MTS Contextual Education

- All MTS students are required to fulfill a 3-credit contextual education requirement.
- MTS contextual education is an aspect of an MTS student’s program that:
  - Incorporates 1) active as well as reflective learning; 2) out-of-classroom as well as classroom learning that is engaged with contemporary contexts; 3) self-reflective learning, in which students (and faculty) become aware of their position in, and effect on, the contexts in which theological education and religious leadership are performed and enacted.
  - Intentionally focuses on—and facilitates—vocational discernment/professional development in the MTS program.
  - **There are 3 ways to fulfill the requirement:**
    1. A directed study that meets the criteria for the MTS project (see below).
    2. One semester of TC801 or TC802 (internship)
    3. An STH course-related travel seminar
- **MTS Projects**
  - The MTS Project is designed to facilitate the integration of theory and practice, as well as vocational discernment and leadership development, in religion and theology
  - MTS project proposals are due **March 31st or Sept 30th** (extensions granted as needed)
  - MTS students doing a project must also sign up for a directed study with their academic advisor or supervising faculty member either in Fall or in the Spring
  - **Steps to Designing an MTS project:**
    - *Developing Ideas*
      - Student meets to discuss ideas with the Director of Contextual Education and Community Partnerships
      - Student meets with her/his advisor to present ideas for project
    - *Designing Project*
      - Reviews the guidelines for MTS Contextual Education Proposals (on website)
      - Prepares a proposal (forms available on website)
      - Submits the final project proposal to the Director of Contextual Education and Community Partnerships by **March 31 or September 30**
    - *Approval Process*
      - The Director of Contextual Ed reviews the proposals and suggests revisions or approves the proposal.
    - *Registration Process:*
      - Students with approved proposals must register for a directed study in the appropriate semester.
    - *Evaluation:*
      - Students will receive a grade from their faculty advisor/supervisor
      - Both the student and faculty member must complete the MTS Contextual Education Project Final Evaluation process. The guidelines for this evaluation are on the MTS Contextual Education webpage.