

GRADUATE COURSES

TH415 Healing and Rehabilitation of the Prisoner This course will tap on how a prisoner can heal and re-habilitate. This course deals directly with the origin causes of crime, violence, and addiction and offers a realistic approach to affecting growth that speaks particularly to the challenges facing incarcerated men and women.

TH420 The Role of a Prison Chaplain This course to be a starter for further study and discussion into what a chaplain's role is in the corrections system. Thus, the course will teach the student a number of ways in which Chaplains, Administrators, and lay ministers can prepare themselves for this very unique and specialized ministry.

TH425 Ministry to the Incarcerated In this course the author mentions his experiences as an ordained minister, a nineteen-year police veteran, and a prison chaplain to examine the problems of the incarcerated.

TH430 A Study of Prison Culture In this course the minister/or chaplain will see prison ministry as an empowerment in doing valuable prison ministry by providing a meticulous inside-out view of prison life. Thus, in this course the study of prison culture and prison ministry will be seen at length.

TH427 Prison Minister: Chaplain and Volunteer Ministering the Inmate This course will go step by step explicating the basics in ministering to the incarcerated. It will cover the prison inmate, the crisis in our Criminal Justice System, a history of the Penal System, and a good ultimate clarification of the modern prison setting.

TH503 Interreligious Dialogue This course will be conducted primarily from a Catholic Christian perspective sensitive to the breakthroughs of Vatican II in understanding and dialoguing with other world religions. It will begin with a close reading of the assigned text, "Steps toward Vatican III" and "Nostra Aetate."

TH504 Introduction to Buddhism This course provides basic information on the core beliefs, values, and practices of the main Buddhist traditions. Historical and Cultural contexts will be covered throughout. The first part of the course focuses on life of the Buddha and the foundational concepts fundamental to all Buddhist traditions: karma & rebirth and the Four Noble Truths. The Theravada Buddhist tradition will be introduced followed by the fundamental concepts of Mahayana Buddhism, as well as discussing major Mahayana traditions, such as, Zen and Tibetan Buddhism. Finally, the modern period is presented addressing doctrinal developments in modern Buddhism and the transmission of Buddhism to the West

TH505 A Theology of Church A study of the structures, history, and theology of the Catholic Church.

TH506 Religion and Science This course will familiarize students with the historical context of the dialogue and debate over Religion and Science within the Islamic and Christian philosophical and theological. It will examine the various models of interaction between Religion and Science as developed by Ian G. Barbour: conflict, independence, dialogue and integration.

TH507 Introduction to Systematic Christian Theology Student will do a directed study of a selected theologian pending approval of the Global Ministries University Curriculum Council. A major paper is required once reading is completed.

TH508 Feminist Theology Beginning with socioanthropological roots of women's religious experiences, this course seeks first to reinterpret such experience and give voice to the hitherto silenced female voices, and ultimately to define the meaning of 'feminist theology.' It will explore the works of late 20th century feminist scholars in religion and assess their contributions to the re-envisioning of religious traditions today.

TH509 Ecological Theology This course encourages the awareness of the global ecological crises. Student will examine various approaches to ecological concerns and their theological implications. The readings will provide scientific, feminist, and cross-cultural perspectives. Students are expected to establish their own ecological ethic and theologize it within their own context/project.

TH510 Introduction to Ecumenical Theology This course covers the theological and historical aspects of ecumenism in Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches. Finally modern-day problems in this realm are studied and the process of healing past wounds is stressed.

TH511 History of God This course covers the evolution of monotheism within the Abraham faith traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In addition to the theological perspective that led formulations of the divine nature and salvific history based upon revelation, the course also features philosophical perspectives on the nature of God within these traditions.

TH512 Theology of Interfaith Dialogue Using the dialogical odyssey of the course text, the student will write five papers examining a globally responsible model for dialogue, common cause and ground, eco-human justice as a criterion for religious truth, and examples of globally responsible dialogue.

