

**School of Theology and Christian Ministry**  
**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**  
*(Excludes GE and 490 Courses)*  
**April 20, 2012**

**BIBLE COURSES:**

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**BIB 240 Interpreting The Bible**

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Students will be able to...

- encounter the history and terminology of biblical interpretation.
- appreciate the literary diversity of the biblical literature with an awareness of the best interpretive methods for particular genres.
- practice the steps of traditional historical, literary, and theological analysis used in biblical interpretation and appreciate the philosophies that underwrite them.
- be exposed to the approaches of non-traditional methods of biblical interpretation and appreciate the philosophies that underwrite them.
- begin to practice the exegesis of passages of scripture using the various approaches and to begin to develop the ability to synthesize, analyze, assess, and live with ambiguity.

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**BIB 301 Jesus and the Synoptic Gospels**

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Students will be able to...

- describe and compare the Synoptic Gospels.
- apply theories of Synoptic relationships to the interpretation of particular biblical passages.
- argue a presentation of Jesus that accounts for the portraits of Jesus by Matthew, Mark, Luke, modern historians, and Christian confession.

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**BIB 302 Early Christianity in Paul's Churches**

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Students will be able to...

- read Paul's letters and the Acts of the Apostles against the backdrop of their historical and cultural settings in the Roman Empire of the first century.
- comprehend the nature and significance of Paul's gospel and its implications for ministry within the Christian church.
- recognize the indispensable role of Jesus Christ in Pauline thought and how it shapes the ministry of the early church.
- become familiar with the major themes and motifs of Pauline thought.
- discern the difference between the images of Paul as revealed in the letters and in Luke's portrait of Paul as he proclaims the message of Jesus Christ throughout the Mediterranean basin.
- discriminate between the historical, literary, and theological worlds of the world of early Christianity.

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**BIB 303 Luke-Acts**

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Students will be able to...

*Will be offered in Fall 2012.*

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**BIB 307 Biblical Theology**

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Students will be able to...

- articulate the Holy Scripture as the unfolding narrative of God and God's creation, to learn the significant turning point in this narrative, and to understand the subsequent theological implications for the formation of human character and congregations.
- explain how narrative functions as a precondition for human rationality in its relationship to its shaping human polities and character.
- express the major narrative that shapes the lives, secular and Christian, in contemporary America as it forms human character and polities.
- develop the ecclesial and personal implications of the alternative narratives for the life of the church and individual human beings.

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**BIB 314 The Old Testament Prophets**

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Students will be able to...

- exegete the OT prophetic literature within its original historical, literary, and theological settings. This goal will also enable the student to carry on an informed dialogue concerning the persons, ministries, and messages of the various OT prophets.
- explore the phenomenon of ancient Israelite prophecy in light of its place within the broader context of the ancient Near East and within the context of its historical precedents.
- encounter the basic categories of prophetic literature and the process by which spoken word became written word.
- begin to identify diverse ways of reading prophetic literature that go beyond traditional historical and literary exegetical methods and appreciate their implications for understanding the texts and their interpretive issues.
- explore the broader theological, literary, and social issues involved in reading these texts in a contemporary setting and thereby to apply these bodies of literature to contemporary situations and Christian ministry, proclamation, and instruction.

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**BIB 378 Old Testament Poetry and Wisdom**

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Students will be able to...

- be familiar with the content and major interpretive issues of the OT Psalms and wisdom literature, including an acquaintance with the significant perspectives, themes, personalities, literary elements, and theologies in these texts.
- practice the critical interpretation of these writings in dialogue with traditional and newer methods within biblical scholarship.
- consider the OT's psalms and wisdom texts in light of broader cultic, literary, and wisdom traditions from the ancient Near East.

- examine the later development of the wisdom tradition in the literature of the Protestant Apocrypha and New Testament.
- appreciate the contemporary theological significance of this portion of the OT canon for understandings of prayer and worship, as well as reflections upon faithful living, suffering, and human existence.

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### **BIB 403 Johannine Literature**

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Students will be able to...

- read the Johannine writings against the backdrop of their historical and cultural settings in the Roman Empire of the first century.
- comprehend the nature and significance of the Johannine documents and their implications for ministry within the Christian church.
- recognize the indispensable role of Jesus Christ in Johannine thought and how it shapes the ministry of the early church.
- become familiar with the major themes and motifs in the Johannine documents.
- discriminate between the historical, literary, and theological worlds of the world of early Christianity.

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### **BIB 404 The Catholic Letters**

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Students will be able to...

- foster within the student an appreciation for the unique theological resources within the Catholic Letters & other selected early Christian letters.
- acquaint the student with the methods, tools and principles of critical study of the New Testament, particularly the methods, tools and principles appropriate to the study of the Catholic Letters.
- assist the student in developing the hermeneutical skills required for responsible and faithful pastoral and homiletical use of the New Testament.

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### **BIB 413 Old Testament Narrative and Law**

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Students will be able to...

- grasp the basic narrative structure and contents of Genesis through Deuteronomy.
- learn the basic compositional history and themes of the Old Testament texts in the relationship to narrative and law and how these relate to their socio-historical situations of production, preservation, and transmission.
- investigate the nature of the Torah within the exegesis of earliest Christianity and the Old Testament as Christian Scriptures in light of the early Christian confession of the revelation of God in Jesus Christ.
- understand the exegetical reception of the Torah in Thomas Aquinas as a model for Christian proclamation from the OT.

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### **BIB 477 The Literature of Second Temple Judaism**

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Students will be able to...

- grasp the interaction between material remains, social historical trajectories, and literary productions of Judeans in Yehud/Judah and in Egypt.

- understand the Second Temple period as the context for the final production and editing and early dissemination and interpretation of the scrolls that eventually are compiled into the Christian Old Testament.
- interrogate the commonalities and difference between Persian period, Hellenistic, Hasmonean and early Roman period Judeans and parallel diaspora movements in Egypt, from Elephantine to Alexandria.
- grasp underlying social tensions and rivalries between various Judean groups and between the Jewish groups under the pressure of Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman colonial rule.
- examine the site and scrolls of Khirbet Qumran in relationship to the textual production of Philo of Alexandria.

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## **BIB 495 Seminar in Biblical Literature**

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Students will be able to...

- give an account of the socio-historical dynamics of the Persian and early Hellenistic province of Yehud in its transition from earlier monarchical Judah ultimately to the establishment of the Hasmonean kingdom.
- narrate the development of Davidide aspirations in the movement within Yehud in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> into the centuries BCE.
- express the literary transformation of previous histories of Israel by the Chronicler.
- articulate how the narrative world created by Chronicles functions within the context of the Christian Scripture in the context of the church in worship.

## **CHRISTIAN MINISTRY COURSES:**

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### **CMI 150 Introduction to Ministry**

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Students will be able to...

- develop a biblical and theological framework for ministry.
- understand the importance of personal formation practices in ministry.
- discover and explore personal passion, talent, and gifts for ministry.
- create and apply a strategic model for effective ministry
- Explore a variety of potential ministry roles and assignments

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### **CMI 160 Introduction to Christian Education**

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Students will be able to...

- develop a working definition of Christian education that is biblically informed, theologically sound, and contextualize-able to local ministry.
- recognize the ways Christian education ministries involve the whole congregation and all of congregational life rather than just discrete classroom activities or specific age groups (forming perspective).
- compare ways in which Christian education is being done and might be done across and throughout a congregation.
- construct and implement transformative Christian education opportunities and/or programs in a local church.

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## **CMI 200 Christian Education of Children**

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Students will be able to...

- begin the formation of a biblically based philosophy of children's ministry.
- connect one's philosophy of children's ministry to the practices of intentional children's ministry.
- gain an understanding of the developmental stages of children, basic faith development and moral development and how to incorporate both into age appropriate children's ministry.
- invite children into the story of our faith found in the Bible.
- understand the vital importance of connecting children's ministry with the larger church community including the church calendar and family ministry, the issues related to that connection, and the practical application of connecting them.
- be exposed to a broad spectrum of issues and topics within children's ministry.
- develop an awareness of various tools, resources and methods available for use and adaptation in children's ministry, especially regarding the availability and selection of curriculum.
- gain insights into the role of a children's pastor administratively, as a pastor of children and their families, and as a member of a staff team.

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## **CMI 210 Introduction to Youth Ministry**

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Students will be able to...

- gain a working understanding of adolescence and the adolescent world.
- develop a sensitivity to the existence and significance of various youth cultures.
- develop an approach to youth ministry that is firmly rooted in the Scripture's witness to the Gospel.
- learn to think/reflect biblically and theologically about the practices of youth ministry and also to allow the practices and experiences of ministry to inform one's reading of Scripture and theology.
- grow in recognition of the role of the church in youth ministry and the place of youth ministry within the church.
- prepare for both the relational and programmatic aspects of youth ministry.
- recognize the need for and the development of personal strategies for cultivating your own health and growth in Christ-likeness.

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## **CMI 220 Youth Ministry in Contemporary Culture**

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Students will be able to...

- develop a strategy and the practice thereof, for identifying and exploring contemporary cultural issues that especially pertain to youth.
- learn to think and respond biblically and theologically "gospel" towards cultural issues.
- develop a healthy definition/understanding of "effective week-to-week" youth ministry.
- develop the strategy and ability for implementing such weekly ministry.

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## **CMI 300 Preaching**

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Students will be able to...

### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

The personal, intellectual, and spiritual elements of preaching; the structure and form of the sermon; the development and delivery of sermons with each student preaching in class.

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**CMI 320 Administration and Leadership**

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Students will be able to...

- recognize how the administration of the church is a reflection of our understanding of the gospel.
- learn the basic issues in church administration.
- develop a healthy concept of biblical leadership.

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**CMI 330 Pastoral Care and Counseling**

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Students will be able to...

- develop a Biblical understanding of pastoral care.
- develop the ability to nurture persons in general, and more specifically in the Christian life.
- develop the ability to facilitate holistic care within the church.
- develop the ability to equip, engage, and empower the laity in ministry.
- develop the ability to engage in basic short term pastoral counseling (especially in relation to grief and relationships) and to recognize when a referral needs to be made.
- develop and practice strategies that safeguard personal integrity.
- develop and practice a sense of healthy priorities in the midst of overwhelming needs.
- equip you and grow you for pastoral ministry.

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**CMI 350 Evangelism and Cross-Cultural Ministry**

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Students will be able to...

- Students will communicate a clear understanding of the nature and mission of the Church drawing from historical and biblical sources with implications and application for contemporary contexts.
- Students will apply the interpretation of biblical literature to ministry in local Christian congregations.
- Students will apply core Christian leadership practices for ministry for the whole church.
- Students will critique various evangelistic/missional strategies and construct models of evangelism and cross-cultural ministry for contemporary contexts.

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**CMI 387 Internship**

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Students will be able to...

- develop and improve ministry skills and understandings.
- begin a pattern of critical, informed, and faithful reflection as a necessary component of ministry.
- synthesize thought, reading, and experience into a coherent and faithful agenda for future ministry.
- experience ministry as a means of grace, transforming one's character into the image of Jesus Christ.

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**CMI 400 Christian Worship**

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Students will be able to...

- understand the practice of Word and Sacrament as the fundamental act of Christian worship.
- understand of contemporary trends and issues in American evangelical worship and the tradition and polity in which it stands.
- understand the history of Christian worship and its relationship to sacramental practice.

- master the essential components of the practice of Christian baptism, the Lord's Supper, marriage, and funerals.
- formulate a contemporary, faithful practice of Christian worship

## **CHURCH HISTORY COURSES:**

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### **CHU 104 Nazarene Church History and Polity**

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Students will be able to...

- articulate the collective conscience of the Church of the Nazarene and how it is to be communicated to our generation.
- understand and communicate the distinctive identity and mission of the Church of the Nazarene, to provide a rationale for its existence, and to explain why it came into existence in its present form. (ability to tell the story of the Church of the Nazarene).
- understand and communicate the identity the Church of the Nazarene shares with the universal church.
- understand who can become a member of the Church of the Nazarene, what it means to be a member, and how one can do so.
- plan and lead a membership class.
- explain and function within the governmental structures of the church at the local, district, and general level.
- understand the meaning of ministry, the call and responsibilities of a minister, and the process of becoming ordained within the Church of the Nazarene.
- use the *Manual* in the service of the Church.

