PCGR 6310. Human Growth and Development. (3 Credits)
This course will explore the development from birth and adolescence through the tasks and crisis of middle and later life. Stage theories, cognitive, social and emotional development will be the focus of this course. Special consideration will be given to spiritual life issues throughout the development process.

PCGR 6380. Theology of Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Care. (3 Credits)
This course addresses contemporary psychological and spiritual issues in the field of pastoral care and counseling, including addiction, trauma, and anxiety, and proposes a theological method for reflecting on them.

PCGR 6382. Social and Cultural Foundations of Pastoral Counseling. (3 Credits)
This course explores the social and cultural foundations of counseling twofold: The foundations of mental health counseling and the foundations of multicultural counseling. Specific focus is given to counseling individuals, couples, and families from diverse groups and populations.

PCGR 6384. Professional Ethics in Pastoral Counseling. (3 Credits)
An exploration of critical issues in the ethical practice of counseling and pastoral ministry, this course addresses the roles and responsibilities of the professional counselor or minister. Using case studies and small group work, students will explore potential ethical conflicts and methods of ethical reasoning as they develop skills to work through ethical conflicts in the counseling setting.

PCGR 6386. Pastoral Counseling Theory. (3 Credits)
This course explores the major theories of counseling, including psychodynamic, cognitive, and family systems. Special consideration is given to the application of theoretical models to clinical practice, and by extension their application to pastoral and spiritual care.

PCGR 6390. Psychopathology and Diagnosis. (3 Credits)
The course will introduce students to the basics of psychopathology and psychological diagnosis for use in clinical and pastoral work. This course is designed to help students cultivate the ability to think critically and creatively, so that they can work from a diagnostic standpoint that is human, flexible, empathetic, and nonjudgmental, with a focus on the real person one meets in the consulting room or ministry setting. Within this framework, the course will cover interviewing and assessment skills, DSM-5 categories, ethical considerations, character/personality issues, and pastoral assessment. Case studies will be used to practice the art of diagnostic formulation, with an eye toward treatment planning and case formulation.

PCGR 6410. Psychology and Religion/Spirituality. (3 Credits)
This course explores spirituality, faith, and religious experience from a psychodynamic viewpoint. The theories of Freud, Jung, Winnicott, and contemporary relational writers are engaged in order to explore how our psychology affects our religious lives and vice versa. The class addresses issues of fantasy, God images, play, religion and the body, and “healthy” and “unhealthy” uses of religion. Using text, experiential exercises, and critical reflection, we will engage our own religious history and traditions, and consider what it means to be a fully alive human being.

Attributes: CSGE, PSNM.

PCGR 6420. Marriage/Family Therapy. (3 Credits)
A systemic approach to family treatment. A survey of the major contributors to the field, using videotape demonstrations of family sessions. Genograms will be used to explore family-of-origin issues.

PCGR 6440. Pastoral Counseling Skills. (3 Credits)
This course provides an introduction to the basic skills of effective helping. A focus on presence, empathy, compassion, and self-awareness forms the foundation for learning specific skills directed toward fostering exploration, insight, and action in the helping relationship. The course includes both discussion and small-group live practice, and is suitable for any student who works closely with people in a helping capacity.

PCGR 6510. Advanced Life Span Issues and Career Counseling. (3 Credits)
This course explores the advanced lifespan issues of adulthood through the lens of clinical practice and pastoral/spiritual care. Specific focus will be given to issues of career, vocation, and social justice advocacy.

PCGR 6610. Trauma & Trauma-Informed Care. (3 Credits)
Many of those whom we serve in the helping professions have trauma histories; our communities themselves might be traumatized in one way or another. In this course, counselors and ministers will gain a working knowledge of the theory of trauma and its effects—including neuropsychological and relational dimensions—and will introduce various ways of working with trauma in clinical and pastoral settings.

PCGR 6620. Trauma and Society. (3 Credits)
While trauma is experienced individually, it often has a collective or communal dimension, particularly in situations of war, political/social oppression, poverty, terrorism, or natural disaster. Recent work around the intergenerational transmission of trauma recognizes that the effects of individual or communal trauma can reverberate for generations. Experiences of war, genocide, slavery, racism, colonialism, systemic oppression, and deprivation in the U.S. and around the world have exacted a toll on the bodies and minds not only of the immediate victims, but also on those of subsequent generations. This class explores the dynamics and effects of historical, communal, and intergenerational trauma from multiple perspectives, with particular attention to the legacies of the Holocaust, American slavery, and colonialism.

PCGR 6630. Trauma, Religion & Spirituality. (3 Credits)
This course will engage theoretical and psychology of religion approaches to trauma; the positive and negative impacts of religion, faith, or spirituality on the traumatized person; and trauma-informed approaches to ministry and spiritual care (liturgy, pastoral care, education). We will pay particular attention to clergy sexual abuse as a case study in the intersection of betrayal trauma, moral injury, and communal responsibility.

PCGR 7330. Assessment and Appraisal of Individuals, Couples, and Families. (3 Credits)
This course provides students with an overview of the assessment and appraisal process as it relates to Masters-level counseling students seeking licensure as a professional counselor. Students will be introduced to the foundational history of assessment, overall assessment principles, and the properties of reliability and validity as they relate to the validation of psychological test instruments. Both standardized and nonstandardized assessment instruments will be reviewed with attention paid to how they can be integrated successfully into counseling sessions. Ethical and legal considerations will be addressed, and the use of assessments with diverse populations will be discussed.
PCGR 7410. Research Methods in Pastoral Counseling. (3 Credits)
This course will be a review of research in pastoral counseling. It will introduce basic concepts and methods of quantitative and qualitative research, consider ways of studying change as a result of counseling interventions and programs, and familiarize students with basic skills in evaluating research literature.

PCGR 7420. Death, Dying, and Bereavement. (3 Credits)
This course will focus on personal experiences with death and loss; the theological perspectives of major world religions on death and grief; myths about and components of grief; meaning making; issues facing the terminally ill; appropriate care for the bereaved in differing situations; and our own self-care as pastoral care workers and pastoral mental health counselors.

