

PTPC 60003
Pastoral Care in a Complex World (Introduction to Pastoral Care)
(3 semester hours)

Instructor: David Cho

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Term: Spring 2022

Time: Thursdays 8:15-10:45 AM

Prerequisites: None

Format: Online

Description of Content:

Pastoral care is the art of ministry as it relates to the theological, psychological, and sociocultural needs of individuals and communities of faith. This introductory course introduces various theories, methods, and practices of pastoral care and cognate disciplines for students to interpret and examine individuals and their communities as they are shaped by their own communal and sociocultural contexts. In addition, students will have an opportunity to explore some of the personal, interpersonal, and communal issues that pastoral caregivers encounter as they engage in the work of pastoral care within congregations, hospitals, schools, and faith-based agencies.

This course also aims to provide a nurturing environment for students to gain skills in self-reflection and personal formation. As students engage theories and practices of pastoral care, they will answer the question “Who am I as a caregiver?” by participating in critical and creative self-reflection exercises in writing assignments.

Class Procedures:

A seminar-style course largely driven by student-led discussion, occasional lectures by the instructor, in-class writing exercises, role-playing, films, congregational research, and student presentation.

Requirements:

1. Attendance and Informed Participation
2. In-Class Writing Exercise
3. Reading Response and Discussion Leadership
4. Pastoral Theological Reflection Paper (5-8 pages)
5. Integrative Paper (8-10 pages)
6. Final Project: Pastoral Ethnography for Congregational Care (12-15 pages)

Required Texts:

- Doehring, Carrie. *The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2006.
- Moschella, Mary. *Ethnography as a Pastoral Practice*. Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press, 2008.
- Scheib, Karen. *Pastoral Care: Telling the Stories of Our Lives*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2016.

Recommended Texts:

- Anderson, Herbert and Foley, Edward. *Mighty Stories, Dangerous Rituals: Weaving Together the Human and the Divine*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2019.
- Kujawa-Holbrook, Sheryl and Karen B. Montagno, eds. *Injustice and the Care of Souls: Taking Oppression Seriously in Pastoral Care*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009.
- Lartey, Emmanuel. *In Living Color: An Intercultural Approach to Pastoral Care and Counseling*. London, UK: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2003.
- Lester, Andy. *Hope in Pastoral Care and Counseling*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995.

Various journal articles and book chapters made available online.

Grading Procedures:

Building a Learning Community	5% of final grade
Participation	15% of final grade
Pastoral Theological Reflection Paper	20% of final grade
Integrative Paper	20% of final grade
Pastoral Ethnography for Congregational Care	40% of final grade