TH515 Comparative Religion The course will study an introductory survey of world religions using a comparative model of exploration. The focus will be on the nature of religious experience and the forms and expressions it takes in diverse cultures and diverse parts of the globe.

TH516 Evolutionary Spirituality This course includes the viewing of the DVD *Thank God for Evolution*, featuring Michael Dowd. Drawing on cutting edge science, the history of the universe is an epic drama in which religion provides meaning and purpose. By seeing the global, collaborative scientific endeavor as God's native tongue, this course invites people to imagine God as truly immanent, omnipresent and revealed in the unfolding creativity of matter itself, a *Thou* deserving our reverence and awe. The evolutionary perspective restores Nature's honor and restores God to every nook and cranny of this vast Universe.

TH520 Ethics in Pastoral Ministry Explore the ethical dimensions of the way professional requirements may enhance or conflict with personal needs. The student will reflect upon how their own theological/philosophical understanding of both the self and their vocation shapes the spiritual care of others.

TH522 Homosexuality and the Bible A contemporary view using scriptural scholarship and personal experience, this course is based on facilitator's book, *Sex as God Intended*, in which he comes to the conclusion that, contrary to traditional interpretations of the Bible, God intended sex as a source of pleasure, joy, and love.

TH523 LGBTIQ Theologies and Feminism The roots of many LGBTIQ theologies are in feminist theoretical and practical work although they remain largely unacknowledged. This course will explore and expand these roots with a primary focus on the Christian tradition. Particular attention will be paid to the contributions of women scholars to the development of queer studies in religion and the practice of inclusive religious leadership.

TH525 Ethics of War and Peace in Religion This course provides basic information on ethics of war in the major religions of the world as well as secular points of view. It introduces the student to the basic history and terminology of ethics of war. The Abrahamic traditions along with secular views constitute the main focus of the course.

TH530 Introduction to Moral Theology Basic principles for Christian living. This course presents the meaning and history of moral theology, the moral person, moral law in Scripture, natural law, traditional moral and the theology of human law.

TH535 Feminist Ethics and Moral Theology This course will introduce the basic concepts of post-modern social ethics and its historical development, exposing the students to both the main currents of ethical thought today and its major contributors.

TH536 Sexuality and Spirituality This course covers attitudes related to sexuality and spirituality in an historical-critical approach to development of principles, feminist ethics of "friendship," and bringing spirituality into a sexual relationship and a sense of self.

TH537 Gender and Sexuality in East Asian Religions This course is designed to help students explore and/or research a particular topic within the broad themes of gender and sexuality in East Asian religious traditions, which include Buddhism, Daoism, Shamanism, and goddess traditions.

TH538 Spirituality and Aging This course provides an avenue for exploring and celebrating the aging process from a multi-cultural and multi-faith context as an opportunity for growth in wisdom and grace. It will include overviews of adult physical, spiritual, and psychosocial development, as well as realistic assessment of both the joys and challenges of aging.

TH540 Spirituality for the 21st Century Students will do a directed study of a selected individual of the 20th or 21st century, pending approval of the Global Ministries University Curriculum Council. A major paper is required once reading is completed.

TH541 The Craft of Spiritual Journaling The spiritual journal is a contemplative tool for recording personal reflections, spontaneous prayer, and encounters with the sacred imagination. The student will spend reflective time with his/her spiritual journal and each journal entry will take the form of written or creative expression (sketching, collage, etc.) to record spiritual insights, questions, and illuminations. The journal will accompany the student on field trips, nature walks, and pilgrimages required for subsequent Sacred Arts courses. (This is a required ongoing course throughout the Master's Degree of Theology in Sacred Arts program.)

TH542 The Sacred Art and Wisdom of Hildegard of Bingen Hildegard of Bingen, twelfth century abbess, mystic, visionary, herbalist, dramatist, poet and prophet, will be studied as a model for the sacred artist. An in depth study of Hildegard's life and her vibrant spiritual/creative process will be examined. The exploration of motifs within Hildegard's ancient wisdom will be translated into contemporary creative expression. Poetry writing, visual prayer collage, and mandala drawing, will be the forms of sacred art making for this course.