PCGR 7422. Group Process: Theory and Techniques. (3 Credits)
This course emphasizes a science-practitioner model of group counseling that includes an experiential and didactic introduction to the group process, theory, and techniques. The experiential component of the group process will include modeling facilitation, structured exercises, and debriefing of immediate experiences. The didactic component of the course will include discussions of readings, lectures, videos, and presentations. This course is not available for audit.

PCGR 7471. Clinical Instruction and Integration Process I. (3 Credits)
This course is designed to accompany the Field Placement for students in the Clinical Pastoral Counseling 60-Credit Program. Students will engage current approaches to counseling and psychotherapy in dialogue with their own clinical work. Classes will focus on the presentation of students’ clinical work in connection with relevant topics in the clinical literature, addressing such matters as transference and countertransference, addictions treatment, spiritual issues, and working with trauma. The aim of the course is to integrate previous classroom work and clinical experience, so that students are prepared to begin work as professional counselors and therapists.

PCGR 7472. Clinical Instruction and Integration Process II. (3 Credits)
This continuation course is designed to accompany the field placement for students in the clinical pastoral counseling 60 Credit Program.
Prerequisite: PCGR 7471.

PCGR 8999. Tutorial. (0 to 6 Credits)

Pastoral Ministry (PMGR)

PMGR 6510. Theology of Ministry. (3 Credits)
This course treats ministry as a culturally complex and theologically significant practice. Starting from contemporary concerns, we ask where ministry comes from, what it can be today, and where it might go. We focus on developing responsible and relevant accounts of ministry that enrich practice today.
Attribute: PSNM.

PMGR 6600. Religion & Criminal Justice. (3 Credits)
What are the various goals and aims of criminal justice ministry? What do or how might religious beliefs or practices shape or guide different approaches to ministry? How might we respond to critiques of criminal justice ministry as supporting practices of domination and punishment? This course will explore theories, theologies, and practices of criminal justice ministry in an age of mass incarceration. We will investigate religious and faith-based responses to the needs of those impacted by the criminal justice system as well as responses to the crisis of mass incarceration. This includes examining approaches to ministry with or by people living in incarceration as well as preventative, post-incarceration, decarceration, and abolitionist ministries.

PMGR 6612. Ministry with Latinxs. (3 Credits)
This course presents a comprehensive introduction to the principal issues related to U.S. Latinx Christianities from an ecumenical perspective. The course is divided into three parts: The Landscape of Latinxs in the U.S., Latinxs and the Churches, and Hispanic Ministries. Among the topics covered are: the history of the principal Latinx groups in the U.S. (Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Dominicans, and Central Americans), the churches’ responses to Latinxs, parish ministry, youth ministry, the sacraments, popular religiosity, and an introduction to U.S. Latinx/Hispanic theology.

PMGR 6613. U.S. Latinx Theology. (3 Credits)
This course presents an introduction to the theological output of U.S. Latinx theologians from an ecumenical perspective. We begin with an overview of U.S. Latinx theology as a contextual theology and then proceed topically, looking at U.S. Latinx Catholic theology, U.S. Latina feminist theology, and U.S. Latinx Protestant theology.

PMGR 6616. Latinx Preaching. (3 Credits)
A practicum in preaching to Latinx congregations with review of the pertinent literature on different preaching styles and Latinx audiences. Facility in Spanish required.

PMGR 6617. Latinx Spirituality. (3 Credits)
This course presents an introduction to the way Latinos and Latinas live out their relationship or faith in God or spirituality. While the focus of the course will be on Latinx Christian spirituality—both Catholic and Protestant—attention will also be paid to non-Christian Latinx spiritualities, especially Santería. We begin with an overview of the variety of spiritualities practiced by Latinos and Latinas and then proceed topically looking at popular Catholicism, the Latinx celebration of the sacraments, Marian devotion (especially to Our Lady of Guadalupe), New Ecclesial Movements (especially the Charismatic Renewal and the Neo-Catechumenal Way), Mainline Latinx Protestant spirituality, and Latinx Pentecostalism.
Attribute: CSGE.

PMGR 6618. Hisp Family Ministry & Catechesis. (3 Credits)
Latinxs are deeply religious, and their way of experiencing God and life is often different from that of the U.S. mainstream culture. This course will study the lived reality of U.S. Hispanic families. It will challenge participants to critically reflect, analyze, and articulate in what ways family ministry and family catechesis is embodied in families and faith communities today; to explore what helps or hinders religious development within families, and the responsibility of church and society to foster growth in faith; to explore experientially based frameworks for ministering with Latinx communities; and to nuance their role as religious educators. Our conversation partners will include the writings of U.S. Hispanic theologians and religious educators.

PMGR 6621. Women & Ministry. (3 Credits)
Women have contributed much to ministry throughout its history. However, their leadership and contributions have rarely been free from controversy. This course will look closely at biblical hermeneutics, church traditions, practical applications, and emerging developments in U.S. women's ministry. Some of the questions we will deliberate on at length include: How are women involved in ministry today—and how did we get here? What makes women's ministries successful? How do we reenvision and revitalize women's current models of women's ministries? How can diversity be an asset to women's ministries?
PMGR 6650. Ethics in Pastoral Ministry. (3 Credits)
Ethics in Pastoral Ministry is an online course that addresses ethical conduct in ministry for professionals working in a supervisory or leadership capacity with emphasis on legal issues and moral decision-making. The course will focus on the formation of conscience as it relates to the self, ministry, and society. It includes case studies and the application of ethical principles to real-life situations as well as the study of theory. It is theoretical, establishing a theological basis for ethical conduct and moral decision-making, and practical, giving students skills and resources to deal with the various issues they may encounter in ministry.

PMGR 6652. Research Seminar: Pastoral Theology and Practice. (3 Credits)
This seminar prepares D.Min. students to write their doctoral thesis. We explore some fundamental approaches to conducting research into pastorally significant experience today, so as to deepen students’ research competence and facilitate readiness for conducting ministry-relevant research. Students will generate a sound draft of a proposal for their D.Min. thesis.

PMGR 6650. Ethics in Pastoral Ministry. (3 Credits)
This course is for doctoral students only. It addresses ethical conduct in ministry for professionals working in a supervisory or leadership capacity, with an emphasis on legal issues and moral decision-making. The course will focus on the formation of conscience as it relates to the self, ministry, and society. It includes case studies and the application of ethical principles to real-life situations as well as the study of theory. It is both theoretical, establishing a theological basis for ethical conduct and moral decision-making, and practical, giving students skills and resources to deal with the various issues they may encounter in ministry.

