

NEW YORK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

...continuing *The Biblical Seminary in New York*

NYTS Course List: Spring 2020

As of 12/18/19

All classes are held at Riverside Church unless otherwise noted
(Enter through 91 Claremont Ave. at W. 121 St. (between Broadway & Riverside Dr.; take elevators on the left side)

MONDAY COURSES: Jan. 27 – May 11 (6 pm – 9:30 pm) unless otherwise noted

BBH2024: Job Through the Centuries; 4 Cr. (Bible Elective)

Prof. Jin Hee Han jhan@nyts.edu

NYTS Conference Room A

The book of Job is much more than a story of a suffering person. Through the centuries, this book, “one of the grandest things ever written with a pen” (Thomas Carlyle), has helped us to ask where God is in this bruised universe. In this course, we approach it from the perspective of “reception history,” which investigates how ordinary people in many times and cultures have interpreted the story of Job and his innocent suffering. Job has a rich history in this regard as a companion to those who have experienced or witnessed unspeakable sufferings. Our exploration will take us through ancient and modern examples inspired by Job. For example, we will listen to the aria, “I know that my Redeemer liveth,” in George Frederic Handel’s oratorio *Messiah* and ponder on Job 19:25. We will struggle to decide whether we should smile or sob when we come upon Virginia Woolf’s letter of 1922, in which she says, “I read the book of Job last night. I don’t think God comes out well in it.” Medieval people will invite us to remember Job as the patron saint of lepers. Jewish people will share how they turn to the book in remembrance of the fall of Jerusalem and how they mourn for the victims of the Holocaust in front of Nathan Rapoport’s bronze statue of Job at Yad Vashem National Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem. The same statue also stands in Forest Park in the Borough of Queens, New York City. We will let the canonical book of Job and its readers accompany us in our own search for the meaning of life in the world where no living being is a stranger to suffering.

MPC2824: Psychology and Religion; 4 Cr. (Elective)

Prof. Ron Baard baard.ron@gmail.com

Rm. 330

This foundational course in theology and psychology introduces students to an emerging field in theological education that focuses on the healing and liberation of oppressed persons and communities. This interdisciplinary exploration will be pursued through readings as well as reflective and experiential educational approaches. We will study psychology and the psychoanalytic tradition in dialogue with prophetic theology, considering the ways in which theology and pastoral/spiritual work can learn from each other, especially in the context of 21st century America. The practice of mutual transformation is critical for pastoral and spiritual formation and community counseling. The class will be offered in a hybrid style – the first and last meetings of the class, and several in between, will be face-to-face in the classroom, while the remaining sessions of the class will be offered through distance learning modules on MOODLE.

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

Prof. Tamara Henry thenry@nyts.edu

Rm. 316

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

TTU2074: Womanist Theology: Katie Canon and the Ministry of Mentoring; 4 Cr. (Elective)

Prof. Wanda Lundy wlundy@nyts.edu

Rm. 318

This is a survey course in Womanist Theology that places the moral agency of African American women at the center of human social relations and ecclesiastical institutions. We will develop a range of tools, conceptual and practical, by which to assess various visions of liberation and mentoring. The theological and ethical work of the late, great Professor Katie Canon, a pioneer in Womanist Theology, will be featured in our reading and class presentations.

TUESDAY COURSES: Jan. 28 – May 12 (6pm– 9:30pm unless otherwise noted)

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

Prof. Jermaine Marshall

Rm. 411

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

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

Prof. Nancy Fields nfields@nyts.edu

Rm. 330 (Break-out rooms: 318, 320 & 321)

Students will develop a critical analytical perspective on relational life in the context of the local church. Special attention will be given to the role of worship, polity and congregational history.

MRL2224: Urban Leadership & Preaching in the Context of Millennials and the Emerging Church; 4 Cr. (Elective)

Prof. Humberto Alfaro halfaro@nyts.edu

Rm. 316

What is the future of religion and leadership in America and what role will Millennials play in that? In making church relevant, window dressing and traditional preaching won't help. What is required is a thoroughgoing re-imagining of how truth is experienced and communicated in fluidity and conceptualized in a hyper-pluralized synergistic world. While Millennials dislike being condensed to a list, there are some important questions that we will explore in this course: Why modern Christianity and preaching, including in the urban context, doesn't speak to Millennials, who are concurrently functional atheists and potential spiritual mystics? Why Millennials are *explorers and not dwellers*? *How can Millennials express doubts, real ones, to a church that pretends to have no doubts?* *Why Millennials want to nurture community instead of the corporatization of religion?* *Why Millennials prioritize relationships instead of institutional contracts?* *Why Millennials insist on authenticity?* *Why Millennials are obsessed by beauty and idealism?* How do we preach, teach, lead and minister in such a context will be the focal point of this course that fulfills MDiv preaching requirement and is an elective in the MARLA program.