TH543 Cinema: Inspiration for the Spirit The power of film to move the spirit will be explored in this course. Three contemporary films are explored through the lens of myth, archetype, and symbol in relationship to the potential for spiritual transformation through cinematic inspiration.

TH544 The Sacred Artist for Today's Spiritual Renaissance The Renaissance of 14th-16th century Europe was a movement to rebirth art and literature into the culture. Contemporary life offers the opportunity to Sacred Artists to begin the Spiritual Renaissance. This course explores the need for a resurgence of beauty, aesthetics, and sacred art to balance the darkness of the times and to uplift the human spirit and condition.

TH545 Art and Spirituality This is a course of remembrance, reawakening and revolutionary art-making in response to Spirit moving in our lives. 'Spirituality' is considered -- not in the popular sense, as a detached, contemplative activity, far away from the concerns of the world -- but as a catalyst to transform self and society from within the vision of the One, the Ultimate Source. The student is expected to avail him/herself of art exhibits, performances, "happenings and events" of a variety of creative and expressive art.

TH546 Transformational Theater Transformational Theater is an inclusive and interactive performance form, accessed through the medium of the expressive arts that invites spectators to become actors, creators, and movers; transforms *mundane* space into sacred space thus birthing the "redeemed cosmos." It explores spirituality by dancing in the streets, singing in the rain and shining like a beacon into the dark and forgotten cells of prisons and institutions. The purpose of Transformational Theater in the context of ministry is that it gives voice to the silenced, the oppressed and the marginalized.

TH550 Religious Services This course will provide training to perform a religious service in a specific religion(s) as is relevant to student's denomination/faith.

TH551 Wedding Ceremonies and Services This course will provide training to perform weddings and other rites of passage as is relevant to student's denomination/faith.

TH552 Homiletics and Preaching Tutorial Contemporary theory and application of how to create a homily and implement an effective delivery.

TH553 Interfaith Rituals, Prayers and Ceremonies This course is designed to teach ministers how to write and perform prayers, ceremonies, and rituals, to serve interfaith or multi-faith communities during times of transition and celebration.

TH554 Interfaith Weddings and Commitment Ceremonies This course will provide training to write and perform weddings and commitment ceremonies for interfaith, religiously un-affiliated and same-sex couples, including commitment ceremonies, Holy Unions (non-legal religious weddings for same-sex couples) and reaffirmations.

TH560 Sacramental Worship This course will provide training for creating and performing liturgies in the catholic tradition.

TH565 Feminist Sacramental Theology This course provides insight into gender, sacrament and priesthood. It invites participants to reflect how gender exclusivity obscures the vitally important ways in which the sacraments enact how God is immanent within daily life.

TH567 Liturgies for Women's Rites of Passage This course invites participants to reflect and design new liturgies that celebrate women's physical, spiritual and emotional rites of passage and bless women in life-changing times.

TH569 Liturgical Theology Theological reflection and practicum focused o liturgical experience and expressions with Catholic Christian communities.

TH570 Worship and Sacraments Theological reflection on liturgical experience and expression of Christian communities. Principles, dynamics, and actualization of liturgical celebration, including sacraments, para-liturgies and prayer services.

TH571 Reshaping the Priesthood as a Discipleship of Equals Students are given the opportunity to express their vision of prophetic, visionary priesthood and examine the impact women ministers/pastors will have in this journey to the Discipleship of Equals.

TH572 Feminist Liberation Theologies Women directed theological projects around the world. will be surveyed in light of their similarities and differences. Issues including language and imagery about the divine, ethical priorities, models of ministry and religious community and inter-religious implications will be explored.

TH575 Mysticism in the Christian Tradition and Beyond The student will explore the mystic quest within Christianity: Purgative, Illuminative and Unitive Ways, and compares Christian Mysticism with that found in Judaism and Islam, and finally evaluates the way a contemporary spiritual writer outside the Christian tradition explains the Way to Knowledge of God.

