



Graduate Course Offerings 2021-22

**** IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

Atlantic School of Theology is attentive and responsive to all public health protocols and requirements with respect to on-campus classes and other events. AST observes gathering limits (number of persons), enhanced cleaning practices, physical distancing, contact tracing, the use of face coverings, and other modifications to do everything possible to keep students, personnel, and the public safe from harm. Persons with symptoms of or testing positive for contagious diseases should remain at home and not come to campus. Courses with on-campus components may transition to online-only if required.

Notice regarding Textbooks

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 purchase. To find the list of books for each course, consult the “Students” page on the AST website, and click on “Textbooks.”

HYB (hybrid courses) – “HYB” indicates that an on-campus class will be convened at a specific time, with a simultaneous livestreamed interactive link for those who prefer or need to learn at a distance from campus. Students must attend during the scheduled class time. Class sessions will not be recorded.

INT (internet-based) courses are asynchronous (students participate at times that best suit their schedule) or a blend of synchronous and asynchronous elements (“in real time”). Contact individual instructors for clarification.

Course Indicators

BF	Biblical Foundations	PT	Pastoral Theology
CH	History of Christianity	RM	Research Methods and Practices
ET	Ethics	SFE	Supervised Field Education
HB	Hebrew Bible/Old Testament	SME	Supervised Ministry Education
GS	Graduate Project and Seminar	SMP	Supervised Ministry Practicum
GTRS	Graduate Theology and Religious Studies	ST	Systematic Theology
NT	New Testament	TF	Theological Foundations
PF	Pastoral Foundations or Preaching Foundations	WF	Worship Foundations

Changes are Possible

The following 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.

Additional Course Offerings and Updates

For course information not provided here, and for any changes or updates in course offerings, consult the "Students" page on the AST website. Timetables for each term are posted on the same webpage.

Summer Term 2021

PF 1002 (INT)

Preaching Foundations (S-21: June 14-25)

This course will focus on the development of capacities to interpret texts and contexts and to proclaim the gospel in multiple ways. Attention will be given to the interpretation of biblical texts, a variety of cultural texts, and the various contexts in which our faith communities find themselves embedded. Students will gain understanding in the nature of the gospel message and challenges and opportunities that exist for proclaiming that message in contemporary contexts.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Attendance, presentations (sermons/homilies), written assignments, and class participation

Instructor: D. Csinos

PT 2180 (HYB)

Transitional Ministry Skills (S-21: June 14-25)

This course focuses on best practices for interim or transitional ministry that are applicable to any community of faith experiencing or anticipating significant change, including (1) tools to understand and respond to change in areas such as context, demographics, theology, and technology; and (2) resources for strengthening the spiritual life of faith leaders and their communities.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: R. Bartlett

ST 3128 (INT)

Theological Hermeneutics: Reading for Life and Love (S-21: June 14-25)

A study of the theory and practice of Biblical interpretation, focusing on theological readings, the role of the Rule of Faith, and the multiple senses of Scripture. Sources include patristic, Reformation, liberationist, feminist, and postmodern authors.

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000, TF 1000, and one course in Bible

Requirements: Readings; informed participation; resource review or presentation; research essay.

Instructor: R. Fennell

ST/ET 2107 (INT)**Church, Mission, and Society (S-21: June 14-25)**

What does it mean to be the church in the world in this time? This course will consider the question by investigating what the church is and ought to be, identifying major social crises, and exploring ways that the church might respond. Specific attention will be given to how the church's mission is impacted by the calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Black Lives Matter protests, the findings of the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the realities of poverty and growing economic disparity, and changes in how sexual identity is understood. The intersections between public action and the vocation of the local parish/congregation will also be considered.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Readings; informed participation; 2 short papers; final essay

Instructor: A. Hari-Singh

CH 2113 (INT)**Mysticism and Monasticism in Context: Love, Longing, and Belonging (S-21: June 28-July 9)**

The unlikely though undeniable recent popularity of mystical writings by medieval Christians speaks to the spiritual vacuum and yearning for meaning and community in a secularized world beset by rising political authoritarianism and religious fundamentalisms. This course probes the complex pre-modern contexts (476-1453 CE) in which mysticism and monasticism played such a crucial role, and how such historical riches can still speak poignantly to us today. These movements and the distinctive voices within them (such as Hildegard of Bingen, Mechtild of Magdeburg, Julian of Norwich, Meister Eckhart, and Johannes Tauler) testified to the extraordinary power of divine love and the freedom and joy it brings.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Readings; informed participation; 2 short studies/papers; final essay

