

Saskatoon Theological Union (STU)*

Combined Course Offerings Available to LTS Students – 2023-2024

(Note: DMin courses are not in this table; see DMin Handbook)

Dates	Course	Delivery Details**	Faculty
Fall 2023			
Aug 21- Sept 1	SL366 Indigenous Intercultural Relations	Onsite intensive (Saskatoon)	LTS
Aug 28 – Sept 1	FND101 What is the Good News	Blended intensive	STU – Dr. William Harrison
Sept 8-9, Sept 22-23, Oct 6-7	SL349/SL739 Queer Theologies	Online, all-day intensive	LTS – Dr. Kayko Driedger Hesslein
Sept 11-22	FND102 Who is the Church	Blended intensive	STU -Dr. Iain Luke
Sept 11-Dec 15	ESC101 Global Anglicanism in Practice	Blended weekly	ESC
Sept 11-Dec 15	HA/HL111 Story of Christianity: Early and Medieval	Online, asynchronous	LTS – Dr. Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero
Sept 11-Dec 15	BE105 Introductory Greek 1	Online asynchronous	ESC – Dr. Adam Wright
Oct 16-20	LTS101 Lutheran Formation I – Foundations	Onsite intensive (Calgary)	LTS -
Oct 16-20	SAC101 UCC in Context (Knowing the Church)	Blended intensive	SAC – Drs. L. Caldwell, B. Whitla, B. Lee)
Nov 13-24	FND103 Introduction to Biblical Literature	Blended intensive	STU – Drs. Bernon Lee, Adam Wright
Dec 4-8 (part b is in Jan 2024)	FND104a Spiritual Practices for Cultivating Resilience and Compassion Resilience and Compassion	Split intensive, blended	STU – Dr. Trish McCarthy
Winter 2004			
Jan 8-12	BE365 Gospel of Mark	Blended intensive	ESC -Dr. Adam Wright
Jan 8-12	FND104b Spiritual Practices for Cultivating Resilience and Compassion	Split intensive, blended	STU – Dr. Trish McCarthy
Jan 8 – Apr 26	HA/HL112 Story of Christianity: Reformation and Modern	Online, asynchronous	LTS – Dr. Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero
Jan 15 – Apr 26	BE265 Minor Epistles	Online, asynchronous	ESC – Dr. Adam Wright
Jan 15 – Apr 26	PE315 Advanced Liturgy	Online, asynchronous	ESC – Dr. Richard Leggott
Jan 15 – Apr 26	BE106 Introductory Greek II	Online, asynchronous	ESC – Dr. Adam Wright

Dates	Course	Delivery Details**	Faculty
Jan 15-19 (part b is in Apr 2024)	CLQ101a Methods for Ecumenical Interdisciplinary Theological Education (I)	Split intensive, blended	STU - TBD
Feb 12-16	PL384 Outreach Ministry	Blended intensive	LTS – Drs. Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero and Jared Siebert
Feb 5-16	FND105 Public Practical Ministry	Blended intensive	STU – Dr. Becca Whitla
Feb 5-16	SL120 Lutheran Confessions	Online intensive	LTS - TBD
Feb 20-Mar 1 (mornings)	BA231 Hope and Vacillation in Israel’s Wisdom Books	Blended intensive	SAC – Dr. Bernon Lee
March 4-15	FND106 God and Suffering	Online intensive	STU - Dr. Kayko Driedger Hesslein
Apr 8-19	FND107 Considering Contexts, Cultures, and Differences	Blended intensive	STU – Dr. Lynn Caldwell
Spring/Summer 2024			
Apr 22-16 (part a is in Jan 2024)	CLQ101b Methods for Ecumenical Interdisciplinary Theological Education	Split intensive, blended	STU - to be determined
Jun 3-7	PA208 Community Song, Justice, and the Sacred	In person intensive	SAC – Dr. Becca Whitla
Jun 3-14	ESC201 Roots of Anglicanism	Blended intensive	ESC
Jun 10-14	SAC201 UCC Today (Doing Church into the Future	Blended intensive	SAC
Jun 19	CLQ201 Learning in and with Indigenous Contexts	In person intensive	STU
Aug 26-30	FND101 What is the Good News	Blended intensive	STU – Drs. Kayko Driedger Hesslein and Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero

***STU:** Lutheran Theological Seminary, College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, St. Andrew’s College*

****Blended:** Synchronous course that allows for students to participate simultaneously, either onsite or via an online learning platform. Note: for some of the blended courses LTS students in the MDiv and Diploma programs are required to take the entire course onsite (see LTS Course Offerings for this information).

