

CUMMINS MEMORIAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR FALL SEMESTER 2022

AARS 501 Survey of African American Religious Thought: As a people from the continent of Africa living in the diaspora, persons enslaved were barred from full participation in the new land as citizens. Their descendants experienced racism, segregation, and other practices of injustice. Religion has been and continues to be a format of coping with the reality of life. Although significant to the life of African Americans, religious thought varies in liturgy, beliefs, and interpretations. This class will carefully critique the critical points of such focus areas as Black Theology, Womanist Theology, African American Christian Worship, Prophetic Preaching, and more. At the end of the course, all students will share their interpretations of a related subject or person discussed in the subject matter.

AARS 505 Slave Religion and Prophetic Protest: Before the sanctuaries, cathedrals, edifices, and churches of the historically Black denominations were established, a church existed without walls. Enslaved Africans gathered for worship and spiritual enrichment that encouraged, affirmed, and promoted their existential understanding of self and God. Known as the Invisible Institution era, worship took place at the brush harbors, where life was reimagined. Against the laws and systematic oppression of the diaspora, people of color lived life through prophetic protest, learning how to communicate with one another. The scope of the course will examine life, spiritual practices, and theological reflections such as religious interpretations of the Middle Passage, Negro Spirituals, and sermons of slave preachers through the lens of prophetic witness and strength. After the course, students will present a research paper on a topic discussed in class.

CH 702 Anglican Church History: This course focuses on the contribution of Anglicanism and Anglicans to the theology and practice of the wider church. It consists of an overview of Anglicanism's history, standards, and practice that shaped the orthodox Anglican Church. The axis of this course is an in-depth study of Anglican thinkers, writers, and theologians who have shaped the course of Anglicanism and the wider church. Students are encouraged to look at how their religious practice, spirituality, thought, and their churches have been and are affected by Anglicanism. Scholars studied in this course include Hugh Latimer, Thomas Cranmer, William Tyndale, Nicholas Ridley, Richard Hooker, Lancelot Andrews, John Donne, George Herbert, John Wesley, John Keble, and C.S. Lewis, among others.

OT 603 Poetic Literature: This course covers Hebrew poetry's unique style and role in the "Books of Poetry," among the Writings portion of the Hebrew canon. Students will analyze Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, and Lamentations for theological, devotional, and didactic significance.

NT 602 Pauline Epistles: Students will examine each epistle's authorship, content, and purpose regarding the problems in each church of the First Century and the church today.

PT 703, 704 Public Worship (Liturgics, Preaching, and Book of Common Prayer): These courses focus on services in the Reformed Episcopal Church using the Book of Common Prayer. Special attention is given to Proper Liturgics, Collects, Holy Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Pastoral Office, Special Anglican Services, and the Lectionary. Students will conduct chapel services with an emphasis on planning and conducting a complete worship service and all special services of the Church and preaching Christ-centered sermons from assigned texts. Students will receive critical evaluations by the faculty and fellow students on preparation, doctrine content, structure, presentation, delivery, and style.
PT 703 is the prerequisite for PT 704.

PT 717 Christian Mission & Leadership: Students will study the Christian philosophy, motives, and aims of missions, along with the biographies of outstanding missionary personalities. There will be assigned readings and presentations.

PT 731 Homiletics—Expository Preaching: This course is a comprehensive study of the correct principles of Christ-centered sermon preparations and delivery. Students will write and structure expository sermons and practical exercises. Students will use assigned readings of sermons of famous preachers as models.

ST 613 Christology and Soteriology: The study of the person and work of Christ in salvation, the hypostatic union, the deity and humanity of Christ, impeccability, and the theories of His atonement, the Holy Spirit in applying the work of Christ, the covenants of redemption and grace, justification, effectual calling, regeneration, faith, conversion, sanctification, perseverance.