

LOYOLA INSTITUTE FOR MINISTRY (LIM)

DIRECTOR: Barbara J. Fleischer, Ph.D.

OFFICE: 200 Stallings

PROFESSORS: Bernard J. Lee, S.M., Th.D., Michael A. Cowan, Ph.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS: Gerald M. Fagin, S.J., Ph.D., Barbara Fleischer, Ph.D., Kathleen O’Gorman, Ed.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: Catherine P. Zeph, Ed.D.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: Billie Salisbury Baladouni, D. Min., Associate Director (Adjunct Faculty and Evaluation Services); Cecelia M. Bennett, J.C.L., Associate Director (Administrative Services); Reynolds R. Ekstrom, M.P.S., Associate Director (Program Development and Student Services); Todd McMahan, M.A., Associate Director (Instructional Technologies)

The institute offers a master’s degree in religious education (M.R.E.) and a master’s degree in pastoral studies (M.P.S.) on campus and in extension. On-campus (LIMOC) M.P.S. focus areas include small Christian community formation, pastoral care and counseling, pastoral life and administration, religion and ecology, African American ministries, Christian spirituality for pastoral ministry, marketplace ministry, youth ministry, Hispanic ministry, and the opportunity for an individualized program of study. Extension (LIMEX) focus areas include small Christian community formation, pastoral life and administration, religion and ecology, marketplace ministry, youth ministry, Hispanic ministry, and Christian spirituality for pastoral ministry. The institute also serves the continuing education needs of adults on campus and in extension offering both a continuing education certificate in religious education (C.R.E.) and a certificate in pastoral studies (C.P.S.). The students, faculty, and staff of the Loyola Institute for Ministry form a learning community gathered to enhance the quality of pastoral ministry in the Church. The institute serves as an educational resource for professionals and paraprofessionals engaged in, or preparing for, ministry and religious education, as well as laity who want to address themselves intentionally to their ministry in the world. The institute seeks an integration of knowledge of the Christian tradition, a sensitivity to the dynamics of the Church’s institutional life, a critical awareness of and appreciation for the times and cultures within which one lives and works, and an awareness of one’s self and one’s abilities and limitations.

ADMISSION TO UNIVERSITY

The admission process includes:

1. A formal completed application.
2. A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university, with a minimum 2.5 G.P.A. for all degree-seeking students.
3. Submission of official transcripts from colleges or universities previously attended for all degree-seeking students.
4. A statement of educational purpose.
5. A résumé of work experience including professional and/or voluntary ministerial responsibilities.
6. Two recommendations (on forms supplied by the institute) attesting to student’s capability for graduate study.
7. \$20 nonrefundable application fee.
8. For extension students, a notification of application form (supplied by Loyola) should

be sent directly to the sponsoring agency.

9. For LIM Outreach students, a notification of application form (supplied by Loyola) should be sent directly to the on-campus assistant director.

All materials should be sent directly to the LIM enrollment office **two months** prior to the start of the student's first course or semester. (International extension (LIMEX) students have these materials sent directly to their administrative liaison at their sponsoring agency.) This allows time for transcripts and other supporting documents to reach the LIM enrollment office and subsequently for the admissions committee to come to an admission decision. Late applications are accepted, but such applicants may only be admitted to their first LIM course as transient students.

ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY

The institute offers courses of instruction leading to the degrees of master of religious education and master of pastoral studies for properly qualified students who have been admitted to degree candidacy.

To apply for candidacy the student must file a formal petition to the institute's graduate studies committee on the basis of items listed below. (Extension program students are advanced to candidacy by the graduate studies committee when the following criteria are met.)

1. Not less than 12 credit hours nor more than 15 credit hours in the institute's graduate courses with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. For on-campus students, of these hours at least six must consist of core courses, including Introduction to Practical Theology.
2. Students must evidence responsible and competent participation in the learning process.
3. Currently registered for credit at Loyola.

Appropriate recommendations will be made by the graduate studies committee to the dean of City College as a result of their review. Degree candidates will be notified and such notification will become part of their permanent records. Students not admitted to candidacy will be informed of their deficiency. Removal of such deficiency under the direction of the student's advisor must take place upon completion of 15 credit hours. The student must then reapply for degree candidacy.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The candidate must complete a total of at least 36 credit hours of graduate work including the work earned prior to his or her admission to degree candidacy. A course in which the student has earned a grade of D or F cannot be counted toward the completion of the credit hour requirement, but will be used in determining the student's grade point average.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

In order to remain in good standing, a student must earn at least a C in all graduate courses taken and must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher in Loyola University graduate course work. A student who earns below a C in a graduate course, or whose cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0, will be placed on academic probation. Students admitted under the conditional status are admitted on academic probation and will be notified of their probationary status in their letter of admission.

A student on probation has nine hours or two semesters (whichever comes first) to remove the academic deficiency. If the deficiency is not removed in the allotted time, the student will be excluded from the program as a graduate student.

1. Upon receipt of course grade transcripts from the Office of Student Records, the associate dean of City College will notify students who have been placed on academic probation.
2. Conditionally admitted students, or students on probation who do not remove their academic deficiency in the next term, will receive a second letter notifying them that subsequent academic deficiencies will lead to exclusion from the university as a graduate student.
3. A probationary student who fails to make up his or her academic deficiency in the nine hours or two semesters will be excluded from the university as a graduate student.

CHANGE OF ACADEMIC STATUS

Students may change from graduate status in the program to continuing education status by written request. Continuing education students may apply to the LIM enrollment office for graduate status, subject to the standard graduate admissions requirements. Either change of status must occur only between courses or semesters.

PASTORAL AND EDUCATIONAL PRAXIS

In this capstone course, students employ the method of practical theology to reflect on their ministerial and educational praxis. Careful analysis of the social circumstances surrounding the identified concerns will be undertaken, as well as an appreciative and critical retrieval of the voice of the faith tradition. Based on that reflection, possible educational and ministerial interventions which meet criteria of pragmatic feasibility and religious faithfulness will be imagined and articulated verbally and in writing for evaluation and feedback. This course is required of all students except those in the pastoral counseling focus area.

ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

Each on-campus student consults with an institute advisor in planning his or her full program of graduate courses. The student should meet each semester with an academic advisor. Extension students are assigned an academic advisor when admitted. LIMEX instructors of record are available for consultation on academic concerns. Both may be contacted via a toll-free telephone number, e-mail, or fax.

TRANSFER CREDIT

On-campus students are allowed to transfer up to six hours of credit for graduate course work done in theology, religion, religious education, or pastoral ministry studies from an accredited institution. Original transcripts must be presented along with a request to the Graduate Studies Committee. For transfer credit in areas other than those mentioned, it is incumbent upon students to justify a clear and systematic relevance of the work to their LIM degree program. A request must be made to the Graduate Studies Committee, along with a 3 – 5 page rationale. If the transfer is accepted, the learning from the transferred courses is to be integrated into the student's Pastoral/Educational Praxis course.

Because of the extension program's unique educational methodology and sequential curriculum format, no transfer credit is allowed into the LIMEX program.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEUs)

Persons who participate under the continuing education status are persons who have extensive ministry experience, often in diocesan, school, or parish leadership positions, and have the ability to do the graduate-level reading. Some CEU students lack the required bachelor's degree to enroll for the graduate degree, while others already have graduate credentials and do not wish to earn another graduate degree. Persons who register as CEU students will receive continuing education units as defined by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. CEUs are recorded on a Loyola CEU transcript and kept in the permanent records of the university.

Continuing education credit is determined by class attendance, competent participation in the learning group or on-campus course, completion of reading assignments, and other activities necessary for participation in those sessions. Three CEUs are granted for each course in the LIMEX program. On campus, one credit hour equals one CEU. All CEU students who complete the extension or on-campus program receive a continuing education certificate in religious education or pastoral studies.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION ADMISSION

Those who are applying to the institute for admission under the continuing education status are required to complete the institute (graduate) application, pay a nonrefundable application fee, submit a résumé and statement of educational purpose and supply two recommendations (on forms provided by the institute) from professionals in ministry and/or education (pastor, DRE, etc.) who can attest to the applicant's involvement in ministry and ability to do graduate-level reading. This ability to engage in graduate-level reading must be evidenced in the application process.

FINANCIAL AID

Because Loyola offers substantial tuition discounts, additional university scholarships and grants are not available. Federal Student Financial Aid is only available to full-time and half-time students in New Orleans; thus, Extension students are not eligible. Other loan options are available. For information, contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at (504) 865-3231.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Loyola University Institute for Ministry
Campus Box 67
6363 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70118
(800) 777-5469 (U.S. and Canada)
0800-896-344 (U.K.)
0800-895-326 (Switzerland)
Fax: (504) 865-2066
E-mail: LIM@loyno.edu

ON-CAMPUS PROGRAM (LIMOC) MASTER OF PASTORAL STUDIES AND MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The LIM on-campus master's degree programs are designed for those laypersons, members of religious orders, and ordained persons who are currently engaged in or are preparing for pastoral or educational ministries and who seek to enhance the quality of their ministry activities through a systematic ministry education. On-campus courses focus on the development of ministers who are critically reflective about themselves, their vision and their efforts. The LIM on-campus student identifies his or her educational goal for the program and critically reviews the theological assumptions underlying his or her ministerial action. Specific courses may be waived based on a student's prior academic experience.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for both the master of religious education and the master of pastoral studies consist of 36 credit hours:

- a) The theological core courses (18 credit hours)
- b) Focus area courses (12 credit hours)
- c) Elective courses (6 credit hours) chosen by the student.

THEOLOGICAL CORE COURSES

18 credit hours

LIM 703	Introduction to Practical Theology	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 711	Jewish Roots of Christian Faith	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 712	Christian Origins: Intro to New Testament	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 714	Grace, Christ, and Spirit	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 722	Church, Sacraments, and Ministry	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 704	Spirituality, Morality, and Ethics	3 cr. hrs.

FOCUS AREA COURSES

12 credit hours

Master of Religious Education

LIM 701	Foundations of Religious Education	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 715	Curriculum Development	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 716	Religious Education Across the Curriculum	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Master of Pastoral Studies

Christian Spirituality for Ministry

LIM 827	Spirituality for Ministers	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 828	History of Christian Spirituality	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Pastoral Life and Administration

LIM 844	Parish Life and Ministry	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 861	Pastoral Leadership and Organization	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Pastoral Care and Counseling

LIM 849	Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling	3 cr. hrs.
EDGRA 830	Counseling Theories	3 cr. hrs.
EDGRA 835	Counseling Practice	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 897	Clinical Pastoral Experience (CPE)	3 cr. hrs.

Marketplace Ministry

LIM 819	Spirituality and the Theology of Work	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 820	Ministry in the Marketplace	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Religion and Ecology

LIM 813	The Universe as Divine Manifestation	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 814	The Emergent Universe: Our Sacred Story	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Youth Ministry

LIM 870	Foundations of Youth Ministry	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 876	Adolescent Spirituality and Methods of Faith Development	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Hispanic Ministry

LIM 833	Hispanic Experience of Religion and Culture	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 834	Pastoral Ministry in Hispanic Communities	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

African-American Ministries

LIM 815	The African-American Experience in Religion and Culture	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 816	African-American Religious Experience and Black Church History	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Small Christian Community Formation

LIM 809	The Inner Life of Small Christian Communities	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 810	The Public Life of Small Christian Communities	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Individualized Program

	6 hours from other focus areas/electives in consultation with an academic advisor	
LIM 750	Dynamics of Small Group Life	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Electives All focus areas allow for 6 credit hours of elective courses chosen by the student to suit his or her own needs and interests.

ON-CAMPUS SUMMER PROGRAM

In addition to year-round evening/weekend courses in the on-campus program, LIM offers an intensive six-week summer program on campus which includes morning, afternoon, evening, and weekend courses along with community building, shared prayer, and social activities. A master's degree program can usually be completed in four summers, except for the pastoral care and counseling and African-American ministries focus area courses which are only offered in fall and spring semesters. These must be completed in a year-round format.