PMGR 6699. ST Tutorial-Pastoral Ministry. (3 Credits)
This course is reserved for students pursuing a special research topic in Pastoral Ministry with the approval of the area faculty and Dean.

Religion (RLGR)

RLGR 0920. Writing for Grad Research I. (1 Credit)
Course will cover how to write at the graduate level in Theology, Spirituality, Pastoral Ministry, and Counseling and Religious Education. Course topics will include composition, structure, style, coherence and analysis.

RLGR 0921. Writing for Grad Research II. (1 Credit)
Continuation of RLGR 0920. Course will cover how to write at the graduate level in Theology, Spirituality, Pastoral Ministry, and Counseling and Religious Education. Course topics will include composition, structure, style, coherence and analysis.

RLGR 6010. Old Testament. (3 Credits)
An in-depth examination of the first five books of the Bible. Historical origins of these texts in ancient Israel and the continuing significance for their central theological themes of promise, law, creation, election, redemption, and liberation. Introduction to the exegetical methods of modern biblical study.

RLGR 6011. New Testament. (3 Credits)
This course will engage questions about the development of the Christian canon while reading parts of the New Testament in the context of first century Judaism.

RLGR 6018. John's Gospel in Greek I. (3 Credits)
A close reading of the Greek text with detailed exegesis of selected passages.

RLGR 6019. John's Gospel in Greek II. (3 Credits)
A close reading of the Greek text with detailed exegesis of selected passages.

RLGR 6024. The Prophets. (3 Credits)
A study of Old Testament prophets and prophetic books from historical, literary, and theological perspective with particular focus on the prophets' roles and their enduring message.

RLGR 6030. Christology. (3 Credits)
This is an introductory Christology course principally from a Roman Catholic perspective. Biblical, historical, and contemporary Christology will be examined.
RLGR 6031. Theology of the Human Person. (3 Credits)
This course traces the variegated history of Christian understandings of the human person. It examines past and present theologies of body, soul, sin, and grace, as well as contemporary theological literature on social, environmental, and cosmic contexts as constitutive of human experience. This includes a consideration of different forms of “othering” and their intersection.

RLGR 6032. Church and Society. (3 Credits)
This course explores how the global Christian church emerged from Christ’s kerygma and developed in different historical and cultural contexts. The course covers the emergence of divisions in the Christian Church and of the ecumenical movement’s response. While the course focuses on Catholic ecclesiology, it also covers Orthodox and Protestant perspectives on key themes such as authority, governance, and practice. Throughout the course, there is an emphasis on the critiques and perspectives offered by liberation theology and feminism. It asks the students to imagine how the Christian Church can adapt to its contemporary context in the student’s ministerial or professional setting.

RLGR 6033. Sacraments: Theology and Rites. (3 Credits)
An introduction to the history and theology of the sacraments, and the contemporary rites that are used to celebrate them in the Roman Catholic Church.

RLGR 6555. Pastoral Research. (1 Credit)
A course reviewing the latest methods and approaches in pastoral research.

RLGR 6872. History of the Jesuits. (3 Credits)
This course offers an intensive look at the founding and progress of the society of Jesus. Starting with the founder, St. Ignatius of Loyola the course will progress through key documents and missionary activity up to the 21st century.

RLGR 7031. Theology of the Human Person. (3 Credits)
This doctoral-level course traces the variegated history of Christian understandings of the human person. It examines past and present theologies of body, soul, sin, and grace, as well as contemporary theological literature on social, environmental, and cosmic contexts as constitutive of human experience. This includes a consideration of different forms of “othering” and their intersection. The 7000-level course is for Ph.D. and D.Min. students only, and it requires work beyond what is required in the 6000-level course.

RLGR 7032. Church and Society. (3 Credits)
Doctoral-only section (DMIN and PHD). This course reviews how the community established by Jesus Christ, also known as the Church, has been theologically understood over time. It explores how the global Christian Church emerged from Christ’s kerygma and developed in different historical and cultural contexts. The course covers the emergence of divisions in the Christian Church and of the ecumenical movement’s response. While the course focuses on Catholic ecclesiology, it also covers Orthodox and Protestant perspectives on key themes such as authority, governance, and practice. Throughout the course, there is an emphasis on the critiques and perspectives offered by liberation theology and feminism. It asks the students to imagine how the Christian Church could adapt to its contemporary context in the student’s ministerial or professional setting. The 7000-level course is for Ph.D. and D.Min. students only, and it requires work beyond what is required in the 6000-level course.

RLGR 7555. Pastoral Research. (1 Credit)
A course reviewing the latest methods and approaches in pastoral research.

RLGR 8872. History of the Jesuits. (3 Credits)
This course offers an intensive look at the founding and progress of the society of Jesus. Starting with the founder, St. Ignatius of Loyola the course will progress through key documents and missionary activity up to the 21st century.

RLGR 8999. Independent Study. (3 Credits)
A tutorial in the area of Religion.

Religious Education (REGR)

REGR 0000. Ph.D. Program Transfer Credit. (24 Credits)
This is a transcript designation representing transfer credit awarded to Ph.D. students in religion and practice for an earned master's degree.

REGR 6102. Introduction to Religious Education. (3 Credits)
This course is an examination of the various theological, philosophical, and educational models that inform the foundations of religious education. Students will examine how these models have influenced different schools, theorists, practitioners, and materials of religious education. Criteria for evaluating the adequacy of competing models will be offered.

REGR 6120. Education for Peace and Justice. (3 Credits)
This course focuses on developing a greater understanding of the social ministry of the Christian churches. After a historical survey of Christian attitudes toward peace and justice, participants will explore ways of bringing a concern for peace and justice issues into liturgy, preaching, religious education, and pastoral ministry. The course also examines how to relate Christian understandings of peace and justice to everyday work, and to civic, political, and family life.

Attribute: PSJH.

