Thomas Merton struggled with questions regarding God’s existence, moral values and the place of organized religion. His path to conversion was complex and bumpy. His experiences of prayer brought him from a monastic structure to a contemplative openness to issues of social justice. There are many tools that Merton used to aid his spiritual growth, such as journaling, poetry, letter writing, photography and art. As you study Merton in this course, you will be invited to use some of these same tools to enter more deeply into your own experience with the mystery of God.

Merton will challenge you and bring you to new places with the questions he raises and the experiences he shares. As you get to know Merton in this course, you will be challenged, inspired and offered the opportunity to grow and change. His experience and writings as presented in this course will help you on your spiritual journey.

**Topic Titles**

- Module 1: Thomas Merton: Who Is He and Why Is He Important for Today’s World?, Part 1
- Module 1: Thomas Merton: Who Is He and Why Is He Important for Today’s World?, Part 2
- Module 2: Thomas Merton: A Prophet and Spiritual Guide for Today’s Seekers, Part 1
- Module 2: Thomas Merton: A Prophet and Spiritual Guide for Today’s Seekers, Part 2
- Module 3: What was Merton’s Spirituality and How Does He Help Us to Find Ours?, Part 1
- Module 3: What was Merton’s Spirituality and How Does He Help Us to Find Ours?, Part 2
- Module 4: Thomas Merton and the Struggle for Solitude, Part 1
- Module 4: Thomas Merton and the Struggle for Solitude, Part 2
- Module 4: Thomas Merton and the Struggle for Solitude, Part 3
- Module 5: Thomas Merton and Social Justice, Part 1
- Module 5: Thomas Merton and Social Justice, Part 2