COURSES WITHOUT AREA DESIGNATIONS

Courses listed below do not normally count toward fulfillment of the area distribution requirements described in the chapter Programs of Study.

REL 3603a, Elementary Biblical Hebrew I  Eric Reymond
An introduction to the language of the Hebrew Scriptures—Biblical Hebrew. Students work through the grammar book, doing exercises and practicing paradigms. Among these exercises is the reading of specific biblical texts. By the end of the year, students should have a basic grasp of this ancient language's grammar and some experience reading Hebrew.  3 Course cr

REL 3604b, Elementary Biblical Hebrew II  Staff
A continuation of REL 3603. An introduction to the language of the Hebrew Scriptures—Biblical Hebrew. Students work through the grammar book, doing exercises and practicing paradigms. Among these exercises is the reading of specific biblical texts. By the end of the year, students should have a basic grasp of this ancient language's grammar and some experience reading Hebrew.  3 Course cr

REL 3605a, Elementary New Testament Greek I  Daniel Bohac
First term of a two-term introduction to the ancient Greek language of the New Testament for those with little or no knowledge of ancient Greek. This first term concentrates on elementary grammar and syntax and on building vocabulary.  3 Course cr

REL 3606b, Elementary New Testament Greek II  Daniel Bohac
Second term of a two-term introduction to the ancient Greek language of the New Testament for those with little or no knowledge of ancient Greek. The second term focuses on improving reading and translation skills and on developing working knowledge of the critical scholarly tools used in New Testament interpretation. Prerequisite: REL 3605 or equivalent.  3 Course cr

REL 3613a, Medieval Mystics from Bernard of Clairvaux and Beyond  John Dillon
This reading course in Medieval Latin is intended to help students improve their command of Latin by working directly with medieval texts. We read selections from major mystics of the Middle Ages, including works by authors such as Bernard of Clairvaux (1090–1153), Hildegard of Bingen's Scivias (ca. 1151/1152), Mechthild of Magdeburg's Das fließende Licht der Gottheit (Lux Divinitatis Fluens, ca. 1250–80), and Thomas à Kempis's Imitatio Christi (Imitation of Christ, ca. 1418–27), among others. Prerequisite: one year of formal study of Latin, equivalent to LATN 110 and LATN 120 or LATN 125.  3 Course cr

REL 3609a or b, Reading Course  Staff
Reading courses may be arranged on materials, subjects, and concerns not included in the courses being offered, or may have a narrower focus than those courses. Reading courses may count toward distributional requirements across areas of the curriculum but may not be counted as fulfilling particular requirements within an area. Only full-time faculty at Yale University may offer reading courses.  3 Course cr

REL 3792a and REL 3793a and REL 3794b, Colloquium on Ministry Formation/Anglican  Staff
The overall purpose of the Colloquium series in the Anglican Studies curriculum is to supplement the curriculum with topics of importance in preparing for service to God in and through the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. The Colloquium offers Episcopal and Anglican students an opportunity to engage in reflection and discernment on their experience of formation for religious leadership, lay and ordained, providing an opportunity to integrate varied theological disciplines. While leadership skills and capabilities can in some measure be taught abstractly, they are most effectively integrated into one's formation through exposure to seasoned leaders in various institutional contexts. Students explore a wide variety of leadership skills and styles in the presentations at the Colloquium and the assigned readings. Students practice leadership skills through role-playing, improvisation, and case studies. The intention is to set a leadership context in which students can practice leadership lessons that can be adapted to a ministry environment. Each term of the Colloquium focuses on different leadership skills. Over the course of their participation in Colloquium, Berkeley students are exposed to, and given an opportunity to practice, valuable leadership skills for ministry. These colloquia are required of all Berkeley Divinity School students wishing to qualify for the Diploma in Anglican Studies.  0 Course cr per term

REL 3795a or b, Colloquium on Ministry Formation/Lutheran  Timothy Keyl
The one-half-credit Lutheran Colloquium is offered each fall and spring term. The fall colloquium focuses on Lutheran worship; the spring colloquium focuses on Lutheran spiritual practices and self-care. The primary focus is on students considering ordination in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, but it is open to all.  0 Course cr