REGR 6125. Moral Education & Development. (3 Credits)
This course explores various aspects of moral education. The topic will be explored from various perspectives: theology, psychology, education, sociology, and the arts. It will aid those involved in religious education and pastoral ministry in making effective use of the arts in their work. The course provides a framework for exploring foundational issues of morality and moral development, including how our understandings of the human person, community, and attitude toward the natural environment shape our moral outlook. Emphasis is placed on enabling religious educators and pastoral ministers to make moral formation an integral dimension of education in the Christian faith.

REGR 6130. Theological Issues: Religious Education and Ministry. (3 Credits)
The course explores major Christian classical themes in contemporary theological development. Foundational concepts of revelation, scripture and tradition, Trinity, creation, Jesus the Christ, and sin and grace are examined. The practical ministerial and educational implications of these developments will be collaboratively pursued.

REGR 6140. Curriculum and Religious Education. (3 Credits)
This course is an exploration of the what, who, where, when, why, and how of curriculum design in religious education. The various philosophies, principles, and processes of curriculum formation are critically examined. The course addresses the central question and activities of curriculum designers: what educative content do we make accessible to which learners under what governing structure? This question highlights the impact the nature of content, teaching processes, the readiness of learners, and the social-political arrangements of diverse educational settings has on a religious education curriculum.
REGR 6143. Imagination: Ministry and Religious Education. (3 Credits)
This course will explore the link between the imagination, patterns of church ministry, and religious educational activity. The role and power of imagination in disclosing new life and reenvisioning our work will be examined. A central focus of the course is the critical exploration of the images, metaphors, and guiding visions undergirding educational and ministerial work in churches and in our public life. Our educational and ministerial task is to create a counter-discourse to the dominant discourse of our time. Particular perspectives (religious, prophetic, feminist, artistic) will be employed as resources for enriching the imagination, fostering a counter-discourse, and cultivating imaginative activity with people.

REGR 6150. Foundations for Intercultural Ministry and Religious Education. (3 Credits)
Ministerial contexts are spaces of intercultural encounters that can serve to positively affect the practice of ministry and religious education. This special topics course will explore key pillars for understanding these encounters as revelatory moments that can be constructive for the “kin-dom” of God. Among the literature explored in this course will be theories of intercultural teaching and learning, anti-racist identity development, and cultural studies critiques, all within the context of students’ self-exploration of their own cultural identities. From this exploration, students will envision how their own ministerial praxis can be shaped to form liberating spaces for intercultural ministry and solidarity.

Attribute: PSNM

REGR 6180. Religious and Educational Development of Children and Youth. (3 Credits)
This course inquires into the spiritual, moral, and educational development of children and the implications of this development for religious education. Emphasis is placed on developing a theology of childhood, and the influence of childhood faith development on adult spirituality.

REGR 6202. Young Adult & Adult Ministry. (3 Credits)
Responses to religion in society, as well as to the many ways that young adults and adults make meaning of the world, are rapidly shifting. While there are growing numbers of people who are disaffiliating from organized religion, many continue to identify as spiritual. At the same time, there are many young adults and adults whose religious and spiritual development is affected by the harsh realities of violence, racism, depression, and other intersecting systems of oppression. How might ministers and religious educators respond to these realities? What questions should shape those responses? What knowledge informs those questions?

REGR 6204. Special Questions: Youth and Young Adult Ministry. (3 Credits)
This course offers a study of identity formation, sexual development, social consciousness, the influence of popular media culture, attitudes toward authority, and Generation X and millennial spirituality. Participants will explore ways of reenvisioning religious education and pastoral ministry to respond more adequately to contemporary youth culture.

REGR 6220. Ministry & Leadership. (3 Credits)
An investigation of the basic structures of organization and principles of administration and supervision as they apply to parish and other religious education settings. Emphasis is placed on the person and the role of leadership within evolving structures of parish and various learning communities.

REGR 6311. Digital Catechesis. (3 Credits)
The Digital Catechesis course provides a new social landscape for imagining faith formation and religious education today. This new landscape integrates Pope Francis’ clarion call for the New Evangelization and the worthy potentials of the New Media, to come up with a leadership agenda that offer ways to explore and call into question traditional assumptions and understanding of both the catechetical and the technological. The course’s goal is to lead pastoral leaders to viewing digital catechesis as a vital expression of the truly catechetical in contemporary religious context.

REGR 6600. Religion & Criminal Justice. (3 Credits)
What do or how might religious beliefs or practices shape or guide different approaches to ministry? How might we respond to critiques of criminal justice ministry as supporting practices of domination and punishment? This course will explore theories, theologies, and practices of criminal justice ministry in an age of mass incarceration. We will investigate religious and faith-based responses to the needs of those impacted by the criminal justice system as well as responses to the crisis of mass incarceration. This includes examining approaches to ministry with or by people living in incarceration as well as preventative, post-incarceration, decarceration, and abolitionist ministries.

REGR 6688. Issues in Religious Education. (3 Credits)
This is a special issues course in religious education. Each time the course runs, it will be focused on a unique and current aspect of religious education. Please see the course book for the term in question to find a description of the course.

REGR 6705. Religion Society & Culture. (3 Credits)
Explores various ways of thinking about how Christians and Christian faith communities can and should relate to the broader social world of which they are a part. Emphasis is placed on developing a heightened awareness of the ways religious educators and pastoral ministers can enable people to work for greater peace and justice in the world.

REGR 6999. Religious Education Final Integration Seminar. (3 Credits)
The Master of Arts program in religious education concludes with this final integration course (offered each spring). The course involves a terminal research project on a topic determined by the faculty.

REGR 8102. Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Religious Education. (3 Credits)
This course—for doctoral student only—is an examination of the various theological, philosophical, and educational models that inform the foundations of religious education. The attempt will be made to show how these models have influenced different schools, theorists, practitioners, and materials of religious education. Criteria for evaluating the adequacy of competing models will be offered.

Updated: 06-10-2024
REGR 8110. Ph.D. Year 1 Doctoral Seminar. (1.5 Credits)
The doctoral seminar is a venue for building our Ph.D. community as we explore research that bears on the focus of the doctoral program. We will consider matters of religion and practice across practical theology, religious education, and related fields. In keeping with the spirit of this doctoral program, which is focused on theological and pedagogical research and practice that makes a social justice difference for persons and communities in churches and society, the doctoral seminar will invite the participation of Ph.D. faculty and may include visits from other students, scholars, or accomplished practitioners. Goals of the doctoral seminar include clarification of your scholarly identity, contributing to our learning community and your communities of accountability, and producing a research-informed work—a Seminar Project. Students register for this course in both semesters of their first year of doctoral studies.