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

Prof. Stephani N. Arel

snarel@bu.edu

Rm. 314

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

WEDNESDAY COURSES: Jan. 29 – May 13 (6 pm – 9:30 pm) unless otherwise noted

BBH2504: The Sermon on the Mount: Jesus's Introduction to Liberation Theology; 2 or 4 Cr. (Bible Elective)

Prof. Peter Heltzel

pheltzel@nyts.edu

Rm. 240

This course will introduce the themes of Liberation Theology as reflected in the New Testament teachings of Jesus in his longest, most legendary sermon: the "Sermon on the Mount," found in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapters 5 - 7. This course will prepare students to critically engage in the 2020 NYTS Annual Bible Conference, which is focused on the topic of "Liberation Hermeneutics." Students will be able to take this class for two credits up through the Bible Conference or for four credits, if they stay in the class after the Bible Conference through the end of the semester.

MMW2634: Baptist Polity and History; 4 Cr. (Elective)

Prof. Keith Russell

krussell@nyts.edu

Rm.314

The course on Baptist history and Polity will survey developments in Baptist life from the 16th century through the 21st century with an emphasis on contemporary ecclesiological issues and challenges. This course will be assisted by on-line learning resources as well as lectures and discussions. We will work in a seminar style with each student expected to write a significant paper on an issue in either Baptist history or Polity as approved by the instructor.

MRE2324: Developmental Perspectives in Christian Education; 4 Cr. (Elective)

Prof. Tamara Henry thenry@nyts.edu

Rm. 323

This course involves an examination of developmental theories and their application in religious education. The study will involve an integration of the social science disciplines in human development with particular emphasis on the role of the family, church, and society in helping to shape the behavioral, cultural and faith development of individuals.

MYM1024: Psychology of Adolescence; 4 Cr. (Elective)

Prof. Jamila N. Codrington jncodrin@yahoo.com

Rm. 321

The general purpose of this course is to facilitate an understanding of the psychological, biological, cognitive, emotional, personality, and social changes that occur during adolescence. The course will explore the effects of heredity, culture, social environment, moral development, gender role issues, sexuality, racism and discrimination, family relationship issues, peers, and psychopathology on adolescent development. Particular attention will be paid to adolescent issues within the urban subculture and their impact on youth spirituality.

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

Prof. Moses Biney mbiney@nyts.edu

Rm. 330 (Break out rooms: 316, 318 & 320)

The central purpose of this course is the study of congregations in their contexts. It will explore the ways congregations interact with social/urban structures. Through lectures, discussions and ethnographic research, we will find out how congregations, particularly those in the New York metro area, minister to their neighborhoods and also how changes in the neighborhoods affect these congregations. At another level, we will also study “how to study” congregations and also study the dynamic interactions between religious institutions and their environment and ways in which social dynamics shape/inform/impact their synergistic relationships.

THURSDAY COURSES: Jan. 23 – May 7 (6 pm – 9:30 pm) unless otherwise noted

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

Prof. Efrain Agosto eagosto@nyts.edu

Rm. 330 (Break-out rooms: 314, 316, & 318)

This course is an introduction to the canonical writings of the Second Testament (New Testament) with particular attention to narrative and epistolary genres. Each document of the New Testament will be surveyed for its historical background, basic structure, and overall message. Some attention will be given to reading strategies for the various genres of the New Testament.

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

Prof. Jill Schaeffer jschaeffer@nyts.edu Rm. 311 (Break-out rooms: 320, 321 & 323)

This course is an overview of the field of Christian social ethics with some special attention paid to biomedical issues. This survey necessitates a brief examination of Christian doctrine, western religious and social thought. Our task is to discover how people, past and present, engage (d) in ethical reflection, moral reasoning, social critical analysis, and ethical action for the just resolution of social conflict. Of particular interest is an examination of the West's historic understandings of morality, ethical actions, institutions, culture, society, the "poor," the state, and how these other institutions effect modern life.

Certain issues of personal morality will not be intentionally addressed in this course, such as the psychodynamic dimensions of "personal" decisionism, individualistic understandings of salvation, sanctification, truth telling, or loyalty to personal codes of morality; these equally important issues are presumed to be covered elsewhere in the curriculum. The readings are designed to challenge participants to rethink their understanding of moral community life, and to rethink the places and ways in which religious teachings, practices, and beliefs affect that life. Participants are encouraged to personally and actively engage in the painful business of ethical reflection and to commit themselves to an active life of moral struggle. In short, this course requires a bit of courage.

