

Introduction to Pastoral Care

Course Code: PCC 500 **Semester:** Spring 2020

Date and Time: Tuesday, 2:30-5:30 PM

3 Hours for 13 Weeks

Room: TBD

Instructor: Reverend Trina A. Armstrong, PhD., LMFT

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Office Hours: By Appointment **Office Location:** Pfeiffer 324

Course Description

This course introduces students to the theories, models, and approaches in the practice of pastoral care in a variety of settings. Building on the content in *Person in Community*, a core feature of the course is providing students with a nurturing environment for cultivating a pastoral identity that informs compassionate and empathic pastoral theological responses to suffering and evil. Special consideration will be given to the importance of ethics, boundaries, the importance of wholeness networks, and helping students become aware of how their family-of-origin, social location (race, gender, sexuality, and class) and spiritual and religious histories inform values and beliefs about suffering, hope and healing. The course content is encapsulated within pastoral care experiential learning groups where students will learn and practice beginning pastoral care and counseling skills within an extensive scope of human concerns faced by individuals, families, and communities in the context of ministry.

Pre-Requisite: Person in Community (Or Instructor Permission)

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who complete this course will:

- Understand the biblical and theological basis for pastoral care
- Consider how social location (race, gender, class, sexuality), informs the practice of care
- Understand basic ethical principles applicable to the practice of pastoral care
- Recognize the impact of values, beliefs, and family and social systems on pastoral care
- Demonstrate beginning listening and pastoral care and counseling and assessment skills
- Apply basic pastoral care approaches to a range of common human concerns
- Create a personal philosophy of pastoral care suitable for a specific ministerial context
- Formulate clear and specific goals for nurturing their pastoral formation and creating a wholeness network

Required Textbooks

- Doehring, Carrie. *The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach*. **Revised expanded edition**. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-0664238407 \$28.29
- Dykstra, Robert C. *Images of Pastoral Care: Classic Readings*. St Louis Mo: Chalice Press, 2005. ISBN: 978-0827216242 \$26.00
- Kornfeld, Margaret Zipse. *Cultivating Wholeness: A Guide to Care and Counseling in Faith Communities*. New York: Continuum, 1998. ISBN: 978-0826412324 \$10.00
- Lartey, Emmanuel. *In Living Color: An Intercultural Approach to Pastoral Care and Counseling*. **2nd ed.** London; Philadelphia: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2003. ISBN: 978-1843107507 \$25.
- Mitchell, Kenneth R. and Herbert Anderson. *All Our Losses, All Our Grievs: Resources for Pastoral Care*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1983. ISBN: 978-0664244934 \$19.09
- Nesbit Sbanotto, Elisabeth A. *Skills for Effective Counseling: A Faith-Based Integration*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-0830828609 \$30.00
- Nichols, Michael P. *The Lost Art of Listening: How Learning to Listen Can Improve Relationships*. **2nd ed.** New York; London: Guilford Press, 2009. ISBN-10: 9781593859862
- Rogers-Vaughn, Bruce. *Caring for Souls in a Neoliberal Age*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016. ISBN: 978-1349716333 \$29.99
- Swinton, John. *Raging with Compassion: Pastoral Responses to the Problem of Evil*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Pub., 2007. ISBN: 978-0802829979 \$16.38

Articles and Books Chapters Available on Moodle

- Abraham, Reggie. "Mental Illness and the Ministry of the Local Church." *Pastoral Psychology* 63, no. 5 (2014/12/01 2014): 525-35.
- Greider, Kathleen J. "Care that Helps", *Much Madness Is Divinest Sense: Wisdom in Memoirs of Soul-Suffering*. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2007.
- Jung, Patricia Beattie, and Darryl W. Stephens. *Professional Sexual Ethics: A Holistic Ministry Approach*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2013.
- Kujawa-Holbrook, Sheryl A., and Karen Brown Montagno. *Injustice and the Care of Souls: Taking Oppression Seriously in Pastoral Care*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009.