REL 3797a, Andover Newton Colloquium I: Ministry in the Making  Mark Heim and Sarah Drummond
This one-hour weekly fall colloquium for ministerial formation, taken in conjunction with its spring counterpart (Andover Newton Colloquium II, REL 3798), deals with mentoring, theological reflection, and free church ecclesiology. Required of all M.Div. students enrolled in the Andover Newton program at Yale.  0 Course cr

REL 3799a or b, M.Div. Thesis  Staff
A thesis or project is an option in the third year of the M.Div. program. Theses or projects written for the M.Div. program are eligible for elective credit only.  3 Course cr
REL 3805a or b, Roman Catholic Lay Ministry Colloquium  Ryan Lerner
This course explores topics that Roman Catholic students identify as essential to round out their experience at YDS as well as to support their ongoing discernment of, and formation for, a possible vocation for lay ministry and leadership in the Catholic Church. The goal is to provide students with an understanding of the role and opportunities for lay leadership in multiple dimensions in the contemporary Catholic Church. The course examines the theological grounding and historical development of the role of the lay minister into its present form, as well as the various transformations that have led to a deeper awareness of the essentiality of lay collaboration with ordained and religious in areas of ministry, administration, and leadership. Students also garner the necessary tools for ongoing discernment and faith formation, as well as a basic understanding of certain aspects of canon law and an appreciation of ecclesiology.

REL 3809a or b, M.A.R. Thesis or Project  Staff
A project or thesis is an option for both the concentrated and comprehensive M.A.R. programs. Students may elect to write a thesis in the second year of their program. Candidates who choose to write theses or pursue projects enroll for one or two terms, three credit hours per term. For M.A.R. concentrated program students, the academic adviser determines area credit. Theses or projects written for the M.A.R. comprehensive program are eligible for elective credit only.

REL 3900a or b, Transformational Leadership for Church and Society  William Goettler
This two-day (Friday afternoon/evening and all day Saturday), one-credit course offers intense engagement with significant leaders in church and society and include analysis, reflection, and leadership training models for those who anticipate leadership roles in churches and other institutions. In addition to reading about 300 pages in preparation for the weekend class, a ten-page response paper is due two weeks following conclusion of the course.

REL 3901a, Andover Newton Colloquium III: Reading the Bible in Community  Gregory Mobley
The Andover Newton Colloquium series supplements the curriculum with topics of importance in preparation for service to God in and through the Free Church traditions, such as the ecclesiastical families in the “congregationalist” wing of Christendom, e.g., the United Church of Christ, the various expressions of the Baptist communion, and Unitarian Universalists. This colloquium on Reading the Bible in Community offers students an opportunity to engage in preparation, leadership, and reflection on the study of Scripture in group contexts from a confessional perspective. It supports the weekly Bible study offered at the Emmaus worship service sponsored by Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School.

REL 3905b, Andover Newton Colloquium V: Mentored Vocational Discernment  Sarah Drummond
“Mentoring” and “discernment” are two dimensions of ministerial formation that are nearly universally understood to be important. This colloquium provides students with a setting for intentional work in both areas. That setting serves as a holding environment for integration, where students consider how their YDS and Andover Newton educations are shaping their identities and visions for their futures. Prerequisites: REL 3797 and REL 3798.

REL 3910a or b, ISM Colloquium  Martin Jean
The Institute of Sacred Music Colloquium is central to the purpose of the Institute and to the faculty’s involvement in, and personal attention to, how ISM students are trained. Colloquium is the meeting ground for all Institute students and faculty, the place where we study together, grapple with major issues, and share our work as students of sacred music, worship, and the arts. Taken for .5 credits per term, Colloquium meets every Wednesday from 3:30 until 5 p.m., with informal discussion from 5 to 5:30 p.m. ISM students from the two partner schools of Music and Divinity collaborate on a presentation to be given in their final year. The course is divided into two term-long parts, with responsibility for the fall term resting primarily with the faculty and outside presenters, and for the spring term primarily with the students.

REL 3970a, Advanced Practicum I: Reimagining Church Facilitation  William Goettler
This program is for students in their final year of study at the Divinity School. It is open only to students who have already met the YDS Supervised Ministry requirement. Students must apply during the previous spring term and be chosen for participation. As Reimagining Church facilitators, students work closely with a Connecticut congregation that has expressed the desire to think anew about how it will be a church in the years to come. Working through the practicum with a finely developed syllabus and plan of action, these advanced ministry students seek to move the congregational working group to new insights and perhaps to action. Accompanying this work is the required weekly 1.5-hour peer reflection group (practicum) and a series of other events featuring visiting speakers and other plenary sessions. Further, students maintain an active blog about the church’s experience, on the Reimagining Church.