ON-CAMPUS GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

A graduate certificate in theology and ministry may be awarded to persons who have completed a total of 18 credit hours of graduate study at the Institute for Ministry. Twelve of the 18 hours must be in theological core courses; six additional elective credits complete the certificate. Transfer credits from other institutions are not accepted. Upon completion of 12 hours, graduate certificate students must apply for the certificate or, at this time, apply for candidacy for a degree program. Twelve graduate credits of the graduate certificate may be applied to a master of religious education or a master of pastoral studies.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

Because of the geography and size of the greater New Orleans area, the Institute for Ministry offers the LIM Outreach format as an option for students at a variety of off-campus locations.

Students form intentional learning communities of 6 to 15 persons and complete the theological core courses, consisting of 18 credit hours of the program, in their own location through the LIM extension program format. Students then complete their remaining 18 credit hours of focus area and elective courses on campus, drawing from the rich array of course offerings presented by Loyola faculty and visiting scholars who are known internationally for their work in theology, ministry, and religious education. The delivery format thus combines the advantages of local study and the community-building strength of the extension program with the teaching excellence of internationally known faculty and academic enhancements offered on campus.

ON-CAMPUS AND OUTREACH TUITION

All graduate credit students on campus and in outreach courses with LIM receive a reduced tuition rate because of the Jesuit commitment to ministry education.

EXTENSION PROGRAM (LIMEX) MASTER OF PASTORAL STUDIES OR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In partnership with a sponsoring diocese or other religious institution, Loyola Institute for Ministry (LIM) offers its degree and certificate programs by extension. Students meet in learning groups led by a Loyola-certified facilitator for ten of the courses. In these common courses, students engage in ten three-hour sessions that involve discussion of printed lectures and other assigned readings, videotaped input by nationally known scholars, and other educational interactions. Students also choose two additional courses in a focus area from a variety of available options. These courses are taken in a semi-independent study format. The program is designed to provide in-depth

information and reflection on the theory and skills appropriate to ministry and religious education in a variety of settings. A complete prospectus as well as a *LIMEX Policy Manual* on the extension program can be obtained from the institute's office.

EXTENSION PROGRAM CURRICULUM

The requirements for both the master of religious education and the master of pastoral studies consist of 36 credit hours:

- the theological core course (18 credit hours)
- the context of ministry courses and the capstone course (12 credit hours)
- focus areas chosen by the student (6 credit hours).

Theological Core Courses (18 credit hours)

LIMX 703	Introduction to Practical Theology	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 711	Jewish Roots of Christian Faith	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 712	Christian Origins: Intro to New Testament	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 714	Grace, Christ, and Spirit	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 722	Church, Sacraments, and Ministry	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 704	Spirituality, Morality, and Ethics	3 cr. hrs.

Context of Ministry Courses and Capstone Courses (12 credit hours)

LIMX 840	The Sociocultural Context of Ministry and Religious Education	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 860	Faith Development and Spirituality	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 861	Pastoral Leadership and Organization	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 886	Pastoral and Educational Praxis	3 cr. hrs.

Focus Area Courses (6 credit hours) (The first focus course is a prerequisite to the second course of a focus area.)

Master of Religious Education

LIMX 701	Foundations of Religious Education	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 715	Curriculum Development	3 cr. hrs.

Master of Pastoral Studies

Christian Spirituality for Ministry (focus area):

LIMX 827	Spirituality for Ministers	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 828	History of Christian Spirituality	3 cr. hrs.

Pastoral Life and Administration (focus area):

LIMX 844	Parish Life and Ministry	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 845	Contemporary Issues in Pastoral Ministry	3 cr. hrs.

Youth Ministry (focus area):

LIM 870	Foundations of Youth Ministry	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 876	Adolescent Spirituality and Methods of Faith Development	3 cr. hrs.

Hispanic Ministry (focus area):

LIM 833	Hispanic Experience of Religion and Culture	3 cr. hrs.
LIM 834	Pastoral Ministry in Hispanic Communities	3 cr. hrs.

Religion and Ecology (focus area):

LIMX 813	The Universe as Divine Manifestation	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 814	The Emergent Universe: Our Sacred Story	3 cr. hrs.

Marketplace Ministry (focus area):

LIMX 819	Spirituality and the Theology of Work	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 820	Ministry in the Marketplace	3 cr. hrs.

Small Christian Community Formation (focus area):

LIMX 809	The Inner Life of Small Christian Communities	3 cr. hrs.
LIMX 810	The Public Life of Small Christian Communities	3 cr. hrs.

LIMEX ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance in the extension program is compulsory. Each course meets at least ten times to carry out a three-hour learning design provided by the institute. In the event of illness or emergency a student who misses one or two sessions may make these sessions up and remain in the course. Under extraordinary circumstances, a third absence may be made up with documentation of the reason for the absence. Any request for a waiver of this policy must be put in writing.

LIMEX RETENTION STATISTICS

In the 1992 – 93 academic year the average rate of attrition in learning groups was 12 percent. Students withdraw from the extension program for a number of different reasons, most of which center around lack of time to devote to the academic requirements of the program.

LIMEX WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSES

The administrative withdrawal period ends with the fifth session of the course. Through this time, students may withdraw from a course and receive a W in the course. After the fifth session a student may withdraw from the course and receive a WP in the course. Failure to obtain an administrative withdrawal will result in the grade of F.

LIMEX REFUND POLICY

Students who cancel or withdraw from a course are in some cases entitled to a percentage refund of their tuition. Those who cancel or withdraw must do so by completing an official cancellation/withdrawal form found in their policy manuals.

Mere cessation of attendance does not constitute official withdrawal. The date and circumstances of official withdrawal will determine the amount of tuition refund. No refunds are made when a student is suspended or dismissed for academic, disciplinary, or financial reasons. Tuition refunds are made on the following schedule:

- nonattendance at the first session, a 100 percent refund, less a \$50 administrative fee;
- nonattendance after the fifth session, a 50 percent refund;
- if a physician's certificate is attached to the cancellation/withdrawal form for nonattendance at any point in the course, a 100 percent refund.

WRITING ASSISTANCE

Assistance with writing assignments for courses in the graduate program is offered in conjunction with Loyola's Writing Across the Curriculum center. This gives LIMEX graduate students the opportunity to confer with a writing tutor on all phases of the writing process. Students may contact a tutor by calling the LIMEX office.

