

AST GRADUATE COURSES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

Please note: *Students are responsible for locating and purchasing their own books for all courses. AST does not have a bookstore and does not order books for you to purchase. To find the list of books you will need for your courses, consult the “Students” page on the AST website, and click on “Textbooks.”*

Course Descriptions

These courses serve the Master of Divinity program, the Master of Arts (Theology and Religious Studies) program, and the Graduate Certificate Program in Theological Studies.

Numbering for Courses:

1000 numbers: Foundation level.

2000 numbers: no prerequisites for this course.

3000 numbers: prerequisites as listed.

Abbreviations for Courses:

BF - Biblical Foundations

CH - Church History

ET - Ethics

HB - Hebrew Bible

GS - Graduate Project and Seminar

GTRS - Graduate Theology and Religious Studies

NT - New Testament

PF - Pastoral Foundations/Preaching Foundations

PT - Pastoral Theology

RM - Research Methods and Practices

SFE - Supervised Field Education

SME - -- Supervised Ministry Education

SMP- Supervised Ministry Practicum

ST - Systematic Theology

TF - Theological Foundations

WF - Worship Foundations

(Int) designates courses taught asynchronously via the internet.

(Hyb) designates hybrid courses for which students are required to attend on campus or in the virtual online classroom in real time according to the AST Timetable of courses.

Descriptions of prerequisites, teaching methods, and requirements are summary statements only and are subject to revision.

Changes may be made in course offerings and instructors due to registration numbers, ongoing curriculum revision and faculty availability. The alpha and numeric designations for courses will be used on the timetables. A combination of alpha abbreviations means that the course may be considered in one of the subject areas for degree and certificate program purposes.

AST students who wish to take graduate courses at another accredited university toward completion of AST program requirements require a Letter of Permission from AST (see “Letter of Permission for External Courses” in Academic Policies and Regulations).

Additional Course Offerings and Updates for 2020-2021

For course information not provided in this Calendar and any changes or updates in course offerings please contact the Registrar’s Office or AST’s website for updates. Timetables for each term are available through the Registrar’s Office and AST’s website.

Foundation Courses (Summer, Fall and Winter Terms)

BF 1001

Biblical Foundations: Hebrew Bible (F-20)

The First Testament of Christian Scripture is a fundamental part of Christian tradition and durable rule of faith and practice. Students in this course will therefore be introduced to historical and literary data important for understanding the origins of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and its function as scripture in a variety of contexts. The outlook will be broadly ecumenical, with case studies that exemplify Jewish and Christian interpretation. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Weekly readings, weekly discussions, a presentation, two short papers.

Instructor: D. Driver

BF 1002

Biblical Foundations: New Testament (W-21)

This course will introduce the major methods and critical-theological issues in Gospel interpretation. The Gospel of Matthew will be the focus for this study. The course will also introduce the use of a major Gospel commentary and the use of it in the exegesis and use of Matthean texts in bible study and preaching.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Weekly readings in the biblical text and textbooks, class preparation and participation, written assignments.

Instructor: TBA

PF 1001(Int)

Pastoral Foundations (F-20)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to pastoral ministry by exploring practical theology. Practical theology is not simply the practical application of abstract theological theories; it is a way of doing theology that connects theory with practice, action with reflection, in service of the church and the world.. This course will explore contemporary methods and themes of practical theology with a focus on assessing, interpreting, and contributing to the current state of the church and the world. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Reading and short responses, brief essay, final project and class presentations.

Instructor: S. Willhauck

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

RM 1000

Research Methods and Practices (S-20 & F-20)

In this course, students will learn foundational methods and practices for graduate level research in theology, including information literacy; critical reading and reflection, citation style and standards; plagiarism and academic integrity; and the competencies required for basic qualitative research including methodologies such as Phenomenology, Ethnography, Narrative Analysis, and Qualitative Case Study.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Attendance at all classes. Assessment includes in-class exercises, quizzes, short and mid-length written projects.

Instructors: R. Martel & L. McKeen

TF 1000

Theological Foundations (S-20 & F-20)

This course introduces the key themes, methods, doctrines, and technical terms (vocabulary) of Christian theology, and fosters habits of theological thinking. The readings include a text that offers a broad introduction to systematic and historical theologians and theological movements, and occasional essays by Patristic and contemporary theologians.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Critical questions, seminar leadership, short essay, creative project.

Instructor: A. Faber

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

WF 1000

Worship Foundations (W-21)

In this course students will examine the biblical, historical and theological roots of our common worship as the foundation of their own particular worship traditions. They will also explore liturgical theology and worship practice as expressions of Christian discipleship within their own churches and in the world. Non-Christian faith/religious traditions will also be considered. Current issues in liturgy and theology including questions of ecumenism and mutual hospitality in worship will be explored. The skills and presence needed and exercised by worship leaders and presiders will be worked on in lab sessions.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Weekly readings, small papers, in-class assignments, and labs.

