

UNION PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY
Faculty Position Description (Tenure Track)
Practical Theology (Assistant or Associate Rank)

Mission Statement

Union Presbyterian Seminary equips people in the ways of Jesus to witness, teach, and live into the movement of God's Reign through their ministry in the church and world—a sacred vocation that requires deep learning, commitment to service, and an ability to read cultures and circumstances in the light of the rich resources of Scripture and theological tradition.

Areas of Responsibility

The person appointed to this position will be based in Charlotte and will teach courses on both the Charlotte and Richmond campuses, as well as across all degree programs and platforms, and through in-person, hybrid, and distance formats. The candidate is expected to have demonstrated competence in pastoral/spiritual care, worship, or preaching, and will offer courses that meet core requirements and electives in areas of professional interest. Preference will be given to applicants with leadership experience in congregations, non-parish ministries, and/or non-profit settings.

A candidate with experience and competence in leading congregations and non-parish contexts will be particularly suited for this faculty position, and is expected to be committed to teaching through engagement with contextual pedagogies and reflective practice. The candidate will be expected to make significant scholarly contributions to the field through participation in appropriate academic guilds, as well as research and writing for multiple publics. The new faculty member will have academic advising responsibilities and collaborate with departmental colleagues for new course development and program assessment. In addition, this person will be actively involved in the work of our Centers—The Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation; The Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership; The Syngman Rhee Global Mission Center for Christian Education—while serving as a seminary resource to congregations, denominational entities, and other relevant public institutions.

Qualifications

- A Ph.D. or comparable degree in practical theology, with competence to teach in pastoral or spiritual care, liturgics, or homiletics
- Qualifications, through academic credentials or professional experience, to teach in a second area in practical theology
- Demonstrated competence in leading congregations, chaplaincy, clinical pastoral counseling, non-parish ministry contexts, community organizing, non-profit and NGO work, and/or other forms of non-parish work as integral to the ministry of the church
- Conversance in current theories and scholarship in practical theology, organizational leadership, community organizing, social change, and public theology
- Engagement in scholarly practices that affirm diversity in an intercultural and religiously plural world

- Experience in graduate-level teaching
- Digital literacy and experience with technology-based teaching and learning
- Commitment to theological education that values diversity and the life and witness of the church in an intercultural, religiously plural world
- Appreciation for the theology, polity, and practices of Reformed traditions, especially the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Union Presbyterian Seminary is a free-standing graduate educational institution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and an EO/AA employer committed to increasing the gender, racial-ethnic, and international and cultural diversity in its faculty and student body. Therefore, candidates of underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply as the seminary strives to increase the diversity of its faculty to achieve its strategic goals.

Letters of application, including a curriculum vitae and the names and contact information of three references, should be addressed to Ken McFayden, Academic Dean, Union Presbyterian Seminary, 3401 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23227, staylor@upsem.edu. Review of applications will begin on October 15, 2022, and will continue until the position is filled.