EXTENSION STUDENTS AND LIBRARY SERVICES

Any LIMEX student may come to Loyola University and use the catalogs, print and electronic indexes, and all other materials available for use by Loyola students. Borrowing privileges are the same for all students, and the circulation desk will issue bar codes for any LIM or LIMEX students wishing to borrow materials from Loyola's libraries. Extension students with Internet access may log on to the library's web page and link onto the library's on-line public access catalog. Any material not held by the University Library may be requested through interlibrary loan.

Additionally, extension students may contact the Loyola University distance education librarian and request to have mediated searches of automated databases performed for them, but in some cases they will be billed for the search, just as all other students would be so charged. Other services of the extension librarian include searching the Loyola library for books and journals. Dial-up access to LUCI, Loyola University Catalog Information, is available to extension students, if they have access to a personal computer and a modem.

The practicalities involved in obtaining books when the student needs them through the mail often make it difficult to use the campus library. It is for this reason that the Extension Program requires that a professional library be established locally for extension students which must include, but is not limited to, the books on the LIMEX bibliographies.

Sponsoring agencies also agree to provide access for students to college, public, and theological libraries in their area. These local libraries enhance student access to a great variety of additional resource materials. It is through these local libraries that extension students may best gain access to Internet.

LIMEX TUITION AND FEES

All extension students are assessed tuition and fees on a per course basis. Tuition and fee schedules are available from the LIM office. Because of the uncertainty of the economy and university budgetary projections, the institute reserves the right to change tuition, fees, or other charges.

Extension program students are exempt from most university fees, such as student government and university center fees. There are, however, some fees charged for returned checks and processing late papers.

Some dioceses and other sponsoring agencies charge a modest administrative fee to help defray administrative costs in the local area. Payment of this fee is not required by nor shared with the institute and in no way affects a student's academic status in the extension program. However, students are encouraged to pay such a fee to assist in the local operation of the program.

The institute does not have a monthly tuition payment plan. Tuition and fees are paid in full at registration which should occur at least five weeks prior to the first session of the course.

LIMEX LEARNING GROUP DISCIPLINE

A student who engages in behavior which is disruptive to the learning group environment is in violation of the LIMEX Learning Agreement and LIMEX Policy. Such conduct may cause removal from that learning group and can result in removal from the course with a grade of W. A second such disruption may result in suspension or dismissal from the university. The student has the right to appeal the decision in accord with LIMEX policy.

SPECIALIZED CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL LIFE AND ADMINISTRATION

The specialized certificate program offers advanced-level ministry education courses, readings, and integrating project work for persons currently engaged or soon to be engaged in pastoral ministry leadership roles in local Christian faith communities.

Entrance into the program requires one of the following:

1. An earned master's degree (or master's degree candidacy) in pastoral studies, religious studies, religious education, or a closely-related field of study;
2. A certificate in pastoral studies (C.P.S.) or certificate in religious education (C.R.E.) from the LIMEX program of Loyola University New Orleans;
3. A bachelor's degree plus three or more years of documented ministry leadership experience; or
4. The ability to do advanced-level readings/study, plus in-depth and documented, practical ministry leadership experience (5 years or more).

This certificate program consists of six courses. Each course earns two CEUs. On-campus students who qualify may also take the courses for graduate credit. Upon successful completion of all course work the student earns a specialized certificate in pastoral life and administration from the Loyola Pastoral Life Center (LPLC), a division of the institute that offers continuing education and enrichment courses for pastoral ministers and religious educators.

Specialized Certificate Curriculum

- Pastoral Life and Ministry
- Pastoral Leadership and Organization
- Canon Law and Civil Law for the Pastoral Minister
- Stewardship and Financial Management in the Local Faith Community
- Presiding in Parish Prayer and Worship
- Contemporary Issues in Pastoral Life

FOCUS COURSES FOR LIM ALUMS

Post-Master's Certificate in Pastoral Studies

Advanced Continuing Education Certificate in Pastoral Studies

LIM alums who complete two focus areas (twelve credit hours) as alums, may earn either a Postmasters Certificates in Pastoral Studies (graduate credit) or an Advanced Certificate in Pastoral Studies (CEU credit). Alums, when they begin course work in their second focus area, may apply for these certificates. The first focus course must be finished or in process before registering for the second focus course of that same focus area.

LOYOLA INSTITUTE FOR MINISTRY GRADUATE COURSES

LIM/LIMX 701 Foundations of Religious Education

3 cr. hrs.

This course is an immersion in the tradition of religious education. It samples the array of perspectives that inform and constitute the field and helps the students locate one's own practical understanding of its meaning and mission. It relates the religious character of education to its explicit forms of practice within religious tradition.

- LIM/LIMX 703 Introduction to Practical Theology** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course seeks to help participants develop a rhythm of disciplined reflection and action for the sake of the reign of God. The traditions of the church, culture, institutional life and personal life are the matrices of practical theology. Interpretation theory and social analysis are key components of the conversation in which faith and daily life meet and build.
- LIM/LIMX 704 Spirituality, Morality, and Ethics** **3 cr. hrs.**
 Students study the connections between personal spirituality and Christian living as a background for exploring personal moral decision-making and social ethics today. A contemporary understanding of sin and moral choice introduces a consideration of moral norms, conscience, and decision-making. Careful reflection upon and discernment of the basis of one's own moral choices and decision-making are major components of the course.
- LIM/LIMX 711 The Jewish Roots of Christian Faith** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores the religious heritage of ancient Israel largely through reference to its sacred writing (the Old Testament). It examines the major themes of promise-fulfillment and covenant in Israel's history from the patriarchal period to the apocalyptic era, which was the context of Jesus' life and teachings. The events, metaphors, symbols, stories, and persons which become the interpretive background for New Testament authors will be highlighted.
- LIM/LIMX 712 Christian Origins: Intro to New Testament** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course attempts to uncover "the kingdom of God" in the experience that Jesus effected during His earthly ministry. A study of Jesus' parables, healings, table fellowship with outcasts, and intimacy with "Abba" lead participants to a root understanding of Christian religious experience. The progress of faith developed in the network of Christian communities from Jesus' death/resurrection to the end of the first century in the common era will be studied.
- LIM/LIMX 714 Grace, Christ, and Spirit** **3 cr. hrs.**
 In this course, students study grace as God's universal invitation to personal and communal transcendence (fundamental theology). The course examines the work of God's Spirit (pneumatology) in the redemptive transformation of human experience (soteriology), and focuses on Jesus as the touchstone historical manifestation of God in human history (Christology). The course cites important moments in the history of Christian thought, with attention to how language, culture, and history have affected our interpretation of God's saving acts (historical theology). God-person-world meanings, with the theology of Karl Rahner as an example of a contemporary theology of grace, are explored.
- LIM/LIMX 715 Curriculum Development** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course examines a developmental view of curriculum and helps students achieve competence in structuring learning processes that are engaging, appropriate, and effective, while understanding the practice of curriculum as the crafting of an ecology of learning.
- LIM 716 Religious Education Across the Curriculum** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course envisions a school in which religious education is set at the center of the academic curriculum. Within such a school religious education would obviously take the traditional form of a discrete subject that is concerned with passing on to students the distinctive teachings of the Catholic faith. This explicit focus of necessity remains but a part of the whole curriculum. What is needed and taken up in the course is a more comprehensive and integrated understanding and practice of religious education in which the religious educator partners with teachers to illumine the presence and activity of God, of the sacred, that ultimately and intimately pervades every subject and discipline as well as to affirm and support these teachers' more implicit practice of religious education.