Instructor: M. Anderson

NT 1000 (HYB)**Introduction to New Testament Greek (S-21: June 28-July 9)**

This course will introduce the basic concepts and paradigms for the Koine Greek used in the Greek New Testament. The class will also explore the basics of NT Greek syntax and linguistic characteristics. The class will be suited to the summer term format as well as provide a substantive base for translation work in the Greek NT.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Class participation, short quizzes, brief translations

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

PT 2175 (INT)**Evangelism Rediscovered: Exploring the Conversion Stories of Scripture (S-21: June 28-July 9)**

This course will look critically at different evangelistic practices in the light of biblical narratives of conversion, and consider how healthy evangelism is cultivated and lived out in the life of the Church through personal relationships, teaching, preaching, outreach, and worship. Students will be introduced to a broad range of key thinkers and practitioners of evangelism, and challenged to develop their own ability to share the gospel with others and to cultivate churches that are evangelizing communities.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Readings; informed participation; discussion board posts; book review; field-based integrative paper

Instructor: J. Paulsen

RM 1000 (INT)**Research Methods and Practices (S-21: June 28-July 9)**

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 an introduction to basic qualitative research through methodologies such as Phenomenology, Ethnography, and Narrative Analysis.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Readings; informed participation; short and medium length written assignments

Instructor: R. Martel

Note: This course is a prerequisite for all 3000-level courses for MDiv and GCTS students.

HB 3115 (INT)**Exodus and the Life of Moses (S-21: July 12-23)**

Who is Moses, and what does his life have to do with Israel's exodus from Egypt and God's giving of the law at Mount Sinai? This course will examine the Moses story in the context of the book of Exodus, attending above all to the book's canonical shape and its historic reception. Students will also become familiar with some of the current debate about the formation of the Pentateuch, particularly as relates to different accounts of Israel's origins and the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; BF 1001

Requirements: Readings; discussions; presentation; final essay.

Instructor: W. Eisener

PF 1001 (INT)**Pastoral Foundations (S-21: July 12-23)**

The purpose of this course is to introduce the fundamentals that form and shape who we are and how we understand and experience the divine. Pastoral Foundations is a venture in learning how to live our spirituality in a way that connects theory with practice, action with reflection and service with mission. This course of study places a primacy on the human search for meaning, connection, and relationship. As the course unfolds, we will explore contemporary methods and themes that enhance our appreciation of practical theology, with a focus on assessing, interpreting, and contributing to the current state of the church and the world.

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: L. Yates

PT 2502 (INT)**United Church Worship (S-21: July 12-23)**

This course explores the historical and present practices, theologies and theories that inform and shape the diverse worship and liturgical experiences of The United Church of Canada. This course assumes that the purpose of worship is to praise God, to nurture and strengthen the spiritual lives and practices of individuals and communities, and to foster discipleship for the transformation of God's world. *This course is required for those seeking ordination in The United Church of Canada.*

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: A. O'Neill

PT 3149 (HYB)**Dying, Death, and Bereavement (S-21: July 12-23)**

First and foremost, this course is about living. It is also about how people respond to life altering circumstances. At its core this time of study will focus on how people live with the many realities that surround dying, death and bereavement. The class will begin at the point of terminal diagnosis, or a prognosis in which death is a very real possibility. A companion during this study will be the changing face of grief. As we progress we will take time to touch on other emotional states such as anger, guilt, and despair, and well as the matter of Medical Assistance in Dying. This course will take a deep dive into a myriad of complex issues raised by the spectre of death.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; PT 1001 or permission of the instructor

Requirements: Focused reflections, a lexicon, readings, a research essay and art project

Instructor: J. Clarke

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

Fall Term 2021

BF 1001 (INT)

Biblical Foundations: Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (F-21)

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 be introduced to historical and literary data important for understanding the origins of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and its subsequent function as scripture in a variety of contexts. The outlook will be broadly ecumenical, with case studies that exemplify Jewish and Christian interpretation.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

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

Instructor: D. Driver

CH 2105 (INT)

United Church of Canada History (F-21)

This 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 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 required for those seeking ordination in The United Church of Canada.*

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Readings, participation, book review, 2 essays/presentations.

Instructor: R. Bartlett

ET/ST/CH 2013 (HYB)

The Sin Debate (F-21)

Is the theme of sin in Christian theology necessary for our self-understanding and a nuanced understanding of our political culture? In conversations about Canadian tragic histories (residential schools and slavery, among others), can sin-talk help us tell a more complex story? Does an understanding of sin adequately plumb strains between tragic circumstances and personal responsibility? These questions and others animate the debate about sin and grace in this course.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Weekly readings and discussions, short essay, critical questions, creative project.

