

**UNITED LUTHERAN SEMINARY**  
**FALL 2017**

8.29.17

**Equivalencies for Prerequisites**

Course prerequisites are listed with the names of courses in the ULS curriculum. The following shows the equivalent course from the prior curricula in place at LTSG and LTSP. Other courses may serve as equivalencies for prerequisites with permission from the instructor.

<b>ULS Course Name</b>	<b>Gettysburg Course</b>	<b>Philadelphia Course</b>
The Language of the Early Church and the Church Today	Introduction to NT Greek	Any of the three courses that fulfilled the language requirement
Reading and Telling the Story	Survey of the Lands of the Bible	Survey of the Lands of the Bible
The Story of Israel	Introduction to the Old Testament	Genesis-Esther
The Story of Jesus and the Early Church	Witness of the Gospels	Gospels and Acts
Creation, Sin, and New Creation	Introduction to Systematic Theology	Theology 1: Confessing the Faith
Worshipping Community	The Church's Worship	Liturgical Formation: An Introduction to the Theology, History, and Ceremonies of Christian Worship
Preaching the Gospel	Introduction to Preaching	Preaching in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century

**Explanation of Course Numbers**

Theological Discipline Prefix:

BIB	Biblical Studies	HTH	Church History and Theology
PRA	Practical Theology	DEN	Denominational Courses

Course Numbers:

1xx	First theological degree course normally designed as introductory course
2xx	First theological degree course normally designed as following an introductory course
3xx	First theological degree course normally designed as upper-level course
7xx	Advanced degree course normally designed for STM and/or DMin

Section:

OL	Fully online course; no face-to-face meetings on either campus
R	Residential, face-to-face meetings during the semester on Gettysburg campus (RG) or on Philadelphia campus (RP)
H	Hybrid, partially online, partially face-to-face meetings on Gettysburg campus (HG) or on Philadelphia campus (HP)
SY	Synchronous, face-to-face meetings during the semester on both Gettysburg campus and Philadelphia campus; faculty will travel between locations from week to week
I	Intensive face-to-face meetings over a limited time on Gettysburg campus (IG) or on Philadelphia campus (IP)

## **BIB 100 OL The Language of the Early Church and the Church Today**

The New Testament was written in Koine Greek. As the language in which God's Living Word is communicated to us, it is imperative that we can read and understand that word as clearly as possible. The variety of English translations of the New Testament demonstrates that every translation is also an interpretation. For leaders in the Church, this course will provide the knowledge, skills, and training in software resources to work with the original language texts; awareness of the interpretive issues involved in translation; and practice in effectively communicating the Word for the church today.

*Fulfills Biblical Language requirement in former LTSP curriculum.* [No prerequisites]

Mark Vitalis Hoffman

## **BIB 101 RP & RG Reading and Telling the Story**

This course will provide an overarching survey of the Bible to equip students to understand the critical perspectives for reading the biblical texts. Learning and applying historical critical methods while also studying geographical, historical, and sociological realities of the biblical world, students will see how God's work in creation came to fulfillment in Jesus and informs the lives of Christians today. The course will benefit both readers of the text and visitors to the biblical lands. It will increase understanding both of the biblical world and of the realities in those lands today and prepare leaders faithfully to share the biblical witness in congregations today. [Prerequisite for MDiv students: The Language of the Early Church and the Church Today]

Mark Vitalis Hoffman (Gettysburg campus)/Allison deForest (Philadelphia campus)

## **BIB 150 SY Leshon HaQodesh: The Sacred Language**

Hebrew is the original language of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible, and its recovery was a central and indispensable building block of the Protestant Reformation. Students learn the basics of biblical Hebrew vocabulary and grammar and begin to sharpen their perspective on the exquisite art of translation. The course is enhanced by an orientation to Bible software tools as an aid to ongoing study of the language. *Fulfills Bible Elective.* *Fulfills Biblical Language requirement in former LTSP curriculum.* [No prerequisites]

