CMIN 220 Spiritual Formation: 3 Credits
Pre-requisite EN 131, RELI 110

This course will focus on the formation and development of mature character in the life of the Christian leader. The course will explore biblical models of transformation and faith development combining elements of academic study and Christian experience. The course invites the student to think critically, to develop new ideas, and work with them. The purpose of this kind of learning is not to stop at the academic level, but encourage personal spiritual growth through participation and reflection and enable the student to facilitate others to grow in Christ.

CMIN 260 Intro to Christian Theology: 3 Credits
Pre-requisite RELI 110, EN 131

This introductory course takes a look at Jesus and his teachings in an historical context and provides a general overview of the major doctrines of Christianity and concepts of Christian Theology. The course examines the creeds of the early church, taking into account the major reasons that necessitated their formulations. The course also builds on a platform to demonstrate how Christianity has helped to forge theologies of liberation that have sparked societal change and have been instrumental and necessary in bringing about social justice.

CMIN 333 Biblical Prophets and Social Justice: 3 Credits
Pre-requisites: RELI 110, EN 132, Co-requisite: RPCM 390.

This course will focus on the Prophets of Israel and their understanding of Social justice with major attention directed to Isaiah, Micah, Jeremiah, Amos, and Hosea. Students will be introduced to God’s covenant with Israel in order to lay the foundation for a critical analysis of justice. This course must be taken concurrently with RPCM 390.

CMIN 335 Intro to Black Theology: 3 Credits
Pre-requisites EN 132, CMIN 260, RELI 250.

This course examines the origin of Liberation Theologies and their diverse expressions. Black Theology is considered in its global context; in its roots in Latin American and African American religious thought; and in its dialogue with other theologies such as feminist and Womanist theologies. In so doing, the course introduces students to the relevant conditions, primary issues and themes of African and African American history that contributed to the formation of religion, theological thought and moral reflection. The course will also critically examine the four basic building blocks of Black Theology that were used to construct a Black Theology of liberation in response to the question — *What does it mean to be Black and Christian?* The course will also examine and critically analyze the theological thoughts of first generation black theologians such as James H. Cone, J. Deotis Roberts, Gayraud Wilmore and Charles H. Long. Further, second and third generation theologians such as Jacqueline Grant,
Delores Williams, Dwight N. Hopkins, Cornel West, Anthony Pinn, and Eddie Glaude will be part of the class discussion as we consider responses to the first generation's theological positions.

**CMIN 410 Religious and Social Thought of Howard Thurman:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite: CMIN 260, CMIN 335, RELI 365

This course is a critical examination of Howard Thurman’s history, theology, meditations, and mysticism with special attention given to his perspective regarding race relations and social justice.

**CMIN 343 Christian Doctrines:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite EN 132, CMIN 260

A course that seeks to give students a clear foundation in Christian doctrines to further their personal discipleship and enable them to minister with theological integrity and biblical faithfulness. The course will cover such topics as Christian faith with an emphasis on God’s work of creation, the Bible, Sin, the person and work of Christ, the Holy Spirit, the identity and mission of the Church, and eschatology. The course will endeavor to link theory with the practical/ethical dimensions of Christian theology.

**CMIN 344 Liberation Theologies:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite EN 132, CMIN 260

This course explains and examines various liberation theologies (Latin American, Black, Mujerista, Feminist, etc.) in conceptual and practical terms. The course elaborates the theological frameworks that are the basis for these theologies. It outlines how they relate to larger theological issues such as sin and salvation, incarnation and redemption, and the relationship between love and justice. Finally it examines the relationship between praxis (thoughtful reflection on action), social analysis and liberation.

**CMIN 350 Preaching in the African-American Tradition:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite EN 132, RELI 250, CMIN 335

This course will explore and examine the particularities and uniqueness of the African-American preaching tradition. Emphasis will be placed on the ways in which, historically and culturally, preaching is conducted in African-American churches. Specifically, this course will focus on the use of language, metaphor, imagination, and responsible encounter with the Biblical text from an African American perspective. Students will have the opportunity to preach at least once during the semester.

**CMIN 354 Music in Christian Worship:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite RELI 110

A survey of the multifarious roles of music in Christian worship, with emphasis on worship music from the perspective of theology, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, and psychology; worship music as tradition, culture, history, and pedagogy; worship music as a means of prayer,
praise, meditation, spiritual formation, and healing; and worship music as used in other religious traditions of the world.