REGR 8111. Ph.D. Year 2 Doctoral Seminar. (1.5 Credits)
The doctoral seminar is a venue for building our Ph.D. community as we explore research that bears on the focus of the doctoral program. We will consider matters of religion and practice across practical theology, religious education, and related fields. In keeping with the spirit of this doctoral program, which is focused on theological and pedagogical research and practice that makes a social justice difference for persons and communities in churches and society, the doctoral seminar will invite the participation of Ph.D. faculty and may include visits from other students, scholars, or accomplished practitioners. Goals of the doctoral seminar include clarification of your scholarly identity, contributing to our learning community and your communities of accountability, and producing a research-informed work—a Seminar Project. Students register for this course in both semesters of their second year of doctoral studies.

Prerequisite: REGR 8110.

REGR 8120. Education for Peace and Justice. (3 Credits)
(Doctoral Students Only) Focuses on developing a greater understanding of the social ministry of the Christian churches. After a historical survey of Christian attitudes toward peace and justice, participants will explore ways of bringing a concern for peace and justice issues into liturgy, preaching, religious education and pastoral ministry. The course also examines how to relate Christian understandings of peace and justice to everyday work, and civic, political and family life.

REGR 8188. Seminar: Religious Education. (3 Credits)
Reserved for special seminar topics in religious education.

REGR 8401. Research Methods. (3 Credits)
Research Methods course is for students in the PhD in Religious Education.

REGR 8580. Young Adult / Adult Ministry and Education. (3 Credits)
This course—for doctoral students only—examines key issues in the religious education of adults. It situates adult religious education within the broader framework of adult education theory, principles of practice, and the application of this theory to contexts of faith communities. Foundational issues explored will include the meaning of adulthood, adult learning, and development, and adult social worlds.

REGR ADV1. Faculty Advising. (0 Credits)
REGR MTNC. Maintenance of Matriculation. (0 Credits)
Maintenance of matriculation.

Spirituality (SPGR)

SPGR 6702. History of Christian Spirituality I. (3 Credits)
This course will explore a number of the significant figures and themes that characterized the development of Christian spirituality from its beginnings until the 15th century. Readings will be drawn from classical spiritual texts from the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic traditions and relevant secondary literature. Authors and texts typically include the Martyrdom of Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Origen, The Life of Anthony, John Cassian, Augustine, Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite, Life of Benedict, Gregory the Great, Maximus the Confessor, John Climacus, Symeon the New Theologian, Anselm, Bernard of Clairvaux, Mechthild of Magdeburg, Bonaventure, and Catherine of Siena. The course is organized around certain themes, including community life, prayer, mysticism, reform/conversion, and asceticism.

SPGR 6703. History of Christian Spirituality II. (3 Credits)
This course provides a solid grounding in the historical-critical, hermeneutical, and theological engagements with Christian mysticism/spirituality from the 16th century through the mid-20th century. In addition to focusing upon representative Catholic, Protestant, Reform, and Orthodox traditions, we examine recent expressions of globally contextualized Christian spiritualities. Course readings draw from classical spiritual texts and relevant secondary literature. Authors and texts typically considered include Ignatius Loyola, Martin Luther, Teresa of Ávila, Madame Guyon, Francis de Sales, George Herbert, The Pilgrim’s Tale, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, Howard Thurman, Gustavo Gutiérrez, C.S. Song, and Desmond Tutu, among others. Additionally, selected themes in Christian spirituality are considered, including feminist, ecological, and social justice spiritualities.

SPGR 6720. Sacramental Spirituality. (3 Credits)
Drawing upon Christian scripture and tradition, this course explores and develops present-day sacramental spiritualities. A variety of embodied practices and material realities will be considered in their sacramental aspects—i.e., insofar as they provide an opportunity to experience the divine in and through corporeality. This course will emphasize all of creation as sacramental; it will include a consideration of Christ and the Church as sacraments, the sacraments of initiation (RCIA), healing sacraments (reconciliation and anointing), marriage as a sacrament, and “sacramentals.” The study and discussion will be ecumenical and interreligious, interdisciplinary and multicultural.

SPGR 6742. The Ignatian Way. (3 Credits)
The ministry of Jesuits—and their partners—in pursuing a Christian vision of the world is rooted in the personal experience of the 16-century saint Ignatius Loyola. In this course we shall study the life and work of that saint against the background of the times in which he lived. We examine especially two important primary sources, his autobiography, dictated to a fellow Jesuit near the end of his life, and his Spiritual Exercises, a remarkable and influential handbook for personal and spiritual renewal. We shall also survey his other writings that have come down to us: excerpts from his Spiritual Journal, the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus, and some of his letters. [DMin students excluded].

Updated: 06-10-2024
SPGR 6746. Franciscan Spirituality: Francis, Clare and Bonaventure. (3 Credits)
Explores the religious experiences of Francis and Clare from their own writings as well as biographical materials and examines the spiritual teachings that Clare and Francis bequeathed to the religious orders they founded. Special emphasis is placed on the balance they achieved between the contemplative and active lifestyles and on the evangelical values that characterize the Franciscan approach to ministry. Some consideration will be given to representative Franciscan figures who have exemplified the interplay of theology, spirituality and ministry, suggesting outlines of the same for today.

SPGR 6752. Christian Contemplation and Action. (3 Credits)
Drawing on the work of Philip Sheldrake, this doctoral-level course explores the writings and lives of five representative themes of contemplative prayer and active ministry. The Way of Discipline, The Contemplative-Mystical Way, The Way of Practical Action, The Way of Beauty, and The Prophetic Way. Representative authors include Thomas Merton, Julian of Norwich, Ignatius Loyola, Teresa of Avila, G.M. Hopkins, Gustavo Gutiérrez, and Dorothy Day, among others. The course considers these sources and traditions as living fonts of and challenges to our contemporary spirituality, and provides a broad overview for more specific studies in Christian spirituality.