- LIM/LIMX 722 Church, Sacraments, and Ministry** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course helps students understand the experience of church through a historical purview of how community has prayed and ritualized its experience (sacraments, liturgy) of Jesus Christ and how ministry and leadership have functioned throughout its life (laity, hierarchy, structure). It examines the church's self-understandings as disclosed in this purview of the Christian community's life. Special attention is given to Vatican II and postconciliar developments in ecclesiology, especially, vis-a-vis the theology of the local church.
- LIM 744 Stewardship and Financial Management** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course offers a rationale for the integration of foundational issues in pastoral ministry with the principles of sound financial management in parish settings. Application and management of stewardship programs in ecclesial environments, measurement and reporting issues, managerial accounting and financial data for decision making are studied.
- LIM 750 Dynamics of Small Group Life** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course addresses communications skills, developmental stages of group life, leadership styles and models, group dynamics, conflict and negotiation in educational, pastoral, and small community contexts. (This course is required for MPS focus areas in small Christian community formation, pastoral life and administration, religion and ecology, African-American Ministries, and in the individualized program.)
- LIM 800 Topics in Religious Education** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores specific issues and concerns in Religious Education. Topics may include history of faith sharing, experiential education, development of educational theory, educational programming, art of teaching, developing a community of educators, and religious education in Latin America.
- LIM 804 Models of Religious Education** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course is designed for those students who are already or soon to be director of religious education. Four interrelated areas will be explored: the role and responsibilities of the DRE, administrative skills, models of educating and learning, and the prophetic dimensions of educational ministry.
- LIM/LIMX 809 Inner Life of Small Christian Communities** **3 cr. hrs.**
 A true Christian community is both gathered (faith's internal life) and sent (faith's public life). This course examines the internal life of small Christian communities: their leadership, communications, worship, and decision-making. It includes historical and theological perspectives of the functioning of Christian communities inside their own boundaries.
- LIM/LIMX 810 Public Life of Small Christian Communities** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores the public life of small faith communities. The course includes historical and theological perspectives on the relationship between Christian communities and their surrounding cultures and society.
- LIM 811 Old Testament Topics** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course focuses on particular books or themes from the Old Testament collection. Topics may include Pentateuch, Prophets, the historical writings or the Psalms, and themes such as creation, promise and fulfillment, or ritual patterns may be considered.
- LIM 812 New Testament Topics** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores specific books and themes in the New Testament literature. The focus may vary from the Pauline writings to the Gospel of John, from an inquiry into the teachings of the historical Jesus to the vision of the Church in the Pauline mission.

- LIM 825 Methods of Theological Reflection 3/1 cr. hrs.**
 Students explore a variety of methods for theological reflection, including theology of story; journal keeping; process theology; liberation theology; the interaction of culture, tradition, and personal experience; and case studies. In any given semester one of these methods may become the focus of the course.
- LIM/LIMX 827 Spirituality for Ministers 3 cr. hrs.**
 This course will discuss the theological foundation of Christian life and explore how ministry is rooted in and gives expression to the minister's relationship with God. Students will be invited to reflect on prayer, discernment, and spiritual growth in the context of finding God in the midst of ministry.
- LIM/LIMX 828 History of Christian Spirituality 3 cr. hrs.**
 This course is an introduction to the variety of experiences and expressions of Christian spirituality from the roots of the Hebrew Scriptures to contemporary spiritual writing. The course will focus on monasticism, mysticism, and modern apostolic spirituality as a way of exploring the recurring questions and challenges that shape the human search for God.
- LIM 832 Sacramental Topics 3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course focuses on particular sacraments or groups of sacraments such as Reconciliation or Marriage, sacraments of initiation, or sacraments of healing. In any given semester the focus of this course will change to address particular sacramental concerns.
- LIM/LIMX 833 Hispanic Experience of Religion and Culture 3 cr. hrs.**
 This course presents an overview of the diversity of Hispanic cultures in the United States and introduces participants to the history and development of Hispanic/Latino/Latina theologies that have emerged in the U.S. context since the second half of the twentieth century. Participants will gain an appreciative awareness of various cultural symbols and expressions of religious life among Hispanic communities and explore the implications of these for ministry among Hispanic peoples.
- LIM/LIMX 834 Pastoral Ministry in Hispanic Communities 3 cr. hrs.**
 Rooted in an understanding of cultural and religious experiences of Hispanics in the U.S. context, this course explores various pastoral approaches that address issues particularly significant in Hispanic communities. Theological reflection on ministry is interwoven throughout the course.
- LIM 835 Current Moral Issues 3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores current moral issues in personal life, work/profession and sociopolitical life. Students will focus on a particular moral issue such as abortion or nuclear war or on the theoretical and practical implications of contemporary moral theory in a broad category of contemporary life such as sexuality or politics.
- LIM 836 Human Sexuality and Christian Faith 3/1 cr. hrs.**
 The course explores the significance of human sexuality, its expression in personal experience, and cultural influence.
- LIMX 840 The Sociocultural Context
 of Ministry and Religious Education 3 cr. hrs.**
 This course introduces students to a broad array of disciplines and analytical skills in examining their own cultural and social contexts. The course is designed to assist students in the social sciences and in attuning themselves to sociocultural dynamics in their ministries and educational practice.

