

Hood Theological Seminary’s mission is “to prepare women and men for bold and creative leadership for the Christian church in a diverse world.” An essential component of this mission is an educationally effective curriculum that prepares graduates to do the important work described above. Below are two indicators of our curriculum’s educational effectiveness: (1) data from an online exit survey taken by the HTS class of 2019 (indirect measure) and (2) assessment data compiled by faculty based on student performance on selected course tasks, which function as direct measures of the extent to which students have met curricular goals.

I. The Class of 2019’s Evaluation of Hood Theological Seminary’s Educational Effectiveness (Indirect Measure)

How satisfied are you with the education you received at Hood?

1	Very Satisfied	94.12%	16
2	Satisfied	5.88%	1
3	Somewhat Satisfied	0.00%	0
4	Neutral	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
6	Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
7	Very Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

Hood’s mission is "to prepare women and men for bold and creative leadership for the Christian church for a diverse world." How well do you think the Seminary fulfilled its mission in your particular case?

1	Very Effectively	70.59%	12
2	Effectively	29.41%	5
3	Somewhat Effectively	0.00%	0
4	Neither Effectively nor Ineffectively	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat Ineffectively	0.00%	0
6	Ineffectively	0.00%	0
7	Very Ineffectively	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

Hood Theological Seminary is a community of worship that collaboratively listens, in the classroom, chapel, and refectory, to God’s word in order to discern God’s ways in a complex and resistant world.

1	Strongly agree	75.00%	12
2	Agree	25.00%	4
3	Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	16

Hood Theological Seminary is a community of teaching and learning excellence that seeks to “love God with all the mind” and to grow in theological knowledge and in the implications of such knowing for being God’s people in the world.

1	Strongly agree	82.35%	14
2	Agree	17.65%	3
3	Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

Hood Theological Seminary is a community of discernment and practical wisdom that engages in practices that promotes peace, justice, and mercy in all human relationships and institutions.

1	Strongly agree	76.47%	13
2	Agree	17.65%	3
3	Somewhat agree	5.88%	1
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

As a result of your completed courses in Area One (Biblical Studies—OT and NT), rate how well you think you interpret the biblical texts within their literary, historical, and cultural contexts?

1	Extremely well	23.53%	4
2	Very well	70.59%	12
3	Moderately well	5.88%	1
4	Slightly well	0.00%	0
5	Not well at all	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

How confident are you in your ability to use appropriate methods to interpret the biblical texts?

1	Extremely confident	41.18%	7
2	Very confident	52.94%	9
3	Moderately confident	5.88%	1
4	Slightly confident	0.00%	0
5	Not confident at all	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

How confident are you in engaging others in critical conversations concerning the biblical texts?

1	Extremely confident	29.41%	5
2	Very confident	58.82%	10
3	Moderately confident	11.76%	2
4	Slightly confident	0.00%	0
5	Not confident at all	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

How confident are you in your ability to apply biblical texts to your contexts of ministry?

1	Extremely confident	47.06%	8
2	Very confident	52.94%	9
3	Moderately confident	0.00%	0
4	Slightly confident	0.00%	0
5	Not confident at all	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

I adequately learned about Church History during my time at Hood Theological Seminary.

1	Strongly agree	82.35%	14
2	Somewhat agree	11.76%	2
3	Neither agree nor disagree	5.88%	1
4	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

My church history courses have allowed me the opportunity to identify events, documents and personalities within the history of Christianity in the United States and the world.

1	Strongly agree	76.47%	13
2	Agree	11.76%	2
3	Somewhat agree	11.76%	2
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

My church history courses have helped me to understand how Christianity has been influenced by historical, cultural, political and sociological factors to function as a tool of oppression or liberation.

1	Strongly agree	82.35%	14
2	Agree	11.76%	2
3	Somewhat agree	5.88%	1
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

As a result of my theology and ethics courses, I have acquired new, effective tools for practicing ministry in ways that will contribute to the holistic transformation of self and society, including sensitivity to persons who are marginalized, oppressed, or emotionally hurting.

1	Strongly Agree	76.47%	13
2	Agree	23.53%	4
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
4	Disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

As a result of my theology and ethics courses, I have acquired the resources necessary to apply the wisdom and insights of Christian theological traditions to the cultural contexts in which I will minister.

