

Academic Offerings

This section contains descriptions of programs, majors, minors, areas of concentration, fields of specialization, and courses. Semesters following course titles indicate when each course is normally offered. On rare occasions, a course may not be available when indicated because of low enrollment or unexpected staffing changes.

Courses listed as Fall Odd and Spring Even are scheduled to be offered during the 2011-2012 academic year. i.e., fall 2011-2012 is Fall Odd, spring 2011-2012 is Spring Even.

Theology

General Major- Foundation (common to all emphases): CORE 150; Theology 221, 324, 361.

Students must select one of the following emphases:

- Biblical Studies:** Foundation; Theology 210, 231; one course from Theology 211-214; one course from Theology 215-217; three additional courses from Theology 211-217 (at least one Old Testament and one New Testament); two courses from Theology 251, 254, 322, 323, 324, 393, Greek 211; strongly suggested for those hoping to pursue further studies: Greek 111, 112, 211, 212, 241-244; Theology 253; 300-level philosophy courses; History 220; modern foreign languages. (39 credits)
- Historical/Systematic:** Foundation; Theology 222, 231, 321, 323; one course from Theology 211-214; one course from Theology 215-217; three courses from History 222, 306, 335, Philosophy 301-304, 309, 310, 350 (preferably one from History, one from Philosophy 301-304, one from Philosophy 309, 310, and 350); strongly suggested for those hoping to pursue further studies: Greek 211, 212, Latin 201, modern foreign languages. (39 credits)
- Missions and Evangelism:** Foundation; Theology 210, 231, 331, 332; two courses from Theology 211-214; two courses from Theology 215-217; one course from Theology 322, 323, 336, 375, History 306. (39 credits)
- Youth Ministry:** Foundation; Theology 251, 252, 253, 254, 351, 352; Psychology 204; two courses from Theology 211-214; two courses from Theology 215-217; Theology 371, 372, 373 Practicum (nine credit hours); two cognates, chosen from Communication 220, 222, 311, Education 262, History 335, Psychology 210, 224, 370, 374, Theatre Arts 101, 212, Theology 222, 322. (60 credits)

General Minors-

- Bible Education:** Theology 222, 254, 322 or 323; two courses from Theology 211-214; two courses from Theology 215-217. (21 credits)
- Biblical Studies:** Theology 210; two courses from Theology 211-214; two courses from Theology 215-217; Theology 221 or 324; one additional course from Theology 211-217, 254, 361, 393, Greek 111, 112, 211. (21 credits)

Historic/Systematic: Theology 221, 222; one course from Theology 211-217; two courses from Theology 321, 323, 324; two courses from Philosophy 301-304, 309. (21 credits)

Missions and Evangelism: Theology 221, 231, 331, 332; three courses from Theology 322, 323, 324, 336, 375, History 306. (21 credits)

Admission to the Youth Ministries Program: Formal application for admission to the Youth Ministries program is required. Application should be made to the Theology Department at the end of the Discernment of Ministry (Theology 251) course, which should be taken in the freshman or sophomore year. Application will be based on the various statements developed in this course.

The following are requirements for admission to the youth ministry program:

- Completed application form
- Minimum GPA of 2.00 in all Theology courses to date
- Students may apply to the Youth Ministry program after their first academic year and must apply before their final academic year.

Once each year the members of the department will discuss each student's fitness to continue in the Youth Ministry program. A majority of the department members must approve a student to graduate with a Youth Ministry degree.

If a student's initial application is not accepted, the student may take additional courses for the major and reapply after each semester or may appeal to the division dean to have three professors outside of the Theology department evaluate his/her application and supporting materials.

For descriptions of SECONDARY and ELEMENTARY majors, minors, fields of specialization, and teaching endorsements, see pages 111-134, Teacher Education Program.

