



**UNITED**  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
OF THE TWIN CITIES

# HOW YOU WILL BENEFIT FROM SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION EDUCATION

Core Course Descriptions on page 6



*AN INDIVIDUAL HAS NOT  
STARTED LIVING UNTIL HE CAN  
RISE ABOVE THE NARROW  
CONFINES OF HIS  
INDIVIDUALISTIC CONCERNS  
TO THE BROADER CONCERNS OF  
ALL HUMANITY.*

-REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

## WHY SHOULD I LEARN MORE ABOUT SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION?

Engaging in the work of social transformation requires not only a cause you feel so passionate about that you're willing to give your life to it (though it starts there); you also need an understanding of historical context, practical tools to effectively engage in the work, and training in process and theory that will shape you into an ethical, effective leader. A social transformation education will help you develop the skills you need to lead dynamic and innovative movements, organizations, and communities.

## WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION IN SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION WORK?

Faith and spirituality have long been at the core of some of the most effective social transformers in history: Martin Luther King, Jr. Gandhi. The Dalai Lama. A theological education will ground you in matters of ultimate concern as you engage in work that is of ultimate importance in the world.





*THERE IS NO SUCH  
THING AS A  
SINGLE-ISSUE  
STRUGGLE BECAUSE WE  
DO NOT LIVE  
SINGLE-ISSUE LIVES.*

-AUDRE LORD

## SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION CONCENTRATION AT UNITED

The Social Transformation program has both an academic component and a praxis component, providing you with a theoretical framework AND the hands-on experience you need to create social change.

Whether your calling is in the public sector, social entrepreneurship, or the nonprofit world, the Social Transformation program at United will prepare you for your life's work. Add a Social Transformation concentration to any of our Masters-level degree programs, including a Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Arts in Leadership (M.A.L.), or Master of Divinity (M.Div.).

**As a Social Transformation student, you will be part of a community that receives:**

- Critical thinking and power analysis skills to help you think carefully about the change you want to create and why.
- Mentorship to support your growth as a leader.
- Resources and connections to spaces where you can engage in reflective, socially-transformative practices.
- Preparation for work in multicultural and multi-faith environments.
- Spiritual and theological grounding for social transformation work.
- Opportunity to apply what you learn through a capstone project where you create a real-world social transformation initiative that is scalable and sustainable, in your chosen context.



*TRUE PEACE CAN RARELY BE  
IMPOSED FROM THE OUTSIDE;  
IT MUST BE BORN WITHIN  
AND BETWEEN COMMUNITIES  
THROUGH MEETINGS AND  
DIALOGUE AND THEN  
CARRIED OUTWARD.*

- JEAN VANIER

## THERE ARE FOUR CORE CLASSES THAT MAKE UP THE SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION CONCENTRATION AT UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE TWIN CITIES.

### PUBLIC THEOLOGY FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Explore the theological and spiritual foundations enabling and inspiring a more just, more humane society. The course argues for an understanding of theology as a "public" discipline, one that is attentive to issues emerging from and pertaining to the world (rather than merely the church). In this introductory class, you will also explore the connections between theology and politics, culture, economics, and other social issues.

### SOCIAL ANALYSIS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Learn to analyze the complex, structural realities embedded in our cultural, economic, religious, and political systems at the root of injustice. You will do community-based research putting these tools to use as you think about ways to dismantle oppression, create social change, and build just communities.

### LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIES FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

You already know how to create social change, but this course draws from a combination of the best faith-based and secular justice work. You'll be equipped with a variety of strategic, practical, and theological tools to lead Social Transformation within various organizational contexts.

### SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

In this course, you will gain in-depth knowledge of social entrepreneurship: the practice of identifying, designing, starting and growing successful mission-driven ventures as you prepare for your capstone. Apply what you have learned as you design a real-world Social Transformation project that is scalable and sustainable in today's economic and social realities.