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

MDiv Program Required Courses

Denominational Formation Program Credit

MDiv students receive one credit (pass/fail) for active participation in the denominational formation program throughout their studies. This credit is registered and paid for in the final term (usually Winter Term) of the MDiv Program. Students not affiliated with one of AST's three founding traditions should consider a directed study in their own spiritual and religious tradition to meet this requirement.

DF 3000(ACC)

Formation Program (Anglican Church of Canada) (W-21)

The course aims to guide students in the formation of their own identity as an ordained minister, as they integrate their own gifts, passions, and challenges with the church's expectations of the role. We will explore the theological foundation and practical responsibilities of ministry, but also the student's own spiritual growth into this new role.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000. Permission of sponsoring bishop.

Requirements: Attendance at and participation in all classes, the weekly AST Anglican eucharist, and community events.

To counterbalance the high number of classroom hours, readings will be kept to a minimum to prepare for class discussion. The major assignment for the class is a self-reflective paper to be written in three parts over the three years of the program.

Instructor: P. Jennings

Note: Students register for DF 3000(ACC) credit in final term of the MDiv Program.

DF 3000 (RCC)

Formation Program (Roman Catholic Church) (W-21)

This course will help students to bring together their theoretical learnings with their pastoral practice to better equip and engage them in the life of ministry as an individual and as part of a parish community in the Roman Catholic context. Students will discern and develop their gifts through prayer, reflection, and small group discussion to explore how they live and share the mission of Christ.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: There will be weekly reflection assignments.

Instructor: A. Sadi

Note: Students register for DF 3000(RCC) credit in final term of the MDiv Program.

DF 3000(UCC)

Formation Program (United Church of Canada) (W-21)

Through guest speakers, visits to local sites of interest, discussion, small groups, readings and worship, students explore the deepening of their call to ordered ministry within the United Church of Canada and the impact of faith on life and leadership. Must be taken on campus for residential students and online for summer distance students.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Attendance and participation; shared worship leadership; integrative essay.

Instructor: R. Bartlett

Note: Students register for DF 3000(UCC) credit in final term of the MDiv Program.

GS 3000A&B

Graduate Project and Seminar (F-20 & W-21)

The Graduate Project and Seminar is a required course for the MDiv program and may be taken in the MA program. This course will provide students with opportunities for in-depth exploration of questions emerging from the practice of ministry. Each project will be based in a research context chosen by its author. With support of peers and the instructor, students will develop their project proposal. After approval by the AST Research Ethics Board, students will then research, draft, present, and evaluate their projects. Students will become familiar with current trends in qualitative research methodologies. They will also sharpen their capacity to analyze phenomena in ministry. Participants are expected to demonstrate in a public event the results of original research that has consequence for the student and the wider church.

1 credit for GS 3000A

1 credit for GS 3000B

Prerequisites for GS 3000A for MDiv students: All Foundations courses and RM 1000 and SMP 2000 or SFE 2002.

Prerequisite for GS 3000A for MA students: GTRS 6000.

Prerequisite for GS 3000B for MDiv and MA students: GS 3000A.

Requirements: Research Ethics Board proposal, field research, public presentation, and final paper.

Instructor: D. Csinos

Note: This course is taken in the final year of the MDiv program. MA students who have another master's degree in theology may be enrolled with permission from the instructor.

GS 3000A & 3000B(Int)

Graduate Project and Seminar (S-20 & F-20)

The Graduate Project and Seminar is a required course for the MDiv program and may be taken in the MA program. This course will provide students with opportunities for in-depth exploration of questions emerging from the practice of ministry. Each project will be based in a research context chosen by its author. With support of peers and the instructor, students will develop their project proposal. After approval by the AST Research Ethics Board, students will then research, draft, present, and evaluate their projects. Students will become familiar with current trends in qualitative research

methodologies. They will also sharpen their capacity to analyze phenomena in ministry. Participants are expected to demonstrate in a public event the results of original research that has consequence for the student and the wider church.

1 credit for GS 3000A

1 credit for GS 3000B(Int)

Prerequisites for GS 3000A for MDiv students: All Foundations courses and RM 1000 and SMP 2000 or SFE 2002.

Prerequisite for GS 3000A for MA students: GTRS 6000.

Prerequisite for GS 3000B(Int) for MDiv and MA students: GS 3000A.

Requirements: Research Ethics Board proposal, field research, public presentation, and final paper.