Instructor: A. Faber

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

GTRS 6000 (HYB)**Theory and Methods in Theology and Religious Studies (F-21)**

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. *This course is required for all MA (Theology and Religious Studies) students.*

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Discussions, small reports, major essay.

Instructor: A. Faber/M. Hale

HB 3117 (HYB)**Creation and Canon (F-21)**

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.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; BF 1001

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

Instructor: D. Driver

NT 3000 (HYB)**Reading the Greek New Testament (F-21)**

This course is an extension of the introductory course in the Greek of the New Testament. This course will work on solidifying the knowledge and skills gained in the introductory language course and practise translating the Greek NT. If a student has not taken the previous introductory course in Greek at AST, an equivalent course will be sufficient.

1 credit

Prerequisites: NT 1000 or equivalent

Requirements: Brief quizzes, translation exercises, exegetical essay.

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

NT 3114 (on campus)**The Epistle to the Romans (F-21)**

An exegetical, theological, and hermeneutical study of the epistle to the Romans, this course will afford an opportunity for students to use and develop further their language skills and proficiency. The theological and ecclesial issues encountered in the study of this epistle will be explored as will the history of its interpretation. The task of preaching and Bible study for congregations will also be addressed.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; BF 1002

Requirements: Seminar participation, weekly written responses, exegetical-theological essay

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

PF 1001 (HYB)**Pastoral Foundations (F-21)**

The purpose of this course is to introduce the fundamentals that form and shape who we are and how we understand and experience the divine. Pastoral Foundations is a venture in learning how to live our spirituality in a way that connects theory with practice, action with reflection and service with mission. This course of study places a primacy on the human search for meaning, connection, and relationship. As the course unfolds, we will explore contemporary methods and themes that enhance our appreciation of practical theology, with a focus on assessing, interpreting, and contributing to the current state of the church and the world.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

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

Instructor: J. Clarke

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

PT 2143 (INT)**Leadership and Change Theory (F-21)**

Change is a natural occurring phenomenon. Churches can passively wander into the future or they can be dynamic participants in the creation of a world that is indelibly richer because of their presence. The course will examine the nature of change. It will also explore how leaders can facilitate change. This course will expose students to theory and practices for understanding and ministering in the midst of change. Because it is reasonably easy to lead and facilitate change when all is well with the world, the course will also look at leading and changing during difficult times.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Participation, readings, papers, analytical assignments.

Instructor: D. Csinos

PT 2181 (INT)**Administration and Pastoral Care in the Digital Age (F-21)**

The daily practice of ministry includes an ongoing responsibility for the spiritual well-being of the congregation, as well as the recruitment, organization and support of small groups and committees. This course helps students develop the tools necessary to work with staff teams and volunteers, with a focus on administration and communication in a digital age. It also helps students develop effective approaches to pastoral care and strategies for building the pastoral capacity of the congregation or parish.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: 4 short reflections; 2 mid-length projects; 1 final report.

Instructor: A. O'Neill

PT/ST 2144 (INT)**Re-Imagining Ministry with Children and Youth (F-21)**

Children and youth occupy an ambivalent space in our churches—and our world at large. On the one hand, we want them in our communities and congregations, as they represent new and ongoing life. Yet on the other hand, we often don't want to deal with the noise, messiness, and unpredictability that seem to accompany young people everywhere they go. This ecumenical and experiential course will dig deeply into assumptions about children, youth, and Christianity, exploring questions such as: What, theologically, does it mean to be a young person? What do scripture and tradition tell us about our responsibilities toward them? How can we nurture generative faith in young people and what innovative approaches exist to help us along the way? How does prioritizing children and youth challenge our current thoughts and practices? This course isn't intended to help participants choose a new children's liturgy curriculum or attract teens to church; but it is an invitation to critically engage assumptions, ideas, and practices surrounding ministry with children and youth in order to help foster living, active, and flourishing faith in young people.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Attendance, reflection paper, class presentations, theological research essay, and critical resources analysis

Instructor: D. Csinos

ST/CH 3106 (HYB)**Sacramental Action: The Anglican Narrative (F-21)**

The objective of this course is to make participants conversant with the liturgical heart of the Anglican tradition—the sacraments. The course itself has an historical shape, as the early Anglican tradition inherited the sacramental theology and practice that had developed from the earliest centuries and then evolved, in dialogue with the wider western church, within what became an independent catholic communion. Participants will consider key sacramental texts drawn from early, medieval, and Reformation documents as they focus on Anglican sacramental evolution to the present, especially the authorized sacramental rites of the Anglican Church of Canada.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000

Requirements: Participation; essay preparation assignments; term essay.