1	Strongly Agree	82.35%	14
2	Agree	17.65%	3
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
4	Disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

My theology and ethics courses have helped me to develop and deepen my spiritual life.

1	Strongly Agree	76.47%	13
2	Agree	23.53%	4
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
4	Disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

My theology and ethics courses have given me new resources for living an ethically responsible life in service to church and world.

1	Strongly Agree	76.47%	13
2	Agree	11.76%	2
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	5.88%	1
4	Disagree	5.88%	1
5	Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

My theology and ethics courses have given me new tools to lead faith communities in worship and caring ministries and to communicate the Christian faith and ethics through preaching, teaching, and other appropriate means.

1	Strongly Agree	82.35%	14
2	Agree	17.65%	3
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
4	Disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

My preaching courses have given me helpful ways of interpreting the biblical texts and congregational contexts as I prepare my sermons.

1	Strongly agree	88.24%	15
2	Agree	11.76%	2
3	Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

My worship classes have given me confidence and competence as I prepare services of worship and lead in worship.

1	Strongly agree	88.24%	15
2	Agree	5.88%	1
3	Somewhat agree	5.88%	1
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

As a result of my Area Four coursework and experiences (Preaching and Worship I & II, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Supervised Ministry I and II), my spiritual life has been developed and deepened.

1	Strongly agree	82.35%	14
2	Agree	11.76%	2
3	Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
4	Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
5	Somewhat disagree	5.88%	1
6	Disagree	0.00%	0
7	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	17

II. Assessment data compiled by faculty based on student performance (Direct Measure)

A. Biblical Studies

Students demonstrate knowledge of biblical content, background, methods, and issues and ability to analyze the biblical text in its historical, literary and cultural contexts with particular attention to the issues of the marginalized, oppressed and emotionally hurting and to evaluate critically different viewpoints and perspectives on the biblical texts, assessing the relevance for their present context. Success is achieved when 80% of the students in the introductory courses score at least 80% on exams and on papers/essays.

2018-19 Results: 74% scored at least 80% (B-) or better.

Students demonstrate, in the context of an exegesis paper, the ability to analyze the biblical text in its historical, literary and cultural contexts; to evaluate critically different viewpoints and perspectives on the biblical texts; and to assess its relevance for their present contexts. Success is when 80% graduates have fulfilled the exegesis requirement by earning a B- or better on an Exegesis paper at some point in their Hood career.

2018-19 Results: 91% of the graduates scored at least 80% (B-) or better on an Exegesis Paper.

B. History of Christianity

HTS students demonstrate the capacity to practice ministry in ways that provide bold and creative leadership for the Christian church in a diverse world in the following ways:

- Completing a reflection paper in “*CHT 115 History of Christianity in a Global Context*” that assesses the student’s grasp of the complexity and cultural nuances of two millennia of Christianity. Success is when 70% write well-crafted 1-2 page reflection papers with a grade of “B” that indicate a grasp of the cultural identity and ethos of the congregation observed and understanding of the general socio-historical Christian context from which it emerged.

2018-19 Results: 8 of 9 students (88.89%) scored a grade of “B” or above.

- Completing an in-class examinations in “*CHT 200 History of Christianity in the United States*” that will assess students’ knowledge of the role that institutional religious bodies and religious ideologies have played in both the oppression and liberation of marginalized groups in American culture. Success is when 70% of the class achieve at least an 80% on the CHT 200 final examination.

2018-19 Results: 6 of 9 students (66.67%) scored above 80%.

HTS students demonstrate their ability to apply the wisdom and insights of the biblical texts, theological traditions, and history of the Church to the diverse cultural contexts in which they will minister in the following ways:

- Completing in-class examinations in “*CHT 115 History of Christianity in a Global Context*” and “*CHT 200 History of Christianity in the United States*” that will assess students’ knowledge of the history of the Christian faith. Success is when 70% of the class achieve at least 75% on the CHT 115 final examination and when 70% of the class achieve at least 80% on the CHT 200 final examination.

2018-19 Results for CHT 115: 6 of 9 students (66.67%) scored above 75%.

2018-19 Results for CHT 200: 6 of 9 students (66.67%) scored above 80%.

- Writing a critical research paper in CHT 200 that will measure students’ ability to engage in historical analysis and interpretation.