REL 3970b, Advanced Practicum II: Reimagining Church Facilitation  William Goettler and Alison Cunningham
This program is for students in their final year of study at the Divinity School. It is open only to students who have already met the YDS Supervised Ministry requirement. Students must apply during the previous academic year and be chosen for participation. As Reimagining Church facilitators, students work closely with a Connecticut congregation that has expressed the desire to think anew about how it will be a church in the years to come. Working through the practicum with a finely developed syllabus and plan of action, these advanced ministry students seek to move the congregational working group to new insights and perhaps to action. Accompanying this work is the required weekly 1.5-hour peer reflection group (practicum) and a series of other events featuring visiting speakers and other plenary sessions. Further, students maintain an active blog about the church’s experience, on the Reimagining Church.
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REL 3986a, Part-time Ministry Internship with Practicum I  Jennifer Davis
This internship is taken for two consecutive terms starting in September (REL 3986 and REL 3987). Internship sites are ministry-related and may include churches, schools, college campuses, and other institutions. The internship, under the mentorship of a trained supervisor, is combined with a peer reflection group (practicum) taught by a practitioner, for a total of four hundred hours over the two terms. The internship is guided by a learning covenant developed by the student in collaboration with the supervisor. In some cases where a site does not have a theologically trained supervisor, the student may also receive supervision from a theological mentor assigned by the director. The Part-time Ministry Internship with Practicum carries three credits each term. Both terms must be completed to meet the degree requirement. Placements are selected during the preceding spring term. Prerequisite: REL 3990 must be taken by the beginning of the term.  3 Course cr

REL 3987b, Part-time Ministry Internship with Practicum II  Jennifer Davis
This internship is taken for two consecutive terms starting in September (REL 3986 and REL 3987). Internship sites are ministry-related and may include churches, schools, college campuses, and other institutions. The internship, under the mentorship of a trained supervisor, is combined with a peer reflection group (practicum) taught by a practitioner, for a total of four hundred hours over the two terms. The internship is guided by a learning covenant developed by the student in collaboration with the supervisor. In some cases where a site does not have a theologically trained supervisor, the student may also receive supervision from a theological mentor assigned by the director. The Part-time Ministry Internship with Practicum carries three credits each term. Both terms must be completed to meet the degree requirement. Placements are selected during the preceding spring term. Prerequisite: REL 3986.  3 Course cr

REL 3990a or b, Negotiating Boundaries in Ministerial Relationships  Kate Ott
This nine-hour workshop helps students develop critically reflective understandings of professional ethics as it applies to maintaining boundaries in the practice of Christian ministry. This subject is explored through the analysis of aspects of spiritual care and ministerial behavior, including sexuality, power, boundaries, and the personhood or character of the minister. The workshop, required of all M.Div. students, is a prerequisite for any supervised ministry. The workshop does not receive academic credit but does appear on the student’s transcript.  0 Course cr

REL 3991a, Board Fellows Practicum I  Alison Cunningham
Vocational discernment takes place in the classroom as well as in the field, where students can express their faith in action, testing the waters of identity as minister, theologian, social activist. YDS offers a few different internships through which a student may explore their role in the church and the world. This course offers the opportunity to examine possibilities for work in the world through an immersive yearlong experience in a nonprofit setting. Students are assigned to boards of nonprofits in the Greater New Haven region where they attend board meetings, participate on a board committee of their choice, and engage with the board on a special project. Through a twice-monthly seminar spanning both fall and spring terms, students explore nonprofit leadership, organizational structure and governance, and the larger context of community. Agency mentors and the seminar groups help guide the student’s learning. This nonprofit immersion requires just under 100 hours in a combination of agency meetings, special project work, and seminar sessions. Students must register for REL 3991 in the fall term and REL 3992 in the spring term, 1.5 credits each term. Students are introduced to participating nonprofits at the beginning of the term and are assigned by mid-September. Participating agencies may include those focused on community development, housing and homelessness, food insecurity, health care, prison reentry/prison education, environmental justice, immigration, the arts, and others. A stipend of $500 is given at the end of each semester. Prerequisite: REL 3990.  1½ Course cr

