School of Theology and Ministry
Seattle University
Ministerial and Theological Integration
STMM 557-04

Course Syllabus

Course Information and Schedule

Fall Quarter
3 Credits
Dates: Thursdays, September 22 – December 1, 2011
No Class on November 24, 2011
Class Location: Hunthausen Hall, Room 160
Time: 5:45 pm – 8:45 pm

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Appointments: Contact directly via email, phone or voicemail. Please leave home and/or work numbers.

Basic Class Information, Course Requirements and Texts:

Manual for Ministerial and Theological Integration, Student Course Materials (Reference: Chapter 3) contains the course description, goals/focus for Fall Quarter, course description and requirements, texts – both required and recommended and grade distribution.

The Approach

As you begin your ministerial internship this quarter, you will actively explore your call to ministry by actually doing the ministry of the church – service to the people of God. Your internship will be the context of your primary work as a person doing professional ministry.

As a pastoral minister, you no longer act simply as an individual. You are a public figure, a representative of the church or organization where you are interning. You become the visible expression of the organization's mission, vision, values, customs and beliefs.

The class will afford you the opportunity to do the tough and careful work of reflecting on your contextual experience by using the tools of Theological Reflection. Ministerial and Theological Integration is a way for you to explore: professional/personal development and identity, vocation, theological insight and assumptions, ecclesiology, culture, receive peer feedback, and take action.

MTI is a fundamental link between the academy and practical ministry. As such, MTI is key to engaging the formation process. The formation statement found in the *Formation / Field Education Student Manual* Chapter 2, and contains a succinct description of the approach used in this course.

Some Few Details:

- Unless otherwise discussed, you will need to bring enough copies of your work for each member of the class including the faculty. The Integration / Learnings Paper (1 page unless otherwise discussed) will be due one week after you have presented in class. The Integration / Learnings Paper should be accompanied by the papers critiqued by peers.

- Permission to keep a classmate's paper must be given by the author.

- Class presentations are the occasion to invite your colleagues to participate in your learning. You need to set the tone, identifying what you want from your peers. Be specific and concrete, manage your time, and name the central issue or question you are addressing. Do not read a paper to the class, in many cases your peers have already read your paper.

- The class will create norms or principles of our common life.

It is not how far you swim; it is how you swim far.

Things That Work Best:

- This class is built on the profound assumption that **you are a person of worth and value,** you do not need to prove yourself to the faculty, one another or even to God.

- **Participation in class** includes peer evaluation, attentiveness to the needs of the self as well as others, identification of your own learnings, prayer, faith sharing and written and oral presentations. Integrity is at the heart of ministry.

- **Questions** are almost always more important than answers. Make very visible in your MTI work the questions you are raising of yourself, your work, and your theological understandings. This also includes questions about your internship, issues of justice, culture, and political events that influence your pastoral ministry.

- A due sense of accountability for your **ministerial placement**, committing to growth and development toward required competencies. Here is a chance to experience yourself as accountable to God and self in a sustained fashion.

- A **journal** is a helpful tool for recording your experiences, readings, peer evaluations and interactions which make up your daily journey. While journaling, you will want to be attentive to the social, cultural and political elements of the culture (newspaper/ TV/ books), the faith tradition and your own insights, thoughts, and feelings. You will not be asked to share your journal writings unless you so choose.

- In oral presentations and written work it is most critical to name, tag, briefly describe or give evidence of personal/professional learnings gained from theological reflection and peer evaluations.

- All written work is expected to meet the STM writing guidelines.

The questions we ask shape our destiny. Rev. Martin Luther King

Grades:

Course Requirements for a "B" grade – detailed description found in Chapter 3
Class participation and regular attendance
Completion of written work

Feedback/Evaluation
Evidence of assigned reading – Quarter focus – Chapter 2
To receive an "A" grade: …"an outstanding achievement in these areas."

Papers:

Unless otherwise noted papers are to be distributed electronically to peers and faculty 3 days prior to presentation, i.e. Monday by 6 p.m.