Instructor: D. Csinos

GS 3000A is offered on campus in the Summer Term 2020.

GS 3000B(Int) is offered asynchronously via the internet in Fall Term 2020.

Note: This course is taken in the final year of the MDiv program. MA students who have another master's degree in theology may be enrolled with permission from the instructor.

SFE 1000

Supervised Field Education (W-21)

This course is about the disciplined study of ministry as it is lived out in the lives of ministerial personnel and people. Supervised Field Education provides students with a context within which they can explore, practice, and reflect on the nature of ministry, congregational life, worship, and mission. This action/reflection format focuses on the leadership needs of the church. SFE 1000 prepares students for SFE 2001 and SFE 2002. This course will also cultivate praxis theology, in which lived experience is correlated and integrated with theological reflection.

1 credit

Prerequisites: PF 1001. Students registered in this course must be interviewed by the instructor prior to placement. The instructor may require further studies or reflection prior to acceptance into the course and placement in a learning site.

Requirements: Participants will develop a learning covenant between themselves and their supervisor. Students will be expected to be active members of the parish/congregational setting. They will be expected to preach at least once, explore Christian education, and participate as a leading-learner within the parish/congregation. An on-campus seminar is part of the course, including theological reflection papers, seminar presentation, and class participation.

Instructor: K. Wagner

SFE 2001 and 2002

Supervised Field Education (F-20 & W-21)

Fall Term: Building on SFE 1000, students will normally remain in their 1st year site and continue to deepen relationships in the community through worship leadership and a focus on pastoral care. Learning goals and weekly reflective meetings with the supervisor are required. Experiences are shared and evaluated from pastoral, formational and theological perspectives in peer groups. A passing grade is required from the site supervisor and in the seminar to receive credit.

Winter Term: Continued participation in the life of the congregation or parish. Students will plan, carry out and evaluate an education event using a curriculum they have designed. Continued work on learning goals and weekly reflective meetings with the supervisor are to be held as well as reflective work in peer groups. Again, students must complete both the site component and the school component satisfactorily to receive credit.

1 credit for SFE 2001

1 credit for SFE 2002

Prerequisites for SFE 2001: PF 1001 and SFE 1000 or equivalent, or permission of the instructor.

Prerequisites for SFE 2002: SFE 2001 or permission of the instructor.

Requirements for SFE 2001: Leadership in worship and preaching, pastoral care assignments, a minimum of 9 weekly integrative seminars during the term, a weekly 1-hour session with supervisor and a minimum of 8 hours on-site experience weekly. Normally students must pass all required components of SFE to receive credit for the course.

Requirements for SFE 2002: Leadership in worship and preaching, pastoral care assignment and educational project, a minimum of 9 weekly integrative seminars during the term, a weekly 1-hour session with supervisor and a minimum of 8 hours on-site experience weekly. Weekly readings for class.

Instructor: S MacAlpine-Gillis

Summer Distance MDiv Program Required Supervised Ministry Practicum Courses

SMP 1000(Int)

Supervised Ministry Practicum (F-20 & W-21)

The course is required for all Summer Distance M.Div. students, and is open only to students in that program. It is the first half of a two-year cycle of courses (followed by SMP 2000) that provides the online seminar component for students undertaking ministry placements at a distance from campus. The focus is on theological, pastoral, and personal reflection on the practice of ministry, and the integration of academic and pastoral concerns. Students enrolling in this course must have an approved ministry placement (paid or unpaid) and a local ministry supervisor prior to beginning this course. Completion of both fall and winter terms of SMP 1000 are required to earn one credit.

1 credit

This is a full-year course from September to April. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: TBA

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

SMP 2000(Int)

Supervised Ministry Practicum (F-20 & W-21)

The course is required for all Summer Distance M.Div. students, and is open only to students in that program. As the sequel to SMP 1000, it is the second half of a two-year cycle of courses that provides the online seminar component for students undertaking ministry placements at a distance from campus. The focus is on theological, pastoral, and personal reflection on the practice of ministry, and the integration of academic and pastoral concerns. Students enrolling in this course must have an approved ministry placement (paid or unpaid) and a local ministry supervisor prior to beginning this course. Completion of both fall and winter terms of SMP 2000 are required to earn one credit.

1 credit

This is a full-year course from September to April. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.

Prerequisites: SMP 1000.

Requirements: TBA.