YOU HAVE TO ACT AS IF  
IT WERE POSSIBLE TO  
RADICALLY  
TRANSFORM THE  
WORLD. AND YOU HAVE  
TO DO IT ALL THE TIME

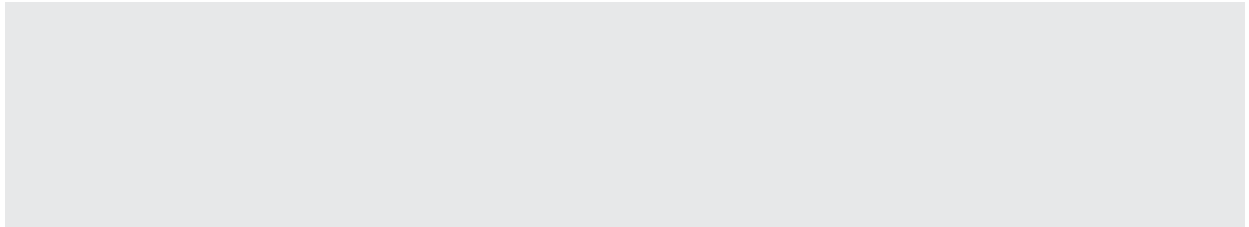
-ANGELA DAVIS

## IS SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION RIGHT FOR YOU?

Take some time to reflect on how Social Transformation classes can support you as a transformational leader who creates change in your community.

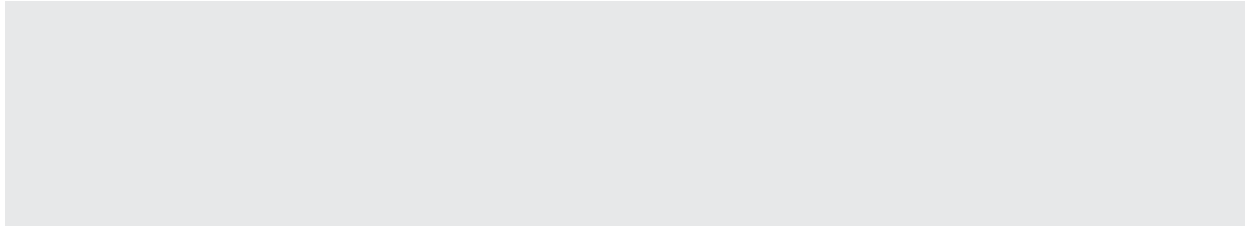
### WHAT

**WHAT IDEAS DO YOU HAVE TO CREATE CHANGE AND LEAD A MOVEMENT?**



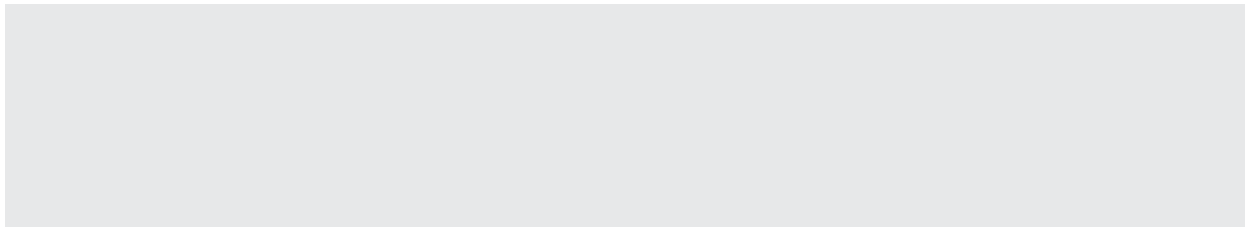
### HOW

**HOW CAN YOU USE YOUR TALENTS, SKILLS, EXPERIENCES TO CREATE CHANGE?**



### WHY

**WHY DO YOU WANT TO SEE CHANGE?**



The Social Transformation Concentration at United will provide you with the tools and resources you need to lead a social movement.

Still not sure? Visit a class and see for yourself. [Click here to schedule a tour.](#)



*THE FUTURE DEPENDS  
ON WHAT YOU DO  
TODAY.*

-MAHATMA GANDHI