

Associated Canadian Theological Schools**THS 630 Theology of Pastoral Care**

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Fall 2010

Wednesdays

Credit Hours: 3

2:30 PM – 5:10 PM

Course Description:

Pastoral Care involves shaping human values, cultivating authentic community and alleviating human suffering. Pastoral theologian C.W. Brister suggests that such work requires “theological wisdom, moral clarity and personal courage”. The search for such wisdom, clarity and courage will guide the aims of this course. The core theological themes of hope and compassion as a foundation for a theology of pastoral care will be examined. Contemporary issues of pastoral care and participation in suffering will be explored carefully in an effort to understand the complexity and roots of human anguish. Guiding this course will be the premise that theological insight ought to stimulate an authentic compassionate response as participation in ‘*missio Dei*: (mission of God). Participants in this course will be invited to explore their own framework for moral vision, to articulate their theology of pastoral care and to prepare themselves to participate in the suffering of others as agents of hope in a broken world.

Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course are four-fold and will affect participants cognitive, clinical, spiritual and personal being. Objectives are stated in terms of learning outcomes. Therefore, upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Articulate a personal theology of pastoral care.
2. Display an understanding of the contours of personal and communal pastoral care.
3. Comprehend the components of pastoral theology for use in an intercultural world.
4. Appreciate and understand the possible paradigms of pastoral participation in the suffering of others.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the theological themes of hope and compassion.
6. Express theological insights for authentic moral vision leading to participation in the ‘*missio dei*’

Required Texts & Readings:

Capps, Donald. *Agents of Hope: A Pastoral Psychology* (1995) Minneapolis; Fortress Press.

Lartey, Emmanuel, Y. *Pastoral Theology in an Intercultural World* (2006) Cleveland, Ohio; The Pilgrim Press.

Nouwen, Henri J.M.; McNeill, Donald, P.; Morrison Douglas, A. *Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life*. (1983) New York; Doubleday

Sapp, Gary, L. *Compassionate Ministry* (1993) Birmingham, Alabama; Religious Education Press

Course Requirements: Class discussion and group participation will be used to increase understanding of pastoral application.

Pre-Course

READ →

Nouwen, McNeill, Morrison (1983) *Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life*

Sapp (1993) *Compassionate Ministry*

Capps (2001) *Agents of Hope: A Pastoral Psychology*

WRITE → ONE REVIEW using all three of the above texts. The review should be 8 to 10 pages in length. Pay attention to the themes of hope and compassion as they emerge and note questions that arise for you as you read the material. It is not necessary to give a detailed summary of the books. Your writing should be a summary of how the book affected your framework for the theology of pastoral care. Do the texts help build or further your personal understanding and theology of pastoral care? Why or Why not? What are the questions the texts raise for you? What are the points of engagement? How do you think these texts will inform your future or current ministry?

Due: September 15, 2010

Course Assignments

READ & RESPOND → Lartey, E.Y. (2006) *Pastoral Theology in an Intercultural World*

On the scheduled dates come to class prepared to enter in to discussion on the assigned chapter. Additionally, prepared written answers to the assigned questions for further reflection at the end of each chapter will be required for submission. (Dates and specific questions will be assigned in class)

PRESENTATION → Prepare a ten-minute presentation that demonstrates symbolically or metaphorically a concept of pastoral care, pastoral theology, or the human emotion and need that you as a pastoral care giver will come alongside of. Be prepared to include the following in your presentation:

1. Experiential – draws us into the dimension of pastoral care you are exploring
2. Creativity – Be expansive and inclusive
3. Metaphorical – “make a memory”
4. Selective Language – choose your words carefully to reflect your framework and understanding of pastoral care and to engage others and draw them in to your concept. Keep it simple so others may grasp the message.

Provide a written summary of your presentation to the instructor on the day of your presentation. Dates will be assigned in the first class together.

Final Assignment:

WRITE → Philosophy of Pastoral Care Paper

Write a personal philosophy of pastoral care paper. 12 page minimum.

In this paper you are to interact with all course material and your current or future ministry situation.

Focus on a particular area or circumstance where pastoral care is required. Briefly write the scenario and state the perceived need. Research current relevant materials, resources and class notes and identify the modes of pastoral care and the intervention called for.

Outline your philosophy of pastoral care in response to the concerns raised.

Your paper on philosophy of pastoral care should include the following elements:

- A biblical/theological framework for pastoral care
- Core theological themes for ministry to the suffering
- Images of pastoral concern
- Theoretical basis for intervention in crisis.