Instructor: TBA

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

SME 3000(Int)

Supervised Ministry Education (F-20 & W-21)

The course is required for all United Church of Canada Summer Distance M.Div. students, and is open only to United Church students in that program except by special permission. It is the first half of a two-year cycle of courses (followed by SME 4000) that provides the online seminar component for students undertaking Supervised Ministry Experience placements (SME), formerly known as "internship." The focus is on theological, pastoral, and personal reflection on the practice of ministry within the United Church, and the integration of academic and pastoral concerns. Students enrolling in this course must have an Office of Vocation-approved SME placement and a local ministry supervisor prior to beginning this course. Completion of both fall and winter terms of SME 3000 are required to earn one credit, and both SME 3000 and SME 4000 must be completed to fulfill denominational SME requirements.

1 credit

This is a full-year course from September to April. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.

Prerequisites: SMP 2000.

Requirements: TBA.

Instructor: TBA

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

SME 4000(Int)

Supervised Ministry Education (F-20 & W-21)

The course is required for all United Church of Canada Summer Distance M.Div. students, and is open only to United Church students in that program except by special permission. As the sequel to SME 3000, it is the second half of a two-year cycle of courses that provides the online seminar component for students undertaking Supervised Ministry Experience placements (SME), formerly known as "internship." The focus is on theological, pastoral, and personal reflection on the practice of ministry within the United Church, and the integration of academic and pastoral concerns. Students enrolling in this course must have an Office of Vocation-approved SME placement and a local ministry supervisor prior to beginning this course. Completion of both fall and winter terms of SME 4000 are required to earn one credit, and both SME 3000 and SME 4000 must be completed to fulfill denominational SME requirements.

1 credit

This is a full-year course from September to April. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.

Prerequisites: SMP 3000 or SME 3000.

Requirements: TBA.

Instructor: TBA

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

MA (Theology and Religious Studies) Required Course

GTRS 6000(Hyb)

Theory and Methods in Theology and Religious Studies (F-20)

Theology and Religious Studies are multidisciplinary fields of inquiry. Theology is the scholarly exposition of the practices and thought of religious practitioners. Religious Studies considers religions in their diverse cultural and social settings. The course requires students to study and compare the theories and methods of Theology and Religious Studies.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Argument maps, seminar participation and leadership, response paper, short book review essay.

Instructors: A. Faber & A. Hussain

This is a hybrid course for which students are required to attend on campus or in the virtual online classroom in real time according to the AST Timetable of courses.

Elective Courses for all Programs

Summer Term 2020 Elective Courses (Listed alphabetically by subject area)

DSSt 2047

Directed Study: Divine Renovation - Rediscovering the Missional Church (S-20)

Be inspired and equipped to help your parish/congregation to move from a maintenance mode of church to a missional approach to life and ministry. This unique study opportunity includes full participation in the Divine Renovation Conference in Halifax, June 15-18, 2020, as well as online seminars before and after (to be arranged). The course focuses on nurturing new disciples, encouraging faith formation, and leadership. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: A learning covenant will include readings, pre and post event seminars, two reflection papers, and a final essay.

Instructor: L. Vaughn

Note: Students register with AST and pay AST tuition and fees associated with a course valued at 1 academic credit.

Students must also register directly for the Divine Renovation Conference June 15-18, 2020, in Halifax with conference organizers.

ET 2102

Sexual Ethics (S-20)

Christians confess that God comes to us *in the flesh*, incarnate in Jesus Christ. How is our sexuality implicated in our love for God? What sources and norms do Christians appeal to for their understanding of “just love”? How may diverse sexual practices express “the body’s grace”? How do contemporary conversations about gender, gender queering, consent, etc. impact Christian talk about sex?

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Critical reading questions, seminar, creative project, essay.

Instructor: A. Faber

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

ET/CH 2101

The Virtue of Friendship in a Virtual World (S-20)

What picture emerges of the moral life if we consider friendship to be its matrix? What is the relationship between friendship and neighbour-love, or friendship and erotic love? Is friendship an apt model for the church? What is implied by the radical biblical metaphor of becoming friends with God? How does conversation (and the media we use to converse) shape friendship? These and other questions will animate the explorations of the course.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Critical reading questions, creative assignment, essay.

Instructor: A. Faber

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

This is a campus course offered between Monday, May 4th and Thursday, June 11th with one a pre-session in late April.

Pre-session and class meeting dates and times to be determined by the instructor and students.

HB 2115

The “Writings”: Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes (S-20)

The third division of the Hebrew Scriptures is called “Ketuvim” meaning “the Writings,” and includes what some Christians call the “wisdom books.” This course focuses on Proverbs, Job, and Qoheleth (or Ecclesiastes). Each book’s

content will be examined in both textual and theological terms. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None. Some Hebrew an asset but not required.

Requirements: Daily readings of assigned passages and ancillary material; meaningful participation in classroom discussions; exegetical paper.

