

PTPC 60003: The Ministry of Pastoral Care

Instructor: Barbara J. McClure, Ph.D.

Prerequisites: none

Description of Content:

This course introduces students to basic theories, theologies and methods of pastoral care, especially in the ecclesial context. This course assumes that care is mediated through acts of pastoral leadership, liturgy, preaching and the forming of congregational life and programming as well as through specific individual conversations. Special attention is paid to the *person* of the pastor as caregiver and leader of a community of faith and care. Theories and methods of care are related to real and practical problems a pastor faces in a congregation including illness and death, grief and loss, marriage and family issues, domestic violence and abuse. Skills learned will include listening, analysis of systems, and diagnosis and referral.

Class Procedures:

Class time will include lecture, discussion of assigned texts, role plays, case studies and reflection, papers, weekly reading prompts, a mid-term and a final exam. The first half of each 3-hour class will typically include a reading prompt, lecture and discussion of texts, and the second typically will include practical application through the use of case studies, role plays, and analysis and discussion of these.

Requirements:

1. *Attendance:* On-time attendance is required for this course. For every two missed classes and for every late attendance after the second, you will receive a grade reduction of five points from your final grade. Do not expect to pass the course if you miss more than three classes or are late more than four times.
2. *Computer policy:* You cannot fully participate in class and surf the web at the same time. If you choose to have your computer in class to take notes, you must send a copy of your notes at the end of each day to the Teaching Assistant *and* the professor. If you fail to do so, or if your notes do not demonstrate full participation, this will be reflected in your participation grade.
3. *Reading Prompts:* RP's will be given regularly over the course of the semester to assess your understanding of the readings. These prompts will be used by you during discussion and handed in to the Teaching Assistant(s); we will record whether your reading prompt was satisfactory plus, satisfactory or unsatisfactory (S+, S, U). At the end of the semester I will look over your

RP's and let them help me determine your class participation grade. I hope this will reward students who work hard and do the reading, but find it more difficult to speak in class, though these are not a substitute for verbal participation in class. Three unsatisfactory RP's will result in a 7 point drop in your participation grade, five or more will drop it by 12 points.

4. *Discussion participation:* Class participation is critical in this course. One cannot learn the arts of pastoral care without engagement and practice. This course is geared toward helping students gain confidence and proficiency at providing pastoral care in a parish setting. This will be done through the use of exercises and role plays in class. Participation in role plays is required but not graded. Careful preparation of readings, plus consistent, worthwhile participation in class sessions including role plays and discussions is expected. Class participation will be graded on thoughtfulness of questions and comments, evidence of preparation and knowledge base, and general willingness to participate in a community of learners. We will periodically break into learning groups, and your participation in these will be assessed by your group's Faculty Teaching Assistant.

The standard grade for average participation is a "B+" (87). Outstanding participation will raise this grade, poor participation will lower it.

6. There are three 8-10pp graded papers in the course

Texts:

Fourteen texts are required for this course, and one (*) is a strongly recommended purchase:

Anderson, H. and Foley, E. *Mighty Stories, Dangerous Rituals: Weaving Together the Human and Divine* (Jossey-Bass, 2001) \$8.14 new, \$4.31 used 78-0787956486

Gerkin, Charles. *An Introduction to Pastoral Care* (Abingdon, 1997) \$14.07 new, \$4.49 used 978-0687016747

Gunderson, Gary. *Deeply Woven Roots: Improving the Quality of Life in Your Community* (Augsburg Fortress Press, 1997) \$2.99 new, \$.01 used 978- 0800630959

Kornfeld, Margaret. *Cultivating Wholeness* (Continuum Press, 2000) \$21.80 new, \$9.79 used 978-0826412324

Kujawa-Holbrook, S. and Montagno, K. *Injustice and the Care of Souls: Taking Oppression Seriously in Pastoral Care* (Augsburg Fortress, 2009) \$20.90 new, \$18.69 used 978-0800662356

Lartey, Emmanuel. *In Living Color: An Intercultural Approach to Pastoral Care and Counseling*, 2nd edition (Jessica Kingsley, 2003) \$13.74 new, \$9.99 used 978-1843107507

McGoldrick, Monica. *The Genogram Journey: Reconnecting with your Family* (W.W. Norton, 2011) \$15.16 new, \$15.12 used 978-0393706277

Rogers, Jack. *Jesus, the Bible and Homosexuality: Explode the Myths, Heal the Church* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2006/2009 Revised) \$7.82 new, \$7.50 used 978-0664233976

Richardson, Ronald. *Creating a Healthier Church* (Augsburg Fortress Press, 1996) \$9.55 new, \$6.28 used 978-0800629557

Savage, John. *Listening and Caring Skills* (Abingdon, 1996) \$8.00 new, \$6.45 used 978-0687017164

Spickard, A. and Thompson, B. *Dying for a Drink: What you and Your Family Should Know About Alcoholism* (T. Nelson, 2005) \$4.53 new, \$.01 used 978-0849908477

Wilson, K.J. *When Violence Begins at Home* 2nd edition (Hunter House, 2005) \$21.72 new, \$13.24 used 978-0897934558

Wimberly, Edward. *Counseling African American Marriages and Families* (Westminster John Knox Press, 1997) \$13.80 new, \$9.29 used 978-0664256562

And one more, yet to be determined.

*Hunter, Rodney, ed. *Dictionary of Pastoral Care and Counseling* (Abingdon, 1990) \$36.95 used 978-0687107612 (I strongly recommend this be in your personal library, especially if you are planning to work in parish or congregational ministries)

Grading Procedures:

Grading assessments are made according to the official definition of letter grades in the Divinity School. Letter grades are defined numerically according to the following formula: A = 94-100 (90-93 = A-, etc.), B = 84-86 (87-89 = B+, 80-83 B-, etc.) The lowest passing grade for the course = 60. Work not submitted will receive a "0". By BDS policy, incomplete grades are given only for genuine, unforeseeable emergencies such as accident or illness. They require application through the Registrar's office.

Course grades will be determined as follows:

Receiving Care paper	15%
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Family of Origin paper/Genogram	25%
Act of Giving Care paper	20%
Class Participation (incl. RP's)	15% or 30%
Final Exam	0% or 15%