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- 210 **Biblical Studies Methods (3)**Spring
This course is designed to help students develop insight and tools for reading the Bible in a meaningful, personal, and academic way. It develops principles of Reformed hermeneutics, academic methods of Scriptural analysis, and Bible study software tools to move from textual interpretation to application. This is a foundational course in the theology program to develop biblical studies and theological writing. Open to all students seeking to develop their reading, understanding, and application of Scripture.
- 211 **Biblical Theology: Old Testament Pentateuch (3)** Fall, every fourth year
This course is an in-depth study of the Torah, the first five books of the Bible, in terms of literature, history, crucial themes, and hermeneutical issues from a literary-historical-redemptive approach to Scripture.
- 212 **Biblical Theology: Old Testament Prophets (3)** Fall, every fourth year
This course is an in-depth study of the Prophets in terms of literature, history, crucial themes, and hermeneutical issues from a literary-historical-redemptive approach to Scripture.
- 213 **Biblical Theology: Old Testament Wisdom and Writings (3)**Fall, every fourth year
This course is an in-depth study of the Old Testament Wisdom books and Writings, in terms of literature, history, crucial themes, and hermeneutical issues from a literary-historical-redemptive approach to Scripture.
- 214 **Biblical Theology: Old Testament and Inter-Testamentary History (3)**..... Fall, every fourth year
This course is an in-depth study of the Old Testament Historical Writings in terms of literature, history, crucial

themes, and hermeneutical issues from a literary-historical-redemptive approach to Scripture and the Inter-testamentary history and writings.

- 215 **Biblical Theology: New Testament Gospels (3)** Spring, every third year
This course is an in-depth study of the Gospels in terms of literature, history, crucial themes, and hermeneutical issues from a literary-historical-redemptive approach to Scripture.
- 216 **Biblical Theology: New Testament Epistles (3)** Spring, every third year
This course is an in-depth study of the New Testament Epistles in terms of literature, history, crucial themes, and hermeneutical issues from a literary-historical-redemptive approach to Scripture.
- 217 **Biblical Theology: New Testament Church History–Acts, Revelation (3)** Spring, every third year
This course is an in-depth study of the New Testament historical setting and developments in terms of literature, history, crucial themes, and hermeneutical issues from a literary-historical-redemptive approach to Scripture.
- 221 **History of Christian Confessions (3)**.....Spring
A study of the history of the Church’s response to God’s Word as this response comes to expression in the significant ecclesiastical confessions. Emphasis is placed on the historical context in which the confessions, particularly those of the Reformed churches, were made.
- 222 **Calvin’s Institutes (3)**..... Fall
A study and discussion of the mature thought of John Calvin as found in the 1559 edition of his Institutes of the Christian Religion.
- 231 **Foundations of Missions and Evangelism (3)**..... Fall
A study of the biblical basis for missions and evangelism with a view to developing a theology of mission and relating this to contemporary problems of missions today.
- 251 **Spiritual Formation (3)**.....Spring
An exploration of how God works in our lives. Through discussion, readings, assessment testing, small group interaction, and spiritual disciplines students will explore how God has been developing their lives for his purpose and mission in the world. Students will analyze their history, personality, gifts, and passions to develop a personal vision and mission statement. This is the foundational course for the Youth Ministry program and open to all seeking God’s guidance for their lives.
- 252 **Foundations of Worship (3)** Fall Even
A study of the Scriptural foundation for worship and of the components of worship. There will be a brief study of historic patterns of worship, leading to the preparation of liturgies and the practice of worship-leading skills.
- 253 **Engaging Culture (3)**.....Spring Odd
A study of the tools needed to understand the impact of cultural dynamics upon communities of faith and the character of a biblically informed response to this impact in ministry.
- 254 **Teaching Bible to Adolescents (3)**.....Fall Odd
Discussion of a Reformed approach to the teaching of Bible. This course includes the study of the nature of faith, adolescent faith development, Reformed hermeneutics, pedagogical skills for teaching the Scriptures, and methods and content of the secondary (7-12) Bible curriculum. The course will cover theological and pedagogical foundations and the practical content of teaching Bible. Prerequisite: admission to the Teacher Education Program or by permission of instructor. [Cross-listed: Education 261]
- 281- **Service-Learning (1-3)**Fall, Spring, Summer
283 See page 161, Individual Studies