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

STU COURSES AND COLLOQUIA

FND101 What is the Good News? A Historical Approach

What is the Good News? If asked, could you answer in terms that a non-Christian could understand? Part of the challenge in the question is that Christian understandings of salvation have shifted over the years, as culture has changed and our approaches to theology have developed. This course focuses on the theme of the Good News and traces developments through history to the present. The purpose is to enable participants to develop an “elevator speech” presentation of Christian gospel, along with a deep historical and theological understanding of what that speech might have sounded like from previous generations of Christians.

FND102 Who is the Church?

The goal of this course is to equip students with a common vocabulary of experiences, concepts, and reflective tools, in order to make sense of the life of faith communities and their leaders in the contemporary world. Components of this course are drawn from church history (Canadian and global), doctrine, pastoral leadership, ecumenics, and sociology of religion. The course will involve an experiential component, inviting students to share and reflect on their current and prior experiences of church as well as stepping outside that experience to observe and learn from a faith community with which they are unfamiliar.

FND103 Introduction to Biblical Literature

A team-taught and interdisciplinary intensive course of 36 hours for introducing students to a variety of topics—thematic and methodological—in biblical interpretation. The course aims for the elucidation of the literary, religious, historical, and sociological contexts (up to and including the mixed cultural milieux of the Hellenistic and Roman periods) germane to the genesis and the interpretation of biblical literature. There will also be a component of the course that focuses on the interpretive application of certain topics and themes for ministry, liturgy, and theological formulation in the form of a panel discussion drawing on faculty from various disciplines.

FND104 Spiritual Practices for Cultivating Resilience and Compassion

This course will introduce students to a variety of spiritual practices, including Indigenous ones, that cultivate resilience and compassion. The focus in this class is to develop and deepen a student’s prayer life, to orient them to core, regular and occasional spiritual practices and learn about six key perspectives: stages of spiritual growth, purification, community, meditation, cultivating personal integrity and deepening compassion.

FND105 Public Practical Ministry I: An Introduction to Worship and Preaching

Taking a contextual and cultural approach, this course introduces students to the basics of Christian public ministry. Students will learn the basics of planning worship and preaching and be introduced to some approaches to faith formation for the whole community. The course is rooted in an appreciation for the diversity of culture and context and draws on the students' particular experience as a source of knowledge.

FND106 God and Suffering

God and Suffering explores historical and contemporary approaches to questions such as: Who is God? What is the relationship between God and Creation? If Creation is good, why is there suffering in the world? This course brings together biblical interpretation and theology to think through the relationship between God and suffering, using insights from collective trauma theory, intersectionality theory, and theologies from below to help students develop nuanced understandings that can be practically applied to pastoral care and worship leadership.

FND107 Considering Contexts, Cultures, and Differences

As a foundational course in the MDiv and MTS programs, students will work to identify and express their own theological and ethical questions and to situate these in relation both to their own contexts and to a broader scope of human histories, traditions, and geographies. Particular attention will be paid to differences in relation to sexuality, gender and gender identity, race and ethnicity, disability, class, mobility, and age. Through engaging with peers and with input from faculty members, students will explore different ways of knowing and of naming ethical and theological values and will study how different theological disciplines offer methods for engaging with contextual and cultural differences.

