
Contact:

Rev. Megan Visser
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Zoom Sessions

Each student is required to attend one Zoom session, but is welcome to attend any/all of them.

Times listed below are in the Pacific time zone.

July 8, 5:30pm

July 22, 5:30pm

Aug 5, 5:30pm

tinyurl.com/seminary101

Getting started in theological education is an exciting challenge. Why not start the journey alongside a few new friends? This Summer 2021 course is an opportunity to orient yourself to the seminary curriculum and learning environment; discuss introductory readings (from ECO and other major courses); establish habits for critical reading and writing in graduate school; as well as understand the history, Unitarian Universalist tradition, multi-religiosity, and educational thresholds of our school. Learn how to be successful in learning online, meeting seminary course requirements, and contributing as a responsible member of a learning community.

This self-paced course can start instantly with flexible deadlines, which can be reset to fit your Summer schedule. It includes four 1-week modules, which each take 10-15 hours to complete. The course can be completed in as few as 4 weeks, beginning on Monday, June 28, July 5, July 12 or July 19.

Week 1

"Exploring the Thresholds"
starts June 28, July 5, July 12 or July 19

- Introducing ourselves and gathering materials (next page)
- Tour the SKSM thresholds
- Creating reading and writing habits for graduate school
- "Queer(y)ing Religious Education" (Farajaje-Jones)
- Time management skills and asking for support

Week 2

"Establishing Grad School Habits"
starts July 5, July 12 or July 19, July 26

- What is "educating to counter oppressions (ECO)"?
- Agreements for online learning community
- *Trauma Stewardship* (van dernoot Lipsky)
- Interpreting course assignments and outlining papers
- Positive transitions to academic work
- *Pedagogy of the Poor* (Willie Baptist and Jan Rehmann)

Instructor



Rev. Megan Visser

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BA, Simmons College
MA, Graduate Theological Union
PhD(c), UCSF School of Nursing

I am a Unitarian Universalist minister, educator and social scientist living in Los Angeles, California. I serve the Unitarian Universalist congregation of Santa Clarita Valley and engage in research on how Women of Color use religion and spirituality to cope with heart disease.

I bring a passion for shaping new habits for resilience and leadership, and a decade of experience teaching and advising theological students to this introductory course.

Week 3

"Attending Starr King"
starts July 12, July 19, July 26, Aug 2

- SKSM Mission and History and I am Starr King!
- What drives us in personalized courses of study and relational/constructive learning
- Unitarian Universalism and multi-religious life/learning
- Academic integrity and navigating modes of learning

Week 4

"Learning and Formation"
starts July 19, July 26, Aug 2, Aug 9

- What is "formation"?
- All about Evaluations: Requesting, understanding, accepting and responding to feedback
- Creating a first-year formation plan
- Self-care and vocational development
- Looking inward and countering oppression

Classroom Location

This course is 100% online, including self-paced components and live Zoom sessions. The GTU Moodle site will serve as the main learning space for obtaining course materials, participating in discussion and communicating with the instructor.

Gathering the Materials

This seminar is designed to help you prepare for your first semester as a seminary student at Starr King School for the Ministry and to introduce you to members of your incoming class and our faculty. Figure out as early as possible the technologies, websites, and school/community resources you may need to use in the course and get acquainted with them. Ensure your computer is working well, install any needed software, and verify your browser is up-to-date.

Starr King Course Policies

Please review the most recent version of the SKSM Student Handbook for relevant course policies .