Red courses in blocks marked Option A should be chosen by students who aspire to ordained ministry, chaplaincy, or other ecclesial ministries. Those considering ordination must be mindful of their denominational ordination requirements.

Courses in blocks marked Option B are designed to accommodate students who plan to work in other contexts. Students in this category may choose either Option A (red or blue) or Option B in one or more fields.

As a rule, students who begin a block of Option A or Option B courses within a field must satisfy all requirements of that block in order to fulfill degree requirements in that field.

See notes (over) for exceptions, exemptions, additional options, and guidance.
IMPORTANT NOTES  *  PLEASE READ

**BIBLICAL FIELD**

1. All students who take OT101 must also take NT101 and *vice versa*.

2. Bible Content Courses (OT and NT101a):
   
   (a) Students who pass the Bible content exams are not required to take OT 101 a and NT 101a.
   
   (b) Option A students whose ministries will not require use of the Bible may petition the Academic Dean for exemption from taking the OT 101 a and NT 101a Bible content courses. Unitarian students who choose Option A but do not identify as Christian may petition for a similar exemption.

3. **Option A courses in Red:** Students who are considering ordained ministry, chaplaincy, or other ecclesial ministries should choose BX 201 (with CW 101) to complete Option A requirements. (see note 10 below)

4. **Option A courses in Blue:** These courses are intended for second-year M.Div. students who have chosen Option A but for whom BX 201/CW 101 is not (or is no longer) consistent with or necessary for their anticipated ministerial contexts. In other words, students who have taken the NT/101 (and 101a, when required) pairing in Option A but who are not (or are no longer) considering ordained ministry, chaplaincy, or other ecclesial ministries, may substitute a blue course for BX201/CW 101 in order to complete their Biblical field requirements.

5. Option A students may *not* take BX 101 (Introduction to the Bible) as an elective.

6. Students who decide to pursue ordination, chaplaincy, or an ecclesial ministry after having chosen Option B and having taken BX 101 (Introduction to the Bible) are strongly advised by the Biblical Faculty to take the Bible content exams. If they fail one or both exams, they should take the applicable OT 101a and/or NT 101a content courses (1 pt. each). They should also take BX 201 (with CW 101) (3 cr.) and otherwise complete their Option B Bible requirements with another 3 pt. OT and another 3 pt. NT course (6 cr.). [13-15 total cr. in Bible]

7. Option B students who do not identify as Christian may substitute one course on a sacred text other than the Christian Bible (e.g. the Qur’an) for one of the OT or NT courses listed in the Option B block. Such non-biblical Sacred Text courses (STX) may be cross-listed as IE/STX courses.

**HISTORICAL FIELD**

8. Students who have taken two courses in the CH 107, 108, 109 sequence prior to academic year 2015-2016 must complete all three courses (fulfilling Option A). Others may satisfy their CH requirements by taking CH 101 (fulfilling Option B).

**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY FIELD**

9. Students who have not taken CW 101 (with BX 201) prior to academic year 2015-2016 may choose to complete their Practical Theology field requirements under either Option A or Option B, subject to the guidance in notes 3 and 4 above.

10. CW 101 and BX 201 must be taken together and should be taken by anyone planning to do ordained ministry, chaplaincy, or other ecclesial ministries. Students who choose Bible Option B may take BX 201 in fulfillment of one of their Biblical course requirements or electives as long as they are also enrolled in CW 101.

11. Option A students who take CW101 (with BX 201) may take CA 101 (Communication Arts) either in fulfillment of their Practical Theology Field requirements or as a free elective.

**INTERRELIGIOUS ENGAGEMENT FIELD**

12. A student may apply for an exemption from the IE102 requirement if the student, prior to attending Union, has taken two or more undergraduate or graduate courses on traditions other than Christianity and has earned a B average in those courses.

13. Students who take a Sacred Text (STX) course to fulfill the Bible requirements must take another IE course to complete the second IE requirement.