- LIM 842** **Peace and Justice Ministry** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores the theoretical and practical issues involved in peace and justice ministry today. Particular issues such as the morality of nuclear war, world hunger, and human rights as well as pastoral approaches to community organizing and political participation will be studied in any given semester.
- LIM 843** **Women’s Issues in Church and Culture** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course offers an exploration of the historical, psychological, and sociological factors which continue to influence the patriarchal tradition in the Western World. The course focuses on the perspective and experience women offer Church and society.
- LIM/LIMX 844** **Parish Life and Ministry** **3 cr. hrs.**
 The aim of this course is to help participants reflect on today’s experience of the parish in its many shapes and forms. Pastoral practice and canon law are used during the course as reference points for discussion of the pastoral and canonical issues raised by the student and the course content.
- LIM/LIMX 845** **Contemporary Issues in Pastoral Ministry** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course examines a number of challenges and issues that pastoral leaders face today, especially within the diverse forms of ministry found in local faith communities. Participants will explore various topics related to pastoral ministry, including team ministry, transitions to lay pastoral administrators, ministry in a pluralistic church, and a spirituality of pastoral ministry. Course participants will also examine in more depth ministry to a particular population in their home community (e.g., youth ministry, family ministry, ministry to the bereaved, ministry to single young adults, etc.) and will present a needs analysis identifying the most pressing ministerial needs found among the populations they have chosen to study along with their proposed ministerial responses to those needs.
- LIM 849** **Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course is a religious and social psychological introduction to the basic stance of pastoral care and counseling. It explores how pastoral counseling is like and not like secular counseling practice and articulates the unique characteristics of forms of counseling calling themselves pastoral.
- LIM 855** **Psychology and Spirituality** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course offers an examination of psychological theories and classical theological models of spirituality.
- LIM 856** **Topics in Christian Spirituality** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores particular classical spiritualities such as St. Ignatius’ spiritual exercises or the spiritual vision of Meister Eckhart, or more generic themes such as prayer and contemporary spiritual discipline.
- LIM 857** **Spiritual Direction** **3/1 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores the art and method of discernment. It examines the traditions of the art as well as the contributions of psychology and Eastern religious perspectives.
- LIMX 860** **Faith Development and Spirituality** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course explores patterns of human development and spirituality in the faith life of adults. Students reflect upon their own faith journeys as well as the developmental paths of those to whom they minister and educate.

LIM/LIMX 861 Pastoral Leadership and Organization 3 cr. hrs.

This course explores the meaning of pastoral leadership in light of the current research in organizational development and ecclesiology. Current leadership literature is surveyed in light of the mission of the church and the ecclesial vision of participants. Special emphasis is placed upon participative strategic planning processes and organizational development. Participants will analyze an organizational system for its strengths and weaknesses and propose interventions that would strengthen its organizational functioning.

LIM 863 Family Systems 3 cr. hrs.

This course offers an integrational perspective on family systems. The primary purpose of this course is to help participants understand more deeply how the web of family relationships continues to affect all of our interpersonal relationships, including our professional ones. A parallel goal is to sensitize ourselves to the effects of family history on those with whom we interact as professionals in counseling and ministry.

LIM/LIMX 870 Foundations of Youth Ministry 3 cr. hrs.

The course examines the broad foundations of youth ministry with younger and older adolescents. It then investigates a model for comprehensive youth ministry that incorporates developmentally sound youth programs, strengthens the family's role in the lives of young people, involves adolescents as integral members of the local church, and reaches out to key individuals and organizations in the wider community in the dynamic effort to promote healthy youth formation.

LIM 874 Special Topics in Ministry 3/1 cr. hrs.

Students in this course will focus on particular topics critical to their concerns in ministry. Such topics as ministry to the sick and dying, ministry to the aged, and ministry in minority communities will be explored in any given semester.

LIM/LIMX 876 Adolescent Spirituality and Methods of Faith Development 3 cr. hrs.

With this course, students first examine in depth the phenomenon and characteristics of adolescent spirituality today. They then examine typical stages of religious development during the adolescent years. Finally, students direct their attention to a study of a variety of methodologies to enhance and encourage the faith development of youth, and appropriate to helping youth grow in religious knowledge and religious expression.

LIM 880 Ministry and the Arts 3/1 cr. hrs.

This course explores the use of music, mime, art, dance, media, poetry, and storytelling in ritual and religious education. The arts are considered as vehicles of theological expression and liturgical celebration.

LIM 885 Religious Communication 3/1 cr. hrs.

This course explores how a variety of communication media can benefit ministers in their particular settings. Both theory and practice of contemporary communication media, especially the use of television, are explored with hands-on experience.

LIM/LIMX 886 Pastoral and Educational Praxis 3 cr. hrs.

In this capstone course, students employ the method of practical theology to reflect on concerns related to their ministerial and educational praxis. Careful analyses that include the social and cultural circumstances surrounding their identified praxis will be undertaken, as well as an appreciative and critical retrieval of the voice of the faith tradition. Based on that reflection, possible educational and ministerial interventions which meet criteria of pragmatic feasibility and religious faithfulness will be examined and articulated verbally and in writing for evaluation and feedback.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CHAIR: Kenneth P. Keulman, Ph.D.

OFFICE: 408 Bobet Hall

DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE RELIGIOUS STUDIES: Stephen J. Duffy, S.T.D.

PROFESSORS: Stephen J. Duffy, James W. Gaffney (emeritus), Robert K. Gnuse,
Vernon J. Gregson, Kenneth P. Keulman, Earl J. Richard, Catherine Wessinger

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS: Tiina K. Allik, Peter J. Bernardi, S.J., Thomas A. Smith

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: E. Christian Brugger, Timothy Cahill

PROVOST DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR: Denis R. Janz

The master of arts program in religious studies aims at providing a solid and well-rounded foundation in theology and religious studies.