## **PHILOSOPHY COURSES:**

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### **PHL 277 Logic**

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Students will be able to...

- recognize, recast, construct, and evaluate arguments using a variety of tools.
- understand and appreciate the art and science of human reasoning, as well as its limits.
- apply standard forms of argument assessment, including the informal fallacies, to everyday reasoning in common and technical contexts.

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### **PHL 301 History of Western Philosophy I**

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Students will be able to...

- develop and widen an openness towards the pursuit of wisdom.
- nurture creative and reflective thinking by reading significant primary texts within the Western philosophical tradition.

- examine what it means for us to be human.
- introduce several philosophical issues found in the ancient and medieval western tradition including human knowledge, the nature of desire, the ancient Greek notion of health, the relationship of the soul to the body, the relationship of human beings to nature and (G)od, and the meaning of a *good* human life.
- wrestle, and I mean wrestle, with these issues as they relate to our lives.

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### **PHL 302 History of Western Philosophy II**

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Students will be able to...

- critically engage representative texts from some of the significant philosophers in the modern period (17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries) and to assess the primary philosophical movements and major themes that make up the intellectual climate of that period.
- gain an appreciation of the place that the modern period holds in relation to both earlier and later developments in thought.
- evaluate the influence of modern philosophical notions on matters pertaining to the human condition, including conceptions of human nature, the changing understanding of the universe and the place of the human within it, the constitution of human societies and culture, and the nature of faith.

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### **PHL 303 History of Western Philosophy III**

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Students will be able to...

- critically engage representative texts from some of the significant philosophers in the modern period (19<sup>th</sup> century) and to assess the primary philosophical movements and major themes that make up the intellectual climate of that period.
- gain an appreciation of the place that 19<sup>th</sup> century philosophy holds in relation to both earlier and later developments in thought.
- To evaluate the influence of 19<sup>th</sup> century philosophical notions on matters pertaining to the human condition, including conceptions of human nature, the changing understanding of the universe and the place of the human within it, the constitution of human societies and culture, and the nature of faith.

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### **PHL 304 History of Western Philosophy IV**

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Students will be able to...

- study 20<sup>th</sup> century western philosophy and critically reflect upon those trajectories of thought that arise out of and respond to the philosophical work of the Western philosophical tradition as a whole.
- examine the philosophical impact of *temporality*, understood with a gaze toward the future.
- examine the philosophical significance of *language* to metaphysical and epistemological engagement.
- study historically significant figures in the history of philosophy in order to enrich our engagement with the discourse within western philosophy.
- reconsider the term ‘philosophy’ in light of these thinkers.
- read some really good but difficult texts that question some ‘fundamental’ assumptions of the Western philosophical tradition.
- acquire a basic understanding of the views held by many of the more important philosophers in the contemporary period, as well as the primary philosophic movements, and major themes that make up the intellectual climate of that period.



- critically engage the philosophers of the contemporary period and evaluate their views and the impact of their views on contemporary thought and culture.
- study and critically evaluate the relationship between language, culture, and worldview.
- To wait in hopeful anticipation for that *impossible possibility*...

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### **PHL 321 Social Philosophy**

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Students will be able to...

- examine what it means for us to be human as we exist with others.
- examine the way in which sociality has been utilized within the western philosophical tradition.
- examine concepts like justice, autonomy, the *polis*, race, gender, the Other, technology, social contract, class, power, torture, thought, bodies, community, etc.

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### **PHL 331 Existentialism**

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Students will be able to...

- develop and widen an openness toward the pursuit of wisdom, all the while living in the tension that comes with this pursuit.
- examine the philosophical impact of the body.
- examine what it means for us to be human in light of what we have our being in or for.
- examine significant texts in the history of philosophy.
- contrast essentialist assumptions with existential critiques.
- nurture creative and reflective thinking by reading significant primary texts within the western philosophical tradition.
- encounter significant and influential figures in the western philosophical tradition in order to reflect upon the nature of that tradition itself.
- introduce several philosophical issues found in the western philosophical tradition as they address finitude, thrownness, relationality, and the transcendent.
- wrestle, and I mean wrestle, with these issues as they relate to our lives as we consider how we can be ethical in light of our limitations and our dependence upon the source of ethicality itself.

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### **PHL 341 Philosophy of Art**

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Students will be able to...

- critically engage the writings of significant figures in the history of Western philosophy, especially the contemporary period, on the nature and ontology of art and the aesthetic.
- explore the relationships that hold between art, aesthetics, and philosophy.
- explore the relationships that hold between art, aesthetics, and society/culture.
- foster creative and reflective thinking about art and the aesthetic by reading some really good but difficult texts that address key issues within the Western philosophical tradition like the definition of art, what counts as an aesthetic property or experience, whether or not origin is essential to an art-object, whether or not there are any essential characteristics of art-objects or art forms, how meaning functions in art, the mimetic function in art, how performance art differs from non performance art (the relationship between art and time), whether and how one can evaluate art, whether art is historically bound or free of historical constraints, the relationship between art and nature, and the relationship between art and the mundane.

- develop an openness towards the pursuit of wisdom.

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### **PHL 351 Asian Philosophies and Religions**

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Students will be able to...

- become conversant with the leading convictions and practices of the major indigenous religious and philosophical traditions of India and East Asia.
- reflect theologically, from the resources of the Christian theological tradition, about the holy texts, convictions, practices and institutions of the adherents of these traditions, both through classroom study and through onsite visits to local worship and/or meditation gatherings.

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### **PHL 371 Philosophy and Education**

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Students will be able to...

- develop and widen an openness toward the pursuit of wisdom.
- nurture creative and reflective thinking by reading significant primary texts within the western philosophical tradition.
- encounter significant and influential figures in the western philosophical tradition in order to reflect upon the nature of that tradition itself.
- introduce several philosophical issues found in the western philosophical tradition as they address directly and indirectly education and philosophical formation.
- wrestle, and I mean wrestle, with these issues as they relate to our lives.

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### **PHL 381 Ethics, Responsibility, and Love**

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Students will be able to...

- develop and widen an openness toward the pursuit of wisdom.
- examine the philosophical impact of the body as we consider the relation of the soul to the body.
- examine what it means for us to be human in light of what we have our being in or for –in light of what we love.
- examine significant texts in the history of philosophy on the topics of ‘ethics’/ ‘responsibility’/‘love’.
- compare and contrast ancient Greek notions of love with other notions.
- nurture creative and reflective thinking by reading significant primary texts within the western philosophical tradition.
- encounter significant and influential figures in the western philosophical tradition in order to reflect upon the nature of that tradition itself.
- introduce several philosophical issues found in the western philosophical tradition as they address directly and indirectly ethical formation.
- wrestle, and I mean wrestle, with these issues as they relate to our lives as we consider how we can be loving and ethical in light of our limitations and our dependence upon the source of ethicality itself..

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### **PHL 411 Being and Truth**

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Students will be able to...

- critically engage the writings of significant figures in the history of Western philosophy,

including the contemporary period, on the nature of being, truth, and knowledge.

- explore the fundamental task(s) of philosophy, especially what is sometimes referred to as “first philosophy”.
- explore the relationship between ontology and metaphysics.
- explore the relationship between ontology/metaphysics and knowledge.
- examine the philosophical impact of the body as we consider the relation of the soul to the body.
- foster creative and reflective thinking by reading some really good but difficult texts that address some key issues within the Western philosophical tradition like identity, sameness, difference, change, essence, existence, reality, immortality, mortality, substance, nature, belief, opinion, warrant, memory, reason, truth and language.
- develop and widen an openness towards the pursuit of wisdom.

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### **PHL 451 Philosophy of Science**

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Students will be able to...

- gain an awareness and appreciation for the historical development of science, especially the rise of modern science in the west.
- gain an awareness and appreciation for the boundaries of science as a discipline, especially as those boundaries are relevant to the relationship between science and philosophy, religion, and other areas of discourse, both descriptively and prescriptively.
- become acquainted with epistemological and methodological implications embedded in scientific practice, including issues which bear on scientific reasoning processes, and how these inform the nature of science.
- become acquainted with the (inter)relationship between the field of science and other areas, including religion, morality, and culture.
- become acquainted with important historical and contemporary figures in science and the philosophy of science.
- gain an awareness of some important foundational issues related to specific scientific fields.

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### **PHL 461 Philosophy of Religion**

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Students will be able to...

- live in hopeful anticipation of God’s revelation.
- develop and widen an openness towards the pursuit of wisdom.
- examine the philosophical impact of the body as we consider the relation of the soul to the body.
- study historically impacting figures in the history of philosophy in order to enrich our engagement with this tradition.
- consider the way this term ‘Religion’ has functioned within the tradition
- nurture creative and reflective thinking by reading some really good but difficult texts that address some key issues within the Western philosophical tradition, like religious experience, faith, reason, God’s existence, theodicy, immortality, mortality, impact of the state on the “religious”, ethical action, idolatry, iconography and language.
- wrestle with these issues as they relate to our lives.

## THEOLOGY COURSES:

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### THE 250 Foundations of Christian Theology I

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Students will be able to...

- Objectives:**
- 1) To introduce students, especially theology majors, to the root convictions, methodologies and enduring issues of classical and contemporary Christian theological reflection; and
  - 2) to explore the crucial doctrines of Christian faith in their complex and rich interrelations, and in relation to Christian life, practice and ministry.

Doctrines to be explored during this semester include: divine revelation in the history of the people Israel and particularly in Jesus Christ; scriptural testimony and authority; Scripture in relation to tradition, reason and experience; the nature and attributes of the Triune God, Creator and Sustainer of all things; human beings in the image of God; human sin and divine grace; divine predestination and human agency / responsibility.

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### THE 300 Religions of the West

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Students will be able to...

**Objectives:**

- 1) To introduce students to the major and most influential religious traditions of the Western world, other than Christianity, customarily *described* as monotheistic faiths. We shall attempt to learn about the convictions and practices of their adherents – Zoroastrians, Jews, Muslims and (perhaps) Ba’hai – thereby exploring human religious insights, intuitions and institutions as these have become embodied in particular communities of faith in the Middle East, Europe and North America.
- 2) To think carefully and critically about the status of these traditions *vis a vis* Christianity. We shall attempt to reflect with empathy and integrity about the people, practices and convictions of these traditions in the light of Christian claims of ultimacy and finality in Jesus Christ.
- 3) To take initial steps toward a working theology of non-Christian religious traditions, drawing particularly upon the Wesleyan tradition as a source for understanding the nature of the divine-human relation within the particularities of history, geography, tradition, society, etc.

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### THE 310 Women in Christianity - WS

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Students will be able to...

- become more deeply aware and appreciative of the roles women have played in the biblical testimony regarding God’s salving activity in the world.
- become sensitive and sensitized regarding the too-often problematic status of women in Scripture and church tradition.
- encounter meaningfully the rich history of women’s writings and women’s lives in the traditions of Christian faith and living.
- explore the most pertinent and pressing issues in contemporary theological writing by Christian women,

- including ecology, patriarchy and active participation in the ministries and sacraments of the Church.
- develop, improve and hone critical skills of reading, analyzing, evaluating and formulating theological arguments.

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**THE 350 Foundations of Christian Theology II**

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Students will be able to...

- understand the system of Christian doctrine, including the doctrines of God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the human person, sin, salvation, the Christian life, the church and sacraments, and eschatology.
- articulate the distinctive characteristics of Wesleyan theology.
- reflect theologically on life and ministry.
- understanding of the sources of theological reflection, its historical development, and its contemporary expressions.
- understand and articulate the biblical, historical, and theological bases for Christian mission.

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**THE 450 Doctrine of Holiness**

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Students will be able to...

(Not provided)