CLQ101 Methods for Interdisciplinary, Ecumenical Theological Studies

This colloquium draws together elements from the range of Level I studies in order to reflect upon them methodologically. In other words, we will shift from primarily “doing” the tasks of various theological disciplines to focusing on the “why” of doing what we do. The purpose is to enable participants to develop a strong framework in method for further study. This colloquium also seeks to expand both participants’ sense of religious commitment and their ecumenical and interfaith conversation skills. After addressing their own commitments and reflecting on the significance of current contexts, participants will be introduced to the challenges of ecumenical and interfaith relations. Topics will include: history of church division and ecumenism; ecumenical experiences and documents, especially as related to the denominational traditions in the STU; history of interfaith relations, both destructive and constructive; interfaith experience and documents; and skills for ecumenical and interfaith conversation.

CLQ201 Learning in and from Indigenous Contexts (Level II)

This colloquium offers participants the opportunity to learn from Indigenous teachers, leaders, and communities, about Indigenous world views and ways of knowing, culture, history and spirituality. The historical element reflects on the impact of colonial systems, including

religious institutions, on Indigenous experience. Participants will draw on, and develop, their perception of their own place within this narrative, and the implications for their present and future ministries. It is anticipated that at least part of the colloquium will take place in a location which supports direct connection with a host Indigenous community and with the land.

COLLEGE-SPECIFIC STU COURSES

College of Emmanuel and St. Chad (ESC)

ESC101 Global Anglicanism in Practice

This course will familiarize students with contemporary Anglicanism as a global phenomenon. We will explore areas where Anglican identity is shared and where it is contested or divergent, including practices of worship, mission and evangelization, inculturation, administration, justice and advocacy, formation and teaching, along with models of ministry and community life. We will position inter-Anglican tensions in the context of this global community, and assess the impact and value to Canadian Anglicans of being part of a wider Communion. Through hands-on research and project work, students will experience for themselves what it means to belong to a global church.

ESC201 Roots of Anglicanism

This upper-level course will equip students to understand more deeply the pillars of Anglican identity and their historical origins, in order to bring appreciative and critical tools to contemporary life in the Anglican Church of Canada. These pillars include: the historical basis of the English reformation and its unfinished business; the common prayer tradition; the dynamic interplay of different interpretations of Anglicanism; schools of spirituality and of theological method; parish-based pastoral ministry; a contingent self-identity in the ecumenical landscape; the baggage of association with colonial and imperial forces, and the counterweight of inculturation and indigenization. ESC 101 is a prerequisite for enrolment in this course.

BE105/106 Introductory Greek I/II

The purpose of this course is to introduce and to immerse the student into Koine Greek grammar and vocabulary that will aid in translating the New Testament. Since this is an asynchronous course, the student is expected to work at their own pace (optimally, at one chapter per week) and submit the assignments to the instructor.

BE265 Minor Epistles

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the Minor Epistles of the New Testament (Hebrew, James, 1/2 Peter, 1/2/3 John,

Jude, and Revelation). The student will be required to read the relevant sections of the New Testament and examine relevant scholarship. In addition, the student will be introduced to the cultural elements that influenced the writing of these Epistles in order to gain a greater appreciation for their content.

BE365 Gospel of Mark

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to one of the earliest written documents concerning the life and ministry of Jesus. Through a careful reading of the Gospel, the student will gain a knowledge of its content as well as the context in which it was written. The student will examine a number of cultural and historical factors that contributed to the content of Mark's Gospel such as: The Roman Imperial Cult, the rise of Greek culture in Palestine, the invasion of the Roman Empire, various religious sects in 1st-century Palestine, cultural subjugation, and systems of power in the ancient world. The student will also be exposed to a number of theories of genre and methods of interpretation.

PE315 Advanced Liturgy

PE315 will assist you in developing your skills in liturgical leadership by examining selected areas in contemporary liturgical theology and sacramental praxis. Further, the course is designed to address the following competencies:

- Relate various models of liturgical and sacramental theology to issues in contemporary liturgical and sacramental praxis.
- Apply your own tradition's liturgical and sacramental theology to contemporary liturgical and sacramental praxis.
- Demonstrate familiarity with your own tradition's liturgical and sacramental praxis.

Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS)

HA/HL111 Story of Christianity: Early and Medieval

The earliest centuries of Christianity were times of trial and courage, intrigue and insight, failure and promise for those who chose to join, or found themselves within, the religious movement that gathered around followers of the Palestinian Jewish teacher, Jesus. As Christianity matured into the medieval period, new challenges, both within and without the church, continued to shape the faith story and the lives of believers. This course will introduce students to the world of the early and medieval Christians: their changing social, political and economic climate, their developing theologies, their worship and faith practices, and the ways they shaped their ecclesial structures. At the conclusion of the course, students will have gained an overview of events and persons, and an encounter with the voices of early and medieval Christians as they are found in the documents of the time. Through the written assignments and class discussions, students will have read and prepared for class with understanding, learned from one another, and reflected upon and integrate their learnings with their own faith and vocation.

HA/HL112 Story of Christianity: Reformation and Modern

The first part of the course will seek to address the questions that swirl around the sixteenth century. It will look at backgrounds and try to put the Reformation movements into the context of their time and place. These movements will be seen ultimately in religious terms, but religion itself will be understood as very much a part of the social, economic and political realities of the day. By examining the major developments, personalities and writings of various kinds, we will attempt to shed some light on this period and to lay down some of the basic foundational stones for Christianity in the modern world, which is covered in the second part of this course. We will look at how the church has developed, expanded and changed from the reformation era to the present.

LTS 101 Lutheran Formation I - Foundations

Lutheran Formation 1 – Foundations is a 3-credit course, one of the three Lutheran Formation courses required for students registered for degree, diploma, and certificate courses through LTS. This course provides students with the foundations for Lutheran understandings, with a particular focus on Luther's Small and Large Catechisms, his theology of the cross and faith/righteousness, justification by grace, and his understanding of Gospel/Good News. As a formation course, learning, living, playing, and worshipping together as a community are integral parts of the class – registration by the deadline is necessary to allow living, eating, and transportation needs to be accommodated. This course is an on-site intensive, with no online option.

PL384 Outreach Ministry

"Outreach" is a word that the church uses in a variety of ways to remind itself that the church exists for the benefit of those who are not members. This course begins with a discussion of God's mission of transforming the world and our participation, connecting the church's activities with the Good News of Christ Jesus.

This is a praxis-oriented class, with a focus on specific tools for: assessing a parish's life and work; preparing parishioners to engage in outreach efforts; developing mission and ministry plans; and engaging in evangelism, social outreach, and social/environmental transformation work.

Please note:

MDiv students and Diaconal Diploma students must be on internship, or have completed internship, to take this course. MTS and Certificate applicants must obtain permission from faculty to take this course.

PL260 Introduction to Christian Education

The course will provide a high-level overview of foundational philosophies, theories and theorists in contemporary adult and young adult education and explore the application of those theories in the practice of adult/young adult learning in faith-based settings. You will have the opportunity to apply this by teaching a lesson to classmates and in at least one field situation. You will also be asked to reflect on the teaching

aspects of your vocation, through reflection journals which will encourage you to consider your teaching philosophy and identity and explore how these apply to other applications of learning, such as preaching. This is a Reading Course.

SL120 The Lutheran Confessions

This course explores the Lutheran Confessions and it means to be a “confessional” church. This course will begin with a discussion on the place and authority of confessions for a church, and then include a survey of the documents of the Book of Concord, looking at them in their historical context. The last part of the class will focus on the historical development and theology of the Augsburg Confession (Confessio Augustana). By the end of this course, students will be able to competently discuss the relevance of Confessions for the church today, and will have had opportunity to practice integrating the confessions in their pastoral ministry.

SL/PL155 Globalization/Ethics

This course explores the field of Christian Ethics as well as the theological, social, political, economic and ecological issues surrounding globalization – all from a Lutheran perspective. It is the precursor to the Cross-Cultural Immersion Trip (CL102). This required course for MDiv and Diaconal Diploma students provides an introduction to Christian ethics, explores the use of the Bible in ethical decision-making, and examines the dynamics of globalization (including the impact of globalization on Indigenous communities. Special attention is given to reflecting theologically on the issues and challenges surrounding globalization, implications for people of faith, and the development of Christian responses to this complex issue. This is a Reading Course.