**CMIN 361 Pastoral Care:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisite: CMIN 260

This course will introduce students to Pastoral Care in the context of the parish/church. Pastoral Care is presented as a critical tool for interpersonal appreciation and responsiveness to individuals operating and dealing with the demands and difficulties of life. Students are expected to refine their relational skills and clinical insights by drawing upon the church, personal, cultural and theological traditions, as well as specific casework from their ministry settings.

**CMIN 420 Theological Interpretation of the Old Testament:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisite: CMIN 333

This course will focus on the historical development of key themes of Old Testament theology and search for a center of the Old Testament Studies. The student will explore the concepts of God, mankind, the nature of revelation, sin, salvation, prophecy, God's eternal purpose, worship, blessing and abundance, stewardship of cultural and redemptive mandates, covenant community, social ethics, morality, justice, and grace.

**CMIN 425 Theological Interpretation of the New Testament:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisites: CMIN 333, CMIN 420

This course explores the theology of the New Testament literature in its unity and diversity. Attention will be paid to the methodological and interpretive problems involved, and will focus on a series of central topics (love, freedom, the Kingdom of God, predestination, sin, atonement, the church, sacrament, eschatology, Christology).

**CMIN 431 History of Christianity I:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisites: EN 132, CMIN 260

A survey history of Christianity that focuses on the early Church through the fifteenth century. The course will give particular attention to the Christological controversies of the early church as well as to selected Latin and Greek fathers, and to the Church councils that determined theological doctrines. This is a seminar course; students will read primary sources in translation and write essays on historical topics.

**CMIN 432 History of Christianity II:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisite CMIN 431

A survey history of Christianity starting with the background of the Protestant Reformation and extending through the multiple reformations of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and their aftermath. This seminar course will have a global focus; the spread of Christianity to Asia, Africa, and the New World will be covered from the beginning of European colonization through the Missionary Movement of the nineteenth century and into the present day. This is a seminar course; students will read primary sources in translation and write essays on historical topics.
CMIN 445 Homiletics: 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite: CMIN 350, CMIN 420; Co-requisite: CMIN 425

This course combines both theory and practice of preaching. It introduces a functional methodology of organizing and developing the elements of a sermon. It examines issues of bridging exegesis and exposition as well as the application of biblical truth and the effective delivery to listeners. Approximately one-third of the course is devoted to a lab setting where lessons and sermons are video-recorded and critiqued.

CMIN 460 Christian Ethics: 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite: EN 132, PHIL 230.

This course will introduce students to the study of religious ethics by focusing on four traditional Christian principles used in the process of Christian moral deliberation (Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason) and applying said principles to specific moral problems/issues such as human rights, human sexuality, social concerns, politics, economics, and biomedicine. After a careful perusal of prominent ethical theories and theorists from a historical perspective, we will explore how moral judgments are made and how religious views influence these judgments. The course will also examine how Christian ethics has been informed and nurtured by Holy Writ, the teachings of Jesus Christ, the role of the Holy Spirit in the development of conscience, and the theological tradition of the Christian religion in all of its expressions (Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Protestant).

RELI 110 Understanding Faith: 3 Credits  
Pre-requisites: None

Through the lens of Christian traditions and values, this course will introduce the discipline of Religious Studies through basic concepts such as Scripture, deity, authority, worship and ritual, ethics, the nature of religious experience, and faith. Students will apply this knowledge to analyze faith commitments in other traditions.

RELI 205 Intro to African Traditional Religion and Culture: 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite: RELI 110

This course introduces the student to African Traditional Religion and to the culture and civilization of Africa before the coming of Arab and European colonialism and religions. Students will learn why African Traditional Religion is still practiced today amid Western and Eastern religions.

RELI 210 Religion and Popular Culture: 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite: EN 131, RELI 110

This course uses a range of disciplinary perspectives to examine the ways religious themes, symbols, icons and language are used in expressions of popular culture and to understand how religion itself is influenced in return. The course will explore these interactions between religion
and popular culture from diverse cultural and religious traditions and across multiple media platforms.

**RELI 241 Religions of the World:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite EN 131, RELI 110

A brief look at the religious beliefs and practices of Hinduism and Buddhism as well as the Near-Eastern traditions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The cultural background of each religion will be discussed as well as the ways that religion affects culture and society around the world today.