Instructor: W. Eisener

HB 2201

Beginning Biblical Hebrew I (S-20)

For students who wish to read, hear, and even (to an extent) produce Hebrew, this course offers a textually immersive introduction to classical Hebrew. Grammatical features like morphology, phonology, and syntax are learned inductively, through a cycle of illustrated readings drawn from Genesis. Techniques of second-language acquisition are also used to help develop language competency. Continuation in HB 2202 is strongly recommended. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Daily assignments and in-class work, periodic quizzes, one or two longer interpretive exercises or exams.

Instructor: D. Driver

NT 2102

The Social and Theological World of Paul the Apostle: an Introduction (S-20)

This course will introduce Paul writings, context and theology as given in the collection of his letters in the New Testament. The course is intended to provide participants with a solid base of knowledge about Paul for bible study and preaching. It will also provide a larger context for studying the various individual letters of Paul in future courses. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Weekly readings in the biblical texts and textbooks, class preparation and participation, major paper.

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

PT 2149

Haters and Grace: Theological Responses to Violence (S-20)

Violence and hate are increasingly prevalent in society, reported daily in the news and social media. Gun violence, gender and racial violence, bullying and linguistic violence, political conflict, environmental destruction, and religious violence are some of the many forms it takes. This course looks at pastoral and theological responses to forms of violence today. It examines theories of violence and hatred as well as pastoral practices of grace and hospitality in situations of hostility and the role that the Church has in unlearning violence.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Reading, in-class discussion leadership, learning portfolio and class presentation.

Instructor: S. Willhauck

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

PT 2501

United Church Polity and Ethics (S-20)

This course focuses on the professional behavior of the minister in leadership of a United Church of Canada pastoral charge with concentration on (1) ethical behavior; (2) church polity and practice; and (3) leadership in changing times.

Special attention will be directed to the changed organizational norms and structures of the United Church. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Class participation; discussion leadership; book review case study.

Instructor: R. Bartlett

PT 3138

Homiletical Theology for Vibrant Faith (S-20)

This advanced course in preaching will explore how proclaiming the gospel leads to revitalized theological thought and practice within the minister, the congregation, and the wider world. By investigating the preaching task as a theological method, students will not only discover how to communicate theologically through sermons and homilies, but also how the act of preaching is itself a form of theological construction. Students will experiment with traditional and innovative methods of preaching that will help them better understand what this gospel message is that they are proclaiming and how to go about sharing the message in order to catalyze vibrant, living faith among faith communities and the broader world in which they minister.

1 credit

Prerequisites: PF 1001 and PF 1002 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Sermons, theological papers, participation.

Instructor: D. Csinos

PT/ET 2001

The Reconciliation Journey (S-20)

This multidisciplinary course will assist students to develop their understanding of reconciliation, using Northern Ireland as a lens to explore the subject. A variety of learning sources (Biblical texts; history and practice of the Corrymeela Community; models of conflict and reconciliation; story-telling; practical applications) will be utilised.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Full attendance at all seminars; informed participation in experiential sessions; written reflection on programme; brief presentation on learning (on final day).

Instructor: P. Hutchinson

ST/ET 2106

Christian Anarchism (S-20)

Following Jesus has often meant being out of step with social and economic power. This has led to much theological reflection on how Christians should reconcile their status as followers of Jesus with their obedience to governments and laws. This course explores this theological tradition and asks whether, in an age of climate crisis and dominant capitalism, Christians need to re-invigorate it.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Daily reading and 8 reflection papers.

Instructor: D. Deane

Fall Term 2020 Elective Courses

CH 2105

United Church History (F-20)

Course provides chronological and thematic studies of the origins and story of the United Church of Canada, including theological, social, ecclesiological and missional issues. Through the use of readings (original source documents and analysis), research papers, discussions and in-class presentations students will encounter aspects of the story of the United Church as both heir and unique expression of the entire Christian tradition. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Readings, book review, 2 essays/presentations. Participation in class.

Instructor: R. Bartlett

HB 3117

Creation and Canon (F-20)

A study of creation across the Christian Bible, with particular focus on the HB/OT, this course will explore why the topic of creation has been sidelined in biblical studies and biblical theology, and how, thanks in part to the ecological crisis, it is getting new attention. Major headings in the course are creation, counter-creation, de-creation, and re-creation. Minor themes include sabbath, sea monsters, the land, the city, divine wisdom, and the praise of Israel. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: BF 1001 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Weekly readings, weekly discussions, a presentation, two short papers.

Instructor: D. Driver

HB/NT 3101

The Deuterocanonical Books (F-20)

This course will introduce and explore the Deutero-canonical books (or Apocrypha) written between the two biblical testaments and collected together in the NRSV Study Bible. The course will explore the historical circumstances of their creation and the theological-literary dimensions of their content. The legacy they carry from the Hebrew Bible and the ground they prepare for the New Testament as well as their applicability to the church and world of today will be given regular attention. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: BF 1001 or BF 1002 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Weekly readings in the biblical text and textbook, class preparation and participation, weekly written assignments.

