

Draft

34-602/603 Practicum / Supervision in Spiritual Direction/Companionship

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Course Description

Supervision in spiritual guidance of individuals and groups, extending at least one academic year; requiring regular engagement in one's own spiritual direction, offering individual and/or group spiritual direction to others; peer supervision, personal written reflections.

Learning objectives:

Experience in planning and leading based upon a well-defined ecclesiology

Experience in planning and leading based upon a well-defined theology of vocation

Experience in developing the resources for a ministry shaped by the values of spiritual direction

Experience in organizing, refining, executing and evaluating that ministry

Experience in leading people in group spiritual direction as an aid to ministry formation

Experience in evaluating and refining a strategic plan based upon the values identified above

Texts

Bradshaw, Paul F. *Rites of Ordination: Their History and Theology*. Yonkers: Pueblo Books, 2013. ISBN-10: 0814662676, ISBN-13: 978-0814662670 (\$23.99)

Dulles, Avery. *Models of the Church*. New York: Image Classics, 1991. ISBN-13: 978-0385133685, ISBN-10: 0385133685 (\$12.24)

Mancini, Will. *Church Unique: How Missional Leaders Cast Vision, Capture Culture, and Create Movement*. San Francisco: Josey-Bass, 2008. ISBN-13: 978-0787996833, ISBN10: 0787996831 (\$14.54)

Porter, Michael E. *HBR's Must Reads on Strategy*. Boston: Harvard Business Review Press, 2011. ISBN-10: 1422157989, ISBN-13: 978-1422157985 (\$14.15)

Webb, Heather Parkinson. *Small Group Leadership as Spiritual Direction*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005. ISBN-10: 0310259525, ISBN-13: 978-0310259527 (\$16.99)



Course calendar and steps in the process



Read, Reflect, and Prepare

Meet: TBA

Read: Dulles, *Models of the Church* and Bradshaw, *Rites of Ordination*

Write: In a fifteen to twenty page essay, identify your ecclesiology, and provide a clearly articulated definition of it. Then identify and clearly define your vocation as a clergyperson within that ecclesiology. Explain and defend those choices and evaluate the ways in which your church and you succeed and fail in fulfilling that ecclesiology in practice.

Present: A thirty minute presentation, outlining the findings of your work to be presented in class using resources of your choice. Please be prepared to respond to questions and interact with your peers.



Read, Reflect, and Prepare

Meet: TBA

Read: Mancini, *Church Unique*; Porter, *HBR's Must Reads on Strategy*; and Heather Parkinson Webb, *Small Group Leadership as Spiritual Direction*

Write: In a fifteen to twenty page essay, critique the approach to leadership that

you and the lay leaders of your church rely upon in crafting the future of your congregation. In dialogue with the reading, identify the ways in which attention to strategic thinking and spiritual direction could change and enhance the work that you do. Be as specific as possible, giving close attention to your role in that effort.

Present: A thirty minute presentation, outlining the findings of your work to be presented in class using resources of your choice. Please be prepared to respond to questions and interact with your peers.



Plan and Execute

Meet: TBA

Read: Prepare a annotated bibliography of ten to fifteen sources you plan to utilize in executing your project. These sources should include: resources for the specific kind of direction and formation work that you plan to do; articles and books that address theological and theoretical assumptions that will shape your project; and reading that speaks to the lived challenges that such work involves.

Write: Drawing on the bibliography that you have assembled, develop a strategic plan for ministry in spiritual direction, outlining rationale, goals, implementation, and a plan for evaluation.

Present: A thirty minute presentation, outlining the findings of your work to be presented in class using resources of your choice. Please be prepared to respond to questions and interact with your peers.



Evaluate and plan for the future

Meet: TBA

Write: Using the method that you outlined in your proposal, evaluate your ministry, outline what you have learned, and examine possibilities going forward. Continue using the bibliography that you compiled and the other reading we have done over the course of the year. Length: 12 to 15 pages.

Present: A thirty minute presentation, outlining the findings of your work to be presented in class using resources of your choice. Please be prepared to

respond to questions and interact with your peers.



Grading

Each of the four sessions are evaluated as a whole and represent one quarter or 25% of the grade for the class. The due date for each assignment is the first day of each intensive class. Apart from emergencies involving illness or a death in the family, there is no provision for extensions. Attendance is mandatory.