TTU3294: Theological Imagination and Process Thought; 4 cr. (Theology elective)

Prof. Rafael Reyes III rreyes@nyts.edu Rm. 411

This seminar will look at the theological imagination, here defined as the images and concepts of God and God's interaction in the world. We will look at the axial shifts of thought which affect the Theological imagination in its medieval, modern and contemporary stages. Following Gordon Kaufman's thought that the central task of theology is to construct an image/concept of God appropriate to contemporary life, we will discuss some of the components of Process thought and how it challenges the theological imagination for our current time. Pre-requisite: TTU1014

CPE1002: Foundations in Chaplaincy Ministry, 2 Cr. (Elective)

Prof. Nancy Fields nfields@nyts.edu NYTS Room 500, Conf. Rm. B
Thursdays (6-9:30pm): Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27; March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9, 23, 30; May 7, 14

You must be approved by Dr. Nancy Fields in order to register for this introductory course on the ministry of institutional chaplaincy. Please contact Dr. Nancy Fields at 212-870-1269 or nfields@nyts.edu for approval **BEFORE** registering. This course will include:

- Group Educational Classes: 3 hours per week
- Individual Session: 10 individual sessions; 30 minutes each
- Clinical Practice in Ministry: 6 hours per week of clinical practice at select clinical placement sites.

OTHER COURSES:**STUDY TOUR:****ILE4062: Going Home: Civil Rights & the Northern Story; 2 Cr. (Elective)**

Prof. Wanda Lundy & Eleanor Moody-Shepherd wlundy@nyts.edu

Dates: April 13-19, 2020

Additional Costs: Each person is responsible for paying their own food and museum costs: about \$500

Come and join us on a civil rights journey in the North. Just as we do in the Going Home: Civil Rights & Southern Religion journey, we will walk the freedom trails together and listen to the wisdom of the land and our ancestors. The New York Race riots of 1964 highlighted the racial injustice and growing civil unrest existing in northern cities and served as a powerful indicator of the urgent need for social and economic reforms for African American communities outside of the South.¹ This class is a journey into the paradoxes of Northern religion, from the racist violence of the K.K.K. to the prophetic action of African American men, women and organizations that represented justice and freedom in the North. It will include a week-long field trip to sites in the tri-state area New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. The question we will continuously wrestle with is, "What lessons can we learn from yesterday that will inform the work we must do together today that will lead to a better tomorrow?"

SUPERVISED MINISTRY:

Supervised Ministry Dates: Feb. 15; Mar. 14; Apr. 11; May 9 (9:30 am-1:30 pm)
Prof. Nancy Fields nfields@nyts.edu Rm. 411 (Break-Out rooms: 320, 321 & 323)

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

SMN1002: Supervised Ministry 1; 2 Cr. (Yr. C, Required)
SMN2002: Supervised Ministry 2; 2 Cr. (Yr. C, Required)
SMN3002: Supervised Ministry 3; 2 Cr. (Yr. D, Required)
SMN4002: Supervised Ministry 4; 2 Cr. (Yr. D, Required)

TUTORIAL COURSES:

MPC3012: MAPCC Capstone Project; 2 Cr. (Required for MAPCC; Prerequisite: MPC300)

Prof. Jin Han jhan@nyts.edu

Dates: 2/1, 22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM)

Rm. 318

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

MRE3012: MARE Capstone Project; 2 Cr. (Required for MARE; Prerequisite: MRE300)

Prof. Tamara Henry thentry@nyts.edu

Dates: 2/1, 22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM)

Rm. 316

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

MRL3012: MARLA Capstone Project; 2 Cr. (Required for MARLA; Prerequisite MRL300)

Prof. Alfred Johnson ajohnson@nyts.edu

Dates: 2/1, 22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM)

Rm. 314

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

MYM3012: MAYM: Capstone Project; 2 Cr. (Required for MAYM; Prerequisite: MYM300)

Prof. Tamara Henry thentry@nyts.edu

Dates: 2/1, 22; 3/7, 21; 4/4 (from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM)

Rm. 316

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

TMU5012: CREDO; 2 Cr. (Yr. D, Required for M.Div.; Graduating Seniors only; On-Line Tutorial)

Prerequisite: TMU500: Practice of Prophetic Ministry

Students must submit a Credo Reader form to the PPM professor in the fall

Credo Submission Deadline: April 1.

Profs. Rafael Reyes & Keith Russell rreyes@nyts.edu; krussell@nyts.edu

The student will prepare a systematic presentation of his/her own beliefs developed out of work done in the Practice of Prophetic Ministry. The student will seek to analyze, integrate, and evaluate his/her experience of theological education as it relates to the contemporary practice of Christian ministry. The work culminates in a major paper of 60 to 70 pages, which systematically discusses the student's own belief and practice.