

## **MASTER OF DIVINITY FORM B**

### **Requirements for the Specialization in Restorative Justice & Prison Ministry**

Purpose: This specialization is designed to prepare students for ministry with persons who are incarcerated, their families, and others who work in or are involved in the correctional and criminal justice systems. It will also require students to develop a theological framework for understanding restorative justice and systemic sin and to develop ability to do prophetic ministry in the context of the local congregation.

#### **Outcomes for the Specialization**

Students will:

1. Develop an understanding of the life situations of prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families, most of whom are marginalized persons with life journeys characterized by subcultural values, addictive, chaotic lifestyles and intergenerational antisocial thinking.
2. Learn approaches to pastoral care specific to the needs of this population.
3. Gain an understanding of criminal thinking and the implications this has for ministry.
4. Develop a theological and biblical critique of the retributive criminal justice system.
5. Develop a theological and biblical understanding of restorative justice that informs ministerial practice and can engage criminal justice and correctional systems in a prophetic way..
6. Develop an understanding of systemic sin, powers and principalities, the economic and social investment in the criminal justice and correctional systems.
7. Conceptualize the role of the nation state and the application of coercive power in criminal justice and correctional systems and develop a theological critique of that reality.

#### **Portfolio**

These outcomes shall be developed through a portfolio of courses, special projects and immersion experiences. The portfolio shall be evaluated on an ongoing basis by the advisors to the Restorative Justice specialization. The portfolio may include, but is not limited to:

1. Course syllabi
2. Papers and projects on immersion experiences
3. Research papers
4. Papers done for independent reading and studies

This specialization shall be informed by courses presently in the Saint Paul curriculum. It will synthesize the material from present courses with the specialized teaching. There will be six hours immediately available within the specialization. Other course may be developed. Other hours will be added as specialized emphases are developed within existing courses.

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**This form is to be completed in advising conferences between the student and academic advisor. The form will be included in the student's permanent academic file. All courses must be approved by the specialization advisor.**

Name of student: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

The courses listed below fulfill the 15 credit hours of required course work in the specialization. A course may not meet more than one degree or specialization requirement.

**REQUIRED COURSES (6 credit hours)**

The following courses shall be taken as electives:  
 CHS 326 American Criminal Law and Restorative Justice  
 CHS 347 Prison Industrial Complex and Systemic Sin  
 IMM 338 Immersion: Prison Ministry  
 Integrative Seminar

Course Number	Term and Year Completed	Credit Hours
CHS 346	_____	1
CHS 347	_____	2
IMM 338	_____	2
_____	_____	1

**REQUIRED CONTENT AREA COURSES (6 credit hours)**

Choose any upper level courses in which a project is focused on prison ministry and restorative justice.  
 PCR 4\* Upper level elective in Pastoral Care  
 HBS 4\* or NTS 4\* or THL 4\* Upper level elective in Bible or Theology

**OPTIONAL COURSES ( 3 credit hours)**

With advice and consent of the specialization adviser the remaining hours in the specialization can be completed from among the following courses by the inclusion of specialized material. A student may also propose a course not on this list and it can be counted toward the specialization after approval by the adviser.

- CHS 330 Mission of the Church in the Contemporary World (3)
- CHS 342 Reconciliation: Class Race and Gender (3)
- CHS 442 Cultural Dynamics in Pastoral Care
- CHS 348 Evangelism in a Pluralistic Society
- CRE 462 Spiritual Formation through Mentoring Relationships
- CRE 528 A Ministry of Faith Formation in the Wesleyan Tradition
- CTX 322 Practicum in Pastoral Care
- ETH 440 African American Critical Religious Thought (3)
- EVN 348 Evangelism in a Pluralistic Society (3)
- HST 431 History of Christian Ethics (3)
- HST 450 Luther and Schleiermacher (3)
- HST 470 John Wesley's Theology and Ethics (3)
- MIN 428 Advanced Praxis Seminar: Christian Ministry in a Violent World (3)
- MIN 430 Advanced Praxis Seminar: Theology in Black and White (3)
- ANY EWR COURSE in which the project can be focused on interfaith relations in the prison setting.
- ANY LEADERSHIP COURSE in which the project can be focused on advocacy within the prison/ restorative justice system.

<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	_____
<b>TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>15</b>

Anticipated year and term of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of academic advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_