REL 3992b, Board Fellows Practicum II  Alison Cunningham
Vocational discernment takes place in the classroom as well as in the field, where students can express their faith in action, testing the waters of identity as minister, theologian, social activist. YDS offers a few different internships through which a student may explore their role in the church and the world. This course, a continuation of REL 3991, offers the opportunity to examine possibilities for work in the world through an immersive yearlong experience in a nonprofit setting. Students are assigned to boards of nonprofits in the Greater New Haven region, where they attend board meetings, participate on a board committee of their choice, and engage with the board on a special project. Through a twice-monthly seminar spanning both fall and spring terms, students explore nonprofit leadership, organizational structure and governance, and the larger context of community. Agency mentors and the seminar groups help guide the student's learning. This nonprofit immersion requires just under 100 hours in a combination of agency meetings, special project work, and seminar sessions. Students must register for REL 3991 in the fall term and REL 3992 in the spring term, 1.5 credits each term. Students are introduced to participating nonprofits at the beginning of the fall term and are assigned by mid-September. Participating agencies may include those focused on community development, housing and homelessness, food insecurity, health care, prison reentry/prison education, environmental justice, immigration, the arts, and others. A stipend of $500 is given at the end of each semester. Prerequisites: REL 3991.  1½ Course cr

REL 3993a, Part-time Nonprofit Internship with Practicum I  Alison Cunningham
Within the Divinity School curriculum, the internship experience is uniquely situated at the intersection of academic study and the practices of justice work, preparing degree candidates for leadership in the world by engaging them in student-centered experiential learning and theological reflection on the nature, practice, and context of work and service. The Nonprofit Internship Program requires students to work at the site of their own choosing, commit to weekly meetings with their assigned on-site supervisor, engage in regular theological reflection with a trained mentor, and participate each week with their practicum group. In all of these ways, the Internship
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Program offers students the opportunity to explore their calling to justice work in the world. This course is open to M.A.R. and M.Div. candidates in their second or third year. Both terms must be completed to meet the M.Div. degree requirement. Prerequisite: REL 3990. 3 Course cr

REL 3994b, Part-time Nonprofit Internship with Practicum II  Alison Cunningham
Within the Divinity School curriculum, the internship experience is uniquely situated at the intersection of academic study and the practices of justice work, preparing degree candidates for leadership in the world by engaging them in student-centered experiential learning and theological reflection on the nature, practice, and context of work and service. The Nonprofit Internship Program requires students to work at the site of their own choosing, commit to weekly meetings with their assigned on-site supervisor, engage in regular theological reflection with a trained mentor, and participate each week with their practicum group. In all of these ways, the Internship Program offers students the opportunity to explore their calling to justice work in the world. Both terms must be completed to meet the M.Div. degree requirement. Prerequisite: REL 3993. 3 Course cr

REL 3997a, Part-time Internship with Advanced Practicum I  Jennifer Davis
This program is open to students returning for a second internship, either in ministry or nonprofit settings. The internship can be arranged as a second year at the same site or at a different site to provide another type of contextual experience. Like the first internship, the second, under the mentorship of a trained supervisor, is combined with a peer reflection group (practicum) facilitated by a practitioner, for a total of four hundred hours over the two terms. The internship is guided by a learning covenant developed by the student in collaboration with the supervisor. In some cases where a site does not have a theologically trained supervisor, the student may also receive supervision from a theological mentor assigned by the director. In addition to performing typical internship responsibilities, each intern creates a unique major project that involves substantive research and is presented to other students in the advanced practicum. The Part-time Internship with Advanced Practicum carries three credits each term. Completion of both terms is required before Supervised Ministry credit is granted. Prerequisites: REL 3986 and REL 3987 or REL 3993 and REL 3994. 3 Course cr

REL 3999a or b, S.T.M. Thesis or Project  Staff
An extended paper, an independent thesis, or a project in the candidate’s area of concentration is required for the S.T.M. degree. Extended papers are written in conjunction with the regular requirements for courses credited toward the S.T.M. degree. Candidates who choose to write theses or pursue projects enroll for one or two terms, three credit hours per term. 3 Course cr