

PUBLIC MINISTRY PROJECT

Instructor

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Course Description

The Public Ministry Project is the capstone course for the Master of Arts in Public Ministry degree through which students demonstrate capacities for public ministry acquired via the degree curriculum, co-curricular opportunities, vocational discernment, and career preparation. The online mediated course is structured around a set of self-directed assignments that, when completed, will form a portfolio to help students assemble and integrate core elements of their education while further equipping them to secure employment after graduation and serve in their chosen fields of public ministry.

Student Learning Outcomes

In particular, students will demonstrate sufficient proficiency concerning the following program learning objectives:

1. *Recognize* and *explain* the dominant economic, political, ecological, social, and cultural ideologies, institutions, and dynamics shaping public life today.
2. *Identify* and *interpret* the intersections between particular manifestations of injustice related to racism, economic exploitation, hetero-sexism, ecological degradation, and related forms of systemic inequity and harm.
3. *Articulate* the implications of one's particular social identity and location, as well as one's unique personal and spiritual temperaments, in *preparing* for a vocation in public ministry.
4. *Examine* and *apply* biblical, historical, theological, ecclesial, and spiritual traditions for the sake of realizing justice in solidarity with the poor, exploited, and oppressed.
5. *Investigate* an orienting matter of public concern with particular depth and complexity - e.g. climate refugees, mass incarceration, underfunded schools - *utilizing* a range of theoretical, theological, and practical resources from one's degree concentration.
6. *Design* a proposed model of public ministry based upon a critical *assessment* of diverse methods for social change - e.g. direct action, community organizing, policy advocacy, non-profit leadership.
7. *Communicate* a compelling narrative of one's vision for public ministry to diverse constituents and *present* a convincing career preparedness portfolio.

Course Readings (see Course Materials, Readings Assignment on Moodle Page)

In addition to drawing upon readings from their foundation, degree, and concentration courses, as well as identifying additional resources for their project bibliography in consultation with advisors, students will read selections from:

Cahalan, Kathleen A. and Mikoski, Gordon S., eds., *Opening the Field of Practical Theology: An Introduction*, Rowman and Littlefield 2014 (ISBN-13: 978-0742561267)

Hovey, Craig and Elizabeth Phillips, eds., *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Political Theology*, Cambridge University Press 2015 (ISBN-13: 978-1107633803)