Denominational Courses and Requirements

All students should check with their denomination regarding required ordination courses. If you are Presbyterian USA, this would be the CPM or Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Many of the denominational courses will be taken during your middler and/or senior year.

DP1201 Presbyterian Church Polity
An introduction to the theology and practice of Presbyterian polity. Lectures, class discussions, and small group work will focus on and amplify the contents of the Book of Order, for the purpose of helping students apply the principles of Presbyterian polity with pastoral sensitivity.
- Pass/D/Fail only.
- Prerequisite: TH2100.
- 2 credits.
Fall Semester, 2014–2015; Mr. Paul La Montagne
Spring Semester, 2014-2015; Ms. Joyce MacKichan Walker
Fall Semester, 2015-2016; Staff
Spring Semester, 2015-2016; Staff

(This Baptist course is offered every other year.)

DP1205 Baptist History, Theology, and Polity
This course is designed to deepen one’s knowledge of Baptist principles, history, and mission, to understand more fully the unities and diversities of Baptist life in the past and present, to learn more about some historical Baptist leaders (men and women), to become more aware of the various theological traditions among Baptists, to reflect on the development of Baptist polity as it shapes church practices today, to become aware of the Baptist contribution to the Christian community, and to help prepare for ministry among and for Baptists of various backgrounds.
- 2 credits.
Fall Semester, 2014–2015; Mr. Peter Wool

DP1206 United Church of Christ Polity
In this course, participants will acquire knowledge of the history, polity, and theology of the United Church of Christ (UCC) and its predecessor denominations, apply that knowledge to issues in the life of the UCC, and become familiar with the polity and practice of ministry in the UCC.
- 2 credits.
Fall Semester, 2014–2015; Mr. David H. DeRemer
(This course is offered as needed.)

DP1207 Lutheran Church Polity
This yearlong course is designed to introduce students, who either intend to enter a professional ministry of the Lutheran Church or are otherwise interested in Lutheran church life, to the theological, confessional, and institutional bases of existing Lutheran church bodies in the United States of America, especially the ELCA. Discussions, readings, and written assignments are part of a process of paradigmatic exposure to the sources and resources of Lutheran ministries. The sessions of the fall semester focus on the relevant documents and resource materials. The sessions of the spring semester apply the theoretical framework to selected cases in the practice of ministry. While students register for one credit each semester, the two credits will not be awarded until successful completion of the course at the end of the spring semester.
- Pass/D/Fail.
- 2 credits.
Spring Semester, 2015–2016; Staff
DP3100 The Lutheran Confessions
This course is an analysis of the history and development of the theology of the documents comprising The Book of Concord with a view to establishing the importance of their contents for the ministry of pastors, teachers, and congregations.

- 3 credits.

Fall Semester, 2015-2016; Mr. Timothy Wengert

United Methodist Studies courses are offered on a two-year cycle.

DP1209 United Methodist Studies I: History
One of three required courses for every United Methodist student pursuing ordination or diaconal ministry. Attention will be given to the origins, organizational development, events, persons, issues, and movements that have shaped United Methodism. Students will become familiar with the various interpretations of the tradition and the available resources.

- 2 credits.

2015–2016; Staff

DP1210 United Methodist Studies II: Doctrine
One of three required courses for every United Methodist student pursuing ordination or diaconal ministry. Attention will be given to the doctrinal origins in John Wesley and those sources upon which he drew, theologians and theological movements in the Wesleyan tradition, and the doctrinal standards in the Discipline along with other contemporary statements of doctrine.

- 2 credits.

2015–2016; Staff

DP1211 United Methodist Studies III: Polity
Required of all United Methodist students pursuing ordination or diaconal ministry. The course will examine the development of church government and structure from a historical and theological perspective and will use the Discipline and Book of Resolutions as working handbooks for mission and ministry.

- 2 credits.

Spring Semester, 2014–2015; Mr. Alfred Day

Reformed Church of America courses
Students who are in need of Reformed Church of America, (RCA) courses, may enroll in courses offered at New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Princeton Seminar has an inter-institutional agreement with New Brunswick Seminary which permits this. For further information contact the registrar’s office.

WR3101 Introduction to Christian Worship
A survey of the history, practice, and theology of Christian worship, with particular attention to ecumenical developments in North American contexts. Topics will include the service of the Word, the celebration of baptism and the Lord’s Supper, weddings, and funerals. Must be taken with one of the following courses for a minimum of three credits total: Christian Worship and Artistic Languages, Christian Worship and the Presbyterian Tradition, Christian Worship and the Methodist Tradition, Christian Worship and the Lutheran Tradition, Worship in the African American Traditions, Worship as Resistance, or Word and Act in Christian Worship.

- This course does count toward the Practical Department elective requirement.
• 2 credits. (Capstone course)
Fall Semester, 2014–2015; Mr. Patrick Johnson
(WR3101 will not be offered in 2015-2016)

WR3103 Christian Worship and the Presbyterian Tradition
Christian worship as practiced in the Presbyterian Church (USA), with special attention to the Book of Confessions, the Directory for Worship, the rites of ordination, and the liturgical responsibilities of the ministerial office. Strongly advised for those preparing for ordination in the Presbyterian Church (USA).
• WR3101 is required in combination with this course and may be taken concurrently.
• This course does count toward the Practical Department elective requirement.
• 1 credit. (Capstone course)
Fall Semester, 2014–2015; Mr. Patrick Johnson
(WR3103 will not be offered in 2015-2016)

WR3105 Christian Worship and the Methodist Tradition
Christian worship as practiced in the United Methodist Church, with special attention to the history of Methodist worship, the United Methodist Hymnal, Book of Worship, By Water and the Spirit (a United Methodist understanding of baptism and Christian initiation), This Holy Mystery (a United Methodist understanding of Holy Communion) and the liturgical responsibilities of the pastoral office. Strongly advised for those preparing for ordination in the United Methodist Church or pan-Methodist denominations.
• WR3101 is required in combination with this course and may be taken concurrently.
• This course does count toward the Practical Department elective requirement.
• 1 credit.
Fall Semester, 2014-2015; Mr. Alfred Day

WR3104 Christian Worship and the Lutheran Tradition
Christian worship as practiced in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, with special attention to the service and sacramental rites in the Lutheran Book of worship and Evangelical Lutheran Worship, and the liturgical responsibilities of the pastoral office. Strongly advised for those preparing for ordination in the Lutheran Church in America.
• This course does count toward the Practical Department elective requirement.
• 1 credit.
Fall Semester 2014–2015; Mr. Rorem