

Climate Justice and Faith Concentration

Empowering leaders to cultivate moral, spiritual, and practical power
for the work of climate justice in communities of faith

Purpose and Guidelines for Cohort Reflection Group

The cohort meets twice each semester during the entire M.Div. or MA program including internship.
(Cohort may decide to meet more frequently.)

Purpose: Peer mentorship in the following forms:

- Community-building: To grow in trust and knowledge of one another in order to become a source of on-going mutual support, strength, courage, wisdom, and joy that extends beyond the years in seminary.
- To give and receive peer mentorship regarding projects related to the Concentration (the integrative project, papers or projects done in the Climate Justice proseminar or selectives for the concentration, engagement with a local climate justice group or campaign, etc).
- Through relationships with one another, to know oneself better in relationship to ones calling to ministry that cares for creation and/or seeks climate justice or other forms of environmental justice.
- To grow in knowledge of the climate justice movement in its vast multiplicity
- To share key learnings from coursework or from other aspects of climate justice engagement.
- To have a good time together.

First gathering in fall term (content suggestions)

Share honestly regarding yourselves:

- Welcome new students.
- What experiences in your life lead you to this concentration?
- What hopes and fears do you bring to it?
- If the sky was the limit and you imagine climate justice as a part of your ministry, what might that look like five years from now?
- Set date for second gathering in the term
- Decide whether you would like to meet more regularly (bi-weekly? Monthly?)

Subsequent gatherings (content suggestions)

- Invite speakers (especially practitioners who will share their practical experience implementing climate-related work in congregation or other groups and venues.
- Peer consultation on projects: Seminarians who are engaged in or thinking about a project (a class project or paper, integrative project, etc): Describe it. Share problems or challenges in it and request creative constructive feedback.
- See a film together
- Inputs from past students regarding internship projects or other integrative projects
- Share insights into climate justice movement or any orgs in it (local, national, global), including campaigns or orgs for the community engagement part of the Concentration.
- Design whatever forms of conversation would serve the purposes above.