PROSPECTUS

PTPC 95423 Pastoral Theology: Selected Issues –
History and Horizons in Pastoral Theology

3 hrs per week/once a week

Instructor: Barbara J. McClure, Ph.D.

Prerequisites: Ministry of Pastoral Care. This is a PhD-only level course.

Description of Content:
It is important for pastoral and practical theologians to situate themselves historically, theoretically and theologically in the field. This course will provide an overview of the history of pastoral theology from Augustine to the present, and ask at specific historical points questions such as: What is the dominant operative theological anthropology? How are illness/healing and sin/salvation understood? What practices were designed to address the “ills”? Who were the detractors of the theories and practices, both internal and external? Where is the field now, and where does it appear to be headed? What are the most significant theoretical and practical challenges the field and its practitioners are currently facing? Answering these questions will help students broaden their understanding of themes and issues in the field and to situate themselves in the conversation.

The course objectives, then are:

1) to increase interest in and appreciation of the field of pastoral theology
2) to situate pastoral theology and its practices in an historical perspective
3) to familiarize participants with foundational texts in pastoral theology
4) to understand the internal conversations and debates relative to each other and trends in the field

Class Procedures:

Lectures, discussion, and student presentations
Requirements

Come to each class prepared to engage deep and informed discussion. You are expected to have done the reading and taken notes on it, be prepared to discuss it thoroughly, and meet deadlines for any work due each week.

Consistent attendance and strong, well-informed participation is expected. Arriving late will also accrue penalties of 2 points per tardy after the second. If you are unable to attend a class, please let me know. You will be expected to make up any work missed. Missing two classes will lower your final grade by five points. If you cannot attend more than three classes, do not expect to pass the course.

Each participant will choose a pastoral theological theme (e.g. ‘sin,’ ‘redemption,’ “practice and ritual” etc.) and bring a 1-page reflection following their chosen theme through the readings. These reflections must be posted to Pearson Learning Studio by midnight (12:00am) the day before class. Failing to do so without requesting an extension will result in 2 points taken off your final grade for the course.

Students will write a final paper (10-15pp for Master’s, 20-25pp for PhD) on their theme for the semester. If you need an extension on your final paper, discuss it with me at least two weeks prior to the due date.

Discussion leaders are responsible for introducing biographical information on the author of the book we read for each class as well as relevant review essays of books read as part of their leadership. Though creativity is encouraged, a good discussion will cover key points, challenges, comparison/contrast to other and previous readings, understanding of key themes, etc.

Computers are allowed in class, but only for note taking purposes. If I learn that you are using the computer for anything but note-taking I will ask you not to use it in subsequent classes. Emailing, visiting Facebook and surfing the web make it difficult for you to be fully present in class and is highly distracting to your colleagues.

This is an advanced/doctoral seminar. You are expected to present in each class. More than one absence will result in lowering your grade by 5 points. Do not expect to pass the class with more than three absences.

Texts:

~ Ashby, Homer, Our Home is Over Jordan: A Black Pastoral Theology (Chalice, 2003) $72.58 new, $10.75 used 0-827-22718-3 (Bookstore and Reserve)

~ Browning, Don Religious Ethics and Pastoral Care (Fortress Press, 1983) $20.00 new, $2.00 used 0- 8006-1725-8
and Moral Context of Pastoral Care (WJK, 1976) $ .77 new, $.01 used 978-0664244835 (Both OAK, On Reserve and Ethics is at the Bookstore)

~ Clebsch and Jaekle, Pastoral Care in Historical Perspectives (HarperTorch Books, 1967) $45.00 new, $31.00 used 1-568-21253-4 (On Reserve Only and Available Used)

~ Couture, P. and Hunter, R., eds Pastoral Care and Social Conflict (Abingdon, 1995) $9.71 new and $0.83 used. 0-687-30267-6 (Bookstore and On Reserve)

Cushman, Philip Constructing the Self, Constructing America (Addison Wesley, 1995) $10.00 new, $7.00 used 0-201-44192-6 (Bookstore and On Reserve)

~ Doehring, Carrie. The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach (WJK, 2006) $12.66 new, $12.66 used. (On OAK and On Reserve)

~ Graham, L.K. Care of Persons, Care of Worlds (Abingdon, 1992) $13.00 new, $0.01 used. 0-687-04675-0 (Bookstore and On Reserve)

~ Holifield, E. Brooks, A History of Pastoral Care in America (Academic Renewal Press, 1983/2003) $32.00 new, $32.00 used 0-7880-9955-8 (Bookstore and On Reserve)

Hunsinger, Deborah van Deusen Theology and Pastoral Counseling: A New Interdisciplinary Approach (Eerdmans, 1995) $16.40 new, $3.00 used 0-802-80842-5 (Bookstore and On Reserve)

~ Hunter, Rodney, ed. Dictionary of Pastoral Care and Counseling (Abingdon, 2005) $36.00 used (out of print) (Bookstore and On Reserve)

> Lapsley, James. Salvation and Health: Interlocking Processes of Life (On Reserve Only and available used)

~ McClure, Barbara J. Moving Beyond Individualism in Pastoral Theology, Care and Counseling: Reflections on Theory, Theology and Practice, (Cascade, 2010) $30.00 new, $18.00 used.


~ Ramsay, Nancy, ed., *Pastoral Care and Counseling: Redefining the Paradigms* (Abingdon, 2004) $15.00 new, $12.00 used 0-687-02224-x

~ Smith, Archie, *The Relational Self: Ethics and Therapy from a Black Church Perspective* (Abingdon, 1982) $2.00 used 0-687-35945-7

Taylor, Charles *Sources of the Self* (University of Chicago Press, 1966/1987) $17.95 new, $11.85 used 0-674-82426-1


~ denotes highly recommended purchase
* denotes on Pearson Learning Studio/e-College
> denotes on Reserve only

**Grading Procedures:**

Participation in discussion/evidence of thorough reading and note-taking 50%
Seminar leadership 25%
Final paper 25%

*All prospectuses must be submitted as a Word document in electronic form to Linda Dabney at ldabney@tcu.edu.*