- 321 **Twentieth Century Theology (3)** Fall Even
This course will survey several important theologians and theological trends from the 20th century, including liberation theology and other significant schools of thought. Prerequisite: CORE 150.
- 322 **Major World Religions (3)** Spring Even
A study of major non-Christian religions of the world including Animism, Hinduism, Shinto, Buddhism, and Islam. Of special concern is the world and life view advanced by each religion and its manifestations in culture and society.
- 323 **Heresies and Sects (3)** Spring Odd
A survey of various confessional aberrations and consequent rise of different sects. Special attention will be given to the connections between all of this and the implied anthropologies and views of reality in general, and culture and society in particular.
- 324 **Reformed Theology (3)** Fall Odd
This course introduces major thinkers, creeds, and theological trends of the historical Reformed theology. It begins with basic themes of John Calvin, discusses its late 19th century development in the Netherlands and its modern expressions in North America and other places in the world. Students will understand basic themes of the Reformed theology against historical background and reflect them in their cultural setting.
- 331 **History of Missions and Evangelism (3)** Spring Odd
A study of the historical development of missions in the church with a view to understanding the complexity of missions in our times. Consideration will be given to different ecclesiastical traditions and historical paradigms the church has employed in its missionary endeavors. Prerequisite: Theology 231.
- 332 **Current Issues and Strategies in Missions and Evangelism (3)** Spring Even
An in-depth study of selected contemporary issues that the church faces in understanding and carrying out her mission in the 20th century. A selection of current issues will be made according to student need and interest. Selection will be made from such topics as contextualization; gospel and Western culture; urban missions; relation of verbal proclamation to social involvement; foundation for missions; unreached resistant and nominally Christian peoples; and tentmaking ministries. Prerequisite: Theology 231.
- 336 **Overseas Ministries Studies Center Seminars on World Mission (1-3)** Spring
A series of fourteen seminars on world mission held during the first two weeks in January in Madison, Connecticut, sponsored by The Overseas Ministries Study Center in New Haven, Connecticut. These seminars are taught by leading mission scholars from around the world. Limited enrollment and additional fees apply.
- 337 **ECHO Agricultural Conference (1)** Spring
Participation in the major agricultural development conference held the second week in December in Fort Myers, Florida. The Educational Concerns Hunger Organization hosts this international conference, which focuses on agricultural development, cross-cultural issues, and community development. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. [Cross-listed: Agriculture 337]
- 341- **Special Topics (3)** Occasional
348 These courses will cover a different topic each semester and each is designed to be a special interest course utilizing individual instructor strengths, interests, and competencies. Each course will cover a topic in theology not usually treated in-depth in regularly scheduled courses.
- 351 **Ecclesiology (3)** Fall Odd
Study of a Reformed approach to youth ministry in the context of the congregation. The course includes the study of a Reformed philosophy of youth ministry, the nature of the church, cultural dynamics that affect both youth ministry and the church, and the character of leadership that takes all these factors into account.
- 352 **Practical Issues in Youth Ministry (3)** Spring Even
A study of many youth ministry issues and skills such as vision-building, team-building, small group ministry, evange-

lism, administration, family ministry, discipleship, and programming.

- 361 **Senior Seminar (3)**.....Spring
This is the capstone course for Theology majors, but it is open to minors also. This course is to help those who have studied in theology consolidate their theological education to focus on contemporary issues in the church and develop the biblical message to address contemporary life in effective public address.
- 371- **Practicum in Youth Ministry (3-9)**.....Fall, Spring, Summer
373 Students will engage in field experience in a youth-ministry-related area under the guidance of both a site and a departmental supervisor. The experience will sample the types of activities included within the parameters of youth ministry. Three hours of course credit will be based on 126 hours of involvement. This course requires instructor permission PRIOR to pre-registration. Deadlines: April 15 for the summer and fall semester, November 15 for the spring semester.
- 375 **Practicum in Mission/Evangelism (1-3)**.....Fall, Spring, Summer
A department-approved practicum in the field of missions or evangelism. This may take place during the academic year or during the summer break. Work equivalent to a three-hour course is required.
- 391- **Individual Studies (1-3)**Fall, Spring, Summer
393 See page 161, Individual Studies