TH577 Religious Traditions of the World This course is a general introduction to the major living religious traditions of the world and covers the various approaches commonly used in studying world religion, specifically how they differ, how they are alike, and how they are complementary on questions such as faith and salvation.

TH578 African Theology A critical and systematic understanding of the origins, content and trends in contemporary African Theology. The course challenges students to appreciate the task of articulating the Christian Faith in African context and enhances the cause for sustainable growth of African life values and African identity in a global context.

TH580 Creation Spirituality The basics in living the theology of Creation Centered Spirituality will be given in this course and a clear differentiation from Fall-Redemption theology will be made. The student will study the four paths -- the Via Positiva, the Via Negativa, the Via Creativa, and the Via Transformativa -- with an emphasis on the experiential as well as the intellectual content.

TH582 Korean Shamanism Ancient in its origin, Shamanism boasts of its popularity as an indigenous religion of Korea. This course leads students to explore a gamut of various issues and topics among which included are the function of Shamans known as Mansin and their rituals, particular histories, and gender/social/religious significances.

TH584 Eastern Religions This course is a preliminary inquiry into four major eastern religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism. The students are introduced to the historical development of these religions, their vital sacred texts, central beliefs, and practices.

TH591 Liturgical Music Education Fundamentals I This course is designed to help students develop a philosophy of music education, concepts of program development, and current approaches to music teaching. The role of technology and music in special and continuing education will be introduced.

TH592 Liturgical Music Education Fundamentals II Students will examine the mystery of music and its profound impact and importance on the human race. They will also study the significance of listening, musicianship, multiculturalism, creativity, curriculum, and development; finally, they will survey the philosophical and psychological aspects of a music education.

TH593 Integration of Music into the Liturgical Celebration Students will examine and integrate sacred music into the liturgical celebration such as the Eucharist, the Mass, Special Days of Obligation and other important celebration the church celebrates.

TH594 Liturgical Music Theory This course is an introduction to basic materials and concepts of music theory. It will focus on commonalities of selected historic and geographic literatures through the study of fundamentals, melodic and harmonic writing, and terms and symbols.

TH595 History of the Gregorian Chant: Students will study the historical aspects of Gregorian chant including the traditional Roman liturgy (calendar, Divine Office, Mass).

TH596 History of Sacred Music History of Sacred Music is an introductory course about the story of Christian music from Gregorian chant to the black Gospel style of music.

TH597 Liturgical Music in the Renaissance Students will review the history of Renaissance music and learn about the different composers, instruments, styles of music, and characteristics.

TH598 Psychology of Music An introductory course to the theory and research of how people learn musical knowledge and how these manifests themselves in musical behavior.

TH599 Liturgical Music Analysis Techniques: This course will help the students integrate theoretical and analytical concepts with our experiences as musicians, while helping them to build familiarity with repertoire and musical issues of the eighteenth, Nineteenth, and twentieth centuries.

TH610 Feminist Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures This course is a comprehensive, biblical, feminist reading of the Scriptures and will introduce students to essential messages of the Hebrew Scriptures using historical/critical tools to understand the different authors of the Old Testament writings.

TH612 Introduction to the Old Testament This course presents the latest archeological research to understand the historical and cultural setting of the various books of the Hebrew Scripture so that the student can understand the writing of the Old Testament authors within the context of their original environment.

TH620 Introduction to the Old Testament Prophets The intention of this course is to do a close reading of the major and minor prophets and to become familiar with the use of modern methods of biblical criticism.

TH630 Spirituality of the Psalms This course will explore the theological content found in the Psalms but also how the Psalms have functioned as the heart of the Jewish and Christian devotional life over the centuries.

TH640 Women of the Bible The goals of this course are: to present the stories of women in the bible as a liberating, hopeful message of women's empowerment; to affirm women as images of the Holy One; to explore woman as role models for contemporary women and men in living fully and spiritually; to present recent scholarship of feminist theologians on the background and context of women of the bible.