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

NT 2103

Mark Among the Gospels (F-20)

This course will study the Gospel of Mark, the first written story of Jesus. Topics will include the rhetorical style of Mark, its place in the history of the church's transmission and interpretation of the Gospel in its own time, and its role in contemporary preaching and mission. Its relationship to the other canonical gospels will also be considered.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Close reading of Mark and other gospels; informed seminar participation; written assignments.

Instructor: TBA

NT 3128(Int)**Sacraments and Ecclesiology in the New Testament (F-20)**

This course will explore the New Testament foundation and meaning of the church's sacraments. It will also examine the differing concepts and practises of what the New Testament writers meant by 'church' and the role of communal activities and rites of the earliest Christians as reflected in the canonical documents. The implications for and the reflections of the contemporary churches on these topics will also be topics considered.

1 credit

Prerequisites: BF 1002 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Weekly readings in the biblical texts and textbooks, class preparation and participation, weekly written assignments.

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

PT 2146(Int)**Teaching and Learning in the Church (F-20)**

This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of teaching and the nature of learning in the faith community. It will examine the teaching office in the church and historical, theological and philosophical dimensions of educational ministry. Special attention will be given to models of teaching, learning styles and development of leadership in the teaching ministry of the church. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Reading, online discussion, short assignments, final teaching project.

Instructor: S. Willhauck

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

PT 2154(Int)**Rural Ministry (F-20)**

Rural Ministry can be intensely spiritually rewarding even as it is challenging. Increasingly, worship and program delivery take place in multi-point collections of congregations spread out over ever larger areas. We will explore how leaders can offer theologically grounded, community-empowering rural ministry. We will explore the challenges of isolation, personal boundary-setting and the lack of other resident professionals. Issues of gender, Truth and Reconciliation responsibilities, sexual orientation, racialization in rural areas will be examined. We will investigate innovative practices in rural ministry from around the world. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Readings. Viewing of bi-weekly pre-recorded video lectures. Regular participation in on-line conversations with classmates. Two minor papers. One major paper.

Instructor: L. Yates

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

ST 2137(Hyb)**The New Evangelization (F-20)**

This course explores the new evangelization in the Roman Catholic Church. It will focus on what it is, why it is necessary, and how you can play a role in it. Secondary focusses include the relationship between Christian faith and the wider society and the way in which ideas spread. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Mid-term and final essays.

Instructor: D. Deane

This is a hybrid course for which students are required to attend on campus or in the virtual online classroom in real time according to the AST Timetable of courses.

ST/CH 2107(Hyb)

Anglican Theology: Roots and Branches (F-20)

This is an introductory course whose key *objective* is to acquaint participants with the overall shape of Anglican theology and key issues within Anglican theology in the ecumenical context of the other great Christian traditions. The course has an historical shape as this is the manner in which the Anglican theological tradition has unfolded, from the beginning down to the present. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Weekly reflection papers; Class discussion contributions; Essay preparation assignments; Term Essay

Instructor: P. Friesen

This is a hybrid course for which students are required to attend on campus or in the virtual online classroom in real time according to the AST Timetable of courses.

ST/CH 3129(Hyb)

Christology (F-20)

This course offers a sustained meditation on the question Jesus asks to Peter in Mark 8:29, "Who do you say that I am?". We will engage scripture and consult dialog partners from the past and present in seeking to develop answers to this question for ourselves. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: TF 1000 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Weekly readings. Reflections and essays.

Instructor: D. Deane

This is a hybrid course for which students are required to attend on campus or in the virtual online classroom in real time according to the AST Timetable of courses.

ST/PT 2104

Ecumenism Today: Successes, Challenges, Next Steps (F-20)

The search for Christian Unity is a theological commitment and pastoral response to Jesus' prayer that his followers be one (Jn 17:21). While the past half century has seen remarkable improvements in relationships among churches locally, nationally and internationally, new obstacles to unity continue to emerge. Formal dialogue has achieved significant consensus in areas of doctrinal dispute. What next steps can be imagined/proposed? This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Reading and informed seminar participation. Two papers: 1) an experience/reflection paper based on one or more visits to a church of another tradition, 2) a research paper demonstrating awareness of a theological issue in ecumenical dialogue or an unresolved issue in practical ecumenism.