The curriculum is conceived as a broad comprehensive approach to the study of religion. The major concern is to develop in the degree candidate a capability of approaching the field with a sensitivity to scripture, the historical development of western religious thought, an ecumenical awareness, an interdisciplinary mentality, and knowledge of the field's varied methodologies.

More specifically, the program hopes to provide a solid academic basis in religious studies for its students, who will upon completion of their degree enter into a variety of occupations: teaching religion in high schools or on the primary level, functioning as religious education coordinators on the parish level, serving as staff members of Christian centers, conducting retreats and workshops, organizing and teaching in adult education programs, or working in offices of religious education. The program is also designed to accommodate those who wish to embark upon the first step to the doctoral degree in religious studies or theology and for priests, ministers, religious, and laity who wish to update their theological understanding. Finally, the program aims to service those who wish to develop their knowledge and understanding of religion as one of the major forces in the shaping of culture in human history.

In conjunction with the School of Law, the department also offers the opportunity to pursue the joint juris doctor/master of arts. This program is particularly well suited to those whose professional work combines legal issues with matters of religion or with cross-cultural concerns. Students in this program must be separately admitted to the School of Law as well as to the graduate program in religious studies. The School of Law and the Department of Religious Studies each accept nine credit hours from the other's program to make a combined total of 103 hours for the J.D./M.A.

ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY

A bachelor of arts degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university is required for admission. Applicants normally must have an overall average of 2.5 in their undergraduate work.

Applicants must have an appropriate background in undergraduate studies. An applicant without such a background may be expected to take preliminary work in religious studies for undergraduate credit.

COURSE PROGRAM

Thirty credit hours must be obtained by either of two programs:

Program A: 30 class hours

Program B: 24 class hours plus 6 hours of thesis preparation.

Reading competence in at least one appropriate foreign language, ancient or modern, is required. Competence in a foreign language will be determined by a departmental examination. Students must pass this examination before the completion of 12 credit hours of work.

The Graduate Record Examination must be taken prior to the second semester of enrollment in the M.A. degree program.

Each student is required to complete foundational courses in the following areas:

- biblical literature
- systematic theology
- the history of Christianity
- ethics
- world religions

By choice of electives, students can then develop a concentration in any of these areas.

Upon completion of class requirements for either program A or program B, each student will take comprehensive examinations which will have both written and oral components. J.D./M.A. students have the option of a capstone project instead of comprehensives.

An average of B must be maintained for all work.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES GRADUATE COURSES

RELS A701 Biblical Methodologies

3 cr. hrs.

This course exposes students to contemporary critical methods used in the scholarly analysis of the biblical text, including form criticism, source criticism, and tradition historical criticism among others. Significant portions of the biblical text will be analyzed.

RELS A704 Pauline Writings

3 cr. hrs.

This course offers an introduction to Pauline studies (life of the Apostle, epistolary genre), and an exposition of the thought of Paul and its development in his seven authentic letters with a focus upon Paul as pastoral theologian and his concepts of God's lordship, the nature and role of the Christ-event, and the consequences of this event for humanity. The course concludes with a survey of the Paulinist writers, i.e., those who later wrote in Paul's name.

RELS A706 The Synoptic Writers

3 cr. hrs.

Following a brief introduction to Synoptic research, this course studies each writer in turn—Mark, Matthew, and the author of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles—to discern their sources, structure, purpose, and theology with special attention to the uniqueness of each writer as narrator and thinker, to the story as a totality, and to the intended audience's response.

RELS A708 Johannine Literature

3 cr. hrs.

This course examines the uniqueness of the Johannine corpus (a gospel, a theological tract, and two letters) and community, with a focus on the background, composition, structure, and theology of the Fourth Gospel. Also the later documents produced by this unusual community as it merged into the wider Christian community will be examined.

RELS A712 Ethics: Systems and Issues

3 cr. hrs.

This is a basic course acquainting the student with main approaches to normative ethics, both personal and social, and to the analysis of ethical language and argumentation.

RELS A715 The History of Exegesis

3 cr. hrs.

This course presents an overview of the history of biblical interpretation from the Patristic age to the present. Participants will select an important biblical passage and trace the history of its interpretation.

RELS A718 Early Christian Thought

3 cr. hrs.

This course looks at the development of Christian thought through the ante and post Nicene periods to the end of the patristic period, with readings in primary sources.

- RELS A720 Medieval Christian Thought** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course examines Christian thought from the end of the patristic period to the eve of the Reformation. Within this period interest will center on the three centuries between 1000 A.D. and 1300 A.D.—the time when the Middle Ages reached their apogee.
- RELS A722 Reformation and Counter Reformation** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course examines the theological positions advanced by the principal reformers, e.g., Luther, Melancthon, Zwingli, Calvin, etc., and the Roman Catholic response made at the Council of Trent.
- RELS A724 Theology in the 19th and 20th Centuries** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course will trace the rise and development of liberal and neo-orthodox theology in Protestantism and developments in Roman Catholicism during this period of clash between religion and modernity. Revisionist and post-liberal theologies are also studied.
- RELS A726 Classical Christian Thinkers I** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course offers an introduction to key episodes in the history of Christian thought by reading recognized theological classics from the pre-Reformation era.
- RELS A727 Classical Christian Thinkers II** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course gives an introduction to key episodes in the history of Christian thought by reading recognized theological classics from the Reformation and post-Reformation eras.
- RELS A728 The Christian God** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course looks at the problem of belief as it evolved from the Enlightenment period to the present, bearing on the secularization process, on God-talk and traditional approaches to God. It will include investigation of recent efforts by process thinkers to reconstruct the idea of God, and implications for Christian theology and life.
- RELS A730 Christology** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course gives a brief overview of New Testament Christology followed by a study of the development of the pre-Nicene views of Christ and his relation to the Father; the rise of heterodox counterpositions; the official response at various stages of dialectic culminating in the Councils of Nicea, Constantinople I, Ephesus, and Chalcedon; and contemporary critiques of the classical Christological model and recent revisions.
- RELS A732 Church and Sacraments** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course is a study of the theology of Christian sacraments: structure and function of sacramental economy; a theology of the symbol; the dialectic between rite and church; the relationship between sacramental life and secular existence; and the religious import of non-Roman Catholic sacraments.
- RELS A733 Ecumenical Theology** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course reviews the origins of Christian division and the motives for the restoration of Christian unity. It reviews recent theological literature and focuses on the joint statements of interfaith dialogues.
- RELS A738 Theological Method** **3 cr. hrs.**
This is a seminar discussion of the problems raised by philosophical theology for doing theology in the contemporary intellectual context. Readings will be taken from authors such as Lonergan, Rahner, Nygren, Gilkey, Ogden, Tracy, and Pannenberg.