**RELI 250 African American Religious History:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite HI 130, EN 132

This course is a survey of African American religious experiences. The course introduces students to the history and culture of African American Religion and try to determine the manner in which it relates to contemporary society. Special attention will be given to Black religious practices, institutions and thought in the African American quest for freedom, justice, and equality through the lens of: African Traditional Religions, the African Diaspora, Religion of the Slave, Black Church and Abolitionist Movements, and Civil Rights; Race, Class, and Gender; Black Catholicism; Black Power Movements, Black Muslims; Alternative Black Religious Practices; Crisis in the Black Church, and Mega Churches.

**RELI 321 Hermeneutics:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite EN 132, RELI 210

Hermeneutics introduces the student to the fundamental categories of the theory of interpretation. In keeping with the historical trajectory of hermeneutics, its scope expands beyond questions about the rules for textual/biblical interpretation, towards the question of the nature of meaning and understanding as such. The course will engage a number of hermeneutical emphases including: the world behind the text (history, authorial intention, allegory), the world in the text (structuralism, narrative theory, poetics), and the world in front of the text (reader-response, community response, deconstruction, liberationist, feminist, queer, postcolonial).

**RELI 340 Religion in America:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite EN 132, RELI 241

This course examines major religious groups and denominations in the United States, their histories, beliefs, and practices. In addition, attention is given to current religious trends and controversies. Local field trips are a major component of the course.

**RELI 350 Comparative Religious Ethics:** 3 Credits  
Pre-requisite EN 132, PHIL 230, RELI 241

This course explores what different religious traditions have to say about important ethical and moral questions. This course aims to provide students with the tools and knowledge to
understand, comparatively analyze, and evaluate the ethical teachings and moral prescriptions of the religious traditions of Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam.

**RELI 361 World Scriptures:** 3 credits
Pre-requisite EN 132, RELI 241.

This course seeks to provide a comparative study of scriptures of the World Religions-Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. It will cover teachings, ethics, organization, and ritual as well as examining basic doctrines, practices, and religious institutions that developed as a result of scriptural mandates. We will utilize primary sources available in English translations.

**RELI 365 Theories of Justice:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisite: EN132, PHIL230; Co-requisite RPCM 391

This course examines different understandings/formulations/theories of justice in reference to real world problems. Doing justice emerges as a central way to provide leadership in society and to appreciate the ethics of such leadership. The course accomplishes this by addressing a specific moral/social/environmental issue selected by students. In reference to this issue, the course examines the ways in which understandings of justice are shaped by society while also being transformative of society. Moreover, the course addresses two interrelated questions relating to the issue selected by students: What should we do to resolve the issue/being about meaningful social change? Are our responses to it (and to those involved) just? This course must be taken concurrently with RPCM 391.

**RELI 370 Theories and Methods for Religious Studies:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisites: EN 132, RELI 241

This course explores seminal thinkers and primary texts necessary for the academic study of religion. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the development of formative theories in the field and of contemporary approaches relevant for the religious studies.

**RELI 420 Religion and Science:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisites: EN 132, RELI 350

This class examines the relationship between religion, and science, from the perspective of different religious traditions, particularly Western traditions. The class will survey a range of issues, thinkers, and approaches to some of the most important ways in which religion and science interact. This class does not require any previous training in religious studies or in the specific scientific topics addressed.

**RELI 425 Islam:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisite EN 132, RELI 241

This course seeks to provide a comprehensive look at Islamic doctrine, practice, and religious institutions in diverse geographical settings from the rise of Islam in the seventh century to the present time. We will utilize the translated source material from the Qur’an, sayings (hadith) of
the Prophet, legal texts (sharia), and some of the mystical work which will provide an overview of literary expressions of the religion of Islam.

**RELI 430 The Sacred Event: Ritual Space and Time: 3 Credits**
Pre-requisites: EN 132, RELI 241

This course explores theories of religious ritual, space and time, and reflects on what constitutes, constructs, and configures the sacred event. The course will apply these theories to survey a diversity of sacred rituals, spaces and times within various religious contexts. Themes to be covered during the semester include pilgrimage, shared and contested sacred events, sacred space and civil religion, gender and the sacred event, and the construction of new sacred spaces.