Instructor: D. Geernaert

Winter Term 2020 Elective Courses

ET/ST 2012(Hyb)

To Earth with Love: Theological Ethics and Climate Change (W-21)

This interdisciplinary conversation on the climate crisis (including theological ethics, systematic theology, environmental science, literature) navigates the shoals of eco-grief, various forms of denial, and the real possibility of despair. Among others, we will discuss thinking like an eco-system, the wild, environmental rights, eco-justice reformation, a multi-species lens, and earth as creation and home.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Critical questions, seminar participation and leadership, creative project, short essay.

Instructor: A. Faber

This is a hybrid course for which students are required to attend on campus or in the virtual online classroom in real time according to the AST Timetable of courses.

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

HB 3112

Psalms in Interpretation (W-21)

The Psalms have a special place in the life of the synagogue and church. Thus a major goal of this course is to see how the Psalter has fed and informed Jewish and Christian faith in various periods: biblical times, Rabbinic and Patristic periods, the Middle Ages, the Reformation, the Enlightenment, down to modern times. By interacting with recent research into the shape and shaping of the Psalter we will also consider the anthology's unique arrangement. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: BF 1001 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Weekly readings, an exegetical paper, memorization of a short Psalm, a creative presentation.

Instructor: D. Driver

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

NT 3101

The Revelation to John (W-21)

This course will introduce and examine the book of Revelation as a piece of Christian imagination for its time and ours. It will help participants to understand better its visions and to locate the Revelation within Biblical and Jewish/Christian Apocalyptic literature in general. The course will help participants to relate the book to contemporary events and situations. Students will read and prepare sections of the Revelation for discussion in groups with the aid of the Witherington commentary.

1 credit

Prerequisites: BF 1002 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Weekly readings in the biblical texts and textbook, class preparation and participation, major paper.

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

NT 3132(Int)

The Pastoral and Catholic Epistles (W-21)

This course will study the "pastoral" epistles of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus as they address pastoral issues in their own time and the implications of their message for our time. It will also study the "catholic" epistles of James, 1 and 2 Peter, 1 John and Jude, which were addressed to the churches at large in the first century.

1 credit

Prerequisites: BF 1002 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Informed participation in online discussions; short assignments; major paper.

Instructor: TBA

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

PT 2128(Int)

Theologies of Play: Creative Play in Pastoral Ministry (W-21)

Play and creativity are not simply what we do when we have extra time on our hands, but integral to the practice of ministry. The capacity to deploy imagination and play is inherently within us, and this course explores how to connect with our creative play in our own callings as people of God. We will engage in pastoral theological reflection on the nature and source of creativity as well as its contribution to the practice of ministry, including pastoral care, counseling, and education. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Reading, online video lectures, discussion, short written assignments, final project

Instructor: S. Willhauck

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

PT 2145(Int)

Spiritual Leadership for Social Justice (W-21)

Leadership in today's world requires resources from many fronts including theology and spirituality. This course initiates leadership formation for social transformation by engaging students in action research, experiential practices, and critical reflection. Selected spiritual practices from the Christian tradition will be explored in their social and historical contexts and examined critically for their role in contemporary leadership formation. We will focus on integration of spiritual practices and resources for social justice in areas of equality, economics and the environment.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Reading, field research, online lecture and discussion, short essay, final project.

Instructor: S. Willhauck

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

PT 3138

Homiletical Theology for Vibrant Faith (W-21)

This advanced course in preaching will explore how proclaiming the gospel leads to revitalized theological thought and practice within the minister, the congregation, and the wider world. By investigating the preaching task as a theological method, students will not only discover how to communicate theologically through sermons and homilies, but also how the act of preaching is itself a form of theological construction. Students will experiment with traditional and innovative methods of preaching that will help them better understand what this gospel message is that they are proclaiming and how to go about sharing the message in order to catalyze vibrant, living faith among faith communities and the broader world in which they minister.

1 credit

Prerequisites: PF 1001 and PF 1002 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Sermons, theological papers, participation.

Instructor: D. Csinos

ST 2173(Int)

The Theological Vision of C.S. Lewis (W-21)

A study of C.S. Lewis' theological agenda through close reading of selections of his fiction and non-fiction. Special attention will be given to his Christology and apologetic approaches. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Readings, online discussions, short reflections, at-home exam, research essay.

Instructor: R. Fennell

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

ST 3102**United Church Doctrine (W-21)**

An in-depth study of the sources, norms, and content of doctrine within The United Church of Canada, with a special emphasis on ecclesiology, Christology, and the sacraments. This course is required for those seeking Testamur for ordination in The United Church of Canada. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: TF 1000 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Readings, online discussions, short reflections, at-home exam, research essay.

Instructor: R. Fennell

This course is offered asynchronously via the internet.