Overview of Fall Assignments: **Focus pp. 29-31 and Personal and Professional goals pp. 138-142**

1. Internship Job Description – can be revised at the beginning of each quarter.
2. Personal and Professional Goals – presented or revised (Chap. 9 – pp 138-142)
3. Papers – 3 primary papers
    a. **2 – Critical Incident Chap. 7 [pp 75-76]** – (2 pages) and **Integration/Learning paper [p. 86]** - (1 page)
        your experience in ministry as it relates to your internship and your vocation
        your experience of professionalism and growth as a pastoral person

    b. **1 – Verbatim – Chap. 7 [pp 78-81] –** (4-6 pages) – and **Integration/Learning paper [p. 86]** – (1 page)
        a significant event, which is focused on your internship
    c. Theological Reflection – Chap. 5 & 6, pp. 57 & 63
4. Reading
   Required Reading: as described on pages 17 and 32 of the Student Manual.
5. Leadership
    a. Prayer, Time Keeper, Refreshments
    b. Last class session – Closing Ritual
    c. Book Conversation – read and select 1 for presentation
        i. Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry; Ch. 1, 2, and 4*
        ii. Grahham, Walton and Ward, *Theological Reflection: Methods [selected chapters]*
        iii. Robinson, *Gilead*
        iv. Parker, *Let Your Life Speak*

6. Comments and feedback (providing affirmations and challenges for growth) on all peer papers. Comments to be written on your copy of the presenter paper and returned to presenters.

7. Feedback – all due the last day of class
    a. Self Reflection paper to include: [A full description will be distributed in week 8}
        i. Key learnings
        ii. At this point in the class, what does Theological Reflection mean to you
        iii. Goals – personal and professional
        iv. Competencies assessed [S*tudent Manual pp. 30-31]*
    b. Peer feedback
    c. On-site Supervisor feedback from – see manual [p. 95]
    d. ½ page feedback on instructor\
    e. ½ page feedback on internship site
    f. STM course evaluation – distributed last 15 minutes of last session of class.

8. Meet with Faculty either October 20th, Oct. 27th or Nov. 3rd for a conversation which focuses on :
    a. Identifying core learnings – name affirmations and challenges for yourself.
    b. Name learnings from the course
    c. What you do not understand
    d. Demonstrate elementary understanding of Theological Reflection

   Student is responsible for scheduling this meeting.

Course Outline and Assignments

Session 1: Thursday, September 22, 2011

Class Agenda:
Prayer:_____ Time Keeper:_____ Snacks:_____

Prayer and Welcome
Getting Acquainted
Questions about the Class
Faculty Approach to Class
Role of On-site Supervisor
Identifying group guidelines and principles of our common work (group covenant)
Review Syllabus
Journal writing as a tool for reflection
Review Calendar
Sign up for assignments – prayer, timekeeper, snacks
The Manual – review contents
Next week's assignment – Goals, check out internship site
Exchange of Information Form distributed – return Week 2
Prayer – Closure

Notes:
1. Give each other address/e-mail/phone as you choose.
2. Arrange any changes in the assignments with each other and notify everyone in the class and faculty of those changes.
3. Times for presentations / didactics / conversations / book reviews, etc. are approximations and may be changed.

Session 2: Thursday, September 29, 2011

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper:_____ Snack:_____

Prayer

Issues or Questions – Group principles / Covenant

Questions from *Manual* reading

Didactic / Conversation: About Feedback: What happens when giving and receiving?

Internship – Presentation – What? Who? Why? Where? (10 min. each)

Goals – personal and professional (15 min. each)

1._____ 2._____

3._____ 4. _____

5._____ 6._____

Presentations: Required reading and written work

Didactic / Discussion: What is Theological Reflection – Where are we going?

Debrief / Closure

Session 3: Thursday, October 6, 2011

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure:_____ Time Keeper:_____ Snack_____

Prayer

Discuss Assignment: Critical Incident – pp. 75 & 76 *Manual*

Questions from *Manual* reading

Goals – Personal and Professional [15 minutes each, if needed]

Book Review and Presentation:

Grahham, Walton & Ward, *Theological Reflection: Methods* [Introduction – 20 minutes]

1._____

Grahham, Walton & Ward, *Theological Reflection: Methods* [Chapter 1 – 20 minutes]

2._____

Didactic / Discussion: What is Theological Reflection? Where are we going?