SPGR 6792. Contemporary Christian Spirituality. (3 Credits)
This course examines foundations, issues, movements, and persons affecting the practice of Christian spirituality in a postmodern context. Issues discussed will include embodiment, prayer, work, and sexuality. Movements will include feminism, ecology, and compassion/justice.

SPGR 6794. Women Mystics. (3 Credits)
This course will explore the experiences and theologies of women mystics as reported or portrayed throughout Christian history. Students will read selections from hagiographical texts, from the sayings of the Desert Mothers, from historical texts such as the Trial of Joan of Arc, and from the writings of women mystics themselves—such as Hildegard of Bingen, Clare of Assisi, Marguerite Porete, Catherine of Siena, Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, Margaret Mary Alacoque, Thérèse of Lisieux, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Lectures will draw upon history, sociology, psychology, theology, and other disciplines to contextualize the consideration of these readings and to invite a careful comparison with present-day experiences. Students will also be invited to ponder the forces that have shaped our current canon of mystics and saints: Whose lives remain invisible to our study, and why?.

SPGR 6811. Meditation East/West. (3 Credits)
A Practical theoretical treatment of the tradition of Christian prayer and Eastern Meditation. Included are guided practices, reading and reflection.

SPGR 6830. Discernment in the Christian Tradition. (3 Credits)
This course offers a two-fold introduction to Christian traditions for the discernment of spirits. During the first half of the course, we pursue a historical review of the various articulations of spiritual discernment from New Testament foundations through the 16th century. During the second half of the course, we concentrate on the theory and practice of Christian discernment and decision-making grounded in the writings of St. Ignatius Loyola. We engage in a critical, close reading of Ignatius’ “Rules for the Discernment of Spirits” (weeks 1 and 2) and “The Election,” both texts from “The Spiritual Exercises,” as well as selected letters and other writings by Ignatius. This course also emphasizes each student’s personal appropriation of this material through the discussion of discernment case studies.

SPGR 6834. Methods in Christian Spirituality. (3 Credits)
This course introduces graduate students to the academic discipline of Christian spirituality and to methods for researching and writing at the M.A. level, including an introduction to the Turabian Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations. In consultation with the professor, students are free to pursue a research topic of their choosing; however, their research agenda must include a Christian spirituality component. Students already working on a thesis may, with the professor’s consent, use a chapter thereof as their research paper for this course. Course topics include defining the academic discipline of Christian spirituality; the relationship between spirituality and theology; experience as an object of study; and the approaches to context, historical consciousness, multidisciplinarity, and hermeneutic theory. In this practical seminar, students collaboratively learn to research and write at the graduate level, as well as explore the rich offerings of Christian spirituality as an academic discipline.

SPGR 6910. Introduction to Supervision. (3 Credits)
The first course in Fordham GRE’s Advanced Certificate in Supervision, Introduction to Supervision offers participants intensive immersion in supervision basics, including case preparation, supervision theory, spirituality, and ethics. Students will have repeated practice offering supervision to others and giving feedback to classmates as they do the same.

SPGR 6912. Practicum in Formal Supervision. (3 Credits)
The second course in Fordham GRE’s Advanced Certificate in Supervision, the Practicum in Formal Supervision offers students individualized supervision and mentoring as they begin or grow their supervision ministry. In addition, this course provides opportunities for students to adapt a professional code of ethics for use in their context; to create a supervision resource kit; and to read, write about, and discuss supervision processes with their classmates and instructor.
Prerequisite: SPGR 6910.

SPGR 6914. Practicum in Informal Supervision. (3 Credits)
The third course in Fordham GRE’s Advanced Certificate in Supervision, the Practicum in Informal Supervision offers students individualized supervision and mentoring as they develop their supervision ministry. In addition, the course provides opportunities for students to explore their own spiritual senses and intuition as they listen to others; to engage psychological concepts related to supervision; and to read, write about, and discuss supervision processes with their classmates and instructors.
Prerequisite: SPGR 6912.

SPGR 6916. Practicum in Group Supervision. (3 Credits)
The fourth course in Fordham GRE’s Advanced Certificate in Supervision, the Practicum in Group Supervision offers students individualized supervision and mentoring as they continue their supervision ministry in the field, this term establishing and facilitating their own supervision group. Further, the course supports students in researching a supervision topic of their choice and culminates in a written capstone project.
Prerequisite: SPGR 6910.

SPGR 6920. Supervision Capstone Intensive. (3 Credits)
The final course in Fordham GRE’s Advanced Certificate in Supervision, the Supervision Capstone Intensive offers participants an opportunity to present original research and a demonstration project on a supervision-related topic of their choice; to engage in collaboration with their peers and instructors; to offer constructive, compassionate feedback to their peers; and to integrate the skills they have honed in their yearlong practice of supervision.
Prerequisite: SPGR 6916.
SPGR 7702. History of Christian Spirituality I. (3 Credits)
This course will explore a number of the significant figures and themes that characterized the development of Christian spirituality from its beginnings until the 15th century. Readings will be drawn from classical spiritual texts from the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic traditions and relevant secondary literature. Authors and texts typically include the Martyrdom of Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Origen, The Life of Anthony, John Cassian, Augustine, Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite, Life of Benedict, Gregory the Great, Maximus the Confessor, John Climacus, Symeon the New Theologian, Anselm, Bernard of Clairvaux, Mechtild of Magdeburg, Bonaventure, and Catherine of Siena. The course is organized around certain themes, including community life, prayer, mysticism, reform/conversion, and asceticism. This course is for Doctor of Ministry students only and will require doctoral-level participation and additional research/writing elements.

SPGR 7703. History of Christian Spirituality II. (3 Credits)
This doctoral-level course provides a solid grounding in the historical-critical, hermeneutical, and theological engagements with Christian mysticism/spirituality from the 16th century through the mid-20th century. In addition to focusing on representative Catholic, Protestant, Reform, and Orthodox traditions, we examine recent expressions of globally contextualized Christian spiritualities. Course readings draw from classical spiritual texts and relevant secondary literature. Authors and texts typically considered include Ignatius Loyola, Martin Luther, Teresa of Ávila, Madame Guyon, Francis de Sales, George Herbert, The Pilgrim’s Tale, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, Howard Thurman, Gustavo Gutiérrez, C.S. Song, and Desmond Tutu, among others. Additionally, selected themes in Christian spirituality are considered, including feminist, ecological, and social justice spiritualities. The capstone requirement is a 20-page research paper.

