TITLE: Justice and Pastoral Care (EVENING)  TERM: Fall 2020-2021

PROFESSOR: Leanna Fuller  CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: 12  UNLIMITED 
# AUDITORS: 2 (permission of instructor required)  NO AUDITORS

NOTE: This course is an approved elective for the Graduate Certificate in Urban Ministry.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course explores the communal, intercultural, and systemic contexts of caring practices and the links between justice-making and pastoral care. In this course students will consider the ways in which communal dynamics such as injustice, exclusion, and conflict may shape individual experiences of suffering, both in congregations and in the communities of which they are a part.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:
By the end of this course students will be able to:
• Articulate an understanding of pastoral care as a form of ministry that is situated within complex organizational and cultural systems;
• Narrate how this understanding challenges, supplements, or transforms students’ ideas about the nature of pastoral care;
• Integrate insights from the course material with reflections on students’ own pastoral care experiences in ministry, with particular attention to the various contexts in which such experiences are taking place; and
• Describe their own emerging understanding of the proper relationship between practices of justice-making and practices of pastoral care.

PREREQUISITES: PC210 strongly recommended, but not required (preference given to seniors & middlers)

READING ASSIGNMENTS/BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Howard Thurman, Jesus and the Disinherited (Beacon Press, 1996), ISBN: 978-0807010297, $11.99; OR Backs Against the Wall: The Howard Thurman Story (film by Martin Doblmeier – available at no cost at pbs.org)
- Other articles as assigned by instructor

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING
Grading will be based on attendance, participation, and written assignments. Written assignments will include (but are not limited to) reflection papers, blog posts, a public theology assignment and a final integrative assignment.

ATTENDANCE: Required.