TH642 Visionary Women in the Christian Tradition This course presents the spiritual legacy of women mystics and leaders through the ages: Julian of Norwich, Hildegard of Bingen, Catherine of Siena, Joan of Arc, Teresa of Avila, Kateri Tekakwitha, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, Thea Bowman and many more.

TH644 Celtic Women in the Christian Tradition The goals of this course are: to reflect on the myths and miracles of Celtic holy women whose strength and wisdom have been transmitted through the ages; to discover that springs and holy wells were associated with birthing and healing and the powerful Celtic feminine; to present women as equals and leaders in the Celtic tradition from the fifth through the eighth

centuries; to reflect on Celtic holy women as mentors for spiritual seekers in the twenty-first century.

TH646 Journey Into the Spiritual Center In this course, the students are introduced to the poetic record of a contemporary woman's faith-walk into a deeper understanding of God as the in-dwelling Presence.

TH647 The Ordination of Catholic Women Upon completion of this course, students will be able to outline the main stages of development in women's involvement in Christian ministry. They will know the background of the ordination of women deacons and will have gained a professional grasp of the correct rules of assessing what is, and what is not, genuine Christian Tradition.

TH648 Globalization and the Meaning of Islam This course will take theoretical and practical journeys into the Muslim world and local communities. On the theoretical level, we will address the struggle within Islam. We will also look into issues related to the assumed clash of civilizations. This course will also discuss the possibility of a theoretical framework for better alternatives to the "us versus them" paradigm. On the practical level, the course will occasionally invite guest speakers to address relevant issues and will also try to visit some institutions within the local Muslim community with the hope of initiating a constructive dialogue on issues of shared concerns.

TH650 Introduction to the Gospels This course will offer an introduction to the Christian Gospels, including their development, historical context, transmission, translation and interpretation and will give the students a grounding in the context, content, and critical issues related to understanding the Gospels.

TH651 New Testament Studies A survey of the historical and exegetical background of the New Testament Canon. Special attention will be given to the figure of Jesus as Jesus of history and Christ of faith. Some major themes of the Gospel will be studied for intrinsic and metaphorical meanings. The Pauline Epistles are included in this study.

TH655 A Contemporary Historical Perspective of Christianity This course presents a compelling view of the way the Gospels of the New Testament were written, when they were written and why they were written, based on the most recent and reliable scholarly research on the Gospels.

TH656 Progressive Christianity-Part I (DVD) This innovative course is Part I of a three-part series that is completely on DVD entitled '*Living the Questions.*' The content of the series focuses on Christianity in today's world, featuring many prominent theologians and ministers who offer their insights into sensitive questions related to our faith. Part I, *An Invitation to Journey*, contains seven thought-provoking sessions, three of which are entitled *Taking the Bible Seriously, Stories of Creation, Lives of Jesus*. (It is recommended that student also take all three courses, Part I, Part II, and Part III consecutively but it is not mandatory to do so.)

TH657 Progressive Christianity-Part II (DVD) This innovative course is Part II of a three-part series that is completely on DVD entitled '*Living the Questions.*' The content of the series focuses on Christianity in today's world, featuring many prominent theologians and ministers who offer their insights into sensitive questions related to our faith. Part II, *Reclaiming the World,* contains seven thought-provoking sessions, three of which are entitled *Evil, Suffering and a God of Love, Practicing Resurrection, and Reclaiming the World*. (It is recommended that student also take all three courses, Part I, Part II, and Part III consecutively but it is not mandatory to do so.)

TH658 Progressive Christianity-Part III (DVD) This innovative course is Part III of a three-part series that is completely on DVD entitled '*Living the Questions.*' The content of the series focuses on Christianity in today's world, featuring many prominent theologians and ministers who offer their insights into sensitive questions related to our faith. Part III, 'Call to Covenant' contains seven thought-provoking sessions, three of which are entitled *A Kingdom Without Walls, Incarnation: Divinely Human, and Compassion: The Heart of Jesus' Ministry*. (It is recommended that student also take all three courses, Part I, Part II, and Part III consecutively but it is not mandatory to do so.)

