Pastoral Integration – Draft Syllabus

KNP3663

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Tuesdays 11am-1pm

Course Description
This course is a final integration course for those nearing the completion of their M Div degree. It is intended to integrate the multi-disciplinary aspects and courses of the MDiv into the practice of ministry. Students will participate in seminars intended to prepare them for realities of ministry while also engaging their reflective capacity developed throughout the program. They will prepare papers for certification for ordination process, further develop their theology of ministry, undertake development of their ministry profile, participate in the ATS Profile of Ministry (level 2) process. As well, in small group process they will discuss and role play scenarios in ministry emerging from recent grads’ experiences, they will clarify their practice of vestments, weddings, funerals, healing rituals, etc. based upon the theological, biblical, historical and contextual analysis. As well, throughout the course they will familiarize themselves with spiritual practices intended to sustain them in ministry and with ministry resources intended to support them for ongoing learning, intellectual and practical stimulation in ministry.

Course Outcomes
By the end of the course students will:
- Demonstrate an integrated theology of ministry that engages contextual realities, the self as minister, and reflects biblical, theological and historical integration and awareness;
- Demonstrate the ability to integrate contextual, biblical, theological and historical reflection into their practices in ministry, including their vestment practices, as well as preaching and presiding at weddings, funerals, healing rituals, etc;
- Have developed spiritual practices to sustain them in ministry; a referral list for pastoral practice; a ministry profile; practices to stay abreast of world issues; a list of priorities and resources for continuing education/formation and peer group support in ministry.
- Have developed an integrated response to the practice of ordination in their respective denominations;
- As well, it is expected that this course will enable students to engage/demonstrate all the outcomes of the MDiv curriculum.

1 Please note this is a draft syllabus and will not be finalized until the first day of class. Please contact instructor if you have questions.
COURSE POLICIES

Policies for courses are contained in the TST Basic Degree Handbook and the Knox Student Handbook. In particular note:

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones can be disruptive to the classroom experience. Students, therefore, should turn off or set their phones to silent and refrain from using them while in class. Cell phone use is permitted only for medical professionals who are on call and for students who need to be in constant contact with ill family members or minors. Students who meet either of these requirements should inform the professor prior to class.

**Use of Technology:** Laptops and other computing devices may be used in the classroom for note taking purposes only. The use of the internet is not permitted while class is in session unless it is part of a specific class activity. Students wishing to text message, search for images, fact check etc. should do so during the break or outside of class. Much of the learning that goes on in the classroom is founded upon mutual disclosure that takes place between the instructor and the student and between students. Parties outside of that learning community have not committed themselves to this relationship of trust. For this and other reasons, permission to record lectures in audio format is granted for use by registered students only. Video recording is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Recordings and notes of class lectures may not be electronically reproduced, posted or distributed without the written permission of the instructor.

**Late Policy:** one grade (4 marks) deducted per week late.

**Completion of Course work:**
All course work must be completed by the due date of final paper (April 11, 2013). Only in the case of illness (with a note from a doctor), bereavement or other unusual circumstances will an SDF extension be considered and this must be authorized by the Faculty. A request for a SDF extension must be submitted in writing by the last day of the class to the Registrar or the Director of Academic Programs who will refer the matter with a recommendation, to the Faculty for final decision.

**Attendance and lateness:** Consistent and timely attendance is required. If a student is unable to attend a class the professor is to be informed by email. More than 2 absences will result in failure to pass the course. Habitual lateness will be regarded as absence.

**Email correspondence:** Papers and assignments are accepted in hard copy only, preferably *on recycled or re-used paper*. Communication by email can ONLY take place through UTOR email accounts.

**Plagiarism Policy:** See TST Basic Degree Handbook and the Knox Student Handbook.
EVALUATION

25% - Regular engagement in course material, seminar participation, regular attendance and evidence of having come prepared for class, evidence of having attended minimum of 2 Con Ed events.

25% - Ministry profile, ordination theology reflection, POM.

- Most weeks there will be short assignments (case studies, reflections, candidacy requirements, personal profile) upon which students will be expected to reflect and write a response to be shared in the group. These case reflections/practices are to include a reflection on the contextual, Biblical, theological, historical priorities informing their practice. This will be integrated into the first longer paper.
- **Spiritual Journal** – students are required to keep a regular spiritual journal throughout the semester where they will record their spiritual practices and discern practices to carry forward into ministry. This will be reported and assessed in the final paper.
- **Resources for Ministry** – students are required to follow minimum of 4 different magazines/journals/ websites that help keep them abreast of theological reflections on practices of church and ministry. This will be reported and assessed in the final paper. (see list below)

25% - Theology and Practice of Ministry Paper(s) – present your theology of ministry through a reflection on context, self as minister, and the Biblical, theological and historical priorities in your understanding of ministry. Demonstrate how your theology of ministry is lived in your practices of ministry – for example, weddings, funerals, communion, community building, care, meetings, social justice, Bible study. Feel free to consider pastoral image as part of this reflection **Due October 28**

25% - Theology and Practices for Self in Ministry – present a summary of the theological premise for your self practices/plans for ministry in the following areas:

- stewardship of mind and engagement in world - follow and become acquainted with 5 regular resources for ministry (magazines, websites, journals, etc), and identify sources for news assess which ones you will continue to read for ministry
- stewardship of spirit – Identify your spiritual type and discuss spiritual practices tracked in spiritual journal throughout semester, assess how to continue to foster in ministry;
- stewardship of the body – discuss physical activity and practices throughout semester and plan for ministry (include activity, eating, sleeping, etc);
- stewardship of time – discuss practices of time management throughout semester and plan for ministry, regular weekly schedule – time set apart for reading fiction, news, preparing worship, spiritual practices, physical care,
- stewardship of relationships – peer group, spiritual director, mentor – discuss your present practices and plans for when you are in ministry
- present a learning covenant with yourself of areas still want to learn about
- identify areas of gifts and areas of ongoing challenge and vulnerability and how you will (and do) tend to the latter.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1** – Sept 9 – Introduction and Orientation to course

**Week 2** – Sept 16 – Ordination – Context, Bible, Theology, History, Practice
Ordination Preamble Statement and reflection

**Week 3** – Sept 23 – Vestments – Context, Bible, Theology, History, Practice

**Week 4** – Sept 30 – Meetings/Conflict – Context, Bible, Theology, History, Practice

**Week 5** – Oct 7 – Weddings/Funerals – Context, Bible, Theology, History, Practice

**Week 6** – Oct 14 – Care Practices - Context, Bible, Theology, History, Practice
Stephen Ministries, Healing rituals/services, pastoral care, resource template

**Reading Week** – Sunday Oct 26- Tuesday Oct 28 – A Toronto Festival of Preaching -

**Week 7** – Oct 28 – Susan Shaffer – The Call Process, Profile
Theology of Ministry Paper Due

**Week 8** - Nov 4 - RENEW EVENTS - 1:30-4:30 – Rev. Dr. Almeda Wright
Wed Nov 5 – 9:30-12:30 – Rev. Dr Almeda Wright
Wed Nov 5 – 1:30-4:30 – Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts, Leadership and Change, Part 1
Thurs Nov 6 – 9:30-12:30 – Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts, Leadership and Change Part 2

**Week 9** – Nov 11- Remembrance Day – Context, Bible, Theology, History, Practice
11am - Attend Remembrance ceremony at War Memorial, U of T

**Week 10** – Nov 18 – Things they Didn’t Teach us in Seminary – Scenario Reflections

**Week 11** – Nov 25 – Things They didn’t Teach us in Seminary – Scenario Reflections

**Week 12** – Dec 2 – Integration Paper presentations
Theology and Practices of Self in Ministry Paper Due
**Required Reading**


Resources for Ministry – any 4 of the following (or others upon agreement of professor) – The Presbyterian Record; Sojourners; Touchstone; Christian Century; Christianity Today; Call to Worship; Weavings; Journal for Preachers; Reformed Worship; Ploughshares Monitor; The Catalyst; The Living Pulpit.

**Recommended Reading**

Allan Hugh Cole Jr, *From Midterms to Ministry: Practical Theologians on Pastoral Beginnings* (Eerdman’s, 2008)

**Bibliography**


The Minister’s Family


Congregational Size


Mann, Alice *The In-Between Church: Navigating Size Transitions in Congregations* The Alban Institute 1998.

Leadership


Autobiography and Biography

Reading biographies or autobiographies of ministers can be enlightening. Below is a brief list. When you read them reflect on the model of ministry that is exemplified and how much it reflects the culture in which they ministered. In what ways was the ministry a demonstration of faithful leadership needed for that day?


