

**Wesley Theological Seminary
Doctor of Ministry Program**

**Independent Study on the Life and Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr.
(Optional-Additional Three Credits)**

Faculty: C. Anthony Hunt

Date: August 2015

Additional Required Texts

1. *There Is a Balm: The Cultural Roots of Martin Luther King, Jr.*
Lewis V. Baldwin, ISBN: 0-8006-2457-2
2. *To Make the Wounded Whole: The Cultural Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.*
Lewis V. Baldwin, ISBN: 0-8006-2543-9
3. *Search for Beloved Community: The Thinking of Martin Luther King, Jr.*
Kenneth Smith and Ira Zepp, Jr., ISBN: 0-8170-1282-6
4. *I May Not Get There With You: The True Martin Luther King, Jr.*
Michael Eric Dyson, ISBN: 0-684-96776-1
5. *Blessed are the Peacemakers: A Theological Analysis of the Thought of Howard Thurman and Martin Luther King, Jr.*
C. Anthony Hunt, ISBN: 1-55605-381-9

Assignments

1. You are to complete all required readings for the Independent Study, and upon completion, schedule a time to meet with Professor C. Anthony Hunt to discuss your readings, learnings and insights with regard to the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. This meeting may be conducted in person or by phone.

2. Integrative Theological Reflection Paper (Due October 1, 2015)

You are to prepare an integrative reflection paper (15-18 pages; not to exceed 4500 words) on either: (1) the required readings for the Independent Study, or (2) some specific aspect or topic related to the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. For the second option, you may choose to write on any specific person(s), place, or event related to King. The topic is to be agreed upon with the professor.

Some Suggested Research Themes Include:

- ❖ King and the Civil Rights Movement
- ❖ The Preaching of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- ❖ Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Development of the SCLC
- ❖ Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Jewish Community
- ❖ Martin Luther King's Contemporary Significance
- ❖ Martin Luther King's Views on Nonviolence

- ❖ King, Benjamin Mays and Morehouse College
- ❖ Martin Luther King and Christian Liberalism (e.g. Walter. Rauschenbusch)
- ❖ Martin Luther King and Personalism (Bowne, Brightman, DeWolf)
- ❖ Martin Luther King and Christian Realism (Reinhold Niebuhr)
- ❖ The Influence of Paul Tillich's Thinking on King
- ❖ The Preaching Tradition in King's Family
- ❖ King and the Dialectical Method of G. F. W. Hegel
- ❖ Joseph H. Jackson and the National Baptist Convention
- ❖ Rosa Parks
- ❖ Coretta Scott King
- ❖ Septima Clark and the Highlander Citizenship School
- ❖ Andrew Young
- ❖ Wyatt T. Walker
- ❖ John Lewis
- ❖ Howard Thurman
- ❖ Mohandas Gandhi (King and Gandhism/Hindu Philosophy)
- ❖ Contemporary Developments at the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change
- ❖ Philip Randolph
- ❖ Roy Wilkins and the NAACP
- ❖ Stanley Levison
- ❖ Bayard Rustin
- ❖ Ralph Abernathy
- ❖ Ella Baker and the Role of Women in the Civil Rights Movement
- ❖ Vernon Johns and Dexter Avenue Baptist Church (Montgomery)
- ❖ James Lawson
- ❖ Mordecai Johnson
- ❖ J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI