

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

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TITLE:	Ethics & Society (Hybrid for Day & Evening Students)	TERM:	<u>Spring 2019-2020</u>
PROFESSORS:	Ron Cole-Turner	CREDIT HOURS:	<u>3</u>
REGISTRATION:	SECTIONS LIMITED TO: <u>8</u> See Spring Schedule for section times	UNLIMITED	<u> </u>
		NO AUDITORS	<u> X </u>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course equips students to reflect on the church and its relationship to its various locations, with a particular focus on national and global contexts and issues. Students will learn to use biblical and theological resources with insight from the social sciences to analyze contexts and to identify and explore ethical issues related to cultural, economic, and social structures in which the church participates in God's mission.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

CS310 builds upon other courses in Bible, Church History, Theology, Field Education, and in particular Contextual Analysis. The specific focus for CS310 is the integration and interaction of all these sources of theological insight (biblical, traditional, and contextual analysis) with today's contextual realities (social, economic, racial, and political), especially at the national and global levels. These questions will be explored: What do we mean by 'Christian' ethics, and what are the philosophical and theological approaches to ethical reasoning that continue to be influential in grappling with national and global issues today? How do today's contextual realities shape the church and its theology in the past and today? How does the church seek to be faithful to God's mission of reconciliation and renewal in local communities and in the wider regional or national context? How do leaders in Christian communities promote Christian ethical discernment and action in addressing social contexts?

PREREQUISITES: CS110 and TH210.

HYBRID FORMAT:

Two weekend intensives and ten weekly online units are required. The weekend intensives runs from 4-9 pm on Fridays and from 9 am to 4 pm on Saturdays. The first is Feb 7-8 (a snow date—required, if needed—is Feb 21-22). The second intensive is May 8-9. Information about meals and overnight on-campus housing will be provided to course registrants in December. The online portion is divided into 10 weekly units from Feb 10 to Apr 27, excluding breaks. Each unit includes 1 or 2 audio or video recordings from the instructor (combined for 40 min average per unit), brief discussion board exercises (20 min weekly on average), and one synchronous video chat during the scheduled section meeting (75 minutes, probably via Zoom). Online content may be accessed anywhere using a computer with a webcam, microphone, and reliable Internet access. When off-campus, students are responsible for their own computers and Internet connections.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

- Stephen Mott, *Biblical Ethics and Social Change*. 978-0199739370. \$33.52 paper.
- Additional required readings (about 700 pages) will be provided at my.pts.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING: Complete all readings and all online components. Submit three papers.

ATTENDANCE: Required.