



SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Master of Divinity with a Certificate in Trauma and Theology

Eligibility

This Certificate is open to all Master of Divinity students as part of the degree program. Students must complete all requirements of both the Certificate in Trauma and Theology program and the M.Div. degree in order to receive the Certificate. Students in the Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies and other Non-Degree Students, as well as MACM and MTS students are not eligible to participate in this certificate program.

Description

The Certificate in Trauma and Theology is designed for students who recognize the need to address theological responses to trauma within various ministry contexts. Courses listed as eligible advanced electives may examine individual and communal traumas from historical, cultural, theological, pastoral, and/or clinical perspectives. Students who participate in this certificate program will better prepare themselves to minister in response to trauma.

Required Courses

Students will complete 9 hours of advanced electives (beyond the 69 core hours of the M.Div.) from the following courses:

- THOT 701. Social Justice & the Old Testament (with special project)
- THOT 704. The Theology of Exile
- THOT 800. The Psalms & Spiritual Care
- THPT 503. Spiritual Care through Crisis Ministry
- THPT 642 Spiritual Care with Addicted Persons
- THPT 652. Gender & Sexuality
- THPT 800. Special Topics: Subtitle
- THTP 602. Suffering & Evil
- THTP 606. Theology & Science
- THTP 708. Theology After the Holocaust
- THTP 709. Theology & Ethnography
- THPT 800. Special Topics: Subtitle
- THET 707. Christian Sexual Ethics
- Other courses approved by Advisor

Professional Formation

Students will complete one experience in each of the following areas of professional formation:

- Contextual Ministry Placement: Students will complete will one of the following: (1) a unit of CPE; (2) at least one semester of contextual education in a church or community organization setting working with traumatized populations; or (3) one semester of supervised teaching ministry (THPT 626) with a focus on trauma and theology studies.
- Professional Development: attend 8 hours of extra-curricular educational explorations of trauma-related studies over the course of their seminary career. These could include lectures, workshops, conferences, symposia or other venues as approved by the certificate advisor.
- Professional Activity: Students will produce a special capstone project in which they bring their concentration on trauma and theology into a public discourse. Examples might include: presenting a paper at an academic conference; speaking in chapel at Mercer; leading a workshop in a church or community service organization; publishing an essay or editorial; or other options as approved by the certificate advisor.