TH660 Exploring the Identity and Role of Jesus Australian theologian Michael Morwood explores some of the fundamental issues of Christian faith in the context of today's understanding of the beginnings of the universe, the formation of the planets, the emergence of life and the development of culture.

TH665 Jewish Midrash and the Gospels This course will center on J.S.Spong's compelling view of the Gospels as thoroughly Jewish texts, a collection of Jewish midrashic stories written to fill needs in the Jewish Calendar and Jewish Liturgical Year by early Christians. It provides the student with the most recent and reliable scholarly research on the Gospels.

TH670 The Writings and Influence of Paul the Apostle This course will look at the way Paul has been interpreted over the centuries and how he is viewed today. Students will compare the forms of Christianity found in the Pauline letters of the first century with the forms of Christianity found in the 21st century.

TH672 A Profile of Paul for the 21st Century (DVD) *Eclipsing Empire* presents in a lively and accessible manner the message of Jesus as preached by Paul the Apostle in contrast to the message of the Roman Empire. The Mission, Character, Vocation Letters, Ethics, Theology, Eschatology of Paul will be studied in depth. A comparison of Roman Empire and American Empire is made.

TH680 Early Church History This course covers the period from the Pauline letters to the establishment of Christianity as the approved religion of the Roman Empire in the 4th century and includes the career of St. Augustine (354-430).

TH690 Medieval Church History In this course the students study the history of monasticism and its impact on the growth of Christianity during the barbarian invasions, the growth of the papacy after Gregory the Great and the use of Roman law to solidify Church order. Students will also study the writings of at least one medieval mystic or one medieval theologian.

TH695 Modern Church History In this course students study the Protestant Reformation and its impact on Christianity and the modern world. The course will review the modern ecumenical movement within Christianity and the impact of non-Christian religions upon the Christian faith.

TH700 Graduate Certificate Project This is a supervised project mutually agreed upon with instructor to fulfill the requirement for the Graduate Certificate.

TH701 Religious Fundamentals of Peace Building An introduction to peace studies surveying theory and philosophy of world religious leaders.

TH702 Nonviolence: Spirituality, Theory, & Practice The theory and practice of nonviolence according to various religious philosophies.

TH703 Making Global Peace: Negotiation and Mediation for Religious Leaders A survey of theory and practice in negotiation and mediation for religious leaders working for peace.

TH705 Education for Social Transformation This course will help participants develop an understanding of the main roots of violence and culminate in a student designed program to shift knowledge, attitudes and behaviors towards a culture of peace.

TH704 Gender and Peace Building Designed to provide theoretical and practical experiences in the importance of incorporating the gender dimension in peace processes

TH799 Master of Theology Thesis (6 credits) In lieu of a supervised internship, students will be required to demonstrate extensive research skills and will design a research project leading to a Master's Thesis.

IPA680 Psychology and Pastoral Theology A basic introduction to pastoral care and counseling in faith communities.

IPA682 Religious Education Contemporary theory and applications arranged with Mentor.

IPA684 Preaching Tutorial Contemporary theory and application of how to create a homily and implement an effective delivery.

IPA686 Feminist Homiletics and Preaching Contemporary theory and application of how to create a homily and implement an effective delivery. Women from a variety of faith traditions and ethnic backgrounds share preaching styles and sermons from stories of their relationships, cultures and lives.

IPA688 Spiritual Direction This course provides an introduction to the ancient practice of spiritual companionship or spiritual friendship in the Christian tradition. It provides helpful input about the spiritual journey from the experience of the mystics, a knowledge of prayer techniques, and an understanding of the difference between spiritual direction and spiritual or pastoral counseling.

IPA701 Feminist Liturgies This course invites participants to reflect and design new liturgies that celebrate women's physical, spiritual and emotional rites of passage and bless women in life-changing times.