Brooks Schramm

## **BIB 253 SY The Psalter & the Life of Faith**

This course engages the Psalms as the primal language of Jewish and Christian prayer, devotion, and piety, both corporate and personal. In this manner, the course is conceived as a language-course: an encounter with the vocabulary, phraseology, and peculiar idiom of the Psalms as they have been bequeathed to synagogue and church by ancient Israel. Perspectives from the areas of theological anthropology, systematic theology, pastoral theology, and liturgics (both Christian and Jewish) are regularly incorporated into the course. *Fulfills Bible Elective.* *Fulfills OT 2 requirement in former LTSP curriculum.* [Prerequisite: The Story of Israel]

Brooks Schramm

### **~~BIB 350 HP Making Sense of Jesus by Opening the Scriptures: The Old Testament in the New~~**

~~The earliest Christian reflection on Jesus was centered on their reading and interpretation of Scripture. This course will investigate the methods used by early Christians to understand the Old Testament and study some of the key texts that shaped the early Christian understanding of Jesus. In so doing, students will strengthen their exegetical skills for preaching and teaching of both Old and New Testament texts. *Fulfills Bible Elective.* [Prerequisites: The Language of the Early Church and the Church Today; The Story of Israel; The Story of Jesus and the Early Church]~~  
Allison deForest

### **BIB 152 RP African Presence in Scripture**

A study of African and Hamitic people in the development of the Old and New Testament religion and people, as demonstrated in the Bible. *Fulfills Bible Elective.* [Prerequisite: The Story of Israel; The Story of Jesus and the Early Church]  
Pollard (adjunct)

### **BIB 260 RP Women in the New Testament and Early Church**

The role of women in early Christianity is a topic of both historical interest and contemporary theological significance. Responsible and creative interpretation of women's stories is crucial for biblical study and for proclamation of the gospel. This course will examine the portrayal of women in New Testament and extracanonical texts through historical, literary, and reader-oriented strategies. Students will explore the relevance of these texts for understanding the lives of women in the early church and for Christian life and ministry today.  
Jennifer McNeel (adjunct)

### **HTH 100 RP & RG Creation, Sin, and New Creation**

This course introduces students to constructive and liberative theological thinking that emphasizes the inherent relationality of God, creation and humanity, and the meanings of salvation. Mindful of the world that surrounds us, in all its weakness, incompleteness, and sinfulness, we do theology by attempting our best thinking and praxis through the sources and tools that are available to us in the present time and the ways these teachings shape theology for public ministry.  
Kristin Johnston Lagen (Gettysburg campus)/Aaron Smith (Philadelphia campus)

### **HTH 101 IG AND HTH 101 OL Dynamic Faith of the Church**

Participants learn to identify, draw upon, and creatively apply, with integrity, for leadership in parish ministry and other public roles, the faith of Christian women and men from the origins of Christianity in Judaism and the Roman Empire to 1500. Participants demonstrate abilities to articulate and employ key discourses, including doctrines of God, Trinity, Christology, the Church, Sin, and Scripture; and demonstrate and employ awareness of key practices, including Baptism and Eucharist. *Fulfills History 1 requirement in former LTSP curriculum.*  
Vincent Evener, Jon Pahl

### **HTH 102 RG AND HTH 102 OL Lutheran Foundations**

This course explores the Lutheran confessional texts included in the Book of Concord as a witness to the gospel and guidance for faith and life. Through a first-hand reading of the documents, and learning about their history, context, and content, students will gain an appreciation of the historical foundations of Lutheran theology and reflect critically on the relevance of the Confessions for public ministry today. *Fulfills Theology 1 requirement in former LTSP curriculum.* [Prerequisite: Creation, Sin, and New Creation or Dynamic Faith of the Church]

Maria Erling, Kristin Johnston Lergen, Vince Evener

### **HTH 203 RP The Ecumenical Church**

This course seeks not only to analyze the history and background of the search for ecumenical understanding among the churches, but also address the challenges and opportunities regarding the possibilities for unity and concord among the churches today. Focusing on the work of the World Council of Churches, we will examine the quest for unity among the Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant and Pentecostal confessional families; understandings of worship and the sacraments; interfaith relationships and the unity of humankind; gospel and cultures; mission and conversion; and justice, peace and the integrity of creation. *Fulfills Theological Thematics for former LTSG curriculum. Substitutes for specific denominational course for students not required to take one.*