- RELS A744 The Theology of Bernard Lonergan** **3 cr. hrs.**
 Bernard Lonergan has developed a contemporary theological method for the integration of religion with the other dimensions of human existence, principally the human and natural sciences and society. This method and its philosophical basis will be studied in detail. Some background in philosophy is recommended.
- RELS A746 Theology of Karl Rahner** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course offers a reading survey of the writings of the theologian who has probably been the single most important thinker in the reshaping of contemporary Roman Catholic theology.
- RELS A748 Religions of Asia** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course offers a study of the history and contemporary status of Hinduism, Buddhism, the Chinese religious tradition, and Islam.
- RELS A749 Islam, Muhammad, and Qur'an** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course looks at the rise and development of Islam. The Qur'an will be critically read. Topics include the life of Muhammad, Sunnah, Shiah, and the Shariah.
- RELS A750 Theology of Religions** **3 cr. hrs.**
 Is a unified understanding of religion possible given the diversity of religious manifestations? This course offers an inquiry into the history and contemporary status of attempts to explore questions surrounding interreligious dialogue.
- RELS A754 Christian Spirituality** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course provides a historical and theological study of the development of Christian spirituality and of the teachings of the major schools.
- RELS A755 Dynamics of Salvation** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course is a study of the history and contemporary status of theories of redemption.
- RELS A756 Theological Anthropology** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course is a study of the doctrine of grace as it emerged from the scriptures, the Patristic tradition, the medieval synthesis, and through the Reformation period down to the present era. The focus is on anthropological implications.
- RELS A758 Biblical Morality** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course looks at historical exposition accompanied by individual research on selected texts that have strongly influenced Christian morality.
- RELS A760 Schools of Thought in Ethics** **3 cr. hrs.**
 This course is a critical study of historical schools of thought in moral philosophy and theology with special attention to their influence on Christian norms, values, and practices.
- RELS A761 The Pentateuch** **3 cr. hrs.**
 Pentateuchal traditions are assessed in this course in terms of their literary quality, meaning, and inter-canonical relationships. Significant scholarly issues will be reviewed and textual evaluation will be emphasized.
- RELS A762 Biblical Wisdom Literature** **3 cr. hrs.**
 The didactic literature of the Old Testament is evaluated here in terms of textual, literary, philosophical, and existential categories. Relationships to other intellectual and theological perspectives will be assessed.

- RELS A763 Hebrew Prophets** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course critically evaluates the prophetic corpus in literary, social-historical, and theological categories. Emphasis is placed on the developmental process which culminates in new theological trajectories.
- RELS A770 The History of Christianity** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course is a survey of the history of Christianity from the post-biblical period to the present. Utilizing the methods of intellectual, institutional, and social history, this course focuses on major developments, decisive turning points, prominent personalities, and perennial theological problems in order to give a sweeping overview and orientation for further study.
- RELS A800 Social Ethics** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course investigates methods and theories in social ethics, with attention to their political and economic implications and their relationship to Christian beliefs.
- RELS A802 War, Peace, and Global Justice** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course offers an exploration of ethical issues of war, peace, and global justice in light of Christian ethical principles. The issues of pacifism and just war or just revolution are explored.
- RELS A803 Women in Religion and Culture** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course investigates the mutual impact of religious beliefs and gender roles. Special topics include the origin of patriarchy, structures of patriarchy, function of shamanism in women's lives, women in patriarchal religions, violence perpetuated against women in patriarchal cultures/religions, and women creating women's religion.
- RELS A804 Millennium Seminar** **3 cr. hrs.**
Cross-cultural investigation of the diversity of religious patterns that scholars have termed millennialism, the expectation of an imminent transition to a collective salvation. Catastrophic millennialism, progressive millennialism, nativist millennial movements, and why some millennial groups become involved in violence will be studied.
- RELS A805 Comparative Religious Ethics** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course is an introduction to the theory, method, and practice of comparative religious ethics that provides an objective procedure for analyzing a religious group's ethical system. The method of analysis will allow for a way to conduct a comparative inquiry and draw conclusions that do not distort the ethical systems being analyzed.
- RELS A806 Bioethics** **3 cr. hrs.**
The subject matter in this course is defined as the study of moral issues generated or significantly complicated by the biological sciences, both theoretical and applied. The course surveys values and principles traditionally invoked, investigates a representative variety of cases in personal or professional behavior, and reviews recent trends in the literature.
- RELS A816 Philosophy of Religion** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course is a study of the rational status of belief in and beliefs about God, illustrated by writings typical of several different philosophical perspectives; problems of religious language; immortality; and competing truth claims of religions.
- RELS A820 Psychology of Religion** **3 cr. hrs.**
This course offers a general introduction to the psychological study of religious behavior comprising a short history of the subject with special attention to classic writings since 1890, a review of outstanding theories and methods, and a representative sampling of recent research, especially on personality and development.

RELS A830	Hindu Theology	3 cr. hrs
This course is a study of the rise and development of Hindu theistic thought in the millennium following Shankara (788 – 820 A.D.). The schools of identity, difference, and difference-in-identity will be critically studied.		
RELS A891	Thesis I	3 cr. hrs.
RELS A892	Thesis II	3 cr. hrs.
RELS A893	Directed Reading	3 cr. hrs.
RELS A894	Experimental Course	3 cr. hrs.
An experimental course is a course which is offered on an ad hoc basis.		
RELS A896	Seminar/Workshop	arr.
A seminar is a supervised group of students sharing the results of their research on a common topic. A workshop is a supervised group of students participating in a common effort.		
RELS A898	Research Project	arr.
Focuses on empirical or historical investigation, culminating in a written report.		