Families in Cultural Context: Implications for Practices of Care

PTPC 75970/85970/95970-045 Special Topics in Pastoral Care – Fall 2015
3 Semester Hours

Instructors: Professor Patricia Ares Muzio, PhD and Nancy J. Ramsay, PhD

Prerequisites: Ministry of Pastoral Care 60003

Description of Content:
The course addresses the important influences of cultural context in the dynamics of families and the implications of these influences for effective practices of care especially in ecclesial contexts. It will focus on families in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States. We will draw on literature arising from pastoral theology and care, critical theory (gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, class, and intersectionality), family studies, and family therapy with the goal of promoting resilience and esteem in family systems and individuals within the family. We also seek to promote understanding of the stressors in church and culture that undermine resilience and esteem. Students will develop theoretical competencies and limited practice competencies in offering care to families shaped by diverse cultural contexts and the influences of migration experiences.

Class Procedures:
Lectures, discussion, experiential engagement, student presentations, and threaded discussions in advance of class meetings

Requirements:
MDiv Students
1. Timely regular attendance and generative, informed participation in the class sessions
2. Effective participation in threaded discussion prior to class sessions
3. Student group presentation (graded corporately)
4. Final paper or project of comparable degree of research developed in consultation with faculty (20 pages or its equivalent)

DMin and ThM students
1. Timely regular attendance and generative, informed participation in the class sessions
2. Effective participation in threaded discussion prior to class sessions
3. Student group presentation (graded corporately)
4. Review of a book selected in consultation with faculty (5-7 pp.)
5. Final paper or project of comparable degree of research developed in consultation with faculty (25 pages or its equivalent)
PhD students
1. Time and regular attendance and generative, informed participation in the class sessions
2. Effective participation in threaded discussion prior to class sessions
3. Student group presentation (graded corporately)
4. Shared leadership of a class session in consultation with faculty
5. Final paper (25-30pp)

Required Books:


MDiv Grading Procedures:
Class Participation-in class and threaded discussion: 30%
Group presentation: 40%
Research Paper: 30%

DMin and ThM Grading Procedures:
Class Participation-in class and threaded discussion: 30%
Group presentation: 20%
Book Review: 20%
Research Paper or Project: 30%
PhD Grading Procedures:
Class Participation-in class and threaded discussion: 30%
Group presentation: 20%
Class leadership: 20%
Research Paper or Project: 30%