

DOMI 80063: Methods and Models for Research and Project Development
3 credit hours
October 14-18, 2019

Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey Williams (jeff.williams@tcu.edu)

Prerequisites: Entrance into the DMin program; completion of at least 1/3 of course work

Description of Content:

This course is one of three courses required in the Doctor of Ministry program. In this course, students will explore various methods and models for doing research and writing about theological reflection on ministry. This course provides the opportunity to develop a plan for formulating and completing the ministry project. Since the intent of the course is to assist with the development of a research proposal for the Doctor of Ministry project, the course is most helpful to participants after they have taken at least 1/3 of their course work.

Course Objectives

- 1) To engage in critical reflection about an area of ministry or a situation which raises questions for you and/or one that you would like to enhance in your own practice of ministry;
- 2) To build upon other course work, experiences, and readings that will engage the question and/or situation you have identified;
- 3) To identify a research method and design that will help you address the question or situation;
- 4) To begin to construct a project proposal to send to the Doctor of Ministry Committee;
- 5) To engage in significant peer consultation around issues of integration, theory/theology/practice

Class Procedures:

The course will include work done online prior to the beginning of the class, responding to reflections from other members of the class. There will be a few lectures during the week, but the largest amount of time will be spent reflecting on one another's projects.

Requirements:

Pre-work via Class Shell (online)

- A. Reading and reflecting on *Invitation to Research in Practical Theology* (Initial Posting due by September 20; Responses to postings by October 1)
- B. Beginning to identify your interests and frame your research question (Initial posting by October 1)

During the week

- C. Daily class readings and several 1-2 page reflections during the week

Final Draft of proposed project

D. A final draft of the proposed project due (5:00 PM Dec 13)

⇒⇒⇒ Texts:

Required of all

- Bennet, Zoe, et al. 2018. *Invitation to Research in Practical Theology*. New York: Routledge. ISBN978-1-138-47856-5; \$39.95
- Sensing, Tim. 2011. *Qualitative Research: A Multi-Methods Approach to Projects for Doctor of Ministry Theses*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock. ISBN: 978-1-61097-276-5; \$30
- Turabian, Kate L. 2018. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 9th Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN-13: 978-0-226-43057-7; \$18

Other texts you might find helpful

- Ammerman, Nancy T., Jackson W. Carroll, Carl S. Dudley, and William McKinney, . 1998. *Studying Congregations: A New Handbook*. Nashville: Abingdon Press.
- Ammerman, Nancy Tatom. 2014. *Sacred Stories, Spiritual Tribes: Finding Religion in Everyday Life*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. 2008. *The Craft of Research*. 4th Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Cooperrider, David L., Diana Whitney, and Jacqueline M. Stavros. 2008. *Appreciative Inquiry Handbook: For Leaders of Change*. 2nd Edition. Brunswick, OH: Crown Custom Publishing.
- Creswell, John W. 2007. *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches*. 2nd Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Graham, Elaine L. *Transforming Practice: Pastoral Theology in an Age of Uncertainty*. London: Mowbray, 1996.
- Miller-McLemore, Bonnie J., ed. 2012. *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Practical Theology*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.
- Moschella, Mary Clark. 2008. *Ethnography as a Pastoral Practice: An Introduction*. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press.
- Strunk, William and E.B. White. 1999. *The Elements of Style*. 4th Edition. New York: Pearson.

Grading Procedures:

Pre-class Work: 25%

In-Class Participation: 25%

Final Project: 50%