IPA702 Services and Ceremonies Principles, dynamics, and actualization of liturgical celebration, including sacraments, paraliturgies and prayer services.

IPE617 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) 1 mandated credit (400 hours) in an approved setting or an approved equivalent.

IPE618 Pastoral Integration Seminar This will include an approved Supervised Field Education ministry of 9 months duration, and a Reflection Paper. Six mandated credits for satisfactory completion.

IPE619 Contemporary Congregational Life A course in the theory and dynamics of effective contemporary Christian congregations and faith communities.

IPE620 Dynamics of a Faith Community This course will cover the dynamics experienced within a faith community.

IPE621 Personal and Social Transformation Intensive This course incorporates attendance at an educational experience conducted by a Global Ministries University cognate group ministerial partner, related preparatory reading, and the composition of an integrative reflection paper accepted by a Global Ministries University departmental faculty member.

IPE622 Self-Care in the Ministry A one credit course in professional self care conducted as directed study under the supervision of a faculty member in the Global Ministries University Department of Pastoral Care and Counseling.

IPE623 Alcoholism/Drug Addictions and Spirituality This course focuses on the dynamics of substance abuse and addiction; spirituality and the impact of substance abuse and addiction on the individual, family and society.

IPE624 Pastoral Care of the Minister In this course the student will learn a process of structured introspection for pastoral care of oneself.

DM990 The Doctoral Ministry Project The student chooses a primary focus of ministry that is related to the student's practice of ministry as the topic of the Doctoral Ministry Project.

DR903 Buddhist Ethics Directed reading in Buddhist ethics will prepare the student to critically examine and reflect on the ethical aspects of current healthcare and other issues by utilizing the presuppositions and doctrines of Buddhist thought and practice.

DR904 Interreligious Dialogue This course will be conducted primarily from a Catholic Christian perspective sensitive to the breakthroughs of Vatican II in understanding and dialoguing with other world religions. It will begin with a close reading of the assigned text, "Steps toward Vatican III" and "Nostra Aetate."

DR905 Introduction to Buddhism This course provides basic information on the core beliefs, values, practices, and philosophy of the main Buddhist traditions: Theravada, Mahayana and Vajrayana (Tibetan Buddhism). Historical and Cultural contexts are covered throughout, including modern Buddhism and the transmission of Buddhism to the West.

DR906 Islam - Christian Perspectives in Science and Religion The course will familiarize students with the historical context of the dialogue and debate over Religion and Science within the Islamic and Christian philosophical and theological tradition. It will examine the various models of interaction between Religion and Science developed by Ian Barbour: conflict, interdependence, dialogue and integration.

DR907 Religious Traditions of the World Beginning with stories from the scriptures of the religions, we look at the various dimensions of religion as part of the total human experience -- past and present, narrative, conceptual, ritual, practical, emotional, and social.

DR908 Globalization and the Meaning of Islam This course will take theoretical and practical journeys into the Muslim world and local communities. On the theoretical level, we will address the struggle within Islam. We will also look into issues related to the assumed Clash of civilizations. This course will also discuss the possibility of a theoretical framework for better alternatives to the "us versus them" paradigm. On the practical level, the course will occasionally invite guest speakers to address relevant issues and will also try to visit some institutions within the local Muslim community with the hope of initiating a constructive dialogue on issues of shared concerns.

DR909 Comparative Religion Introductory survey of world religions using a comparative model of exploration. The focus will be on the nature of religious experience and the forms and expressions it takes in diverse cultures and diverse parts of the globe. One of the main purposes of the course is to acquaint students with religious pluralism and encourage greater understanding and toleration for a variety of religious or non-religious beliefs.

DR910 Ethics of War and Peace in Religion This course provides basic information on ethics of war in the major religions of the world as well as secular points of view. It introduces the student to the basic history and terminology of ethics of war. The Abrahamic traditions along with secular views constitute the main focus of the course.