**RELI 435 Theodicy: 3 Credits**
Pre-requisites CMIN 260; PHIL 235

The problem of evil can be put rather succinctly: If the world was created by an all good, all powerful and all-knowing God, then why does evil exist? This course will examine attempted solutions to the problems of evil in the world. In doing so, we will discuss concepts such as the freedom of the will, the nature of justice, the nature of suffering, original sin, eternal damnation, pre-established harmony, and possible worlds.

**RELI 434 Death and Immortality: 3 Credits**
Pre-requisites: EN 132

An interdisciplinary, cross-cultural study of death and dying, including discussions of transcendence and immortality, health care, suicide, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, the right to die, and other relevant topics. The course uses materials from philosophy, psychology, sociology, and religion.

**PHIL 230 Ethics: 2 Credits**
Pre-requisite EN 131

This course examines moral standards and applications of moral reasoning to some of the social and personal complexities of our time from a multicultural perspective. The course emphasizes values and ethics commensurate with those values (perspectives) and the role both play in our lives, socially and personally. The course examines the ways in which ethics and a sense of morality are shaped by society while also transforming society. Finally, the course explores different classical and contemporary moral theories and introduces various ways to consider justice.

**PHIL 235 Intro to Philosophy: 3 Credits**
Pre-requisite EN 131

This course introduces students to the study of philosophy and philosophical methods through a survey of key themes, thinkers, and problems in their historical settings. The course distinguishes between philosophy, religion, psychology, and anthropology. Philosophic approaches to be introduced may include: materialism, idealism, pragmatism, phenomenology,
and existentialism. Themes to be introduced may include the reliability of knowledge, make up of ultimate reality, free will, determinism, the problem of evil, race, class, and gender.

PHIL 239 Logic: 3 Credits
Prerequisites: none.

Logic provides an analysis of the process of correct thinking, the nature and structure of argument, the forms of valid reasoning, analysis, and definition. Logic may be defined as the “science that evaluates arguments.” We will be constructing and evaluating arguments.

PHIL 331 History of Ancient to Medieval Philosophy. 3 credit hours. Prerequisites: EN 132; PHIL 235. A study of western philosophy from its inception with the pre-Socratics to 1400 A.D. Special attention will be given to its social and cultural origins, and its impact on the development of Christian theology.

PHIL 332 History of Modern Philosophy: 3 Credits
Prerequisites: EN 132, PHIL 235

A study of leading philosophers from the Renaissance to the present day: idealists, positivists, pragmatists, and existentialists, with special reference to Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume and Kant.

PHIL 355 Philosophy and Education. 3 Credits
Pre-requisite: EN 132, PHIL 235

This course will introduce students to the philosophy of education through a close reading and discussion of key foundational texts as well as more contemporary, critical works. Education raises questions not only about the nature of knowledge and its transmission, but equally about power and its circulation. This course will examine the intersection of those questions as we reflect on the meaning of education and its role in contemporary society.

PHIL 370 Political Philosophy. 3 Credits
Prerequisite: EN 132, PHIL 235

This course will introduce students to the field of political philosophy through a close reading and discussion of key foundational texts. We will examine such issues as the nature of rights, political authority, sovereignty, liberty, and justice. After a critical examination of these texts, we will explore how these political philosophies impact not only the formation of government and society, but our individual lives as well.

PHIL 400 Africana Philosophy: 3 Credits
Pre-requisites HI 130; EN 132, RELI 205, PHIL 235

In this course we will read a range of African-American thinkers from the 19th century to the present in order to develop an appreciation of the unique, critical philosophical voice in the black intellectual tradition.
PHIL 421 Nineteenth Century Philosophy: 3 Credits
Pre-requisite: PHIL 235; PHIL 332

A study of leading philosophers and philosophic themes from 19th Century. Philosophic positions such as idealism, empiricism, existentialism, romanticism, Marxism, positivism, and pragmatism will be discussed, as will the role of art and aesthetics.

PHIL 425 Contemporary Philosophy: 3 Credits
Pre-requisites: PHIL 421

This course is a study of philosophical answers to the contemporary questions concerning the existence of God, the nature of truth, the purpose of life, and the goal of society. The course introduces critical thinking as a fundamental component of philosophy and introduces the student to major philosophical thinkers in the contemporary era (20th and 21st Century). The course will examine western philosophy’s relation to social and cultural origins, as well the contemporary intellectual climate.