Instructor: P. Friesen

TF 1000 (HYB)**Theological Foundations (F-21)**

An exploration of the questions, tasks, methods, and habits of Christian theology. Through a combination of lectures and discussions, the course will investigate the substance and architecture of the ecumenical core of Christian doctrine in running conversation with a wide range of theological perspectives.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Readings; informed participation; short writing assignments; quiz; choice of mid-length essays or presentations.

Instructor: R. Fennell

Winter Term 2022**BF 1002 (INT)****Biblical Foundations: New Testament (W-22)**

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

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Discussions, shorter written exercises, major essay.

Instructor: D. MacLachlan

CH 2108 (HYB)**Early Christian Thought (W-22)**

This course offers an introduction to the core story of Christianity during its first 500 years. It looks at history and doctrines. We look from "outside" and read historical accounts of what happened. We also look from "inside" as we engage early Christian thinking about the nature of Christ, scriptural interpretation, the procession of the Triune God and the response to this procession called "the Church".

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Weekly reflections and two essays (1500-3000 words).

Instructor: D. Deane

DF 3000 (ACC)**Formation Program (Anglican Church of Canada) (W-22)**

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; participation in weekly classes and AST Anglican eucharist and community events; self-reflective essay.

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-22)**

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, exploring how they live and share the mission of Christ.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000

Requirements: Weekly written reflections

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-22)**

Through engagement with guest speakers, visits to local sites of interest, discussions, 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. This course 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.

DF 3000 (EP: Ecumenical Partners)**Formation Program for those in Other Traditions (W-22)**

All MDiv students complete a program of Formation. If you are not within the Anglican, Roman Catholic, or United Church of Canada traditions, please discuss with your faculty advisor a plan to create a Directed Study that will meet this requirement.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: TBA

HB 3113 (HYB)**The Ten Commandments (W-22)**

As the first words spoken by God at Sinai and the leading terms of a covenant sealed with blood, the Ten Commandments are well known as a premier instance of biblical law. This course examines their ancient origins. It also considers the weight they have held for Jews, Christians, and others through an exploration of the Decalogue's reception history, in modes as diverse as liturgy, commentary, fine art, film, and popular culture.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; BF 1001

Requirements: Weekly readings, weekly discussions, a creative presentation, a major essay.

Instructor: D. Driver

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

HB/ST 3001 (HYB)**Christian Doctrine and the Old Testament (W-22)**

What is the relationship of scripture and theology? Some answers to this question start with the Bible, while others begin with Christian doctrine, while still others call for a dialectical movement between canon and creed. To illustrate the problems and possibilities, this course explores work by biblical and theological specialists who transgress the conventional limits of their disciplines. Specific doctrines under consideration may include: creation, sin, election, incarnation, divine impassibility, Christology, Mariology, law and gospel, death and resurrection, and the afterlife.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; BF 1001; TF 1000

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

Instructor: D. Driver

NT/CH 2104 (INT)**The New Testament's Earliest Readers (W-22)**

This course examines how the writings of the New Testament were transmitted and read by early Christians throughout the second and third centuries CE. We will survey a range of early Christian texts and artifacts (including those of Clement of Rome, Ignatius of Antioch, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus of Lyons, and Origen of Alexandria), as well as accounts of martyrdom, early apocrypha, and visual art, investigating the many ways in which the NT was interpreted by its earliest readers. Additionally, students will acquire a basic understanding of the early manuscripts and textual transmission of the NT in this period. A knowledge of Greek will be an asset, though not required for this course.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: E. Kozitza Dean

NT/HB 3133 (HYB)**The Synoptic Gospels and Israel's Scriptures (W-22)**

The first three books of the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke) have many similarities in style, language, and content. But they did not emerge from a spiritual or textual vacuum. This course examines not only their relationship to one another but also to the Torah (law/teaching), Nevi'im (prophets), and Ketuvim (writings) of the Hebrew Scriptures. A knowledge of Hebrew and/or Greek will be an asset, though not required for this course.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; BF 1001; BF 1002

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: E. Kozitza Dean

PF 1002 (on campus)**Preaching Foundations (W-22)**

This course will focus on the development of capacities to interpret texts and contexts and to proclaim the gospel in multiple ways. Attention will be given to the interpretation of biblical texts, a variety of cultural texts, and the various contexts in which our faith communities find themselves embedded. Students will gain understanding in the nature of the gospel message and challenges and opportunities that exist for proclaiming that message in contemporary contexts.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: Attendance, presentations (sermons/homilies), written assignments, and class participation

Instructor: D. Csinos

PT 2179 (HYB)**The Intergenerating Church (W-22)**

This course introduces students to theories and practices for intergenerational ministry in local churches. Bringing different generations together in parishes is not as easy as it seems. It involves swimming against well-established currents and building relationships among people with different world views, assumptions, and ideas about what matters most. Students will engage with contemporary voices in intergenerational ministry and learn about biblical foundations, theological understandings, and ministerial practices for transforming worship, preaching, religious education, and other aspects of congregational ministry into all-age experiences.