Jayakiran Sebastian

### **HTH 204 RP Scriptures of the World: Authority and Hermeneutics**

An exploration of the meaning and function of scriptures in multi-scriptural and multi-faith societies. Issues of authority, exegesis and hermeneutics of sacred texts and holy books of major world religions are explored from phenomenological, cross-cultural and theological perspectives. *Fulfills Theological Thematics for former LTSG curriculum. Fulfills Scriptures of the World requirement for former LTSP MAPL students.* [Prerequisite: Creation, Sin, and New Creation]

Paul Rajashekar

### **HTH 158 SY Introduction to Christian Ethics**

Christian ethics is that part of Christian theology that focuses on what constitutes good human living, in light of the gracious Word of God made flesh in Jesus and attested by the Holy Spirit. This course explores both (1) major theological themes guiding Christian ethics and (2) concrete issues that call out for ethical engagement by Christians. *Fulfills Public Theology course for MAML, MA, and MAPL students, Ethics Requirement for former LTSG curriculum, and Theology 3 requirement for former LTSP curriculum.* [Prerequisite: Creation, Sin, and New Creation]

John Hoffmeyer

### **HTH 200 RG An Experiential Introduction to Contemplative Christian Spirituality**

The 20th century spiritual teacher Henri Nouwen, writing about the lives of public ministers, said that one's own intimacy with God in a prayerful life is the very beginning, source, and core of her or his ministry in the world (The Living Reminder). This course will be a didactic and experiential introduction to contemplative Christian spirituality with the aim of facilitating both our individual growth in intimacy with God and the development of a resilient life of prayer. By becoming familiar with Christianity's rich spiritual tradition, and by personally "experimenting" with a variety of classical prayer-forms and disciplines, we each can begin to appropriate the church's ancient wisdom for our lives today.

John Largen (adjunct)

### **PRA 100 SY Worshipping Community**

This course aims to equip leaders to prepare worship within and with a community, drawing on the richness of the church's traditions and of the community's giftedness and context. Bringing together fruits of biblical study, church history, ecumenical theological consideration (especially of the sacraments), and pastoral care, it also draws on disciplines ranging from anthropology to neuropsychology. Students will both prepare corporate worship appropriate to their own tradition, and practice leading it.

Mark Oldenburg

### **PRA 101 OL Presence and Community**

An introduction to the foundations of pastoral theology, formation, and care, to equip participants to develop relationships of empathy and compassion with those seeking care. Students will explore various models of pastoral theology, and how they inform pastoral and community care. Students will develop a framework for understanding their own personal and pastoral formation, using the tools of family systems, narrative theory, and psychodynamic psychology. Through engagement with dynamic pastoral cases, students will develop the ability to engage in pastoral assessment, analysis, and develop a plan of care. Attention will be given to professional ethics, grief & loss, health & illness, making appropriate referrals, and the spiritual importance of self-care and boundaries. Through in vivo practice, students will continue to develop their pastoral presence, through prayer, empathy, listening, assertion, and problem solving skills, in order to respond in common pastoral, sacramental, and crisis situations. *Fulfills Pastoral Care requirement in former LTSG and LTSP curricula.*

Storm Swain

### **PRA 102 RP Church in Society**

The complex relationship between religion and society has re-emerged as a critical, sometimes volatile, social dynamic globally as well as in the North American context. This course will lay the foundations for a critical understanding of this relationship from the perspective of the Christian faith. Drawing on theological, sociological and historical sources, students will become familiar with different approaches of looking at the engagement of church and society. The complex relationships between the church and cultural contexts, government and politics will be explored as the basis for doing public theology at local, national and global levels. *Fulfills Public Theology course for MAML, MA, and MAPL students*