2018-19 Results: 9 of 9 students (100%) scored a grade of “B” or above.

C. Theology and Ethics

Students demonstrate their ability to apply the wisdom and insights of Christian theological traditions to the diverse cultural contexts in which they will minister by writing a paper in which they analyze a designated challenge or issue in the life of the contemporary church and offer a constructive response to it by way of a historic church doctrine, a particular Christian theological tradition, or the work of a pivotal contemporary Christian theologian. Success = 80% of the class evaluated as either “excellent” or “adequate.”

2018-19 Results (“Analyze”): 12 of 23 students scored in the “excellent” range (52.17%) and 11 of 23 students scored in the “adequate range” (47.83%). Totals: 23 of 23 (100%).

2018-19 Results (“Apply”): 7 of 23 students scored in the “excellent” range (30.43%) and 11 of 23 students scored in the “adequate range” (47.83%). Totals: 18 of 23 (78.26%).

Students demonstrate the capacity to practice ministry in ways that contribute to the holistic transformation of society by constructing a theologically reflective strategic plan of communal action in response to a contestable issue or public controversy. Success = 80% of the class evaluated as either “excellent” or “adequate.”

2018-19 Results: 16 of 21 students scored in the “excellent” range (76.19%) and 4 of 21 students scored in the “adequate” range (19.04%). Totals: 20 of 21 (95.23%).

D. Pastoral Theology

2018-19 Summary Assessments: Spiritual Maturity, Inclusive Language, Pastoral Care, and Self-Awareness

- 100% of the students were able to demonstrate spiritual maturity as discerned by field mentors and self-perception.
- Students used inclusive language 66% of the time during worship leadership and preaching in chapel and in classes where preaching and worship leadership was assessed.
- 100% of the students were able to communicate in excellent manners about their experiences with the poor, the sick, and the marginalized and how they attempted to communicate and apply the resources of the caring Christ to these people. The students' descriptions were in the form of verbal responses to the professor and in writing in the form of their reflection papers.
- 100% of the students were able to write superb "care plans" for a variety of situations, like addiction, incarceration, homelessness, abusiveness. The students' writings were in the forms of verbatims and ministry reflection reports.
- Students who were assigned texts that pertained to persons hurting emotionally or physically demonstrated competence in connecting the messages of those texts in ways that ministered effectively to the pain and distress of the congregants 66% of the time.
- 100% of the students were able to describe an adequate amount of self-awareness in how their ministerial experiences are impacting the various components of their lives such as spiritual, physical, mental, etc. The students displayed their awareness through peer group reflection and conversations with the professor.

Preaching: Success defined as at least 50% of students scoring in "excellent" category and 90% in the "acceptable" category in a sermon prepared and delivered in PTH 103:Worship and Preaching I.

- Answering the question, "What in the world is God doing about our world?"

18 of 38 (47.37%) scored in the "excellent" category

33 of 38 (86.84%) scored in at least the "acceptable" category

- Sermon concretizations are theologically and experientially adequate to the Gospel being proclaimed in the sermon

9 of 38 (23.68%) scored in the "excellent" category

28 of 38 (73.68%) scored in at least the "acceptable" category

- What is the Bad News for which this sermon is Good News? Was the Bad News of true significance for its hearers? How did the preacher help the hearers identify with the Bad News?

15 of 38 (39.47%) scored in the "excellent" category

35 of 38 (92.11%) scored in at least the "acceptable" category

- Clarity of theme and focus

10 of 38 (26.32%) scored in the “excellent” category
27 of 38 (71.05%) scored in at least the “acceptable” category

- Missional impulse and call to action

13 of 38 (34.21%) scored in the “excellent” category
29 of 38 (76.32%) scored in at least the “acceptable” category

- Quality of textual exegesis and congruence of sermon with text

10 of 38 (26.32%) scored in the “excellent” category
27 of 38 (71.05%) scored in at least the “acceptable” category

- Effectiveness of sermon title

11 of 38 (28.95%) scored in the “excellent” category
29 of 38 (76.32%) scored in at least the “acceptable” category

- Sermon delivery and performance

15 of 38 (39.47%) scored in the “excellent” category
27 of 38 (71.05%) scored in at least the “acceptable” category