

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: Field Education I

TERM: Fall 2026-2027

PROFESSOR: Jerome Creach

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: _____
AUDITORS: _____

UNLIMITED X
NO AUDITORS X

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is the first of two consecutive courses in which students are invited into the postures, habits, and practices of theologically reflective ministry. Interdisciplinary in nature, the course pays particular attention to the integration of student experiences in field placement sites with work in contextual analysis, Christian theology, and pastoral care.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

By the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. integrate experiences in field placement sites with coursework in Contextual Analysis, Christian Theology, and Caring Ministry.
2. assess the fittingness and faithfulness of a Christian practice in a local context, drawing on biblical, theological, and historical resources.
3. demonstrate the practical use of sociological and anthropological tools to offer a thick description of a ministry context, while reflecting on its particularity in terms of God's mission.
4. offer evidence of a growing self-awareness, congruent with how the student is perceived by others, and progress in relational competencies, including careful listening, respecting confidentiality, building trust, and responding to others with empathy.
5. exhibit a growing ability to understand, discern, and reflect theologically upon the needs of persons and communities and determine appropriate responses, taking into account issues involved in organizational dynamics and group processes.
6. articulate an emerging understanding of the nature and range of Christian ministry and the relationship between this understanding and the student's own gifts and calling to participate in God's mission.

PREREQUISITES:

To enroll in this course, students need to be simultaneously enrolled in OT210, NT210, or BI210; TH210; and PC210; or have taken equivalent courses in the old curriculum. Students also need to be simultaneously involved in a placement through the Field Education Program.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

Eugene H. Peterson. *The Contemplative Pastor: Returning to the Art of Spiritual Direction*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1993. ISBN: 978-0802801142, \$18.39.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

- Students will engage in a series of assignments closely related to and reflective upon their Field Education placements.
- Students will receive credit for the course once and only once they have satisfactorily completed both semesters of Field Education and their Field Education placement assignments during the same academic year.

ATTENDANCE: Required.