M.DIV. DEGREE PLANNER

78 cr. (minimum) required

Islam and Interreligious Engagement Option (M.Div. IIE)

BIBLE & SACRED TEXTS (10 cr.)

OPTION IIE (10 cr.)

BX 101 (4 cr.)

AND

STX 242 (Qur'an: Engaging a Sacred Text, 3 cr.)

AND

Another Bible/STX course (3 cr.)
   Another Islam-focused STX course or
   STX course in tradition other than Islam or Christianity or
   OT/NT/STX Course with IE focus

HISTORY (6 cr.)

OPTION IIE (6 cr.)

CH 101 (3 cr.)

AND EITHER

Course focused on Islamic History (3 cr., Selected in consultation with Advisor) [2]

PRACTICAL THEOLOGY (6 cr.)

OPTION IIE (6 cr.)

CA 101 or CA 102 (3 cr.) or CW course (3 cr., Selected in consultation with Advisor) [1]

AND

Another Practical Theology Course

_____ (3 cr.) [CA, CW, PT, PS, CS, RE]

THEOLOGY (6 cr.)

ST 103 or ST 104 (3 cr.)

AND

IE 230 (Islamic Religious Thought, & Practice, 3 cr.) [3]

INTER-RELIGIOUS (6 cr.)

IE 102 (3 cr.)

AND

Another IE course in tradition other than Islam or Christianity _____ (3 cr.)

THESIS/COURSES (6 cr.)

Thesis or
Additional Courses (at least 3 cr. in Islam/Comp.)
_____ (3 cr.)
_____ (3 cr.)

FIELD ED (6 cr.)

FE 103 (3 cr.)
FE 104 (3 cr.)

CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

(Islam Focused/Comparative Courses 15 cr.) [4]

IE 320 (Islam & Religious Diversity, 3 cr.)
IE 316 (Women, Islam, and Interpretation, 3 cr.)
_____ (3 cr.)
_____ (3 cr.)
_____ (3 cr.)

GENERAL ELECTIVES (17 cr.)

_____ ( )   _____ ( )   _____ ( )

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_____ ( )   _____ ( )   _____ ( )

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_____ ( )   _____ ( )   _____ ( )

Notes

1: Dependent on student goals, an appropriate CW course can be selected for this requirement.

2: This course will typically be taken at Columbia or Fordham.

3. Students should take this course as early in the program as possible.

4. Remaining 9 cr. selected in consultation with advisor.

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M.Div., Islam & Interreligious Engagement Option (M.Div. IIE)

Description
The Islam and Interreligious Engagement option within the Master of Divinity (M.Div. IIE) is a 78 credit, three-year professional graduate degree. This degree prepares individuals for diverse leadership roles working with and in Muslim communities. These roles include religious and spiritual leadership; chaplaincy at universities, hospitals, or prisons; professional counseling; teaching; and careers in interreligious/interfaith cooperation, policy-making, social justice advocacy, journalism, non-profits, and government.

The M.Div. IIE curriculum engages students in sustained and probing study of Sacred Texts, History, Systematic Theology and Islamic Religious Sciences, Practical Theology, and field education. The curriculum has three distinctive features:

1. Focus on Islamic tradition and Muslim practice: The M.Div. IIE provides a robust foundation in Islamic tradition. M.Div. IIE students take at least 27 credits (9 courses) that focus on foundational sources, disciplines, practices, diversity, and contextual realities of the Islamic tradition and Muslim practice. Required courses include: The Qur'an: Engaging a Sacred Text; Islamic Religious Thought and Practice; Islamic History; Islam & Religious Diversity; and Women, Islam & Interpretation.

2. Focus on interreligious engagement: The M.Div. IIE provides sustained exposure to other religious traditions and interreligious engagement. Students are required to take at least 16 credits (5 courses) on Christianity, another religious tradition, and the theory, methods, and approaches of interreligious engagement. Required courses include: Introduction to the Bible, Systematic Theology, and Religions in the City.

3. Focus on social disparities: In keeping with Union's broader curricula, the M.Div. IIE intentionally engages social disparities based on gender, race, class, sexuality, and other marginalizing forces. Integrated into many courses, the goal is to cultivate an ability to respond to these disparities with analytic rigor, historical consciousness, sensitivity to tradition, and spiritual compassion.

The M.Div. IIE curriculum also provides opportunities for personal, professional, and spiritual development. These opportunities include Field Education and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). CPE is of particular importance for students considering chaplaincy. M.Div. students at Union are expected to integrate theological knowledge with analysis of contemporary issues, while developing practical skills for serving the needs of the communities, institutions, and society.

Courses at Other Institutions: In addition to courses offered at Union, M.Div. IIE students are able to take up to 15 graduate-level credits at other accredited schools. These schools include Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS), Drew University School of Theology, Fordham University Department of Theology, General Theological Seminary, Hebrew Union College, New York Theological Seminary, and St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary.

IIIT Summer Program: M.Div. IIE students are strongly encouraged to participate in the International Institute of Islamic Thought's (IIIT) Summer Student Program. This program introduces foundational fields in Islamic religious sciences and a variety of other thematic topics. It also exposes students to Islamic Studies faculty from across the United States. Students may earn up to 4 cr. for successful participation in this program.

Languages: There is no language requirement for completion of the M.Div. IIE degree. However, based upon the student's interests and intended vocation, study of certain languages—inclusive of, but not limited to, Arabic—is strongly advised. Students can take Arabic through Hunter College and other summer programs.

Note about Chaplaincy Certification: Board certification as a chaplain generally requires an M.DIV., four units of CPE, and endorsement from a national organization (such as ISNA) or religious community. Students should check with their endorsing body for additional requirements.