

New York School of Ministry Courses

General Information for New York School of Ministry Courses

Our 20-hour courses offer folks a chance to learn about the Bible, Theology, Ethics, Religious History, and more, with excellent instructors, in a relaxed setting. They are webconferenced, so participants can connect with others across the Conference and in other states, from the comfort of their homes, via their computers. We are currently using the platform Zoom, which allows participants to see everyone in the virtual classroom and enhances discussion. Our courses can be taken for a grade or audited. Auditing is a great option for ministers who need continuing education and for lay people who love to learn but aren't interested in writing papers or taking tests.

No face to face meetings are required. Participants are expected to have webcams, which can be purchased for under \$30 at stores like Target. Contact Marjorie Purnine at mpurnine@uccny.org to schedule a test to see how webconferencing works.

Cost per 20-hour course:

NY Conference Participants: \$250; Audit: \$175; Repeat Course Audit: \$100

Participants outside the New York Conference: \$275; Audit: \$200 (plus the Distance Learning Support fee). Distance Learning Support fee: \$69 per 20-hour course or \$133 per semester.

Distance Learning requires technological support. For webconferenced courses, participants outside the New York Conference are welcome. The NY Conference provides that support for its participants through OCWM; we ask other UCC Conferences and participating denominations to provide that support for their participants (if such church support is unavailable, the distance learning support fee is the responsibility of the participant).

Spring 2017 Courses: American Church History and UCC Polity

In NYSOM's Christian Leadership Program, the essential elements of a UCC History, Theology, and Polity class (as defined by the Polity Teachers Network) are spread across various courses: American Church History, UCC Polity, Intro to Christian Theology, and Liturgy & Worship. American Church History is the pre-requisite for our UCC Polity course. There is no pre-requisite for American Church History (and, for those not in a certificate program, no expectation that UCC Polity will be taken). We advise those who need only a UCC History, Theology, and Polity course for authorization to take Rev. David Gaewski's UCC History, Theology, and Polity (offered Saturdays in January and June, via webconferencing) or an equivalent, free-standing course. Those who would like to be placed on Rev. Gaewski's waiting list should contact him at davidgaewski@uccny.org.

American Church History

Rev. Steven Johnson, Ph.D., instructor

Wednesday evenings, 6:30-9 pm: January 18 & 25; February 1, 8, 15, 22; March 8 & 15

Registration opens: December 14, 2017

Registration Deadline: January 10, 2017

This course, required for the Christian Leadership Program, offers an overview of the development of Christian churches in the United States with an emphasis on ideas and events that have shaped the

United Church of Christ.

This course addresses these Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers of the UCC
UCC Identity for Ministry

9. The ability to articulate diverse histories that comprise the United Church of Christ, to situate them in the broader evolution of faith traditions and to relate them to the theology, polity, and practices of the Member's local church, association, and conference.

General Knowledge and Skills

3. The ability to comprehend the impact of historical change upon the thoughts, feelings, and actions of individuals and societies.

Knowledge and Skills Specific to Authorized Ministry

3. A deepening familiarity with the global history of the Christian churches through the ages and across cultures, including the newest Christian populations, and an understanding of the evolution of Christian communities in the United States.

7. The ability to analyze, evaluate, and integrate the biblical, historical, theological, and pastoral disciplines and practices in ways that contribute to fruitful and faithful Christian ministry.

12. The ability to appreciate, practice, and pass on traditions of faith while interpreting them in light of the context of a diverse and changing world.

Registration Links

For those outside of the NY Conference:

Non-NY Conference Participant for Credit

<https://arena.nyucc.org/default.aspx?portal=4&page=3352&occurrenceid=37&profileId=342>

Non-NY Conference Participant for Audit

<https://arena.nyucc.org/default.aspx?portal=4&page=3352&occurrenceid=36&profileId=343>

For members of the NY Conference:

NY Conference Participant for Credit

<https://arena.nyucc.org/default.aspx?portal=4&page=3352&occurrenceid=35&profileId=339>

NY Conference Participant for Audit

<https://arena.nyucc.org/default.aspx?portal=4&page=3352&occurrenceid=38&profileId=340>

NY Conference Participant for Repeat Audit

<https://arena.nyucc.org/default.aspx?portal=4&page=3352&occurrenceid=39&profileId=341>

UCC Polity (American Church History is a pre-requisite for this course)

Rev. Steven Johnson, Ph.D., instructor

Wednesday evenings, 6:30-9 pm: April 5, 19, 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Registration opens: February 15, 2017

Registration Deadline: March 24, 2017

This course, required for the Christian Leadership Program, surveys the historical and current documents that illuminate the breadth of theology that informs the United Church of Christ. It provides an overview of the history of the UCC since 1957 and examines the covenantal structure of the church, the responsibilities and accountability of authorized ministers, worship, and vocation in the UCC.

This course addresses these Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers of the UCC
UCC Identity for Ministry

2. A passion for the oneness of the body of Christ as expressed through commitment to ecumenism, justice, and the full embrace of all persons in the radical hospitality of God.

4. An understanding of the concept of covenant and how it informs the nature, purpose, and polity of the United Church of Christ.

10. The ability to explain and work within the current polity of the UCC and its denominational structure, and to describe the covenantal relationships among the General Synod, national setting, conferences, associations, and local congregations of the UCC.

11. The ability to share key elements of the UCC's statement of faith, constitution with its preamble, and bylaws regarding the governance, mission, and theologies of the UCC and their implications for the life of the church.

12. The ability to articulate the UCC's commitment to being a united and uniting, multiracial and multicultural, open and affirming, accessible to all and just peace church.

Knowledge and Skills Specific to Authorized Ministry

6. The ability to articulate a theological understanding of authorized ministry, and to relate it to the practice of ministry.

12. The ability to appreciate, practice, and pass on traditions of faith while interpreting them in light of the context of a diverse and changing world.