Katie Day

### **PRA 103 RG Rural & Small Church Ministry**

Seventy-one per cent (71%) of all congregations in the United States have fewer than 100 people in average weekly attendance (63% in ELCA). Forty-four per cent (44%) of all congregations are in rural or small town settings (47% in ELCA). Explore your reaction to social change, conflict, community patterns, and mission in rural places and small churches, including Appalachia and other regions. While readings, presentations and discussions frame the course, there are options for ethnographic field research in a setting you choose. *Fulfills Public Theology course for MAML, MA, and MAPL students and/or Church in Society requirement.*

Gilson Waldkoenig

### **PRA 104 RP Preaching the Gospel**

Preaching in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is an introduction to the theology, methods, and practice of the oral communication of the gospel. This course provides a general introduction to the task of preaching. Students will distinguish and analyze: 1) the place of preaching in the context of the worshipping assembly; 2) the theological work of preaching as part of the practice of Christian ministry; and 3) the techniques and methodologies that various preachers use in the preparation and delivery of sermons. [Prerequisite: Reading and Telling the Story]

Karyn L. Wiseman

### **PRA 106 SY Equipping the Saints: Church Administration and Leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

The focus of the course is on preparation for the administration of a congregation, particularly the identification of shared leadership with laity for evangelism, stewardship, and program planning, execution and evaluation. Pastoral responsibilities for priority setting, church and personal finances, and identification of skills among the laity are emphasized. *Fulfills Practices in Ministry-C for former LTSG curriculum and Church Administration for former LTSP curriculum.*

Charles Leonard

### **PRA 120 OL Christian Education for All Ages**

This course is geared to pastors and other congregational leaders to promote understanding of the process of learning and teaching in religious contexts and support faith formation for all ages. How can we support faith formation and Christian education so that faith will flourish, especially in a rapidly changing world? The digital age provides new opportunities and new methods to build relationships between people which are important for faith to develop and grow. We need to find new ways to encourage dialogue and community building. Improving biblical literacy and helping people use the Bible in daily life is another challenge. New assumptions and new models will be needed so that Christian education can not only inform but also form and transform.

This course will cover foundational and developmental theories of Christian education and explore what it means to “know.” It will also provide practical ideas and skills needed to provide leadership for a Christian education program and the faith formation process. Learning styles, age level characteristics and faith development of children, youth and adults will be covered. The challenge of life long faith formation for adults will be addressed. Elements of intergenerational learning will be explored and ideas given on how to use this approach. Practical methods and current challenges will be discussed such as using digital methods, finding resources, evaluating curriculum, developing curriculum, building an educational ministry team, and helping parents teach faith at home.

Diane Shallue

### **PRA 172 RP The Church and the Holocaust**

This integrative seminar will review the history of the Holocaust, and explore the complex and varied role of the Church leading up to the establishment of the Third Reich until the post-war period. We will consider the genocides which have continued in Europe and Africa despite the pledge of “never again!” and the call of the Church to respond. Note that a trip to the U.S. Memorial Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. is required. *Fulfills Public Theology requirement for MAML, MA, and MAPL students and Senior Seminar in Public Theology for former LTSP curriculum.*

Katie Day

### **PRA 180 HP Emerging Trends in Preaching**

A look at trends in 21st century preaching, including cutting edge formats, use of social media and technology, engaging new delivery modes, and trends from the contemporary and Emerging Church. Analysis of how preachers need to engage issues of Postmodernity and changing modes of engagement will be explored. Students will be expected to preach. *Fulfills Preaching Elective in former LTSG curriculum.*

[Prerequisite: Preaching the Gospel]

Karyn L. Wiseman

### **PRA 194 IG Certificate in Congregational Faith Formation**

The 16-day course in congregational faith formation includes hands-on education emphasizing small groups, community development and relational ministry as a way to engage congregations in faith formation (also known as Christian Education.) The days of classroom work include Biblical and theological training, cultural analysis, long range planning, family ministry, Christian Education and lots of how-to strategies. This course is scheduled to meet 2 days a month from September – April (Friday-Saturday). The scope of this course is for faith formation for children, youth and young adults, but can be easily used with adults. Registration for the course takes place in the fall semester; a grade will be given at the close of the spring semester. *Fulfills Congregation Formation and Education requirement and Christian Education for former LTSG curriculum.*

Chelle Huth (adjunct)

### **DEN 150 RP African Methodist Episcopal Polity**

A survey of the history and polity of the African Methodist Episcopal church.