PHIL 430 Human Nature and Knowledge: 3 Credits
Pre-requisites PHIL 235, PHIL 332

This course explores the fundamental questions of human nature and the reliability of human knowledge. That is, it asks questions both of us – “what kind of beings are we? what kind of being am I?” – and about what we can know. Further, this course attempts to explore the intersection of those two questions, for perhaps knowledge of ourselves, of our very being, lies outside the limits of knowledge. If the Socratic maxim implores us to “know ourselves,” this course will explore the very possibility of that knowledge.

PHIL 436 Philosophy of Religion: 3 Credits
Prerequisite EN 132, PHIL 235

This course philosophically explores the classical issues of religious thought, such as the existence and reality of God, the attributes of God, the problem of evil, death and the afterlife, religious experience, and religious pluralism.

PHIL 440 Philosophy of Race, Class, and Gender: 3 Credits
Pre-requisite: PHIL 235

This course will offer a philosophic examination of three markers of identity: race, class, and gender, while also examining the ways in which these markers have been left out of traditional philosophic discourse.

PHIL 444 Philosophy of Science: 3 Credits
Pre-requisite: PHIL 436
An examination of the nature of the scientific enterprise. Topics of discussion include: the presuppositions of science, its logic, its claims to reliability, the nature of scientific truth, and its relationships to society and to problems of human values.

**RPCM 390 Field Experience I:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisite RELI 241; Co-requisite CMIN 333

Placement at a local service organization to work at least nine volunteer hours per week or acceptance into an unpaid internship program in a position related to the student's career goals. The placement or internship must be approved by the instructor and service organization coordinator or internship director before the student begins work. A minimum of 135/270 hours must be completed for the course, as well as a series of reflective written assignments in conjunction with CMIN 333 Biblical Prophets and Social Justice.

**RPCM 391 Field Experience II:** 3 Credits
Prerequisite RPCM 390, Co-requisite RELI 365

Continuation of placement at a local service organization to work at least nine volunteer hours per week or acceptance into an unpaid internship program in a position related to the student's career goals. A minimum of 270 hours must be completed for the course, as well as a series of reflective written assignments in conjunction with RELI 365. This course must be taken concurrently with RELI 365 Theories of Justice.

**RPCM 498 Senior Research:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisites: Junior/senior standing with a minimum of 30 credit hours in the major

This is the first half of a two-semester course sequence (RPCM 498-499). In this Part I students will be introduced to scholarly research methodology in Religion, Philosophy, and Christian Ministry and students will develop and present a thesis proposal, begin the draft of their research paper, and complete one half of their exit exam requirements.

**RPCM 499 Senior Seminar:** 3 Credits
Pre-requisite RPCM 498

This is the second half of a two-semester course sequence (RPCM 498-499). In this Part II of the course students will complete and defend their research paper and will complete the second half of their exit exam requirements.

**ENT 300 Junior Seminar in Entrepreneurship:** 1 Credit

An introductory survey of the field of entrepreneurship with a brief, real-life exercise fusing experiential learning, creative thinking, and collaborative action. The course’s main focus is on how “value” is created, delivered, and realized through global entrepreneurship, corporate innovation, high-tech entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship (private, non-profit, and government sectors), value-add & service startups, survival companies, life-style businesses, family businesses, high-growth ventures, and entrepreneurial ecosystems. The course presents entrepreneurship as a “state of mind” and a “way of life”--the conviction to relentlessly pursue one’s passion, a willingness to dream, organize, try, and learn from failure-- a way to seek new ways and forms to add value to everything one does, a means of working together with others to overcome obstacles and
contribute to a better world. The course includes a brief community service component, consistent with B-CU’s mandate “enter to learn, depart to serve” and Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune’s unique, entrepreneurial legacy.

**ENT 300- Junior Seminar - Entrepreneurship-1 Credit Hour**
Certificate Completers demonstrate true servant-leadership in keeping with Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune’s imperative that students “enter to learn and depart to serve.” Students will have vision, strategic planning and collaboration skills to translate ideas into action and to promote the growth and well-being of people and communities to which they belong.

**FC 280- Sophomore Seminar - Leadership and Service - 1 Credit Hour**
Certificate Completers demonstrate true servant-leadership in keeping with Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune’s imperative that students “enter to learn and depart to serve.” Certificate Completers have vision, strategic planning and collaboration skills to translate ideas into action and to promote the growth and well-being of people and communities to which they belong.