

2024 Advanced COS Course Descriptions

Session 1: January 2 – February 10 (no classes MLK Day Jan 15)

Adv Evangelism/Mission/New Testament: Practicing the Gospel Commissions

Synchronous sessions: Wednesdays, 6-8pm

Instructor: Lacey Warner

The course explores God's Mission of Evangelism for the church in the world by reflecting on the four Gospel commission texts to shape ministry practices. The church's identity and purpose often default to minimal techniques for survival and witness. Too often ministries are encouraged without a sufficient understanding of unintended outcomes of some efforts. This course encourages understanding the church's participation in God's mission of evangelism inspired by the Gospel Commission texts, in relationship to the Triune God, and practiced in empowering relationships with neighbors and creation.

This course draws on Christian Scripture, tradition, and contemporary practices to shape textured and faithful practices of missional witness with and beyond the church.

Session 2: February 26 – April 13 (no classes Holy Week Mar 24-31)

Adv UM Doctrine

Synchronous sessions: Mondays, 2-4pm

Instructor: Cameron Merrill

What is the end of the Christian life?

When we talk about being saved, we often neglect that the Christian life plays out over years and decades in the everyday minutiae, and that such a life is intended to bring us into communion with the Triune God.

In this course we will explore the dynamics of sanctification as participation in the divine life. Charles Wesley and his hymns will be our guide as we consider participation in the Trinity, in Christ, in scripture and the sacraments, and in the church.

Session 3: April 29 – June 8 (no classes Memorial Day May 27)

Adv UM Polity

Synchronous sessions: Thursdays, 6-8pm (except for first week/day of class will be Tuesday, Apr 30, 6-8pm)

Instructor: Lacey Warner and Cameron Merrill

This course focuses on United Methodist polity and governance including its doctrine, mission, ordination, and connectional structure.

Session 4: June 24 – August 3 (no classes Independence Day Jul 4)

Adv Evangelism and TBD (*cross-listing; choose one for credit*)

Synchronous sessions: Tuesdays, 2-4pm

Instructor: Mark Conforti

Description; *coming soon*

Session 5: August 19 – September 28 (no classes Labor Day Sept 2)

Adv Old Testament

Synchronous sessions: TBD

Instructor: James Howell

Description; *coming soon*

Session 6: October 15 – November 23

Adv Church History / Adv Black Church Studies: TBD (*choose one for credit*)

Synchronous sessions: Wednesdays, 4-6pm

Instructor: Cameron Merrill

Description; *coming soon*