DUE: Monday, December 13, 2010 (last class December 8, 2010)

Summary of Grading:

Pre-Course → Reading and Review = 15%

During Course → Reading & Responses x 5 = 25%
→ Presentation = 20%

Final Assignment → Philosophy Paper = 35%

Class Participation = 5%

-----Total 100%

Supplement: Important Academic Notes from ACTS

Web Support – Student Portal <https://students.twu.ca>

All students at TWU have a TWUPass username and password. This is determined at the time of an online application or can be managed through the computing services help desk or the link on the student portal. Your student email account is also available through this student portal and is vital for communication about grades, account statements, lost passwords, sign-up instructions, etc. If you do not know your account or password, there is a link at the login area called “I forgot my password.” When you click on that link, you will be walked through the process of retrieving your account information.

Campus Closure

In the event of deteriorating weather conditions overnight or other emergency situations, every effort will be made to communicate information regarding the cancellation of classes to the radio stations CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (1130 AM), MAX (850 AM), PRAISE (106.5 FM) and KARI (550 AM) by 6:30 a.m., and an announcement will be placed on the University's switchboard as well as on the website <http://www.twu.ca/conditions/>. The first announcement regarding a closure will cover the period up to 1:00 p.m. only. If classes are to be cancelled beyond 1:00 p.m., this decision will be announced by the same means before 11:00 a.m. that day. Students and faculty should assume that all night classes will continue to operate. If the emergency continues into the evening, students and faculty may check for a closure notice on the University's switchboard and website after 3:00 p.m. that day.

Paper Formatting

Students need to adhere to Turabian Notes (Bibliography) format except for in counselling courses, for which APA format is used and for CanIL courses.

Students are strongly encouraged to use RefWorks (available through the library home page www.twu.ca/library) as their bibliographical manager and as a tool for formatting bibliographies. They will need to be aware of the need to “clean up” most bibliographies generated by this program. Students are encouraged to view the documents on the following

websites for format samples:

http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html or www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/. Note that in RefWorks the available formatting styles are those of Turabian (Notes), 7th edition, and APA – American Psychological Association, 5th edition. For Turabian, note that there are two formats – Notes (or Bibliography Style) and Reference List (a short format citation style). ACTS uses the Notes (Bibliography) format, not Reference List.

Counselling students are expected to purchase the APA Publications Manual. More information found at the following website. <http://www.apastyle.org/pubmanual.html>.

For free online programs that will enable you to create properly formatted bibliography citations, go to <http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/> ("Chicago stands for "Turabian") or <http://www.sourceaid.com/citationbuilder/>

CANIL students can locate this on the CANIL intranet, under the “student” side. A hard copy is given to incoming students in the fall.

Please check with your professor to see which one he/she recommends you use!!

Research Ethics

Please note that all research projects involving human participants undertaken by members of the TWU university community (including projects done by ACTS students to satisfy course or degree requirements) **MUST** be approved by the Trinity Western University Research Ethics Board. Information and forms may be found at <http://www.twu.ca/academics/research/ethics/> Those needing additional clarification may contact Dr. Bruce Guenther. Please allow at least three (3) weeks from the date of submission for a review of the application.

Academic Integrity and Avoiding Plagiarism at TWU

As Christian scholars pursuing higher education, academic integrity is a core value of the entire TWU community. Students are invited into this scholarly culture and required to abide by the principles of sound academic scholarship at TWU. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding all forms of plagiarism and cheating in scholarly work. TWU has a strict policy on plagiarism (see academic calendar 2008-09, pp. 37-38). Further details on this subject are contained in the ACTS Student Handbook in section 4.12. The handbook is available online on the ACTS webpage (www.acts.twu.ca) at the following link: www.acts.twu.ca/Handbook.html.

Learning what constitutes plagiarism and avoiding it is the student's responsibility. An excellent resource describing plagiarism and how to avoid it has been prepared by TWU Librarian William Badke and is freely available for download (PPT file) or used as flash (self running) tutorials of varying lengths from:

<http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/plagiarism.ppt>

<http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/Plagiarism.swf> (14 minute flash tutorial)

http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/Plagiarism_Short.swf (8 minute flash tutorial)

Equity of Access

It is the responsibility of a student with a learning disability to inform the ACTS Director of Student Life of that fact before the beginning of a course so that necessary arrangements may be made to facilitate the student's learning experience. We are unable to accommodate any student who informs the Director of Student Life of a disability after the beginning of class.