1 credit

Prerequisites: None.

Requirements: Participation, readings, theological papers, arts assignment, ministry practice

Instructor: D. Csinos

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

PT 3165 (INT)**Worshipping Into the Future (W-22)**

This is an advanced course on worship exploring the evolving nature of worship with a particular focus on how the church can employ technology and media in order to address the spiritual needs of the community. Technology refers to the raw tools, while media speaks of the message and how it is conveyed. This course will creatively explore how we can bring the great traditions of the church into an uncertain future. We will look at rites of initiation, marriage, complex funerals, memorial liturgies and intimate acts such as prayers for the dying or unction that might be observed by family members at distance.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; PF 1001; WF 1000

Requirements: Weekly assignments, media presentations, critical essay

Instructor: A. O'Neil

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

SFE 1000 (on campus)**Supervised Field Education (W-22)**

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 2001-2002. This course will also cultivate praxis theology, in which lived experience is correlated and integrated with theological reflection.

1 credit

Prerequisites: PF 1001

Requirements: Reflection papers and the completion of research guides

Instructor: J. Clarke

ST 3102 (INT)

United Church of Canada Doctrine (W-22)

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 ordination in The United Church of Canada.*

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; TF 1000

Requirements: Readings; informed participation; presentation; research essay.

Instructor: R. Fennell

ST 3146 (HYB)

The Doctrine of God (W-22)

This course makes particular reference to the first Person of the Trinity. It explores the doctrine of God with reference to both traditional and contemporary debates about how God can be known, spoken about, and related to through the created order. Christians primarily respond to such debates with reference to Christ and the Holy Spirit. This course, however, seeks to do so with primary reference to the Creator and, because of this, engages a host of areas that we would not usually encounter within courses on Christology or pneumatology.

1 credit

Prerequisites: RM 1000 or GTRS 6000; TF 1001

Requirements: Weekly reflections and a 5000-word final essay.

Instructor: D. Deane

Two-Term Courses 2021-22

GS 3000 (HYB)

Graduate Project and Seminar (F-21 & W-22)

The Graduate Project and Seminar is a required course for the MDiv program and may be taken in the MA program if desired. 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 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.

2 credits

Prerequisites: For MDiv students: all Foundations courses; RM 1000; SMP 2000 or SFE 2002.

For MA students: GTRS 6000.

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

Instructor: J. Clarke

Note: This is a two-term course from September to April worth 2 credits. Credits are awarded in the Winter Term.

SFE 2001-2002 (on campus)

Supervised Field Education (F-21 & W-22)

Fall Term: Building on SFE 1000, students will normally remain in their first-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 course 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. Students must satisfactorily complete both the site component and the AST component to receive credit.
2 credits

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: Readings; leadership in worship and preaching; pastoral care assignments; weekly integrative seminars; weekly supervisory session; a minimum of 8 hours on-site experience each week from Sept-April; educational project.

Instructor: S. MacAlpine-Gillis

Note: SFE 2001 and SFE 2002 are taken consecutively from September to April.

SME 3000 (INT)

Supervised Ministry Education (F-21 & W-22)

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 Education 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

Prerequisites: SMP 2000

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: S. MacAlpine-Gillis

Note: This is a two-term course from September to April worth 1 credit. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.

SME 4000 (INT)**Supervised Ministry Education (F-21 & W-22)**

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

Prerequisites: SME 3000

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: S. MacAlpine-Gillis

Note: This is a two-term course from September to April worth 1 credit. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.

SMP 1000 (INT)**Supervised Ministry Practicum (F-21 & W-22)**

This course is required for all Summer Distance MDiv 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

Prerequisites: None

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: K. McNabb

Note: This is a two-term course from September to April worth 1 credit. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.

SMP 2000 (INT)**Supervised Ministry Practicum (F-21 & W-22)**

The course is required for all Summer Distance MDiv 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

Prerequisites: SMP 1000

Requirements: TBA

Instructor: K. McNabb

Note: This is a two-term course from September to April worth 1 credit. Credit is awarded in the Winter Term.