

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

TITLE: Introduction to Caring Ministry

TERM: Fall 2018-2019

PROFESSOR: Leanna Fuller

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: _____
AUDITORS: _____

UNLIMITED X
NO AUDITORS X

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will be introduced to the theology and practice of caring ministry, with special attention to pastoral self-awareness and key relational skills. The course will help students develop their capacity to understand and discern the needs of persons and communities and to determine appropriate responses. Students will also explore the intersection of leadership and care through the study of organizational dynamics and group processes.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

This course will enable students to

- (1) develop an understanding of pastoral theology and pastoral care, and their relationship to one another;
- (2) explore and reflect on their Christian identity as caregivers;
- (3) learn basic principles, theologies, and theories that ground pastoral care and use them to guide and critique their own ministry; and
- (4) begin developing a practical expertise in the art of pastoral care through skill-building and reflection.

PREREQUISITES: None.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

Deborah van Deusen Hunsinger, *Pray without Ceasing: Revitalizing Pastoral Care* (William B. Eerdmans, 2006); ISBN: 978-0802847591; \$19.99

Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook and Karen B. Montagno, Editors, *Injustice and the Care of Souls: Taking Oppression Seriously in Pastoral Care* (Fortress Press, 2009); ISBN: 978-0800662356; \$26.96

Emmanuel Lartey, *In Living Color: An Intercultural Approach to Pastoral Care and Counseling* (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2003); ISBN: 978-1843107507; \$22.64

Ronald W. Richardson, *Creating a Healthier Church: Family Systems Theory, Leadership, and Congregational Life* (Fortress Press, 1996); ISBN: 978-0800629557; \$16.47

John Savage, *Listening and Caring Skills: A Guide for Groups and Leaders* (Abingdon Press, 1996); ISBN: 978-0687017164; \$15.73

Other articles as assigned by the instructor.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

Written assignments will include short reflection papers, case study responses, and a final integrative paper. Grading will be based on attendance, participation, and performance on written assignments.

ATTENDANCE: Required.