. Recommended for MAMS students.

Kristin Largen/ Mary Hess

~~**4.401 Religion and 21st c. Media**~~ (3 credits)

~~This course will help students understand the landscape of 21st century media and determine strategies to maximize its effectiveness. Topics include contextual issues, the new media panoply, branding, and communicating.~~

~~Eric Shafer and Mat Tombers~~

6.217 STM Conservative Reaction in the Churches (3 credits)

The ecumenical churches have experienced considerable turmoil over their relationship to their cultural context. In the ELCA a 2009 decision to open ordination to openly gay and lesbian persons who are married or partnered resulted in the formation of two Lutheran denominations. The Episcopal Church in the USA also has experienced internal division. Missional and Renewal movements often emerge in response to these tensions, but do not resolve them. Churches in the North are also challenged by their partners in the Global South on sexuality issues in particular, making for new wrinkles in the long standing effort among the churches to come to deeper understanding across cultures. This STM course will provide students with the tools to decipher these controversies and to track the trajectory of Christian ecumenical and koinonia efforts. If any of the terms in this description are confusing to you, take the course!

Maria Erling

J-term HR Human Relations Workshop No credits/ \$100 fee

The workshop aims at exposing students to the issue of institutional racism and how it impacts on public ministry. Required before graduation for MDiv and MAMS degrees.

J-Term SR Senior Seminar: Setting up House in Ministry No credit/no cost

This seminar is designed primarily for MDiv seniors and spouses. Although not a graduation requirement, the seminar is highly recommended because of the practical nature of information presented on first call interviewing, clergy taxes, etc. Times to be announced.

