



Lead at the Intersection of Faith & Public Life

NATIONAL CAPITAL EXPERIENCES FOR SEMINARIANS (NCES)

NCES courses probe the biblical and theological foundations of Christian political engagement, the role of faith and communities of faith in public life and discourse, and the practical shape of faithfulness in the public sphere.

In Spring 2022, Wesley is offering two NCES opportunities to seminarians across the country:

"Faith, Politics, and the Public Square" will be a spring semester virtual (online via Zoom) course on Mondays from 10-noon and 1-3 p.m. EST.

This class combines interactive conversation with public officials, political figures, advocates and activists, and theological discussion seminars on the issues and structures of public life. This year's focal issues may include:

- Public Discourse
- War and peace
- Race, class, and economics
- Gender and sexuality
- Global climate change

4 credit hours, taught by Dr. Rick Elgendy, Mondays, January 24 - May 2, 2022.

"Advocacy and Action in the Public Square" is a one-week May-term, in-person immersion in Washington, DC.

The in-person class allows students to reflect theologically and develop practical strategies for faithfully engaging in the public square. Students will visit sites around the D.C. area and engage in conversations and debrief with congressional policy experts, public servants, faith-based advocacy groups, local community activists, pastors, and media representatives.

2 credit hours, taught by Dr. Lorena Parrish, May 23 - 27, 2022.

FACULTY:

DR. LORENA M. PARRISH

Director, Community Engagement Institute; Associate Professor of Urban Ministries

Dr. Parrish earned her Ph.D., M. Phil. and M.Div. at Union Theological Seminary and an M.S.S.W. from Columbia University. An ordained Baptist minister, Dr. Parrish's academic specializations include Urban Ministry; Womanist Theology; Theology, Ethics and Popular Culture; Theology and the Black Church; and Practical Theology.

DR. RICK ELGENDY

Academic Director, Center for Public Theology; Associate Professor of Christian Ethics and Public Theology

Dr. Elgendy's research interests are animated by asking questions of subjectivity, spirituality, and politics at the intersection of political theology, systematic theology, and critical theory. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.



To learn more, contact the Office of Admissions:
admissions@wesleyseminary.edu or 202-885-8659.