SPGR 7720. Sacramental Spirituality. (3 Credits)
Drawing upon Christian scripture and tradition, this doctoral-level course explores and develops present-day sacramental spiritualities. A variety of embodied practices and material realities will be considered in their sacramental aspects—i.e., insofar as they provide an opportunity to experience the divine in and through corporeality. This course will emphasize all of creation as sacramental; it will include a consideration of Christ and the Church as sacraments, the sacraments of initiation (RCIA), healing sacraments (reconciliation and anointing), marriage as a sacrament, and “sacramentals.” The study and discussion will be ecumenical and interreligious, interdisciplinary and multicultural.

SPGR 7740. Spiritual Direction Practicum I. (3 Credits)
The Spiritual Direction Practicum I offers participants the opportunity to learn about the dynamics of prayer as a personal relationship with God, the spiritual direction relationship, elements of Ignatian spirituality, and the role of supervision. A grade of pass and an instructor’s evaluation confirming skill development are required to move to Spiritual Direction Practicum II. Ordinarily, the practicum courses are taken at the conclusion of one’s program; however, with the approval of the Spirituality Faculty Committee, a student still needing to fulfill a limited number of course requirements may also apply for admission to the practicum courses. The following courses are ordinarily completed before taking the practicum courses: Old Testament; New Testament; Christology or Theology of the Human Person; and Sacraments or Sacramental Spirituality or Church and Society. With faculty approval, one or more of these courses may be taken concurrently with the practicum courses. Note: This course is pass/fail only. The following courses must be taken before the Spiritual Direction Practicum begins for all students: Theology of Spiritual Direction; Discernment in the Christian Tradition; and Pastoral Counseling Skills.

Prerequisites: SPGR 6830 and SPGR 7870 and PCGR 6440.

SPGR 7741. Spiritual Direction Practicum II. (3 Credits)
This course is a continuation of SPGR 7740. A grade of pass for SPGR 7740 and an instructor’s evaluation confirming skill development at a successful level is required to register for this course. The course registration must take place with request to the assistant dean after Practicum I grades have been posted. Note: This course is pass/fail only. Attribute: PSTG.

Prerequisites: SPGR 6830 and SPGR 7870 and PCGR 6440.

SPGR 7746. Franciscan Spirituality: Francis, Clare and Bonaventure. (3 Credits)
Doctoral students only- please see syllabus requirements for doctoral students. Explores the religious experiences of Francis and Clare from their own writings as well as biographical materials and examines the spiritual teachings that Clare and Francis bequeathed to the religious orders they founded. Special emphasis is placed on the balance they achieved between the contemplative and active lifestyles and on the evangelical values that characterize the Franciscan approach to ministry. Some consideration will be given to representative Franciscan figures who have exemplified the interplay of theology, spirituality and ministry, suggesting outlines of the same for today.

SPGR 7752. Christian Contemplation and Action. (3 Credits)
Drawing on the work of Philip Sheldrake, this doctoral-level course explores the writings and lives of five representative themes of contemplative prayer and active ministry. The Way of Discipline, The Contemplative-Mystical Way, The Way of Practical Action, The Way of Beauty, and The Prophetic Way. Representative authors include Thomas Merton, Julian of Norwich, Ignatius Loyola, Teresa of Ávila, G.M. Hopkins, Gustavo Gutiérrez, and Dorothy Day, among others. The course considers these sources and traditions as living fonts of and challenges to our contemporary spirituality, and provides a broad overview for more specific studies in Christian spirituality. The capstone requirement is a 20-page research paper.
SPGR 7760. Christian Spirituality and Leadership. (3 Credits)
This course examines the intersection between classic texts in Christian spirituality and contemporary texts on leadership studies. The oldest corporations in the West are the monasteries and the Catholic Church. Many spiritual treatises are aimed at helping people understand how to lead communities in an effective manner through word and example. Contemporary writers about leadership, such as Jim Collins, stress spiritual qualities such as humility and hope as important for leading companies into greatness. Whereas the spiritual writings have little quantitative evidence associated with them, the leadership studies provide such analysis; however, books on leadership studies tend to lack any depth behind such concepts as humility or even good advice as to how to achieve it, which texts from the history of Christian spirituality provide. By bringing these horizons together, the course will help students to understand the practical value of Christian spirituality in business, administration, and politics.

SPGR 7792. Contemporary Christian Spirituality. (3 Credits)
This course will explore contemporary foundations, issues, movements, and persons impacting the practice of Christian spirituality in a postmodern context. Issues discussed will include embodiment, prayer, work, and sexuality. Movements will include feminism, ecology, and compassion/justice. This course is for doctoral students only and will require doctoral-level participation and additional research/writing elements.

SPGR 7794. Women Mystics. (3 Credits)
This doctoral-level course will explore the experiences and theologies of women mystics as reported or portrayed throughout Christian history. Students will read selections from hagiographical texts, from the sayings of the Desert Mothers, from historical texts such as the Trial of Joan of Arc, and from the writings of women mystics themselves—such as Hildegard of Bingen, Clare of Assisi, Marguerite Porete, Catherine of Siena, Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, Margaret Mary Alacoque, Thérèse of Lisieux, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Lectures will draw upon history, sociology, psychology, theology, and other disciplines to contextualize the consideration of these readings and to invite a careful comparison with present-day experiences. Students will also be invited to ponder the forces that have shaped our current canon of mystics and saints: Whose lives remain invisible to our study, and why?

SPGR 7811. Meditation East/West. (3 Credits)
A Practical theoretical treatment of the tradition of Christian prayer and Eastern Meditation. Included are guided practices, reading and reflection. DMIN/PHD Students Only.

SPGR 7830. Discernment in the Christian Tradition. (3 Credits)
This doctoral-level course offers a two-fold introduction to Christian traditions for the discernment of spirits. During the first half of the course, we pursue a historical review of the various articulations of spiritual discernment from New Testament foundations through the 16th century. During the second half of the course, we concentrate on the theory and practice of Christian discernment and decision-making grounded in the writings of St. Ignatius Loyola. We engage in a critical, close reading of Ignatius’ “Rules for the Discernment of Spirits” (weeks 1 and 2) and “The Election,” both texts from “The Spiritual Exercises,” as well as selected letters and other writings by Ignatius. This course also emphasizes each student’s personal appropriation of this material through the discussion of discernment case studies. Capstone requirement is a 20-page research paper.

SPGR 7834. Methods in Christian Spirituality. (3 Credits)
This course introduces doctoral students to the academic discipline of Christian spirituality and to methods for researching and writing at the doctoral level, including an introduction to the Turabian Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations. Course topics include defining the academic discipline of Christian spirituality; the relationship between spirituality and theology; experience as an object of study; and the approaches to context, historical consciousness, multidisciplinarity, and hermeneutic theory. In this practical seminar, students collaboratively learn to research and write at the graduate level, as well as explore the rich offerings of Christian spirituality as an academic discipline. In consultation with the professor, students are free to pursue a research topic of their choosing; however, their research agenda must include a Christian spirituality component. Students already working on a DM in thesis/project or Ph.D. dissertation may, with the professor’s consent, use a chapter thereof as their research paper for this course. The capstone requirement is a 20-page research paper.

SPGR 7870. Spiritual Direction: Theology and Practice. (3 Credits)
This course explores the experience of spiritual direction from the standpoint of both the director and the one directed. It situates the contemporary ministry of spiritual direction within the history of the Christian tradition, and draws upon interdisciplinary and interreligious perspectives in order to examine critically a diversity of past and present theologies, processes, and models of spiritual direction.

Attribute: PSNM.

SPGR 7888. Special Topics: Spirituality. (3 Credits)
Reserved for special courses in Spirituality.

SPGR 7902. Ignatian Spirituality for Ministry. (3 Credits)
Limited to DMin students. Engaging in ministry within an Jesuit/Ignatian spirituality context involves pursuing a Christian vision of the world rooted in the experience and writings of the sixteenth-century Basque saint, Ignatius of Loyola. In this hybrid course, we (1) examine the life of Ignatius against the background of his socio-historical and theological context, (2) engage in a close, critical reading of representative texts, and (3) survey various contemporary approaches to the appropriation of his spiritual tradition, with an emphasis upon ministerial practices. We examine especially two important primary sources, his Autobiography, dictated to a fellow Jesuit near the end of his life, and The Spiritual Exercises, a remarkable and influential handbook for personal and spiritual growth. We also read excerpts from his Spiritual Journal, the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus, and Letters. Capstone requirement: 20-page research paper, which is due later in the spring semester.

SPGR 8500. Comprehensive Exam MA Christian Spirituality. (0 Credits)
Required for completion of the MA in Christian Spirituality concentrations, Generalist and Spiritual Direction.

SPGR 8870. Spir Dir: Theol & Pract. (3 Credits)
(PHD and DMin students only) This course explores the experience of spiritual direction from the standpoint of both the director and the one directed. It situates the contemporary ministry of spiritual direction within the history of the Christian tradition, and draws upon interdisciplinary and interreligious perspectives in order to examine critically a diversity of past and present theologies, processes, and models of spiritual direction.

SPGR 8998. Special Topics: Spirituality. (3 Credits)
A tutorial in the area of religion.
Administrative Registrations (ZZGR)

ZZGR 7071. Field Placement in P.C.. (3 Credits)
Placement in a setting allowing for an integration of theory and practice. Several clients seen weekly with on-site supervision. Staff meetings and case conferences attended as possible. Students will attend a monthly Field Placement Seminar during the duration of the Field Placement. Admission to this course is restricted to students in Field Placement. Pass/Fail only. Requires approval from faculty advisor, Fall/Spring only.

ZZGR 7072. 6 Credit Field Placement. (6 Credits)
Placement in a setting allowing for an integration of theory and practice. This course is for students intending to complete 6 credits of placement in one semester. Oversight by field placement director. Pass/Fail only. Requires approval from faculty advisor, Fall/Spring only.

ZZGR 7073. 9 Credit Field Placement P.C.. (9 Credits)
Placement in a setting allowing for an integration of theory and practice. This course is for students intending to complete 9 credits of placement in one semester. Oversight by field placement director. Pass/Fail only. Requires approval from faculty advisor, Fall/Spring only.

ZZGR 7074. Clinical Pastoral Education. (3 Credits)
Clinical Pastoral Education.

ZZGR 7076. Clinical Pastoral Ed (Online). (3 Credits)

ZZGR 8000. Consortium. (3 Credits)
For use with the Theological Consortium.

ZZGR 8040. Dissertation Qualifying Paper. (0 Credits)
Dissertation Qualifying Paper.

ZZGR 8060. DMin Mentoring Seminar. (3 Credits)
DMin Mentoring Seminar.

ZZGR 8071. Field Experience 1 Credit. (1 Credit)
One credit is offered for field placements approved by a faculty advisor. These are pass/fail only.

ZZGR 8073. Field Experience 3 Credits. (3 Credits)
For approved field placement - 3 credits. Pass/Fail only. Requires approval from faculty advisor.

ZZGR 8074. Field Experience 6 Credits. (6 Credits)
For approved field placement - 6 credits. Pass/Fail only. Requires approval from faculty advisor.

ZZGR 8075. Field Experience 9 Credits. (9 Credits)
For approved field placement - 9 credits. Pass/Fail only. Requires approval from faculty advisor.

ZZGR 8084. Dissertation Format Review. (0 Credits)
Dissertation Format Review.

ZZGR 8090. Dissertation Direction. (3 Credits)
Ph.D. students who have completed their coursework must register for Dissertation Direction each fall and spring semester until graduation.

ZZGR 8999. Graduate Tutorial-GSRRE. (1 to 4 Credits)
An independent tutorial with an approved instructor. Requires approval from the faculty mentor, the academic area and the Dean's office.

ZZGR LEAV. Leave of Absence. (0 Credits)
Leave of Absence.

ZZGR MTNC. Maintenance of Matriculation. (0 Credits)
Pass/Fail only.

Updated: 06-10-2024