

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS JANUARY TERM, 2012

1.217 Technological Tools in Biblical Studies (1.5 credits)

Jan 17th-20th 8:30-3:15

This course will: a) explore and evaluate a variety of technologies that are useful in biblical studies including Internet resources and Bible software and then b) practice application of these resources. In particular, we will learn the best ways for conducting original language research (including Hebrew for those who do not know it) and for creating personal resources to help in preaching and teaching.

Mark Vitalis Hoffman

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

Jan 2nd 8:30-6:00; Jan 3rd-5th 8:30-8:00; Jan 6th 8:30-5:00

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

3.106a/b Portraits of Mission Strategies* (1.5 credits each; 3 credits total)

3.106a Jan 2nd-5th 8:30-3:00; Jan 6th 8:30-11:30

3.106b Jan 9th-12th 9:00-3:00; Jan 13th 9:00-12:00

This course focuses on the mission of Christian congregations. It will develop a theology of mission that can assist in bringing renewal to congregations that are stagnant, in decline or even dying. This course will process the context for evangelizing, namely the U.S. as a postmodern, post-Christian society. The course will examine the particular characteristics of the Millennialists and Gen X. One session will be a workshop done in cooperation with the staff of the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission Unit of the ELCA. *Fulfills Stewardship and Parish Ministry requirement.*

William O. Avery

* The course will be offered in two 1.5 credit segments. The first half will be “The Basics of Evangelizing” and the second half will be “Evangelizing in a Postmodern, Post-Christian Society.” The course is open to all students; first-year students must take the first-half of the course in order to be able to take the second-half. Other students may register for either half or both halves.

3.517 Caring for Dying and Bereaved (3 credits)

Jan 9th 9:00-6:00; Jan 10-12 9:00-8:00; Jan 13th 9:00-5:00

This course explores the practice of ministry (by both ministerial leaders and congregations) with dying and bereaved people at various stages of the life cycle. We will explore the theological, biblical, cultural, and psychological assumptions/convictions that our life experiences/faith communities have generated in us, in service to a theologically-informed and faithfully embodied practice of ministry. *Fulfills Pastoral Theology requirement.*

Kathleen (Kadi) Billman, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

3.548 Understanding and Preventing Sexual Abuse in the Church (1.5 credits)

Jan 9th-12th 9:00-2:30; Jan 13th 9:00-12:00

The course emphasizes the church as a place for healing and justice by raising awareness of sexual abuse and how to recognize, prevent, stop, and heal it. Topics addressed include personal and professional boundaries, roles and relationships, legal issues, congregational and ecclesiastical policies, child sexual abuse prevention, causes of sexual abuse, and healing from abuse. *Fulfills requirement for training in sexual abuse prevention.*

Warren Eshbach and Norma Wood

3.741 Preaching Controversial Topics (3 credits)

Jan 2nd-Jan 5th 8:30-8:30; Jan 6th 8:30-5:00

This course invites students at all academic levels to wrestle with the proclamation of the Gospel in juxtaposition to challenging social issues, including (but not limited to) family structure (divorce/re-marriage, cohabitation), sexuality, beginning and end-of-life issues, domestic violence, political unrest, climate change, and increasing poverty. Students will have the opportunity to explore these topics in relation to Holy Scripture and the social statements of the ELCA, and then will preach on a selected topic. Course activities will likely include several “field trips” to area agencies to gather information, as well as guest speakers. Students enrolled in this course will need to keep a flexible schedule, as one or two of the events/course meetings may take place in late afternoon or evening. *Fulfills Preaching Elective requirement.*

Angela Zimmann, Bowling Green State University

Added 13 Sept 2011

3.960 Forming Faith: Preparing Adults for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism (3 credits)

Jan 14-22

Taking place in Seattle, WA, where 90% of the population is unchurched, this innovative J-term course will be an introduction to and immersion in a process by which people who are not yet disciples of Jesus are drawn into the community of the baptized. It will explore their experiences in the Adult Catechumenate, and the effect of that process on the life of the whole church. The time will include worship at this pioneering Seattle congregation; conversations with catechumens, catechists, and congregation members; and study of the process and its history. Participants will be fully immersed into the life of the congregation during their stay in Seattle and will also take part in a national ecumenical training event on the Catechumenate during the final weekend at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church. There will be time as well to explore Seattle and its natural, cultural, and religious treasures.

The course instructors will be The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee of The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and The Rev. Paul E. Hoffman, Lead Pastor of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church in Seattle. Questions should be addressed to Pastor Hoffman at 206.783.2350 or phoffman@prlc.org

4.204 Diaconal Ministry Formation Event (3 credits)

Jan 8th-19th

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

4.3XX Multicultural Opportunities – Details to be determined with Dr. Strobert

4.311 Footsteps of Faith: Study Tour to Israel

Jan 4th-17th

The Bible comes alive in the Holy Land! This two-week travel seminar will provide geographical, historical, and cultural contexts for biblical and historical texts that shape ministry in the world today. The itinerary indicates sites we plan to visit in the Coastal Plain, Galilee, Jerusalem, and the Negev desert.

Marty Stevens

6.108 STM Gnosticism & Early Christianity (3 credits)

Jan 2nd 8:30-6:00; Jan 3rd-5th 8:30-8:00; Jan 6th 8:30-5:00

An introduction to Gnosticism(s), which emerged around the time of Christianity and Neoplatonism, and developed and intertwined with the two until being excluded by both as a heresy. Selected readings of primary texts (in English). Topics and literary corpora include: The Nag Hammadi Library, the Ante-Nicene Fathers, anti-Gnostic early Christian writers, and the Gospel of John.

Briant Bohleke

6.211 STM Pentecostalism (3 credits)

Jan 9th-12th 9:00-3:30; Jan 13th 9:00-12:30; Jan 17th-19th 9:00-3:30; Jan 20th 9:00-12:30

This course will engage participants in study of Pentecostalism as an historical movement of importance to religious and political life around the world, and to the growth and shape of the church, in either the American, or in a global context. Through investigation of the development and structure of Pentecostalism, students will study how religious experiences emerge out of, articulate, and react to social and political contexts.

Maria Erling

J-term HR Human Relations Workshop No credits

Jan 23rd-24th 9:00-4:30

The workshop aims at exposing students to the issue of institutional racism and how it impacts on public ministry. This workshop is a requirement for graduation for candidates preparing for rostered ministry: all M.Div. candidates and all MAMS candidates. The facilitators for this event are from Lutheran Human Relations.

J-Term SR Senior Seminar: Setting up House in Ministry – Clergy Compensation, Clergy Taxes, Call Process, and First Call Theological Education No credit/no cost

Jan 23rd 1:30-8:30; Jan 24th 9:00-4:30

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. The ELCA Board of Pensions will host a dinner for seniors and spouses and a representative will explain the health and retirement benefits of the ELCA.