

Certificate in Theology and Ministry
Princeton Theological Seminary
Continuing Education
2014 First Mt Zion Baptist Church Cohort Application for Admission

“Be transformed by the renewal of your mind.” (Romans 12:2ff)

Princeton Theological Seminary’s department of Continuing Education and FMZBC are pleased to announce the “Certificate in Theology and Ministry,” a six-part series of online courses taught by PTS professors in 2014. The basic schedule is as follows:

- **February:** The Old Testament with Professor Dennis Olson
- **March:** Introduction to Theology with Professor Ellen Charry
- **June:** The New Testament with Professor Lisa Bowens
- **July:** TBD
- **September:** Evangelism in the Mainline Church with Professor Rick Osmer
- **October:** Spiritual Practices with Professor Paul Rorem

Each course will meet weekly at FMZBC on Thursday evenings from 7 PM to 9 PM. In most cases, courses will last for five weeks, with a total of 10 hours of live instruction and discussion. All students will have 24-hour access to the certificate website, which will include archived recordings of the class sessions, digital versions of the assigned readings, a discussion forum moderated by the teaching assistant (a Ph.D. candidate), related multimedia content, and the ability to submit assignments, check on one’s progress, etc.

Successful completion of each course requires: (1) reading the assigned reading, (2) attending the live class sessions (or watching the recording if absence from the live session is necessary), and (3) submitting two very short reflection papers per course. Further details will appear in course syllabi.

Students should expect to spend an average of 5 to 10 hours per week on reading, assignments, and class participation during the periods when one of the six classes is running.

Apply for this certificate if you can commit to the entire year-long course of study and are:

- An ordained or lay pastor without a seminary degree
- Considering a call to full-time ministry or applying to a seminary
- A Director of Christian Education, Care Giving, Youth Ministry, or Music
- An ordained or lay elder, deacon, or clerk of session
- A Sunday School teacher, active church volunteer, or lay leader

About the Certificate

The certificate is intended for ministerial or personal enrichment and is **not credit-bearing**. Students who complete all the requirements will be awarded a frame-worthy “Certificate in Theology and Ministry,” carrying six Continuing Education Units from the department of Continuing Education, at a special ceremony on the campus of Princeton Theological Seminary. To receive the certificate a student must complete all six online courses.

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Registration Fee

The registration fee to participate in the FMZBC Cohort is \$275. The fee covers all six courses and must be received by Princeton Theological Seminary on or before **January 15, 2014**. Registration is subject to the Seminary's Registration and Cancellation Policy. Students will also be responsible for purchasing about one book per course. Other readings will be provided at no additional cost.

Extension

Students in the certificate program should plan to complete all six courses in 2014. If circumstances require a student to miss one or more courses—or the student fails to complete a course—the student may extend their enrollment for a \$50 fee and complete the certificate in 2015.

Technical Needs

All students will need ready access to a computer with an internet connection. The live sessions will take place at FMZBC, but students will still need their own computer to write and turn in assignments.

Schedule

Each course is five weeks, so the schedule listed above is only approximate. Sometimes it is necessary for a course to start the week before its main month, or to continue into the next month. For example, the exact schedule of the first three courses is as follows:

- Old Testament with Olson: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, and 27
- Theology with Charry: March 6, 13, 20, 27, and April 3
- New Testament with Bowens: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, and 26

A complete schedule will be posted online as soon as possible.

Application

Please complete the *Letter of Introduction* (see below for instructions) and the *Application* (next page), and return it **no later than December 20, 2013** via e-mail to scvm@ptsem.edu or via mail to:

Certificate in Theology and Ministry
Princeton Theological Seminary
20 Library Place
Princeton NJ 08540

Questions may be addressed to scvm@ptsem.edu or by telephone at 609-497-7990.

Letter of Introduction

Please introduce yourself in a letter of at least 250 words but no longer than 600 words. Your letter should provide a *very* brief description of your educational background, discuss your current role in your church, and explain what you hope to gain by participating in this online certificate program. Type your letter up and send it in with your application.

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Name _____

Title Rev. Mr. Mrs. Ms. Other: _____

Gender Male Female

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Your Church _____

Role in Church _____

Job Title _____

Job Description _____

Reminder: Princeton Theological Seminary will accept students on a rolling basis. If you are accepted into the program, the registration fee will be due no later than January 15, 2014. Information about payment will be posted on the Seminary's website by December 15, 2013.