

A Concentration in African American Religious Studies of Cummins Memorial Theological Seminary

PREPARED BY THE REVEREND OMAR LAVAR DYKES

JANUARY 22, 2022

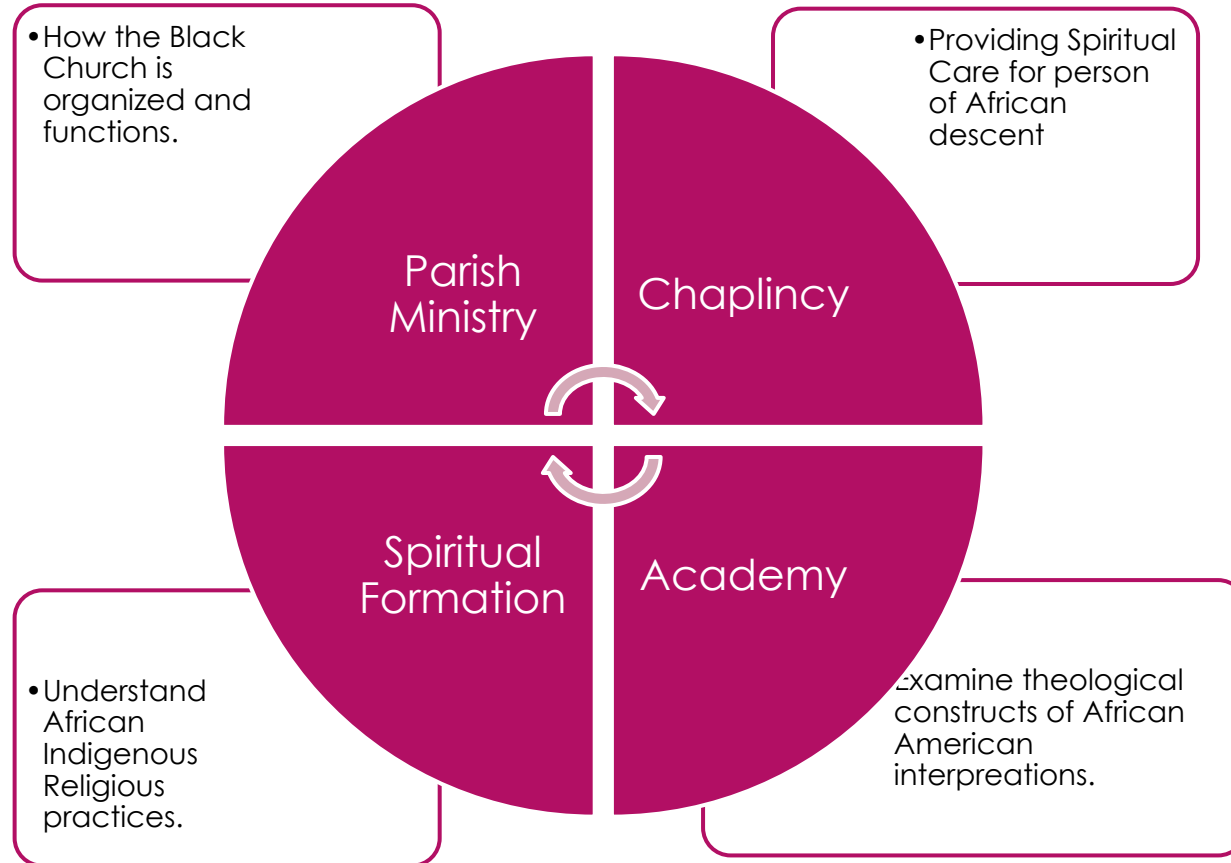
Overview

- ▶ The concentration is designed for students to study at a graduate level the African American religious practices through sound theological studies and academic scholarship. Furthermore, the concentration will provide students with the tools to better serve the community and sacred space of persons of color. Lastly, it will allow the school to lead in higher educational institutions of the state of South Carolina, as in institution that seriously offers acknowledgement of the many contributions of African Americans spirituality.

Benefits of Offering a Concentration in African American Religious Studies

- ▶ Affords students of experience a focus theme while pursuing the degree.
- ▶ Acknowledges the important contributions made by African Americans in religious and academic arenas.
- ▶ Address the American cultural platform of *inclusion, diversity, and equality*.
- ▶ Ability to increase student enrollment and retention for the institution.

Pillars of African American Religious Studies Concentration



Example Courses

- ▶ Prophetic Witness and the Public Square
- ▶ Black Theology and American Evangelical Christianity
- ▶ Preaching with Black Consciousness
- ▶ Black Church and Spiritual Formation
- ▶ Sacred Beliefs, the Bible, and Sexuality
- ▶ Early Church History Fathers from African