

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR FALL SEMESTER 2024

**AARS 525 A God of Color: Black Theological Interpretation:** From the biblical canon to the religious institutions, it is clear that God has been on the side of the oppressed and marginalized. It is equally important to study the God of Fredrick Douglas, W. E. B. Dubois, and Harriet Tubman while looking at the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Although not portrayed in religious entertainment or other arts, the majority culture shows God and biblical characters. However, it is impossible to study Christian faith tradition without acknowledging the presence of color in the Bible, early church fathers and mothers, and theological concepts. The course will review and carefully analyze how God, Jesus, the Bible, and religious praxis are envisioned through color and race, examining a more diverse and inclusive lens.

**BL 811 Hebrew 1:** This course studies the fundamentals of classical Hebrew grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. It helps to prepare students for Old Testament interpretation.

**CH 602 Reformation and Modern Church History:** This course studies the Protestant Reformation, the Counter-Reformation, and contemporary European Christianity. This course will introduce students to Luther, Erasmus, Zwingli, Calvin, and others (with a primary focus on Luther). It also includes the elements of the Reformation in Europe with the Renaissance, Humanistic, and Enlightenment philosophies. It is the development of theological thought expressed by the Puritans in England, the Pilgrims in the Colonies, Edwardson Theology, the Princeton Theology of the Hodges, Machen, and Warfield, and the liberal reactions to Princeton up to the heresy trials in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Old Testament Survey:** Students learn about the Pentateuch (Genesis through Deuteronomy), the Historical Books (Joshua through Esther), Poetic and Wisdom Books (Job through Song of Solomon), the Major Prophets (Isaiah through Daniel), and the Minor Prophets (Hosea through Malachi). This course examines the geographical and historical backgrounds, focusing on each biblical book's structure and major theological themes. This course is an enrichment course.

**OT 501 Pentateuch:** The course covers the authorship, date, unity, and setting of the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. It examines key themes and theologies in each book, the Pentateuch, and the larger sweep of Scripture. The course emphasizes the ability to exegete and expound Pentateuchal texts.

**OT 531 Old Testament Book Study—Exodus:** This course studies the book of Exodus to discover the structure, historical background, theme, relationship to the plan of redemption, the Bible as a whole, and practical application and meaning for today.

**NT 501 Synoptic Gospels:** A study of the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) including authorship, content, historical background, literary problems, and proposed methods of interpretation of the Synoptic Gospels, harmonizing the Gospel accounts into chronological order, along with related background material.

**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 737 Pastoral Care:** This is an introductory course in the basics of Pastoral Care; it introduces the student to (a) the origins of pastoral care from biblical and modern perspectives, (b) the various contexts to provide pastoral care, (c) theories and approaches to pastoral care, and (d) basic skills and tools, e.g., reflective listening, spiritual assessments, and the development of a spiritual plan of care used in providing effective pastoral care.

**ST 635 Liturgics and Book of Common Prayer:** This course introduces the nature and elements of Divine worship from a biblical, theological, historical, and liturgical perspective. This course gives special consideration to the general principles of Divine worship drawn from the Old Testament and New Testaments, along with a survey of liturgical theology and the history of the Book of Common Prayer.

**Lay Readers' Workshop:** This workshop is for people new to this position and those who want to perfect their skills.