

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a grand, ornate library interior. The room features high ceilings with colorful frescoes depicting various figures and scenes. The walls are lined with tall, dark wood bookshelves filled with books. A central staircase with a wooden railing leads to an upper level. The lighting is warm, highlighting the intricate details of the architecture.

Master of Arts in
Liberal Studies

SPRING 2021 COURSE BOOKLET

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MIAMI

COLLEGE of
ARTS & SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAM
SPRING COURSES
JANUARY 25 – MAY 12, 2021

MLS 601 -JK	<i>“Aspects of Creative and Reflective Thought”</i>	#1350
Professor John Kirby		
Wednesday	6:00pm – 8:45pm	Online Instruction

Selected aspects of creative and reflective thought, based on materials from the arts, the humanities, the sciences, the social sciences and history. The focus will be on themes and issues represented in a variety of cultural traditions.

This is a MALs required core course

MLS 602 -TU	<i>“Perspectives on Human Nature”</i>	#1469
Professor George Wilson		
Tuesday	6:00pm – 8:45pm	Online Instruction

Basic theories of human nature proposed by the humanities, the sciences, and the social sciences. The course deals with fundamental issues regarding the concept of human nature, such as the nature of the self and its relation to society, the impact of culture on self-perception and the relation of thought to human action.

**This is a MALs required core course*

MLS 603 - TU	<i>“Theories of the Physical Universe”</i>	#1351
Professor Massimiliano Galeazzi		
Thursday	6:00pm – 8:45pm	Online Instruction

This course will examine a variety of theories and models of the physical universe including perspectives from various physical sciences and disciplines such as philosophy, religion and history. Various understandings of the nature of the universe and their impact on human culture. The course will deal with critical issues addressed in the various attempts to understand the physical world, such as fundamental structures and processes, the limitation of human perception, and the interaction between the human species and its environment.

This is a MALs required core course

MLS 611 -JK *“Human Rights: Walls & Justice”*
Professor Henry Green **#2733**
Monday **6:00pm – 8:45pm** **Online Instruction**

Over the last 75 years, millions of people have been displaced from North Africa and the Middle East: Copts (Egypt), Jews (from the Atlantic Ocean to the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers) and most recently, Kurds and Yazidis in Iraq and Syrians of all stripes. The migration of the displaced has created a crisis in Europe. This course examines the reasons why this has transpired and the plight of the refugees.

MLS 625 -JK *“Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus”*
Professors David Graf, William Green **#2246**
Monday **6:00pm -8:15 pm** **Online Instruction**

In the past half century, exciting new archaeological discoveries have revolutionized our understanding of Jewish identity in the Second Temple period. This course is designed to familiarize you with the most significant of these new finds in the material culture of ancient Israel during Persian suzerainty, Jewish Independence, and the dramatic events that led to the integration of the Holy Land into the Roman state.

MLS 626 -Y3 *“Religion & Revolution”*
Professor Daniel Pals **#11144**
Asynchronous/no specific meeting times **Online Instruction**

This course considers the impact of religious beliefs on the violent revolutions that have made the modern Western world. We try to understand how religious passions have brought tremendous turmoil, leaving the world “turned upside down.” We look also at the profound social changes that, for good or ill, are the legacy of religious ideas: literacy, individualism, democracy, new artistic expression, and representative government, along with political conservatism, liberalism, socialism, and communism.

MLS 696 -01 ***“Directed Readings”***

Professor Daniel Pals

Arranged (5 students max)

#1353

Arranged with Advisor

A Directed Readings course allows you to work independently with a MALS professor, researching a topic of your choice. Professor Pals will be the advisor for all Directed Readings in Religion. For any other topic, you must find a professor in that field that is willing to act as your advisor. Only students with a 3.0 GPA or higher will be able to enroll in a Directed Readings course. In order to register for the course you will need to submit a 2 page proposal along with a bibliography of 10 academic sources, at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the semester. The final paper must be a minimum of 15 pages, and be submitted to both the professor and the MALS office on the first day of final exams. Hard copies only will be accepted. Proposals must be given to both the professor and IPS office before registering, and at least 2 weeks before classes begin. Students are allowed two directed readings courses during their studies in the Program. *MALS Directed Readings Papers Due at end of Semester *

MLS 697 -01 ***“Directed Readings”***

Professor Daniel Pals

Arranged (5 students max)

#1354

Arranged with Advisor

A Directed Readings course allows you to work independently with a MALS professor, researching a topic of your choice. Professor Pals will be the advisor for all Directed Readings in Religion. For any other topic, you must find a professor in that field that is willing to act as your advisor. Only students with a 3.0 GPA or higher will be able to enroll in a Directed Readings course. In order to register for the course you will need to submit a 2 page proposal along with a bibliography of 10 academic sources, at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the semester. The final paper must be a minimum of 15 pages, and be submitted to both the professor and the MALS office on the first day of final exams. Hard copies only will be accepted. Proposals must be sent to the Professor Pals and Frances Smith before registering, and at least 2 weeks before classes begin. Students are allowed two directed readings courses during their studies in the Program *MALS Directed Readings Papers Due at the end of the semester *

MLS 810 -01 ***“Master's Thesis”***

Professor Daniel Pals

Arranged (5 students max)

#1355

Arranged with Advisor

The student working on his/her master's thesis enrolls for credit, in most departments not to exceed six, as determined by his/her advisor. Credit is not awarded until the thesis has been accepted.

Before registering for a MALS Thesis students must meet with the Director to discuss the project. Students are advised to also check the guidelines for writing a thesis on the Graduate School website: www.grad.miami.edu

MLS 815 -01 **“MALS Project”**

Professor Daniel Pals

Arranged (5 students max)

#1356

Arranged with Advisor

The student working on his/her MALS project enrolls for credit, not to exceed 6, as determined by his/her advisor. Credit is not awarded until the project has been accepted.

Before registering for a MALS Project students must submit a proposal and meet with the Director to discuss the project.

MLS 820 -01 **“Research in Residence”**

Professor Daniel Pals

Arranged (5 students max)

#1357

Arranged with Advisor

Used to establish research in residence for the thesis for the master's degree after the student has enrolled for the permissible cumulative total in MLS 810 (usually six credits). Credit not granted. May be regarded as full time residence.