ST/CH 3100(Hyb)**The Holy Spirit (W-21)**

The course will offer an engagement with the Christian Theology of the Holy Spirit drawing on (i) biblical, (ii) traditional, and (iii) contemporary, perspectives. Our goal is to acquire habits and methods that can inform our thinking, preaching, and acting. This course is open to AST students and to Continuing Education participants.

1 credit

Prerequisites: TF1000 and RM 1000 or GTRS 6000.

Requirements: Weekly readings and reflections, final paper or art project.

Instructor: D. Deane

This is a hybrid course for which students are required to attend on campus or in the virtual online classroom in real time according to the AST Timetable of courses.

This course includes an arts component (e.g. visual, literary, performing) of at least 20% of the course grade.

Summer Term 2020 Courses Arranged by Session **(See above for course titles and descriptions.)**

May 4 to June 11, 2020 (with one pre-session in April)
ET/CH 2101

Session One (June 15 to June 26)
RM 1000, GS 3000A, PT 2149, ET 2102, and DSt 2047

Session Two (June 29 to July 10)
TF 1000, PT 2501, ST/ET 2106, and HB 2201

Session Three (July 13 to July 24)
PT 3138, NT 2102, HB 2115, and PT/ET 2001

Please note that registration priority for Summer Term courses will be given to Summer Distance MDiv students.

Internet and Hybrid Courses for 2020-2021 **(See above for course titles and descriptions.)**

Students must have an up-to-date computer and high-speed internet access to take online courses and to access online study/research resources. Students must be familiar with current technology in order to make full use of the AST Library on and off campus. We encourage you to take technology training.

Internet courses are normally offered using Brightspace, a comprehensive asynchronous education technology platform.

Hybrid courses may be taken on campus in the classroom, or online in real time as the classroom group is meeting.

Note: Distance and campus students may register for internet and/or hybrid courses.

Fall 2020 Internet:

GS 3000B(Int), NT 3128(Int), PF 1001(Int), PT 2146(Int), PT 2154(Int), SMP 1000(Int), SMP 2000(Int), SME 3000(Int), and SME 4000(Int). (Note: SMP and SME courses are full-year courses from September to April.)

Fall 2020 Hybrid:

GTRS 6000(Hyb), ST 2137(Hyb) and ST/CH 2107(Hyb), and ST/CH 3129(Hyb).

Winter 2021 Internet:

NT 3132(Int), PT 2128(Int), PT 2145(Int), SMP 1000(Int), SMP 2000(Int), SME 3000(Int), SME 4000(Int) and ST 2173(Int). (Note: SMP and SME courses are full-year courses from September to April.)

Winter 2021 Hybrid:

ET/ST 2102(Hyb) and ST/CH 3100(Hyb).

Please note that registration priority for internet and hybrid courses may be given to Summer Distance MDiv students.

Clinical (Supervised) Pastoral Education PT 3901 and PT 3902

AST in conjunction with the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC) provides unique clinical educational experiences for students. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is offered in accredited health care settings. The educational methodology is based on praxis pedagogy. Students work closely with patients and staff in a variety of health care settings. They then analyze and theologically examine the experience.

Contained within Clinical Pastoral Education are two essential education objectives. First, the chaplain-intern has an opportunity to practice pastoral ministry. Second, the intern will be expected to master a body of technical skills and academic material related to their role as a professional and a member of a health-care team. This body of material is available through seminars, clinical case conferences, directed reading and interaction with thoughtful and experienced resource people.

Academic credit for Clinical Pastoral Education falls in the area of electives in pastoral theology.

One basic unit of CPE is valued at two academic credits. A unit consists of 400 clinical hours, divided among direct service, supervision, clinical presentations, didactic seminars, and peer group work. Clinical Pastoral Education grounds students in the lived experience of individuals, relational units, and institutions. It is out of these experiences that students are challenged to hone their skills and ask critical questions of themselves and their world while forming their identity as practitioners of spiritual care.

All CPE units registered for credit through AST will form part of a student's academic record. CPE units will be designated as PT 3901 or PT 3902 on a transcript for the term in which the unit is completed.

Students who complete a CPE unit for credit through an accredited theological school outside the Atlantic Region may request that AST receive the credits in transfer as per AST's Transfer of Credits into AST policy. Students who seek to transfer CPE credits to AST must provide a transcript from the authenticating professional school. Only CPE units completed within ten years prior to the request for credit transfer will be considered for authentication by AST.

AST will issue credits for authentication of CPE units completed at an appropriate CPE institution. A fee of \$100 per credit authenticated will be charged by AST in addition to required fees.

Credits for CPE included in AST's determination of a student's status as full-time or part-time for student loan purposes are subject to the student loan specifications.