Janet Sturdivant (adjunct)

### **DEN 170 RP Baptist Polity**

This course is a study of the basic history, structure, mission, and theological standards of the Baptist Church. In addition, Baptist government, worship, practices, polity, structure, doctrine, and processes that are part of the Baptist Church will be studied. One will see how various Baptist churches work and how to utilize the resources of Baptist polity to help churches be more effective. One will also discover what Baptists believe as a denomination and how doctrine informs what and who Baptists are.  
Wayne Croft

### **DEN 160 RP Essentials of Anglicanism: Back to Front & Inside Out**

The course will focus on the formation of Anglican and Episcopal identity, responsibility, authority, collegiality and accountability through engagement with both primary sources, major texts, and various articles. A seminar for students with little previous study of Anglicanism serious about appropriating the fundamentals of Anglican church history, spirituality and theology and being prepared, in turn, to teach lay inquirers' or ecumenical classes on Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church, to preach sermons grounded in an Anglican theological perspective, and to lead liturgy as a lay person. The course also lays a significant part of a basic foundation for students who will take the General Ordination Examinations.  
Storm Swain

### **DEN 162 HP The Books of Common Prayer: History, Theology and Practice**

A study of the development, evolution, theology and ceremonial uses of the various editions of The Book of Common Prayer, with particular emphasis on the English and American editions. This class is recommended for Episcopal students and those in full communion who may function in Episcopal settings.  
J. Barrington Bates (adjunct)

## **STM/DMIN COURSES**

### **BIB 751 OL STM/DMIN: Where Scripture and Science Meet**

The goal of this course is to help students discover and refine their ideas about the relationship between science and the biblical narrative and develop and practice strategies for conversations on this subject with those they serve. This will be accomplished through discussing the possible relationships between science and faith, practicing reading methods using important passages in Scripture, and dialoging with other students about such conversations in their various contexts. *Students in first professional degree programs (MDiv, MAML, MA) need permission from the instructor to register.*  
Allison deForest

### **BIB 752 IP STM/DMIN: Living in the Biblical World: Creation and Social Order**

The Bible portrays a world created by God and ordered in its social structures by God's will. We are invited to find ourselves within that world and to learn to live within it as God's gift to us. Participants in the course will discuss together important biblical texts that describe and evoke the biblical world. A key part of the course will be discerning how the biblical world and our own intersect to form our own contemporary experience. *Students in first professional degree programs (MDiv, MAML, MA) need permission from the instructor to register.*

Bob Robinson

### **PRA 751 RG STM/DMIN: Preaching Across the Divide**

This course invites students 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 other church bodies, and then will preach on selected topics. Course activities will likely include several "field trips" to area agencies to gather information, as well as guest speakers. *Students in first professional degree programs (MDiv, MAML, MA) need permission from the instructor to register. Fulfills Public Theology course for MAML, MA, and MAPL students.*

Angela Zimmann

### **PRA 752 IP STM/DMIN: Many Reformations: The Church's Liturgy in History**

This course will examine the timeline of Christian history with particular emphasis on events and personalities that invoked major liturgical changes about every four hundred years. At the end, we will discuss how learnings can be applied to current-day worship, with a particular emphasis on how liturgy promotes God's justice and forms Christians for the work of transforming the world. Modules: the Early Church, Constantine, Charlemagne, the Fourth Lateran Council, the Protestant Reformation, the Liturgical Movement, and Application Today. *Students in first professional degree programs (MDiv, MAML, MA) need permission from the instructor to register.*

J. Barrington Bates (adjunct)

Note: STM/DMin students may also register for first-professional degree, non-introductory classes. Faculty will provide an appropriate STM/DMin syllabus for the class upon request.