Debrief / Closure

Session 4: Thursday, October 13, 2011

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper_____ Snack_____

Questions and/or Issues

Book Review and Presentation / Conversation:

Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* [Chapters 1 & 2 – 20 minutes]

3._____

Critical Incident #1 [20 minutes each]

1._____ 2._____ 3._____

Didactic / Discussion: What is Theological Reflection?

Debrief / Closure

Session 5: Thursday, October 20, 2011

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper_____ Snack_____

Questions and/or Issues

Discussion: The Verbatim as a way to get to Theological Reflection.

Critical Incident #1 Presentations [20 minutes each]

4._____ 5._____ 6._____

Presentation: Richardson, *Family Ties* [pages 51-69] Conversation on "Triangles"

Debrief / Closure

Session 6: Thursday, October 27, 2011

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper_____ Snack_____

Questions and/or Issues

Conversation: How are we doing?

Critical Incident #2 Presentation [20 minutes each]

1._____ 2._____ 3._____

Book Review and Presentation/Conversation

Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* [Chapter 4 – 20 minutes]

4._____

Debrief / Closure

Session 7: Thursday, November 3, 2011

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper_____ Snack_____

Questions and/or Issues

Critical Incident #2 Presentations [20 minutes each]

4._____ 5._____ 6._____

Introduction of Verbatims: pp. 78-80 *Manual*

Book Review and Presentation:

Robinson, *Gilead* – What stands out in the first half of the book??????

5._____

Session 8: Thursday, November 10, 2011 (Veteran's Day)

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper_____ Snack_____

Questions and/or Issues

Discussion: Feedback Forms

Verbatim Presentations [20 minutes each]

1._____ 2._____ 3._____

Book Review and Presentation:

Robinson, *Gilead* – What stands out in the 2nd half of the book?????

6._____

Debrief / Closure

Session 9: Thursday, November 17, 2011

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper_____ Snack_____

Questions and/or Issues

Verbatim Presentations [20 minutes each]

4._____ 5._____ 6._____

Book Review and Presentation:

Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak* – Using the book, share your own evolving sense of vocation.

Prepare for Ritual/Closure

Walk through end of Quarter assignments

Tie up loose ends

Debrief / Closure

Thanksgiving Break: Thursday, November 24, 2011

Session 10: Thursday, December 1, 2011

<u>Class Agenda:</u>

Prayer/Check-in/Closure_____ Time Keeper_____ Snack_____

Peer Feedback Ritual and Closure

- Use handout as guide
- Include Reflection on Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak*
- Prepare ritual with break/snack

Feedback Discussion

Next Quarter

Closure

To show great love for God and our neighbor
we need not do great things.
It is how much love we put in the doing
that makes our offering something beautiful for God.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Syllabus Assignments
Fall Quarter 2011

1. **Job Description**

2. **Goals (Chap. 9 – pp. 138-144)**

3. **Readings (pg. 32)**

4. **2 Critical Incidents (2 pages) with Integration/Learning Paper a week later (1 page) – Chap. 7**

5. **Verbatim with Integration (6-8 pages) and Learning Paper a week later (1 page) – Chap. 7**

6. **Integration / Learning Papers (1 page) – Chap. 7, pg. 86**

7. **Leadership**

8. **Self Reflection (2 to 3 pages)**
   a. **Key Learnings**
   b. **What is Theological Reflection (Chap. 6)**
   c. **Goals – progress on personal and professional goals, pp. 138-144**
   d. **Competencies (pp. 30-31 of Student Manual)**
   e. **Fall Quarter Competencies Rubric, pp. 132-133**

9. **Feedback**
   a. **Peers**
   b. **On-site Supervisor Form**
   c. **STM course evaluation**
   d. **Comments on Papers**

10. **Rubrics for Critical Incident and Verbatims, pp. 128-130**

11. **Rubrics for Theological Reflection, pg. 131**