

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 2022 (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 2022’s Evaluation of Hood Theological Seminary’s Educational Effectiveness (Indirect Measure)

How do you feel about your overall experience as a student at Hood?

Very Satisfied	73.33%	11
Satisfied	26.67%	4
Somewhat Satisfied	0.00%	0
Neutral	0.00%	0
Somewhat Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
Very Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Very Satisfied	80.00%	12
Satisfied	20.00%	3
Somewhat Satisfied	0.00%	0
Neutral	0.00%	0
Somewhat Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
Very Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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?

Very Effectively	73.33%	11
Effectively	26.67%	4
Somewhat Effectively	0.00%	0
Neither Effectively nor Ineffectively	0.00%	0
Somewhat Ineffectively	0.00%	0
Ineffectively	0.00%	0
Very Ineffectively	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly agree	73.33%	11
Agree	26.67%	4
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly agree	73.33%	11
Agree	26.67%	4
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly agree	80.00%	12
Agree	20.00%	3
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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?

Extremely well	20.00%	3
Very well	60.00%	9
Moderately well	20.00%	3
Slightly well	0.00%	0
Not well at all	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Extremely confident	26.67%	4
Very confident	66.67%	10
Moderately confident	6.67%	1
Slightly confident	0.00%	0
Not confident at all	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Extremely confident	26.67%	4
Very confident	60.00%	9
Moderately confident	13.33%	2
Slightly confident	0.00%	0
Not confident at all	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Extremely confident	40.00%	6
Very confident	60.00%	9
Moderately confident	0.00%	0
Slightly confident	0.00%	0
Not confident at all	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Strongly agree	86.67%	13
Somewhat agree	13.33%	2
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly agree	80.00%	12
Agree	20.00%	3
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly agree	73.33%	11
Agree	26.67%	4
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly Agree	73.33%	11
Agree	26.67%	4
Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly Agree	60.00%	9
Agree	40.00%	6
Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Strongly Agree	86.67%	13
Agree	13.33%	2
Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Strongly Agree	80.00%	12
Agree	20.00%	3
Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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.

Strongly Agree	66.67%	10
Agree	26.67%	4
Neither Agree nor Disagree	6.67%	1
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	15

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

Strongly agree	85.71%	12
Agree	14.29%	2
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	14

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

Strongly agree	64.29%	9
Agree	28.57%	4
Somewhat agree	7.14%	1
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	14

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.

Strongly agree	85.71%	12
Agree	14.29%	2
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total	100%	14

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.

2021-22 Results: 93.44% scored at least 80% (B-) or better.

2020-21 Results: 89.70% 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.

2021-22 Results: 85.71% of the graduates scored at least 80% (B-) or better on an Exegesis Paper.

2020-21 Results: 71% of the graduates scored at least 80% (B-) or better on an Exegesis Paper.

B. History of Christianity

The assessment goal set by the instructor was for 80% of the students in the required course History of Religion in the United States to score at least “adequately” on a research paper and a final examination designed to measure their ability to recognize the role of institutional religion in oppression and liberation.

2021-22 Results: 24 of 26 students scored either “excellent” or “adequate” (92%).

The assessment goal set by the instructor was for 80% of the students in the required course History of Global Christianity to score at least “adequately” on a research paper and final examination designed to measure their ability to engage in historical analysis and interpretation.

2021-22 Results: 18 of 21 students scored above 80% (86%).

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.”

2021-22 Results (“Analyze”): 7 of 19 students scored in the “excellent” range (37%) and 11 of 19 students scored in the “adequate range” (58%). Totals: 18 of 19 (95%).

2020-21 Results: 10 of 18 students scored in the “excellent” range (56%) and 6 of 18 students scored in the “adequate range” (26%). Totals: 16 of 18 (89%).

2021-22 Results (“Apply”): 10 of 19 students scored in the “excellent” range (53%) and 5 of 19 students scored in the “adequate range” (26%). Totals: 15 of 19 (79%).

2020-21 Results: 9 of 18 students scored in the “excellent” range (39%) and 5 of 18 students scored in the “adequate range” (52%). Totals: 14 of 18 (78%).

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.”

2021-22 Results: 4 of 10 students scored in the “excellent” range (40%) and 6 of 10 students scored in the “adequate range” (60%). Totals: 10 of 10 (100%).

2020-21 Results: 14 of 23 students scored in the “excellent” range (58%) and 7 of 23 students scored in the “adequate range” (38%). Totals: 21 of 23 (91%).

D. Pastoral Theology

2021-22 summary assessment of rubrics: Students used inclusive language 70% of the time during worship leadership and preaching in chapel and in classes where preaching and worship leadership was assessed.

2020-21 results: Students used inclusive language 60% of the time.

2021-22 summary assessment of rubrics: 80% 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.

2020-21 summary assessment of rubrics: 80% of the students were able to do so.

2021-22 summary assessment of rubrics: 85% 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.

2020-21 summary assessment of rubrics: 80% of the students were able to write superb "care plans."

2021-22 summary assessment of rubrics: Students assigned texts pertaining to persons hurting emotionally or physically demonstrated competence in connecting the messages of those texts to the pain and distress of the congregants in sermons 97% of the time.

2020-21 summary assessment of rubrics: 90% of the time.

2021-22 summary assessment of rubrics: 100% of the students were able to demonstrate an adequate amount of self-awareness in how their ministerial experiences were impacting the various components of their lives such as spiritual, physical, mental, etc. The students displayed this awareness through peer group reflection and conversations with the professor.

2020-21 summary assessment of rubrics: 95% of the students were able to.