SL349 Queer Theologies

The last forty years have seen a rise in theologies emerging from Christian 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, as informed by the field of queer theory and lived experiences. This intermediate course will study the works of 2-Spirit, lesbian, gay, and trans theologians, and explore their contributions to the proclamation of the gospel. Students who attend this class are expected to respect LTS’s Reconciling in Christ status. Prerequisites for degree students: SL210 Theology I and SL211 Theology II, or permission of the instructor.

SL366 Indigenous Intercultural Relations

This is a two-week course offered onsite through lectures, special guest speakers, and visits to local Indigenous sites. The course will seek to deepen students’ understanding concerning Indigenous peoples’ worldviews, culture, and history. Topics that will be covered include Indigenous cultural understandings and practices; Indigenous experiences with colonialist systems such as Indian residential schools, the sixties scoop, the justice system; Truth & Reconciliation; and the treaty and inherent rights of Indigenous people.

St. Andrew's College (SAC)

BA231 (Special Topics): Hope and Vacillation in Israel's Wisdom Books

A literary-theological analysis and appreciation of Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Ben Sira and The Wisdom of Solomon against the backdrop of the sapiential traditions of West Asian antiquity. The inner-biblical dialogue (and tensions) between these books and within the canonical collection(s) as a reflection of post-exilic Israel's (and the church's) earnest interrogation of the contours of faith is in focus. Prerequisite: BA 110: Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures, or permission of the instructor.

PA208 Community Song, Justice, and the Sacred

This course examines how sacred song from a variety of traditions helps us shape and express our identities and works towards transformation. The course begins with the anthropological origin and role of song and a brief survey of song from the main religious traditions of the world, including in Indigenous, as well as Hindu, Buddhist, Islamic, Christian, and Jewish contexts. Both the positive impact of song for social transformation, as well as the use of song for propaganda will be explored. The course examines sacred songs from Cuba, South Africa, and various North American social movements (civil rights movement, women's movement, and trade union movement) and also addresses the perversion of song through colonialism.

Methodology: As a voice-engaged and participatory course, students will listen to—and sing—examples from a variety of traditions and struggles for justice. While no experience in singing is necessary, all students will be expected to participate. Basic techniques for sharing and leading songs with others as a mode of cultural and inter-cultural engagement will also be introduced. Ethical issues related to song leading, especially of “global music,” will be addressed.

SAC101 UCC in Context (Knowing the Church)

This is a foundational course in United Church of Canada (UCC) history, theology, polity, and ethos. It is the first of three required courses for UCC MDiv students. Other STU students are eligible to take the course as an elective. This course examines the impetus behind the formation of the UCC, traces the history of the denomination over the last 100 years, and explores UCC identity through its statements of faith. The course also examines the impact of UCC polity on the wider Canadian context, particularly with respect to Indigenous communities, the Canadian Social Gospel Movement, the Ecumenical Movements of the 70s, 80s, and 90s, and the Canadian Ecumenical Jubilee Initiative. The class will consist of lectures, guest presentations and in-situ learning in an Indigenous context.

Assignments will include reflection papers, presentations, book reports, and integrative learning.

SAC201 UCC in Praxis (Being in the World)

This is the second course in United Church of Canada (UCC) history, theology, polity, and ethos. It is the second of three required courses for UCC MDiv students. Other STU students are eligible to take the course as an elective. The theology of the United Church (The Theology of the

United Church of Canada, Don Schweitzer et al, editors) will undergird reflections in this course and the third course. This second course is rooted in praxis and aims to integrate principles with practice. Continuing from initial examinations of the impact of the UCC in the broader social context, this course deepens reflections on practical ministry, especially worship as an expression of UCC identity; UCC ethics; the importance of social location; relationship building across difference; and reconfiguring mission. Particular focus will be brought to bear on the church's relations with Indigenous communities, the Indigenous church, the inclusion of all persons regardless of sexual orientation (with reference to the UCC decision in 1988 for consideration in ordained ministry), and becoming an intercultural church, among other topics. The class will consist of lectures, guest presentations and in-situ learning. Assignments will include reflection papers, presentations, book reports, and integrative learning.

Aug 31, 2023

Course offerings subject to change